

voiceofhope

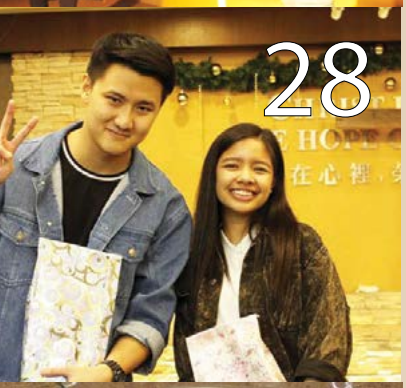
the newsletter | Jan-Mar 2016

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Dear Reader,

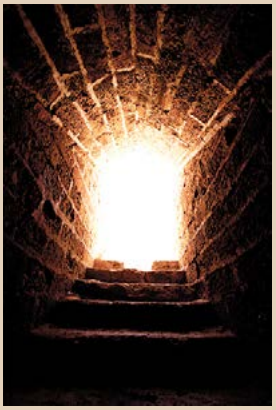
Hallelujah! Because He lives, we can face tomorrow! In line with Easter Sunday, let us take this time to remember the price that was paid for our sin and Christ's victory that was won and is ours to claim. The powers of darkness is no match for our great and awesome God! What proof do we have that Jesus rose from the dead and what is the significance of the power of the cross? You can find out all about it in this issue!



In just a blink of an eye, 2016 has completed its first quarter. Have you made any progress in the New Year's resolutions you set out to do earlier this year? This issue, each ministry shares their plans on how they intend to sharpen and strengthen each other so that we as a church can better function as one body to serve and glorify God.



Also, all praise to God for His faithfulness. HGC celebrates its 22nd Anniversary! As you read the many testimonies of the work God is doing in each of our brothers' and sisters' lives, may you be encouraged to pursue Jesus more deeply, more strongly, more passionately!



Christ is Risen!

Christ in Us, The Hope of Glory!

Unite In Prayer,
VOH Team





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Sharpen, Strengthen to Shine

By Khor Hoe Chai, Pastor



Blessed 22nd Anniversary, HGC! The Lord is building His glorious church and taking us from glory to glory. Great is His faithfulness! As we celebrate our 22nd Anniversary, let us rejoice and be assured that He will lead us forward and upward. Let us keep our eyes on Him and treasure one another, no matter what circumstances may arise.

It is obvious that spiritual darkness is increasing in our world today as can be seen in the evil of social ills, moral decay, lawlessness, violence, greed, deception, corruption, diseases, terrorism, wars and so on. O, how our world desperately needs the LIGHT of GOD; the light of HIS love, compassion, peace, kindness, righteousness, justice, godliness and every goodness from HIM.

God has never meant our world to be in darkness. He is light and He filled the earth with light when He declared "let there be light". We are created to live in the light of His presence and be blessed but why is there increasing darkness in our world today? Darkness is the consequence of being cut off from God, the source of light. In the book of Genesis, we see Adam and Eve walking in the light of God until they fell for the deceptive temptation of the devil and disobeyed God. They reaped the consequences of their sin. And death and darkness resulted because their relationship with God was broken and they were cut off from God's light.

Today, we see this manifested in our world where there is no fear of God, no honour for God and no love for God. Western culture has influenced much of our Asian culture, where God is marginalised or even treated as "dead". God has become irrelevant. However, a society without God becomes a godless society which is governed by darkness rather than light.

There are also societies that have been deceived to think that "God" wants them to kill others who do not share their faith. It is obvious that their god is not the true God, which explains why they do destructive and wicked things such as suicidal attacks to kill themselves and others. We know that it is the devil who steals, kills and destroys; NOT God.

The true and living God is light! There is no darkness in Him (1 John 1:5). In the light of God, there is love, light and life! The good news is that no matter what darkness we see in our world today, GOD IS LIVING, GOD IS LIGHT, GOD IS LOVE and GOD IS REIGNING ON THE THRONE. HE has already GIVEN US HIS BEST GIFT – THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD, JESUS CHRIST. Through His birth, death and resurrection He overcame darkness and death, and brought life and immortality to light! (1 Tim 1:10) Through Jesus our Lord, we have been reconciled back to God and are connected to the source of eternal life and light. That is why Jesus promised that those who follow Him will not walk in darkness but have the light of life. We need to see this clearly and

walk in His light and SHINE! This is the challenge for all believers and this is where we need to SHARPEN and STRENGTHEN!

The world that we live in is under the influence of satan, the "the ruler of the world" who is a liar and murderer. Godless and worldly thinking still govern the majority of people's lives today. As God's people who have HIS LIGHT we are to deliver people out of darkness. To do that, we MUST BE STRONG IN THE LORD and IN OUR IDENTITY AS CHILDREN OF GOD. We cannot allow the enemy and those who are in darkness to blur our vision of God and our identity.

Jesus spoke about the "eye" in Matt 6:22. The eye can be good or bad. The one with "good eye" sees sharply, and live in the light. The one with "bad eye" sees wrongly, and live in deception and darkness. According to how we see we will live. That is why we need to sharpen our vision.

In the discourse of His teachings in Matt 6:19-34 Jesus brought out 2 alternative ways of living. The choices we make will be determined by how we see. The devil seeks to deceive man to choose what is of temporal value to gratify self which leads to death. Jesus wants us to choose what is of eternal value to honour God which leads to life. The key is to have a good eye and to maintain a sharp vision of God and of His truth.

The table below contrasts the 2 ways of living. Let us seek to see clearly and stay on the course that leads to life and shine for Jesus!

The way that leads to life	The way that leads to destruction
Good eye	Bad eye
Sees God clearly	Sees God wrongly
Values godly and eternal things	Values earthly and temporal things
Lays up treasures in heaven	Lays up treasures on earth
Serves God	Serves mammon
Seeks God	Seeks riches and fame
Trusts God in life	Worries about life
Fulfilling and abundant living	Vanity of vanity, all is vanity
Life	Death

To see clearly we need Him to fill us more and more! This is done by allowing His Word and His Spirit to increase in our lives.

Individually, we must give the highest priority to spend time to commune with Him in Worship and Prayer and in His Word.

Corporately, we must come together to seek Him in unity in Prayer and in His Word. We will be sharpened and strengthened in His Presence to live out His will and serve Him in all that we do! As a church our call is to do the good works that He has prepared for us - be His witnesses where He placed us and where He sends us; witnessing with our lives and our works that He is SAVIOUR and LORD!

Let us all SHARPEN, STRENGTHEN TO SHINE FOR HIM!

Jesus promised that those who follow Him will not walk in darkness but have the light of life. We need to see this clearly and walk in His light and SHINE!

Yunnan Ethnic Ministries 2016 & Beyond

By Chan Tham Seng

Sharpened vision.
Strengthened anointing.
Shining for Jesus.
This is what HGC aims at in 2016.

In this column, I shall talk about last year's China trip (Nov 5-19) in the light of this theme.



Group picture with Lugu Lake believers in Lijiang

Yunnan Ethnic Network

First of all, a snippet for the record: On Nov 6 beginning 5.00pm, we were on our last leg of journey to New Chamber Village at the Yunnan-Sichuan border in a caravan of 3 light vans, all keeping within sight of each other.

All 6 of us occupied the central van, a Changan 7 Seater: team members Jo Jo Yap, Woon Bew Ling, me and wife Esther plus ethnic church leaders Li Jianming and Li Yutang. Maneuvering among Yunnan pines and sisal hemps at 5600 feet above sea level, the vans did pretty well on the deeply rutted road. Since our previous trip in November 2012, the dirt road from Jiangyi Township to New Chamber Village has finally been levelled, though the local authorities have yet to pave it with either tarmac or cement.

At six-something, the horizon was still awash in the amber light of the sun. Then the fireball dipped and darkness quickly descended upon the forests. Our caravan continued its bumpy ride with headlights. Some snags developed.

The van in front of us (overloaded with musical instruments) failed to negotiate a slope. We got down to lay some stones on the tracks and gave the van five rounds of pushes before it resumed the journey. Meanwhile Bew Ling threw up due to the jerky ride.

Just as we were expecting to arrive at New Chamber Village, our caravan hit a dead end at the back of some unknown village. Despite barking dogs gathering strength in the foreground, we lingered briefly to admire the exquisitely beautiful sky above. Under the myriad stars, we started texting our Malaysian church to pray for our delivery from dilemma. More pushes needed for the overloaded van before some motorbikes arrived to lead us to New Chamber Village at 8.20pm. Counting from morning's starting point at Kunming; we had a 12-hour journey (including meal time) with leaders of the Yunnan Ethnic Network (YEN).

Our link with YEN began in October 2001 in Rocky Village during a trip organized by some Henan and Hong Kong co-workers. It was then that we got acquainted with Li Chunxue, late father of Jianming and a core leader of YEN. Since then, we were invited by the YEN leaders for ministries in Yunnan's Wuding and Yuanmou and Sichuan's Huili, the three counties under YEN's care.

YEN oversees some 200 ethnic house churches comprising mainly Lisu, Miao and Yi believers in Yunnan and Sichuan. YEN had previously operated an underground Bible School in Yuanmou for ethnic youths.

In the course of 14 years of association with YEN, the Lord has sharpened our vision to serve the ethnic believers in greater effectiveness. Most of the ethnic believers are middle-aged or older farmers with little formal education but simple faith and genuine love for God. Many travelled a long way at own cost to this 18-hour seminar held in the New Chamber Village house of Lisu leaders Li Jinfang.

The participants put in cash and kind for the Nov 6-8 seminar: 1 pig, 2 goats, 9 chickens, and 60kg of rice for estimated 200 people. Many people particularly the womenfolk contributed labour in readying 5 meals served on 18-24 low tables. Some believers in New Chamber Village also opened their homes to accommodate believers from other villages during the seminar period.

To the ethnic believers, the YEN seminar is a joyous occasion for meeting with kinsfolks separated by hills and valleys. Given their background, the rural believers are understandably more concerned with personal

matters like health condition, household wellbeing and family relation. God loves the rural folks and has impressed upon us to focus on meeting some of their needs.

At the seminar, Jo Jo shared her personal testimony while Bew Ling taught about the power of praise and worship. I spoke on Israel's lost tribes and Yunnan's ethnic ministries. My sharing was apparently aimed more at the YEN leadership. The focus of the seminar centred on teaching and ministry of healing and deliverance led by Esther.



