

voiceofhope

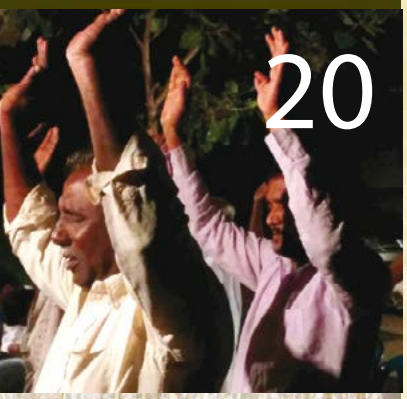
the newsletter | Sep - Dec 2016

THE HEART OF CHRISTMAS

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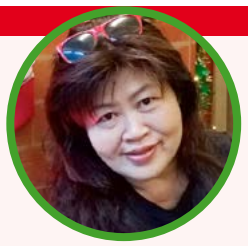




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Dear Reader,

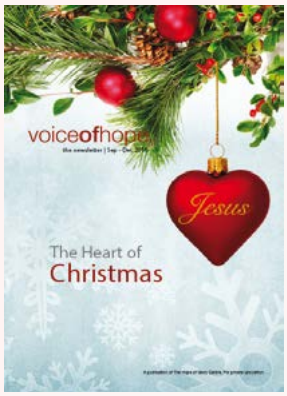
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Christmas is here again and it's time to celebrate and proclaim the birth of our Saviour Jesus Christ. He is the eternal Word of God. In Him is life and everything was created through Him. Not one thing was created without Him. This eternal, life-giving, all powerful God came into this sin-ridden world of ours in the form of frail humanity that He might reveal Himself and His superabundant GRACE to us. For every one of us sinners who receives Him, believes in Him and welcomes Him, He extends such GRACE and gives the privilege to become a child of God.
(John 1:12 paraphrased)



Thus this Christmas, may we give thanks, celebrate and share this good news of the superabundant GRACE of God which was shown and given to us through Jesus Christ. In this last issue of 2016, there are numerous stories of many individuals who are recipients and proclaimers of the amazing, awesome and abundant GRACE of God. As you read them, may you be encouraged and strengthened to move on to greater heights in Christ in 2017.



Jesus - The Heart of Christmas



VOH has been a quarterly newsletter of The Hope of Glory Centre since publication started in 1994 but in 2016, we transited into one issue for every four months for the purpose of cost saving.

A joyous Christmas to you and your family!



Under HIS GRACE,

VOH Team



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Man's Greatest Need – God's Greatest Gift!

By Khor Hoe Chai

What is mankind's greatest need? Is it peace? Love? Protection from evil? A righteous and wise government? Justice? Freedom? Prosperity? The list of needs and problems confronting mankind can be endless. What are the solutions to these problems and needs? Is it in a change of government; a change of economic climate or a change of circumstances? It seems like insurmountable problems are piling up in our nation and our world. Many people have fallen into despair and gloom. However, amidst all the dark clouds, there are silver linings that are bringing rays of hope. Many believe that God is answering the prayers of His people who are crying out to Him day and night for mercy, for forgiveness, for healing, for change, for revival, for His kingdom reign to manifest!

Talk to the Filipinos and excitement springs up as they boast of the changes taking place in their nation with the leadership of their new President Rodrigo Duterte whom they speak proudly of as a President who loves the country; who is righteous; who has been having success stamping out the drug lords.

There was a breath of relief in Indonesia recently when no untoward incidences took place in the massive demonstration by Muslim radicals in Jakarta against the mayor. Indonesian Christians know that God is at work in answer to believing and fervent prayers.

Talk to some people about the US presidential election and there is a sense that anything can take place, implying that there is hope no matter how hopeless situations may seem, because against all odds Donald Trump won.

It is Christmas time now! A time to celebrate the birth of Christ the Saviour. We thank God that every year we can still celebrate Christmas in Malaysia! Christmas is a season of hope, of love and of faith. Christmas is a time to look UP to OUR GREAT GOD! It is a time when our faith can be rekindled, when miracles can happen because the miracle of all miracles took place more than 2000 years ago.

Man's greatest need is for salvation – to be delivered from the bondage of sin and its consequences. God, who is holy, loving and merciful has provided the greatest GIFT of all in



answer to this need, when He became a man, born of the virgin Mary to become our Saviour and King!

What is man's greatest need? It is for a Saviour! Jesus the Saviour to save us from our sins and destructions!

What is man's greatest need? It is for a King! Jesus the Messiah to rule in our lives and our world with righteousness, wisdom, justice, love and power for all eternity!

He came into our world and took our darkness and doom and gave us His light and glory!

He came to reconcile us sinners back to God, to give us peace; peace with God and the peace of God that empowers us to make peace with those around us and with our world.

He came to take away our foolishness and to give us His wisdom to empower us to live fruitful and successful lives.

He came not to change the government of the day but to change the government of our hearts.

He came to destroy the devil and all his works. He came to die for our sins and to rise again to give us new life in Him.

He came so that He can then go to the Father to send us the Holy Spirit to live in us so that by His Spirit living in us we can rule and reign with Him on earth.

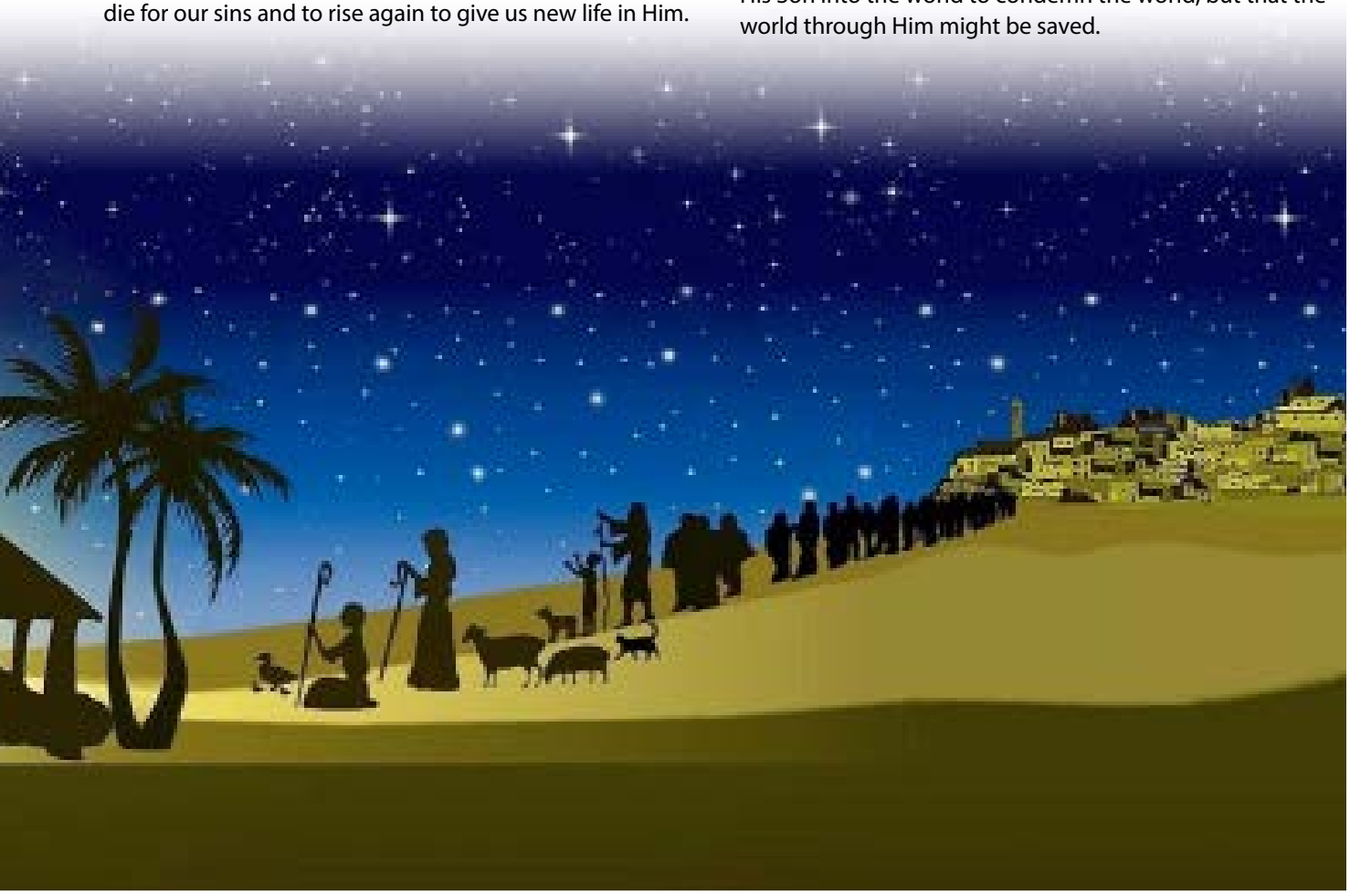
Jesus is God's greatest gift and He wants us and the whole world to have Him so that we can truly live a blessed, joyful and fruitful life — a life full of His love, peace and power.

This is the Christmas message! Joy to the world the Lord has come, let every heart receive her King!

Isaiah 9:6-7a For unto us a Child is born, Unto us a Son is given; And the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the increase of His government and peace there will be no end.

" Christmas is a time to look UP to OUR GREAT GOD! It is a time ... when miracles can happen because the Miracle of all miracles took place 2000 years ago. "

John 3:16-17 For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved.



Blessings at Willow River Village

By Chan Tham Seng

THE flight to Kunming on 9 November was a fearful experience. The problem was not the airbus but Donald Trump.

Before taking off at Sepang, Esther and I learned that Trump was poised to win the US presidential poll. Upon landing at Changshui airport, our fear was confirmed: The business tycoon had just upset all bad publicities and media forecasts to seize the top job.



From his remarks made at the election campaign, Trump could mean several things. Among them is the likelihood that the United States, with Trump at the helm, is bracing for major policy discontinuity which will hurt relationship with her strategic allies.

Continuity and ties building, however, are two important factors for effective ministry in missions. Our recent trip to Willow River New Village (Nov 9-16) marks the 15 years of relationship with the Yunnan Ethnic Network (YEN). YEN oversees 200 plus house churches made up mainly of Lisu and Yi people groups in Yunnan's Yuanmou and Wuding and Sichuan's Huili counties.

Wuding Township

Willow River New Village (NV) sits on a terrain 6000 feet above sea level about 30 minute drive from Wuding town. Willow River NV was developed 14 years ago to resettle survivors of a landslide disaster which killed 15 villagers in the interior during summer of 2002. The victims were mainly ethnic Ganyi, a subgroup of Yi who account for the largest minority group in Yunnan province.

At Willow River NV, the residents were compensated with brick houses served by cement roads leading all the way to Wuding town. Not only that, the authorities also built for the believers a typical government or three-self village church building. That was where we had our 18 hour ministry spanning over two days and two nights.

Some 130 people came to the church; more than half were YEN leaders and believers from afar. Among the local participants, many were also involved in preparing meals of freshly plucked vegetables and home bred meats. Some also opened their homes to host the outsiders for the nights.

At Willow River NV, we lodged at the house of local church leader Li Xingrong. Li, 49, and his wife have two married daughters who work in other towns. Like most other villagers, Li is a subsistence farmer who raises some chickens, pigs and a buffalo in his house compound. The buffalo tilts his little plot of land planted with vegetables and staple crops like corn, potato and paddy.

