voiceofhope

the newsletter | Apr - Aug 2016

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Dear Reader,

Is there such a thing as a problem that is too big or too small for God? Definitely not! As His eye is watchful even on the tiny sparrow, how much deeper and greater is His love for us His children? In this issue we look at different situations and problems faced- from the mass shootings in America, to suffering from illness; from struggling to keep the faith, to praying for help in finding a humble shoe… Testimony after testimony, we are encouraged that truly our God makes all things possible and is mighty to save.

Are you going through difficult times? Are you struggling with temptation? Are you feeling disheartened by the tragedies of this world? If you are then do not lose hope! Lift up your eyes to Him and know that we serve an awesome God and He is faithful to those who love Him. In times of trials and tribulations, we can rely on God's promise that Jesus has overcome and claimed the victory for us. Amen!

Unite In Prayer,
VOH Team



Baptism at Kg Gerachi

The Hope of Glory Centre

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See, Our God Is At Work!

By Khor Hoe Chai, Pastor

In the past few months the Lord has led us to meet with some of His amazing people to encourage us and show us what He has been doing. Their stories amazed us with the reality that our God is at work and that He will work with His people who trust and work with Him.

Datuk Dennis Ignatius, the former Ambassador of Malaysia to Canada, our speaker on 29 May spoke on the verse in Rom 8: 28, "And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose."

We were amazed that God saved and raised Dennis up with a passionate love for God and his nation that he was willing to come back from a comfortable life in Canada to Malaysia to seek ways to serve the church and the nation.

Cheli Nadarajah, our speaker on 15 May, and his wife Mei, both teachers in our Malaysian public school brought a new light to the Great Commission. They obeyed the Lord to GO and went reaching out with love to school children who needed lots of help in their studies. As they loved and helped them, many were touched and opened their hearts to Jesus Christ. Their hearts to love the poor in the villages led them to start a simple work of bringing books on wheels to the villages for the children to read. This service grew to become an international NGO known as THE READING BUS with the purpose of spreading the love of reading to villages, communities and schools not just locally but in other nations too.

His amazing servants Ps Antonino, Ps Carlos and his son Felipe, our speakers for our Life Group Conference in June, came to share their hearts and their stories of what God is doing in and through their churches in Panama and London. God is at work in Panama and London. To hear especially of the amazing work in London where Ps Carlos' church grew from 30 to 240 members in two years is truly inspiring.

What about HGC's stories? Our God is the same yesterday and today and He is the same God in Panama, in London and in Ampang. God is at work and He is looking for His people who will work with Him.

The Lord quickened His Word in 1 Cor 16:13-14 to me and I could sense His anointing flowing to us from these Scriptures. "Watch, stand fast in the faith, be brave, be strong. Let all that you do be done with love." This is powerful indeed. Would you read it aloud for at least 7 times! AMEN!!!

Watch

To watch is to be spiritually alert, to be vigilant and to be on guard always. We know that we are living in dangerous



times and the devil, the sly cunning deceiver and murderer is all out to steal, kill and destroy. We must watch and pray. We must watch over our hearts, our thoughts and our speech. We must watch over our children and our loved ones. We must take authority to resist, rebuke and come against the devil and his wicked schemes.

Stand Fast In The Faith

We must stand fast in our faith in Jesus Christ, our victorious King, who died, rose again and is now reigning with all authority from His throne in heaven. We must hold fast the confession of our faith in Him and His promises without wavering. We must continue to worship Him in faith, pray in faith, obey Him in faith, gather together in faith and serve Him in faith.

Be Brave

We know that one of the devil's lethal weapons against us is fear. He uses fear to paralyze us into inaction. Praise be to our Lord who conquered death and the fear of death to give us eternal life. He gave us His perfect love that casts out all fear. Hear Him declare to you, "FEAR NOT FOR I AM WITH YOU." Let us rise up to take up our calling, to take up our responsibility to serve Him, to talk about Him, to pray for people in need, to help, to teach, to give and to preach the Gospel!

Be Strong

Not in yourself but BE STRONG IN THE LORD! Declare aloud with boldness, "I can do all things through CHRIST WHO STRENGTHENS me!" Our Lord Jesus has given us HIS RESURRECTION LIFE! We don't have to stay weak. We can be strong! Let us do our part to become strong. We must eat the "good food" of His Word to stay strong. Soak ourselves in His presence to get an INFUSION OF POWER through worship and prayer. "Work out" our obedience and service unto Him to grow strong. Let us do what it takes to be strong. Let us not be idle, let us not waste time. Let us live strong for Jesus!

Let All That You Do Be Done With Love

God is love and He lives in us through Christ. The love of God is the greatest power on earth and we have this power inside of us. The Holy Spirit has poured out the love of God into our hearts. This love is not to be kept inside us. Let us allow HIS POWERFUL LOVE to explode from within us to touch lives around us for His glory. Let us use this love to love our family members, relatives, neighbours, friends, colleagues and people all around us. The more love we give out, the more love we will receive and a RIVER OF LOVE will flow out from us. Let all that we do be done with love and HIS love will grow, multiply and cover Ampang and this nation through us, His church in Malaysia!



God Splashes Colours Along Mission Trails

By Chan Tham Seng

To cut cost, VOH is printing fewer issues and keeping its coloured pages to the minimal. However, what God is doing in the mission field remains colourful.



In Kampong Gerachi, the baptism of Norgi Ali and Diwi Yahya is encouraging while across the Straits of Malacca, the story of William Fernando Sianturi is heart-warming. In both cases, the dedication of HGC members is commendable.

Norgi the Jakun

We first said "hello" to Norgi in his Batang Kali home in 2012. Norgi, a soft-spoken Jakun from Rompin, Pahang, is husband to Rosila Reman (Kak Shila), a Semai from Tanjong Malim. Together, they raise six children.

On our regular trips to Kg Gerachi, we always stop by Batang Kali to fetch Shila and her children for ministries involving mainly the Temuan villagers. At Kg Gerachi, Shila's sister Kak Biah, opens her house for our ministries.

Norgi is the only family member who is not a believer though he never objects to the devotion of his wife and children. At the request of Shila, we started praying for the salvation of Norgi who remained uncommitted. Perhaps, Norgi saw no reason to consider a new faith.

By comparison with other indigenous folks, Norgi has a comfortable life. His steady job as a forestry staff provides him and his family well. On 21 January this year, Norgi was swept off his comfort zone. Norgi and Shila lost their 13 year old son Haizal due to dengue haemorrhagic fever.

The demise of Haizal brought excruciating pain to his parents and siblings. Also to all our coworkers who loved Haizal, a bright, helpful and obedient lad. From Haizal's admission to Selayang Hospital on 11 January to his death and burial at Tanjong Malim, our team members (and others including Ps Khor and Ps Wah Yaw) had done their utmost to show their love and help to the Norgi family.

It was for this reason, perhaps, that Norgi has a new understanding of God. He accepted Jesus as his Saviour at the wake service of Haizal and was baptised on July 23 together with his youngest son, Haizarie.

Diwi the Temuan

Diwi Yahya, the third person baptised this round at the Selangor river, is another colourful breakthrough. When we first met Diwi way back in 2012 in Kg Gerachi, she looked like impossibility. Her sister Kak Luna is a fine believer but Diwi didn't hide her dislike for us.

Since then God started to work in Luna's family starting with the salvation and baptism of her sister Rohani (23/3/13). After that we baptised Luna's husband, Robin Singki (5/10/14). Sometime later, Luna's mother, Ibu Jinah, suffered a mild stroke and subsequent to our ministry of prayer and care over her, she accepted Jesus and was baptised (23/5/15). Meanwhile, Luna's older sister Rini was diagnosed with kidney problem and came to us for prayer. Rini gave her life to Jesus and was baptised (3/10/15).

In March this year, Diwi gave birth to a baby boy whose father has never appeared. We visited her to show our concern. Diwi was a totally changed person on 24/4/16 when she humbly prayed for God's forgiveness of her sin and received Christ as Lord and Saviour.

William the Batak

Another vivid story of God's doing took place in Sumatra of Indonesia in the Pulau Halang home of William. Sulaiman Simatupang, 58 year old father of William, is a Batak believer of humble and grateful spirit. In 2009 I met Sulaiman in this fishery outpost after ministry in William's school. Sulaiman sobbed openly on being told that William had just responded to an altar call in school to receive Jesus as Saviour. Sulaiman said he has always wanted William to serve God full time after high school but lamented for being too poor (VOH July-Sept 2009).

Sulaiman worked as a hired hand on fishing boats. When the boats return to the jetty, often in the wee hours, Sulaiman's wife and five children will be there to sort out the catch. With the whole family

working, this family would then have enough food on the dining mat. Despite abject poverty, William and his siblings perform well in school. And God's blessing is clearly upon this humble family.

After high school, William secured a scholarship for a Bible school in Jakarta. During his four years in seminary, some HGC members gave generously to William to make up his financial shortfall including sponsoring him a trip to our church in February 2014 (VOH Jan-Mar 2014). During the trip, William visited Kg Gerachi where the kids fondly remember him for the song "King Kong Badannya Besar" which he taught them.

On 17 May this year, William graduated as a top student with a degree in theology. He told us in a text: "My parents are very proud of my graduation … they were crying at that moment," adding that his father was very grateful to us for supporting his son. William, probably the first Bible School graduate from Pulau Halang, is now serving in Bengkulu of southwestern Sumatra in a church comprising Batak and Javanese believers.

The cases of Norgi, Diwi and Sulaiman highlighted what Jesus says in the Beatitudes:

"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs in the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted" (Matthew 5: 3-4).

People who are "poor in spirit" are those who are humble before God. They realize that they have nothing in this life that they can contribute to receiving the kingdom of heaven. There is no arrogance in them, no self-righteousness and no self-sufficiency (as in the case of Sulaiman). Salvation, help and other blessings from God are promised for those who are "spiritually poor."

