voiceofhope

the newsletter | Jan - June 2019



A publication of The Hope of Glory Centre. For private circulation.



contents

voiceofhope the newsletter | Jan - June 2019









CONTENTS

Pastor's column	04 - 05	Fresh Encounters With God
Missions Talk	06 - 09	Spiritual Engagement At Hilltop
Missions	10 - 11	A Memorable Learning Experience
Article	12	What do I think of Me
Life Management	13	One Ear In, One Ear Out
Prayer Wave	14 - 15	World Generation Gathering
25th Anniversary Testimonies	16	Encountering God in His Generosity
	17	Behind the Scenes
	18 -19	God's Silver Jubilee
HGC 25th Anniversary	20 - 21	HGC 25th Anniversary
Youth Wave	22 - 23	Sg Congkak Outing
	24 - 26	JESUS IS RISEN!
Church Event	27	Sunrise Service
	28	The Cup of Suffering & The Cup of Salvation
	29	Encountering Christ through the Gospel of John
Testimony	30	The LORD Still Speaks Today
	31	Oh Lord! What Should I Do?
	31	I Will Heal You
	31	Jesus Take the Wheel
	32	Knowing Jesus Afresh
	32	Follow the Light
	33	My Leg Was Saved!
	34	My "Da Chieh"
	35	With God I Overcame
	35	An Unexpected Miracle
	36	Unceasing Grace and Blessings from God
	37	Love is for Everyone
QnA	38	Is Baptism Necessary for Salvation?
Recipe	39	Blue Lor Mai Kai
Happenings	40	Happenings In HGC

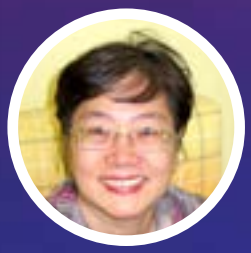





voiceofhope

the newsletter | Jan - June 2019







Dear Reader,

Half a year has gone by so quickly and this is the first issue of VOH for 2019. The reason is because we were very busy with the publication of the book "Out of Ampang" in conjunction with HGC's 25th Anniversary. It was really quite a challenge, having never published a book before. It was only by the grace of God that we were able to produce the book in the nick of time for the Anniversary celebration.

We had an awesome anniversary service on 10 March 2019 to celebrate God's great goodness in guiding and establishing HGC the last 25 years. Read about the celebration on pages 16 to 21.



HGC 25th Anniversary

The church theme for 2019 is Fresh Encounters with God. It is the desire of the church leadership that members of HGC have daily fresh encounters with God. They are not for the purpose of making us feel good but rather for us to know our God more intimately and stay strong and faithful in Christ. Ps Khor who has been pastoring this church faithfully for the past 25 years shares his personal encounters with God and how he has stayed fresh in the Lord. Read about it in the pastor's column on pages 4 to 5.

In this issue, there are many interesting and beneficial write-ups, for example on how to handle difficult bosses; on having self-esteem; on the grace of God and others.

There are also many amazing testimonies that would encourage your faith and help you see how real God is. These testimonies can be found on pages 30 to 37.

The VOH editorial team is very happy indeed to announce that we have a new young member on board, Alicia Joy. In her first piece of writing, she has very creatively imagined what it would be like in Jesus' days to have the fast messaging system which we have today. Find that on pages 24-26.

Enjoy Reading,
The VOH Team

The Hope of Glory Centre

1A,1B & 1C,
Jalan Wawasan Ampang 2/2,
Bandar Baru Ampang,
68000 Ampang,
Selangor, Malaysia.
Tel : 603-4295 1700
Fax : 603-4295 2701
Website : www.hgc.org.my
E-mail : mail@hgc.org.my

Voice of Hope (VOH) is published thrice a year by The Hope of Glory Centre, a church organisation. Reproduction in whole or in part is welcomed with acknowledgement.

- *Chief Editor*
  Ps Khor Hoe Chai
- *Editor*
  Lim Chin Nee
- *Copy Editors / Writers*
  Jeanette Chan
  Abigail Cheong
  Ruth Lew
  Justin Yong
  Janelle Llm
  Alicia Joy
- *Columnists*
  Ps Khor Hoe Chai
  Tim Chan
  Ruth Lew
  Loke Wai Keng
- *Art Director*
  Chuppy Lim

Fresh Encounters With God

By Khor Hoe Chai

HOW can our young people stay strong and faithful in their walk with God?

This was the question that was raised at our 2018 Leaders' Retreat.

What kept Paul faithful to the end despite all the sufferings and persecutions he went through? This was another question asked about the apostle Paul. In fact, Paul was not only faithful; he was zealously faithful till the end, even to his last days before he was martyred.