Willow River NV presently comprises a hundred Ganyi families and half a dozen Miao households. Li reckons that more than 30 believers from 10 Christian families regularly attend the village church.

"We were a government church previously. Due to different views over the Holy Spirit and praise and worship, the believers slowly broke away from the three-self supervision," Li said, adding that they subsequently offered to come under the spirit-filled leadership of YEN. YEN core leader Li Chunxue, who passed away in 2012, was a Wuding Ganyi known to the Willow River villagers before the landslide disaster.

Esther and I met Li Chunxue in October 2001 at Rocky Village perched on a hill overlooking the Yangtze River. Since then, Li invited us to minister at various places under YEN including its bible schools at Yuanmou and Yongren, and village churches at Alayi, Chahe, Chaima (VOH 2010 Oct-Dec) and New Chamber (VOH 2012 Oct-Dec; 2016 Jan-Mar).

Divine Healings

We always enjoy the warm fellowship with these simple and faithful believers who descended from mountains and crossed rivers to meet us. The old ties create a spiritual atmosphere conducive to our ministry of words and prayers with the participants. The worship time is always lively and participants attentive to messages.

One request of the YEN leadership is for Esther to continue her teaching and ministry of healing and deliverance, something she did during our 2015 visit at the New Chamber Village. A YEN leader told us how a Lisu believer has been blessed: At New Chamber Village last November, Esther prayed over 47 year old kidney patient Li Zhengcai. That very night, this Lisu brother "woke up a dozen times to urinate" and is since "fundamentally healed…and gone back to work in his farm."

This time, Esther's teaching and ministry on healing and deliverance took up about five hours. There were cases of demonic suppression who felt relieved after prayer. A young Lisu woman Li Chengfen suffers failure in her two kidneys which are seriously affecting her one eye and causing fluid retention in her body. She was prayed for the first night and on the next day, there was marked improvement in her eyesight and body swell. She felt her kidneys were healed. Li's husband Yang Fengsheng is a full-time worker leading YEN's worship team.

Apart from that, Esther also had a four hour message on "end-times". As for me, I took two sessions on Islamic terrorism with purpose of exposing the congregation to the biggest issue threatening our world today. I guided the believers to look at the rise of Islam and Islamic fundamentalism, and also that part of church history during which we went astray and unwittingly made ourselves enemy to Islam. I believe most rural believers do not care about this issue. However, I wish the sharing will provide a balanced view to the YEN leaders so that they may effectively pray against Islamic terrorism which is a crucial end-time phenomenon.

Apart from that, I had a session aimed more at the local believers. We started off by discussing Yunnan where magic and folk religions are common. Against that background, I encouraged them from the Book of Acts citing the few cases of apostles defeating the spiritual forces of darkness (Acts 8, 13, 16, 19).

God cared for other needs. On the first night we lodged at the house of Li Xingrong, he requested special prayer for his two daughters who are married to non-believers. The following night, I chanced upon Li's elder son in law, a Lisu by the name of Bai Xuewei. After brief persuasion, Bai prayed to accept Jesus and pledged to attend church with his wife in Kunming, much to the delight of his parents in law.

In mission ministry, we always encourage church members to stay focused and develop ties with the target people. Time-proven love opens many hearts and minds for God's blessing to come upon them.



An Aside For Your Prayer: In our visit to Wuding this time, we heard murmurs of concern regarding house churches. It appears that unregistered churches in Guangdong, Zhejiang, Anhui, Sichuan and Henan provinces have recently been told to reform. That includes stopping to hold meetings or invite unregistered preachers and foreign pastors to their midst.

Since mid-2014, a "cross removal campaign" erupted in Zhejiang province affecting both the government and house churches. In the 15 months that followed, some 1500 crosses were forcibly removed from church buildings and some pastors went to jails. Since then, a season of uncertainty prevails over China regarding her religious policy.




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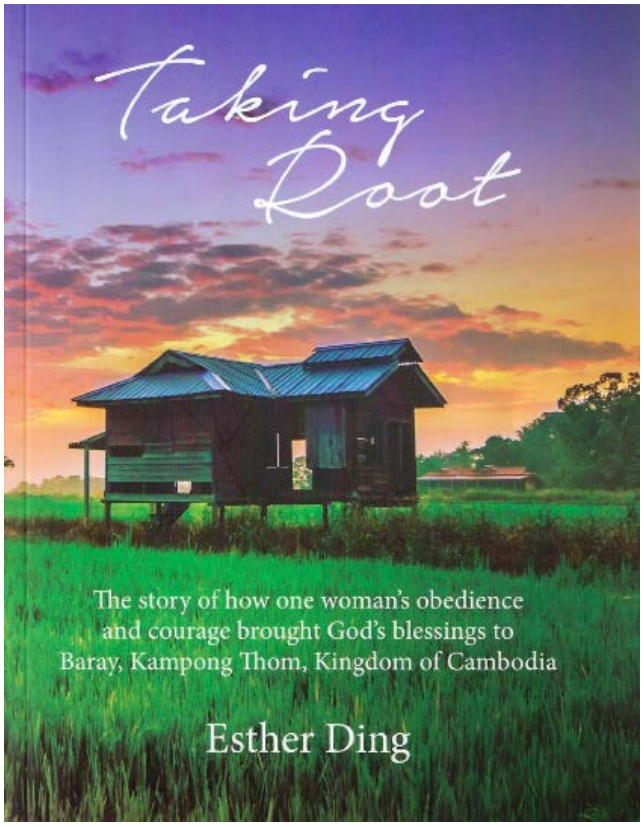
1. *Village church for Yi believers*
2. *Willow River New Village*
3. *Li at meal with Yang and 2 kids*
4. *Worship led by Yang Fengsheng (guitarist)*
5. *Worshipful congregation*
6. *Li Zhengcai healed of kidney failure in 2015*
7. *Teaching sessions*
8. *YEN leaders busy taking notes*
9. *A leader came with granddaughter*
10. *Water for making meals*
11. *Pumpkin and lobak aplenty*
12. *Teaching sessions*
13. *Li Chengfen, flanked by hubby, received prayer*
14. *We spent 2 nights in this room*
15. *With Li Xingrong (centre), his wife and son in law, Bai*
16. *Believers praying for one another*
17. *Dishes landed on our tables*
18. *Brothers doing the cooking*
19. *Granny taking her buffalo to work*





Esther Ding - Entrepreneur of Destiny

By Jeremy Chew



Her book

After numerous reminders and exhortations to attend the talk by Esther Ding over the weekend of Sept 24, I had rather high expectations of an elegant and eloquent lady giving an educational talk. Esther turned out to be down-to-earth, matter-of-fact and ordinary, somewhat like a humble middle-aged Cambodian woman. Did I say Cambodian? Esther was born in 1960 to an ordinary Malaysian Chinese family in Malaysia (the 12th of 13 children) but God chose her to be His "bussionary" (business person missionary) in the middle of Cambodia. After her talk, I was left with no doubt at all that this lady is touched by God and His hand is upon her. I was impressed enough to buy the book "Taking Root" that she had written. She dutifully autographed it for me.

Esther grew up in Sitiawan, an area where Methodist churches flourished since the start of the 19th century. Her father set up a sundry shop with humble beginnings, cycling for 30 km or more to bring back supplies. Through his business, he knew everyone in the village and later became the village headman. Her mother was a self-taught entrepreneur who could turn anything and everything into a profit-making business. From a very young age, Esther learnt to sell – fruits from their own trees, home-cooked food, desserts made with ice shavings, etc. From her father, she learnt diplomacy. Her mother encouraged the children to go to church perhaps as a way of taking a break from babysitting the 13 of them. Esther learned Christian values and would later decide to be a missionary.

It was not easy to break the news to her traditional parents and family so Esther put it off for as long as she could. Her aunt had very harsh words for her, "You bring shame to generations of the Ding family because you are choosing to become a beggar." She first went to Cambodia sent by DUMC in 1995. In mid-1992, her mother had bone cancer and was baptised 3 months before she passed on. Her father's blessings came several years later when he encouraged her to sell off her house and to take root in Baray, Cambodia.

Esther has developed and continues to build business ventures for profit among the villagers. These ventures are designed to improve the livelihood and well-being of the community. God has blessed Baray: taking the poorest among the poor, the widows, single mothers, students from poor families, the other hungry and humiliated, and given them dignity with skills, profitable employment and education for the children.



Esther was the speaker for our 2016 Missions Convention

Esther has gone through moments of despair, illness, danger and life-threatening experiences. Through it all, the protection of the Almighty God has prevailed as He has promised in Psalm 91. 1 He who dwells in the secret place of the Most High Shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty. 2 I will say of the Lord, "He is my refuge and my fortress; My God, in Him I will trust." 3 Surely He shall deliver you from the snare of the fowler and from the perilous pestilence. 4 He shall cover you with His feathers, and under His wings you shall take refuge; His truth shall be your shield and buckler. 5 You shall not be afraid of the terror by night, nor of the arrow that flies by day, 6 Nor of

the pestilence that walks in darkness, Nor of the destruction that lays waste at noonday. 7 A thousand may fall at your side, and ten thousand at your right hand; but it shall not come near you.

Esther recounts several incidents in her book as well as in her sharing in our church. In May 1996, she had a high fever and there was no medication other than paracetamol. At that time, she did not have a telephone. From Baray, she had to pay a taxi to send a message to her Overseas Mission Fellowship friends in Phnom Penh to convey by fax an S.O.S to her church in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. The next day, red spots covered her from head to foot, a sign of full-blown dengue which can be fatal. She felt too weak to get up. Friends came and accompanied her to Phnom Penh where she was examined at the World Vision Hospital. The seriousness of her condition was confirmed. Her church instructed her to take the next flight home. The next available flight was in two days. On the morning of her flight home, her friend knocked on her door. Awakened, she found her air-con and fan on at full blast and her bed sheet and pillows on the floor. The red spots on her were gone. It was a miracle by God. Back home, her sister was waiting at the Medical Centre while her pastors were at the airport to meet her. The hospital had already been alerted and so medical tests were carried out. But she had already been fully healed.



Job opportunities provided in Solar café

In 1997, a man seriously misunderstood her actions and hated her enough to want to take her life. At that time, she only spoke a little of the Khmer language and did not yet fully understand the local way of doing business. She had only been in Cambodia for just over a year. Phu Tel came looking for her with an axe. She was away at that time. He came back another night, with 3 ex-Khmer Rouge soldiers armed with guns and grenades. This time, Esther was indoors praying while the killers gathered outside in the dark. As the men took aim at her, they felt some unseen force holding them back, restraining their hands. This later came to light when Phu Tel confessed to two of Esther's pastor friends that he had wanted to kill her. He heard a voice whispering in his ear, urging him to leave her alone. One of the pastors said the would-be-killers felt strength leave their arms and they had to leave since they could not lift their guns. They tried again the next night but still could not. They then concluded that Esther was not a normal person and has the protection of God so they cannot kill her. Some six years later, Phu Tel passed on and was given a Christian burial by his relatives and villagers according to his last wish.

There are many more experiences she has shared in her book. Why is Esther still staying put in Baray after so many harrowing experiences?



Homestay in Baray

It is Esther's hope that her book will encourage readers to start where we are and be a blessing to those whom God has asked us to help. For those who hear the divine call, respond by saying, "Here I am, send me."
Many have asked her what motivates her to stay on in Cambodia. Here are her answers:

1. I heard my GOD calling me to Take Root and to be a channel of His Blessings, a channel of His Love poured out into this nation.