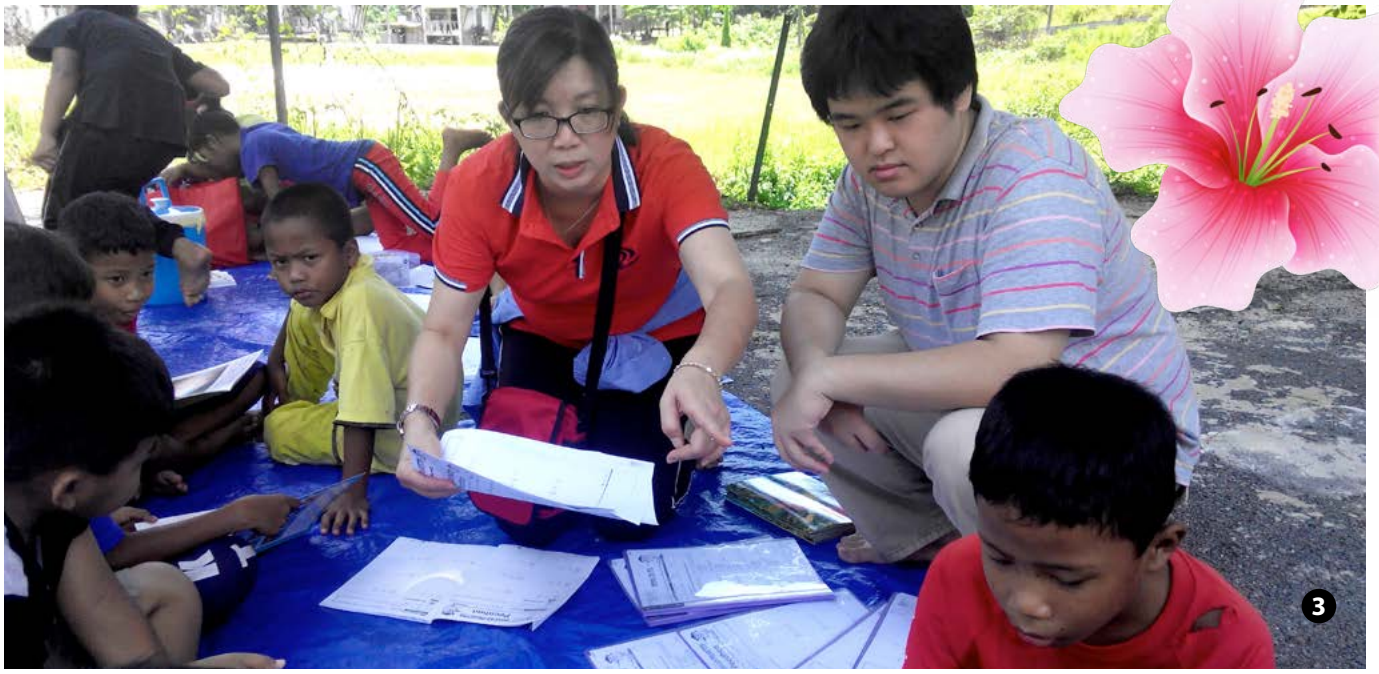
Mourning indicates the pain, grief and anxieties over the death of a loved one (Norgi) or the consequence of a personal folly (Diwi). As people face the sadness of life, they can do so with hope if they have mourned over sin. And that hope brings them comfort. They will be consoled above all when God wipes away all tears, and death will be no more, nor grief nor tribulation (Isa 25:8; Rev 21:4)

Meanwhile, God blesses the Kampong Gerachi ministry with teachers who are showing up on a more regular basis. These teachers, mainly the English church members, include Linda Wan, Kweh Gim Gaik, Wendy Lim, Mary Ong and Ignatius Tien.

Photo Caption

1 *23 July Baptism candidates: Norgi, Haizarie and Diwi*
2 *William at Kg Gerachi: "… Kingkong badannya besar… Haleluya Tuhan maha kuasa…"*
3 *Helen Dan shows Ignatius how to handle tough class*
4 *Diwi accepted Jesus as Saviour this April*
5 *Norgi's baptism*
6 *Diwi's baptism*
7 *Mary Ong giving personal attention to Gerachi kid*
8 *Kweh Gim Gaik commands kids' attention with ease*
9 *Linda Wan is becoming a regular teacher*
10 *23/7 Wendy*
11 *Ibu Jinah comes to worship with the help of a stick*
12 *Haizal (2nd L) was baptised on 16 Nov 2013*
13 *William with parents at 17 May graduation in Jarkata*



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A Trip To Remember

By Foong Wai Pooi

The last time I was in Sibu for mission was in 2011. I have always felt that East Malaysia has a great spiritual need and we in the West have a big part to play. It needs Bahasa-speaking volunteers and distance wise, it is not that far. When we were in Sibu, we were partnering with Ps Shin who has done a tremendous work in building Iban churches in the longhouses.

When our church planned three mission trips to Sibu this year, I made up my mind to volunteer. However, going is one thing, but leading a team is a different ball game. Eventually, I took a leap of faith in saying YES to the April session and booked my Airasia ticket

Finally, the day came. We had a total of five members. Together, we decided to use the Purpose Driven Life book as our teaching material. Each of us prepared our own



"chapter" to teach and by the grace of God, everything worked out well.

Sadly, Ps Shin couldn't join us as he needed to be in Korea that week, so we were on our own. While driving the van to the longhouses, we got valuable help such as coordinating time and directions from the Iban youths that were staying in the mission house in Sibu.

All in all, we conducted close to 10 sessions across 7 longhouses and 2 Sibu town churches. Although our Bahasa may be a little "rusty" but with the help of Google translate and many practices, I must say we did quite well. We got better as the trip went on. Just like the saying, "Practice makes perfect."



A common thread we observed across all the sessions was the desire and simple faith of the Ibans in requesting for prayers. They weren't shy in coming forward with their prayer needs, whether for their child who is working in the city or a bad case of knee pain. It was humbling and at times like these, we just reached out to God for His great power and mercy in answering their needs.

This trip is another reminder that when we seek to give, we receive so much more in return. We begin to realise the riches of God's goodness upon our lives and that He is the answer to all the questions in life. We get to exercise our faith as we step up to teach and minister to their needs.



Photo Caption

1 *Christina & Yuet Ching connecting with Iban Children*
2 *Ministry at a Longhouse*
3 *An Iban Longhouse in Sibu*
4 *The Team with some of The Iban Youth*



From Zero To Hero

The story of Mr. Cheli Nadarajah, school vice-principal and pastor

By Jeremy Chew

Mr Cheli Nadarajah, 56, and his wife Kong Lai Mei were in HGC on 15 May, 2016. Just the day before, the KL and PJ teachers celebrated Christian Teachers' Day. About 500 teachers had turned up at this annual event organized by the Malaysian Christian School's Council. Mr Cheli who is, now, the only Christian man up for the post of School Principal, has been Vice-principal for the last ten years. He was posed this question, "There is so little opportunity for promotions, why do you still remain in the teaching profession?"



Cheli and wife sharing on the Reading Bus & Homework Centres

He answers, "My promotion comes from the Lord; it does not come from man. My rewards are in heaven, they are not here."

Mr Cheli and his wife have been pioneers in many fields. In 2009, they started "The Reading Bus" ministry in Sarawak, in a small little village called Kampong Pasir Ulu, near the border of Kalimantan. They had many books to give away, but instead of doing that, they decided to teach children to read, bringing the books to them in large vehicles. Little did they know that this ministry would extend beyond Sabah and Sarawak, right back to Peninsula Malaysia and even to Cambodia where they have a large base with ten tuk-tuks called Reading Tuk-Tuks. They have a base in Manila and Kalimantan as well. Requests have come from as far as Pakistan.

Growing up, Cheli, never expected he would one day talk about his life to congregations. In his own words, he says, he had no life and no future. Looking at his school friends who were well-to-do, he wondered why God created him. Everything he did was a failure. His family was poor and he had nothing. Today, he says, as he testifies, it is ONLY God who has changed him into what he is now.

He was the only student in Teacher's Training College to fail Teaching Practice. He used to drink and smoke and his father had said he was a disgrace. Not knowing what it meant, he asked around and found that his father meant he was a shame to the family. Years later, he recalled telephoning his father to inform the latter that he had been voted Teacher of The Year in Sarawak, out of 22,000 teachers. Attributing this to God, Cheli was later to be given a scholarship to study in New Zealand, a country he had dreamt about since he was in Standard 3.

Despite winning the title, Teacher of The Year, he was given the least promotion for a teacher by his then principal. When the principal asked if he was satisfied, Cheli did not complain. He just told the man that he accepted the decision and that if he, the principal, was satisfied, he would be satisfied. However, when news of this reached the Education ministry, officers were sent to the school to investigate. The results of the investigation showed that the acting principal was not performing his duties and the ministry had him transferred. Mr. Cheli was then given the promotion that only 0.001 percent of teachers in the whole country were given. He drove home that day with the letter informing him of the promotion, in tears, asking God why He was honouring him so much.

Following the promotion, Cheli received a phone call from the Ministry of Education telling him that he was one of the candidates to be interviewed for a scholarship to take up a course in New Zealand. He had to fill up a form and would be required to go for an interview. Knowing that the chances of him getting a government scholarship are practically zero, Cheli turned to God. For the second time, He heard God's audible voice, "Be still and see My salvation." One hour before the interview, he read in his devotional, "When you are faced with prejudices, all you need to do is to be still and see God's salvation." On the spot, Cheli knew that he would get the scholarship. The officer who interviewed Cheli turned out to be the lecturer years ago in Teacher's Training College who had asked him, "Cheli, how can you fail? In our history, no one has ever failed!" This time, though, the officer said, "Cheli,

you are highly recommended. We are looking for people like you."

When and how did this change come about? In 1983, Cheli was a student in Teacher's Training College, in Kota Baru, Kelantan, on the verge of suicide. He thought he would fail to get through the finals and would have to go home where he was not wanted. He was then sharing a flat with seven other students who slept in one bedroom and he had one all to himself because he was so dirty no one wanted to share a room with him. Unable to swim, Cheli had decided to drown himself in the disused mining pool outside the flat. The next thing he knew, he was sitting by the roadside, crying. Feeling dirty and unable to call to God, he looked up and just asked "Who It Is Up There" to give him another chance. He promised that he would be a good Christian. Even though he had had insomnia for five years, that night he could sleep from before midnight and woke up at seven the next morning to his surprise. He started cleaning his room. He did not know it then, but he had been convicted. He had kept a Bible as a charm, something he learnt from Dracula movies, wrongly believing that it could ward off evil spirits. He was crying and reading the Bible and for the first time understood it. In Kelantan, churches have services on Friday. He went to church, heard the Gospel and accepted Christ. He remembers that he promised never to give up following Jesus no matter what happened.

His message to everyone is clear, "Jesus must be Lord of all, or not at all." He encourages everyone to dream because "dreams are free" and God will give you the desires of your heart.

To Cheli, his job as a teacher is not glamorous but he feels that teachers are the greatest people on earth because "Jesus, our Master is a teacher Himself." He emphatically tells us that this is his calling. Not surprisingly so, because just by being a good teacher, showing love to his students and being genuinely concerned for their well-being, scores of students are won into the Kingdom of God without him preaching or evangelizing to them. This is a truly remarkable case of a man living out the gospel so that others can see Jesus clearly in his life. He is of the view that Jesus loved the unbelievers He came across who were sinful and broken. Instead of judging them and preaching against their sin, Jesus showed them love and thus drew the sinners to Him and to repentance. He quotes Billy Graham who says God only calls us to love. The Holy Spirit will convict. Surprisingly or not surprisingly, his kindness and care have brought several students to him, telling him that they want to be like him; they want to be Christians.

Once, during a class, a student did just that. Cheli asked if she was serious and when she insisted she was, to see him during recess time. He gave her a tract titled "Finding God" by William Booth, a British Methodist preacher who founded The Salvation Army and told her to read the tract at home and think over it. The next day, she was ready and he led her to Christ. He sees an average of about 50 students come to Christ every year.

In another incident, Cheli saw a Form 5 male student raise a fist and was about to strike a teacher. He managed to grab the student and prevented the assault. When he confronted the student about why he was attacking the teacher, the boy said, "Do you think I want to be a bad student? I have no chance to be good! When I am in school, my teacher scolds me for doing such and such. At home, my mother would scold me for this and my father scolds me for that!" Mr. Cheli was struck! He felt God telling him that the students wanted to be good but they did not have the opportunity. Cheli prayed with his wife that night to receive God's guidance.