What was the reason? It was because Paul had a personal encounter with the living Christ.

Paul, initially Saul, had an intellectual and academic knowledge of God, being a Pharisee and a scholar of the law of God. That knowledge led him to persecute the church violently. He was hunting down Christians to punish them and put them in prison. It was on one of his hot pursuits to Damascus that he encountered the resurrected Christ.

The Lord appeared to him in a blinding, bright light which struck him down and left him blind. The Lord spoke to him in an audible voice and instructed him as to what to do. That one encounter turned him around 180%. Instead of coming against the church, he became the greatest apostle of the church. Just one encounter with the Lord changed it all.

That was how the Lord led us to the theme for 2019 – Fresh Encounters With God. It is our desire that in this 25th year of HGC, all leaders and members of HGC, especially our younger generation will have fresh encounters with God that will turn our lives around for His glory and make us His disciples that are zealous, faithful and willing to lay down our lives for Him even unto death.

HGC was born out of wonderful encounters with the Holy Spirit in the early nineties. We experienced His fire, His zeal, His love, His word, His healings, His gifts, His provisions and His leading.

Today after 25 years, it is our prayers that children, youth and adults will experience God in a fresh new way, both personally and corporately. Let us pray that we will not just know God in our minds but in our hearts. As we personally experience God's love, promises, faithfulness, healing, power and reality, our foundation will be deepened and strengthened and we will remain on fire for Him till He comes!

My personal encounters with God

I wrote about my journey and encounters with the Lord in our book, Out of Ampang. I pray it will be an encouragement and inspiration to all who read it. I must say that for the past 21 years, during the church Morning Prayer, I have regularly encountered God through communion with Him in worship, prayer and the Word. I now look forward to every Morning Prayer because the Lord is always there in a special way.

I would like to share three of my experiences which I believe have kept me on fire for God all these years. Two of those experiences were in the church and one was out in the mission field. These three experiences represent the things that I do in obedience to Him.

Encountering God through Confession

One particular experience happened about 20 years ago during a Sunday Service. After a time of praise and worship I felt led to share my heart and confess my sins to the church. I asked the church to forgive me because I was convicted by the Holy Spirit that I did not love them enough to speak the truth to them because I was governed by fear and self-consciousness, and not love. As I spoke those words, I felt a deep grief welling up from within me and I began to weep uncontrollably. The weeping turned into loud wailing. I could feel my guts within me being poured out until I knelt down and wailed and wailed. The whole church was in shock! Some members cried with me and some leaders began to come out to console me. I could not recall all that happened following the incident but the after effects of that incident have been deeply edged into my memory. It felt like a dam had broken. All the dirt and unclean things within me were flushed out. I felt so free, so light, so peaceful and joyful. I was glowing with the glory of God for many days.

That was the deep cleansing that took place in my heart when

God forgave me and cleansed me as I opened up my heart and confessed my sins. His forgiveness and cleansing brought me much joy and freedom.

Encountering God through Making Disciples

The second experience is not a one-time experience but a continual experience. It is the experience of spending time with younger believers on a regular basis. As I seek to help younger believers grow in the Lord, I have always come away more refreshed and blessed. I treasure the times I spent with Calvin Lim, Jonathan Liew and Festus Chen. The Word of God always came alive as I spent time with them. I also experienced the Holy Spirit leading me to ask the appropriate questions, to listen, to understand, to give the right answers, to refer to the right scriptures and to pray under the leading of the Holy Spirit. It is so exciting when the Word comes alive and the Holy Spirit's leading and anointing become so tangible.

Encountering God in the Mission Field

From the early years of the church I have loved going to the mission field. Our first mission destination was the Philippines in 1996. We would go for a week and we would be living in "tents". We slept in the church in the villages, which were more like a shed with the barest minimum. We bathed in cold water, sometimes in the open air around a well. We would go from door to door sharing the Gospel and praying for people in need. We conducted evangelistic meetings preaching the Gospel with singing, dancing, acting, clowning and anything we could think of to serve the people. We experienced God so close and real to us as we ministered to the people.

There was a trip that I can recall very clearly. We were with Sister Myra (now Pastor Myra) and her team, just having fellowship over "Mirianda" which is tea-time in Tagalog. I felt led to pray for her and asked for God's blessings over her life. I cannot remember exactly what I prayed for and left it as that. At the end of the mission trip, while having "Mirianda" again, Sister Myra shared with me that what I prayed for her was the answer she was seeking the Lord for. She was greatly assured that the Lord knew her every need and had heard her prayers. That experience gave me the assurance that the Lord is with me as I step out in faith to minister to His people.

