voiceofhope

the newsletter | Jan-Mar 2014



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Dear Readers,

The fact that Jesus Christ is risen from the dead gives us the reason to rejoice and to celebrate in every circumstance; even in the midst of the pain and unexpected homegoing of our beloved brother Jimi Yong!

Through Christ's death and resurrection, the devil that once had the power of death has been destroyed and death has lost its sting forever. Death is no longer a full stop but a comma, no longer the final curtain but just an intermission. Death is not the end but the beginning of life in eternity. Our sister Wai Keng has written on page 30 - 31 about the biblical view of death. As you read, you will be excited and be liberated from the fear of death.

The fact that Jesus Christ is risen from the dead and offers new life and a glorious future to all who come to Him is the reason why the Hope of Glory Centre started 20 years ago. God has made this wonderful news known to us and we want to share it with others. We want to be a part of God's great salvation plan.

We will keep preaching Jesus, warning and teaching especially our next generation, that we may present every man mature in Christ.

Be inspired to build His Church by the many articles and testimonies in this issue. Ps Khor has written on page 4 - 5 about what each generation can do to perpetuate God's redemptive work. Let's arise and do it together. Read the testimonies of many HGCians who have experienced God's transformation power. Also what should our manner and action be in the face of persecution? Find out on page 10 -11.

As the Passion Week is close, walk with Jesus through His last days on earth with the help of a map, table of events and Scriptures on page 24 - 25. We believe you will be blessed.

Happy Anniversary HGC & Blessed Easter!

VOH Team

















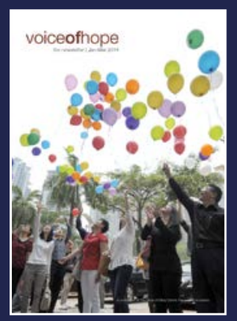


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Cover:
HGC 20th Anniversary



Pastor's Column

Discipling the Next Generation

By Khor Hoe Chai, Pastor

HGC is 20 years old! Wow! The founding members of HGC are 20 years older than when we first started out. I was 36 and now 56. Bro Wai Pooi was 29 and now 49. Calvin was 15 and now 35. Zachary was 8 and now 28. Christian was 1 and now 20…. I better not go on or else the sisters' names will pop up. I'm sure it is alright to say that Ps Lee Ping was 22 and now 42.

God led us to start this church when a group of us young adults then, had a passionate desire to follow the leading of the Holy Spirit to serve the Lord and build His church. As we followed Him He showed us His heart, His desires and His will. We didn't know what the future would be like but were assured that the Lord certainly knows and we can trust Him fully. And, indeed, He has faithfully led us to where we are now; and we want to continue to look to Him to lead us onward from glory to glory!

As we look ahead to the next 10 to 20 years, what can we expect? Certainly, we can expect things to get more turbulent and perilous in our world and our own nation. Nevertheless, whatever our circumstances may be, our God WHO IS on the throne, reigns. He is the only certain anchor for our future as He holds the future in His almighty hand.

As we consider the future of the church in the next 20 years – the Lord has impressed upon our hearts that the future, the next 10-20 years belong to our next generations. In 20 years, our 20-something- years- old young adults will be in their forties. Our teenagers will be in their thirties. How are they going to be then? What do the older generation desire them to be? More importantly, what does God want them to be? And how can the now generation help the next generation do better than the present; grow deeper, stronger, wiser, more loving and more zealous for God. The answer to this question led us to this theme of Discipling the Next Generation.

How can we disciple the next generation for Jesus?
I see that although this is a sovereign work of the Lord, there are some principles that we can follow to make a difference to disciple our next generation.

1. EXEMPLERY - The older generation, needs to be exemplary disciples of Jesus in order to disciple the next generation. This does not mean that we are perfect but that we humbly submit to God and depend on Him. It means that we have an ongoing, growing relationship with the Lord.

Our aim is to be able to say with a clear conscience and with all sincerity of heart to our next generation – FOLLOW ME AS I FOLLOW CHRIST. Our lives ought to show that denying ourselves and taking up our cross to follow Jesus is the way to an abundant and eternal life.

2. PRAY - We must pray for our next generation. My grandmother may not know that she had discipled me but I believe with all my heart that her prayers for me when I was a little child had made all the difference in my life.

3. CONNECT - We must connect with them. We need to seek to relate to them and to engage with them. To do this, we need to purposefully plan time to be with them and plan activities with them in mind. There must be a strong bridge of trust between us in order for "precious goods" to be carried across. We do not wish to come across as superior, judgemental and critical of them.

IMPACT -
We need to intentionally share, impart and build into them Biblical principles that we have learnt and experienced from the Lord.

4. IMPACT - We need to intentionally share, impart and build into them Biblical principles that we have learnt and experienced from the Lord. We need God's wisdom so that it would be relevant, practical and applicable to them. It would include Bible studies, prayers and serving God together. It is when we are engaging together that we can pass on precious knowledge, values, abilities and skills to them. What about the next generation? What can they do to be discipled? I would like to appeal to the younger generation in the following areas:-

1. TURN YOUR HEARTS TO US - Mal 4:5-6 says, Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the LORD. And he will turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, And the hearts of the children to their fathers, lest I come and strike the earth with a curse." The Lord wants a mutual turning of hearts to each other. As we seek to connect with you, may you respond likewise. The Lord will surely be pleased.

2. BE GRACIOUS - We appeal to you to be gracious to us. We are far from perfect and may have made mistakes, hurt or stumbled you. We are sorry. Please forgive us.
The blood of Jesus has torn down every wall of separation. In His name, let us build bridges of love and trust together and tear down walls of separation.

3. SEEK COUNSEL - Ask the Lord for a seeking heart. The Lord said, "Seek and you will find." Seek answers to the tough questions in life. You have access to all kinds of knowledge through the internet and media but may lack the experience and wisdom. Jesus had cautioned us on deceptions in the last days and one of the ways the Lord has provided protection for you is the counsel of the older generation. Do ask us the hard questions and with His help we will try to answer them. He is in the centre of all things and He is the way, the truth and the life. He is our ultimate fulfilment in life for all eternity.

4. SERVE WITH US - Seek to serve alongside with us. Join the different ministries in the church. You have so many different kinds of talents and you are full of energy. Use it to serve the Lord and serve people. As we do so together, learn from us, ask questions and so forth. It will bring tremendous encouragement to us plus new vitality and vibrancy into the ministries.

My final appeal to both the older and the younger generation is to fulfil the heart of God to see an increasing measure of His glory manifested in and through our lives to impact our nation and our world for Him. It is the prayer of Jesus for unity in John 17 and the declaration of Psalm 133. Let us seek to dwell together in unity with the Prince of Peace reigning over us. When we thus honour Him, He will command His blessings upon us.

Psalms 133
1 Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!

2 It is like the precious oil upon the head, running down on the beard, The beard of Aaron, Running down on the edge of his garments.

3 It is like the dew of Hermon, Descending upon the mountains of Zion; For there the LORD commanded the blessing --- Life forevermore.

John 17:20-22
I do not pray for these alone, but also for those who will believe in Me through their word; that they all may be one, as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You; that they also may be one in Us, that the world may believe that You sent Me. And the glory which You gave Me I have given them, that they may be one just as We are one.

Discipling the Next Generation





Missions Talk

Winning And Grooming The Young Ones In Mission Field

By Chan Tham Seng

NOTHING seems to be changing in Sumatra's Pulau Halang; a fishing island rooted in the past. One exception is native boy William Fernando Simatupang. As William led the three of us (Pak Tim, Surin Leong and Jim Lai) into his village during our latest trip (4-10 Feb 2014), friendly Batak women greeted him "Pak William". At 20, William the Bible School student has already earned the respectful title of "Pak".

God has picked and promoted William from among the Batak youths in this obscure outpost on the Indonesian side of the Straits of Malacca.

We are happy to see how God has picked and promoted William from among the Batak youths in this obscure outpost on the Indonesian side of the Straits of Malacca. We are equally happy that as a church we're playing a small part in the grooming of William. This included blessing him with a short visit to Malaysia at the end of our February trip. The kindness and generosity shown toward William by some church members, especially the "ibus" and "kakaks", had impacted him in no small way.

William first caught my attention during our first visit to Pulau Halang Methodist School in August 2009. I heard him sob as he prayed to receive Jesus as his personal Lord and Saviour. William, one of the five high school students who responded to an altar call, was then in Form Five. Later outside the school, we met his father, Sulaiman Simatupang, and came to know a bit about William's humble background (see VOH Jul-Sep 2009).

In our two subsequent visits in February and November of 2010, I spent short moments with William encouraging him with words and by prayer. We did not visit Pulau Halang in 2011. By the time we made our fourth trip to his school in January 2012, William had completed his Form Six and left for Jakarta to join Institut Wesley Jakarta in Grogol (see VOH Jan-Mar 2012). I missed William but was glad to know that he topped his class in Jakarta as he had always done so in his hometown school.

With the help of Pulau Halang Methodist School principal Pak Amsaruddin Sihombing, I resumed contact with William by emails. William is now in his third year of seminary study which involves a full year of practical training in Pulau Halang under Pak Sihombing. By this August, William will return to his Jakarta seminary to complete his bachelor degree course within two years.

During our two sessions with students of the Pulau Halang school and later our visit to William's family, we could see that William is God's worthy choice for promotion. William's father Sulaiman is a son of a Batak police officer from Medan of North Sumatra. Sulaiman's father was a Muslim with several wives and Sulaiman's mother finally left her husband and became a Christian together with all the children she bore. That's how Sulaiman became a believer at about 10. Sulaiman, 56, told us how he grew up to be "wayward and arrogant" during his days as a seaman with foreign companies. In the early eighties, a mishap on the ship left Sulaiman and a few other crew members adrift in the Adaman Sea for eight days before rescue arrived. He had since repented and returned to his Medan village to marry Supan Sophia Munte and tried his hand at farming. Soon he moved to Pulau Halang where he raises five children as a hired hand on a fishing boat.



Photos

1 Pulau Halang Methodist School
2 First HGC team landed in Pulau Halang, Aug 2009
3 William crossing the Straits of Malacca
4 Surin and Jim presenting gospel with balloons
5 Beneficiaries of Bagan secondary school







The sea encompassing Pulau Halang, Bagan Siapiapi and Panipahan during the 1930s used to be the world's second largest fishing ground measured by marine harvest. Silting and pollution has slowly ruined its fishery industry. When our church started a regular ministry beginning 2007 in this part of Riau province, most locals were struggling for a decent living. William has the story:

"When I was young, fishing boats returned to the piers with four to five tanks of fish. Today, it's only half a tank. So on the average bapa gets hired for about 15 days a month and paid equivalent to RM300-400 a month.

"Mama and we children are hired in banglio (Chinese-owned seafront warehouses for storing fish and fishing appurtenances) to sort out the catch. We work for long hours and often at wee hours in the morning that's when fishing boats return. Mama and sisters, Juliana (completed junior high school) and Betty (presently Form Six) together make about RM400 in two weeks. Little sister, Shinta (Standard 2) and brother, Tito (Standard 5) join in when there's work. So often they could hardly stay awake at school, let alone find time to revise school work at home."

However, God has been gracious to the family of Sulaiman and Supan, 38. All their children are obedient and excel in study. Sulaiman is very supportive of William's calling into the ministry and grateful to God for providing scholarship to his son at the Bible School. Indeed, God has been gracious to the Simatupang kindred. In December 2012, Sulaiman received a call from Suzi Simatupang, a sister he has lost contact with for more than 20 years and who is now serving God as a youth pastor with Gereja Bethel Indonesia (GBI) near Jakarta. The following day, aunty Suzi turned up at Institut Wesley Jakarta to meet nephew William. What a joy for William who has previously never heard of this aunty but now knows she's already serving God full-time!

Amazing happenings are taking place in Indonesia these days!

Indonesia is a country to watch in terms of the latest wave of worldwide move of the Holy Spirit. And GBI, a spirit-filled church group headed by Ps Niko Njotorahardjo, is one of the fasting growing churches across Indonesia. In Bagan Siapiapi and Panipahan where we also ministered, GBI has a growing presence and is making positive contribution to the movement of prayer tower.

In this ministry trip, we continued to focus on students in the three Methodist schools by conducting language classes and kebaktian. The objective is the same: to get the younger generation commit to Jesus as Saviour and Lord. The response has been encouraging as evident in the number of decisions made for Jesus in Bagan Siapiapi (5); Panipahan (42) and Pulau Halang (13). One observation: Surin and Jim made good combination in presenting the gospel by balloon sculpturing.

In this trip, we also presented the RM6740 collection from our church members as school fees for students of Bagan Siapiapi Methodist School. The amount has gone to help 8 primary school pupils and 16 secondary school students for the 2013-14 academic year. Additionally, Jim also had RM700, being angpao money from his two relatives, as a love gift for needy students in Pulau Halang Methodist School. God remembers your kind deeds!

The February trip took place amid celebrations of Tahun Baru Imlek (meaning Chinese New Year). By nightfall, the three Sumatran settlements turned into a vast confusion of people and motorbikes; lanterns and neon lights; fireworks and firecrackers; heat and smell! With most locals, especially the ethnic Chinese, remaining outside God's salvation plan, there is much harvesting to be done here!


1


2


3


4

Photos

1 Pulau Halang ready to accept Jesus
2 Beneficiaries of Bagan primary school
3 With Sihombing (R1), Sulaiman (4) at Pulau Halang school
4 In Bagan Siapiapi with Lasnini and daughters (sitting)
5 Panipahan school pupils saying "yes" to Jesus

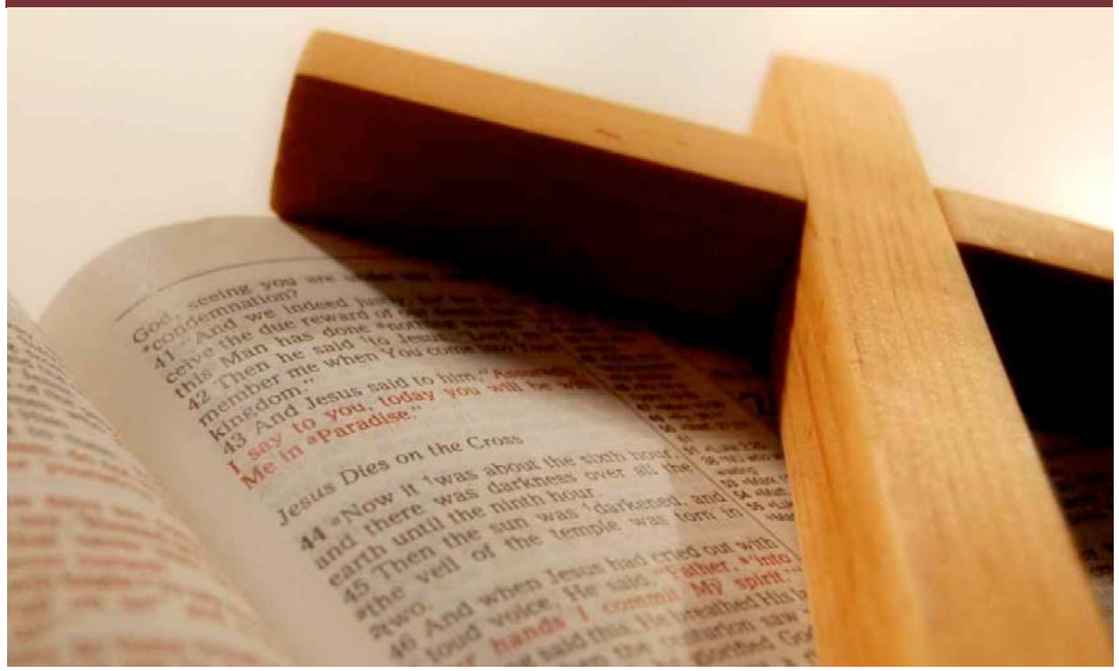

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Word of Life

The Disciple & Persecution:

Should Malaysian Christians Be Prepared For More Severe Persecutions In The Future?