The next day, he told the "naughty" students, he would rent a house for the sole purpose of giving them a place to study together. Thus began the Homework Centres. Every day, after school, he would pick them up in his van, buy lunch for them at a restaurant and head to the house where the students would study and he would do his work. Within six months, about 42 students accepted Christ. Cheli did not really know how these new believers came to know Christ. He only saw his Christian students showing love to the "difficult" students by studying together with them and he saw his Christian Fellowship growing and growing to 120 in number. At each weekly meeting Cheli would preach the Word of God and pray and he would see students coming to Christ.

Cheli questioned the students about why they wanted to become Christians. The answer? "Sir, you are the only person who doesn't judge us." They became better students because they knew he cared.

Every year, top scorers and straight A students would come out from the Homework Centre and non-Christian parents would eagerly ask for permission for their child or children to study there. Cheli emphasizes 2 principles that students adhere to. Firstly, as children, they are to honour their parents and secondly, as students, to study hard.

Cheli's inspiring sharing about God working in his life is truly an amazing narrative about how God has changed him from a hopeless boy to a teacher who impacts the life not just of students but the community as well. He is convinced that Christians are the light and salt of the earth and by living a Christ-like life, people would be brought to Jesus more effectively than by just preaching to them.

Return To Your First Love

By Dr Nitta Arul



While teaching on the Book of Song of Songs in April 2016, I came to the realization that it is so easy for us to lose our first love for the Lord. Indeed, many of us may have lost our first love for the Lord without even realizing it. For the uninitiated, The Song of Songs is a divine love poem full of romance between the Bridegroom, Christ and His bride, the Church. It was truly a joy and an inspiration to teach this Book.

Coming back to the first love, we read about the first love in Revelation 2:1-6. Here, the Lord Jesus Christ was addressing the church of Ephesus. He had in fact many good things to say about this church such as their good works, their labour, their patience and their low tolerance for those who are evil. He also commended them for their ability to test the genuineness of those who called themselves apostles and for their ability to detect liars among the apostles. He praised them for their perseverance and for the fact that they did not become weary. The Lord was also pleased with this church for hating the deeds of the Nicolaitans who had compromised the teachings of Christ with occultic paganism, thus corrupting the church.

The church of Ephesus had such a long list of commendable traits and yet the Lord had one thing against them – they had left their first love. What is meant by the first love? First love is the excitement, that rush of emotions and enthusiasm for the Lord that one experiences when one is born again. It is similar to the "bridal" love in a marriage relationship. I recall the moment I was born again. I experienced such joy and exuberance that I was smiling the whole time. Not only that, I felt so light and free from all burdens. I was also so eager to share the gospel with just about anybody that I met.

How can I get back to that place of enthusiasm and excitement? The Lord says to "Remember therefore from where you have fallen; repent and do the first works……." (Rev 2:5).

The first thing to do would be to remember the height from which we have fallen. It is good to assess how far down we have fallen from the first, real, heart touching encounter with the Lord. Take time to ponder upon those first moments of intimacy when the Lord was so real and He filled your heart with abundant joy. Perhaps what the Lord desires more than anything else is to have us just sit at His feet and gaze upon His beauty without rushing and looking at the clock. Are we doing our own Bible reading and study out of a deep hunger for the Word or because we have to do it? Do we pray out of necessity or a sense of duty or do we pray because we enjoy being engulfed in the Lord's presence, basking in His love? We must regularly allow the Holy Spirit to search our hearts and reveal whether or not we are still on fire for the Lord as we once were.

The danger perhaps is that when a Christian grows in the Lord and becomes so engaged in ministry, the busyness of getting things done and the routine of serving the Lord, slowly takes on a higher priority than the precious closet time where one spends time in solitude with the Lord, one on one. We then are as guilty as the Shulamite in the Song of Songs who failed to open the door to the Beloved and left him out in the cold of the night although he was knocking at the door (Song of Songs 5:2-6).

There is a need for us to repent if we have lost that passion and hunger for the Lord. As we come before Him with broken hearts and a real desire for intimacy and closeness He has promised to visit us. Another clue in the passage is that we must do the first works (Rev 2:5), by which, I believe the Lord wants us to serve Him with the motivation of love and passion and not out of duty. The church in Ephesus was clearly not lacking in works, but the inspiration for the works had changed and was now adversely affecting the results. The Lord was not seeking for quantity or numbers but for the quality and the zeal and enthusiasm for the work of ministry. The church can easily become an organization doing good works as a matter of routine without having any real passion. Then, the motivation of ministry becomes "I have to do this" instead of "I love to do this." I remember my mother once telling me that she never liked it when she had to force us to do the chores at home. She would have much preferred it if we children spontaneously took a broom to sweep the house out of love for our home.

Finally, the Lord cautions the church that He will come quickly and remove the lampstand from its place – unless there is repentance (Rev 2:5). Notice that the Lord will act swiftly against the church that has lost its fire, zeal and passion. Just going through the motions without a burning desire for the Lord can be disastrous. This is because the Lord will remove the lampstand, which means that the church will lose God's presence and glory and with it lose the illumination or revelation knowledge of the things of the Lord

The church at Ephesus had a glorious past and a famous name. It was large, well known, and recognized by others as a spiritual leader and a model church. Nevertheless, Jesus saw the situation very differently from what human eyes saw. It had become lifeless, dull and mechanical. We must never forget that what can be carefully hidden from human eyes can never be concealed from Jesus' eyes. Hebrews 4:13 tells us that "…all things are naked and opened unto the eyes of Him with whom we have to give an account." Let us therefore resolve to draw ever closer to the Lord and be filled with His presence and love Him passionately before it is too late. There is no substitute for undivided, fervent, undying love for Jesus Christ.

" Regularly allow the Holy Spirit to search our hearts and reveal whether or not we are still on fire for the Lord as we once were. "

For those who have been touched by this message, it would be good for you to begin to do the first works again. Make a new commitment to the basics of prayer, worship, and the Word. Fan the flame of the dying embers of your first love through a renewed communion with the Lord. This fervent love is required of all those who belong to the Lord. Jesus called this the first and great commandment: "You shalt love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the first and great commandment" (Matt 22:.37-38).

My Life Has Been Transformed

By Justin Tan

Before I accepted the Lord Jesus as my Saviour, my life was miserable. I was striving tremendously and toiling so hard but my career didn't improve. In fact, my business sales decreased. The stress became too overwhelming; hence my temper escalated and I ended up with a lot of arguments and fights with my family. I was depressed. I used to believe that there is the Infinite and was seeking for the hope and the answer to all the problems I was facing all those years.



In later years, when my mom became a Christian, the plan that God had for me began to unfold gradually. I thank God for sending an angel in the midst of troubles, my mother. With her gentle guidance and unceasing patience and love, I started going to her church for about two years.
My girlfriend also brought me to The Hope of Glory Centre. Both of them taught me a lot about Jesus; Who He is and what He has done for me through the Bible. God revealed Himself more extensively through the study of His Word during the baptism classes.

After I accepted Christ as my Lord and Saviour last Christmas, my life has been transformed. I have learnt how to be more patient and tolerant; and how to turn to God in prayer. I am growing in my understanding of God and His nature. I have learnt to take things one step at a time and put my trust and hope in Him in difficult times. Although times are not always smooth, I have God in whom I have the victory and the faith to overcome. I will continue to seek the Lord, love the Lord and obey His Word. Praise be unto Him!

HE Never Fails Me

By Khoo Kim Yen

When I was young, my aunt brought me to church and that was how I came to know Jesus. I joined the church camps, Sunday Services and Bible Study classes which taught me



a lot of wonderful things about the loving God. I thought, "God loves us so much, so why should we not accept Him?" That was why I accepted Christ during one Sunday service.

During my journey with Christ, I turn to Him and pray whenever I face challenges in life. He never fails me as I can see miracles unfold through time for example in my studies, working life and even in my daily life. I believe that everything that happens in my life is not merely coincidences, but the God whom I accepted into my heart is telling me that He is always there for me and has plans for me.

Why did I choose to be baptised? I wish to make the effort to grow in my relationship with God as a Christian, and to express my gratefulness in having Him in my life.

No Better Place Than To Be In the Centre of HIS Plans

By Caleb Lau

I don't remember the exact details, but I was young when I first laid my eyes on a church. While growing up, my aunt brought me to church in Sitiawan. I attended Sunday School classes where I learnt about God. I knew there was a God, but I never understood how significant God is to me or me to God.

When I eventually moved to Kuala Lumpur, my friends took me to their church. It was there that I learnt more about Christ. I remembered accepting Christ one day at a corner of the church, where a leader led me in the sinner's prayer and gave me my first Bible as well. At that point, God took hold of me to know Him more. Much later in life, knowing Him more is what I keep asking God for.

However, after accepting Christ, I went through many times of spiritual lukewarmness. I never understood how I should approach God nor was I ready to let go of the control over my own life. In retrospect, I struggled and struggled, and struggled, building up castles made of sand. But God never left my side, and with each wave breaking down the castles I had made He stood strong by my side, turning me back to Him, teaching me a bit more about Himself each time. Eventually when I started working, I was determined to build a safe house for myself with the things of the world. I had pride and thought that I had come that far without God and would do fine without Him. But God in His infinite wisdom tore down the shack I built at my peak of pride and taught me His grace. I could only respond face down, having nothing to bring to Him except myself, to be showered by His grace and love. Even when I choose to live without God, God was never away from my side.



And today, I am richer than ever before. God showed me that there is no better place to be in than to be in the centre of His plans. I need not fear nor be dismayed, for God is my Lord and my Shepherd. He walks beside me teaching me His Words. He fights the battles ahead of me and brings me victories. He strengthens me with His righteous hand. He is truly a sovereign, holy, righteous, merciful and graceful God. All praise to Him!

God Did Not Forget Me

By Diana Lee

My name is Diana Lee and I am the mother of Peggy, Jessica and William Wong. I grew up in a Buddhist family but studied in the Bukit Bintang Girls' School, a prominent Christian School, from Standard 1 to Form 5. Attending that school gave me a lot of exposure to Christianity. I attended Scripture Union in school, attended Sunday School classes during the weekends at school and also took up Bible Knowledge as a subject when I was in Form I. Once awhile, on special occasions and upon invitation of friends, I even attended the Imbi Chapel, a church nearby the school.



From all that I was taught, I knew that Jesus Christ was a good God who loved, helped and healed people. When I saw the movie Jesus of Nazareth, a very touching movie which dramatized the birth, life, ministry, sufferings and resurrection of Jesus, I realised that He was suffering in order to save people from their sins and that He was also suffering for me.

In the midst of all that exposure, I was also frequently accompanying my mother who was a devout Buddhist on her regular visits to the temples in my secondary years. And when I got my driving license, I would drive her to the temple each time.

After getting married, I had the responsibility of taking care of the family idols in the house. My mother-in-law had left them there although she was not staying with my husband and me. Quarrels between me and my husband would arise due to his reluctance to help me serve the idols. As I attended to all the idols especially on special festivals, I soon forgot all I had learnt about Jesus in school.

However, God did not forget me. He continued to work patiently in my life. When my eldest daughter, Peggy, was 4 years old, I somehow had the desire to send her to Sunday School. One of the Sunday School teachers, Mrs Chew, was so kind as to fetch her to church and Peggy was very happy. And at one time, when my nephew was in a coma, I even spoke to Ps Khor about removing the idols from the house but I dared not do so as I had no permission.