I have also experienced that as I go into the mission field in obedience to His call "to go and make disciples," His presence and power have always flowed through me. I have experienced that whether in the Philippines, China, Indonesia, India or Switzerland. I have always felt a mighty release of His Spirit through me. After each trip I felt fuller, fresher and more on fire!

From the three experiences that I shared above I would like to encourage brothers and sisters to do these three things:

1. Open your lives to the leading of the Holy Spirit to confess your sins to Him and to each other and to pray for one another. The Lord has promised to forgive us and to cleanse us.
   1 John 1:9 If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.
   James 5:16a Confess your trespasses to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed.

2. Avail yourselves to build relationships with younger believers and with more mature believers so as to journey with them and grow in the Lord. This is obeying His call to be His disciples that makes disciples.
   2 Tim 2:1-2 You therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. And the things that you have heard from me among many witnesses, commit these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also.

3. Avail yourselves to go to the mission field and serve the Lord. Make it a regular affair at least once a year. As you go, the Lord will be with you in a special way. You will experience being one with Him in a special way. The Lord will anoint you to preach the Gospel, to serve with His gifts and pray. You will find great effectiveness as you boldly minister in His power and authority.
   Matt 28:18-20 And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. 19 Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Amen.

   May we all have many wonderful fresh encounters with the Lord that will keep us fresh and on fire for Him!

Spiritual Engagement At Hilltop

By Chan Tham Seng



Site being levelled

IN the leafy shades of Kampong Gerachi Jaya, a half-built structure patiently watches a quiet battle being fought between local believers and Jabatan Kemajuan Orang Asli (Jakoa).

The current situation can best be described as a standstill. It's not that the authorities do not appreciate our proposal to offer the building for the use of the Gerachi Jaya folks. It looks like no authorities are willing to take responsibility for making such a decision. And now with a new Director-General at the helm of Jakoa Malaysia, it looks like the Gerachi Jaya project will remain in limbo a longer while.

Jakoa are the authorities overseeing all affairs of indigenous people in Peninsular Malaysia in the last 70 years. Back in the pre-Merdeka days, it began as the Department of Aboriginal affairs. In 1954, the department became Jabatan Hal Ehwal Orang Asli or Jheoa until 2010 when it changed its name to present day's Jakoa.

Call it Jheoa or Jakoa, the department's one noble task is to promote education among the orang asli. For that, it conducts educational, training and mind development programmes for aboriginal children, teenagers and youth. The aim is to help the indigenes to be less dependent on a land-based economy.

Another major, though less talked about, task is proselytization. Towards this end, Jakoa collaborates with Jakim (Jabatan Kemajuan Islam Malaysia) to promote Islamic education in orang asli villages. As early as in 1961, the Malayan government issued a blue book on orang asli policies, stating its aim of bringing about "their ultimate integration with the Malay section of the community." Orang asli are given financial inducement to convert to Islam including the offer of funeral and marriage expenses, pocket money for school going children and other benefits. It is generally known that Jakoa's proselytization efforts are more successful among the proto-Malay groups such as Temuan, Semelai, Jakun and Orang Kuala.

Kampong Gerachi Jaya is a Temuan village equipped with a surau that serves a few families of Muslim converts. The village's traditional headman Tok Batin Ramsit Angong and the chairman of Jawatan Kuasa Ketua Kampong Jamil are among the Muslim converts.

Headquartered in Kuala Lumpur, Jakoa Malaysia operates offices at state and district levels. One observation is that Jakoa offices are largely manned by Malay staff. Another is that Jakoa pursues paternalistic policies which help perpetuate the mentality of dependency among indigenous people vis-a-vis the government.

A positive development is however noted of late: In May 2018 Ajis Sitin became the first Orang Asli to assume the post of director-general of Jakoa. Datuk Ajis, a civil engineer by training, is a Semai hailed from Pahang. Though Datuk Ajis only served at Jakoa for a year, his successor Dr Juli Edo from Perak, is also a Semai. Prior to that Dr Juli served as an anthropology professor in University of Malaya. The appointments of Datuk Ajis and Dr Juli indicate government's will to give the indigenous people a greater say in running their own affairs. The chronology below may suggest elements of indecision if not inaction of the part of the authorities in handling our proposal. Perhaps, this was due to the reshuffle expected at Jakoa Malaysia.

10 March 2018 -- some Gerachi Jaya believers obtained a verbal approval for the building project from village headman Tok Batin Ramsit (VOH Jan – Jun 2018).

24 December 2018 -- construction work began for a "multi-purpose" project comprising a two-story structure for adult and children works within the compound of Kak Biah's house.

25 January 2019 -- our contractor were served with summons by Majlis Daerah Hulu Selangor and Pejabat Daerah Tanah Hulu Selangor for building without permit on a state land. We were

asked to dismantle the structure within a month or face penalty for the offences.