By Sinclair Wong



In the post-Allah judgment by the Court of Appeals period, many questions popped-up in the minds of Malaysian Christians; Will the Alkitab be banned? Will the use of the word "Allah" be banned in the preaching in BM speaking churches? Are Malaysian Christians prepared to go to jail for exercising their rights and faith? Will Malaysian Christians face the same level of violence their brothers and sisters are facing in the Middle East, Pakistan, India, Bangladesh or Indonesia? The PM has assured Christians in East Malaysia that the government will stick to their 10 points agreement promise but how long will this hold in view of the political situation in the country?

Count it a blessing to be able to suffer for the name of Christ

The Lord Jesus had warned His disciples on many occasions that they will face persecution. Enduring persecution is part of being a true disciple of Jesus. Jesus warned His disciples that they would be among wolves and would be delivered to courts and be flogged (Matt 10:17-18). They would be betrayed by their family. "Brother will deliver brother over to death and the father his child; and children will rise against parents and have them put to death, and you will be hated by all for My name's sake." **(Matt 10:21-22**). When James and John came to Jesus to ask to sit on His right and left of His heavenly throne, Jesus replied that it was up to the Father but they would certainly drink the cup of suffering and be baptized with the baptism of suffering which Jesus had (Mark 10: 39-40). No disciple is above his teacher. Paul talked often of the disciples bearing the sufferings of Christ. In Rom 12:12 Paul said, "Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation," Rom 12:14 says, "Bless those who persecute you, bless and do not curse them." Rom 12:19-21 says "Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, 'Vengeance is mine. I will repay, says the Lord.'" On the contrary, "if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink, for by so doing you will heap burning coals on his head. "Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good."

What is persecution? Matthew and Luke described it well in their narration of the Eighth Beatitude. According to Jesus in the Eighth Beatitude in Matt 5: 11; three characteristics are mentioned

(a) revile you – ονειδισωσιν oneidisōsin – insult you, undeserved reproach
(b) persecute you – διωξωσιν diōxōsin– drive away, pursue, harass, trouble, molest, mistreat
(c) utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account.

In **Luke 6:22**, four characteristics are mentioned:

(a) hate you – μισησωσιν misēsōsin– pursue with hatred, detest
(b) revile you – ονειδισωσιν oneidisōsin– insult you, undeserved reproach
(c) exclude you – αφορισωσιν aphorisōsin– ostracize – to mark off from others by boundaries or limits, to separate
(d) spurn your name as evil on account of the Son of Man – εκβαλωσιν ekbalōsin– scorn, cast out, drive out

Are the persecutions which early disciples suffered similar to those which we suffer today? How do we define the persecution against Christians today?

Open Doors (http://www.opendoorsusa.org/persecution/) claimed that there are 100 million Christians who suffer persecution today. They defined modern persecutions of Christians under 10 categories :

(a) Societal discrimination
(b) Institutional discrimination
(c) Employment discrimination
(d) Legal discrimination
(e) Suppression of Christian mission activity
(f) Suppression of conversion to Christianity
(g) Forced conversion from Christianity
(h) Suppression of corporate worship
(i) Violence against individual
(j) Community oppression

Christians in many places may suffer a few of the 10 categories. I feel that it is not just the types of persecution which Christians suffer which are important but the level of persecution which is more relevant. I see them as follows:

LEVELS OF PERSECUTION	
Level	Description
9	Mass Annihilation (Mass Extermination/Casting / Driving out)
8	Mass Forced Conversion
7	Legal Deprivation
6	Economic Deprivation
5	Social Scorn & Deprivation / non-accommodation / non-tolerance
4	Verbal Abuse
3	Mental Prejudice
2	Partial accommodation
1	Unknown caution

NB: Level of severity ranges for level 1 being the lowest to level 9 being the highest.

There are many real stories which can illustrate the categories and the levels of persecution against Christians. Visit the sites on Open Doors (http://www.opendoorsusa.org/persecution/) or The Voice of Martyrs (http://www.persecution.net/) and you will find plenty of instances of persecutions.

For us Malaysian Christians, I feel that if we can keep a watch over the levels of persecution, we would probably be able to gauge the severity of persecution against Christians in Malaysia.

How should respond to persecution?
Jesus said in Matt 5:10-12

a. We must remind ourselves that we are blessed if we are persecuted for righteousness' sake.
b. Believe in our eternal value that the Kingdom of Heaven is ours. Early Christians sacrificed all their possessions, being confiscated and robbed when they became Christians.
   Some were molested and treated as outcast. Some suffered martyrdom.
c. Jesus exhorted us to rejoice and be very glad in view of the persecution.
d. We must keep in mind always that our rewards shall be great in heaven for all the sacrifices we make for being a Christian.
e. We can be comfortable that the prophets had suffered the same things

What should we do?
a. Have right understanding and attitudes towards persecutions
b. Not to retaliate or take revenge
c. Not yield to anger, shame, disappointment or frustration
d. Commit everything to God's hand
e. Pray for the persecutors
f. Count it a blessing to be able to suffer for the name of Christ
g. Rejoice and be glad



Prayer Wave

The Issachar Anointing In 2014

By Ruth Lew

At the watch-night service on Dec 31 and the first prayer meeting of the year on Jan 1 2014, the following word and vision were released for our church:

The Lamp Stand, The Bowl & The Olive Trees

"The Lord has been showing me Zechariah 4, the lamp stand with a bowl above it and two olive trees. I know it is a wonderful vision of the Holy Spirit and His unlimited and endless anointing which is available for His work in our church" – Lim Chin Nee

Isaachar Anointing

"I am excited about the new year but also anxious about it at the same time. I expressed my fears to the Lord about this. The year ahead of us will be very challenging. With sudden climate changes, earthquakes, natural calamities and rising persecution. My heart was really troubled and I cried out to the Lord. I heard the Lord clearly on this:

'I will raise up many sons of Issachar among my people. They will understand the signs of times and season and they will tell my people what they should do and the best course to take.'

I also felt very strongly that churches should build up and focus on prayer and fasting. God will raise up a courageous and prophetic people in our midst." – Katherine Koo

Note: A day after this vision was released, the Bible Society of Malaysia was raided.

Revival In Unexpected Places

"Praise God for the outpouring of His Spirit on Jan 1. During the early morning prayer, I saw 2 visions.

The First Vision:
I saw an ancient castle with lots of windows on the upper floor. Then I saw windows opening one by one and girls in white scattering flowers from the windows until the flowers flew down below.

Meaning of the vision - The Lord is opening the windows of heaven for us pouring out His blessings on us for the year.

The Second Vision:
I saw a ruined city with broken walls and a garden with plants and flowers all dried up. I saw a person with incense in his hand held high and he was flying around and soon the city was filled with smoke. I saw again that as the incense went around, the city was revived. Green shoots sprouted up



from the ground. There was fresh, new growth.
Meaning of the vision - The Lord said to expect revival in unexpected places. The incense was the prayers of the saints that have been prayed all these years. This year we will see our prayers prevail in the many dead areas of our life, church, ministry and in reaching out to the lost."

Exhortation:
"Pray again and again for hopeless situations and for those people whom we think have no hope for Jesus. There are areas He is going to bring revival this year. OUR PRAYERS PREVAIL MUCH!"
– Jennifer V.

Do Not Be Anxious.....
"The Lord said, 'When you draw near to Me, I will draw near to you. Come to Me. Come near to Me and I will reveal more of myself to you.' Do not be anxious. Just commit yourself to the Lord and He will see you through. He is with you. He will never leave you nor forsake you. Let the Holy Spirit revive us and empower us as in the Book of Acts. I saw tongues of fire resting upon us." – Allison Chen

The Spirit & The Blood Of Jesus....
"I saw the blood of Jesus dripping onto a block of ice cube and water is at the bottom of the cube.
Meaning of the vision – We are all solid creation in the earth. However, we have the Holy Spirit through baptism. For the whole of 2014, we need to claim the blood of Jesus for every aspect of our lives. When the blood of Jesus is within us, 'our flesh' (fleshly works) will be weak. May we have the Holy Spirit and the blood of the Son of God for 2014" – Samson

Decreeing Blessings

The following blessings were declared and decreed for the church for 2014....

Ps 90:17
"And let the beauty of the Lord our God be upon us, and establish the work of our hands, yes establish the work of our hands"

Ps 103:1-5
"Bless the Lord O my soul, and all that is within me, bless His holy name! Bless the Lord O my soul, and forget not His benefits, who forgives all your iniquities, who heals all your diseases, who redeems your life from destruction, who crowns you with lovingkindness, who satisfies your mouth with good things, so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's" – Sis Nitta

Another Blessing...
"We decree & declare the following 7 abundances for our lives and for the church according to the Word of God:

1. Abundance of honour
2. Abundance of peace
3. Abundance of truth
4. Abundance of revelation
5. Abundance of grace
6. Abundance of joy
7. Abundance of healing

– Ruth Lew

For a record of our prayer meetings, word released, vision seen, exhortation – you are welcomed to access our prayer blog at www.hgcprayer.blogspot.com.



A Letter From Yi Hern

A Splendid Celebration

We were slightly late for this special occasion - The Hope of Glory Centre 20th Anniversary on 2 March 2014. I was glad that my Dai Yi (Aunt), Dai Yi Cheong (Uncle) from Sabah, my George Gung Gung (Grandpa George), mommy and I managed to attend. I loved listening to all the worship songs. They lightened and lifted my spirit and brought peace to me.

I have heard Jonathan's preaching before during Saturday Services. My, oh my, Jonathan, you were marvelous on that day! You preached about obeying, serving and praying for elders, being a good disciple and most of all to LOVE God! Your preaching was lively and encouraging! I'm encouraged by your words to become better myself.

Patrick, you touched about the younger generation looking up to the elders or parents as role models. "We, the younger generations still need our elders to guide us to the right path! Therefore, your presence and shoulder to lean on are very important. At the same time, we hope you will release us, as we, the new generation will bring new blood to bless the church."

Jane, the multitasked girl, is my inspiration. She is able to do much and serve God in multiple ways, yet have time to exercise. What touched me most in her speech was her friend's desire to go to church. When I heard that, my heart cried. I love Jesus so much but am not allowed to go to church openly. I am not allowed to read, listen to anything related to Christianity! But, my Heavenly Daddy helps. Certain Sundays, my mummy and I get to go to church! Hurray! God is great!

We need to accept whatever situations which arise, as life is really unpredictable. Zachary, you are indeed a very strong, young man. Your sharing of your daddy's death let me see that life is uncertain. However, with God's plan, we are assured that there is a future too in heaven for your dad! God is working a much better plan for you and your family. You have a loving mommy, Aunty Lee Lee. Do treasure her with all your love! Knowing her is another gift from God.

The chairman, Calvin - your voice is powerful, alive, pleasant and soothing! Wow! I am so in love with your voice! You speak so well, attracting each and every church member. I really felt the speeches were encouraging. Lastly, thank you all for a splendid 20th Anniversary as I enjoyed it very much and can feel all other members did too.

God Bless!
Yi Hern

NB: Yi Hern is an autistic child with God's given ability to write. Yi Hern's late grandma is Lai Kam Tai. She used to worship in HGC Chinese service

Church Event

Entering 2014

By Lim Chin Nee



On the final night of 2013, a number of HGCians gathered in the presence of the LORD for the Watch Night service. It was a time of reflection and thanksgiving to the LORD for all the blessings and grace received throughout the year. Time was also taken to look to the LORD for the days and months ahead. His presence was clearly felt as worship and prayer rose before Him.

Several brother and sisters came forward to share their 2013 testimonies and experiences.

Anticipating 2014 to be a challenging year, Ps Khor's exhortation to the congregation was to stay close to the LORD for He alone is our security and help. He reminded us of how during the seven years of severe famine in Canaan, God provided deliverance for the Israelites through Joseph who settled them in the best land in Egypt, the land of Goshen. The Israelites who stayed close to Joseph were well taken care of. They thrived, gained possessions and multiplied greatly.

Similarly, the LORD will also take good care of us as we remain close to Him. In Him, we will thrive, no matter what the circumstances.

As 2013 closed and 2014 dawned, hearts, hands and voices were lifted up to God in unison. It was a most powerful, awesome and meaningful time. Hands were also lifted corporately asking God to bless our pastors as they shepherd and led us into the New Year. A number of visions were received.

After the service, several members stayed on from 1am to 3am for the overnight prayer. It was a very special and memorable time for the LORD spoke to us a few significant things for 2014.

Please refer to Prayer Wave Column on pg 12 for the visions received.

1. United to pray for our pastors
2. Youth fervent in prayer

Watch Night Service Testimonies



Grace Khor – In 2013 I have grown stronger in God. God opened the door for me to join an Alpha Course while working in Hong Kong.



Daniel Wong – I thank God for good results in my exams. In my work on the ship that I joined, I have been given more responsibilities. I thank God for giving me the guidance and knowledge to handle all the tasks and projects given to me without any problems. There were times of emergencies where I had to go without sleep for 24 hours but God gave me the strength to go through. Thank God for safety throughout the sailing period. Before the start of my Marine Engineering course, I had dreams of erecting a building. At first, I didn't know what it was and thought it was a church. But three years later, I got the answer. I will raise money for the Kingdom of God and to build a home (house of God) and welcome all the homeless.



Voon TT – I thank God for 2013. The Lord was with me when I had a project in Kota Kinabalu. When I stepped out of my comfort zone, I see God's miracles. God was there to help me.