Praise to God who works in amazing ways. My mother-in-law got saved and was even baptised! Since she is a Christian now, it meant I was free from the duty of serving the family idols. Interestingly, one day, without realising that my car door was ajar, I had reversed my car into the idol at the porch and knocked it down. I removed it and threw it in a big river. Then, subsequently, during my house renovation, I asked my husband to remove the idol in the house since he was not interested to take care of it.

By then, not only has my mother-in-law become a Christian, but my 3 children too. Whenever the church had any celebration or special services, God used my children to invite me.

In December 2014, I was invited to a Life Group Christmas

Party in Elsa Foong's house. It was a very enjoyable party and I understood the message that was shared about God's love for us. When Ps Khor asked anyone who would like to accept Jesus Christ as Saviour and Lord to follow him in a simple prayer, I did.

From then on, I have been coming to church regularly to worship God. My son has been most encouraging and even gave me small interesting books to read to help me grow. Other brothers and sisters have also come and shared more of the Word of God with me. I also attended the baptism class which helped me a lot. Initially, I was a little hesitant of getting baptised as I thought of waiting for my two girls who are not baptised yet. Thank God for William who encouraged me not to wait but to decide for myself. On 22 May 2016, I was water baptised.

Since, accepting Jesus, I have grown more patient and happier. I seem to be more understanding these days and even more tolerant of my husband. I learn to bless my husband, listen and learn from him instead of arguing with him. Now, I could even sit down together with him to watch his favourite badminton matches on television, which I had kept away before.

I thank God for not giving up on me but patiently working in my life and waiting for this daughter of His to respond to His love.

Two other senior citizens were also baptized on 22 May 2016. They were Christina Wah and William Lee.



Christina Wah



William Lee

Children's Church Camp 2016

By Janelle Lim

Ladies and gentlemen, let's put our hands together for the admirable CC Team for FINALLY putting together a Children's Camp for the first time in many, many years! Our camp's theme for this year is: Jesus Is My Friend. After much sleep- sacrificed planning and preparations were carried out, we were ready for 3 June. On the first day, the excitement was tangible as the children stepped into the sanctuary with hearts of expectation that many exciting programmes were set out for them.

The camp started on a pretty serious note: the dreaded Rules and Regulations. After that, we proceeded to ice breaking which was led by Bro Mark Charis who helped the children come out of their shells and mingle around. Then, the children were separated into their assigned coloured houses to come up with their team name, team cheer and practice for the final performance. The four houses would be Yellow X, Red Fire, Green Emerald and Blue Is Best (B.I.B).

Over the course of the three days, there were the awesome worship sessions, where the children had a lot of fun praising God together in a circle, and also worshipping God with all their heart, soul and mind. Then, there were the epic and memorable game sessions! The two most popular games were: Tower Defence (where the children had to prevent the "bosses" a.k.a. the helpers from touching the "towers" by surrounding it and turning the bosses away to another direction) and Prison Break (where an obstacle course was set up around the church and they had to "escape" without getting caught by the "prison guards" (again, the helpers). By helping their friends, they could escape faster and also earn points for their team.

Next, the glorious nap times. I could not describe how much this has helped the exhausted and sleep deprived teachers and helpers but it helped, A LOT. The children also, did a little bit of recharging, though some of them were not used to taking naps. Besides that, A BIG SHOUT-OUT to the Mothers' Ministry for diligently cooking all the wonderful meals on time and without fail. God bless you all. And last but definitely not the least, the LESSONS. We have decided not to invite any guest speaker, and instead, deliver the message in parts which will piece everything together back to our camp title: Jesus Is My Friend! Little skits, object lessons, memory verses, games lessons, pretty much everything under the sun, we did them all.

"…we wanted to teach the children about Jesus being our friend and that we should also love those around us since we are all loved by God."

The main lesson that we wanted to teach the children was about Jesus being our friend and that we should also love those around us since we are all loved by God.

On the final day, we had an altar call and a majority of the children came up and said that they wanted Jesus to be their best friend, so all the teachers and helpers prayed for them and a lot of them were touched by God. After that, we had a final performance where the groups had to perform their team cheer and the camp theme song (I Am A Friend of God) to gain more points. The overall winner was Red Team, followed by



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Yellow, Green and then, Blue. Nevertheless, the children that lost did not look defeated but rather, they cheered and even congratulated those that won.

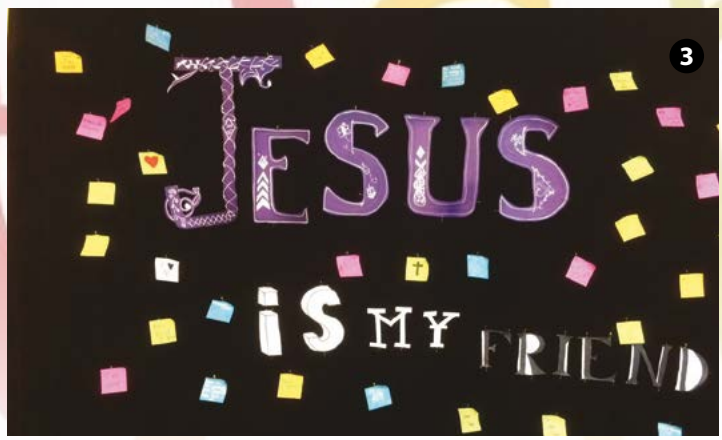
All in all, it was an amazing camp and I hope that when we have another camp next year, more children will be able to attend and more lives will be touched. Finally, I would like to give all the glory to our amazing God, Friend and Saviour, JESUS for He has made this possible! God bless, and remember, Jesus is your best friend and He will always be there for you!





Photos Caption

1 *Children posing for a game*
2 *Teachers and helpers praying for the children*
3 *This year's camp theme*
4 *Children hiding from the "guards" in Prison Break*
5 *Children doing arts-and-craft lesson*
6 *Red House showing their fiery spirit!*







Church Event

HGC Family Day 2016

By Justin Yong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Family events are a gathering of people who make up members within a family. So HGC family day 2016 was such a coming together of our church members who make up the wider body of Christ. Held on 2 May at the Pudu Ulu recreation park in Shamelin Cheras, the day drew a mixture of people from all ages: adults, our precious elderly, children, young people and youths.

The day started with a praise workout session led by Melody Wan and Ann Teh who took us through the drills in the morning. Intended as a crossover between aerobics and praise music, the session saw many moving to the beat as they were sweating it out. Later, the session adjourned for breakfast where we were treated to good food including nasi lemak, sandwiches and snacks. Food brings people together! So it was the same with our family day. The people bonded and fellowshipped as they munched on their food. This scene is probably reminiscent of the times in the gospel when Jesus would gather His disciples and fellowship over "supper". We see the disciples themselves continuing this tradition when they led the church:

"…we desire that our church family event be an avenue for healing and fostering of relationships. Hence, we need to aim to build an environment where members feel safe to share their lives and challenges to each other..."

Acts 2:46 - Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts.

So we can see that the tradition of eating while bonding continues to be practised steadfastly in HGC.

The day progressed with tele-matches where we were led through a series of exciting games by Calvin Lim. The games mainly revolved around bean bags which were colour-coded to separate the teams. The highlight was the long distance throw between teams. For this game, each individual representing their teams, sought to out throw each other for the furthest distance capable. The winner, HGC's strong man, Joshua Newton rose to the occasion and bested all other throws, winning himself in the process the winner's watermelon.

The day ended with the giving of prizes and a group photo. This sharing by the event organizer, Jimmy Yong, best sums up the intention of the day: "…we desire that our church family event be an avenue for healing and fostering of relationships. Hence, we need to aim to build an environment where members feel safe to share their lives and challenges to each other...

Photos Caption

1 *Our Math whizz*
2 *The masterminds behind the events*
3 *LOL Group – Loving Our Lord*
4 *BFF Group – Best Family Forever*
5 *Throw power*
6 *POW Group – Place of Worship*
7 *Very sporting participants!*
8 *Christian: Are you sure that's my dad?*
9 *What a fun day for HGC Family!*



HGC 22nd Anniversary: Living in the Power of His Resurrection

By Justin Yong

HGC celebrated her 22nd anniversary at the MCA auditorium on the 27 March 2016. The anniversary theme, Living in the Power of His resurrection, was a message on the power of God available for us who have placed faith in His finished work. Certainly it was a needed reminder particularly for "senior" Christians who had been through many Easter celebrations through the years.

The service started at 9.45am with Ps Nick and Ps Wah Yaw leading the pre-service prayer and thanksgiving. Scripture reading was done by Yap Ern Yi and Samantha Victor followed by bilingual praise and worship. It is only on few occasions where we experience the praise and worship sessions in dual language. As such, it was refreshing to have the Chinese and English service members worshipping together. This experience was indeed a little foretaste of what we would experience in heaven someday, where a great multitude from every nation, tribe, people and language would stand before God and worship Him.

" As they shared on the many challenges faced in starting the home, it was clear that this was an area where they had to "live in the power of His resurrection" in order to see it through. "

The service moved on to thanking God for His work in our church the past year. One of the highlights was the starting of the Charis Hope Old Folks Home which caters to the less fortunate elderly in our community. The home was initiated by Ps Lim Lee Ping who is assisted by her husband, Sam Liew. As they shared on the many challenges faced in starting the home, it was clear that this was an area where they had to "live in the power of His resurrection" in order to see it through. Certainly God was showing to us His direction as we move forward. In this regard also, different church ministries were appreciated and acknowledged for the part each ministry plays. The session proceeded on with the annual giving of the miracle offering. The Scripture for the message was read by Josiah Chin and Liew Wen Chee. An Easter message focusing on the power of Christ's resurrection in our lives by Ps Khor and interpreted by Ps Lee Ping ended the service.

As HGC moves on to the next phase to where God is taking us, it is imperative that we be aligned to His vision for us as a corporate body. May we continue to live empowered lives through His redemptive work for us, as we move forward to the many years ahead!

Photos Caption

1 *HGCians gather at MCA Hall to celebrate our 22nd Anniversary*
2 *A time to exalt the LORD*
3 *Yap Ern Yi & Samantha Victor reading Ps 103*
4 *Praising the LORD with tambourines*
5 *Ps Lee Ping giving an exhortation for the Miracle Offering time*
6 *Ps Khor preaching on the experiencing the Power of Christ resurrection*
7 *Uniting in prayer for the church*
8 *Some of HGC staff and board*
9 *At the end of the service was a time of ministry*
10 *Uniting in prayer for the church*
11 *At the end of the service was a time of ministry*




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Spiritual Formation Course

By Nick Nip, Pastor

An introductory course on Spiritual Formation was conducted weekly from March to May 2016 by Ps Nick Nip. Various spiritual disciplines such prayer, silence, solitude were explored and discussed. The focus of the course was on Christian spirituality and there were two main objectives:

1. The depth in connecting with God
2. The strengthening of one's relationship with God

The course integrated a variety of practical approaches to learning. It explored what Spiritual Formation is, the need for it and how it is to be done. Besides classroom learning, Prayer Projects were designed as a follow-up to the studies. The course culminated with a 5-day/4-night silent and solitude retreat.

Below are the testimonies of the participants from this course.



Ignatius Tien

This class has taught me not only to go out and soar in the sky, but also to dive deep, deep into my heart, my desire, and my soul. There is no immediate gratification, but a gradual step by step inner transformation. The more I strengthen myself to remain in Christ, the more He remains in me. It is a slow, tedious, humbling process but it produces a strong, firm and unshakable growth in Christ's love.