2. My family's encouragement, especially when I recall what my Dad told me, "IF you are happy to stay on to help the poor and needy, you build a shelter for yourself here."

3. Recognition by the local authorities and national level government of our contributions to the rural communities over the past 20 years.

4. The gentle smiling people from the communities encourage me to stay on in this nation to continue to help them in whatever way I am able to.

5. Personal fulfilment. As I look back, I rejoice that many lives have been touched and many families are living better lives now. It is not because I have made a world of difference but I have heard the call and I know that I am here to make a difference."

For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the Lord, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope. (Jeremiah 29:11 NKJV)

Michael Phelps — His Greater Success & Power

By Justin Yong



Prior to the commencement of the 2016 Rio Olympics, ESPN ran a documentary on the story of US swimmer, Michael Phelps. Titled 'The Evolution of Michael Phelps,' the documentary followed the life journey of the swimming legend and then, 18 times Olympic champion. With the magnitude of success and the record number of goal medals to his career, Michael Phelps is clearly an exemplification of sporting greatness in our history.

I remembered watching the Athens Olympics when I was 16. Michael Phelps, who was then just into his second Olympics, was already besting the rest of the field. Fast forward 4 years into the Beijing Olympics and he continued on, this time setting a new record for a number of gold medals in a single Olympic. I remembered the publicities following his triumph: in newspapers, TV coverage and social media, which as it had done — impressed upon my mind this idea of "The Greatest Olympian of All Time."

Maybe this was the kind of image the media intended to portray Michael Phelps, who in his moment of glory was a self-made, success achieving, people approved, and purpose-driven individual. Someone who lived out the "American dream" so profoundly: "the ideal that everyone should have an equal opportunity to achieve success and prosperity through hard work, determination, and initiative." Ironically, in this documentary we see the man himself, Michael Phelps, tear apart this image of glory that was created for him. Relating to this, the commentator notes that 'he despised the image of perfection, success had created.'

Michael opened up on his real self; his struggles with alcoholism, drug abuse and fundamentally on his broken relationship with his father, who had divorced his mother when he was 9. He provides that following the highs of his swimming successes, he decided to retire from the sport in 2012, which subsequently led to boredom and a lack of



Michael Phelps – an Olympian who found his purpose in God.

direction in his life. A second arrest for driving under the influence of alcohol broke him deeply and he found himself on a low. He started questioning his self-worth, value to his family, and identity. Curled up in his bedroom for 5 days, and in deep depression, he thought the world would be better off without him and contemplated taking his own life.

However, on the advice of his Christian friend, Michael checked into a behavioural institute where he was also given the "Purpose Driven Life" book by Rick Warren. He testifies today that he believes, "There is a power greater than myself and there is a purpose for me on this planet. " He also testifies to the reconciliation with his father following the rehabilitation.

Here, we find a person who has tasted every high honour, success and recognition which the world provides. Yet for Michael Phelps, when the glory faded, nothing among his life's achievements was able to satisfy his heart's greatest desires. For unless we find Christ to be that "greater power than ourselves," nothing else can truly satisfy us.



Supernatural Turnaround for Malaysia

By Ruth Lew

National Prayer Rally

The National Prayer Rally held on the evening of 14 September in Full Gospel Tabernacle was a wonderful end to 40-days of fasting & prayer for the nation this year!

After a parade by young people bearing flags of various states of our nation and a short time of worship, Rev Eu Hong Seng gave the opening address for the night. He highlighted that this was the 16th year of the nationwide fast & prayer involving 4,000 churches.

He shared from Luke 18 where Jesus opened the eyes of the blind man. Are we like the blind man? Are we spiritually blind to the following things in our nation? We need to pray and ask the Lord to open our eyes to see:

1. The millions going into eternity without Christ

2. The big picture – worship, evangelism, discipleship, Word of God and prayer – we need all five together

3. Where the church is at. For every ten souls saved, only two will be followed up. The church has failed to make disciples. Quote - "We have a sea of believers but so few disciples. We have the breadth but not the depth"

4. The need to be a praying people. Our prayer meetings must be full.

Dr Frank Damazio, the invited speaker for the night shared on the need for the church to expect a "supernatural turnaround". The word "supernatural" means to move outside the natural realm. Quoting from the story in Mark 8:25 on how Jesus laid hands on the blind man again before the blind man could see clearly (the first time he only saw men like trees), he shared that God will lay His hands on our eyes again so that we may see clearly with eyes of FAITH.

May we have the faith that God can turn our leaders around, faith that God can turn our cities around, faith that God can turn our churches and nation around.



Dr Frank Damazio

He declared in Malaysia that there will be a "supernatural" church with supernatural strength, supernatural breakthrough and supernatural provisions. He also prayed that Malaysia will experience a divine encounter with God where God will reverse circumstances, where the negative will be changed into the positive and where there will be a spiritual turnaround for our nation.

He exhorted us from Isa 43:18-19 to forget about what had happened in the past, not to keep going over old history but to come to the present, to look forward and not backward.

He also prophesied to the church, "FROM THIS DAY FORWARD, THINGS ARE GOING TO HAPPEN." We were challenged to expect God to visit us and to have His hand come upon us. When God's hand comes upon us, we can expect promotion, provision, protection and power.

We then spent some time praying for the nation, for revival in our churches, for justice and righteousness and for the Next Generation.

It was a most uplifting and challenging time as we prayed in unity with believers from other churches in KL and Klang Valley.

My Journey In The School Of Acts (TSOA)

By Chin Wei Ling



The mission trip in Bueng Kan, Thailand

I heard of The School of Acts 6 month's course 10 years ago. However, due to the distance of the school, I hesitated signing up. It was only after I joined a new company which is 15 mins away from the school in Lembah Subang that I decided to take up this challenge knowing that it would require a commitment of leaving office on time to attend night classes 3 times a week.

I was quite impressed with the entrance procedure and requirement of TSOA. Each interested participant is required to go through an interview where both TSOA and the participant are given the opportunity to communicate their expectations of the course to each other. It forced me to think through the real reason for signing up. I wanted to see where I can serve God while I still have the energy instead of waiting till I retire.

In the beginning, attending class right after work was a hassle and struggle as I was required to be punctual and not allowed to be absent. A few weeks later, a pastor by the name of Sergio prophesied to me to give God the 6 months. I then decisively made up my mind to follow through with full obedience.

All of the speakers are Spirit filled. They each have very close relationship and communion with God and minister by the leading and power of the Holy Spirit. I began to comprehend what is ontological inversion which I had learnt in the Leaders Discipleship Group in church from the book "Root of Wings" by Edmund Chan. We should live lives dominated by the Spirit rather than being ruled by our body or soul. These speakers demonstrate that truth. They have such unique, powerful and sweet encounters with God who is real in their lives. The Word of God is so alive in them.

I realised I have not loved God enough though I wanted to serve Him all this while. I treated Him like my grandmother who stays in the next housing estate and visit her only when I am free. After going through the teaching, I released God from a room which I had locked up. He is free to have full control over my life instead of being contained and confined by me.

I experienced supernatural encounters. God impressed upon my heart that He was cleaning me up and healing me during one of the Sunday worship services. The teachings received have released me from bondages and deliverance sessions conducted have helped me a lot.



Graduation after 6 months of intense training at TSOA

The highlight was the mission trip to Bueng Kan, Thailand, the newest and the last province in northern Thailand. It sits along the banks of the Mekong River which separates the Thai border from Laos. As I observed how the preparation was done for the trip and how God's work was honoured, I was enlightened. The quality of work was top notch. We were trained to be focused in prayer and to rely on God, and not on ourselves. God was central in all that we do. It was beyond what management books or experiences have taught me.

I was quite sceptical about healing. Not that I doubted God's ability to heal but rather the ability of the human vessel to exercise faith in God. During the miracle rally in the mission trip, God used me to pray for a woman who was deaf in one side of her ear. What I did was just to pray and confess the Word of God over her. God

demonstrated His power through His Word and she was healed. This astonished me and changed my perspective of who God is. He is always there for us and with us.

During the course, God also revealed to me not to lean on my own understanding but to rely on His wisdom. I used to depend on human logic, my common sense and the rules of the world. God used His servant Ps Bradley Stuart to speak into my life from Isaiah 11, where it says, "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me;" that I will rely on His wisdom instead of human wisdom." Now I have learnt to fully depend on Him in whatever decision that I make.

All of my classmates are very nice and sincere. They have powerful testimonies. It is a great opportunity to know each other and discover how God ministered to them and how they bear witness of God. We enjoyed the activities during the course – The Get To Know Each Other Dinner, Sports Day and Guardian Angel Time.

The staff of TSOA are very fervent in serving the Lord. They do not mind working till late at night. Their concerns are the students' welfare and whether they have captured most of what the speakers taught. They prioritise their work and focus on carrying out their duties. Most importantly, God's presence can be seen in them. I'm sure all of the students were covered by their prayers. During classes, I felt peaceful and secured sitting under the anointing of the Word. It was like being covered by an iron dome. There I experienced breakthroughs over challenges and attacks.

I have not only learnt how to be a minister but have learnt the fundamentals of being a Christian. I suppose this is why God calls all of His children – priests.

WYPA – An Unforgettable Experience

By Kevin Wan



Kevin Wan (2nd from right)

The World Youth Prayer Assembly was held in Seoul, Korea from 26 to 30 July 2016 and it was an awesome first time experience for me to attend a prayer assembly.

It was totally experiential journey for me during the Assembly. I was blessed to meet people from over 30 nations and to stand together with them to pray for the nation of Korea – North and South. I personally loved the part where we took some time to pray over the nations represented at the Assembly. As the names of the nations were being called, the representatives stood up to be prayed for. Everyone started stretching out their hands towards those who stood up and for a good 30 minutes prayers were uttered for the nation 'rapid fire style'!

The last prayer was for the wall between North and South Korea to be broken down. My spirit felt so heavy and I literally mourned for the nation. I have never interceded and cried so much for such a thing. I felt the Spirit of God grieving through me so much that the burden of the Lord became mine so I prayed with faith!

We felt so ONE & UNITED in our prayers for the one Korea. As one of the speakers spoke to the under 35 generation to rise up to their call and authority, I felt like David standing up to Goliath. We should all do the same, to win the battle and to pray – not just for the unification but also for the many giants in our lives.

I personally felt the need to address some of the giants in our lives – to rise up and to confront them with God's help. Also by going to Korea to stand in the gap for another nation, I felt humbled as I was prioritizing others before my own needs. Indeed we have to remember that there are others who are facing greater challenges than us. I believe that as we stop looking inwardly, God will start fulfilling our desires because He knows our need even before us asking!

Why does the Bible call Jesus Son of God and also Son of Man?

By Loke Wai Keng



Son Of God

Generally the term "Son of God" refers to the deity of Jesus. He existed as the Eternally Begotten Son of God.

Some Bible references to Jesus as the Son of God:

Luke1: 35 – The angel announcing to Mary of the birth of Jesus and He shall be called the Son of God

Matt 3:16-17 – a voice from Heaven saying, "This is my beloved Son whom I am well pleased."

Matt16:15-17 – Jesus asked His disciples who they thought He was, Peter said "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God" and Jesus praised Him for this.

John1:47-51 – Nathaniel was surprised that Jesus identified him even before Jesus saw him, so much so he said in verse 49, "Rabbi, You are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!"