Nelson – I have grown leaps and bounds because of opportunities given. I had the opportunity to go to India to share my testimony and the gospel. My family also experienced God's faithfulness. We had prayed for my daughter Claudia who is studying in UITM for good results but didn't pray for her second year accommodation, which should be off campus for second year students. Though we had forgotten to pray, God did not forget. God surpassed our prayers. Not only did Claudia get good results, God provided Claudia with accommodation in the campus.



Nathan: I give thanks to God for a man after God's heart. He guides and teaches me when I have trouble with my wife. I feel very touched by his actions. God speaks to me through this good shepherd. After his sharing, I will have peace and feel happy. When he knows his sheep is in trouble, he comes very fast.



Ruth Lew: The Lord crowned 2013 with His goodness, and His path dripped with abundance. I had a very good bonus. I thank God for CPAS and for the great time working together.



Yen Fung – In November, I went to Israel a second time. The funds for the trip were provided by the LORD. This time I went alone with the purpose of sharing the gospel. I skipped some of the tours… to the Sea of Galilee and the Dead Sea. Instead, I stayed behind and managed to share the gospel to 25 Jews. Two received Christ joyfully; one was a girl named Tamar at the Western Wall area and the other, a security guard called Alves at the Dead Sea Hotel. A waitress said that if she received Christ, she would be greatly persecuted and would be sacked. At the Holocaust Hall, I shared Isaiah 53 to a young soldier and told him that Jesus is really the Messiah. But some didn't like to listen. A young Israeli girl angrily scolded me when she saw me sharing the gospel to two women.



Ps Nick – Praise God for the calmness during my ordination in March 2013. The ordination is a confirmation of what I felt the Lord had done in my life. During my silent retreat two years ago on one of my morning devotions, I felt God anointing me to be a priest unto Him and unto the people.





Church Events

Christmas Party Apartment Style

By Foong Wai Pooi

One of the impressions the Lord placed on my heart, particularly in the weeks after the community carnival at Ampang New Village, was that it's a blessing to bring the church to the people in the community. That event made known the existence of the churches that organized it, as well as presented many opportunities to share the gospel. The church leadership decided to adopt a similar approach for Christmas 2013, with an interesting twist. Instead of an open air carnival, we targeted 4 condominiums in the Ampang area where we would hold a Christmas party in each apartment block. We code-named it Christmas Party Apartment Style (CPAS).

Our guiding principles were:

- To be a blessing to the community
- Involve many – something for everyone to do
- Make it simple – no extensive, long drawn practices
- To build long term relationships and create opportunities to share and evangelize

The vision was shared to the whole church and members were encouraged to get involved. Many embraced CPAS whole-heartedly and it was heartwarming seeing the great teamwork, especially between the different Life Groups (LG). Because of CPAS, relationships between LGs are stronger than before. This being the first time we organized such an event, there were areas we could improve. We will make some adjustments and hope to celebrate the next Christmas in "apartment style" again.

CPAS @ Damai **By Ruth Lew**



December was the best month of 2013 as we got to organize CPAS @ Damai Condominium.

Firstly, our hearts were knitted together in love as the three life groups, Antarabangsa, Damai and Canaan got together to work towards this event for Christmas. There was such unity and love as different ones were assigned to be in charge of games, balloon sculpturing, craftwork, food, ushering, deco, blessed draw and carolling. Joy filled our hearts as we had a few combined LG meetings and divided ourselves into teams to prayer walk the two blocks, floor by floor as well to give out the flyers. Most of the residents were very open and happy to receive the flyers from us.



On Dec 21, we were already at the hall at 10 am cleaning, wiping and decorating the place with balloons and streamers. However when 4 pm came and went, we were a little apprehensive as no one had walked in yet! Thank God for the carolling team under Chris who decided to walk out to the gate and to the poolside to make a last minute pitch to the residents! As it turned out a family staying just next door at another apartment decided to change their plans and came instead for our party! At about 4.30 pm we had our first guest and one by one they came streaming in. All in, about 20 families came! It was wonderful to talk to them and to hear them share "this is the first time such an event is being held here", "I have stayed here for the past 10 years and there has never been such an event", "so where is your centre", "can we do this again next year"….and so on and so forth.

Overall there was such an atmosphere of joy and love. We really felt that we were building bridges to the community through the outreach.

On Christmas day the first family to walk in to church was from Damai Condominium We also had another two families that came for the Sunday service the following Sunday as well as two African brothers.

Thanks to everyone's effort without which we would not have such a good turnout. Thank God for opening the hearts of the people and for giving us favour with the residents. Truly CPAS will be remembered as being "Christmas Party All Successful" with God's help and favour!



Christmas Party at Jade Tower **By Calvin Lim**

As I could see, there was nothing that brought the church closer than the CPAS event. It rallied the young and old for a Christmas outreach unlike years passed. There's something altogether wonderful and powerful when the church comes together for a witnessing cause.

My LG, the Hosanna LG and BBA LG were assigned to the Jade Towers in Bkt Indah. Despite some initial obstacles, we got the green light to host the event. Thanks to Jimmy for his faith and sheer determination. He wouldn't take 'No' for an answer. He summoned each life group to rally their members to pray and prayer walk on site. Jesus always wins!

On that day, all of us donned the best smile and spirit. We had such joy working together – laying out the food tables, setting up games stalls, handicraft stalls, and with extra hands to pump balloons and make the place beautiful. The light drizzle did not dampen our faith. It left as quickly as it came. Towards the start of the event, we had a group of young people going to the towers and knocking on every door. And the elevator was not working. Hats off to the Keng Youth!



With everything set, we kicked off the event with carols by the pool side. Crowds listened but were hesitant to make any move. We were anxious but prayerful. Gradually we saw the children coming in. Soon after, we had families and friends strolling in. What a relief!! We mingled and chatted with the residents like we were neighbours for years. The celebration went into the night with more carols, blessed draw and 'makan'. Our new found friends were very grateful that we did not just bring food and gifts but the Christmas spirit, cheer and love to the place. They invited us back next year.

Because of the connection we made; at our watch night service, three ladies from the condo came and did the countdown with us. A couple also turned up at our Christmas service. I'm sure this is not the last we will be seeing them. We hope we can continue to witness to many more condos in the years to come.







CPAS at Emerald Hill Condominium by Jo Liew



Bukit Indah LG (BILG) and Taman Kosas LG (TKLG) came together on 21 Dec 2013 to hold the Christmas Party Apartment Style (CPAS) at Emerald Hill Condominium with Agnes Tang being the resident host for the event.

A week before the event, TKLG and BILG members went prayer walking. On 15 Dec, volunteers from both LG went carolling together at Emerald Hill. We made a joyful noise to attract the attention of residents to the coming Christmas Party that was to be held for them. Curious residents looked out of their balconies, elderly ladies clapped as we sang and kids waved at us. Three children boldly came down and joined in the carols. The carollers were



blessed with food from the Emerald Hill Committee.

When everything was set up at the multipurpose hall for the Christmas Party, the carollers moved out to sing carols to announce and welcome the residents to join in the celebration. Soon, the children came streaming in, some with their parents. They participated in all the booths set up. An elderly lady who was watching and clapping at her balcony during the carolling, came down and joined us. An Iranian lady whom Wai Pooi and Soon Hoe recognised, came and told them that she appreciated the party. Surin spent time getting to know some ladies. The highlight of the Christmas Party was of course the blessed draw. Everyone looked forward to have their names called out. What a delight for them when they got their prizes!

We praise God that at least two persons who were at the CPAS attended the Christmas Day service. They also responded to God's love and peace during the altar call. All Glory to God!





A Blessing We Bring by Danny Here



HGC took a chance on a new tradition this past Christmas. Wanting to bring the joy and hope of Christmas to the people around us in Ampang, the heavenly inspired idea of Christmas Party Apartment Style (CPAS) was introduced. Four apartments were chosen to be blessed and our team consisting of three LGs – Prima Ampang, Sentul and Halaman - was in charge of Ampang Prima apartment.

On 21 Dec 2013, the three LGs in full support of the event, turned up prepared with door gifts, lucky draws, yummy food, fun games, Christmas carols and more importantly with the message of Christmas. At 5pm on that day, the sound of carols transformed the quiet atmosphere and residents were jolted and made aware of the happening event at the doorstep of their home. Soon many old and young



came to join in the fun-filled event. There were those who enjoyed the music as they joined in to sing the carols proclaiming the birth of Jesus. There were those who were mesmerised by the balloon sculptures and hand paintings. The fun games attracted the young ones. The food was served with a smile and of course we took this opportunity to share with all those who were there, the Christmas message of our Lord Jesus.

At the end of the day, the residents went back with lollipops in their mouth, carols ringing in their ears, sculptured balloons and door gifts in their painted hands, food in their stomach and fond memories of a group of people from HGC who came to bless them with the joy of Christmas. My sentiment which is shared by many who were there on that day is that it was the desire in our hearts to share Christ that drove us to give our very best for the event. The team spirit was excellent. The purpose was worthy. The message was proclaimed. As we looked back at the event, we can say...it was good.

To God be the glory.







Youth wave

Keng Youth Christmas

By Abigail Cheong



Keng Youth Christmas 2013 was a blast. The smile on everyone's face showed that everyone was having tons of fun. The games were very fun and it was a great bonding time for all the youths. Many new guests came and we all got to know many new friends. The worship was awesome, it was really full of energy and everyone was jumping and singing loudly.



The message by Calvin Lim was very inspiring and I'm sure it touched many hearts including mine. Three youths responded to the gospel message. We had a great time of fellowship and everyone did their part to make this Christmas party such a success. Everyone's outfit were very interesting and colourful. The dress code for the year was "Christmas tree". Many youths came wearing bells and ribbons to make their costume look like one. It was really amusing and I was really glad that everyone was willing to participate.







Youth wave

Youth Holiday Event - Who Am I?

By Abigail Cheong



The Keng Youth Holiday Event happened about a month ago from 4 to 7 Dec 2013. We, the youth, had a really awesome time. The games were really fun, as always. We went to the park once but it was raining so we just stayed under a hut and made funny, goofy dances to ask God to stop the rain.

On the second day, a few guests from Focus on the Family, Malaysia came to speak to us about life, love and sex. The main thing they taught us was to practise abstinence -ABSTINENCE from sex until marriage. This is a choice to be made by a person, the choice to avoid all and any form of sexual activity until one enters a lifelong marriage relationship. They also gave us a pledge card to be sexually abstinent until marriage. Everyone signed it; so we made a really important decision that day.

Besides that, I also enjoyed the fellowship among us youths. Sleeping in church was awesome and cold. So basically, I enjoyed myself very much there. Hope this year we will have more fun times to fellowship together.



Photos

1. Which of them is the best decorated?
2. Drama time
3. A time for youthful praise
4. A joyful time
5. Calvin our anointed speaker
6. We pledge to abstain from sex until marriage!
7. Fun games
8. Bringing joy to the elderly
9. Visit to an Old Folk's Home

Praise God for **20 Years** of His Goodness!

By Joann Lim


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Even as The Hope of Glory Centre celebrated its 20th birthday at Wisma MCA on 2 March 2014, God has already started to gear and equip us for the future with this year's theme: Discipling the Next Generation.

Before the congregation even came in, prayer warriors were gathered at the hall in intercession to saturate the place with God's presence as setup was being done. At 10am, the praise and worship team led the church in joyful praise, thanking the Lord for His faithfulness for the last two decades. And when the time for sermon came, things got interesting- Ps Khor revealed that we have 5 very special guest speakers, all from our own church, and all from the next generation!

From young Jonathan Liew, an evangelist in the making, who dared the younger generation to ask for prayer from the elders when in need, to rising teacher, Patrick Chong who challenged the adults to pass the baton to the next generation and allow them to learn from their failures. It was an honest and straightforward message, spoken with fire from these young teens!

The young adults also had a chance to speak: Timothy Suhan spoke about how God redirected his life's priorities from wealth to leaving a lifelong legacy; Jane Oo shared on how the Lord had been faithful to provide and show favour when she put Him first above all else; Zachary Yong gave a touching testimony on how his own father's recent passing drove him closer to God, his Heavenly Father. Each message was told differently, from a different perspective; but each held power, truth and easily related to the church. We were deeply blessed by the testimonies of the next generation!

It was a meaningful time when the adults stood up to bless the younger generation, asking God to anoint them and help them grow to their fullest potential in Christ.

In closing of the celebration, the church leaders released balloons into the sky - symbolic of releasing the lives of the next generation to God.


7


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Photos

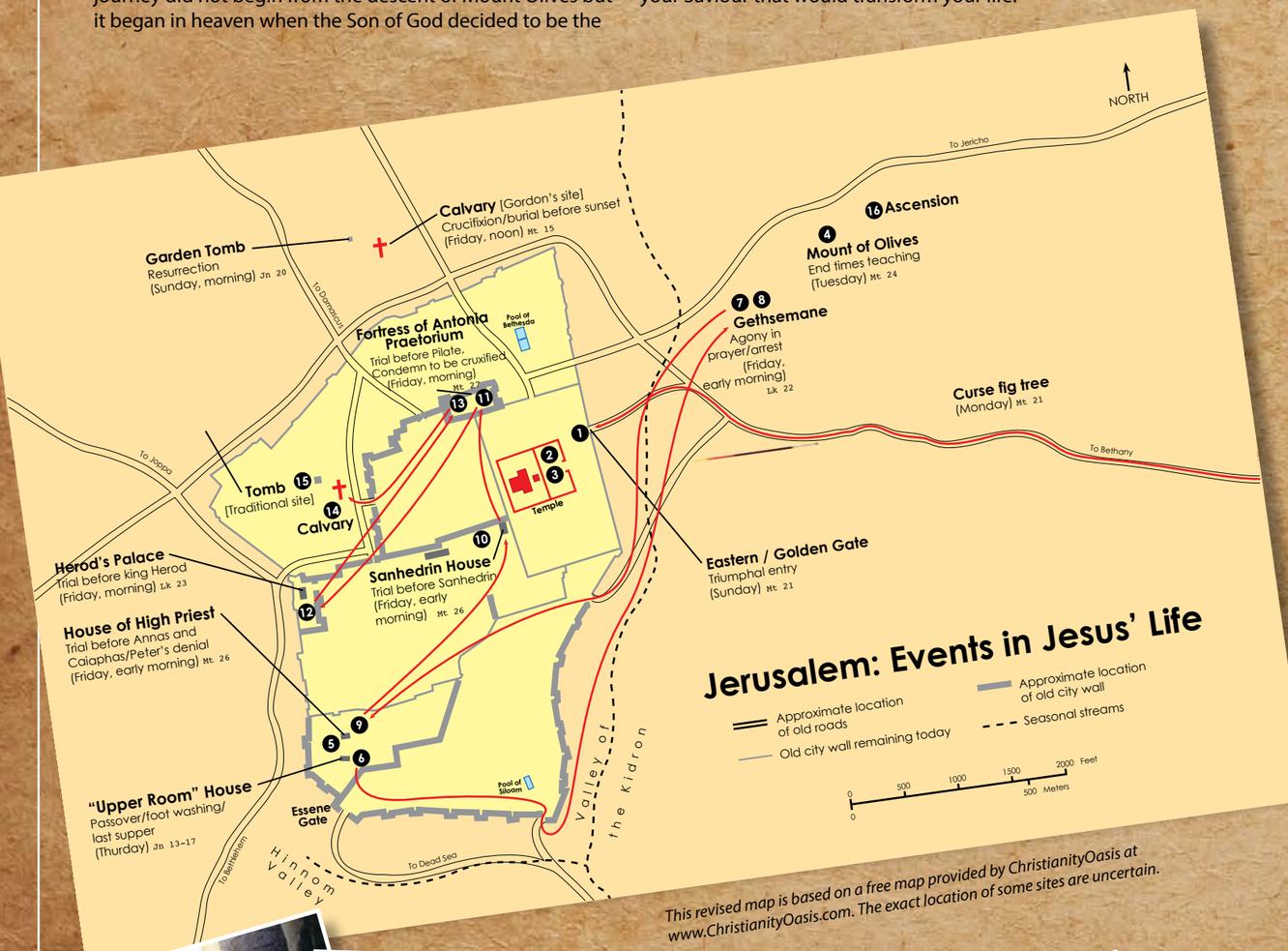
1 A photo of those who were present at HGC 1st Anniversary
2 Praying for the Next Gen
3 Patrick and Jonathan were so versatile
4 Zachary sharing his heart as Yuet Foong interprets
5 What a joyous day!
6 Josiah & Ern Yi reading Col 1:27-29 clearly and powerfully
7 Alicia and Austin's anointed prayers touch many hearts
8 Happy 20th Birthday, HGC!
9 Heart-felt worship rise before God