Jo Jo praying for a believer

People came forward for personal ministry with many needs: cases of liver cancer and other poverty-linked illnesses; attacks by regular unpleasant dreams and even somnambulism; relationship problems with family members on so on. Among those who were prayed for, some received immediate healing or loosening from tenseness. A few who asked for the baptism of the Holy Spirit burst into tongues. Apparently, we could have done more with stronger anointing and operation of spiritual gifts.

Ministering healing and deliverance particularly in rural churches is engaging in spiritual warfare. Demonic elements are sometimes fused with natural happenings that require the operation of spiritual gifts to expose their presence.

A note in passing (not suggesting demonic association): Our plan for early departure from New Chamber Village was thwarted by nearly 2 hours due to a spent battery of a van. A child who had played with the van key at the driver's seat the night before was said to have caused the battery to drain. It was about 1pm when we arrived by the Yangtze River. While waiting for the ferry under China's scorching sun, we became aware of the gentler nature of its Malaysian counterpart. Notwithstanding that, it is always a blessing serving Yunnan's ethnic house churches in association with the faithful leadership of YEN.

Lugu Lake ministry

After the YEN seminar, we boarded a night train from Kunming for Lijiang to meet with believers from Langfang Village of Lugu Lake. There were eight of them, mainly Pumi people, some of whom know us since childhood.

We have a longer history of association with Lugu Lake than with YEN and the two Yunnan ethnic ministries are basically different. At Lugu Lake, we never have so many believers for big gatherings, neither can we minister openly. This is because the Lugu Lake ministry started in 1999 with no believers and today its believers operate as an "underground" group. Christianity remains in negative light in a setting where animistic beliefs and Tibetan Lamaism exist side by side.

But God loves the ethnic children whom we led to Jesus and followed up all the last 16 years. Today many of them have experience working in cities; some are married and returned to Langfang Village to raise families. They resumed regular meetings in Langfang and two years ago, they took up the challenge to seek registration with the authorities. We are convinced that it is God's will that the Langfang church be officially recognized (see VOH Oct-Dec 2014 p18-19).

At our 10-hour Lijiang meeting, we were glad to learn that the Lugu Lake believers have approached the authorities in Ninglang county though they were unable as yet to meet the conditions for registration. However, by approaching the authorities, the Langfang believers have officially emerged above ground and this, we hope, will soften local oppositions toward the presence of Christianity in the village.

At the meeting we indicated HGC's willingness to help the Langfang group to acquire a permanent address of worship as a condition for official registration. At present, some 20 Langfang believers meet regularly at a believer's property and pay a small sum for its usage. One solution is to develop this property into a proper place for worship. We feel that our church can at least help raise some fund for this project.



With core leaders of Yunnan Ethnic Network

PHOTO CAPTION

1 Believers seeking baptism of the Holy Spirit
2 Journeying from Jiangyi to New Chamber Village
3 Sharing a song before healing & deliverance seminar
4 Crossing Yangtze River in small ferry
5 Esther ministering to believers
6 House church leader Li Jinfang with wife
7 Esther teaching at healing seminar
8 All musical instruments transported from Kunming











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8

Are You Afraid Of The Dark?

By Jeremy Chew



When a group of friends meet whether by chance or by appointment, the topics of their conversation at some time would quite probably include the supernatural, ghosts, spirits and demons. And quite naturally, if there is a Christian among this group, this believer would testify about God's goodness and power of Jesus' Name. Indeed, the popularity of the supernatural can be seen in the many TV series that bear this theme – "Supernatural," "Charmed," "The X-files" and "The Vampire Diaries" just to name a few. Quite recently, I was reunited, through Facebook, with my classmates from Form 6, SPI (St. Paul's Institution, Seremban) and subsequently, schoolmates from Form 5 and then those from Standard 1 (50 years ago.) Naturally, we formed Whatsapp groups and our conversations often turn to ghosts, demons, Jesus Christ and God.

Among my friends is a colourful character, an aircraft pilot whose job duties include being captain of ships. Captain Phang often shared stories of ghostly encounters on board those ships. Some of us do not take these seriously while some others actually subscribe to superstitious legends about fending off these spirits with wooden stakes, garlic, etc. It appears that many people are afraid of the dark, of walking past cemeteries at night and some, influenced by Western (not Christian) culture or movies, are upset if a Friday falls on the 13th day of the month and the list goes on.

As a believer, I feel inclined to share with my non-believing friends that we cannot ward off evil spirits with garlic nor kill demons with a wooden stake! There is nothing to be upset about if a Friday happens to be the 13th day of the month.

The Bible records in the book of Acts, an incident when non-believers heard that Paul commanded evil spirits dwelling in humans to leave these human bodies by invoking the Name of Jesus. They tried to imitate Paul, not realizing that, in order to do this, they needed to be personal friends and disciples of Jesus and must be convicted and have the faith that Jesus is Lord of all!

"Some Jews who went around driving out evil spirits tried to invoke the name of the Lord Jesus over those who were demon-possessed. They would say, "In the name of the Jesus whom Paul preaches, I command you to come out." Seven sons of Sceva, a Jewish chief priest, were doing this. One day the evil spirit answered them, "Jesus I know, and Paul I know about, but who are you?" Then the man who had the evil spirit jumped on them and overpowered them all. He gave them such a beating that they ran out of the house naked and bleeding." (Act 19:13-16 NIV)

I had a personal experience quite similar to this incident described in the Bible. At one time, I was in Kluang, working as a tuition teacher and was living with a family who attended the Assembly of God church there. One day, the pastor was approached by a woman, Asha, whose sister, Bavitha, was seemingly possessed by a demon. Bavitha was said to have rejected a suitor who then had a "bomoh" put a love spell on her. Apparently Bavitha only spoke Tamil, her mother tongue, but while possessed, she could speak Malay with a Chinese accent.

The Pastor gathered up a few of us, all members of the family I was staying with including me to help the girl. We fasted before going. While the Pastor and the others were praying over the girl and talking with the family in Tamil, I was worshiping God and calling upon Jesus. On hearing the Name, "Jesus," the demon in Bavitha reacted. The girl turned toward me glared in my direction with wide-open eyes and screamed in fear and terror. That was when I personally witnessed and sensed the power of Jesus' Name. Each time any of our group commanded the demon to leave in the Name of Jesus, the demon in the girl reacted in fear. We could see that the demon was struggling to stay in her, knowing that it had to leave. Hearing us saying, "In Jesus' Name," and seeing the fear in the demon, the girl's sister, Asha repeated our words. In marvel, I noticed that there was no reaction from the possessed girl when her sister used the Lord's Name. Asha was not yet a born again believer and she was not convicted of the Lordship of Christ nor had faith in His Name.

I later learnt that the girl was delivered and there was no sign of the demon in her. She became normal again. As for me, the experience increased my trust in the Power of Jesus' Name and the reality of His Word, the Bible. This was brought home especially because I felt elated that demons were scared of me and immediately when I read the Bible after that, I came upon this passage in Luke chapter 10:

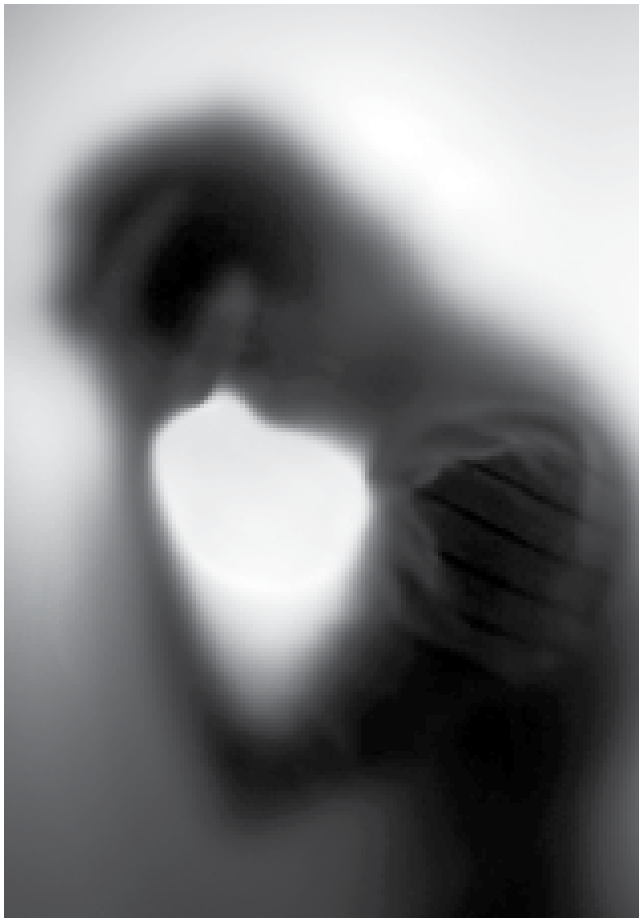
"The seventy-two returned with joy and said, "Lord, even the demons submit to us in your name."

He replied, "I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven. I have given you authority to trample on snakes and scorpions and to overcome all the power of the enemy; nothing will harm you. However, do not rejoice that the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven."

I was astonished and greatly awed that God knew exactly what I had experienced, knew exactly how I felt and spoke to me directly from the Bible. I exhort all of us to trust in Jesus' Name and know that He is Lord of all. When we learn to fear God, there is nothing else to fear. God gives us courage and there is certainly no need to be afraid of the dark.

Has God Abandoned Me?

By Melissa Foong



Depression - feelings of severe despondency and dejection.

In other words, **dead but walking**. As crazy as it sounds, you know it's true.

People suffering from depression typically lose interest in life, experience a sense of overwhelming dread, have terrifying obsessive fearful thoughts, and also suffer from panic attacks, insomnia, guilt, confusion, anger, and a dozen other disturbing symptoms. A depressed Christian also tends to lose the ability to feel God's presence, cannot take comfort from His Word, and can no longer feel His love.

Never has so much been crammed into one word. Depression feels terrifying. The world is dark, heavy, and painful. Physical pain would be much better. At least the pain would be localized. Instead, depression seems to go to the very soul, affecting everything in its path.

So many things about life are difficult right now including things which were taken for granted, a good night's sleep, having goals. Looking forward to the future now seems beyond reach. Relationships are also affected. This is what depression does to someone.

What about Christians?

Some Christians suffering from depression or a major crisis say, "It feels like God has abandoned me! I can't feel God's presence anymore." Or, "Why has God abandoned me?"

