

Alabaster in Sri Lanka

We received the letters below from leaders in Sri Lanka and how the Church of the Nazarene there has benefited from the ministry of Alabaster giving.

To promote the upcoming Alabaster offering, the letters may be used in the following ways:

- Print the letters in larger type, as well as the photos of the buildings, and post them on a bulletin board in a prominent place in your church, along with the date of the Alabaster offering.
- Download the photos into a PowerPoint presentation and have men read the accompanying letters from the pulpit. Ideally, present one photo and story each week over three weeks' time, so as not to take up too much service time. Follow the reading with a PowerPoint slide that provides the date of your church's Alabaster offering.
- Using the letters and the photos, create bulletin inserts, including the date of the Alabaster offering for your church.

Beniel Church of the Nazarene—Norton Bridge



I am Jinarani. I live in Norton Bridge, and I wish to share my testimony about the Church of the Nazarene of Norton Bridge.

In the end of 2001, a JESUS Film team came to our village and presented

the film with great difficulties. Our village is in a remote area, so it is difficult to get together in one place. Therefore, the team experienced a lot of hardship in gathering the people. They showed the JESUS Film anyhow.

Soon after this, the team did the follow-up, and we accepted Jesus Christ as our Savior. Thereafter, we started to pray on Sundays in a believer's house. After some time, more than 30 believers were gathered in that house; therefore, we have to move to a new place.

Our church purchased a piece of land with a small hut where we began Sunday worship. Day by day, people came to know about

Jesus Christ, and it was necessary to build a church building. As an Alabaster project, a new church building was constructed, and now we worship on Sundays in this new building.

I am happy to say that God did miracle in our life.

Jinarani,
Norton Bridge,
Hatton,
Sri Lanka

Church of the Nazarene—Battulu Oya

I am Joseph Sivanathan. I started my ministry in 1988 at Puttalam District. An opportunity came for me to join and minister with



Church of the Nazarene. So I joined with Church of the Nazarene and started to show the JESUS Film in Puttalam District. Many people therefore came to know about Jesus, and they started to

believe Jesus as their Savior. It gives me boost up in my ministry. The number of people who follow Jesus are increasing day by day, and they get together for worshipping Jesus.

We had a very small place, which was a part of a house, that did not have enough space for that many people. So I decided to give part of my own land to Church of the Nazarene as an offering. We all prayed and fasted for a building to be built on this land.

Our Lord Jesus listened to our prayer and gave Alabaster funds. And He helped us to build a beautiful building.

I thank the Lord; and with my parishioners, I thank the people who give us the Alabaster fund. This help was a support and blessing for our ministry. All glory to our Lord.

Rev. Joseph Sivanathan,
Church of the Nazarene,
Sri Lanka

Shalom Church of the Nazarene—Hali Ela

Praise the Lord!

Sri Lanka is a very nice country, which has the Indian Ocean around it and has a lot of mountains. Sinhalese, Tamils, and Muslims are living with us here. Badulla is a town, which is in the Uva Province, with tea estates surrounding it.

Our Shalom ministry began in 1990 as an independent ministry at Badulla. We did not have a specific place to worship or do ministry. We rented a house for a time and worshipped there. Then we had to move to another location. It brought a lot trouble to us, because believers never come if we were at a great distance from them. We continued to move, because of the unstableness of places.

At last we came to our current place, Hali Ela, a town near Badulla, in 1997 and started our ministry here. At the end of 1999, we had 35 believers. But our place, which we rented, was not big enough for us to get together and worship in one place. At that time, we all continuously prayed for a stable place to pray and worship.

An opportunity came to join with Church of the Nazarene. So we joined with Church of the Nazarene in 2000 January and continued our ministry.

By 2000 October, we got a chance to purchase land through Church of the Nazarene. We started to build a church. We were in a position of raising funds for the building. God opened the door through the **Alabaster** fund. This resource was very helpful to us to build a building for our church. We are very happy for the funds we got from **Alabaster**.

The special thing is this is the first building built for Church of the Nazarene in Sri Lanka. And we are proud to say *Shalom Church of the Nazarene* is the first organized church for Church of the Nazarene in Sri Lanka. My point is, because of the **Alabaster** ministry, we can extend and continue our ministry in nearby areas, as well as in the whole of Sri Lanka.

All glory to our Lord.

Rev. V.K. Daniel,
Shalom Church of the Nazarene,
Badulla,
Srilanka