Walk With Jesus through His Final & Triumphant Week On Earth

Compiled By Lim Chin Nee

Map reproduced by Abel Leong

Since Good Friday and Resurrection Sunday is near, it will be meaningful to follow the last leg of the journey that our Saviour Jesus took to usher in the Kingdom of God and to open the way of salvation for all who will come to Him. This journey did not begin from the descent of Mount Olives but it began in heaven when the Son of God decided to be the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world. As you follow the map with the help of the notes and suggested Scriptures, may His ultimate sacrifice and triumph touch you deeply. May you experience a fresh encounter with your Saviour that would transform your life!



This revised map is based on a free map provided by ChristianityOasis at www.ChristianityOasis.com. The exact location of some sites are uncertain.

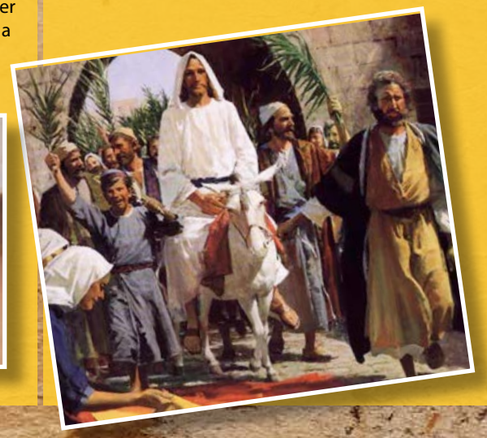
1	Sunday (5 Days before the Passover)	Jesus descends from the villages of Bethphage and Bethany, and makes His triumphal entry into Jerusalem riding on a donkey. (Mt 21, John 12:1,12-18)
2	Monday	Jesus cleanses the Temple. "My house shall be a house of prayer." (Mt 21:12-13, Mk 11:15-17)
3	Tuesday	Jesus teaches in the Temple and religious leaders confront Him. (Mt 21:22, Mk 11:27)
4		Jesus teaches about the end times on the Mt of Olives. (Mt 24:3 - 25:46, Mk 13:1-37)
5	Wednesday	Caiaphas, the high priest, and other religious leaders plot to kill Jesus. (Mt 26:3-5, Mk 14:1-2)
6	Thursday	Jesus shares the Passover meal with His disciples in the Upper Room and washes their feet. "This is My blood of the new covenant shed for the forgiveness of sins." (Mt 26:17-35, Mk 14:17-26, John 13:1-15)
7		After the Last Supper, Jesus & His disciples cross the Kidron Valley and come to the Garden of Gethsemane where Jesus prays. "Nevertheless not what I will but what You will." (Mt 26:36-46, Mk 14:32-42)
8	Friday (after midnight)	Jesus is betrayed with a kiss and arrested in the Garden of Gethsemane. (Mt 26:47-56, Mk 14:43-52)
9	Friday (early morning)	Trial before Annas and Caiaphas, the High Priest. Jesus receives initial physical abuse. Peter denies Jesus. (John 18:13-23, Mt 26:57-75, Mk 14:53-72)
10	Friday (after sunrise)	Jesus is tried before the whole Sanhedrin or Jewish religious council. Led away to the Praetorium. (Matt 27:1-2, John 18:28)
11		Jesus is tried before Pontius Pilate who declares, "I find no fault in this Man." (Matt 27:11-14, Lk 23:1-5)
12		Pilate sends Jesus to Herod Antipas for further questioning. Jesus refuses to answer any questions. He was mocked, arrayed in a gorgeous robe, and sent back to Pilate. (Lk 23:6-11)
13		Back at the Praetorium, Pilate tries to release Jesus but the Jewish leaders demand Jesus be crucified. (Lk 23:12- 25). Jesus is condemned and scourged. (Mt 27:26-31, Mk 15:15-20)
14	Friday (9am-12pm)	Jesus carries His cross and goes out to a place called the Skull or Golgotha where He is crucified with two criminals. "Father, forgive them for they know not what they do." (Mt 27:31-44, Mk 15:20-32, Lk 23:33-34)
	Friday (12pm-3pm - final 3 hours	Darkness covers the earth for 3 hours. Jesus cries out in a loud voice, "It is finished," and breathes His last. The veil in the temple is torn in two. (Mt 27:46-51, Mk 15:33- 38, Jn 19:28-30)
	Friday (Before sunset)	Jesus is buried in the new tomb of Joseph of Arimathea and a stone is rolled against the tomb. (Mt 27:57-61, Mk 15:42-47)
15	Sunday (early morning)	The stone is rolled away revealing an empty tomb. Jesus is risen from the dead! It is impossible for death to hold Him. He appears to Mary Magdalene and His disciples. (Matt 28:1-20, Mk 16:1-10, John 20:11-29)
16	40 days	Jesus presents Himself alive to over 500 brethren and teaches about the Kingdom of God. (Acts 1:3, 1Cor 15: 5-8)
17	40 days later	At the Mt of Olives, Jesus commands His disciples to wait for the Holy Spirit to endue them with power. Jesus ascends into heaven. As the disciples watch, two angels say, 'This same Jesus who was taken up from you into heaven will so come in like manner as you saw Him go into heaven." (Lk 24: 49-53, Acts 1:4-11)
	In the future (The Day of the Lord)	Jesus Christ, the King of kings and Lord of lords, returns in glory and power riding on a white horse! Believers meet the Lord and will always be with Him. Hallelujah! (Rev 19:11-16, Matt 24:30-31, Lk 21;27, 1 Thess 4:16-17)











Water Baptism

By Khor Hoe Chai, Pastor

On 22 December 2013, nine brothers and sisters were water baptized. Out of the nine, five were siblings and most were youth. How encouraging! These ones have accepted Jesus as their Lord and Saviour and were willing to take this step of obedience to the Lord Jesus. Water Baptism is an outward sign of the inward work of grace that has already taken place in their hearts. With this step of obedience there is an understanding of what Jesus has done for them; what it means to be saved from their sins and to be raised up with Christ into newness of life. They are also publicly confessing their faith in Jesus in front of family and friends before God. Water Baptism is also an act of initiation into the life of being a disciple of Jesus. So, it is just the beginning. May they continue to follow Jesus, grow in their relationship with Him and walk in His Will!

Below are some of their testimonies.

The Apple of His Eye **By Abigail Cheong**

Before knowing Jesus Christ, I was just a simple child who did not understand anything about God. I got to know about Jesus through my parents. I remember when I was still young, my mother and father would have quiet time with my brother, my sister and me. We would always read the Bible and pray.

When I was five, my mother asked me if I believed Jesus is my saviour. I said, "Yes!" Jesus loves everyone so much and I wanted that love which He demonstrated when He died on the cross for the sins of the world. Everyone's face is full of joy when they worship Jesus and I wanted that joy too. After that, my mother prayed for me; and since then I have believed in Jesus.

After I received Jesus as my Lord and Saviour, God becomes my Father and friend. He helps me every day of my life to follow Him. The Lord says that I am the apple of His eye. When I was 12, I went to a Children House of Prayer. There, I received a word that the Lord will always love me and He will be my friend when no one else will. Jesus has taught me to become more open and just be myself. I got baptized because I felt it was the right time and I want to serve God forever.



I Want To Be Born Again **By Zera Sian**

Many people come to believe in God in their secondary school days and I am one of them. I became a Christian when I was in Form One.

Before that, as a child from a Christian family, I was a weak so-called "Christian." I did not have a strong relationship with the Lord. I was not good in prayer nor did I read the Bible. Every Sunday, an uncle would come to bring me and my siblings to Children's Church. At first, I was happy to know and join my new friends, but as time passed, I became bored and didn't feel like going to church. I thought it was just a waste of time and it kept me from being able to sleep in on Sundays.

It was not until Form One after I had joined CC as a helper that things changed. A sister gave me a Christian manga book about Jesus. I became interested in it, and borrowed more Christian manga books to read. Eventually, I wasn't just reading manga books but I started to read the Bible to know more about Jesus.

From the Bible, I knew that I had many sins and had done many wrong things. I am a sinner and needed Jesus' forgiveness. I want my sins to be washed away by the blood of Jesus and to have new life in Him. I want to be born again. The Bible tells me that through baptism, I am buried with Christ and then raised with Him to walk in newness of life. That was why I prepared my heart to obey the Lord and I was baptized on 22 December 2013.



Why I Was Baptized? **By Caleb Sian Ern Ze**

I was born in a Christian family so every time when asked what my religion was, I would answer, "Christianity!" However, I did not know anything about Christianity or Jesus nor did I attend any Sunday Services. I only went to church once a year during Christmas because of the presents and food. Whenever anyone asked me about Christianity, I would feel embarrassed. Some even call me a bad Christian. Anyway, at that time, I could not care less.

When I was a child, my mother arranged for me and my siblings to go to Children's Church. At first it was fun and I got to know a lot of people. I also started to know more Bible Stories and my knowledge of Jesus increased. But slowly, I got bored and stopped attending CC. When I entered secondary school, I became busy with my own life and had no time for youth fellowships. At that time, my family and I were not strong Christians.

In early 2013, my family started to be active in church and they attended Bible Study classes after the service. I thought it was a waste of time but was curious as to what was so attractive about the church to them. After a few months, my family members persuaded me to attend the Sunday Service, so I went perfunctorily.

At first, it was very normal – singing a few songs, dropping a few coins but during the preaching time, I felt that I had a lot of sins and could not forgive myself. Coincidentally or rather, divinely, the pastor was preaching about God's mercy. I found myself concentrating on the message. After the service, I felt better. The message of God touched me and healed me.

Since then, I feel energetic about going to church and I started to believe in Jesus Christ as my Saviour and God. I thank God that in Him I have eternal life. Getting baptized together with my siblings on 22 December 2013 was most memorable for me and my family. I am glad that I have been saved by Jesus Christ who was crucified on the cross and rose victorious over the grave for me. I want to walk with Jesus and do His work



Acknowledging Jesus as My God & Saviour **By Germaine Khoo**

"Do you want Jesus in your heart?" my dad asked me right after he told me about Jesus. And even though I was just 6 or 7 years old back then, I understood what my dad said. I replied, "Yes," because I believed Jesus had died for me to save me. As a child, I learnt more about Jesus when I was in Children's Church. It was there that I learned the things that were right and wrong based on the Bible. The teachings from the Bible have helped to shape my values in life now. Throughout my life, if there were things that I knew were wrong or went against the teachings in the Bible, I will avoid it.

These past few years I can feel that God is slowly changing me. One area is that I have started taking initiative to help my mom in her housework. I usually would not be bothered by it and let my mom do it all by herself but I realised I was being inconsiderate. My mom will feel tired doing housework all alone.

Jesus has always been a great help to me in my examinations. I really do feel that He always guides me whenever I am studying for any examination. Whatever I have studied has always been helpful and useful when I sit for the papers. I know I can depend on Jesus because He will always help me whenever I am troubled by anything in life.

I wanted to be baptized because I want to acknowledge Jesus as my God and Saviour in my life and to continue to grow in Him.



I Knew God Was Real **By Joshua Sian**

My name is Joshua Sian. I went to church for the first time when I was four. It was fun because of Children's Church. I learnt a lot about God, the Bible and many things. But, my relationship with God was not good because I only kept Sunday holy and the other six days, I put God aside. At that time, going to Children's Church was just spending my time on something good, instead of playing computer games and so on. This went on until I was 12 years old.

From 12 to 13 years of age, my life was totally a dark nightmare because spiritually, I went the wrong way. I did not go to church nor pray to God no matter what happened. I did not touch my Bible for the whole year and the worst thing was I denied that I was a Christian! Most of the things I did were sinful stuff. I disobeyed almost all of the Ten Commandments. Easter and Christmas that year to me had no meaning.

One Sunday in the year 2010, I was forced by my mom to attend the Church morning service. That day, I went to church by myself. Actually, I planned to lie to my mom and go to cyber café to play but somehow I attended the service. When I reached the sanctuary, I didn't want to take a seat but I just stood behind so that no one would notice me. During worship time, I was actually playing with my phone. When Pastor started to preach, something just stopped me from playing with my phone and made me listen to the message.

The message that Pastor preached was not just a message to me, it was like someone trying to approach me and waiting for me to reply. At that time, my whole body was trembling. Then I knew that the God whom those around me were praising and believing in is actually the living God. He is real; He loves us and cares for us. At the end of the service while we were worshipping God, I asked Him to forgive my sins and be the Lord of my life. From that day on, I was determined to put my faith in Him, follow Him and glorify His name.

Now, I'm helping in Children's Church. I feel that the adults are losing the children who have the greatest potential to bring change. With God in their lives, children can become powerful tools for God and He can use them to show people that He is the living God. So, I want to raise up these powerful kids. As my relationship with God grows stronger, I also experience God's mighty



power. Now, I am so proud that I'm a Christian because my God loves the world so much that He sent His only Son to die on the cross for us and He is always in my heart!

I decided to be baptized because I want to follow God, I want to be one of the members of His family and I want God to lead me to do His will. By my baptism I also can be an example to those little children in Children's Church who are so precious to our Heavenly Father. I want them to become an army of God's children with me to bring back to God's Kingdom those who are lost in darkness!