You may feel just like David in Psalm 142:4, "When I look beside me, I see that there is no one to help me, no one to protect me. No one cares for me."

But God has never abandoned us. The Bible said in Deuteronomy 31:8, The Lord Himself will lead you and be with you. He will not fail you or abandon you, so do not lose courage or be afraid.

God's Word has made a difference in all our lives, providing hope in periods of darkness and hope of experiencing fulfilment

There is much proof that God has not abandoned us. The Bible is full of answers. For example, Joshua 1: 9 – Be strong and of good courage; do not be afraid, nor be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go.

Matthew 28:20 – I am with you always, even to the end of the age.

John 10:27 – My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me.

If you feel abandoned by God, and find yourself questioning His provision, turn to the Scripture for love, comfort and peace. God's Word has made a difference in all of our lives, providing hope in periods of darkness and hope of experiencing fulfilment, whether you're adjusting to a new city, searching for a new community or simply seeking to belong.

But remember, healing an open wound takes time. Always remember God has not abandoned us. Never have and never will abandon us!



No New Year's Resolutions, Just A New Mindset

By Joann Lim



Well, we've finished the first quarter of 2016. How are your New Year's resolutions holding up?

Still exercising regularly and keeping to that diet?

Is the personal budget you promised to stick to this year still in the green?

Are you still committed to the daily devotion time you pledged to spend with God this year?

Personally, I've given up on making New Year's resolutions. My resolutions work for about maybe three weeks before I lose interest, forget about it, or… give up completely. It just never works for me.

But for 2016 however, I felt that God wanted me to have focus for the year. Rather than a new year's resolution, I felt that He wanted me to have a new mindset. I have had a Bible verse on my computer screen for months now as a feel-good verse whenever I turn on the PC. But when a close friend shared her insights on those exact same verses to me, I felt that that God was affirming my focus on this verse for the year.

1 Thess 5:16-18: Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, and give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

It is just a short verse – only 23 words but these are the 3 things that I felt God wanted me to do for 2016.

1. Rejoice Always

Is it possible for a person to be happy all the time? No.

Humans were created to feel a range of emotions apart from happiness – sadness, anger, frustration, worry. So how am I supposed to "rejoice always"?

The thing is, happiness is defined as "a state of well-being, a pleasurable or satisfying experience." This means that my happiness depends on external circumstances that affect my feelings and the world around me.

To rejoice and to experience joy, however, is different. The word "joy" comes from the Greek root word chara and means "to be exceedingly glad." Happiness is fleeting but joyfulness comes from the gladness of receiving salvation and contentment from being in the Lord who is unchanging – which makes it possible to rejoice always.

This is also affirmed in Philippians 4:3 which says: Rejoice in the Lord always: and again I say, Rejoice.

2. Pray Unceasingly

Again, does this mean that I must have my head bowed, eyes closed and hands clasped in prayer all the time? Of course not! But it means that I should have an attitude of God-consciousness and God-surrender in my daily life. This means not just turning to Him when I need something or face a problem but to have the awareness that He is with me throughout the day, 24/7. If I am anxious or worried, I will look to Him. If I am worried, I will seek His face. If I am happy, I will give Him thanks. Therefore, unceasing prayer means building a dependence on Jesus for anything and everything in my life.

Like Philippians 4:6 says: "Do not be anxious about anything, in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God"

3. Give Thanks in All Circumstances

There is a saying that goes like this, "It is not happy people who are thankful. It is thankful people who are happy."

Personally for me, to give thanks in all circumstances means to count my blessings and be grateful for what I have. Nowadays, too much of one's happiness is dependent on how much money one has, how many things one owns, which places one has travelled to. But to be able to give thanks in spite of all these, and knowing that I have already been given the most priceless blessing of grace and salvation should be the source of my happiness and thankfulness.

May this be a most joyful, prayerful and thankful 2016 for all of you!



Prayers For Workplace Wisdom

By Ruth Lee

2015 was a breakthrough year for me. The simple fact that I can come for the morning watch almost every day and continued praying while on my way to work with my prayer partners (Tim and another sister) is itself a breakthrough for me.

I also recalled the days when I prayed alone at the 6 am watches, sometimes almost falling asleep because I had to get up at 5 am to do my own devotion and to get ready for work. At times I could sense the presence of angels. Once I saw a blazing angel standing outside the prayer circle; the light around him simply dazzling. I believed he was the angel assigned to our church, ready to take our prayer requests up to the throne of God.

I also recalled how the Lord Himself spoke to me during the morning watches and downloaded ideas for the ministry to me including messages that really ministered to me personally. I would follow up to do research on some of the points downloaded and wrote them out for my personal blog.

I also treasure Sunday prayers with Sis Chin Nee because I saw the Lord answering them one by one. It is wonderful to pray alone but even more wonderful to pray with prayer partners.

Around Aug 2015, I was faced with a situation which I could only describe as being in between a rock and a hard place. I was asked to put in writing a confirmation that all the provisions of a particular Act (relating to finance and banking) was in order before a loan could be disbursed. So important was my confirmation that the disbursement was a 'no go' if I did not give my 'dobi' mark to it. It was a most stressful time for me as the business people threatened that my inaction would result in severe repercussions for my company.

How could one possibly confirm that 200 over sections and 16 schedules of a particular Act have been met and fulfilled? It would be like 'sticking out my neck on the chopping board' so to speak!

I believed he was the angel assigned to our church, ready to take our prayer requests up to the throne of God.

It so happens that on the critical day I was on leave yet the whatsapp came hard and fast. By hook or by crook the confirmation had to be given by me (via my subordinates) otherwise the loan disbursement was a no go and I would be branded the show-stopper.

I really believed that at that time, I drew upon all the resources of my prayer times in the morning, in the car and on Sundays with my prayer partners. The Lord spoke to me very clearly what to do. He said to get a back-to-back confirmation from the business people that they have complied with certain regulations/guidelines before giving my back-to-back confirmation that the guidelines have been complied with. The Lord also showed me which guidelines were applicable and which were not.

Thankfully the loan was disbursed on the same day and once again I was delivered from a very dicey and difficult situation. Prayers have sustained me and continue to sustain me daily in my workplace. How can I ever live without them?

A Quick Look At Ministries' 2016 Goals



King Solomon said, "If the axe is dull, and one does not sharpen the edge, then he must use more strength; but wisdom brings success." And Abraham Lincoln said, "Give me 6 hours to chop down a tree and I will spend the first hour sharpening the axe."

These are wise words from two very wise men.

Yes, HGC wants to be effective for the work of God's Kingdom. There is no time or energy to waste! What with darkness increasing and time running out, it is mandatory for us to sharpen our axes so that our effectiveness for God's end-time harvest be greatly multiplied.

In line with HGC's 2016 theme "Sharpen and Strengthen to Shine", each ministry has been sharpening its axes – its plans and goals – to be on target and to raise its effectiveness in fulfilling God's vision. Here, they share it with you. Read and pray through them. Encourage the ministries and even better; join them if you are led to…

Prayer

By Ruth Lee

As the arrowhead of the Master Planning Arrow of the prayer ministry is "To build up the prayer life of the church" we will sharpen the prayers of our members by teaching them to pray the Word of God. Prayer leaders will pray the Word of God for the church during the Sunday prayer time as an example for others to follow. Scriptures are printed alongside the prayer focus in our Prayer Bulletin for sharp and focused prayers for the church and nation.

The prayer ministry will also undergird each event organized in 2016 with prayers so that each event will lift the NAME OF JESUS high and shine forth the GLORY OF THE LORD in the darkness.

Ushers

By Hong Wai Choong

The Ushers ministry will serve with love and excellence. Ushers will embrace Rom12:10-13 "Love and honour each other… serve the Lord enthusiastically, keep on praying. Be ready to help…practice hospitality." Though the ushers' duty seems simple, nonetheless it is no less important. Ushers will strive to be prepared, both in the tasks to be performed and spiritually, through prayer. Hence, we are emphasizing pre-service prayer. Additionally, we hope to inculcate ushering as a lifestyle, not merely duty or service. As always, usher ministry appreciates your prayers and feedback.

AV

By Jonathan Leong

Our focus is on building and sharpening the individual AV team members' ability. Each one can be independent when on duty and not reliant on the heads to help set up or operate the AV system. Every AV team member is to be ready to serve or help. The opportunity to serve will be given to each member in a church event.

Evangelism

By Nick Nip, Pastor

1. ***Evangelism***
   Prayer Evangelism (PE) for 2016 is open to all HGCians who would like to participate. We will be planning a PE mission trip to the south during the second half of the year.
2. ***Evangelism Ministry (EM) Prayer***
   Team members will continue to meet once a month for our EM prayer and we will be studying the book, Prayer Altars by Dr. John Mulinde.

Library & Bookstore

By Katherine How

Firstly, the library will be moved to the new premises by June this year. Careful planning and organization will be required, including the cooperation and teamwork of all the librarians so that it can be accomplished efficiently and smoothly.

Secondly, we plan to have a one-day outing this year with the aim of fostering closer relationship among the librarians.

Worship

By Calvin Lim

One key area we seriously need to work on this year is in the area of personal commitment. The worship of God should be above and beyond the regular Sundays when we serve on stage. Developing a lifestyle of worship must be on a daily basis. Of course, working on our punctuality is still an issue we constantly need to remind each other.

Another area is raising the quality of musicianship through our regular practice time. We want to develop and sharpen song arrangements and singing skills that include playing and singing on the correct beat.

Young Adults

By Calvin Lim

1. Drawing closer to the Word. Programs include reading two books of the Bible together in a year and joining at least one Bible Study in church. A system that allows us to be accountable to one another will be set up.
2. Personal Witnessing. We need to consciously remind ourselves that our community out there needs to see Jesus through our action and words. We will Invite community friends to our regular Young Adults or church activities.

Keng Youth Ministry

by Yap Yuet Ching

KENG Youth (KY) vision

K – Know God and live an abundant life - A WORD YOUTH
E - Empowered by the Holy Spirit - A SPIRIT FILLED, PRAYERFUL YOUTH
N - New You - New creation in Christ - A CHIRST LIKE YOUTH
G - Growing up and Going out - A FRUITFUL YOUTH

In 2016 KY will focus on God's Word through cultivating consistent personal devotion by using the same material and through weekly LG on Discipleship Booklets. Secondly, we will like to sharpen ourselves in the area of communication and connection among the youth and to cultivate a friendly environment where we can grow in godliness and love for one another.