Helen How

It was a very rewarding, refreshing and recharging time for me. It helped me to be mindful of the presence of God in my daily routine and to go deeper in my walk of knowing and loving God, myself and my neighbours.

When the silent solitude retreat started at the OMF bungalow in Cameron Highlands, I began to talk with the Lord. Looking out from my room's window at the beautiful flowers, trees, hearing the birds singing and feeling the cool wind blowing gently against my face, I whispered, 'Thank You Father for giving me this gift of time to spend with You alone.' I heard the Lord replied, 'Thank You My princess for taking time to be with Me.' Tears just rolled down my cheeks as I felt the love and yearning of My Father God to spend time with me.

From this place of intimacy with Him, the Lord shared His heart and purpose for my life. He showed me an eagle flying higher and higher till it was hidden in the cloud and He spoke to me to hide in His glory. On the last day He gave me Isaiah 40:31 to soar like that eagle for His glory.

" I was able to differentiate between the voice of my soul and the intent of the Spirit. It was distinct. "



Chern York Ling

The past months had been trying in the office and the silent retreat was a getaway to rest at His feet. The solitude shut out the daily distractions. Morning walks, smelling and feasting my eyes on a rich variety of colourful flowers and foliage, gazing at the sky, admiring the changing hues as dawn breaks and dusk relaxed my mind. As I appreciated the wonders of His creation, I was reminded of my awesome Creator. My troubled mind melted making way for a greater awareness of His presence.

As I sought Him, many missing pieces like a jigsaw puzzle fell into place, forming pictures I couldn't figure out before. I began to view challenging issues from a different perspective, appreciating God for allowing them as my learning curve, to toughen and strengthen my faith and trust in Him. These put a closure on some stifling questions and set me free to now move on in life.



Chin Wei Ling

I was glad I joined as my spiritual life leapt to another level as I learnt to yield more to the leading of the Spirit.

During the trip in Cameron, I was not allowed to talk or communicate with others for two and half days in order to quieten down my soul and let my spirit dominate my being. There were systematic spiritual exercises which helped me to practise communicating with God. It took me two days to quieten down. In the beginning, I was drifting to sleep and my mind wandered away during those spiritual exercises. However, once I was able to grasp and to start growing deeper in the spirit, I was alert. I knew very well there was a wrestling between the soul and spirit. I was able to differentiate between the voice of my soul and the intent of the Spirit. It was distinct. I did not hear His audible voice though. I heard God speaking to me through the Bible and I knew very well it was from God.

Mass Shooting & The Murder of Christina Grimmie

By Melissa Foong



In the month of June 2016, there were two major tragic events that generated worldwide attention. On 12 June 2016, a gunmen killed 49 people and injured 53 others while 22-year old singer, Christina Grimmie was murdered. There are no words to describe the anguish felt by those affected in both incidents. Looking in the news, there are so many more tragic stories, so much pain. And many are asking the question "Why? Why did God allow this?"

On top of the tragedies and unexpected events, one also experiences pain and suffering on a daily basis. There's illness, abuse, broken relationships, betrayal, sorrow, injuries, disappointment, heartache, crime and death. And perhaps you too have been asking the question, "Why? Why now? Why me?"

That question goes back thousands of years. It was asked in the Old Testament by Job and the writers of Psalms, and it was especially relevant during the 20th century, when the world witnessed two World Wars, the Holocaust, devastating famines in Africa and the emergence of new and terrible diseases. And the 21st Century didn't start any better, tsunamis, earthquakes, Syrian slaughters and now mass shootings. Why are all these things happening if there is a powerful and loving God? Why do bad things happen to good people?

Unlike some religious leaders who wrote off pain and suffering as just being illusions, Jesus knew and understood that trials and tribulations were an expected part of life. He told us the truth in John 16:33, "You will have suffering in this world. But take heart I have overcome the world." He did not say you might face suffering, but He said it is going to happen.

"But why did God allow the gunmen to spray the nightclub with gunfire or let Christina Grimmie be shot dead?" My honest answer is, "I do not know," I cannot stand in God's shoes and give a complete answer to that question. I don't have God's mind and I don't see things with God's eyes. Someday we'll see with clarity, but for now things are foggy. A question often asked is "Did God allow the mass shooting



to happen because the victims are LGBT supporters?" Well, it is important for us to understand that God does not hate anyone. God hates sin, but He loves each and every person. Christians and non-Christians are alike, we are all sinners yet God loves us all.

A video taken from a church in Orlando, Florida recently went viral on the Internet. The video showed a pastor preaching about how Orlando, Florida is now a safer place because of the mass shooting which killed 49 "paedophiles". It is upsetting to hear a leader of a church label homosexuals as paedophiles.

In response however, many Christians stood up to what they think was right. They wanted to let the LGBT community know that they are still loved by God. Especially currently in this world when killings have become a normal

thing; many lost souls are hiding and looking for answers. Instead of acting a certain way, we should all take a moment to wonder, "WHAT WOULD JESUS DO?"

In a time like this, especially when the second coming is near, it is important for us to plant our faith firmly in God's Word and be watchful in prayer.

In the meantime, we have to take heart to what Ps Marty Berglund of Fellowship Alliance Chapel, (where Christina Grimmie was the female lead of the church worship team) said, "When something like this happens, we have to remember we are part of an unshakeable Kingdom." Grimmie's father also said "There's this gigantic hole in my heart that I know is never going to go away. But God showed me that He's way bigger than that hole."

It saddens me that a beautiful soul was taken from us. But I believe that God's plan is always greater than ours. And it is inspiring to see Christina's pastor and family keeping their eyes on God and not allowing anger and vengeance to rule over them.

Let us too continue to keep our eyes on Jesus and trust in His promise that He has overcome the world.

Two Sides Of Temptation

By Abigail Cheong

What do you think of when you hear the word 'TEMPTATION'? Fear? God is faithful, and will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. The Bible also says that when we are tempted, God will provide a way out for us so that we can endure it. So then, we should not be afraid of temptation, as temptation is a way for us to prove that we are truly faithful to God.

Temptation in a negative aspect is defined as the endeavour of the evil one to cause a man to commit sin. We must stand firm in order not to fall into temptation. Jesus was filled with the Holy Spirit and yet He was tempted. This is because the strongest force of temptation usually comes upon a person when he is closest to God. Therefore, we should not be discouraged but rely on God to bring us through.

In biblical teaching, temptation is traceable to Satan. It is extremely important that we watch out for Satan as he is the ultimate source of all evil and is ALWAYS looking for ways to tempt us and bring us down. However, we must not lose hope. Like us, Jesus was also tempted in all ways and yet remained without sin. Due to Jesus' victory over temptation, He is able to support and assist us whenever we are tempted. We will never, ever fully understand the strength of His grasp on us, until Satan uses all his might to draw us away to himself. It is then, that we will feel the tugging of God's hand to warn us.



On the other hand, temptation in the positive aspect is a test to prove a man's faith and obedience. This kind of temptation is usually to approve, improve and sometimes reprove. The Bible tells us that God tests us so that in the end it might go well with us. God allows temptation in order to make us more rooted in our faith. It would not do us any good to always remain in one happy and comfortable position. Therefore, temptation is allowed so that we are able to overcome and move forward.

However, we should not fear as Christ always walks before us. Whatever awaits us is encountered first by Him. Jesus, Himself has already experienced all the trials that we are going through or about to endure. He would not ask us to pass through them unless He is sure that the paths are not too difficult for us. God uses many rough instruments to polish his jewels. And the more He loves us, the more He wants us to shine brilliantly. Therefore, we must overcome any temptation that is thrown in our way and emerge as the most beautiful jewel of all.

Fighting the War against Hate

By Joann Lim

Have you heard the latest hit song by Selena Gomez? It goes something like this: -
The world can be a nasty place
You know it, I know it, yeah
We don't have to fall from grace
Put down the weapons you fight with

And kill 'em with kindness…
Your lies are bullets
Your mouth's a gun
And no war in anger
Was ever won
Put out the fire before igniting
Next time you're fighting

Kill 'em with kindness…

I want to make a disclaimer before you judge me for my tastes in music that I am not a fan of Selena Gomez. But her strong lyrics got me thinking – who is it that she is trying to kill? Kill with kindness? Isn't that a little contradictory? Sounds like an oxymoron to me.

But as I thought about it further, it hit me - We are fighting a war against hate.

Let's be honest. The world is in pain. As a resident of planet earth, Christian or not, we face the same problems. Tragedies happen, crimes run rampant, injustices are not uncommon, racism is rife, persecution is not a thing of the past, sickness, poverty, famine and deaths are going on around us every day.

" Loving your neighbour will require your effort, time and resources. Love is more than an emotion, it demands action. "

And the culmination of all these unhappy experiences coupled with differences in personality, nationality, religion, race and opinion, make for an explosion of discord, disagreement, misunderstandings, anger and eventually hatred.

People are very angry and hateful. Christians included.

In a world that is hurt, we were called to be the salt and light of the earth. Yet, we have allowed ourselves to play victim instead. We have become hard of heart; full of judgment but empty of forgiveness. We have become fast to anger but slow to compassion; placed ourselves high on pedestals of moral righteousness and refused to humble ourselves even though we are called to be followers of Christ.

So what CAN we do?

As Christians, the standard answer to every problem is: read the Bible, fast and pray lor. And yes, of course, prayer moves the hands of God. But during the times when we aren't praying, what are we doing? Sitting on our own hands?

Christians, it's time for us to step up and fight hate with love.

Let's take a look at Luke 10:25-28:
On one occasion an expert in the law stood up to test Jesus. "Teacher," he asked, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?"

"What is written in the Law?" Jesus replied. "How do you read it?"

He answered, "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind and, love your neighbor as yourself."

"You have answered correctly," Jesus replied. "Do this and you will live."

Later, Jesus illustrates the command of 'loving your neighbour' with the parable of the Good Samaritan who took pity on a man who was left for dead on the road by robbers. The Samaritan was willing to dirty his own hands by dressing the man's wounds, sacrifice his own donkey to carry him to an inn and invest money for the man to be taken care of. He even told the innkeeper that any extra expenses would be reimbursed upon his return!