From No Fear To God Fearer **By Perez Sian**

I did not fear God when I was little. All those wasted time, I was lost and far from God. I found no fun because every Sunday I had to wake up early to go to Children's Church (CC). I made no friends and I knew no truth.

Near to the end of 2011, I was shocked when my mom wanted me to be a helper in CC. I had no choice and was interviewed by Sis York Ling and other CC teachers. I didn't know why but God made the interview a success, which meant that I had to go to church even earlier.

One Sunday, after I had become a CC helper for a few weeks, Ps Khor preached from the book of Revelation. It really drew me to listen and stirred my mind. After the service, I went forward in response to the message. I stood in front for the altar call.

That Sunday night, I prayed to God for forgiveness. From that time onwards, I started to change or rather God started to change me to be what He wants me to be, a God fearer. I prayed to Him, I sang to Him, and sought His Word. I knew how far I had gone in the wrong direction.

And so I decided to be baptized along with my siblings. I desired to be a true and strong CHRISTIAN! To serve the one and only Lord with the new life in He has given me. God's plan to change me does not happen overnight because God changes me daily, little by little as I live life day by day.



Jesus Sets Me Free **By Vasantha**

My name is Vasantha. One day I was having a bad headache and I happened to walk in front of the church. I decided to seek prayer and went to see the pastor. Ps Khor prayed for me and also shared Christ with me. I accepted Jesus as my Saviour in July 2010.

After that, Sis Jo Liew taught me the Word of God. One day while we were talking, I broke down and cried as I remembered all my hurts. I also have a lot of anger inside of me. Then something seemed to take control of me and wouldn't let me go. Pastor and Sis Jo prayed for me and rebuked the evil spirits that were controlling me. I also released forgiveness to those who had hurt me and God's peace came upon me. God continued to heal me every time I came for my Bible lessons. He is like peeling off layers of hurt and anger from me each time. I was not working at that time and I felt very depressed. Sis Jo prayed for me to get a job. It was so wonderful God heard our prayers when my former employer called me up a few days later, offering me a job. I was so happy and I felt so much peace with Jesus in my life.

As I work as a maid, I did not get to go to church. And I also cannot understand the Bible very well on my own. Very soon, I fell back into a depressive mood. Sis Jo continued to call me now and then, to teach me how to pray and to encourage me to read from the Psalms every day. When I was on leave, I also joined the Life Group and learned more about God. It is from there, I got to know Sis Ruby and Sis Kalpana (nurses from India who used to work in Gleneagles Hospital) Both of them would encourage me to pray more and read the Bible more. They also prayed fervently for me, especially Sis Ruby. I felt they were like my own family who cared for me.

Jesus continues to set me free from oppressive spirits as I surrender myself to Him. It was not easy but greater is He who is in me than the one who is in the world. I will learn to walk in victory each



time. I am also thankful to Pastor and Sis Chin Nee for their prayers and help. And now I am telling everyone that Jesus is my Lord and Saviour through my recent baptism on 22 Dec 2014.

He Has Changed Me **By Grace Sian Ern Hui**

Although I was born in a Christian family, I didn't have a clue about God. I sinned and would not care about it. I lied, I fought with my friends, I was racist and very selfish. When my friends asked me what my religion is, I would answer, 'Christianity.' Then they asked me, 'So, you celebrate Easter Day and Christmas?' I answered them, 'Yes.' This would be followed by, 'Why do you celebrate Easter and Christmas?' My answer was simply, 'I don't know,' and then everyone would laugh at me.

I went to Children Church for games and sweets. I did not read the Bible even though there are five Bibles in my house. I did not succeed in what I wanted to achieve and even considered suicide because of all the pressure that I faced.

One day, my Christian friend invited me to her church and I agreed. I went to her church that day and the pastor was teaching on why Christians celebrate Easter Day. When I went home, I took a Bible to read. That was the day I read the Bible and that was the day I began to know Christ and who He is. I prayed and asked Him for forgiveness.

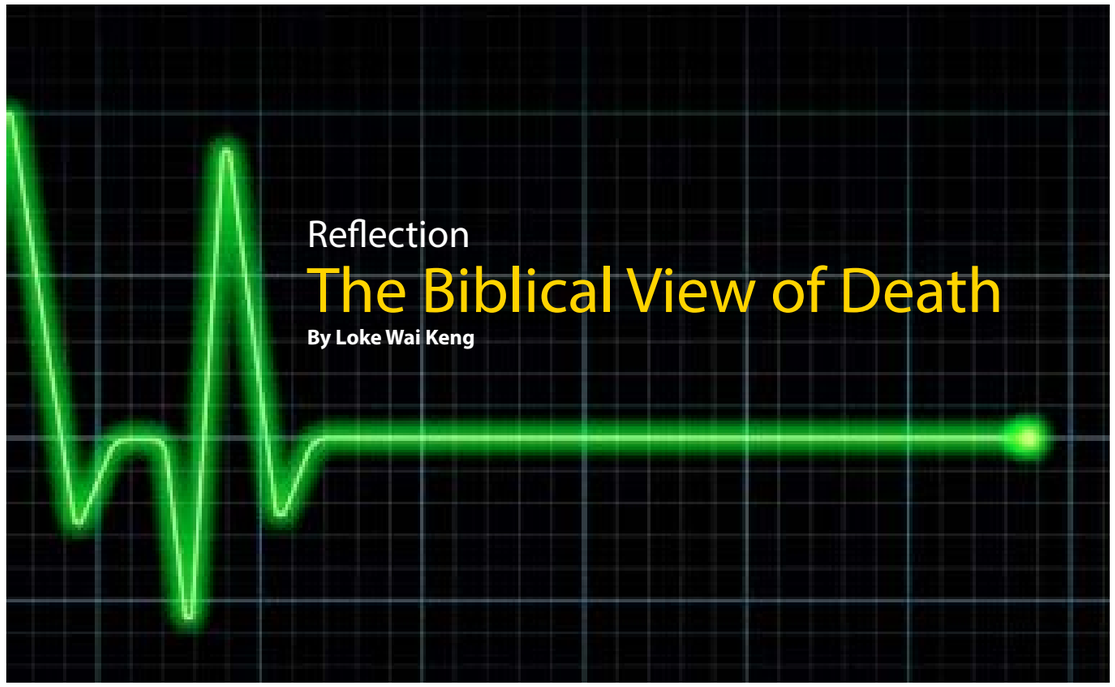
I am glad to know Jesus; and to have received His love and forgiveness! He loves me so much that He died for my sins on the cross. He has changed my life. I am now more contented and humble. Without Him I will not be saved and my sins will not be forgiven.

Now, I always pray to Him and ask Him for help because I am weak but He is a strong. He is so great to me! I want to follow and obey Him. I will give my life to Him! That's why I want to be born again, be baptised and let the Holy Spirit guide me.

Last but not least, I would like to share my favourite Bible verse:

For God so loved the world that He gave
His only begotten Son,
that whoever believes in Him should not
perish but have everlasting life.
John 3:16





Reflection

The Biblical View of Death

By Loke Wai Keng

Death – a morbid subject that many people evade, yet death is an event that is as certain as birth. As a child of 6, I was first exposed to the death of a young man who was staying in the same house. Somehow the fear of death took a grip of me. This fear was aggravated when I felt helpless seeing my dad slip into eternity without knowing Jesus. I often dream of loved ones dying and even my own death; so I had to deal with this fear through some deliverance ministry and with a better understanding of the biblical view of death.

Heb 2:14-15 clearly states that Jesus became flesh so that through His death He might destroy the power of death and release those who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage. This is even reinforced by what Paul said in 1 Corinthians 15:55, "O Death where is your sting? O Hades where is your victory?" The fear of death no longer has any hold on me, though I know I have to face death one day when God says my time is up.

A book by Henri Nouwen "The Greatest Gift" illuminated my understanding of death and helped me to know that death is but an entry point to eternity. With this understanding, I no longer fear dying though I am still anxious about how I would die. Yet, why would I worry over this when I am not there yet? The key to die well is to live purposefully so that eventually when death comes knocking at my door, I will be glad to go back to my Creator with minimal regret.

It is a physical exit out of this fallen world into the beginning of a spiritual eternity with the Living God

So for a biblical view of death I offer here some basic understanding that I hope will cause us to die to the fear of dying.

When the writer of Psalms exclaimed, ". . . the terrors of death are fallen upon me. Fearfulness and trembling are come upon me. And horror has overwhelmed me," (Psa. 55:4-5) he expressed the sentiments of vast multitudes that have faced the prospect of death. Bildad, Job's friend, characterized death as the "king of terrors" (Job 18:14). And the writer of Hebrews spoke of those "who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage." (Heb. 2:15) Though few of us may reach that stage of faith where we can say, like Paul, that we desire to die (Phil. 1:23), certainly with the illumination of the New Testament revelation, we can face the mysteries of death with calmer spirits.

Death Is Like Sleep

The New Testament speaks of them "that are fallen asleep in Jesus." (1 Thess 4:14) The term "sleep" is used in the Scriptures to describe the state of the body in death. Only the body of man sleeps in death. The body permanently ceased all its biological functions. This is revealed in Daniel 12:2 where the dead are described as those who "sleep in the dust of the earth." Thus it is the body that sleeps in death, not the spirit.

In the New Testament, the word "asleep" is the **Greek koimaomai**, which is from **keimai**, literally meaning "to lie down." The Greeks used the word **koimeterion** of a place where travelling strangers could stop for sleep, and from that word derives our term "cemetery," a place where the bodies of the dead lie sleeping.

Back to the Dust

The Bible also realistically speaks of the decomposition of the body. When Adam and Eve sinned, they were deprived of the tree of life and hence of physical immortality (Gen 3:22, Rom 5:12). It is, therefore, man's lot to return to the dust of the ground (Gen 3:19, Eccl 12:7). Paul speaks of the earthly house of our tabernacle being "dissolved" by death (2 Cor. 5:1). The Greek term for "dissolved" is **kataluo**, literally meaning to "loose down," a vivid expression for fleshly decomposition.

A Journey

Death is a departure. Death occurs when the spirit leaves the body (Jas 2:26). When Dorcas died, Christian widows stood near her body and showed the garments she had made "while she was with them" (Acts 9:39). Her body was there, but "she" (i.e., her spirit or personality) was gone! Paul thought of death as a departure (Phil 1:23). These passages, and a host of others, are devastating to the materialistic theories that assert that man is a wholly physical being.

Another interesting word that reveals death as a journey is the term **exodus**. On the Mount of Transfiguration, the Lord talked of his impending "decease" (**exodus**, Lk 9:31), and Peter wanted his brethren to remember his words after his "departure" (**exodus**, 2 Pet 1:15). Exodus is the very word used of the Israelites' departure from Egypt into the wilderness (Heb 11:22). As the Israelites continued to consciously exist while passing from Egypt into the Wilderness of Sinai, even so, we continue to consciously exist when we depart from earthly regions to the realm of the spirit. When the Lord returns then, we will have a new body for what was sown in corruption will be raised in incorruption, lowly bodies will conform to Christ's glorious body (1 Cor 15:42-44, 52-54, Phil 3:21); just like Him when He was resurrected.

Blissful Reunions

Death is a reunion with righteous loved ones who departed. It is written of the patriarch Abraham, "Abraham gave up the ghost, and died. . . and was gathered to his people" (Gen. 25:8). The expressions "gathered to his people," and "going to his fathers" (Judg 2:10), are constantly distinguished from being buried and denote reunion with loved ones in the presence of Jesus Christ. When Jesus suggested that many would sit down with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven (Mt. 8:11), he certainly implied a reunion among those three.

Face-to-face with Christ

For those who die in Christ, death is union with the Lord. Jesus informed the dying thief, "Today you shall be with Me in paradise" (Lk 23:43). And as previously observed, Paul longed to depart to be "with Christ" (Phil 1:23).

The Agony of Defeat

For the wicked, death begins an eternity of suffering. Though it is not a popular theme in contemporary society, the doctrine of hell is still a vital part of the Bible. At death, all who have lived in rebellion to God will enter a spirit state characterized by pains, trouble, and sorrow (Psa. 116:3). They will be immersed in shame and contempt (Dan. 12:2). It will be a realm of anguish, suffering, and torment (Mt 22:13; 25:46; Mk 9:48; Lk 16:24; 2 Thess 1:9; Rev 20:10).

Prepare for Your Death

How are we to prepare for our death? No one knows when one will die. It can come unexpectedly just like our dear brother Jimi Yong. If only we know the date and the time. However, I believe there are certain things we can do to prepare for our death.

1. One cannot live wrong and die right! After death there is no opportunity for repentance or salvation. Such concepts as "a second chance after death," "baptism for the dead," and "purgatory," are totally without basis in the Scriptures. While it is still "today," therefore, let us resolve to learn the will of Christ and to obey the same (Heb. 5:8-9).
   One must believe in Christ (Jn. 8:24), turn from sin (Lk. 13:3), and unite with the Lord in the likeness of his death through immersion in water (Rom. 6:3-4). Then, as a newborn babe, long for the milk which is the Word of God and grow thereby (1 Pet. 2:2; cf. 2 Pet. 3:18).

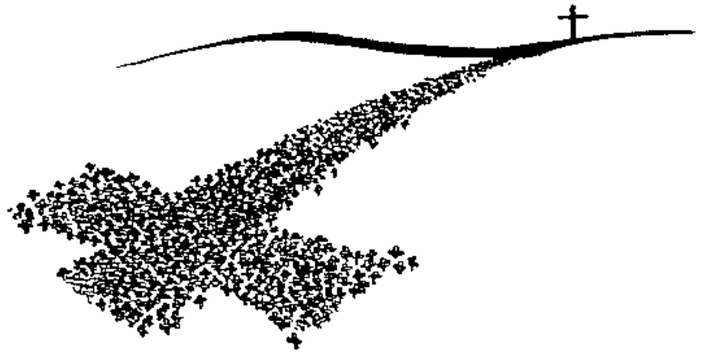
2. Live purposefully as pilgrim on this earth, lay up treasures in Heaven by sowing into the Kingdom of God so that we leave a rich legacy for those after us.

3. Live at peace with God and man.

Though there are many things about death that we do not know (and the unknown can be somewhat frightening), the inspired Word of God does afford enough information that we may take courage at the prospect of dying. Indeed, by faith, we believe that for the faithful child of God, there is more to death than dying. Death will be an event that is not to be feared. It is a physical exit out of this fallen world into the beginning of a spiritual eternity with the Living God and an exit of this fallen world.

Like the Psalmist of old, I pray for a good death and dying well.

Footnote: The article is mainly for a personal perspective and understanding.



TESTIMONY



God's Ang Pow

By Ruth Lew

2013 was a year of great blessing for me. I had an unexpected increment which was more like a salary adjustment. With the increment I actually busted my salary scale based on my current rank in my workplace. This was something totally unexpected. I also received a big bonus, an unbroken record for all the years that I have worked with the Bank (8 years to-date).