Children Church

By Mark Charis Yong

1. Sunbeams Visitation – The Children Church will be organising 3 events to visit the Sunbeams Home for a time of food and fellowship with the Sunbeam Kids.
2. Children Church camp 2016, June 3-5 – This Camp will focus on building the character of the children though lessons in the Bible.
3. Curriculum in the Children Church. The children will through the Old Testament from Judges to King Solomon and then move on to the New Testament to learn about the gospels.

These are the plans so far for the Children Church. We encourage your support and participation especially in the Sunbeams visitations as we can easily make a connection with the children there.

Missions

By Chan Tham Seng

1. Lugu Lake – After 16 years of ministry, we will continue to nurture the Lugu Lake believers in the Word; and work with them to get their Langfang Fellowship registered with the authorities. This includes raising funds to establish a proper place of worship, a condition for successful registration.
2. Ethnic Churches – We shall continue teaching in Yunnan Ethnic Network Bible School and serve believers through teaching seminar and ministering to their spiritual needs.
3. Kg Gerachi – We shall continue to strengthen our Orang Asli ministries comprising education, Sunday school and adult service. Building a place of worship remains our goal though we have no idea where the piece of land shall come from. Winning more Temuan families for Jesus is another goal that we pursue with caution.
4. Sibu, Iban work with Ps Shin – This year we will bring teams to help build the faith of leaders and members: 8-10 April, 8-10 July, and 30 Sep-2 Oct
5. India – Hyderabad – We will continue to work with Ps Lata Lincoln in children's work and also strengthen the pastors and leaders of churches in her network. A mission trip is planned in Oct.

Word

By Khor Hoe Chai, Pastor

In 2016 the Word Ministry seeks to sharpen the members' Word Life through the following studies.

1. Old Testament Overview (3 sessions) – an overview of OT history, timeline and the central message
2. Book study – Song of Solomon (7 sessions) – developing intimacy with Christ
3. Design for Discipleship Book 3 and 4 (4 sessions per book) – grounding Disciples in the foundational studies.
4. New Testament Overview (3 sessions) – an overview of NT history and timeline
5. Conducting Inductive Book studies.

Welfare

By Timothy Suhan

The Welfare ministry faces a major hurdle in our endeavour to demonstrate God's love toward the community in Ampang. We have realized that in dealing with the poor and marginalised, things are never as straight forward as they might seem.

Thus, in 2016, the Welfare Team has decided to mainly equip the community we serve with a sense of responsibility and desire to help themselves. It is a huge task but nothing is impossible with Christ.

We will be renewing food pledges among our members in HGC and we will be having more meet the poor sessions this year. We look forward to greater participation and your continual support.

VOH

By Joann Lim

This year the VOH sees a growth in our writer's team with Melissa and Janelle joining the team. We are excited to have more young people bring fresh new ideas and perspectives in the work that we do. This year we hope to sharpen and strengthen the ministry by honing our writing skills to produce better quality articles that will encourage readers, and also edify and glorify God.

Little Lighthouse Kindergarten

By Tham Soon Hoe

We praise the Lord for the good work that He has begun in and through the kindergarten since 2002. We thank Him for His providence. Since January, the Kindergarten is doing the following to shine brighter:

1. Helping the children to cultivate excellent character and attitude toward their studies.
2. Increase its giving to more charity organizations as a service to the community.

What with darkness increasing and time running out, it is mandatory for us to sharpen our axes so that our effectiveness for God's end-time harvest be greatly multiplied.

Time to Celebrate!

By Jeanette Chan

Merry Christmas! Happy Christmas! Happy Birthday! Did you say, oops? Nope, you heard me correctly, because it is the birthday celebration of Him who sojourned on this big blue orb for 33 years. Happy Birthday Jesus!

Seats were quickly filled and entertaining games brought about much merriment and mirth when participants with their ear muffled had to lip read and repeat words spoken by the partners.

The 2015 Christmas celebration was highlighted in a drama based on the real life stories of four of our church members (three sisters and a brother) who were touched and transformed by the power of God. Their stories showed the reality of challenges in life that we all may face as we live in a "broken" world with many problems and harsh experiences – that of life threatening sicknesses; vicious circles of duress and tension; being victim of scams and unscrupulous people; being tempted and lured into vices that brought bondages into lives and distress to families.

After the actors played out the trauma so realistically, the four came forward to give their stirring testimonies of how they had faced and overcome their individual storms with God's help, the hearts of the audience were touched, and many moved to tears. Although, each individual went through very different ordeals, they had the SAME ending to their stories; healing, deliverance, peace, hope and a new beginning in life in the Lord Jesus Christ!

Ps Khor then came forward with a simple message to declare that Jesus Christ is God's gift and answer to the world. Christmas is God coming and revealing Himself through Jesus Christ in order to be with human kind, to offer help, hope, healing, deliverance, peace in storms, strength for each day, comfort and a new beginning. To sum it up in one word; SALVATION!

At the end of the service a number of invited guests came forward to receive the Best Gift of All - Jesus Christ.





PHOTO CAPTION

1 Guests who responded to the altar call writing down their particulars
2 Hahaha hehehe! Come & see the funniest game ever!
3 The drama was based on true life stories of Elsa, Margaret, Wai Keng & Eng Yaw (not in picture)
4 No, Doctor, I cannot have this terrible illness, no no no!!
5 Gone! All gone! Cheated! What's going to happen to us!!!!!
6 LEAVE ME ALONE, MUM! Yes, I have gambled away ALL my
7 A jolly good meal with equally warm fellowship!











The House of Faith, Hope and Charity

By Jeremy Chew

"What does it profit, my brethren, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can faith save him? If a brother or sister is naked and destitute of daily food, and one of you says to them, "Depart in peace, be warmed and filled," but you do not give them the things which are needed for the body, what does it profit? Thus also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead." (James 2:14-26 NKJV)

When I drove up to "Charis Hope Elderly Home" for the dedication service on Feb 20, 2016, with the purpose of getting some photos and share with Voice of Hope readers how this "old folks' home" came about, I felt really humbled and awed. I had heard that it was Ps Lee Ping's brainchild. Yet, as I spoke to this bubbly enthusiastic lady Pastor, it dawned upon me that it was the Lord's idea and it was His wish and He had put this thought and this desire in His chosen handmaiden to fulfill His divine will.

Ps Lee Ping showed me around the ground floor. I saw the row of brand new beds and cabinets still wrapped up in transparent film for transport and I was filled with respect. She had such faith in God to believe all that the Lord had shown her and the courage to pray and act upon it. She took me through the kitchen and some smaller bedrooms and shared with me that they are already two residents, one of whom is from another church, who had prayed that God would give her a place she can call her own where she can spend her old age in grace and dignity. God answers prayer.

Ps Lee Ping's husband, Sam Liew showed me the upper floor of the building which housed some bedrooms, the office and the Prayer Room. As I looked inside, I thought, "A prayer room – surely Ps Lee Ping means business!" Sam told me that this room is available to anyone who wants a place free from distraction to seek God. Thoughts of God speaking to Moses at the burning bush flashed through my mind, "Take your sandals off your feet, for the place where you stand is holy ground." I pray that many will be blessed in this home for the elderly.

The crowd mingled freely for a while. Then Ps Khor announced that we gather together to worship God and dedicate "Charis Hope Elderly Home" to Him. Indeed, it was a blessed experience to be present at this simple but meaningful ceremony. I could see the great faith that Ps Lee Ping has in the Good Lord; and she, with Sam and the team are putting hope into the hearts of the needy elderly by putting this faith into works of charity. I came home thinking, "Truly, this is really a home of faith, hope and charity."











2

4



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7



8



PHOTO CAPTION

1 *Realisation of Vision - The beautiful Charis Hope Elderly Centre*
2 *PS NICK NIP PRAYING FOR THE TEAM*
3 *Dedicating the Home to the LORD*
4 *Sam with aunties in the living room area*
5 *Guests enjoying snacks in the big kitchen*
6 *The progress work of renovation*
7 *Prayer Room - holy ground*
8 *Bedroom with brand new furniture*

One Lifetime

By Lim Chin Nee

Walk circumspectly, not as fools but as wise, redeeming the time, because the days are evil. Eph 5:15-16

All eyes and ears followed Celine Teh, the speaker for our Time Management Seminar which was held on 23 Jan 2016 in HGC. Her delivery style was so captivating and commanding, it kept every attendee alert, engaged and even amused from start to finish. It was not just her vibrancy and passion but her life witness and the substance of what she shared. This seminar, unlike many other time management seminars, focused on redeeming time to fulfil God's destiny for our lives.

"When did time start for each of us?" Celine threw out a question. Various answers were given but none hit the bull's eye. The precise answer was time starts the moment our heart starts beating; and time stops when our heart stops beating. As long as we have life, we have time – a most precious commodity which God has given us. For some babies, time was snuffed out even before they were born.

Time is indeed precious and not to be wasted. Once gone, it will not return. God wants us to use the time He has given us to live life to the full to fulfil His destiny. However, our enemy, the devil, wants to rob us of our time and destroy our destiny. Celine shared her own story.

At the impressionable age of 8, she adored a teacher of hers and would be at her bidding, ever ready to run an errand for her or carry her books. But one day as she stood outside the staffroom eagerly waiting to help and serve her teacher, she overheard that teacher laughing about her and making unkind remarks of her. Totally crushed, she walked around the school, from that day onwards, with her head hung down. She always felt left out even in Sunday School and she grew hard and cynical. By 16, she wanted to take her own life.

Thank God, Jesus came into Celine's life to redeem and restore her. As we sat there learning from this lively and vivacious lady, we could see God's beautiful and powerful restoration and transformation work in her. Celine is now happily on God's destiny track for her life and her time well used for God.



The seminar was fun and interesting

Celine stressed repeatedly that God has given each of us one life to live. This one life and time that we have must not to be wasted but rather redeemed and used wisely for God's purposes. She reminded us that we are living not just in "chronos" time (time in sequence) but in God's "kairos" moment (the right or opportune moment) to shine for Him. We are to make every moment an opportunity to live for the LORD and bring Him glory.