If this parable tells us anything, it is that taking a stand against hate is going to take more than praying and quoting scripture. Loving your neighbour will require your

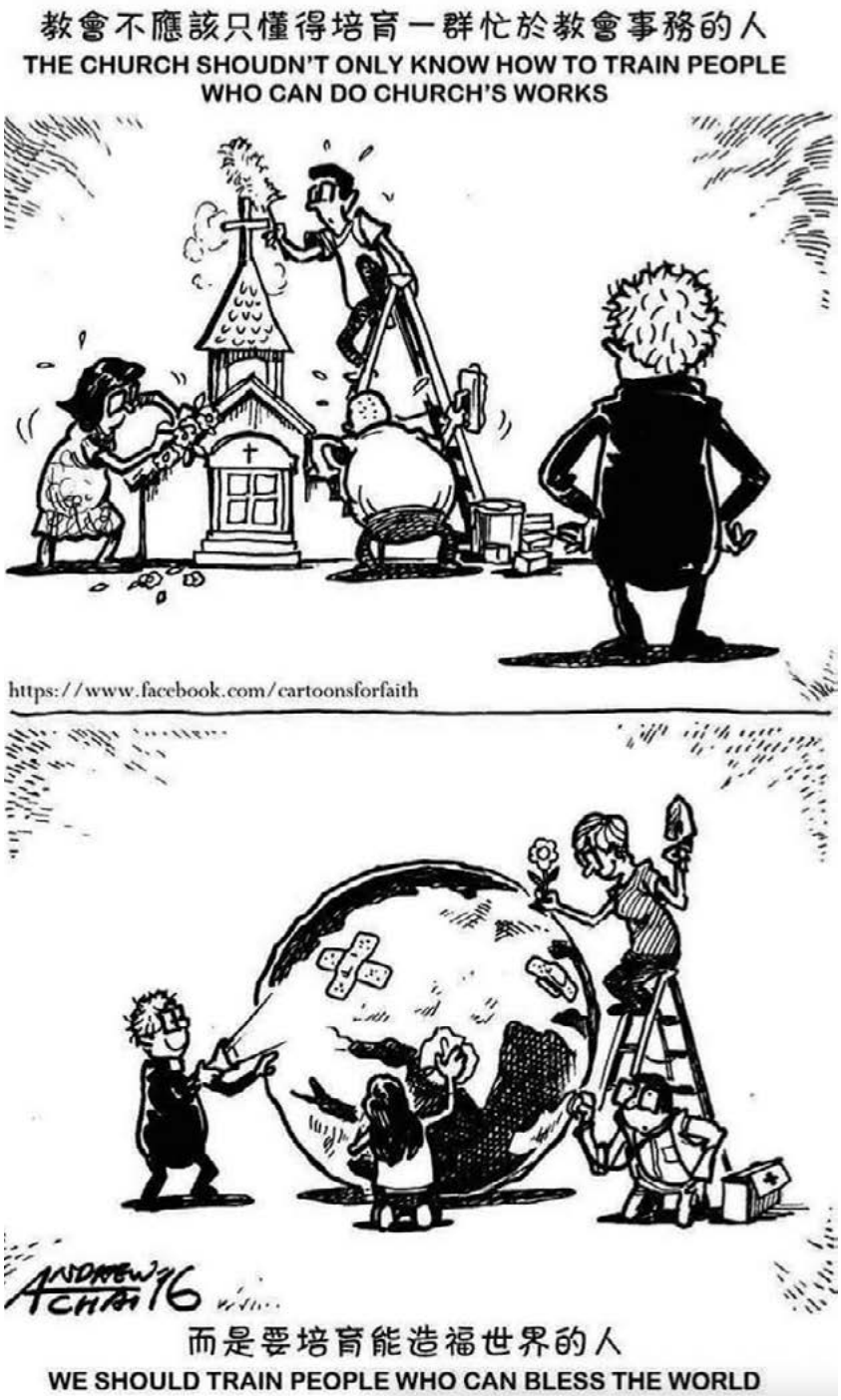
effort, time and resources. Love is more than an emotion, it demands action.

Are we ready to come down from our high horses, put aside our religious indignation and wash the feet of sinners who are no different from ourselves? Instead of dishing out condemnation and trying to police other people's behaviour, can we instead open our hearts and ask, "What can I do to help? What do you need?"

I was very moved by the testimony of Bro Cheli who shared about his experiences of being a teacher for many years. He spoke about how his job is not to convert but to love and teach his students. Not once did he speak to his students about Christianity – he simply saw to their needs and treated them with kindness. And yet through his actions, the children saw God's love for them mirrored through his life. He touched lives and restored hope, simply by showing a little kindness.

Let us all aspire to be like Cheli and the Good Samaritan.

With God's love, we can fight this war against hate. Be kind to one another.



Live the Simple Life in 2016

By Ruth Lee

The suggestion by the Deputy International Trade and Industry Minister Datuk Ahmad Maslan to take on a second job to make ends meet really got us riled up.

The reason why the Minister made this suggestion was because of the high cost of living that we had been reeling from in 2015 and which had spilled over in 2016. What with toll charges, electricity tariffs, foodstuff and the increasing cost of basic necessities many families are already taking on two or more jobs to sustain their income. I know of one family whose principal breadwinner has taken on moonlighting as an Uber driver in his free time to earn that extra to put aside for rainy days.



Nowadays RM50 will not get us very far as the purchasing value of the ringgit has shrunk against increasing prices of goods and services. Blame it on the GST. Blame it on the oil prices that are going down. The government being unable to earn the revenue from falling oil exports had to resort to imposing GST in order to meet its budget commitments.

How should we respond in the midst of the cost of living that has risen?

I really believe that the solution is in just three words: LIVE THE SIMPLE LIFE.

Here are some suggestions to living a simple life:

1. Avoid borrowing even if your current income is able to qualify you for that loan. This is because interest rates can rise unexpectedly and you will find yourself being unable to cope with the increase in installment payments. It is a fact (you can ask any of those who is working in the banking line) that you spend the first five to ten years merely servicing your interest payments only. Make sure that you have an adequate buffer if you do decide to borrow. Even though deductions can amount to 1/3 of your income, seek to borrow much less so that you will not be saddled with loans which eat into your residue income. This is why to this day; I have actually not taken my staff housing loan even though I qualify for subsidized rates. If you can't afford it, don't buy it!

2. Avoid eating out if you can cook your meals at home. It is so much cheaper and healthier to eat home cook meals. Once in a while if you want to give yourself a treat, then look for some good discounted deals online. Some of these meal discount websites do give good value for money. However, beware of the pitfalls of online shopping as explained later.

3. Forget about that European holiday as the ringgit has weakened significantly against the euro, the pound and the US dollar. Look for discounted holiday deals even if it means traveling locally.

4. Avoid the 'impulse' purchase. Many times, I would buy an item on impulse only to take it home and realize that it was not something that I really wanted. Some people are 'online shopaholics'. If need be, unsubscribe yourself to avoid being bombarded with all kinds of tempting adverts that keep popping out when you are on the internet.

5. Please do not rush to buy those new clothes, new shoes or new handbag. Take time to think each purchase through. Do you really need it? Don't you have a wardrobe that just can't take in anymore new clothes or a shoe-rack that's just crammed with shoes that you hardly wear?

6. Do something radical if you are the type who over-uses your credit card. Like Rebecca Bloomwood in "Confessions of Shopaholic" who had to put her credit card in the deep freezer literally, put your credit card in water and put it in the freezer but please don't be like her and try to defrost it during sales time! If you really need to use your credit card please pay up in full every month. Merely servicing the interest will only prolong the heartache and the stress of seeing the principal appearing each month in your bill.

7. Be accountable to someone or seek counseling or help in budgeting if you face self-control problems. I find it useful to discuss purchase of big ticket items with my husband who tends to be more prudent in his spending

A New Home For Our Library

By Katherine How



Katherine our head librarian with Jeanette at the former library.

The church library was launched in 1996 by Ps Khor and systematically developed by quite a few head librarians and dedicated librarians. Currently, I am heading the library ministry and we have a total of 20 librarians and four young helpers.

The main purpose of the library is to support the mission of the church. Our vision is to see this library function as a resource centre promoting the spiritual life of our church members.

To achieve this, we have stocked up our library with many useful materials that will help educate and inspire members to go deeper in their faith. Constantly, we are on the mission of looking out for new and helpful resources and making them available.

In 2005, the library was expanded to include a bookstore with the aim of making it easy for church members to get hold of books and other resources at very attractive, reasonable and affordable prices. Besides books and Bibles, a good range of DVDs, VCDs, CDs are also available for sale as well as for loan. Families can find good and healthy entertainment on DVDs which is uplifting and which upholds healthy values.

Since early 2011, there has been a significant increase of resources in our library to cater for the needs and interest of the congregation. The library membership has also grown and it is very encouraging to see members of all age groups assessing the resources in the library. The percentage of borrowers has risen to 12% and we are very keen to see further increase especially among the youth and young adult group. But with the increase, we found ourselves needing more space and shelves.

After a long-awaited time, on 25 July 2016, the library was moved to our new premises at the D'Bridge which has a bigger space and a new outlook too. Together with our team of librarians and young helpers, we literally moved and carried every book and item to its new place.

Do pay the library a visit and we welcome ideas and suggestions on how we can improve further.

The opening hours are from 10:30am to 11:15am every Sunday.



Our beautiful new library at D'Bridge

Importance of The National Prayer Altar

By Dr Khoo Kay Hup, NECF Vice Chairman June 2016

In Genesis 1, God made man in His image and likeness, and gave man dominion over all the earth which means that Man is the rightful owner of planet Earth. Sad to say, by Genesis 3, Adam had lost it and handed it to satan. Therefore, the only way for Jesus to redeem Man is to come as the Son of Man to pay the price through His death on the cross. He offered His blood which fulfilled God's requirement "because without the shedding of blood, there is no forgiveness of sin (Heb 9:22)." Jesus on reclaiming earth's rightful authority back, delegated it back to man.

Psalms 115:16 states that "The heaven, even the highest heavens, are the Lord's; but the earth has He given to the children of men."

Therefore, we need to understand that man is responsible for whatever happens to planet Earth. Why?? God's universal law is that everything on earth belongs to man and comes under man's authority and dominion.

But why is the world getting from bad to worse. This is because evil men gave the evil agents their permission to "Steal, Kill and Destroy" (John 10:10a) but Jesus has come to give "life and life abundantly"

Jesus said, "You are the salt of the world but if salt has lost its saltiness, it is good for nothing and will be thrown out and trampled underfoot by men. You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden." (Matt 5:13-14)

We need to constantly connect with God to learn how to take back from satan and his agents this planet that Jesus has given to us. God cannot step in if we don't ask Him to do so and we cannot ask it in casual prayer – the persistent widow is desperate. This is because He gave this planet to us (as stated in Psalm 115:16) and He cannot intervene if we don't call out to Him. That is why we have the saying:

'Without God, man cannot,
Without man God will not.'

How nations are taken over by darkness?

A nation is comprised of communities and people groups. Within the community you have the church, which is supposed to be the light, and within the church you have families, of which the most vulnerable units are children and youths. And satan will seek to corrupt families through his three temptations in I John 2:15-17, which in today's terminology is Power, Possession and Position. Then, satan brings in the added pressure of religious threats and post modernism threats. The latter not only refers to the LGBT agenda, but includes humanism, pietism and individualism. All these are targeted at children and youths so that the next generation will not know God.

Just as God builds a nation through one family, by the faithfulness of Abraham in Genesis 18 and made Israel a great nation, satan targets to destroy a nation through families. The family is a core unit of the church and when more and more families are impacted by darkness, the church will be corrupted. And once the church is corrupted, it has lost its saltiness and man no longer has any respect for the church. As such, communities will be affected, and when that happens, the nation is plunged into darkness. Darkness is the spiritual force that comes when people reject the Will of God. It gives legal authority to the devil to influence our lives negatively.

So if you do not pray, you become the prey!

The Prayer Altar Strategy

There are two kingdoms: the Kingdom of darkness and the Kingdom of light. At the prayer altars of the kingdom of darkness, people make contact with the ungodly spirit



world through demonic worship, blood sacrifices, witchcraft, immoral lifestyles and idolatry. The more evil they indulge in, the greater will be the evil altar and its influence.

As children of God, we need to continuously build Godly altars to invite God's Presence. We need to keep our heart altar clean of all "worldly ashes" and "works of the flesh". To win the invisible war, the answer is to establish a network of Godly prayer altars throughout the land. At these prayer altars, people make contact with God through worship, saturating in God's Word, prayers and covenants.