Son of Man

The term "Son of Man" refers to His humanity. By becoming a man, through His unique birth, Jesus did not cease to be God but that He was very much flesh and blood like mankind.

In the Gospels, Jesus referred to Himself more as Son of Man to emphasis His humanity. He was fully man and all that He did was in the capacity of a man fully trusting God His Father. He did all that the Father showed Him.

Some references to Jesus as Son of Man:

Mark 10:45 – The Son of Man came not to be served but to serve and to give his life as a ransom for many.

Matt 16:13 – When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi, He asked his disciples, "Who do people say the Son of Man is?"

Thus the terms Son of God and Son of Man are both used to describe Jesus as God and Man. He is both divine and human – two natures in one person.

Together, it means that Jesus was completely man and He was completely God. He was the God-man. He was the eternal, holy God who came in human flesh. Without being a man, He could not have died. If He was not God, He would have been a sinner. But as the God-man, He was the sinless man – the perfect sacrifice – a sinless sacrifice for our sins. He returned to life and ascended back to heaven. Praise the Lord!

What is the significance of the 3 gifts from the Magi to Jesus?

By Loke Wai Keng

The scriptural account surrounding the search of the wise men for the child Jesus is found in Matthew 2:1- 2, 9-12

"Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem saying "where is He who is born King of the Jews? For we have seen His star in the East and have



Gold, Frankincense and Myrrh

come to worship Him….. When they heard the king, they departed; and behold, the star which they had seen in the

East went before them, till it came and stood over where the young Child was. When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceedingly great joy. And when they had come into the house, they saw the young Child with Mary His mother, and fell down to worship Him. And when they had opened their treasures, they presented gifts to Him: gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

It is interesting to note that the wise men were probably ancient astrologers from the East. They saw the Star of Jesus before they met Him personally. They knew Jesus was born King of the Jews and they went all the way to seek for Jesus in order to worship this King.

They travelled a long way with the intention to worship this King, so they brought gifts, gold, frankincense and myrrh appropriate for worship that befitted a King. The Bible does not convey any specific significance of these gifts; however tradition at that time indicated there is a deeper meaning to these gifts.

Gold is a precious metal and a symbol of divinity. In the Old Testament, the Ark of the Covenant was overlaid with pure gold. Even the pagan made idols out of gold. So, the gift of gold to the Child Jesus could be symbolic of His divinity, God in flesh. It is also to acknowledge His right to rule. It could be that the wise men knew Jesus was the King of kings.

Frankincense was used as incense in worship. It is a white resin or gum obtained from a tree by making incisions in the bark and allowing the gum to flow out. It is highly fragrant when burned and was used as an act of pleasant offering to God (Ex 30:34-38). It is a symbol of holiness and righteousness. The gift of frankincense to the Christ child was symbolic of His willingness to become a sacrifice, wholly giving Himself not just as a High Priest but, as a burnt offering Himself.

Myrrh is the principal ingredient in the holy anointing oil (Ex 30:23). This was a product of Arabia obtained from trees. It was also used for embalming of the dead. We do not know precisely whether the wise men may have known or guessed about Christ's ministry, but we do know that the Old Testament again and again foretold His suffering. In Mark15:23 and Matt 27:34 Jesus was given wine mixed with myrrh, which was very bitter to numb His pain. So myrrh symbolized bitterness, suffering and affliction that Jesus went through as Saviour.

In summary, probably unknown to the Magi, these gifts given to honour a King could have prophetic symbols indicating Jesus coming to this world as King, Priest and Saviour for mankind.

Raising His Banner

By Ruth Lew

"On 8 & 9 October, 2016, a carload of us from the Prayer Ministry made a 4-hour journey to Kemaman and Kuantan for a weekend of ministry in two churches on the East Coast. We were praying all the way in the car when the unexpected happened. One of the car tyres burst and the car careened out of control at the Karak highway. Praise the Lord that Timothy Lew, the driver, manoeuvred the car safely to the side of the road without any mishap and there were no cars travelling on our left, otherwise it would have been fatal. When we got out of the car, we saw to our horror that the front left tyre was completely peeled off from the rim! Smoke was also coming from the tyre as though it was burning. Fragments of the exploding bits were scattered all over the road. Praise God for the 'prayer-powered ladies' who immediately got to work to change the tyre without murmuring or complaining.



The tyre that exploded

Worried about the speed of oncoming cars for we have heard reports of speeding buses and lorries crashing into people changing tyres on the highway, we raised up the huge red banners which Amy brought with her for the ministry. The effect – cars and buses travelling at high speed slowed down at the sight of the red banners.

Previously, we have had a similar experience of our tyre bursting as well. In that incident, the car we were travelling in overturned and landed into a ditch. The car was a total write off.

During the ministry time at the two churches, many came forward for prayers with tears in their eyes. One lady asked for prayers as she was having insomnia. After leading her to pray a prayer of forgiveness and breaking the spirit of insomnia over her, she testified the next day that she slept so well that very night! We wish to thank all who prayed for the team." – **Tim & Ruth Lew**

"Before the trip, I dreamt that we were feeding two people with peanuts while they were lying down. They were restful and appeared to be having a joyful time. I knew that the two people were hungry for the Word of God. I saw this dream come to pass in Kemaman and Kuantan. People were so hungry for the Word. I was so blessed to share the testimony of God's protection in both churches. Angels protected us at the moment the tyre exploded. Though it was a very dangerous situation, we laughed at the problem and rejoiced on the highway! At Christian Praise Centre in Kuantan, I prayed for a man and his wife – both of them had tears rolling down their eyes. My heart is so full of joy at the opportunity to serve the Lord." – **Gomee**



Raising the red flag after the tyre burst

"Initially I was reluctant to bring the red flags as they were too big. However, I felt the Lord tell me to bring it. It was when the tyre burst at the Karak highway that I knew why I had to bring the red flags. The giant flags kept us safe while the tyre was being changed. Many cars and buses slowed down at the sight of us doing the flag dance at Karak Highway! Gomee also blew her shofar at the Karak highway.

While worshipping with the team in Kemaman, we heard many voices as though the whole church was packed with angels. Many voices sang along with us. Though small in numbers, we felt that there were a lot of people. At Kemaman, God led me to release a word of knowledge to a young man. It really spoke to his heart. At Kuantan, I just stepped out in faith to help Ruth with the closing – I asked the people to open up their hearts and allow Jesus to take control of their lives. I challenged them to come forward to the altar to be prayed for. I felt that God wanted them to open up their hearts to allow the Holy Spirit to move in their lives. As I said this, suddenly I saw people practically

running out of their seats to the front for prayer. In faith, I laid hands on the people and prayed for them. As I did so, God gave me prophetic words for them. Tears were flowing down their eyes. Thank you so much for your prayers for us!" – **Amy Lim**

"I felt that there were many voices singing along with us at Kemaman like a chorus of angels. The church at Kemaman is poised for growth. The church had different generations worshipping together in unity – children, youth, young adults and adults. We could flow in unity with the musicians and the entire church even as we led the worship. Many ladies and men who came out for prayer had tears in their eyes. I released a word for the Kemaman church – do not look back but look forward, God is going to do a new thing." – **Sumi Cheong**



Ministry in Kemaman Presbyterian Church



Ministry in Kuantan Christian Praise Centre

Don't Miss the Boat

By Khor Hoe Chai, Pastor

"Don't Miss The Boat" was the theme of the 26th Kid's Camp 2016 which our team of six had a privilege to participate in. Ps Lata Lincoln of Faith Welfare Society has been conducting Kid's Camp for the past 26 years in various villages and towns in India. The vision that burns in her heart for kids has been growing bigger and bigger and spreading further and further.



This year's camp of 4 days and 3 nights, held from 9 to16 Oct, in Khamman, a smaller city about 5 hour's drive from Hyderabad, was held in a school. About 1,000 children ages 7 to 15 participated. One thing that awed us as we taught the children was their intense attention and interest in all that we had to say and did. They were like sponges that soaked in everything. And it was so vital to give them the Gospel and the truth of God. They loved to sing and dance, smile at us and shake our hands.



Having the privilege to serve alongside Ps Lata was so envisioning. The future of India belongs to the children of today. We saw the vision of building the future at work right before our eyes. Ps Lata shared some very encouraging testimonies of young adults with us. These ones had participated in Kids Camp 20 years ago and are now serving the Lord in various parts of India in various capacities. Some have become missionaries. Some are contributing significantly in the market place as engineers, teachers, etc. We met William Carey, a young man who was the main organizer of the Gospel meeting in Warangal. He was raised up in the orphanage and the school that Sister Lata established in Hyderabad.



Other than the Kids' Camp we also ministered to about 60 pastors in a one day conference on "Building Personal House of Prayer". We were very encouraged to hear their testimonies and feedbacks at the end of the conference about how they were challenged to pray more and that the pattern of the Lord's Prayer would certainly help them to pray with focus and fervency. We conducted two Gospel Meetings in two different villages and saw about 50 people responding to the call to accept Jesus as their Lord and Saviour. Praise the Lord for the salvation of those precious souls. In one of the village Ps Lata has established a sewing school for widows. It is a very practical way to help poor widows to learn a skill that helps them to earn a living. We could see great joy in the 12 widows who received their certificates of graduation after 6 months of training.





5



6



Photo captions

1 *The team with Ps Lata.*
2 & 3 *Response to the Gospel*
4 *Widows graduated after 6 months sewing course*
5 *Pastors Conference*
6 *The Kid's Camp*

Flashback 2016

Sharpen & Strengthen To Shine






Jan

1 Starting the New Year on bended knees
4 Birth of Jason Emmanuel, son of Jay & Glowie
10 Prayer Evangelism Launch
17 Membership Class
21 Haizal Norgi went home to the Lord
23 Time Management Workshop with Celine Teh
24 New Believers Class
25 Gotong Royong





Feb

20 Dedication of Charis Hope Elderly Home
20 Leaders Chinese New Year Get Together
21 Old Testament Overview
28 Ps Richard & Ps Nicodemus from Uganda visit HGC






Mar

20 Welcoming new members
25 Good Friday & Communion Service
26 Kg Gerachi Easter Celebration
27 HGC 22nd Anniversary & Easter Service
29 Birth of Hayley first born child of Dex & Brenda Sze






Jul

2 Kindy Sport's Day
3 Ps Allan Webb ministers in HGC
10 LG Relate Training
10 Praying for Ps Nick as he leads HGCKL
22-24 Sibu Youth Camp - Ps Khor, Chin Nee, Ignatius Tien, Zuriel
23 KKB Baptism – Norgi Ali, Haizarie and Diwi Yahya






Aug

7 Beginning of 40 days Prayer & Fasting
8 Ps Wah Yaw's father & mother's baptism
10 Korean Team ministers at our prayer meeting
13 Introduction to Home Schooling
21 Filipino Fellowship starts in HGC
27-28 End-Time Seminar with Ps Steve Cioccolanti






Sep

3 Next Generation Revo
11-13 Leaders' Retreat
17 Chinese Youth help out at Kg Gerachi
24-25 Missions Convention – Destined for Glory with Ps Esther Ding





Apr

1 AGM
3 Ps David Goh ministers in HGC
8 Bible Study on Song of Songs by Dr Nitta Arul
8-10 Mission Trip to Sibu - Wai Pooi, Sekar, Christina Auyong, Yuet Ching
20 Korean team visits HGC
20 Our beloved bro Khor Hoe Seng went home to the Lord