Some of the key and interesting topics covered in the sessions with Celine were having a right perception of time, making a difference between what is important and



Celine Teh, the speaker for the seminar

urgent, understanding what a Christian's main priorities are and then set the priorities. To do it would require us to get out of over comfort zone, make sacrifices, make the right choices and be disciplined. A very interesting session was identifying "time robbers" in our lives. Some "time robbers" are a lack of goals, being disorganized, failure to delegate, conflicts and many others. Celine made all the sessions interesting, interactive, exciting and fun. We learnt a lot but now is the time to put what we have learnt into practice.

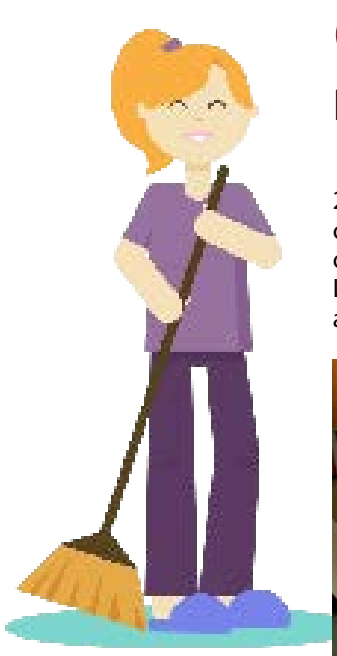
God has given each of us one LIFETIME and a great destiny. And He has given us the free choice through the victory of the cross and the power of the Holy Spirit to pursue our destiny within our LIFETIME. And since we have but one life, and we don't know when our time on earth will run out, let us not waste time complaining and saying negative things. Instead let us make the best of our time. Strengthen our relationship with God; make right with Him if we are far from Him; clear things with those who have offended you; love your family members; build relationships; and share Christ with family and friends who are yet to know Him.

Be Wise! Make sure our LIFETIME on earth is well spent!!

We are living not just in "chronos" time (time in sequence) but in God's "kairos" moment (the right or opportune moment) to shine for Him.



Asking God to empower us to redeem our time



Gotong Royong

By Lim Chin Nee

25 Jan 2016 was Gotong Royong Day for HGC. It was a day when HGC brothers and sisters came together in the spirit of love, volunteerism and cooperation to clean and spruce up our church. The few who turned up to lend their hand, did so enthusiastically unto the LORD. At the end of it, there was much satisfaction as the church looked spick and span, and so much brighter.



PHOTO CAPTION

1 *Dusty curtains taken down for a needed wash*
2 *Even the stairs and skirting were scrubbed*
3 *Our kitchen got a make over*
4 *A bright smile makes the load lighter*
5 *Kudos to the youths who wiped all the chairs*
6 *Giving the dusty mat a good beating*
7 *Cupboards were cleaned and tidied up*
8 *After working together, it was time to eat together*

















How I became a Christian and How I Feel Being a New Christian

By Chia Wan Tin



Before I accepted Christ and became a Christian, I did not understand why Christians need to go to church every Sunday, why they always pray or what prayer is all about. I was then only concerned about myself, my siblings and my family. It was only after I got to know Christ that I began to realize that I need to widen my circle of friends and to build connection groups in life.

I lived, grew up and studied till Form 5 in a town called Sekinchan, the paddy growing area near Kuala Selangor, about two hours' drive from Kuala Lumpur. In May 2011, I received an offer to do my Form 6 in Victoria Institute in KL but I did not know where I could stay in KL.

Then, by God's grace, my former boss, a dentist whom I worked for as a temporary assistant while waiting for my SPM results told me I could try to rent a room from his former neighbour, an English teacher by the name of Surin Leong. She welcomed me to stay with her and soon again, by God's grace, she accepted me as her god-daughter.

Godma Surin then invited me to her church called The Hope of Glory Centre (HGC); that was the first time I heard of HGC. I went to HGC on and off, whenever I was in KL on Sundays. (Usually I would go back to my hometown during the weekends). The way she treated me and cared for me; her daily ways and actions gave me a good impression. She also shared with me how her life had changed after accepting Christ as her Saviour and Lord. I observed that she is different from non-Christians. As I attended more Sunday church services, I had the opportunity to listen to sermons from different pastors. One day, when I responded to an altar call, I felt God touching my heart. It was so wonderful that I opened my heart to Him, inviting Jesus Christ to come into my heart to be my Saviour, and for me to be His child.

Since then the Holy Spirit has helped me to know more about Jesus Christ. I realized that Jesus is my best and perfect example as the Bible in 2 Corinthians 5:21 says, "Christ was without sin, but for our sake, God make Him share our sin, in order that in union with Him, we might share the righteousness of God.

I also realized that I was redeemed and saved by the precious blood of Christ. As the Bible says in1 Pet 1:18-21, "For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your ancestors, but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect. He had been chosen by God before the creation of the world and was revealed in these last days for your sake. Through Him, you believe in God, who raised him from the dead and glorified him, and so your faith and hope are in God.

After I became a Christian, I feel very light as though all the burdens and pressures had been released. I feel very happy and joyful in my life. My god-mother also introduced many church friends to me and brought me to attend some of the life group meetings in the Taman Kosas Emmanuel Life Group. I got to know the LG sisters who are very kind and caring towards me and even invited me to join some of their trips. I also joined the HGC Family Camp in July 2015 and learnt a lot about the Christian life. God also sent Sister Allison Chen's niece to bring me to a church in Kampar (where I'm studying now).

I feel that God had arranged all the above which I never expected. Through all these, I have learnt to share with the people around me. So no matter what challenges I have to face in my life in the future, I have learnt to look to God for help and have greater confidence to face them.

I would like to say "Thank you" to Father God and Godma Surin for having brought me to HGC, and for all the brothers and sisters who have given me a lot of encouragement and teaching, especially Ps Khor during the Baptism Class. I was baptised on 6 December, 2015.

May God bless all the brothers and sisters in HGC!

My Journey Of Knowing Jesus In Malaysia

By May Ho Thi Thu Nho



I am a Vietnamese. I grew up in the province of Ca Mau. In my family house, my parents have an altar with ancestral plaques and the statue of the Goddess of Mercy on it. Every day, morning and evening, I helped offer joss-sticks on the altar,

In 2004, I met and married my Malaysian husband and moved to Malaysia. I wasn't really happy initially as I missed my family back home in Vietnam. Besides, I felt lost as I did not know anyone or anything. I was fresh out from my village.

In Malaysia, I stopped worshipping idols as there were no idols in my-in-laws' house. My late father-in-law was a Christian. However, when I went back to Vietnam for holiday, I was expected to pray to the idols.

My first encounter with Christians was through my sister-in-law, Michelle Liew. She is a very caring, helpful and encouraging sister. Realising that my heart was troubled with many negative thoughts and worries, Michelle invited me to church to find peace. I followed her but only once awhile.

One night, I had a dream. I saw a path that was well trodden as there was no more grass on it. Many people were walking on that road, going somewhere; and as I followed, it led to a big house like a king's palace. When I shared my dream with Michelle, she told me that it could very well be heaven.

On 13 Dec 2007, I was invited to a Life Group Christmas Party at Wendy Liew's house. After listening to some sharing, I was asked whether I wanted to accept Christ. I did when I was asked because my heart was open to Jesus then. After that Sis Chin Nee and Wen Cheh came weekly to share with me more about Jesus. It was then I learnt how to sing the song, "Thank You Jesus for your love to me, Thank You Jesus for your grace so free." However, due to my family commitments, the time with them stopped and I didn't go to church.
Later, I had another interesting dream. Looking back now, I believe the Lord was leading me to Himself. In that dream, I saw three people in white and shining clothes walking down some steps. It was so radiant and very glorious. I even noticed that they were not wearing any shoes. At that time, I did not understand who those people were walking down the steps or what it meant but I felt so peaceful, comforted and assured through it.

In 2010, something happened that shook me very badly. That particular morning, noticing that my mum-in-law had not woken up as usual, I went into her room and patted her on her leg a few times to wake her up but there was no response. Suddenly, to my horror I realised that she was lifeless. When I saw her body, fear gripped me because I was alone at that time.

After the funeral arrangements, I could not even stay in the apartment by myself. There was such a feeling of coldness in the room and apartment. I went over to Michelle's house to stay with her for one whole month. During that one month, I couldn't sleep, troubled by fears and negative thoughts; and I even had dengue fever. I didn't return to my apartment until my sister came all the way from Vietnam to keep me company.

Michelle encouraged me to go back to church. I felt her support and the support of church sisters who prayed for me. Each time after prayers, I would feel the peace of God. Slowly, my fears subsided. However, I still couldn't go to church or LG regularly as I was manning with Michelle's help a little stall in the market.

Things changed in August 2014 when Michelle and I started to join weekly the Thursday morning LG after closing the stall for the day. Although we arrived late and I struggled to understand the spoken English, I was encouraged by the LG sisters' testimonies and the sharing of God's Word. Through it, I began to grow and know Jesus Christ more. I began to understand that Jesus sacrificed His life for me by dying on the cross so that my sins could be forgiven and washed away. Thank God I know now I am His child. My life changed slowly. I let go of my worries. Each time I read the Bible, I am comforted by His Word. Each time I pray, my burdens are lifted and my heart feel very light.

Being able to join the LG has made me very happy. At first, I didn't know the sisters well and was scared when I was asked to share my testimony. But now, I am fine. I have learnt a lot from the sisters and have even started to share my testimonies. I am even able to worship God every Sunday since the little stall I was manning closed.

When Sis Chin Nee asked me on 24 October whether I would like to be baptised, I immediately said, "Yes." I had actually been thinking about the need to be baptised now that I had become a Christian. I even googled to find out more about baptism. I made that decision too because I want everyone to know I am a Christian now. On 6 December 2015, I was happily water baptised.

When I return to Vietnam to see my parents and siblings, I am going to tell them that I am now a follower of Jesus Christ.

Knowing Jesus

By Christina Khoo



I was a free thinker before I knew Jesus. I had no direction in life then, and whenever there were ups and downs, I would feel a bit lost. When I was 10 years old, my mom sent me to a school holiday program in a church near Seri Petaling. However, as I thought the activities were merely just to pass time during my school holidays, I didn't have the heart to know who Jesus is. I stopped going to church when I went to high school.

In 2011, I got to know Jane who was my new colleague. Through her I heard about Jesus again. In August 2014, a friend of mine invited me to Sunday Services in the Klang Methodist Church. I attended a few services but I still didn't really know Jesus much. I stopped going to that church due to the distance. In mid-December 2014, I asked Jane which church she attended. She told me The Hope of Glory Centre (HGC) and invited me to attend the Christmas Service. After that, I started to attend HGC Sunday services more often as I liked the preaching and the friendliness of the members.