The primary purpose of prayer is to know God. As we individually saturate in His Word by reading 10 or more chapters a day, our faith will rise, our spiritual eyes will be enlightened and the fire in our heart altar will never be diminished. The deeper the communion with God, the deeper the revelation, the stronger we become. This strength comes from knowing our God. We need to know our God and the power of His resurrection. Then we will truly be able to do all things through Christ who strengthens me. (Phil 4:13)



Why the need for a National Prayer Altar?

The strength of the prayer altar will determine who rules the nation. It takes more than the respective church corporate prayer altars, no matter how big they may be, to bring down the strongman and territorial spirits over the nation. We need to be aware of who we are actually contending with:

'For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places.' (Eph 6:12)

When God revealed the prayer altar strategy to Dr John Mulinde, He specifically mentioned that it will need the unity and cooperation of all churches, organisations and groups to fish their nation out of darkness. God has placed giftings and talents in the respective groups and denominations that will contribute to the building of a network of prayer altars to draw God's Presence. It is God who will do the battle and take the nation out of darkness. "Let God arise, Let His enemies be scattered" (Psalm 68:1a)

In the launching of the National Prayer Altar in September 2015, Dr John prophesied that the National Prayer Altar will become a huge fountain of living waters where people will come and get refreshed. They will take the living waters down to their communities, churches, families and marketplace. During the training of Prayer Leaders by Ps Nicodemus and Ps Richard of Uganda from Jan – Feb 2016, the fire of God's presence was felt and many who attended were greatly blessed. They went away with the fire that has continued to blaze the prayer altars at the personal, family, workplace and corporate level.

Since the endorsement of the National Prayer Altar by NECF Malaysia, many churches have gone up to Peacehaven to pray. Yes, we invite you to go to the National Prayer Altar and cry out to God for our nation collectively as one voice, one people and one spirit. We need to unite in love for God, for one another and for our nation and the nations of the world. The strength of that altar rests upon Malaysians from all church backgrounds coming together and interceding with each other for the land. As in the Old Testament altars, the fire of the National Prayer altar must be kept burning continually. May the body of Christ stand united to pray for the nation until we see righteousness, truth and justice established in our land.



National Prayer Altar at Peacehaven

Can Christians Eat Food Offered To Idols?

By Loke Wai Keng

I wrestled with this question when I was a young believer.

I was referred to a passage, in 1 Cor 8 where Paul mentioned in vs 4-8, that an idol was nothing at all and for Christians, there is only one God: the Father and Jesus Christ, from whom all things come and for whom we live. Thus concluded, it was alright to eat food offered to idols.



But in the subsequent verses, Paul mentioned that while there was freedom to eat, one needs to be concerned about weakening the conscience of another believer who may be weaker in faith thus causing him to stumble. Paul was cautioning Christians not to use our freedom to stumble others (1 Cor 8:9-13).

So with this, I did eat food offered to idols mostly for the reason of convenience since I was the only Christian in the family and I was also not baptized then. During the times when I was with younger believers, I would refrain from eating.

On one occasion however, I was hospitalized due to severe vomiting and purging. In the hospital, I felt a form of demonic oppression with a heavy weight on my chest and I could sense some spirits moving around. I was fearful and later consulted a missionary. The first question she asked me was if I took any food offered to idols. My answer was a "Yes." It was during Chinese New Year.

Then she referred me to another passage from 1 Cor 10:20-21, "The sacrifices of pagans are offered to demons, not to God, and I do not want you to be participants with demons. You cannot drink the cup of the Lord and the cup of demons too; you cannot have a part in both the Lord's table and the table of demons."

Since that day, I came under the conviction that I would not eat any more food offered to idols. With some research and observation on Chinese practices of idol worship, I began to understand that spirits of the idols were invited into the statues that represented the idols. For example, when the goddess of mercy was worshipped at my home, the spirit of the goddess of mercy was invited to inhibit the statue of the goddess. It became clear to me that when I took food offered to idols, I was opening the door for demonic attack. Once I made the stand not to eat food offered to idols, unbelievers respected my decision and would indicate to me any food that had not been sacrificed to idols whenever I had meals with them.

Other passages that strongly support this view are:

Acts 15:29 - "You are to abstain from food sacrificed to idols, from blood, from the meat of strangled animals and from sexual immorality."

Rev 2:14 - Jesus to the church in Pergamum, "But I have a few things against you: you have some there who hold the teaching of Balaam, who taught Balak to put a stumbling block before the sons of Israel, so that they might eat food sacrificed to idols and practice sexual immorality."

Rev 2:20 - Jesus to the church of Thyatira, "Nevertheless, I have this against you: You tolerate that woman Jezebel, who calls herself a prophetess. By her teaching she misleads my servants into sexual immorality and the eating of food sacrificed to idols."

After my baptism, I told my parents that I would stop offering joss sticks to the ancestors. As a result, I had some disagreements with them. What should I do?

By Loke Wai Keng



Baptism is a step of obedience where a person accepts Christ as his personal Saviour publicly and makes a confession of his faith. For many non-Christian parents, having a child convert into Christianity would feel like losing a son or daughter, as there will be no one to continue the ancestral worship within the family.

Burning incense is a custom passed down from ancient worshipping rituals. It is the most common way of worshipping spirits (usually the spirits of the departed people) by lighting incense and candles, and bowing down several times. The more pious, will kneel down and pray silently.

To many people who are not familiar with the history of Chinese culture and the custom of ancestral worship, they see the practice of offering incense or holding joss sticks as a way of showing respect for the dead. But the very act of holding the joss stick above the forehead and offering a silent prayer before placing them into an urn is a form of worship regardless of whether one deems it respect or not. In Deuteronomy 18:9-14 God forbids such practices.

You did the right thing by making a stand in telling your parents of your intentions to not offer joss sticks to your ancestors. Many unbelieving Chinese take offence to the fact that that the Bible forbids ancestor worship because they see Christians as not filial. They find it disrespectful that the children will not worship them when they die. Some may even see Christianity as a western religion.

So in the disagreement that arose, perhaps it will be good to apologize to your parents in case they were hurt by your words. Give them the assurance that you still love and honour them as parents. It is better to honour them while they are alive now before they leave this world. Keep them in prayer and be a good testimony so that you can be an example to them and win them over for Jesus. When you choose to honour God, He will honour you in due time.

Amazing Healing Power

By Chia Wan Tin

In December last year, I fell accidentally from the stairs of a dental clinic after having my tooth extracted, and subsequently sprained my foot. Well, not only did I get a foot sprained, there was more in store.

Initially, I went to a doctor for treatment and had my foot bandaged up but a terrible itchiness developed.
I complaint to the doctor who informed me that the skin on my foot was sensitive. I resorted to consult a Chinese physician because I preferred to use traditional Chinese medicine to treat my sensitive skin. However, after consuming the medication, the red and itchy rashes increased and I began to worry. My foot looked terrible.
I stopped consuming the traditional Chinese medicine and re-consulted the doctor, who accordingly gave me an injection. The relief lasted for a few hours only. I kept relying on the medicine to stop the itchiness but it did not resolve my problem entirety.

I was suffering. Some people told me that such a skin problem was hard to cure. My mother was very worried too and suggested that I speak to Ps Khor, for advice on how I could be healed. Immediately, I text messaged him, notifying him about my situation. He guided me to pray in Jesus name as he prayed for me too. At that moment, I felt the peace of God. The following day, I woke up with my skin showing signs of healing. All I did was to apply what I learnt from Ps Khor, which was to pray every day and have faith that the Lord could heal the skin problem on my foot.

" All I did was to apply what I had learnt from Ps Khor which was to pray every day and believe that the Lord can heal the skin problem on my foot. "

I rejoice in the Lord for I am now completely healed! Thank the Lord God Almighty for His amazing healing power! Hallelujah! Amen!



Wan Tin's foot before prayer



After prayer

The Missing Shoe

By Lim Chin Nee

After coming home from a meaningful Good Friday service in church on 25 March, Ps Khor left his good pair of black leather shoes outside the house, instead of putting them back into the storeroom as he usually does.

At about 6am the following day, when we opened our front door to leave for Morning Prayer, we noticed to our dismay that one of his shoes was missing. Pastor tried to look around but since it was still dark and it was already time to



Ps Khor wearing his pair of leather shoes.

be on our way, we hurried off to church. While in the car, both of us tried to figure out what could have happened to his shoe. We were indeed puzzled. Did an intruder come in the wee hours of the night? But why did he take a shoe and not a pair? Or could it have been a dog, cat or even a monkey which had dragged it away? We knew somehow we must find his missing shoe, for otherwise, he would have no proper shoes to wear for the Anniversary and Easter Service which was on Sunday, the next day.

Upon reaching home, as our auto gate was opening wide, both our eyes eagerly scanned the entire car porch area, hoping to see the missing black shoe standing out against our light-coloured tiles. But to our disappointment, the whole porch was empty except for a lonely black shoe and a pair of slippers at the front door. While pastor searched everywhere in our compound for his shoe including the shrubs and bushes, I went inside the house, being afraid of mosquito bites. Understanding the feeling of losing something personal, I lifted a simple prayer to the LORD who hears and answers prayer, to send His angels to help His son find his shoe.

" I lifted a simple prayer to the LORD who hears and answers prayer, to send His angels to help His son find his shoe. "

In a short while, I heard pastor calling out to me that he had found his missing shoe. Having nowhere else to look, he had as a last resort, peered under the car, a totally improbable place. But there it was - his shoe. "Impossible!" we both said. "How could it be there?" We both clearly saw no other shoe on our small porch before pastor drove the car in.

Immediately, we both knew the LORD had sent His help to us! What is impossible is God-possible. On that Anniversary Sunday morning, pastor had on his good pair of black leather shoes, a testimony to the LORD's goodness and grace.

Through Trials My Faith Has Grown

By Leong Wai Hoong

I have been smoking for 20 over years and had tried several times to stop the unhealthy habit. But each time, after stopping for a few days and even months, I found myself falling back into smoking again. However, when I accepted Jesus Christ into my life as Saviour in 2009, I discovered that I had no more desire to smoke whenever I picked up a cigarette. By the grace of God, I was set free from smoking and since then I have never smoked again. Halleluiah!! As a Christian, I went to church obediently every Sunday to worship God, but I had little faith and did not fully trust in God. However, things were about to change.



Leong with his wife and sons

For 20 years, I had been a Hepatitis B carrier. I went for regular checkups at the General Hospital every 6 months. At the end of Aug 2015, as usual, I went to collect my MRI scan result but this time, the doctor told me that the scan showed 3 spots of black dots in my liver. The biggest one was about 4.8 cm and two other smaller ones were 1.5 cm each. Suspecting that it might be cancer and that I might need to be operated on, the doctor wrote me a letter of transfer to Selayang Hospital, which specializes in Liver Cancer for further tests. On 7 Sept 2015, I went to the Selayang Hospital and was advised to have an MRI scan done on 23 Sept to know more details on the black dots. The result on 28 Sept was not good. The scan confirmed that it was cancer. Part of my liver needed to be cut off to remove the tumour in the liver, followed by chemotherapy

I was shocked, nervous and worried after hearing the bad news. A lot of negative thoughts came to my mind concerning my finances, my family, the possibility of losing my job, etc. With so many worries, I could not sleep well every night. I felt my heart breaking; the feeling was even more painful than the sickness itself. Suddenly, my thoughts turned to Jesus Christ who died for me on the cross. He is the Almighty God whom I worship. I prayed to God to secure my job, my finances and to grant me a speedy recovery after the operation. Praise the Lord, God gave me Psalm 23 which comforted me, and I held on to His promises. I experienced the peace of God and had good sleep every night.