According to Luke 6:38, there is only one pre-condition for experiencing the overflow in our lives. It is giving to God. This is the best spiritual investment that a working person can ever make in his or her life, faithful giving unto God.

I also thank God that the Court of Appeal and later the Federal Court in January 2014 overturned a decision of the High Court regarding a legal suit filed by a borrower against a number of banks who had lent them money to build a shopping complex. The High Court judge had awarded damages of more than a RM100 million to the borrower with the result that instead of a bad loan being paid back, the lenders would have to write it off. Over and above that the lenders would have to pay the borrowers an amount even more than the loan he borrowed! Truth and justice finally prevailed even as God's people prayed.



An Unexpected Operation

By Michelle Liew

Last September, I experienced a very bad stomach pain and bleeding problem. I had no choice but to go to the Ampang Hospital for a check-up. The medical personnel at the hospital could not detect what was wrong with me and wanted me to be admitted for observation. I prayed that God would show me what to do as the pain was becoming more and more acute. I needed direction from the Lord on whether I should go to another hospital for a second opinion.

When the pain persisted, the following morning, I made a split second decision to drive straight to Gleneagles Hospital after sending my girls to school. As it happened it was raining so heavily that morning that my sister-in-law could not open her stall at the Ampang wet market thus paving the way for me to go (I am helping her out at the stall). When I reached Gleneagles, I was very disappointed to be told by the nurses at the reception that I could not see a doctor as I had not made a prior appointment. I prayed and felt led to call someone in church who suggested that I consult a particular specialist. Praise God for when I went looking for her, I saw her opening the office on her own. Apparently, her nurse was late for work due to the heavy rain! Indeed God must have planned it for me to chance upon her in this manner, as a nurse could have again rejected my request to see the doctor without an appointment.

After diagnosing me, the doctor told me that my condition was very critical. Infection was threatening to set in anytime and any delay could cause the virus to enter my blood stream and this could in turn lead to something serious and life threatening.
I was really shocked. I did not know what to do with such a diagnosis. She wanted me to make a decision for an immediate operation on the day itself.

I decided once again to turn to God in prayer. I asked for peace and guidance because I was all alone at Gleneagles. The peace and the comfort of the Lord came upon me. There was a gentle assurance that all was well and that I should go for the operation. On the spot I made the decision to be operated upon.
Praise God that all throughout the operation I had no fear, instead a great sense of peace and calmness. I thank the Lord for His divine protection and His guidance in this situation. If I had not gone for the operation that morning something much worse could have come upon me. I also give thanks to God for the speedy post operation recovery. Truly our God is always near to us even in the bad times. He is ready and willing to answer our prayers!



Everything Beautiful In Its Time

By Jeffrey Phillips

"Everything beautiful in its time" is the promise of God that keeps me going when life takes its toll on me. I have accepted Christ as my Saviour since my childhood, as far back as my memory goes, and the Lord has been faithful ever since. Life can be challenging sometimes as a young Christian, but, somehow by the grace of the Almighty I managed to do well in my career as a banker and I am blessed with a loving wife and a bright child. As time passed and with a child growing up fast each day, my wife and I realized the need to grow not only materialistically, but, also spiritually.

As my wife and I begin looking for a church near to our home, the Lord by his Graceful Spirit drew us to His presence to a place called The Hope of Glory Centre which was not too far away from where we live. We attended the Christmas service of 2012 and we truly felt the joy of being in God's presence.

I began to attend the Life Group meetings held every Friday and I have looked forward to it with much enthusiasm ever since. I find the topics discussed during LG sessions pivotal in building one's faith towards God, a foundation for Christian parenting and a proper forum for counselling at times.

Last Christmas was incredible for us as a family when we took part in the Christmas Party Apartment style (CPAS) program held at Emerald Hill Condominium. I enjoyed playing the Cajon box and singing carols while connecting with the visitors over there. My wife, Adelin enjoyed the food while Matthew had a great time playing games. It was such a blessing for me and my family.

Our family has experienced a spiritual awakening. Though there may be times of trial and testing, especially, during these times of economic uncertainty, the Lord has always allowed us to live a blessed life, financially and health wise. Our faith in God and his mercies has increased exceedingly since we first stepped into HGC and I thank the Lord for His Grace and continuous guidance through our dear Ps Khor, Sis. Chin Nee, the Life Group leaders, Vincent Foong, Soon Hoe and the rest of the members of the Bukit Indah Life Group.



An 'Ant' Problem Is No Problem To God

By Allison Chen

Our God is so good! He hears big and small matters of our prayers as long as we pray. I would like to share this testimony about ants. Ants are quite annoying when they are in your home. They swarm your food in just minutes. I had this problem with ants in my home.

One day I saw a trail of ants and it was a long trail from my neighbour's house to mine. I also saw the ants' nest where the trail came from. I tried to destroy it but it formed again. It was so annoying that I decided to lay hands on the ants' nest and prayed over it asking God to send the ants away. Praise the Lord! The next day I saw the ants shifting their nest. The ants carried their eggs away and there was no more ants' trail in my house. All glory to God! God hears prayer when prayed with childlike faith.



A Welshman's Unexpected Blessing To HGC & KKB Orang Asli

By James Wayne

I first met Nelson when I started work with him at EMAS-VICTORIA PRODUCTION in Kuala Lumpur, July 2013. He shared with me the ministry work carried out by HGC at KKB amongst the Orang Asli, a jungle tribe. I can understand why Nelson and his family are passionate with the Orang Asli as they come from a tribal group in Borneo. I also heard from Nelson how the foreign missionaries arrived at his village in the jungle about 70 years ago to share the gospel, and that has transformed the lives of his Kelabit tribe ever since.

The daily hardship and the life of the jungle people made me feel very humble and it made me realize how lucky I am with my life. I commend the ministry work by HGC for the Orang Asli and hope it continues for a long time. Though I cannot be directly involved, I would like to make cash donation whenever I can to the Orang Asli Ministry for the excellent work they are doing with the tribe.

I will pray for the jungle people and wish all of you a "HAPPY NEW YEAR 2014!"

In conjunction with HGC 20th Anniversary, VOH posted a few questions to some of young people who have grown up in HGC. The following are the questions and interesting answers

1. How long have you been in HGC?
2. How has your walk with the Lord been in HGC?
3. What is something memorable to you about HGC?
4. Who or what has impacted your life here?

GROWING UP in HGC



CC Has Impacted Me

By Allison Chen

When I first joined HGC my main purpose was for my son, Felix. A sister told me to send Felix to Children's Church because he was disturbed in his sleep and cried every night when he was a child. During that time I went just to accompany my son and to wait for him to finish. But later, I grew to love the children and began to help around in CC and became a CC helper. This went on for 4 years. I grew to love the children more and more and had a heart for them. Each time when I see children I will try to reach out to them. CC has indeed impacted me.

From there I knew that I needed to grow deeper in God and to abide in Him in order to be a role model for the children. Furthermore, I saw how the parents of the children came to know the Lord which spurred me to begin a fellowship for mothers who do not attend church and to shine for Jesus as salt and light.

After my water baptism in May 1999, God began to work in me and transform me into what He wanted me to be, as I walked in obedience and abided in Him. I began to grow deeper in knowing Him and in intimacy with Him by the guidance of His Word and the leading of His Spirit. Of course there were trials and tribulations along the way but each time when I encountered trials or tribulations, God was sure to be there to rescue and help me. God is working in me continually, giving me the desire and the power to do what pleases Him.

Allison heads the Mothers' Fellowship



Sincere & Loving Friendship

By Wan Mei Yee

I've been in HGC for more than 15 years. I was brought to this church by my grand aunt when I was in secondary school. It is a great church with great people of God. One of the many memorable highlights was when I joined Davidian (Youth Fellowship) which was led by Ps Lee Ping at that time and then by other youth leaders. Many years of sincere and loving friendship with brothers and sisters in Christ have aided me in growing and knowing the truth and the goodness of God.

HGCians have helped me immensely one way or another; edifying and elevating each other is the predominant culture that makes us HGCians. I remember there was a time in my adolescence when I was under lots of peer pressures. I almost wanted to give up and leave the church and God due to my personal distress. The problems that I faced were difficult but I truly thank God that in His divine timing, He had sent caring and devoted leaders to console and encourage me to persevere. I'm grateful to have become part of this church.

The Lord called me into the worship ministry about 7 years ago. I knew deep down in my heart, I was created for a purpose. However, I was inflicted with goitre for more than 17 years. It was not until 2013 that I underwent a thyroidectomy. I wasn't worried although the challenges were fearsome and real because I knew profoundly in my heart and soul that God has a bigger and more tremendous plan for my life. Through it, He has been my biggest encourager. I was totally healed on 7 March 2013. Now, I can use my voice to sing and worship Him without any obstacles. The Lord is great. All honour and praise to our Great and Living God.

Mei Yee is a backup singer in the Worship ministry



I Learnt The Reality Of God

By Kevin Wan

I started out in HGC about 18 years ago when I was 11 years old. I practically grew up in HGC. This was the place I learnt the reality of God and His goodness and that it wasn't all just a religious act. Being in HGC caused me to see the importance of His Word working in my faith life and how His gracious power holds my unworthy life together.
There are numerous memorable episodes I had with HGC. Downsizing it to one would be the preparations and practices I've had during Christmases, Easters or any other big event performances. Though usually stressful, the fun and laughter of working together made it all worth the effort!
I could never imagine how my life would have turned out if I had not grown up here. I wonder if it will be bad. And yes, most probably! HGC has given me friendships, tears, motivations, passion, love and most importantly the Word of Life from God Himself. I would never regret growing up here in HGC.

Kevin Wan is a backup singer in the Worship ministry



Life Group Has Shaped Me

By Jimmy Yong

Time really flies. I have been in HGC for 16 years. I was baptized and grew in this church, in Word and in service. I don't think I can grow up on my own spiritually without the sacrificial love and compassion of church leaders and pastors who nurtured me. They have brought me deeper in God and helped me to experience God daily in my life. Thank you, HGC.
One thing most memorable to me in HGC is the life group. Bukit Indah LG members have taught me, guided me and shaped me in my spiritual life and life on the whole. I might not be perfect in many ways, but thank God, I can look up to Jesus, the perfect one who will make me complete in the life to come.

Ps Khor has impacted my life much. Since joining the church Morning Prayer with pastor many years ago, prayer has become a part of my daily lifestyle. I have learnt effective prayer and how to pray in faith from him. In fact, we see each other as prayer partners for many years. I saw how he taught my dad the Word of God and how to pray during Morning Prayer. It was really a blessing. His sharing of the Word is much like solid rock. It strengthens my faith.
I pray that God will grant HGC more grace and mercy to grow more abundantly and mature in Him. Happy anniversary!

Jimmy is presently the head of the AV Ministry and heads the men's fellowship.



It's The People I Grow Up With

By Jane Oo

I've been in HGC since 1998. Wow, that's 16 years ago! Time really flies as I can still remember the first day our family visited HGC. We were slightly late as we couldn't find the church. When we walked in we were greeted with awesome worship and warm hospitality. Hence, the continuation week after week!

My walk with the Lord has been an upward curve, I guess. I started slow and young, only following my sister. My involvement started in the youth group and worship ministry. Despite me being an introvert, I enjoyed the fellowship and encouragement within HGC. As time passed, from a youth, I became a youth leader and a dancer in the worship ministry and ended up leading a group of dancers. The Lord has been faithful in so many ways.

The greatest impact would definitely be Life groups! It's the people, the brothers and sisters with whom we grow together in faith that has moulded me into who I am today. I praise God for the saints and the love He surrounds me with; and also the teachers and mentors whom I can look up to and learn from.
Happy 20th Anniversary HGC!

Jane is a life group leader among the young adults.



Grateful For The Leaders

By Melody Wan

I remember; what a Faithful God I have...

I never knew at 12 when I first joined the church that I was chosen to have a great relationship with our Heavenly Father. I began to grow more, that is to love Him and encounter Him more. As I served in the Children's Church ministry in HGC, I have developed the vision of bringing little ones to experience His wonderful presence like I do.

Besides the various ministries in HGC, I love the people who are in my life... I am really grateful for all leaders that have helped me serve the Lord in many, many ways. They have impacted my life, changing my world values into God's values, exhorted me with His Word, to have boldness to speak and act in love, to discover my talents and invest them in His Kingdom, to develop passion in the education field and more...

Though I have been growing very well in church, the world was real too. The temptations and distractions were so strong that I fell into the busyness of a hectic life like many others. My integrity was challenged, my faith was shaken. The relationship I've build all those years with my God had become numb and dry and I had failed Him.

In these past two years, He has shown me His faithfulness by the rainbow miracles. His love will never fail us and His promises are always true. He has promised me that after each rainy day, there will be a rainbow. I will never forget His covenant with me. Bitterness will be turned into sweetness because I remember how faithful He is in showing me His love and filling me with His peace which I could never find in anything or anyone else.

Melody was one of the CC teachers for many years and presently waiting on the Lord for future directions



The Love & Support

By Calvin Lim

I would consider myself a young pioneer of HGC. So, Happy Birthday Beloved Church! HGC is 'the' church to be a part of. From the hilltop to the lowlands, from every piece of brick and every vision and prophecy spoken, to every person God led to this church have shaped my journey with HGC. The support and love I received from members of the church have been encouraging and helpful especially through the many tough times in life. I'm humbled and awed.

Seriously, I couldn't think of one great moment with church. Don't get me wrong. To me, everything I get to do with the church is a blessing. I enjoyed being involved in church. The activities are intentional, relational and up lifting. However, I am most privileged to have my foundations and pillars of truth laid by men and women of faith who sowed their time in me. I'm forever indebted.

Finally, I'm thankful to the leadership for providing me the platform and giving me the many opportunities to serve the Lord. I learnt and in the process, grew. Together we advance in Him!

Calvin heads the Worship Ministry.



Always Home For Me

By Abel Leong

I have been in HGC for 8 years, since 2005. I started by joining the youth and then the worship ministry, and helping in other church activities. Being involved in church, in serving God together with others, makes me feel good. I also enjoy Bible Study classes conducted by Sis Wai Keng. It is so lively and uplifting. HGC is always memorable to me. The presence of God, people, and the sense of belonging give me the contentment in my heart to find joy, rest and renewal. HGC is always home for me and the place I always like going to. Ps Lee Ping and Calvin are my mentors. They are always here for me, ready to give a ear to hear me out, stand with me in times of trials, go through with me and always receive me with love.

Abel serves as a guitarist in the worship ministry and is a youth leader.



