



ON CALL - NEPAL VISIT

(Feb/Mar 2019)



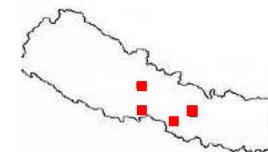
When I left Nepal in Jan 2014, the word the Lord had given was “Don’t look back” (at Fishtail etc and at the work I was leaving behind) and although I still do look towards Nepal, and run the local Nepal prayer group in Sutton, I can honestly say that I have not looked back (in regret or longing or...). However, the Lord has continued to give me opportunities with Nepali ministry: I have taught Bible Yatra seminars in UK, Holland and Portugal as well as speaking at various other Nepali (mostly Ladies’) meetings. In addition, I have a (very) part-time job - for which I am paid peanuts and hardly ever any expenses - to interpret for Nepalis in the Birmingham area when they attend mostly medical appointments at GP surgeries or hospitals. Also a couple of times, I’ve interpreted in lawyer’s offices though my legal vocabulary is nowhere near as extensive as my medical one!

Ever since I left, people have been asking when I planned on visiting, but until now this has not seemed right - too soon (2014), an earthquake (2015), unable to walk properly until after back surgery (2016), editing autobiography (2017) & selling ‘On Call’ (2018). Then, near the end of 2018, I was invited to participate ‘as a pannelist’ (? Sp) at a Diaspora Conference in Kathmandu. That started me thinking. In response to my reply that I would pray about it, the organiser wrote back to say how glad he was I was coming... not the most usual way to get divine guidance, but it seemed right. So that was that.

Then, I decided I wanted a companion but no one was immediately forthcoming. As a last resort I put an advert in the newsletter at church but even then “with one accord, they all began to make excuse” - Love to come but already booked up, Would love to come but health not so good etc. And then... Marilyn read the advert and applied: another slightly less usual form of guidance, but clearly of the Lord as she has long wanted to visit Nepal. Since then, she has joined the Nepal prayer group, devoured books and videos on Nepal and even learnt a few words of Nepali. Excited, perhaps a bit anxious as it’s all so new for her, but then I’ve also been a bit uptight - apparently things have changed a lot since I left, some for the better; some not, like the criminalisation of conversion. So, we’d love you to pray for us. Thanks.

ITINERARY:

Tues 19 - Wed 20 Feb	Travel to Nepal
Wed 20 - Tues 26 Feb	KATHMANDU
Wed 27 Feb - Sat 9 Mar	POKHARA
Sun 10 - Thurs 14 Mar	KATHMANDU
Fri 15 - Sat 16 Mar	NAWAL PARASI
Sun 17 - Wed 20 Mar	CHITWAN NATIONAL PARK
Wed 20 - Tues 26 Mar	KATHMANDU
Tues 26 - Wed 27	Return to UK



AIMS & PRAYER POINTS (Val):

- To introduce Marilyn to Nepal and Nepal to Marilyn
- To have bits of holiday ‘tourist-style’ in between other activities, incl visiting one of the national parks.
- To participate wisely & inspiringly as a speaker & panellist at the Conference on Strategy for Nepali Diaspora Ministry while Marilyn may do an Everest flight and, ?? a trip up to the Chinese border.
- To catch up with INF, Bible Yatra and NeMUN (Nepalese Migrant Unity Network) and encourage them.
- To visit many friends from my time in Nepal & catch up with their news & families. To encourage the Christians and challenge those who are not.
- To visit several Nepali churches where I had been a member or ministered in some way and encourage and bless the leaders.

• PRAYER POINTS (Marilyn):

- Openness to God’s leading
 - Grace to be an instrument of blessing
 - Wisdom and sensitivity in different culture
 - Ability to overcome communication challenges
 - Be a good companion for Val
 - Safety in travel
 - Good health, fitness and enough sleep throughout
- For both of us that we will have good health & safety and be a blessing to all we meet.

Val & Marilyn