

MISSIONARIES TO SRI LANKA

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BEVERLY

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Walking Alongside

THE LOCAL CHURCH GLOBALLY

Beverlys' Support: 42.10004

3 Decades 3 Churches: 42.40451*

COGSL Sustainability: 42.40452*

* This project supports vital sustainability initiatives in Sri Lanka and does not support Steven & Peggy.

On Mission for God! Newsletter

Winter 2024

Buttery Cassia Rolls, Anyone? Embracing the diversity of our Christian experiences



Cinnamon is a popular spice in Sri Lanka. It is one of this country's major agricultural product. But there's a good chance you have never tasted true cinnamon, Sri Lankan cinnamon! The cinnamon that you buy in most U.S. supermarkets—the bold sweet taste we value for pies and sticky buns—is probably not “true” cinnamon! It's cassia. There's a difference. And true cinnamon, Ceylon cinnamon, is indigenous to Sri Lanka.

Cassia cinnamon (*cinnamomum cassia*) sticks are dark in color and made of a thick layer of rolled bark. It has the strong flavor that Western palates value. Ceylon cinnamon (*cinnamomum verum*) has a lighter, brighter, and spicier flavor than cassia, and its sticks are thin, flaky layers.

The distinction between cassia and true cinnamon is not a recent development. The ancient world valued them for their differences. One was not a substitute for the other.

In Exodus 30:22–24, God gives Moses the recipe for the anointing oil that was to be used in the tabernacle. The oil was to be used only for consecrating the altar and other items in the tabernacle, and, of course, for anointing Aaron and his sons. “Then the LORD said to Moses, ‘Collect choice spices—12 ½ pounds of pure myrrh, 6 ¼ pounds of fragrant cinnamon, 6 ¼ pounds of fragrant calamus, and 12 ½ pounds of cassia—as measured by the weight of the sanctuary shekel’” (NLT). That must have been quite a heavenly, aromatic blend. In fact, it was! God called that special blend holy, and it required both distinct spices—cassia and true cinnamon. God warned that it must never be used to anoint anyone else. It was God's signature fragrance!

We love cinnamon. But, the problem for us is that we like the Western stuff! Our tastes like the kick of cassia cinnamon. In fact we find true Ceylon cinnamon just too subtle and refined for buttery cinnamon rolls. So we often bring cassia back with us from the States. We are accustomed to it.

Perhaps we should remember that just because we like something a certain way, just because our tastes are accustomed to particular flavors—a tradition, a style of worship, a way of doing things—it doesn't mean it's the only way. Sometimes we allow what we are used to and comfortable with to limit us, but there is so much more richness in the blend of differences. God's anointing oil recipe embraced the diverse uniqueness of cassia and cinnamon. The resulting fragrance was beautiful and holy. We shouldn't be surprised if there's some beauty, even holiness, to be found in the diversity of our Christian experiences. 🌍

For Prayer, Praise, & Partnership with God in Sri Lanka!

Home Assignment 2023



At Kansas City Community Church of God, KC, KS, with Sr. Pastor Charles Coffield Jr., and wife, Joy, and Elder Charles Coffield Sr. and wife, Carolyn.

In 2023, we spent nearly seven months on the road, covering more than 18,000 miles, visiting a different church nearly

Planning for the Kingdom



Meeting with the COG-SL Board to plan the ongoing steps toward sustainability of the church in Sri Lanka.

Looking ahead to this year and beyond, we are excited to begin working on Board training and targeted mentoring of

every Sunday. And still we did not get to visit all of our incredible and faithful partners and friends.

Your faithful and generous partnership helped us to complete nearly all of our support goals in 2023! It is always incredible for us to see God calling others to partner with the work in Sri Lanka! Your support is needed. Click [Give Now](#) at www.chogglobal.org/srilanka.* 🌍

new ministry leaders who will continue to enable the church in Sri Lanka to become healthy, growing, and sustainable. This is an exciting stage. God is continuing to work in the lives of God's people in Sri Lanka. Your continued support is bearing fruit! 🌍

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Compassionate Assistance



Grateful recipients of disaster relief during recent seasonal floods in Sri Lanka.

Recent and sustained heavy rains have made the mountainous regions of Sri Lanka dangerous. Mudslides, flooding, and the devastation they cause seasonally are ever present in the lives of many in Sri Lanka. Disaster Relief support was sent to Sri Lanka to provide food and water to twenty families affected by the flooding. Your continued support of Church of God Disaster Relief helps provide aid to countries around the world. 🌍

Thank you for your faithful partnership with God in Sri Lanka!

We still need your continued support! Contact Global Strategy: 800-848-2464 or ebutler@chog.org or visit www.chogglobal.org/spbeverly



GLOBAL STRATEGY

CHURCH OF GOD MINISTRIES



ON MISSION FOR GOD

OMG!

STEVEN & PEGGY BEVERLY