Amazingly, the operation date was fixed really quickly, just after a month. I was admitted on 19 Oct 2015 and operated on 21 Oct 2015. The operation was a success and I recovered very fast. I was even allowed to be discharged just 4 days after the operation and rested for 3 weeks.

God truly answered my prayer. I felt very peaceful and comfortable during the entire operation and the 3 weeks of recuperation. I continued to work after my medical leave was over. I want to thank God for His grace and favour towards me. As Selayang Hospital is a government hospital, I only had to pay very little for my medical bill which could be claimed back from my insurance.

On 9 Dec 2015, I was admitted to Selayang Hospital again for chemotherapy. Praise the Lord, the cancer cells did not spread to other organs. Cancer cell destroying drugs were injected directly into my liver, but I did not suffer any hair loss or appetite loss. After one month, on 14 Jan 2016, I went back for a CT scan. The results were very good. The doctor told me that there were negative active cancer cells in my liver. What a joy! All I needed was to go for follow-up checks every 3 months. Hallelujah! Thank You God!

From the bottom of my heart, I also want to take this opportunity to thank HGC brothers and sisters, Ps Khor, Ps Wah Yaw, Ps Lee Peng and all leaders for their prayer and visitation.

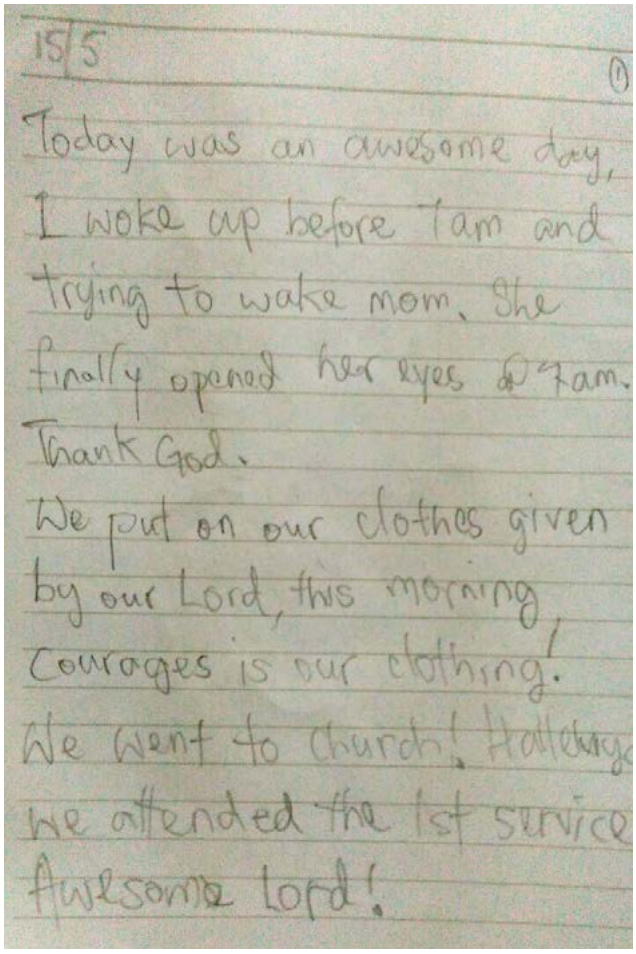
Secondly, much thanks to my family members and my sister for her care, especially my beloved wife who cooked and prayed for me.

Through my experience, I have grown strong in faith towards God. I can even share my testimony to non-Christian friends and pray for them. Through my testimony, my sister and my friend have accepted Jesus Christ. I know that I am not alone; Jesus Christ is with me all the time. ALL GLORY TO GOD!

Meeting Cheli

By Chan Yi Hern on 15 May 2016

Today was an awesome day. I woke up before 7 am and woke my Mom up. Thank God she finally opened her eyes at 7 am. We put on our clothes and we went to church! Hallelujah, we attended the first service.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Today was an awesome day, I woke up before 7am and trying to wake mom. She finally opened her eyes @ 7am. Thank God.
We put on our clothes given by our Lord, this morning, Courages is our clothing!
We went to church! Hallelujah we attended the 1st service Awesome Lord!

Chan Yi Hern is a 16 year old who is autistic. Although she can't speak, God has given her the ability to express herself in writing.

The speaker today was Ps Cheli Nadarajah. Wow! He is in his fifties but he still looks handsome. It must be God's blessings. He talked about his childhood, his failures in the Teachers' Training College and The Reading Bus Club that he founded which has started throughout Malaysia and other Asian countries as well. The Reading Bus Club is really an out-reach to the younger generation so that they may be enriched, groomed, fed and grow continuously with God's love and knowledge for a better tomorrow and life.

Well, it is amazing to hear about Ps Cheli's passion and compassion towards the weaker students in his school which drove him to coach them after school hours so that they could pass their exam with flying colours and score As. He has a heart full of Jesus-likeness.

I totally agree when he told us younger people to dream because dreams are free! Honestly, he has worked and struggled so hard in order to achieve his dreams.

Ps Cheli emphasized that we need God's constant guidance and protection in this modern society. He has three very important points in his message today: Belong, Believe and Behave.

As a teenager, I personally acknowledge these 3 points. They are very useful as guidelines for my growth. I belong to my Father in Heaven who watches over me in my every step of life. My belief in Christ has sharpened me in my growth. I love Jesus and my love for Him will help me to acquire His behaviour – to serve others instead of expecting to be served.



Prayer Is Very Powerful

By Mary Ong

In the year 2013, I had problems with my voice. I have to talk a lot, due to the nature of my work as a tour guide, giving information about various sites and about our country. And when I am out of the coach, without the aid of a microphone, I have to talk even louder. Most of the time, after a couple of days' work, my voice would become very coarse and at times, disappear for a couple of days.

I went for a check-up and was told by the doctor that I had to rest, but due to my work, I just could not. So, I requested for a scope to be done and was sent to Ampang Mewah Hospital on 2nd June 2014. The scope revealed a cyst on one side of my voice box. As, there was no pain at all and I had no problem eating or drinking, it was just left as that.

Every two months however, I had to go for a scope, right until December 2014 when I was recommended to a specialist at HUKM. He told me that I had to go for an operation. I was a little worried about the operation. Questions just popped in my head – "Will I get my voice again? Will my voice be changed?" Or worse still, "Will I still have a voice?" So, I told the specialist, "NO, I will not go for the operation. I will just pray and ask MY GOD for HEALING!!!" The specialist was a Muslim and he told me that should I change my mind, to call him.

So, I asked my Life Group members to pray for me every time I went for my follow-up scope. During my scope on 21 Aug 2015, I noticed that the cyst had become smaller. And PRAISE the LORD, the latest check-up on 21 Mar 2016 revealed that the cyst was GONE!!!! I still have to go for another scope on 19 Sept 2016, but I know deep in my heart that the cyst is GONE FOREVER for I believe that MY GOD has removed it already, HALLELUJAH!!!!!

PRAYER IS VERY POWERFUL AND GOD ANSWERS OUR PRAYERS, AMEN!!!

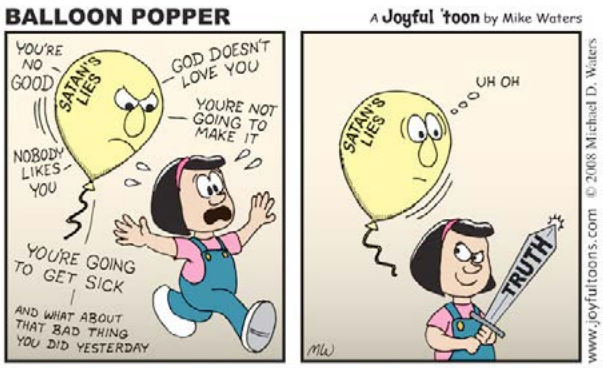
ALL GLORY TO HIM!!



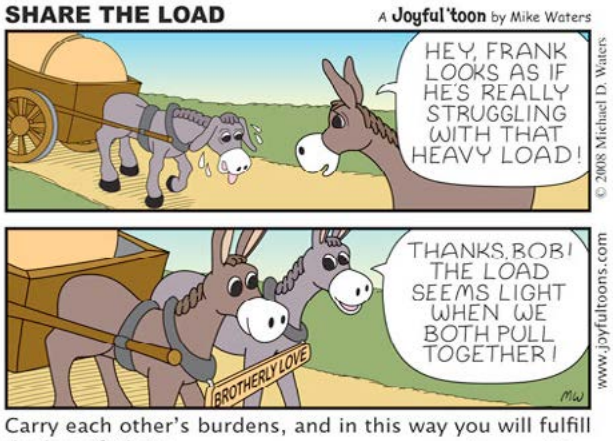
"Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth." — Psalm 46:10 NIV



But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. – Romans 5:8 NIV



To the Jews who had believed him, Jesus said, "If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." — John 8:31-32 NIV



Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ. – Galatians 6:2 NIV

Pakistan Curry Chicken

By Mary Ong



Ingredients:

1½ kg chicken (cut into medium size)
4 potatoes (cut into bite sizes)
4 tomatoes (cut into small cubes)
5 - 8 Bombay onions (depending on size, chopped)
1 bulb garlic (chopped)
2 inch ginger (chopped)
1½ bundle coriander
2 tbsp turmeric powder
2 tbsp coriander powder
2 tbsp cumin powder
2-3 tbsp chili powder

Method:

1. Heat enough oil and sauté Bombay onions till soft.
2. Add ginger and garlic and stir fry till fragrant but not brown.
3. Then reduce heat. Add all the spices, turmeric, coriander, cumin and chili powder. Stir fry till fragrant
4. Add chicken pieces, potatoes and tomatoes and just a little water.
5. When potatoes are half cooked, add in the coriander stems (cut into 1 inch length) and seasoned with salt.
   When cooked, stir in the chopped coriander leaves.

Note: *Reduced the heat and stir the curry till cooked.*



HAPPENINGS IN HGC

CHURCH EVENTS | Apr to Aug 2016



HGC Annual General Meeting
1 Apr



Family Day
2 May



Chinese Church Camp
28-30 May



Children Church Camp
3-5 Jun

LG Conference
with
Ps Antonino
3-5 Jun





40 Day
- Fasting & Prayer
7Aug-15 Sep

WATER BAPTISM

Christina Wah, Diana Lee, Khoo Kim Yen, Caleb Lau, Justin Tan, William Lee **22 May**

Haizarie Norgi, Norgi Ali, Diwi Yahya **3-5 Jun**

Chong Chow Ken, Yap Wei Lian **7 Aug**

COMMUNITY EVENTS



Kindy
Sport's Day
2 Jul

Sunbeams Bazaar
6 Aug

MISSIONS TRIP



Sibu Mission Trip
8-10 Apr



Sibu Mission Trip
22-24 Jul

COMING EVENTS | Sep to Dec 2016



English Leaders Retreat
11-13 Sep



Mission Conventions
24-25 Sep

Kindy Concert
8 Oct





Water Baptism Sunday
27 Nov

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.

The Hope of Glory Centre

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