In June 2015, I joined HGC church camp - my very first camp and I learnt much more about Jesus. During one of the worship sessions, while I was praying, God healed me of a pain in my knee. I was so happy that God answered my prayer. Coming back from the camp, I started to pray more as I wanted to know Jesus deeper and to be blessed by Him.

In Oct 2015, Jane asked me whether I was interested in joining the baptism class and that it was not necessary for me to be baptised but just so that I could know more about God. During the first lesson when Ps Khor was praying for me, I felt the Holy Spirit filling me. The power of God was so great that I accepted Jesus Christ on that day.

The following week, I encountered problems with my job. I was affected by the Mutual Separation Scheme. In other words, I was going to be retrenched. Getting the news made me feel really down but I believed that everything was in God's hand. Every day I prayed for God to give me strength and to show me the way out of the problem. Praise God, my prayer was answered. God saved me and I was offered a new job in a different department. I feel so blessed knowing Jesus and will continue to serve Him in this journey of life.

I Have Decided to Follow Jesus My Whole Life

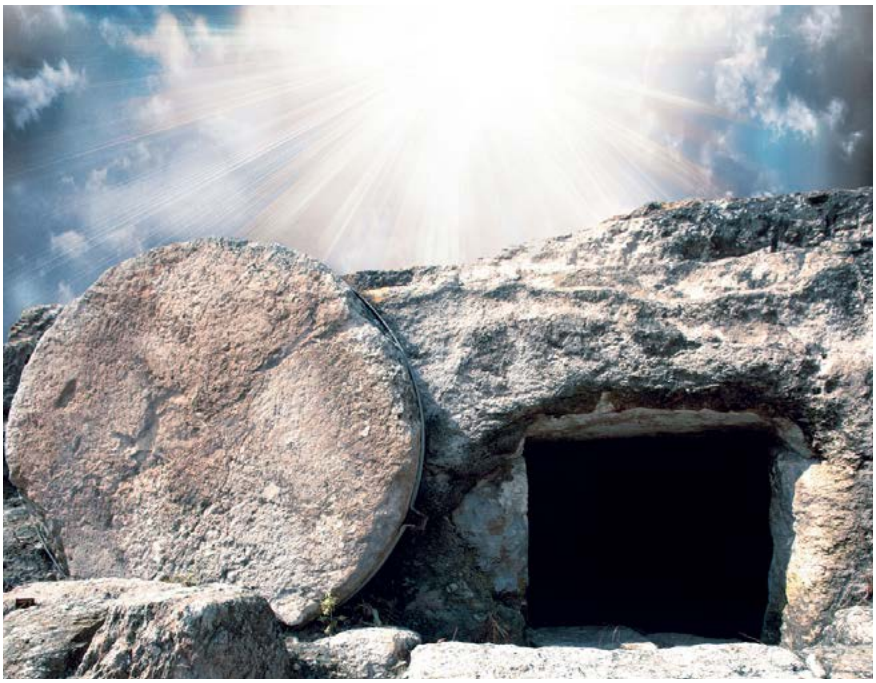
By Annissa Cheong



I decided to get baptized because I wanted to tell everyone that I am a Christian and I will follow Him my whole life, no matter what. When I had dengue fever in 2015, I prayed to God to help me recover speedily. The very next day the doctor said that I could be discharged and I could go home. I love Jesus because He is my friend and because He is my Saviour who died on the cross for me.

What proof can I give my friends that Jesus is not dead but alive? How can I explain that this really matters?

By Loke Wai Keng



The obvious proof is to point your friends to scripture in the Gospels where we can find accounts of people (especially the disciples) who lived and followed Jesus closely during His life on earth.

Jesus had told His disciples that He would die but rise on the third day. However, they did not understand till they witnessed the whole event of His crucifixion, burial, resurrection and ascension. The evidence that Jesus resurrected was so real that the disciples empowered by the Holy Spirit continued to preach and teach what they experienced as recorded in the book of Acts even when threatened and persecuted.

The body of Jesus, in accordance with Jewish burial custom, was wrapped in a linen cloth. About 100 pounds of aromatic spices, mixed together to form a gummy substance, were applied to the wrappings of cloth about the body. After the body was placed in a solid rock tomb, an extremely large stone was rolled against the entrance of the tomb. Large stones weighing approximately two tons were normally rolled (by means of levers) against a tomb entrance.

A Roman guard of strictly disciplined fighting men was stationed to guard the tomb. This guard affixed on the tomb the Roman seal, which was meant to "prevent any attempt at vandalizing the sepulcher. Anyone trying to move the stone from the tomb's entrance would have to break the seal and thus incur the wrath of Roman law.

But three days later the tomb was empty. The followers of Jesus said He had risen from the dead. They reported that He appeared to them during a period of 40 days, showing Himself to them by many "infallible proofs." Paul the apostle recounted that Jesus appeared to more than 500 of His followers at one time, the majority of whom were still alive and who could confirm what Paul wrote. So many security precautions were taken with the trial, crucifixion, burial, entombment, sealing, and guarding of Christ's tomb that it becomes very difficult for critics to defend their position that Christ did not rise from the dead. Consider these facts:

Fact #1 – The Broken Seal

The first obvious fact was the breaking of the seal that stood for the power and authority of the Roman Empire. The consequences of breaking the seal were extremely severe. The Roman guards were called into action to find the man or men who were responsible. If they were found, it meant automatic execution by crucifixion upside down. People feared the breaking of the seal. Jesus' disciples displayed signs of cowardice when they hid themselves. Peter, one of these disciples, went out and denied Christ three times. Thus, would they have had the courage to break the seal?

Fact #2 – The Empty Tomb

Another obvious fact after the resurrection was the empty tomb. The disciples of Christ did not go off to Athens or Rome to preach that Christ was raised from the dead. Rather, they went right back to the city of Jerusalem, to spread the news of the empty tomb.

Both Jewish and Roman sources and traditions admit to an empty tomb through their historical writings.

Gamaliel, who was a member of the Jewish high court, the Sanhedrin, suggested that the rise of the Christian movement was God's doing; because he himself saw the empty tomb and could not find whereabouts of Christ's body.

Fact #3- The Stone Rolled

On that Sunday morning, the first thing that impressed the people who approached the tomb was the unusual position of the one and a half to two ton stone that had been dislodged from the front of the doorway. All the Gospel writers mention it.

Fact #4 – The Roman Guards

The Roman guards, seasoned soldiers, fled from fear of the angel at the tomb. They left their place of responsibility even though they knew that failure in their duty meant the severe punishment of death. And certainly, how could the entire unit of Roman guards be so careless as to have fallen asleep while on duty and allowed Jesus body to be stolen? These soldiers knew full well the consequences of their failure.

Fact #5 – The Grave Clothes

John, a disciple of Jesus, looked over to the place where the body of Jesus had lain, and there were the grave clothes, in the form of the body, slightly caved in and empty. That was enough to make a believer out of anybody. John never did get over it. The first thing that stuck in the minds of the disciples was not the empty tomb, but rather the empty grave clothes – undisturbed in form and position.

Fact #6 – Jesus Appearance and Witnesses

Witness of His disciples

The witness of the 11 disciples as recorded in the four gospels.

- Doubting Thomas who was invited by the Lord Jesus to examine His scarred hands.
- His disciples who had breakfast with Jesus after His resurrection beside the lake of Galilee.
- Peter who was affirmed by Jesus after betraying Him.
- Two men on the road to Emmaus who met Jesus and many more accounts.

Witness of the 500

The first is the large number of witnesses of Christ after that resurrection morning. One of the earliest records of Christ's appearing after the resurrection was by Paul. The apostle appealed to his audience's knowledge of the fact that Christ had been seen by more than 500 people at one time. Paul reminded them that the majority of those people were still alive and could be questioned.

Hostile Witness - Saul

Another factor crucial to interpreting Christ's appearances is that He also appeared to those who were hostile or unconvinced.

Saul despised Christ and persecuted Christ's followers. It was a life-shattering experience when Christ appeared to him. Although he was at the time not a disciple, he later became the apostle Paul, one of the greatest witnesses for the truth of the resurrection.

Real proof that Jesus lives

But the most telling testimony of all must be the lives of those early Christians. What caused them to go everywhere telling the message of the risen Christ? Those early Christians were beaten, stoned to death, thrown to the lions, tortured and crucified. Every conceivable method was used to stop them from talking. Yet, they laid down their lives as the ultimate proof of their complete confidence in the truth of their message.

How can I explain that this really matters?

When I was confronted with the overwhelming evidence for Christ's resurrection, I had to ask the logical question: "What difference does all this evidence make to me? What difference does it make whether or not I believe Christ rose again and died on the cross for my sins!'

1. The answer is put best by something Jesus said to a man who doubted – Thomas. Jesus told him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father but through Me" (John 14:6). Jesus is alive, He paved the way to His Father.

2. Paul put it so plainly when he wrote to the Christians in Corinth of the resurrection of Jesus in 1 Cor 15:12-19 that if the resurrection were false, then their faith would be futile and they are still dead in their sins….and people most to be pitied.

On the basis of all the evidences for Christ's resurrection; and considering the fact that Jesus offers forgiveness of sin and an eternal relationship with God, who would be so foolhardy as to reject Him? Christ is alive! He is living today.

Personal Note: the answer to this question may not be exhaustive, but serve to help us understand the fact that Jesus is alive and it is important to us. When I first heard the Gospel, the fact that captivated my heart for Jesus is that He is alive. I serve a LIVING God. This chorus is so real
"He lives, He lives, Christ Jesus lives today
He walks with me and talks with me along life narrow way,
He lives, He lives salvation to impart.
You ask me how I know He lives,
He lives within my heart."

And certainly, how could the entire unit of Roman guards be so careless as to have fallen asleep while on duty and allowed Jesus body to be stolen?



#CHOSEN2K15

By Abigail Cheong and Janelle Lim

The Keng Youth Christmas 2015 was a blast. It was a very special day for us, youths, to come together and celebrate Christmas. This year's dress code was denim, so everyone came decked out in all kinds of super cool denim outfits. The party officially started at eight, but refreshments were prepared for those who came early.