My Faith Has Increased

By Daniel Wong

I have been in HGC since 2004. For those past 10 years, I have grown more in Him and my faith has increased. I believe He guided me every step I took and will be taking. What I remember most are all the Christmas events, the young adult gatherings, being able to serve in Children's Church (CC), seeing the smiles of children every week and hearing them praise and worship God with all their heart. And the MOST memorable one is celebrating and committing each New Year to our Abba Father in church.

Ps Khor and all the leaders have always impacted my life. One pastor said, "Just a little move you make can make a great impact in someone's life." I have always put it in my heart and I believe just a little thing I do, can move and change a person, a family and the whole nation.

Daniel serves in the CC ministry and helps out in the Orang Asli ministry in Kg Gerachi.



Received A Firm Foundation On The Word

By Patrick Chong

In my 18 years of attending and serving in this church, I received a firm foundation on the Word from Children's Church and Youth meetings. Though I may not remember the day I initiated my relationship with God, I do know that HGC has always been a symbol of God's unceasing love and grace to me through the ebbs and flows in my walk with the LORD.

I would like to devote this section to a few important people whose lives had left a lasting imprint in me: It would be only right to start off with two persons who impacted my life both in church and at home. A pair whom God gave the assignment to take care of my upbringing, my father and my mother, Ps Wah Yaw and Sis Seol Mei. Since young I have observed them taking part in various ministries, serving God fervently and zealously. Their passion to serve God overflowed into my life and pushed me to accomplish greater things for the glory of God. Another person who left a mark in me was Mark Charis Yong. Since young, I have always looked up to him as a remarkable guy and often see him as my mentor. Not surprisingly, I recall discussions with him during the nights in HGC youth camps as one of my more memorable moments in HGC.

Last but not least, Happy 20th Birthday HGC! May God continue to pour His abundant blessings and favour in our church as we all join forces as one to empower, fortify and disciple the next generation!

Patrick Chong serves in the Worship Ministry



Thankful For Values Instilled in CC

By Felix Chen

I've been attending church since Ampang Methodist days in the Sunday school. At that young age, I wasn't able to fully grasp what was being taught. I was merely 'going with the flow'; just absorbing everything without fully comprehending what was being taught. It wasn't until I started attending 'Keng' youth in HGC and serving in the CC team back then that I began to appreciate and understand the teachings of yesteryears.

Being in the CC team was a 'growing up' period for me. I was constantly drilled on the importance of values such as discipline, responsibility, accountability, etc. Those values instilled in me were invaluable during my time serving in my university's Christian Fellowship. Looking back, I thank God for the few leaders in CC back then who were unwavering in their support and mentoring during my time there.

'Keng' Youth was where I learned and experienced a lot, with youth camps always being the highlight back then. I'm grateful for my LG leader back then who constantly showed care and concern and encouraged me to try serving in different areas in church.

Spurred on by the encouragement, I tried out the worship ministry, as I'd always loved music. Though I was an amateur musician back then, most of the senior members in the team were always generous with their guidance and advice, which helped boost my confidence. Till this day, I'm grateful for the opportunity to serve God with my passion in music.

Felix is a musician in the Worship Ministry



HGC is My Church

By Chong Yun Fei

HGC accompanied me for twenty years, saw me grow and rooted me in God. HGC gave me wonderful teenage years and allowed me to use my God-given gifts. HGC is my church - The Hope of Glory Centre. When I was a teenager, I felt protected by my pastors, leaders and big brothers and sisters. I am blessed.

What was memorable was when I was in the youth leadership, serving together with my leaders. We often met together, playing games, worshipping, praying, eating, bickering, all the bits and pieces of countless memories. You (Yuet Ching, Calvin, Jason, Wai Wai, Wai Shin, Grace, Jane, Boon Yan) and your life have impacted me and given me the motivation to continue to serve. Thank you for your companionship. Being able to grow together made following the footsteps of the Lord much easier.

HGC is also the place where Chien Lit and I grew from knowing each other to getting married. HGC will also be a good place where we nurture our children.

Yun Fei is a staff of HGC, leads the Chinese Youth Ministry and serves as a worship leader



A Place Where I Grow & Mature

By Joann Lim

To me, a good church is more than a beautiful building. It's more than having a musically talented worship team and a funny pastor. A good church is a place where I can grow spiritually, mature emotionally, and have church members who will be able to contribute to my life, and I theirs. And thankfully, HGC is such a church!

Growing up in HGC for the past 17 years has been a very good experience for me. Beginning from the Bible stories in CC when I was 7 years old, the rambunctiously fun and Spirit-filled Youth Camps I attended as a teenager, right up the Young Adults group I am attending - which I know will always be a supporting hand and a soft place to fall if I need one. Although I still have a lot of learning and growing up to do, I am still very blessed to have found this church and I thank God for knowing what's best for me when He brought me to be a part of this family!

Joann Lim serves in the VOH ministry



HGC Is Like Home

By Chin Loo Yee

Many people ask me, "Why do you join HGC? It is so far from your house!" All I can say is, "I was born again and grew up here." My family came to Christ in 1999, because of my brother Josiah Chin. He is a miracle boy, saved by Jesus. HGC has always supported us with love, prayers and words of encouragement for almost 15 years and still counting. It is just like a home to us. So, how can I leave my home?

My walk with the Lord started in HGC. I grew and learnt a lot spiritually. However, the journey was not that smooth. I enjoyed Children's Church very much until the age of 12; after which church was boring for me. I started to become rebellious and was reluctant to join youth meetings. My parents were frustrated and could only pray for me. The youth leaders in church didn't give up; they kept on approaching me until the Lord moved my heart when I was 14. I experienced God's presence and started to seek after Him. Ask and it will be given, seek and you will find, knock and the door will be opened to you. (Matt 7:7) In that year, I made a choice to follow Jesus and was baptized. After that, I decided to step out of my comfort zone and started to join the Keng Youth which was unfamiliar to me. For the first two years I was quiet and passive but now I am serving in the youth. All glory to God.

I would like to say a very big thank you to pastors and youth leaders of HGC for keeping me in prayer, lifting me up, teaching me, guiding me and setting good examples to me. I feel so blessed for all the things you have done in my life. Last but not least, Blessed 20th Anniversary, HGC!

Loo Yee is an XEE trainer and an Assistant Youth LG leader



Trained As A Solid Leader

By Deborah Yap

I have been here in HGC for 20 years, in fact since the founding of HGC in 1994. My walk with the Lord has been enriched. Of course at different phases of my life here, my walk of faith has different degrees of challenges. It is here that I have been, and am being trained, as a solid leader and to be able to work confidently and contribute in the corporate world. Godly friendship in this journey of faith is memorable to me and in return I am also learning to be a true friend to others. I like what C.S Lewis said, "The next best thing to being wise oneself is to live in a circle of those who are."

The daily Morning Prayer in church where working adults like me can go to before heading to work daily has impacted me a lot. It has helped me to cultivate a right focus before the start of a busy working day.

Deborah presently heads the Youth Ministry



Mentors To Guide Me

By Jonathan Liew

I have been in HGC from the time I was born. I was dedicated to the Lord in this church. Here, the Lord has taught me many valuable life lessons through many different people. My walk with the Lord has its ups and down but still I can see that He is faithful and His mercy endures forever. He has sent to me many different people and mentors to help me go through tough times I had.

HGC is the church that I grew up in. It is to me the most wonderful thing to be able to grow up in this church with many others of my age and to be able to see the next generation after me. As I said God had sent many people and mentors to guide and help me go through my life but the one person who has impacted my life is none other than Ps Khor. He has been a fascinating mentor and a friend to me. Through him I learnt a great deal about the kingdom of God and the ways to walk with God. Ps Khor is like a spiritual father to me and I greatly admire him. I hope one day if God permits I would like to be like Ps Khor, the senior pastor of HGC.

Jonathan teaches in the Chinese Sunday School and is actively involved in the Chinese Youth.



The Journey Which Made Me A True Christian

Timothy Suhan

I started attending HGC around March 1996 when my parents first sent me for Children's Church. It's my eighteenth year here.

My early days in HGC was almost always fun and laughter. Going to CC was always exciting as I look back now, I realize the importance of CC in nurturing an interest in me to fear God. As I grew into my early teens, I started to think about the things of God in a more serious manner. I couldn't understand why Christians were so crazy about church and God. Thankfully, during these periods, my parents always made an effort to have family altar at home. I never liked it at the time but looking back it helped me grow a lot. Along with the LG at the time, having good leaders encouraged me to think more openly about my faith. It was in questioning my faith that the answers were truly found. Overall, I would describe my walk in the Lord here as the journey which made me a true Christian.

A one memorable event has to be the Youth camp in Broga hills in 2010. I went to the camp expecting nothing much. But the Word and sharing from Ps Jit Pang really changed my life. I really started to get more serious with God. I can safely say that in the subsequent few months after that camp, my Christian growth accelerated.

Sis York Ling and CC in my early days laid a great solid foundation. Also my life-group has really helped, even though my attendance could be better. Leaders like Jane and Zachary have really helped me in seeing how great things for God can be accomplished through sacrifice and trusting in God. Ps Khor mentoring me personally since 2011 has definitely helped in my understanding of the Christian principles in a greater light.

Timothy serves in the Welfare and AV Ministry



What is Propitiation?

Answered by Carrie Chow

Propitiation is the act to appease (turn away) wrath by means of an offering (atoning sacrifice). There are three parties involved are: (1) God is the offended party (2) Man is the offender or guilty party and (3) Jesus Christ is the 'atoning sacrifice' to appease for the offence (sin). The propitiation act is completed when the sacrifice is accepted by God. The offence is taken away and the wrath of God has been turned away from sinful man.

The meaning of propitiation is the key to our understanding of the gospel. In this one word, we see both the need for God's wrath (Rom 1:18) to be appeased (since our God is holy and just) and the need for an atoning sacrifice to be offered (since God is a merciful God).
In Rom 3:23-26, Paul said, "For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus; whom God set forth to be a propitiation by His blood, through faith, to demonstrate His righteousness, because in His forbearance God has passed over sins that were previously committed, to demonstrate at the present time His righteousness, that He might be just and be the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus."

Why did God send Jesus to die? To emphatically declare (demonstrate) that He is righteous! God cannot overlook sin but must punish sin because He is a righteous. On the cross, Jesus experienced God's anger against us and received the judgment that is rightfully ours. God's wrath against sin was unleashed in all its fury on His only begotten Son. On the cross, the sins of all mankind were laid on Christ. He took the punishment and suffered the full wrath of the Father. Isa 53:6, All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned, every one, to his own way; And the LORD has laid on Him the iniquity of us all.

The blood sacrifice satisfies God's wrath and turns away His righteous wrath. His wrath was poured out. His wrath that should have come upon sinful man has come upon a substitute, His Son. God forgave our sins because His righteous anger had been satisfied on Calvary. Sin was paid for, not condoned, and sin was fully paid for by Christ's sacrifice on the cross.

After God's wrath has been appeased, sinful man "being justified freely by his grace" (Rom 3:24) can be reconciled back to God. Rom 5:9-10, Having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him. For if when we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son. Only Jesus can be the acceptable 'atoning sacrifice' as He is the only human who is without sin.

2 Cor 5:21 For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him
Heb 2:17 Therefore, in all things He had to be made like his brethren, that He might be a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people.
1 John 2:2 And He Himself is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the whole world. The resurrection of Christ proved that the sacrifice has been accepted and the rescue mission has been successful. Jesus's last words on the cross, "It is finished," were a cry of triumph! (John 19:30) He has accomplished His mission to save His people from the wrath of God.

The cross is the demonstration of God's amazing love and His ultimate sacrifice for mankind. The very God we have offended has Himself provided the way whereby the offence has been dealt with. The most wonderful truth of the Gospel message is that Christians are saved from God's wrath and reconciled to God not because "we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins."(1 John 4:10)

How can I forgive and love again after being hurt and offended?

Answered by Loke Wai Keng

If you're a living, breathing human being, chances are you have been hurt at some point in your life. Maybe someone broke your heart, crushed your dreams, or led you down the wrong path. Even worse, you might have experienced a brutal tragedy, like rape, war, or abuse.

Regardless of what hurt you, a single fact remains: If you carry resentment in your heart, you are continuing the cycle.

So often when we talk on forgiveness we tend to look at the fault of the other party, the wrong they did, the injustice inflicted, so much so it can overshadow the attitude of not forgiving the one who wronged us.

It's important for us to forgive as the Lord taught in the Lord's Prayer to forgive as the Lord has forgiven us. Refusal to forgive is plain disobedience. However the human side of us find it difficult to forgive causing us to miss out God's purpose for our life when we harbour past hurts.

Three Pointers Helpful In Releasing Forgiveness

1. Relinquish your right to get even.
You have to start by letting the person who has hurt you off the hook. That's not fair, you say? You're right. Forgiveness isn't fair. It wasn't fair when God forgave you, and it's not fair for you to forgive someone else. God doesn't give us what we deserve. He gives us what we need.
The Bible says God is just. One day He will settle the score. In the meantime, we must let God fill our hearts with peace and grace.

The Bible says in Roms 12:19 (TLB), "Never avenge yourselves. Leave that to God, for he has said that he will repay those who deserve it." The first step to forgiveness is to commit to not take justice into your own hands. Let God be the impartial judge.

Every time you remember how you've been hurt, release it. When Jesus was asked how often we should forgive someone who sins against us, He said 70 times seven. Or in other words, we just keep forgiving. How do you know when you've totally released the hurt? Keep forgiving till it doesn't hurt any more. You might have to forgive someone a thousand times to make that a reality. But every time the pain comes to your mind you say, "God, I give it to you again. For the hundredth time, Lord, I'm letting them off the hook and relinquishing my right to get even." Every time you rehearse it, you make the pain deeper. But every time you release it, the pain gets weaker in your life.

2. Refocus on God's purpose for your life.

You can either focus on the past or the future – not both. Focus in on what God wants to do in your life. As long as you focus on the person who has hurt you, he or she controls you. You don't want anyone who has hurt you in the past to control you in the present. You want God to control your life.

The truth is, if you don't release the person who has hurt you, then, you will resemble him or her. Whatever you focus on, you will become like. If you focus on pain, that's what you move toward. If you focus on purpose, that's what you move toward.

How do you do that? The Bible tells us in Job 11:13-16, "Put your heart right, reach out to God...then face the world again, firm and courageous. Then all your troubles will fade from your memory, like floods that are past and remembered no more."

Put your heart right. That just means do the right thing. Forgive the person. Let him off the hook.
Reach out to God. Ask Jesus Christ to come into the situation and fill you with his love.
Face the world again. Don't withdraw. Don't put yourself in a shell. You cannot love without being vulnerable. And a loveless life is diametrically opposed to God's purpose for your life.

3. Respond to the evil with good.
Paul tells us in Roms 12:21 (NIV), "Don't be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good."

There's a lot of evil in this world. You don't overcome it by criticizing it. You overcome it with good.