May

2 Family Day
7 Mothers' Day at Kg Gerachi
14 Welfare ministry
15 Ps Cheli and May ministered in HGC
22 Baptism - Christina Wah, Diana Lee, Khoo Kim Yen, Caleb Lau, Justin Tan, William Lee
29 Datuk Ignatius ministered in HGC
28-30 Chinese Family Camp





Jun

3-5 Children's Church Camp
17-19 LG Training with Ps Antonino & Ps Carlos






Oct

8 Kindy Concert
9-16 India Mission Trip- Ps Khor, Mark, James, Ignatius & Luke
30 Youth Service




Nov

5 Leaders' Meeting
7-9 Staff Retreat in Melaka
9-16 China Mission Trip – Tim & Esther Chan
25-27 Sibu Mission Trip – Timothy & Ruth Lew, Jane Oo, Christina, Gomee & Helen Loke
27 Baptism – Kenneth Yong, Samantha Tan, Shirley Ngu, Sarah Sharlini, Joshua Sanjay, Chia Voon Ching, Chan Yi Hern, Chau Jia Wang, Chau Jia Poh, Jason, Kristy Hor, Chin Ee Lin
29 Ps Chong Wah Yaw graduates with B.Th. – Congratulations
29 Keng Youth School Holiday Program






Dec

3 KKB Christmas Celebration
10 CPAS 2.0
17 Saturday Service Christmas Celebration
17 Keng Youth Christmas (Chinese)
18 Children's Church Christmas Celebration
18 Chinese Sun School Christmas Celebration
22 Elderly LG Christmas Celebration
23 Youth Christmas (English)
24 Filipino Christmas Celebration
25 Chinese Christmas Service
25 English Christmas Service

Community Engagement

By Ms Melody Wan (Senior Supervisor of The Little Lighthouse)

Our job as an educator has grown more complex and more challenging. It used to be that knowing about curriculum, student learning or assessments met the grade. But increasingly, educators are encouraged to become experts in parent and community engagement which is good for community outreach work. And the yearly Concert is one of the events which we can turn into "a community engagement" activity.

We were glad that on 8 Oct 2016, in conjunction with the Kindy Graduation and Concert, the Little Lighthouse Kindy held a parenting talk on the "5 Love Languages for children" by Mr. Benny Kong from Focus on the Family, Malaysia.

The session created awareness among the parents that it is important for them to show their love effectively to their children, that is, in a way their children could receive. The parents' thoughts were triggered with questions such as, "What makes your child feel most loved?" This helps them to discover and understand their child's language of love which enables them to build stronger loving relationship with their child.

Why Is Community Involvement Important Now?

Parent involvement has always been an important aim for educators. Why?

Parent Involvement = Student Success





Teachers, principals and superintendents know that parents' interest and involvement in their child's learning can have a profound effect on a child's success in school. Studies show when parents and community members are engaged in schools, students perform better, attendance increases and dropout rates are lower.



Schools can involve parents and community members in many ways. Parents can help with homework; community members can assist with school events or make decisions with teachers and principals about how to improve student achievement. Some can volunteer as teacher's aides or chaperones on field trips or collaborate with community groups to build support for a neighbourhood school and hold parenting talks to share with parents. These are good ways for us to help elevate students' progress from time to time.

So, do look out and look forward to all the future school events. Get involved and play a part in creating a better tomorrow. Together we grow as a community.

















Photo captions

1 *Parents thinking hard what their children's love language is*
2 *James Bond posing with the girls*
3 *Magic Box Show*
4 *Circus Girls Dance*
5 *Robotics*
6 *Chinese dance*
7 *Presenting award*
8 *Benny Kong speaking on 5 love languages*
9 *Some I who helped out*
10 *Class teacher appreciated*
11 *Superheroes*
12 *Graduating students*



Learning from the S7

By Ruth Lew



Lombok and its adjoining islands are beautiful to behold. Some of the most beautiful corals can be found in the ocean near one of the Gili islands (there are three of them, all of them a beautiful azure blue with crystal clear waters, good for sea-life and underwater snorkeling).

At our annual family holiday in October this year, I decided at a moment's whim to test my Samsung phone (S7 series is the most expensive of all Samsung phones and with a fantastic camera that can take front and back pictures). I decided to take pictures of the beautiful underwater corals. After all Samsung did claim that the phone could take pictures underwater. What I did not know was that the water was to be only of a certain depth (like the depth of a swimming pool) and the time can only be up to 30 minutes underwater.

I lowered my pink selfie stick with the phone at the end of it under the sea several times and snapped away happily. The pictures came out beautifully but what I did not realize was the price I had to pay to get the beautiful pictures.

Going back to our resort after the boat trip, I tried many times to charge the phone using the USB port. It failed. The message "moisture detected". I tried drying it with the hairdryer. Same message came out. I was really upset with Samsung. Coming back home, I lodged a complaint with Samsung over their so-called false claims!

The whole week I was praying and asking God to help my phone to charge normally! Still it did not charge. One morning as I was doing my devotion, I received Phil 4:4 "Rejoice always and again I say rejoice" and 1 Thess 5:18 "In everything give thanks for this is the will of God for you in Christ Jesus".

I decided that the phone was something not worth getting upset over. I started giving thanks for the damaged phone and meditating on the Scriptures including praying it out during my morning-prayer altars with my 'mobile' prayer partners (those who pray with me in my car on the way to work and we pray very specific prayers over specific matters)!

One week later for no apparent rhyme or reason, the phone started to charge again! From this incident, I learned 2 important lessons from my Samsung S7:

1. Focus on God (He matters more than my Samsung phone or any other material things) and God will take care of the desires of our heart.

2. Beautiful things take some sacrifice. In a sense, the function of my phone was sacrificed in order to enable me to take some beautiful coral pictures. I thought of the days I have to drag myself out of bed to prepare for the 6 am prayers. Although the first few minutes seem so difficult yet stepping into the church at the early hours and sensing immediately the presence of God is well worth the sacrifice of sleep! The morning prayers are well worth the sacrifice of sleep just like my phone being spoilt is well worth the pictures taken!

ENJOY!

To God Be The Glory For What He Has Done!

By Joseph Fadrigo Teruel, Pastor



In 2013, I was diagnosed with brain tumour in a famous hospital in the Philippines. They found out that the tumour was in the right side of my brain and was connected to my right eye. There was also a lump at the back of my eyeball which according to the doctor and what the C.T. Scan showed was already cancerous.

Can you imagine having brain tumour and cancer on the right eye at the same time! The doctor told me and my wife that I needed to undergo surgery because that was the only way that my life could be prolonged. My right eye would have to be removed and replaced with an artificial eye in order to protect my left eye.



Believing in God's right time, after hearing from the doctor, my wife and I went back to our hometown and continued to do the ministry that God entrusted to us. We knew that this was not just a trial for me, but this was another story to tell of His faithfulness.

For two years, I kept on preaching and encouraging the members that God is good and He is faithful despite my situation and condition.

I still remember that it was a Sunday. I was in the middle of my preaching when I stopped for a while. I heard the voice of God telling me, "Son, I am going to heal your eyes and you will travel all around the world to testify of my faithfulness upon your eye." Wow! What a comfort I received from it.

And God also gave me a message from the book of Joshua 1:8 "This book of the Law shall not depart out of your mouth,… meditate therein Day and Night.' I translated it in my own thoughts … 'this promise of the Lord shall not depart out of your mouth… Declare it Day and Night!'

" I heard the voice of God telling me, "Son, I am going to heal your eyes and you will travel all around the world to testify of my faithfulness upon your eye."

Since that day, every day my wife and I kept on declaring by faith that God would heal me until something happened.

After two years in 2015, through the help of my friend Bishop of Los Banos, we went to a very well-known hospital in the Philippines for a second opinion regarding my right eye. By the grace of God, after they examined everything for weeks, the Head Doctor of Ophthalmology told us that there was no brain tumour anymore and the cancer in my right eye was just only a lump that needed to be removed.

I was overwhelmed and rejoiced in the LORD, knowing that He is faithful in His promise. I am now completely healed by the grace of God.

Thank You LORD God Almighty for Your faithfulness!

One Is Saved, The Household Will Be Saved

By Jesse Dass



The baptism of Doris' father and mother

Doris and I take this opportunity to share the blessed assurance of God who has promised salvation to all who believe in Christ Jesus as Lord and Saviour.

Both my In-laws (Doris' parents) went on to be with the Lord this year due to terminal cancer. The good news is that they both had different encounters with God and through their experiences they gave their life to Jesus Christ and were baptized earlier this year at Wesley Methodist Church in Singapore. It was indeed a joyful occasion witnessed by all the family members.

Doris' mother was diagnosed with cancer in her womb. After the operation she began to pray for healing according to her Buddhist and Taoist beliefs. We, the children, intensified our prayers for her salvation in Christ Jesus. Then she had the same dream for three consecutive days. In the dream she was passing by a lake where she saw many large fishes. She caught a fish but suddenly there appeared a beastlike monster which chased after her for a long distance. As she ran she came to a junction where she met a young man who was seated down. She told him her predicament and asked him for help. The young man told her to pick some herbs and throw them at the beast. She did as she was told. True enough the beast disappeared. God told her eldest son, Sam, to share with her that the young man in her dreams is her Saviour. The evangelists from Wesley Methodist Singapore visited her every month for two years. Eventually, she accepted Christ as her Lord and Saviour together with Doris' father. Both of them were baptized on the 30 January 2016. Doris' mother went on to be the Lord on 12 March 2016.

Doris' father had liver cancer but he refused to have chemotherapy. Days passed by and he began to question why God didn't heal his wife and felt resentful. We often visited him, shared and prayed with him to trust God for his healing. Days passed into months and in August 2016, he was told after a check-up that the cancer had spread to three quarters of his liver and was advised to be prepared.

This time we prayed that he would have the full assurance that he is destined to be in heaven with Christ Jesus. Suddenly, he felt very ill and was admitted to the hospital. The cancer had doubled in size. During this time, we requested for prayers that he would have full knowledge

of where he was going after this life. Indeed much prayers were offered up that he would go home in glory before any further complication of the tumour erupting.

Then my father-in-law had a vision of himself clothed in white garment following many people into a beautiful place with bright lights. After this he had another vision. He saw that he had died and was wearing his best suit and tie and taken to heaven to meet the councils of men, twenty of them around the table. The very next morning he shared what he had witnessed to his children and told them that he was going to heaven and that they need not worry about him. All of Doris' siblings rejoiced in the victory in Christ Jesus and of the assurance of their Dad's destiny. On Wednesday 28 Sept 2016, he passed on to glory peacefully in the morning.

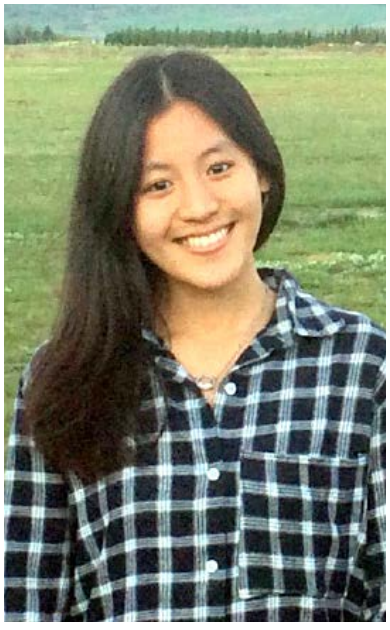
What we learned during this time is that God honours His Word that when one is saved, the whole household will be saved. Salvation of our loved ones is important and they need to be assured of their destiny in Christ Jesus and this only comes through our persistence in prayer and sharing the Gospel. Let us rise up and boldly share the Gospel and pray persistently. God honours His written Word.