After everyone had gathered, the event finally started. The icebreakers were extremely fun and it was a great time to interact and get to know the newcomers. Everyone was really sporting and the icebreakers went on smoothly. Next, it was time for the worship session. It was short but the presence of God was astounding! We had an awesome time praising and worshipping God. After that, we had a short drama to elaborate more on our theme this year, "Chosen", I believe the audience (and even actors!) enjoyed themselves thoroughly.

The speaker, Bro Norman, then gave us a message and his personal testimony of facing rejection, and how he knew that he was "Chosen". He reminded us that we are special in God's eyes and that our identity is in Him alone! Carols were sung, and we finally counted down for Christmas. Everyone then went home tired, but filled with the joy of the Lord.







PHOTO CAPTION

1 The awesome actors for the drama.
2 Winners of the best dressed competition.
3 Father and daughter caroling.
4 Group photo of the amazing people that came to join in.
5 Judges determining the winner of the game.
6 Photobooth fun
7 Norman, the speaker for the event.









How Media Can Influence Your Life

By Abigail Cheong

Media definitely plays a huge role in an individual's life. In today's technology, media comes in many different shapes and sizes, such as the Internet, books, music, television, newspapers and many more. You may be thinking, why am I telling you all this, it's because sometimes media influences your life without you even knowing.

The mindset of our community has drastically changed from the beginning of media till now. In the olden days, people used to think vampires and werewolves were evil. But now with all the movies and series like Twilight and Teen Wolf, vampires and werewolves almost seem normal and cool. So as you can see, your mindset or perspective can be easily changed by what you see on the television or the Internet. Now this can be a good thing or a bad thing, but that all depends on what you watch or listen to.

Media is also your ultimate source for new trends. I don't know about you but sometimes people get pressured to follow new trends on social media and end up spending too much money. However, trends are a good way to keep up with society. You don't necessarily need to follow them; sometimes just knowing them is good enough. If you feel pressured to follow certain trends, just remember that God is most important and keep Him first in your life.

The media also helps us learn a lot of different things. All the life hacks and videos that pop up on the Internet can be really beneficial to our daily lives. Now, if we want to find out how to make something, all we need is a few clicks. Our lives have become much easier with the existence of media in this world.

No matter what you see on any media, we must check it out for ourselves to make sure it's true. Don't just blindly believe anything you see on the Internet or television. Furthermore, people's lives can be totally turned around just because of a post on social media. Such as the Taiwanese model who was turned into a plastic surgery meme, her career was ruined because of that post. However, people who are talented can also be known and recognized through media. Hence, we always need to be aware of what we spread through media because the power of media cannot be underestimated.

I don't know about you but sometimes people get pressured to follow new trends on social media and end up spending too much money.

5 Websites Every Christian Teen Should Know

By Abigail Cheong



Technology is everything these days. Walking around town you'll definitely find tons of teens with their heads bowed, not praying, but surfing the Internet. Anyway, many Christians have also taken this advantage and created websites for youths. So, instead of just looking through useless stuff on the Internet, why not check out some of these super cool websites for a change.

1. fervr.net

This is a website that provides EVERYTHING from youth articles to teen devotions, and there's even a space for movie reviews. You can also find answers to your own personal questions about family, Christian living, dating, etc just by posting it on the website.

2. www.christianitytoday.com/iyf/

If you're looking for a website that deals with real life issues, you'll find it right here. There are various testimonies and true stories to choose from. Reading what God has done through other youths will surely encourage you to live righteously and make you fired up for Christ.

3. www.forchristianteens.com

Are you searching for great devotionals? If you are, then this would be the perfect website for you. I just read one; it was about how actions speak louder than words. It was pretty good but I'm not going to tell you more about it because you have to read it for yourself. It's also a great site to get cool Christian music from different genres. There's worship, country and even hip hop and electronica. Furthermore, you can also find out about Christian books on this website.

4. www.dare2share.org

I just found this website recently and it's pretty interesting. Many free articles and lessons are available on this website. Besides, there's also a weekly devotional called Soul Fuel that helps youths keep Jesus the centre of their lives. Some topics of the devotionals are really interesting like The Flash and Supernatural, I couldn't wait to read them. You can also find out more about evangelism as this website focuses on evangelism a lot.

5. www.boundless.org

This one is more for young adults and older youths, but some of the topics are related to younger youths too. This website is really cool and more up to date than the others. That's great because as a youth I always like reading something fresh and new. One thing that is special about this website is that it pretty much prepares youths for adulthood.

So, as you can see there are many, many Christian websites online and, this is just five of them. The Internet plays a huge role in our lives, so why not use it to enrich our walk with good material? material? Nevertheless, we should always be careful about what we read online by making sure it is in line with God's Words and to not to let the things of this world become more important than God.

This website is really cool and more up to date than the others. That's great because as a youth I always like reading something fresh and new.

The Blood of Jesus Christ

By Dr Nitta Arul



My first deep impression of the blood of Jesus Christ occurred during one Sunday morning intercession in church when the Holy Spirit spoke clearly to me concerning the blood. He told me that the blood of Jesus is "the most expensive commodity in the entire universe." It is more costly than gold, more precious than valuable gems or any other product on the earth. In the economy of heaven, there is nothing more valuable than the blood of Jesus. For it was not through the blood of goats and calves, but through Christ's own blood, that we have been purchased (Heb 9:12, Acts 20:28). It is through the blood that a new covenant was formed to redeem mankind from guilt and sin (1 Cor 11:25). Such is the value of the blood. It is priceless indeed.

I personally believe that when we arrive in heaven, we will see the glorious cross and the Lamb that was slain for the sins of the world.

In Jewish tradition, God chose to seal a blood covenant by sacrificing an innocent animal and let its blood be the substitute for the blood of those who were entering into a covenant with Him. Throughout the Old Testament, starting from Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden (Gen 3:21), Noah (Gen 8:20), Abraham (Gen 17: 9-14) and Moses (Ex 24:8; Ex 4:24-26), the blood covenant was emphasized by God and its full significance blooms in the New Testament through the sacrifice of Jesus on the cross.

I felt another thrust from the Lord, also during prayer, when I saw a vision of the cross and from the base of the cross, water gushed forth. Above the cross, I saw a dove, which is a symbol of the Holy Spirit. The water refers to the baptism unto repentance and the laying aside of sin. In 1 John 5:8, a confirmation of the vision was received – "And there are three that bear witness in earth, the Spirit and the water and the blood: and these three agree in one."

Another revelation of the cross happened when I was travelling to work on the LRT. I heard the whisper of the Holy Spirit and He said, "The cross of Jesus Christ resounds through the heavens." I personally believe that when we arrive in heaven, we will see the glorious cross and the Lamb that was slain for the sins of the world. The cross is a symbol of God's eternal and everlasting love for mankind and it is a portrait of the ultimate sacrifice that the world has ever seen and will ever see. My prayer, like that of the Apostle Paul, is that we should never boast about anything except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ (Gal 6:14). Truly, what else can be more highly esteemed than the cross for a believer in Christ?

It is important for every Christian to cherish the old rugged cross and not despise it, like the world does. Nor should we ever be ashamed of it despite the abhorrence of this iconic symbol by its detractors. Although it was an instrument of execution, we ought to place a very high premium on the cross because without it, we would be lost in sin and error. Each time Good Friday comes I love to survey the cross. It is good to ponder upon the sufferings, scourging and beatings that the Lord took upon Himself for our sake. Indeed, we can never, ever repay the Lord Jesus Christ for His most remarkable sacrifice. Words will never suffice. The death of Jesus on the cross was the penultimate sacrifice because God Himself (the highest authority) suffered the worst, most humiliating and extremely torturous death because of the greatness of His immeasurable love for His people.

Just think for a moment about our Lord Jesus Christ this Good Friday. Think about how He left His kingdom and all that glory He had with the Father, which was infinite and unimaginable; shining forth in all the excellency and perfections of heaven, being in the company of all the angels of light, those glorious seraphims and cherubims, who bowed down to worship at His feet. Yet, He left all this, and became a helpless baby, and grew up to be a carpenter, a man of sorrows, exposing Himself to great pain and misery, more than most men are capable of enduring and all this for the sake of poor, polluted and deformed mankind, just so that He could embrace them and have them in Hs eternal kingdom. Blessed Good Friday to all and my prayer is that we will truly love, cherish and honour the Lord as we appreciate everything He has done for us, most especially the extent of His awe-inspiring sacrifice.

The Hand of The LORD

By Aunty Teh



I had been having knee pain for some time already. I could not bend my right knee, walk or move it without feeling the pain.

On the first Sunday of December 2015, my son asked me to skip service so that he could take me to see the specialist. I really did not want to miss the Sunday service as it was Communion Sunday which only happens once a month.

I said, "No. Let me go to church this Sunday as I want to take the Holy Communion"

At the end of the Sunday service, I saw the church leaders standing in the front waiting to pray for people with needs. I felt led by the Lord to approach two sisters to pray for my right knee. One of them laid hands on my right knee (where the pain was).

Suddenly, I felt a hand push my knee gently upward and straighten my right knee. I fell to the ground even as I felt the hand supporting the back portion of my right knee. Immediately, I felt healing power flow through my knee.

I showed the sisters that I could bend my knee, twist and move it without any pain! Later, I asked the two sisters whether any of them lifted up my knee with their hand as I could feel the sensation of a hand supporting my right knee. They said they only laid hands on my knee and did not at any time placed their hands at the back of my knee to straighten it or move it up the way I had described to them.

I know now that it was the Hand of the Lord that touched me and I want to give thanks to the Lord for my healing.

The Sunday ministry time is a wonderful time for us to ask for prayers for our needs THANK YOU JESUS.

Christmas Miracles

By Janelle Lim



On December 21, 2015, my brother and I were preparing to leave our house as we had a drama practice in church. It was raining very heavily and the roof of my living room started leaking badly. Our home had undergone many renovations but there are still problems. Upon seeing the leaking roof, my brother and I started to move the sofa out of the way as water was literally POURING onto it (It was like raining indoors). Just a few seconds after we moved it, the whole roof came crashing down. Both of us just stood there, stunned, as we couldn't bear to think of what could have happened if we acted just a few seconds later.

The rain stopped and we started to clear and clean our stuff. It was leaking in my room too; the water leaked onto my table and ALL my stuff was super wet except for one thing: my Bible. It was stacked between two books and both of them were soaking wet, but my Bible was not even damp! Some people might think that it's just coincidence but I believe otherwise. God has been really good and has proven that He CAN do impossible and miraculous things when you seek His name or His kingdom first!