We don't invest anymore in the hurt by returning evil for evil. When we respond to evil with good we invest in hope. It's amazing when you see the hope through the lens of Jesus Christ. Returning good for evil is the supreme example of Jesus, that even when He was on the cross, He cried out, "Father forgive them for they do not know what they do." By so doing, we give glory to God. It's God doing it. God does the reconstruction. God does things in his own mighty, divine way."

When someone hurts you, do something good for them. Is it easy? Of course not! Every bone in your body wants to respond to evil with evil. But forgiveness happens when we respond with good.

When forgiveness is being released the healing process will take place and then the heart will slowly begin to love again. This will be a process but do not give up and do not give the enemy a loop hole to cause any bitterness and hardening of your heart.

Is The Death & Resurrection Of Jesus A Historical Fact?

Answered by Sinclair Wong

There are three sources which can prove the existence, death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus as a historical fact.

The first is the Gospels and the Epistles of Paul. The ancient manuscripts on which the Four Gospels and the Pauline epistles were written, recorded the death and resurrection of the Lord Jesus.

The second source is the Early Church Fathers such as Pliny the Younger who wrote to the Roman Emperor Trajan about Christ in AD112.

The third source is the non-Christian historians such as the Roman historian Tacitus and the Jewish historian Josephus. In AD 64, Tacitus wrote in his "The Annals" chapter 15:44,

"Consequently, to get rid of the report, Nero fastened the guilt and inflicted the most exquisite tortures on a class hated for their abominations, called Christians by the populace. Christus, from whom the name had its origin, suffered the extreme penalty during the reign of Tiberius at the hands of one of our procurators, Pontius Pilatus, and a most mischievous superstition, thus checked for the moment, again broke out not only in Judaea, the first source of the evil, but even in Rome, where all things hideous and shameful from every part of the world find their centre and become popular."

Although this reflected the misunderstanding and bad perception of the Christian religion during the time of Nero, nevertheless, it confirmed the existence of "Chrisuts" (Christ) and His followers.

Josephus in His "Antiquities of the Jews" Book 18, Chapter 3 verse 3, wrote,

"Now there was about this time Jesus, a wise man, if it be lawful to call him a man; for he was a doer of wonderful works, a teacher of such men as receive the truth with pleasure. He drew over to him both many of the Jews and many of the Gentiles. He was [the] Christ. And when Pilate, at the suggestion of the principal men amongst us, had condemned him to the cross, those that loved him at the first did not forsake him; for he appeared to them alive again the third day; as the divine prophets had foretold these and ten thousand other wonderful things concerning him. And the tribe of Christians, so named from him, are not extinct at this day."

Josephus also wrote in Antiquities Book 20 chapter 9 verse 1

"Festus was now dead, and Albinus was but upon the road; so he assembled the Sanhedrim of judges, and brought before them the brother of Jesus, who was called Christ, whose name was James, and some others,"

E Witness

Are You Saved? If You Are To Die Tonight Are You Going To Heaven?

By Helen How



I remembered many years ago, a young lady stepped up to me in a shopping centre in Singapore, asking me whether I know Jesus and if she could give me a tract. Immediately I replied, 'No, thank you,' and walked away. Ten years after that incident, I became a Christian. The memory of that young lady touched my heart very much and the Lord put it in my heart to do likewise. God says when He sends His Word out, it always produces fruit. It will accomplish all He wants it to and it will prosper everywhere He sends it. Our part is to sow seeds of His Word to others who have yet to know Him and let His Word work in their hearts.

In all my years of giving out tracts, I have received many rejections as well as many who graciously accepted the tracts I gave them. If they had time to listen, I would share verbally. If not I would leave them with the tract and let them read it in their own time. I thank God for encouraging me to persevere in giving tracts when I discovered this story of a man named Frank Jenner.

Frank Jenner - The Man From George Street

This all started many years ago in a Baptist church in Crystal Palace in South London. The Sunday morning service was closing and a man stood up at the back and raised his hand and said: "Excuse me Pastor, can I share a short testimony?" The pastor looked at his watch and said, "You have three minutes." The man proceeded with his story, "I've just moved into this area. I used to live in Sydney, Australia. Just a few months back I was visiting some relatives and I was walking down George Street. You know where George Street is in Sydney going from the Business Area out to the colonial area. A strange little white-haired man stepped out from a shop doorway, put a pamphlet in my hand and said, 'Excuse me sir, are you saved? If you die tonight are you going to heaven?' I was astounded by these words. No one had ever asked me that. I thanked him courteously and all the way home to London this puzzled me. I called a friend and thank God he was a Christian and he led me to Christ."

The Baptist pastor flew to Adelaide, Australia the next week and 10 days later in the middle of a three day series in a Baptist church in Adelaide, a woman came up to him for some counseling. He wanted to establish where she stood with Christ. She said "I used to live in Sydney and just a couple of months back I was visiting some friends in Sydney and doing some last minute shopping down George Street. A strange little white-haired man stepped out of a shop doorway and offered me a pamphlet and said 'Excuse me madam, are you saved? If you die tonight are you going to heaven?' I was disturbed by those words. When I got home to Adelaide, I knew this Baptist church was on the next block from me. I sought out the pastor and he led me to Christ. So I am telling you that I am a Christian."

Next he stopped in Atlanta, Georgia to speak at a Naval Chaplain convention. Here, for three days, he spoke to over 1000 Naval Chaplains. Afterwards the Chaplain General took him out for a meal and he asked the Chaplain how he became a Christian. "It was miraculous. I was a rating on a Naval battleship and I lived a reprobate life. We were doing exercises in the South Pacific and we docked at Sydney harbour for replenishments. We hit King's Cross with a vengeance. I was blind drunk, got on the wrong bus and got off in George Street. As I got off the bus, I thought I saw a ghost as this man jumped out in front of me, pushed a pamphlet in my hand and said, 'Sailor, are you saved? If you die tonight are you going to heaven?' The fear of God hit me immediately. I was shocked sober, ran back to the ship and sought out the Chaplain. He led me to Christ. I soon began to prepare for the ministry under his guidance. I am now in charge of 1,000 chaplains who are bent on soul winning today."

A year later that London Pastor was preaching in Sydney. He asked the local Baptist Minister if he knew of a little elderly white-haired man who handed out tracts on George Street. He replied, 'Yes I do, his name is Mr Jenner, although I don't think he does it anymore because he is so frail and elderly.'

Two nights later they went to meet him in his little apartment. They knocked on the door and this tiny frail old man greeted them. He sat them down and made them tea. He was so frail that he was slopping the tea into the saucer as his hands shook. The London preacher sat there and told him of all these accounts from the previous three years. This little man sat with tears running down his cheeks. He told them his story.

'I was a rating on an Australian warship. I was living a reprobate life. In a crisis I really hit the wall. One of my colleagues, to whom I gave literal hell, was there to help me. He led me to Jesus and the change in my life was night to day in 24 hours. I was so grateful to God; I promised God that I would share Jesus in a simple witness with at least 10 people a day. As God gave me strength I did that. Sometimes I was ill and couldn't do it, but I made up for the days I missed it at other times. I wasn't paranoid about it. I have done this for over 40 years. In my retirement years, the best place was on St. George Street where I saw hundreds of people a day. I got lots of rejections, but a lot of people courteously took the tract. In 40 years of doing this, I have never heard of one single person coming to Jesus until today.'

Mr Jenner died 2 weeks later after the London Pastor met him in Sydney." (Adapted from article on http://www.washingtondcevangelists.com)

From the above story, we can see how God used a simple man to witness to perhaps 147,000 people individually in 40 years. Sometimes we may not be able to share verbally for various reasons but I believe we can do this simple act of giving out a tract. We may say we are not able to give 10 tracts a day, how about starting with 1 tract a day?

I pray this story would inspire us to share the good news of salvation with people God put in our pathways every day for our Father's pleasure and glory. The kindest thing we can ever do for another human being is share the gospel with them.

Recipe

Lapis Surabaya (Surabaya Layer Cake)

By Elsa Foong

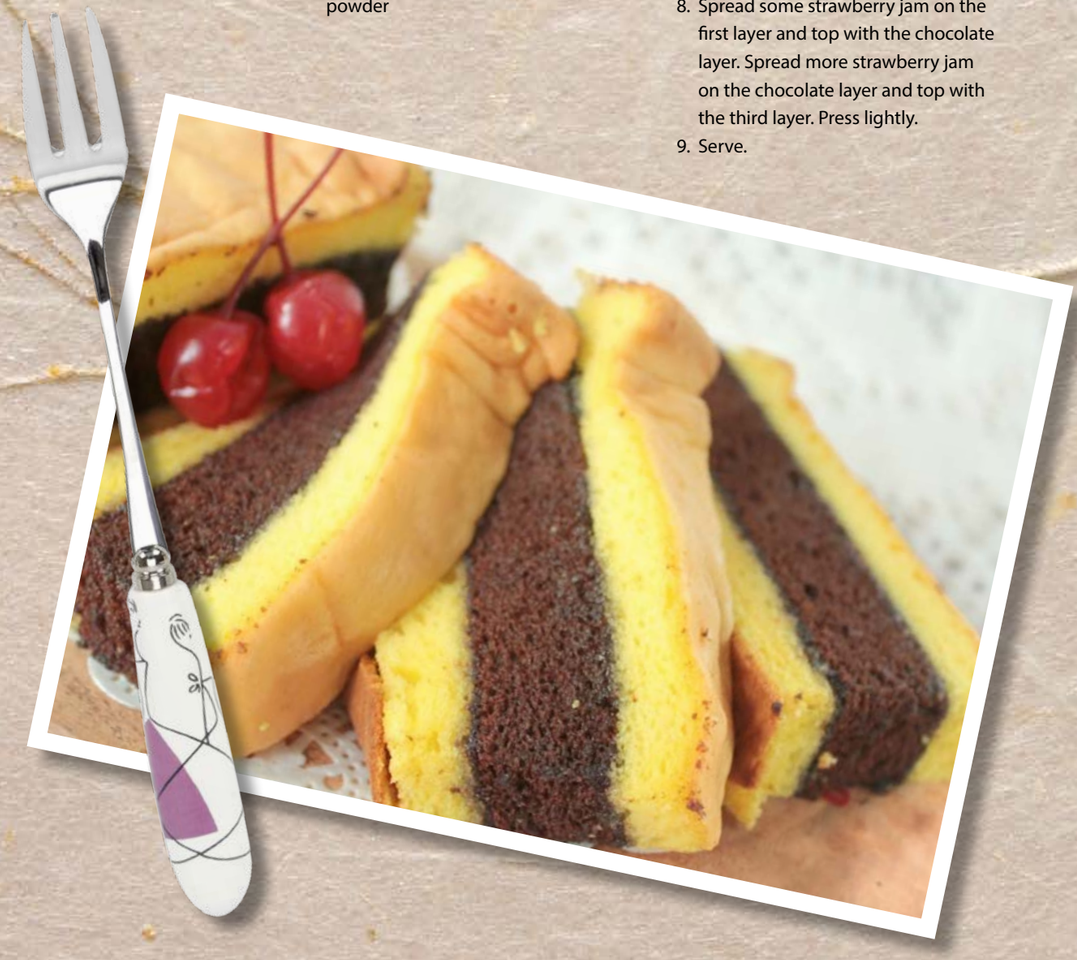
Ingredients:

First and Third Layer (for each layer)
10 egg yolks
1 egg white
100 gm sugar
35 gm plain flour
½ tsp vanilla
100 gm butter (melted)
Strawberry jam

Second Layer - Chocolate Layer
As above except replace 35 gm flour with 20 gm plain flour and 15 gm cocoa powder

Method:

1. Mix egg yolks, egg white and sugar until light and fluffy.
2. Fold in flour and add in vanilla. Mix until incorporated.
3. Fold in butter little by little, until well mixed.
4. Pour in grease and line 20 cm square tray.
5. Bake in 160° C for 20 minutes.
6. Take out from tray immediately after baking and let it cool.
7. Bake the second and third layer.
8. Spread some strawberry jam on the first layer and top with the chocolate layer. Spread more strawberry jam on the chocolate layer and top with the third layer. Press lightly.
9. Serve.



HAPPENINGS IN HGC

From Jan to Mar 2014

CHURCH EVENTS

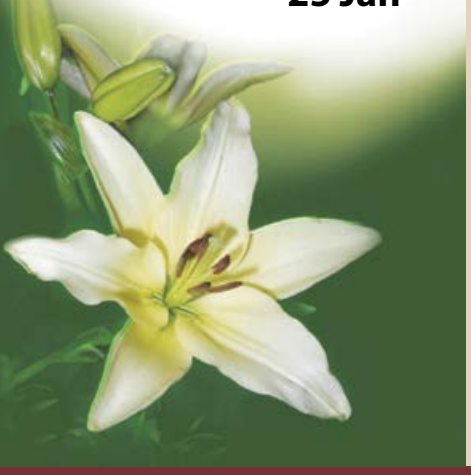


- All Leaders' Meeting
  4 Jan
- Chinese Leaders' Retreat
  17–18 Jan
- 20th Anniversary Celebration
  2 Mar
- Seminar with Dr. Sim
  7–8 Mar
- Children's Camp with Ps Nicholas Choo
  27–29 Mar
- XEE begins
  16 Feb

IN LOVING MEMORY

Jimi Yong Mui Heng

25 Jan





- **MISSION TRIP**
  Bagan Siapiapi Mission Trip
  3–10 Feb

COMING EVENTS

Apr to Jun 2014



Easter Weekend
17 – 19 Apr

Seminar with Allan Webb
9 – 10 May

Kindy Sports Day
17 May

Apologetics Camp
28 – 30 May

Chinese Family Camp
30 May – 1 June

Invitation

Do you know that Jesus loves you very much? He loves you so much He was willing to die on the cross and shed His blood for your sins. His blood can wash and cleanse away our every sin. He was willing to suffer so that everyone who believes in Him will not die and go to hell but will have eternal life. Not only did He die for our sins, but He also took our sufferings and carried our sorrowas. He also bore our sicknesses. He was wounded so that we can receive our healing. He also came to give us abundant life (life in fullness and abundance). He is a good God who cares for us and is able to meet our every need. Would you like to believe in Jesus? Would you like your sins forgiven and have an abundant and eternal life? Would you like to have peace with God? All you need to do is open your heart to Him and say the prayer below. He will immediately come into your life and be your Saviour and Lord.

"Lord Jesus, thank you for dying on the cross for me. I believe in You and confess that You are Lord. I open the door of my heart to You. Please come into my heart and be my Lord and Saviour. I ask that You forgive me of my sins and cleanse me with Your Precious blood. Please take control of my life and help me to love You and be the person You want me to be. In Jesus Name, Amen."

If you have said this prayer, praise the Lord. Your sins are forgiven and you are now a child of God.

The Hope of Glory Centre

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