" My father-in-law had a vision of himself clothed in white garment following many people into a beautiful place with bright light "

We take this opportunity to thank all who laboured in prayer with us. Believing for the victory in our families, we continue to pray that you too will have the victory for your unsaved love ones in Christ Jesus. Oh! What a wonderful God we serve, what great joy overwhelms us!

Getting Serious With God

By Shirly Ngu



Since young, I have been attending church every week. It was a weekly routine to me that I had to be in church every Sunday, without knowing who God is or who Jesus is. I was a really introverted person then; nervous and afraid of everything - people around me and things that happened to me. There was a fear inside my heart all the time.

That is why I did not have many friends in school then. Of course, I had several friends, but I still felt lonely. I always kept a smile on my face but felt the total opposite inside. Not because of any bad things that happened, but because of the fear in me. It stopped me from being who I am, and stopped me from doing the things that I wanted to do.

When I was 15, a friend invited me to church (HGC). By then I had stopped attending church for a long time. After that, I joined my very first youth camp where I experienced God for the very first time. As I slowly got to know more about God, how great His love is, and kept growing closer to him, that fear in me naturally decreased without me realizing. I opened up more and I had greater courage, because I knew that even if I fell, God would be there to catch me.

At the end of last year after attending "Huge Camp", I decided to get serious in my walk with God. I committed my life to Him, asking for His forgiveness for every sin that I had committed and every mistake that I had made. To me, it felt like I was starting a new life. As I started reading the Bible, I felt like it was speaking to me, giving me courage to do the things that I am supposed to do. Until today, I am glad that I could use what God has blessed me with to serve in the Keng Youth Core Team, which is on opportunity for me to be the leader God wants me to be.

We are all broken, in different ways due to all the hardships in our lives, but what keeps us strong, is our one and only God. No one can ever replace Him.

A Visit From A Man In White

By Cassia Yap



Uncle Khoo looking good with his wife and son, Jordan

My father-in-law, Jimmy Khoo, had been suffering from colorectal cancer for the past two years. After colectomy surgery (surgery to remove part of his colon) he had to carry a bag all the time as waste had to be discharged through an opening on his stomach. This caused a lot of inconveniences in his daily life and he was very embarrassed about it too. My father-in-law became very depressed. He could not manage the waste bag himself. He had to rely on my mum-in-law to change and fix the bag for him a few times a day. He could not stay out or travel for long as he needed to be changed frequently.

He wished that the doctor would do a reversal surgery so that he could regain normal use of his bowels rather than carry a bag around for his waste to be discharged. However, as family members, we encouraged him to accept it and move on in life as we were concerned that his other health issues such as diabetes and high blood pressure may not permit him to undergo major surgery. The doctor also advised him to refrain from further surgical procedures.

In August 2016, the area surrounding the opening on his stomach developed some growth. The doctor feared it was not a good sign but praise God the colonoscopy and MRI results were good. In fact the doctor asked if he would like to shift the opening to another side of his stomach or do a reverse colon surgery to reconnect the normal bowel system. My father-in-law insisted on undergoing the reverse colon surgery despite the fears and doubts my mum-in-law had.

He was admitted to the hospital at the end of August 2016 and hospitalized for 6 days.

My mum-in- law took good care of him including encouraging his spiritual growth. She was always encouraging him to give thanks and to talk to Jesus. She said that during that time she kept on praying for him.

At this time, God moved many people in our church and family members to pray for his recovery.

God's thoughts and ways are indeed higher than ours.

At first, we thought that my father-in-law could surely lead a normal life with his special bowel system. And although we prayed for God's healing upon him and asked God to give him a long life, we never prayed for a reverse colon surgery for him. We settled to the fact that he could cope with the waste bag and live as normal a life as possible. How little faith we had!

God is very kind and gracious; He knew and granted my father- in-law's heart's desire to have a successful surgery to regain a normal bowel system. The doctors went ahead to do the reverse surgery after my father-in-law signed the consent form.
After the surgery and follow-up sessions, the doctors commented that he was indeed "very lucky" as he was able to sustain a major operation at the age of 73 and recovered so well.

My father-in-law told us two weeks after the surgery that he saw a Man in white carrying him and lifting him with both hands and placing him on the operation table. He immediately knew that the Man was Jesus as he felt so peaceful the whole time.

That morning my husband, Boo Boon, was with his father. He prayed and accompanied him before the operation till he was transferred out of the operation theatre. The nurse was amazed that he was so peaceful and happy before and after the surgery.

God is indeed able to grant us exceedingly and abundantly above all that we can ask or think. God can grant us our heart's desire even when others do not have the faith that we have!

" He saw a Man in white carrying him and lifting him with both hands and placing him on the operation table. "

Slightly more than a week after the operation, my dad had normal bowel movements. Praise God!

I hope this testimony will encourage all those who are facing health issues to believe God for the impossible despite what others around them may be saying.

Strengthen, Sharpen to Shine

By Ruth Lee

Thank you Father God for our church theme for 2016
Daily meditation of the Word has strengthened me within Sharpened
through the daily meditation of Scriptures
Strengthened in the Word and my relationship with Jesus
Hebrews 4:16 tells me true – the Word is living and powerful
It has enabled me to focus on Jesus no matter how painful
Despite the work-place scolding, politicking and back-stabbing
On Jesus I am able to focus my thoughts and thinking
Thank you Father God for our church theme for 2016
Prayer in the wee hours of the morning is worth sowing
It's a blessing to build the church Morning Altars
It has protected me from negative thoughts and filters
Shining for Jesus comes naturally when strengthened, sharpened
Sharing the good news is such a joy when doors are opened
The young ladies and men accepted Jesus throughout the year
When the 4-Spiritual Laws were shared to them so clear!
Even those who did not say "YES," thanked me for sharing
Even those who did not respond, took the tracts willingly
The desire to share about Jesus will burn within our hearts
Strengthened, sharpened we will be inspired to do our part!



A Christmas Story: Through Mary's Eyes

By Janelle Lim



Have you ever wondered what Mary felt? We can't know. But we can imagine…

It was a day just like any other; I was just doing my usual chores when suddenly a radiant being appeared before me, with a booming voice he said: "Greetings, favoured woman! The Lord is with you."

I somehow knew it was an angel but why would an angel come to me? I was confused and afraid, but it spoke again, "Don't be afraid, Mary. You have found favour with God. You will be pregnant and will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High." I did not doubt it, but I wanted to understand better, so I asked, "How will this be, since I am a virgin?"

"The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So, the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God. For nothing is impossible with God," said the angel. I could make no sense of this, yet I felt a sense of peace within me. I trusted God, didn't I? So I said, "I am the Lord's servant. May it be to me as you have said." And the angel left.

Then I thought of Joseph. We were considered married, but we were waiting out our year of betrothal before we came together as husband and wife. What would Joseph say when he found out? He would know the child was not his. What would he do?

At that moment I felt an icy chill of fear. He could accuse me in front of the elders and I would live out the rest of my life in disgrace, alone with this child. I sat on a hard bench for a long time, praying, crying and trying to take it in. I swung from joy to sadness and back to joy, over and over again. Finally I resolved I would trust the Lord, no matter what. Joseph was stunned to find out I was pregnant, as any man would be. Finally he said he cared too much for me to be disgraced, and thus, would just divorce me quietly. Before he could speak to the elders and make it official, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream. "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because Jesus will save His people from their sins." Joseph believed! Neither of us could understand the hows and the whys, but that didn't matter. God had decided Joseph and I were to be part of this miracle in sending His son to earth.

Close to the end of my pregnancy, Emperor Caesar Augustus decreed a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. Joseph and I both belonged to the line of David. So we had to go to Bethlehem, the city of David. It didn't matter that the journey to Bethlehem was a long one, we had no choice.

he discomfort of the journey was overwhelming. Sometimes I rode on the donkey and sometimes I walked. Either way, I felt every jolt, every rock, every rut in the road. By the time we drew near Bethlehem, I was feeling ill. Then I felt a sharp pain down low in my belly. I knew my time to give birth was coming soon. Yet we had no place to stay.

Joseph pounded on doors, frantically inquiring of innkeepers. There were no rooms available. At last one kind man took pity on us and told us we could stay in his stable. He lent us a small oil lamp. We watched its light dance and flicker on the rough walls and listened to the soft sounds of the animals. And we waited.

Joseph did what he could. He spread out a garment for me and helped me lie down on it. What a relief! My swollen feet throbbed and my whole body ached.

We had only the warmth--and the smell--of the animals. It was the most tedious time of my life, waiting for God's Son to be born.

Suddenly, labour pangs began to hit me, and it grew stronger every 3 breaths or so. I held Joseph's hand, wincing in pain. He stayed by my side, his eyes filling with tears as he squeezed my hand back in return, probably muttering a prayer under his breath. With one final push and a long sigh, my labour was over.

The Saviour, the long-awaited Messiah, was born!

I could not hold back tears of joy. I looked into my baby's face and wondered what the future might hold for this little one. Then I put the child down in a manger. As I closed my eyes to rest, I thanked the Lord over and over again for all that He has done in my life.

Time to Wake Up!

By Abigail Cheong

"Ring! Ring!" the alarm clock sounds. Slowly, you wake and turn it off, then begin your new day. Well, it is time we do that spiritually too. When the alarm sounds, which is NOW, we have to rise to the occasion and start doing what God wants us to do.

What does God want me to do? Well, to find out, we have to seek God and let Him speak to us. As a youth, I myself do not yet know the calling God has on my life. And I'm sure most of the other youths are not sure about it too. But what I absolutely know is that we are not born into this world to just live and die. We are all made for a special purpose, a purpose that only we can fulfil. So, let's get inspired and start moving! It's time we stop ignoring God and forgetting about Him. Remember: He ought to be the centre of our life. All of our decisions should be based on Him. It's very easy to just go along with our day and forget that God is watching us all the way. This is why we need to be in a close relationship with God.

Sometimes, I find that we often put ourselves down because we think we are too young and therefore we can't do anything. However, age is not a limit in the kingdom of God. In the Bible, Jeremiah thought that he could not speak for God because he was too young, but God replied, "Don't say, 'I'm too young,' for you must go wherever I send you and say whatever I tell you. And don't be afraid of the people, for I will be with you and will protect you."



Another thing is that we should be careful not to let pleasure and fun become a main purpose in our life. Let us root ourselves in God's Word at all times, so we will not be led astray.

As we see what is going on in today's world, it's pretty clear that the Day of the Lord is on its way. We need to realize that it's time for us to wake up and rise up. We can't just sit back and watch any more. We must pray and get ourselves prepared to face whatever that is coming our way. So, let us wake up and get ready today!

Forgiveness at Christmas

By Melissa Foong



The Christmas of 1994

I was 16, yet I still remember it clearly as if it happened yesterday. My brother and I were on our knees crying our eyes out, begging our father not to leave us. But he just brushed us off and left without a second look.

I remember waiting at the door step, eager to see my father come home from work every evening. I remember our secret handshake that Tristan, my brother would always be jealous of. I remember my father reading me my favourite bedtime story for the hundredth time. But all of these are in the past; I have no one to call "Dad" anymore. There won't be any Father and Daughter nights. No more.