"But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you." Matthew 6:33

Keep in mind that even amidst the bad things that are happening, God will find a way and His light will shine on and on forever. So, in all things, give thanks. For God will never leave you nor forsake you. God bless and have a great 2016 ahead of you!

A 180° Camp - My YWAM experience

By Nicholas How



Visiting some children from a school for refugees in Alor Setar

I heard about the YWAM camp (Nov 22 – 4 Dec) in August 2015. However, at the back of my mind, I had doubts that it would be an extraordinary camp. I thought it was going to be a "boring and life-changeless" camp.

I was not a really die-hard believer of Christ. I always had doubts, even had thoughts of whether He was real or not. I was anti-social, a pessimist, and narcissist. I always saw the worst in everything. The worst thing was I even doubted myself for things I could actually do. So I thought, why not give this "YWAM" camp a shot. Besides, the people who were hosting it were from Perth, Australia. It should be nice. On 22 Nov, my friend, Festus, and I, headed off to Penang

The YWAM camp started off on 23 Nov 2015. The first day was really fun with a different take on worship. It was a 180 degrees turn for some. There was such a sense of togetherness in the way they worshipped. They sang like they were performing for a monumental crowd of people. All I can say is they were really into the worship. On the first week, we had lectures on the many facets about God, and how amazing He is. However, the thing that really struck a chord in me was during one of the lectures when I confessed and repented of my sins. The person who led us in that time of repentance was Cliff. I can't remember his full name, but thanks to him, I am changed.

For the second week, on Monday, after a week of lectures, we headed off to Alor Setar, Kedah for outreach work, which had us sitting in the car for two hours straight. We had McDonald's for breakfast at 6am, so it was all good. When we arrived, it was already 12pm. We stopped at a church for the pastor to take us to a Soup Kitchen. A Soup Kitchen, for those who haven't explored the outside world, or harsh reality for that matter, is a place for homeless people to get some food served to them. It was my first social work. We opened the store, cleaned up the place, got the food out ready, waited for the people to come and served them. The smiles on their faces were so bright when they saw the food. It was such an ecstasy to see the smiles of these poor and homeless who were mostly old men.

Then we headed to a disabled home at 3pm where we performed "The Painter" skit. I knew the disabled didn't understand what we were trying to say or perform, but our presence was enough to make them happy. After resting and dinner, we went to an orphanage where we had fun with the kids, performing skits and playing games with them until 9. That was basically our routine for the next four days.

We started the days with reading the Bible. We talked about what we read and prayed over it.

In those few days, we stayed in the pastor's house. Tragically, on Tuesday, the pastor's dad had a fall in the bathroom, breaking his sacroiliac joint (butt bone) and was admitted to the hospital. Although, we prayed for his dad, on Thursday, the pastor received a call from the hospital that his dad had passed away

What I learned was not all things are meant to happen. And if God didn't answer my prayers, He has something better in mind than what I think.

We left on Friday after time at the orphanage and soup kitchen, and reached our place in Georgetown at 5:30pm. During our group discussion about the week, we cried, laughed and smiled at the same time.

That night, my friend Emmi told me that they were heading off to Seremban and would like me to follow. I said yes. I made a call to my mom who said yes too. But the thing that stopped me was the pastor of the church in Seremban. He did not answer my call. Festus, Brett, and I had a time of intercession. Brett told me how to do it, and we did it. It was my first time interceding. I cried out, having no idea why, only to be told that it was actually God touching my heart. After the time of intercession, Brett and I read a lot of the Bible which comforted me. I slept at 1 am, leaving my problems to God.

I never got to go to Seremban because the pastor over there was really busy and could not book a place for me to stay. But what I learned was not all things are meant to happen. And if God didn't answer my prayers, He has something better in mind than what I think.

Overall, this YWAM camp was a life-changing camp, a 180 degree turn for me, a camp that I would never forget, especially the people. I read the Bible daily now, pray to God daily, and make God more important to me than ever before.

Lessons From The Fisherman

By Ruth Lee



Prayer Wave Folder - Fish Bowl

It was the first week of the first month of 2016 and I was having lunch with a young lady who was one of our consultants. Taking out the Four Spiritual Laws I went through with her the steps in the booklet and to my surprise (it was just a simple act of faith) she prayed aloud the sinner's prayer.

As she was staying a distance away, I sent her the link to the Daily Bread and asked her to download it to her phone to read through daily.

It was just that morning during the Morning Watch that I had prayed through the 4th Core Value of the church – 'We are a witnessing church: valuing kingdom advancement through evangelism, missions and community work'. God heard our fervent prayers for open doors to share the Gospel.

in fact, God put in my heart to make it my purpose to share Jesus with at least one person a month this year and I prayed for God to give me the love to do so. Without love as a motivation, the desire to reach out will surely die a quick death.

Early morning prayers is like the compass that brings me back to the purpose for my life on this earth – to be like Jesus and to allow Him to use me as His mouthpiece to reach out to others.

It all started in December 2015 when God laid the prayer bowl idea on Ps Khor's heart. After praying for the details, the Lord led me to a fish-shop to buy a suitable bowl to put in the names of those we desire to invite to our Christmas Celebration together with our own names.

The saleslady at the fish-shop asked me, 'Why don't you want to buy fishes to put into the bowl?' It dawned upon me that instead of the plain slips of paper that we normally use, why not cut out fish-shapes as something symbolic.

The Lord then taught me precious lessons on the fishing process although I have never fished in my life! The lessons are relevant and applicable in reaching out to those who do not know Jesus as yet:

1. **Purpose to Fish** – The fisherman sets out in the early morning with one purpose in mind which is to fish. I like the incident in Matt 4:19 when Jesus called out to His disciples, "Follow Me and I will make you fishers of men." I am reminded that my working life is not just about working per se but I have a higher purpose which is to reach out to others and tell them about Jesus. This higher purpose makes each working day meaningful and exciting.

2. **Prepare to Fish** – The fisherman prepares himself with rods, tackles, hooks and baits. The most important preparation for me is to pray. Early morning prayers is like the compass that brings me back to the purpose for my life on this earth – to be like Jesus and to allow Him to use me as His mouthpiece to reach out to others. I like to carry tracts and the Four Spiritual Laws in my handbag. I also like to give out the VOH to my friends and family members.

3. **Patience, patience, patience** – How many times have I written the names of my loved ones on slips of paper to put in the bowl or to stick them on the prayer wall? Fishing is like an act of faith. You have not seen the fish yet but you are willing to wait, wait and wait some more. In the same way, we continue to share, to tract, to give out materials to bless others. Research shows that sometimes it takes up to 40 times or more of sharing before a person responds to the Gospel. I know that it took my university seniors months of patience in sharing with me the precious Gospel of salvation. Finally, it was an act of grace that led me to the Lord. We have heard testimonies of people who took 20 or 30 years to come to Jesus! Never give up!

I was so touched this Christmas to see the brother of one of our sisters coming out to the front to receive Jesus. I had seen this sister write his name last year for the prayer wall and this year on the fish-shaped paper.

God is AWESOME! He is too wonderful for us to keep for ourselves. May God grant you the GRACE TO REACH OUT in 2016!

Salmon En Papillote (Salmon In Paper Pouch)

By Grace Khor



Ingredients:

Garlic Butter Compound

- 1/3 cup unsalted butter, softened
- 3 garlic cloves, finely minced or pureed
- 2 tbsp parsley, chopped
- Salt to taste – a pinch or 2 of salt

Salmon and Vegetables

- 250 gm salmon fillet, skin removed (2 pcs)
- ½ cup shredded carrots
- ½ an onion – thinly sliced
- 2 garlic cloves – thinly sliced
- Half cup cherry tomatoes
- 3 – 5 slices of lemon
- 2 tbsp sliced green onions (scallions)
- Salt to season
- Black pepper to season






Method:

Garlic Butter Compound

1. In a small bowl mix everything together. Transfer to a small sauce bowl for it to freeze until hardened. Then transfer to a piece of plastic wrap, twist tightly to create a small butter log. Once firm, use as much of the butter as you would like.

Salmon and Vegetables

1. Preheat oven to 200°C.
2. Cut two 18" long by 15" wide pieces of parchment paper. Fold the long side in half and cut into heart-shape. The parchment paper should be large enough to contain fish and vegetables folded in half.
3. Brush each piece of parchment paper with vegetable oil (the smallest amount)
4. Place onion, carrot and cherry tomatoes on one half of the paper.
5. Place salmon on top of the vegetables. Season salmon well with salt and pepper
6. Top salmon with garlic, lemon slices, green onions (scallions) and 1 tablespoon of the garlic compound butter on top of the fish.
7. Fold the other half of the parchment paper over the fish and vegetables. Starting at one corner, tightly crimp the edges of the paper to seal it (like curry puff way). If that is too hard, fold the ends well and staple it, you want to try to keep as much air coming out during cooking time and don't want any flavours to spill over while cooking.
8. Place the pouches (papillote) on a sheet pan and bake for 8 to 10 minutes. When baked, the paper should puff up and brown slightly. Remove from the oven and serve immediately. Transfer the paper to a plate, be careful when cutting open and serve with a lemon wedge.

**** You can replace with any other flavours or vegetable, just remember to dice it so it cooks all the way. If you want it healthier, instead of butter you can use olive oil. This recipe works well with lean meats. Or you can just cook any vegetable this way too.*

HAPPENINGS IN HGC

CHURCH EVENTS | Jan to Mar 2016



Time Management Workshop
23 Jan



HGC Gotong-Royong
25 Jan



English Leaders CNY Gathering
20 Feb



2nd Anniversary
Service & Easter Sunday
27 Mar



Jason Emmanuel Jay
Jay & Glowie's newborn son
4 Jan

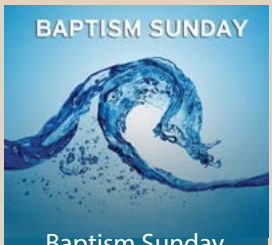


Charis Hope Elderly Home Open Day
27 Mar

COMING EVENTS | Apr to Jun 2016

HGC's Members AGM **1 Apr**

HGC Day **2 May**



Baptism Sunday
22 May



Chinese
Family Camp
28-30 May



Children
Church Camp
3-5 Jun

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 sorrows. 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.

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