



## **PROCLAIM** ([Luke 4:19a](#); [Isaiah 61:2a](#) ESV)

“Proclaim” was the main theme at the 2011 CSI Family & Youth Conference of North America, held from June 30<sup>th</sup> – July 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2011. The Silver Jubilee Event was hosted by Five CSI churches within the Chicago land area. Church of South India (CSI) is blessed with many chosen Ministers of God from four church traditions including Episcopal and Non-Episcopal Ministries. CSI is the largest Protestant church in India ([www.csidubai.com/csidubai](http://www.csidubai.com/csidubai)).

Proclamation-in-Unity is the uniqueness in this ministry. CSI stays united by focusing on Jesus and His mission. CSI logo shows that Jesus’ mission is their mission, and Jesus’ vision (John 17:21) is their vision. Many young and old CSI members were led by the Spirit during the Event. More than 500 CSI members and non-members attended the 4-day Conference.

About 100 youth, men and women worked for a successful Silver Jubilee Celebration.



The CSI Moderator – The Most Rev. S.Vasantha Kumar shared CSI Vision of Proclaiming the Good News of God, through word and deed, in unity with fellow Christians chosen and anointed by the Holy Spirit, to continue the mission of Christ Jesus. He sees today’s CSI youth as the strong pillars of tomorrow’s CSI – Proclaiming God’s Message.

Today, CSI has 14,000 congregations, 40-lakh members, 3300 Pastors, 2100 Schools, 100 Colleges including 5 Engineering Colleges and 2 Medical Colleges, about 200 Mission Hospitals/Clinics, 22 Homes for the Aged, 500 Hostels for poor children. All this work made possible by the power of Christ through committed leaders, including 22 CSI Bishops.

The CSI Deputy Moderator - The Rt. Rev. G. Devakadasham, stressed on Proclaiming the Purpose and Plan of God to save humanity for Himself. The 3-R plan of **R**est to increase productivity during work, **R**estoration of relationship with God and His people, and **R**ejoicing always in the Lord was clearly explained. E-mail [csikkd@bsnl.in](mailto:csikkd@bsnl.in) for detailed message.

Dr. George Cherian, the founder of 'Missions India' <http://www.biblebasics.org/staff/india> continues his father's mission. As one of the main Speakers in the Conference, he touched many hearts. Proclamation starts after encounter with Jesus, and with personal conviction that paid-price of Jesus is the basis of Proclamation. Dr. Cherian also rightly said that egocentric people cannot proclaim Christ, because they are self-centered instead of being Christ-centered.



Dr. Rev. Vasantha Rao – current Principal of Andhra Christian Theological College in India, was another main Speaker for the Conference. Of the many points he shared about Proclaiming Christ, “Proclaim the Kingdom of God” was exactly what Jesus did (Luke 4:43). I also liked his definition of “Blessed” - “Blessed are those who are a blessing to others”. Dr. Vasantha Rao also shared many practical Applications of Christian Faith, as part of Proclaiming Christ to the spiritually and physically poor, blind and oppressed children of God.

The closing message was given by the Moderator. The message was easy to remember – **“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.** (John 3:16, ESV). This is the Good News of God through Jesus.

We ought to proclaim the love of God, given to us through Jesus. The Moderator loves to lead the Youth to and for Christ. He may be contacted via e-mail [csikcd@vsnl.com](mailto:csikcd@vsnl.com)

Youth sessions were led by Rev. Brad Cauley, who has much experience with Asian Youth groups. . Many youth rededicated their lives. Some youth at the conference were pleading for their parents' encouragement as they choose to be unique witnesses of Christ. The Parents freely shared their priorities, fears, concerns and desires in this 'land of opportunities'!

Women had numerous questions answered by the Panel of Bishops. As a team, the women gave donation to 1 Orphanage Ministry and 1 Ministry for Mentally and Physically Challenged Women. The donation fund was raised instantly at the Women's gathering. "Women's Role in Society Today" published in the Jubilee Souvenir is worth reading.



The Conference Convener Mr. Premjit William served with joy throughout the Conference. His message is on p.13 of the Souvenir. Credit for the Souvenir itself goes to Rev. Dr. Mathew P. Iducula. Contact CSI Secretary, Mr. M.M. Philip [mmpa48@gmail.com](mailto:mmpa48@gmail.com) for your copy of the Souvenir, for a gift of \$100. Prayers of Rev. R. Prince Vethamonickam, the Vice-President of the Conference worked wonders from the start to the finish of 2011 Conference.

Free breakfast, lunch and dinner were provided to many attendees. Many sacrificial contributions from CSI supporters made the grand celebration possible. Praise the Lord for His work through many chosen people of GOD. The conference was truly an experience of spiritual enrichment and Christian fellowship to encourage one another in the journey of Proclamation.

In the closing ceremony, the new Conference Council of 13 chosen leaders for 2012 Conference was installed. The leaders are called to strengthen themselves and others in the ongoing journey of Proclamation of God's message, as a united Body of Christ.

Our Bible is our final guide for Proclamation/Preaching the Gospel. Jesus quoted the Scripture, “**repentance and forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations**” (Luke 24:47, ESV). Forgiveness is made possible by the shed blood of Jesus. Repentance is made possible by the power of Resurrection of Christ. Here’s what Apostle Paul proclaimed after he was called by Jesus, “*Jesus Christ, a descendant of King David, was raised from the dead. This is the Good News I preach*” (2 Tim 2:8, NLT). How about us?? What are we proclaiming? How are we proclaiming God’s Message?? Who are we proclaiming to?? What is our role?

Proclamation is not a choice to opt out of; it is a great command given to Christians - “**Go into all the world and proclaim the gospel to the whole creation** (Mark 16:15, ESV). We are created for His glory; to accomplish His purpose (Isa 43:7, NLT). Here are His few witnesses.



CSI Wesley Church Chicago, under the Church Presbyter-in-charge, Rev. Solomon Sudhakar , and the Committee leaders Mr. Paul Butt and Mr. Jason Bandi, along with Mr. Thomas Nagelli, Mr. Sharat Paturi, Mrs. Josephene Gosu, Mr. Ravi Sangha and Mr. Padma Rao Kasa, all who joined the North America CSI Team for the first time this year are hoping to continue as a Star Team in the years to come. Job very well done by the youth team – Rachel, Noel, Jackie, Jeremy, Justin, Athyun, Unnathi, Sanjana, Neema and Japheth.

Glory be to GOD through all 25 CSI congregations who supported the event this year.

CSI Member [ask](#)