I was devastated by the departure of my father. Everything changed after that, my mother became paranoid about everything. She was afraid of the loan sharks who came every single day, banging at our door and covering the entire house with red paint. Tristan started acting weird; he would come home every day smelling like stale cigarettes. It wasn't any better for me. I started college and soon got a job as a manager at a law firm. I became very much attached to my job. I spent 24 hours / 365 days in my office. I loved my job. Why? Because it gave me a reason not to go home and it took my mind of things.

Christmas Eve, 2015

I decided to take a day off and headed back home. As I was having a cup of coffee after a long and relaxing shower, I heard a knock, "Tup tup tup." I opened the door and I saw the face of the man who started all of this: the man who got my mother in trouble; the man whom I waited for 8 years and eventually gave up!

"Hey Vi, I missed you. How is your mum doing?"

I've never hated someone so much before. He stood there with a teddy bear and a bouquet of Baby's Breath. He smiled as if nothing had happened. I stood there, frozen.

"Can I come in?" he spoke once again. This time, I couldn't control myself.

"Why now? After 21 years? You have a lot of guts showing up in front me," I said with pure hatred

"I just want to spend some time with you. Tomorrow, 7p.m at our favourite diner."

I scoffed and slammed the door in his face. I couldn't believe this man. After 21 years? After everything that had happened to our family? Frustrated, I decided to visit my mother who was in town.

Christmas Day, 2015

I met my mum at the diner we used to go to as a family. Suddenly, everything that had happened last night came in a blow.

"Mum, how did you forgive Dad?" I asked.

"Well, it takes a lot of courage to actually forgive someone who turned your whole life upside down. I had a lot of hatred in me for your father. I'd lived my life with so much hate that it actually affected my daily life. Because of the hatred I had inside me, I was spreading hate among the people who were close to me. I lost my friends and my family. I was tired of having that much hate inside of me and I was desperate to get out. I found this verse taped to my car one day, written there was…"

"And when you stand praying, if you hold anything against anyone, forgive them, so that your Father in heaven may forgive you your sins." Mark 11:25

"That verse made a powerful impact in my life. I felt as if the chains that were holding me back, broke into pieces. I no longer hold any grudges against your father. And I think you should too. Don't hold on to the past, let it go. The present and future is what matters now."

What Mum said woke me up like a punch to the stomach. Although I had lots of questions in my mind, I was determined about letting go.

That night, as I walked into the diner, I stood beside Table 15 where Dad was sitting with his hands clutched tightly. Dad looked up faster than the speed of light and looked completely surprised. We sat down and had the time of our lives just by talking and having a cup of Chocolate Chip Cookie ice cream. I didn't know the hatred and anger I had for my father had such an impact in my life. I felt as if the chains that held me back finally broke.

I decided to let go of the past. Have you?

"Ketika Kuberdoa, Mukjizat Itu Nyata" – Sibu Youth Camp Nov 25 to 27

By Ruth Lee



The Sibu Youth Camp

"Whenever I pray, miracles become a reality" so goes the lyrics of the song sung by Edward Chen the Gospel singer from Indonesia.

When we taught the Iban youths at Sibu to sing this song, they sang it with all their hearts and at the top of their lungs. The words of this song rang so true at the recent Sibu Youth Camp attended by over a 100 youths. Due to the overwhelming number, we ran out of the booklet "Mezbah Doa" (Prayer Altar) and also materials for games. As we depended on God and on prayers offered up on our behalf, we saw miracles happen before our eyes.

God sent Jason, a young man from Sibu, to join us for the entire duration of the camp. Not only did he help take photos, he also did a photo video which we showed on the last day of the camp. It thrilled the young people to bits. Jason also brought the movie "War Room" which clearly illustrated the theme of the camp "Mezbah Doa". Many were seen openly weeping and some confessing that their parents were having problems in their relationships. Jason also downloaded songs like "Bapa Kami Di Syurga", "Kau Yang Tertinggi", "Malaysia Kemuliaan Mu" which we taught to the youths.

We improvised new games and yielded to the prompting of the Holy Spirit to find video illustrations suitable for our messages! We were able to show a short video on how the spirit world affected the physical world and how angels came to our aid when we pray.

Christina Khoo, Gomee and Helen Loke, first time mission-trippers, stepped out in faith to share testimonies. Particularly touching was Christina's testimony of her near-death experience when her heart stopped for a while when she was in ICU for blood dengue.

We saw tears streaming down the faces of the young people when we prayed for them to receive the Holy Spirit on the first night. On the second night, during the time of impartation, we laid hands on them while they were lined up row by row in front. One young lady wept so much that she had to use her collar to wipe her tears. All of us were visibly moved as well.

We saw the young people sleeping all over the Mission House on the floor and even in the church sanctuary. It was a miracle that the meals and drinks were enough for so many of them. They were just so happy to be there at the Camp. In the words of a young lady, "I am so happy to learn God's word at this Camp."

When we held quizzes for the young people, we found that they could answer questions from the Bible like "Where was Jesus born?" What is the name of the longest book in the Bible?" "How many were fed the 5 loaves and 2 fishes?" "Who was the strongest man in the Old Testament? In fact, they rushed out to answer the questions in order to win the prizes. One young lady who could recite John 3:16 won the top prize.

Those who did not have Bibles rushed out to buy Bibles from Ps Shin and put the bookmarks we gave them into their Bibles. On the second night, the young people even rushed forward to stretch out their hands to pray for Pastor Shin!

We could not have done the camp without prayer support.

God Comforted Us Through Our Trials



Ps Daniel, Ruth And Family

Time has flown by so very quickly. My family and I have already been back in Switzerland for 7 years. It has been a whole new experience and ministry journey for me and Ruth in these 7 years. We went through many different challenges and storms in our ministry and lives which we had never encountered before. Through these problems, I have learnt to use the principles in the Word of God and a total reliance on the Holy Spirit to handle and resolve them. I learnt to stand firm on the core values of the church and humbly learn from my mistakes.

The greatest trial Ruth and I faced was within our own family. It dealt a great blow on us and hurt us deeply. I even thought at one point to step down as a pastor because I felt partly responsible for the problem. When members of the church came to know and understand the whole situation, they disagreed to my stepping down. Instead, they stood with us and supported me and my family through the entire problem. We were deeply touched by their love, concern, support and encouragement. It enabled us to go through our problems, rise out of it and continue walking the road God has for us in fulfilling His will.

God has not promised us that the skies will always be blue. In life, there will be moments we go through dark valleys and face difficult mountains. God has promised that He will always be with us no matter what the circumstances may be. Situations may not change as quickly as we hope they would but I believe God will, through the situations, change and shape us, our thoughts and attitudes. I have learnt through my trials and struggles to look up to God, to have faith in His Word and to hold fast to every one of His precious promises.

Isa 55:11 – so is My word that goes out from My mouth: It will not return to Me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it.

The LORD we serve is a faithful and trustworthy God. Whenever Ruth and I feel disappointed and sad, He will use different means and people to encourage us at the right time. On 4 Sept 2016, I received a letter from a pastor in Panama inviting me to be one of the speakers for the Panama Church Conference. Both Ruth and I were very encouraged and excited by it. It caused us to rise up out of our doubts and confusion. The peace of God flooded our hearts. We received clarity of direction and an affirmation for our ministry.

I always declare that if it is God's Work, God will take care of it. We just need to be faithful in the little things entrusted to us. This year we saw some wonderful work of God in our church which comforted us. Two backslidden believers have returned back to God and to the church. They are now

attending cell groups and serving God wholeheartedly. I can see their hunger for God. A Vietnamese sister who accepted Christ was baptized on 4 Sept, while another Thai lady accepted Christ on 18 Sept. When we came to realise that everything is the work of the Holy Spirit, the church was greatly encouraged and filled with joy. We believe that the promises of God to the church will soon be fulfilled one by one.

2 Cor 7:5-7 For when we came into Macedonia, we had no rest, but we were harassed at every turn—conflicts on the outside, fears within. 6 But God, who comforts the downcast, comforted us by the coming of Titus, 7 and not only by his coming but also by the comfort you had given him. He told us about your longing for me, your deep sorrow, your ardent concern for me, so that my joy was greater than ever.
In the above verses, we see that Paul faced many challenges in his life and ministry at every corner. There were external battles and inner fears. The Paul whom we know to be bold

and courageous also had his moments of weakness. But God, who comforts and encourages those who are discouraged, knew how to comfort him – through the coming of Titus who brought him good news.

May the God of Mercy & Grace comfort each and every one of His people!

A Merry Christmas and A Blessed New Year,
Daniel & Ruth Yap and fami

A Word Of Commendation & Appreciation



Allan & Val Webb

After having ministered in various churches throughout Malaysia we can honestly say that there is no church which brings greater joy to our hearts than does The Hope of Glory Centre in Ampang. The godly leadership provided by the Senior Pastor and his wife, the passionate worship led by a gifted team of musicians and singers, the loving, caring pastoral care and support demonstrated by individual members, all these serve to make this a truly great church – great in the eyes of God.

On two occasions, as we have ministered in this church, we ourselves were passing through a time of personal crisis – the hospitalization back in Australia of our two year grandson with a life threatening illness and the death of our forty seven year old son with a malignant brain tumour. On both occasions The Hope of Glory Centre rallied around us, prayed for us, loved us, and cared for us in a truly remarkable way.

As we have reflected on what are the ingredients needed to constitute a truly great church we have come up with the following list: Christ centred, Bible based, Spirit led, prayer powered, missionary minded, others oriented. It would seem to us that the Hope of Glory Church ticks all of these boxes.

Thank you Hope of Glory and may God's continued blessing be upon you.

Ps Allan & Val Webb

Give Them Away



Ps Lata with happy children in Joyland School.

It was a dark cold night, a few days away from Christmas; Rose Mary on her knees beside her bed was struggling to decide what she needed to do with Miss Bump!

Rose Mary was very busy all the day long going from house to house with her mom collecting goodies that were to be given to the poor orphan children living in the orphanage close to their house. It was late in the evening by the time they returned home. While she was about to retire to her bed, her mom walked in and asked her a question, "What did you plan to give to the orphan kids?" Mom continued and said, "Remember God the Father gave us Jesus whom He loved the most!"

Now Rose Mary began to think hard what she needed to give! She pulled out her basket of toys took out Miranda and said, "This is the new one. I rarely played with it, it is still new. This would be the perfect gift." Then she went to her mom and shared with her what she had decided to do. Mom said, "Ok! But remember that God gave His best gift to us!" Now Rose Mary became restless, she began to understand that she really did not like Miranda; it was not her favourite doll.

"Do you mean I need to give my…." The very thought of it made her sad. "No..no.. I can't do it, I cannot give Miss Bump," she started to say to herself.

Miss Bump was Rose Mary's favourite doll; she went with it everywhere she had gone. It travelled with her even to other countries. It was the most loved doll of hers. She was kneeled quietly by her bed side. Tears began to roll down her cheeks as she cleared her throat, gathered all her strength and said, "Dear God, I know how much You love me. You gave me Your best gift, Your beloved Son and offered Him on the cross for me. Thank You. I want to do the same for You."

The next morning, she went to her mom and gave away Miss Bump with a big smile on her face and said, "I am also giving my best to God and I am very happy about it." Mama said, "Are you sure?" "Yes!" nodded Rose Mary back to her Mama with a big broad smile!

Beloved, God the Father saw you and me in our distressed and sorrowful condition. He loved us too much to leave us in that state. He was more than ready to do anything for us. The situation demanded His only begotten Son to be offered as a sacrifice! He did not go back on giving His most beloved Son. This is what the first Christmas day is all about! God gave away His Son for us! Jesus was the first missionary! He left heaven and came down to this distressed planet and redeemed us through His blood! What a great sacrifice God the Father had made in giving away His beloved Son!
I now want to speak to you who are a Mom or a Dad and ask you, "Can you do that as well? Can you give your precious, precious sons and daughters back to God?"

The situation now demands it! Darkness prevails everywhere. It appears that the enemy satan has won it all! The world God has created is falling apart, lives have been made miserable, people are dying everywhere without any hope. Innocent humans have been robbed of their godly destinies. God is looking at everything saying, "If only I get a fully committed man. If only I get a fully committed woman." God is looking for totally surrendered people. There is no limit to what God can do through a fully committed and surrendered person.

As parents, now the onus is on us! What do we do with our precious children? Like Jochebed, can we raise Moses to deliver people from their bondage! Can we raise up an army at home who would go out and destroy the works of the devil? Can we put the fire into their hearts to enforce the Kingdom on earth! On the first Christmas day, God the Father GAVE AWAY to the world His beloved SON! Can we do the same this Christmas?

Times now have changed; the world needs missionaries in the media, in the marketplace, in the government, in the business houses, in the religious establishments. They are needed everywhere! Are you willing to Give Them Away?

Ps Lata Lincoln
Founder & Director, Faith Welfare Society

The Eternal Present



Pastors Conference in Pskov

A few days ago we returned from Russia. We were there one month after a new law was passed to prevent the church from doing evangelism and restricting the activities of Christians. But despite such circumstances, God proved true to His word that "No weapon formed against us shall prosper". We managed to do more than we originally planned.

It really blessed us to see how God has raised the Russian church and how strong and passionate they have become. As we witness this, we can't help being thankful to God for the partnership of your church in this work. Your partnership has seen 8.5 million people hearing the Gospel in the last 5 years with 2.9 million people making a commitment to Jesus.

Truly you have been "The Hope of Glory" to the Russians. Your church has always been passionate about missions. The impact of your effort is felt in many nations and the true extend of which will only be known in eternity. Your heart for the nations reflects the true meaning of Christmas, the eternal present of Jesus Christ to the world.



2000 strong youth camp in Crimea

As you celebrate this Christmas, celebrate the fact that your obedience has brought much light into this darkened world. Both Maudrene and I are so thankful that God has allowed us to share part of this journey.

Thank you for being our friend,
T T & Maudrene Quah

Faith Journey Is Never Boring



The growing ministry among the youth in Ps Willy's village

September 2016 marked our three years at home after 14 months of serving refugees in Malaysia. Looking back, our journey of faith has never been boring. These precious three years at home has been an enriching time for us. It was a time of constantly seeking and abiding in God, a season of caring and receiving care, and a period of consistently waiting and trusting God to bring us back to the people in Central Asia whom we have served for the past 10 years.

Constantly Seeking God

God will always be God even if man will not seek Him but a man who does not seek God is absolutely nothing. As a family, we believe that God exists, that we should constantly seek Him, and obey His words. Our identity in Christ matters, we need to know Him more, to love Him more, and to serve Him more. Sometimes we dwindle down in the amount of time spent in building our intimacy with God.

By His grace, every morning or evening, my wife, my children and I, spend time reading Scriptures, worshipping, and praying together, even though they may be short moments. We are learning a lot as a family and are much encouraged to see all of us growing in our faith. By seeking God, He is giving us a fresh revelation on what to do. One in particular is to declare prayer of blessings for my children before they go to school. Each day, I gladly lay my hands on them praying and declaring God's blessing on them. This might not seem like a big deal to others but for me it is; for my family is the first ministry entrusted to me by God. I am grateful that both of my kids are involved in the

church music ministry. Also, just recently, my son shared with me his desire to start a Bible Study with the students in his school and that he will ask permission from the school Principal for him to begin. I told my son to pray and just obey what God is asking him to do at this time. God is amazing and I am thrilled to see Him at work in the lives of my children, stirring them to participate in His redemptive work. Praise the Lord.

Caring And Receiving Care

While on home assignment and in transition, we focused on personal development, rest and serving at different churches when invited. We serve in our role with the amazing support of churches and friends. In 2014, the Church in Cuenca approached us to conduct discipleship training with the leaders. The leaders received the training with open arms. Discipleship groups were organized and are still thriving in different areas surrounding Cuenca. That time, we collaborated with a team from HGC led by Tim and Ruth Lew. They came and helped out in the discipleship training and incredibly ministered to the brethren in Cuenca Church. Indeed, God is glorified and His work in us continued to flourish because brethren in the faith help each other out in the work of the Lord.

In 2015, we launched a 30-day prayer of consecration for the leaders and members of the church. This initiative birthed into a prayer tower ministry. The prayer tower became a house of prayer for all nations. Thus the church began to intercede for churches, families, communities and nations. It is causing a transformation in our lives; and little by little I can see that the spiritual atmosphere in Cuenca communities and our nation is changing, which results in many open doors to preach the Gospel. Last August 2016, the Lord opened up for me a ministry among the youth in our village. There were only 6 young people who came in our first meeting but slowly the attendance tripled in two months. This is the move of God's Spirit in our village and I am grateful to take part in what He is doing among the young generation.



Ps Willy, Vicky, Genrev & Psalm Rufino

Consistently Waiting And Trusting In God

We are passionate and driven by God's divine calling upon our lives. Where God wants us to go, we will go. When God wants us to stay, we will stay. How God wants us to serve, we will do as He tells us. Three years of waiting is quite long but God's timing is always perfect. We believe and declare that 2017 is the perfect time for us to return to the field. The people in Central Asia whom the Lord put in our hearts 13 years ago have less than 1% followers of Christ. God's eyes are upon these people and He is gazing at them with great compassion. How can these people have faith in the Lord and be saved, if they have never heard about Him? And how can they hear, unless someone tells them? And how can anyone tell them without being sent by the Lord (Roms 10:14-15)? Would you pray with fervour for our preparations and for God to supply our every need? Would you consider sending us by joining our support team?

We rejoice over God's care for our family and we are thankful to each of you who shared in making our faith journey not a boring one.

Merry Christmas HGCians! God bless you!

Ps Willy, Vicky, Genrev & Psalm Rufino,

Christmas Greetings!



Tony & Christine Phang

Christine and I would like to wish Pastor Khor and Chin Nee, the leaders and the family of The Hope of Glory Centre a very Blessed Christmas. Christmas reminds us once again the unconditional love of God by sending His only begotten Son Jesus, to die for us on the cross so that we might have this abundant and eternal life. This Good News is still unknown to millions of people today, and that is why we must preach the gospel tirelessly. Jesus said in Luke 4:43,

"I MUST preach the kingdom of God to the other cities also, because for this PURPOSE I have been sent."

We would to take this opportunity to thank you for supporting our mission endeavour in various ways. Your prayers and support have made a difference in the churches and leaders we ministered to. 2017 is already looking like a busy year. Truly the harvest is plentiful and ripe! May the Lord continue to bless this great church and may you experience the great love of our Saviour every day!

Preaching His Kingdom,
Tony & Christine Phang

Emmanuel



Danny

What is the significance of Christmas? I was a Buddhist. I knew God existed. But where is God? To me, He is transcendent, seated on the throne of judgment, far away from creation. When I came to Christ, I learned that God is not only transcendent, who is above all, but also immanent in His creation. This was never heard of in any religion; God majestically transcendent, yet immanently personal, dwelling among us and in us, "Emmanuel!" That's Christmas summarised in 3 words, GOD BECAME MAN. Now, He lives, and He lives in us. God is no longer a faraway Being but a personal God to us. How is that possible? His Spirit is in us. Amazing, with His Spirit in us, we are saved and forgiven, belong to God, no longer sinners but sons of God. Rejoice!

Thanks and God bless!
Danny, Sue & Hannah



Family Fruit Cake

By Chris Cheong

Ingredients:

5 oz plain flour
5 oz self-raising flour
8 oz butter
8 oz soft brown sugar
Grated rind of one orange
5 eggs
1 lb mixed fruit
4 oz peel, finely chopped
4 oz glace cherries, quartered
1 tablespoon black treacle











1. *Measure out all the mixed fruits, peel and cherries and put into a large ceramic/glass bowl. Stir in half a cup of brandy into the mixture. Cover the bowl with cling wrap and set aside in a cool place for 3 days to 1 week. During this period, remember to take out and stir the fruit mixture, checking if is moist. If it seems dry, you can add 1 or 2 tablespoons of brandy.*

2. *Grease and line an 8-inch square or 9-inch round cake tin with greased greaseproof paper. Sieve the flours together.*

3. *Cream together the butter, sugar and orange rind until the mixture is pale and creamy. Add the eggs a little at a time, beating well after each addition. Fold in the flour alternately with the fruit mixture. Finally, blend in the treacle. Turn the mixture into the prepared tin. Place tin on a tray half filled with water. This will keep the cake moist. Bake in a very moderate oven (150°-160°C) for two and a half hours.*

4. *Remove the cake from the oven and leave to cool in the tin for 10 minutes. Turn it out on a wire tray to finish cooling; remove paper.*

5. *Once cake is cool, pour 1 to 2 tablespoons of brandy. Cling wrap the cake. Then, wrap with aluminium foil and set aside in a cool, dark place for at least 1 week.*

6. *This cake can be baked 1 to 2 months before and stored until Christmas.*

HAPPENINGS IN HGC

CHURCH EVENTS | Sep to Dec 2016



CHURCH EVENTS

Next Gen Revo	**3 Sep**
English Leaders Retreat	**1-13 Sep**
Mission Conventions	**24-25 Sep**
All Leaders Meeting	**5 Nov**
Staff Trip to Malacca	**7-8 Nov**
Youth Holiday Program	**29 Nov**



WATER BAPTISM **27 Nov**

Kenneth Yong, Samantha Tan, |Shirly Ngu, Sarah Sharlini, Joshua Sanjay, Chia Voon Ching, Chan Yi Hern, Chau Jia Wang, Chau Jia Poh, Jason, Kristy Hor, Chin Ee Lin



COMMUNITY EVENTS

910 Carnival	**10 Sep**
Kindy Concert	**8 Oct**
Hilla Anniversary Bazaar	**19 Nov**



MISSIONS TRIP

Chinese Youth to KKB	**17 Sep**
India Mission Trip	**9-16 Oct**
China Mission Trip	**9-16 Nov**
Sibu Mission Trip	**25-27 Nov**



GRADUATION **29 Nov**

Congrats to Ps Chong Wah Yaw on receiving your Bachelor of Theology

Congrats to Chin Wei Ling on completing TSOA **13 Nov**



CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS:

KKB	**3/12**
CPAS	**10/12**
Saturday Service	**17/12**
Keng Youth (C)	**17/12**
Sunday School	**18/12**
Children Church	**18/12**
Elderly Celebration	**22/12**
Keng Youth (E)	**23/12**
Filipino Fellowship	**24/12**
Christmas Service (C)	**25/12**
Christmas Service (E)	**25/12**

COMING EVENTS | Jan to Apr 2017

HGC 23rd Anniversary **12 Mar**

Good Friday & Easter **14-16 Apr**

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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