At this juncture, we realized that the Tok Batin does not have full authority to approve the construction of a project deemed by the local authorities as a Christian project.

Together with the Gerachi Jaya believers, we laboured in prayers over the matter and felt it was not God's will that we fight the case by legal means or political influence. Instead we invited God to intervene and sought His wisdom for a solution in the best interest of the Gerachi Jaya folks.

Following the summons, a series of meetings took place between us and the authorities concerned. They include: Tok Batin Ramsit, JKKK chairman Jamil, Jakoa Hulu Selangor Hafiz, Majlis Daerah Hulu Selangor, Pejabat Daerah Tanah Hulu Selangor and Jakoa Director General Datuk Ajis.

2 Feb 2019 -- To appease Tok Batin Ramsit, we apologized to him for having "misunderstood" his verbal approval for the project.

13-18 Feb 2019 – Meetings with officers of Majlis Daerah Hulu Sengor, Pejabat Tanah Hulu Selangor and Jakoa Hulu Selangor. To them we also offered apology and presented our counter offer which is to donate without condition our project to Kampong Gerachi Jaya in the form of a "Gelangang Berbumbung". We made it clear that should our offer be rejected we would comply with the demolition order.

It appeared that the authorities, including JKKK chairman Jamil, like our counter offer but advised us to seek permission of the Jakoa chief. Jakoa Hulu Selangor officer Hafiz said he would coordinate with the other local authorities and refrain from taking follow-up actions pending our negotiation with Jakoa director-general.

15 Feb 2019 – Presented a letter in person to Datuk Ajis at his office in Kuala Lumpur. Datuk Ajis maintained a positive attitude with our offer and noted that he would help coordinate with the authorities.

20 Feb-7 May 2019 – Follow-up communications with the office of Datuk Ajis showed that he had instructed Jakoa's research department to study our counter offer.

However, subsequent inquiries with the research department and Ajis office yielded no further results. This was followed by a long silence after which Jakoa Malaysia informed us that Datuk Ajis has been transferred. We were also told that the new director general would be busy visiting the various Jakoa offices in the country throughout May.

We are prepared to wait for the right time to meet with the new Jakoa chief. Hafiz has been duly informed of the current impasse in the matter.

We believe that in our Gerachi Jaya project, we are involved in a spiritual warfare with the powers of darkness (Eph 6:10-12). We are ready to engage the spiritual forces with weapons endowed with divine power to destroy strongholds (Col 2:15).

We will continue to praise God whatever happens, and rebuke the power of darkness in the Name of Christ (Acts 13:10). We believe that in the end all things work together for good in the great plan of God (Rom 8:28).

The appointment of Dr Juli may seem untimely, but being an academic without bureaucratic background, he is expected to be more focused on uplifting the well-being of the indigenes.



With local believers at Hafiz's office



Lorry arrived with iron beams


1


2


3


4


5
MINI
LEBIH


6











Captions:

1. Lorry unloading gravel
2. With local believers at half-built structure
3. With contractor and his team of workers
4. Local believers presenting letter to Tok Batin
5. Hulu Selangor Jakoa office at KKB
6. Surveying site behind Kak Biah's house
7. Using half-complete structure on 25 May
8. Ps Khor prayed over the site with workers
9. Music lessons for the kids
10. Prof Dr Juli the new Jakoa chief
11. Using half-complete structure on 25 May

A Memorable Learning Experience

By Festus Chen



Our team with group leaders and their assistants

I HAD a fun and memorable time in Sibu, helping out to conduct an Iban Youth Camp from 22 to 24 March 2019. Our team consisted of Ps Khor, Luke Tien, Deborah Yap and me. There were about 80 youths from the ages of 13 – 20 who attended the camp.

We got to see their creativity and enthusiasm through the games and activities. We also saw their hunger for God's Word and their heart of worship during praise and worship. Communication was a bit challenging since we had to use Bahasa Malaysia to converse and interact with them, nonetheless, with God all things are possible.

I was one of the game masters. The team and I had planned out games which helped the youths to better understand some chapters in the book of Psalms. Once we were done with the formal programs, we had fellowship with some of the youths and through it learnt that most of them were facing difficult times. We talked to them and encouraged them to seek God for help and to trust Him.

At the end of the event, we had an altar call for the youths to accept Christ into their lives. Many of the youths came out willingly to accept Christ. It was really an amazing supernatural moment to witness.

Through this camp, I learnt that there are many youths who are longing for teachings from the right teachers and for guidance from spiritual mothers and fathers. So, may I encourage you to join the next Sibu Youth Camp to witness this yourself and to be a blessing to others!



Games time



The winning team



Iban youth responding to altar call

Article

What do I think of Me

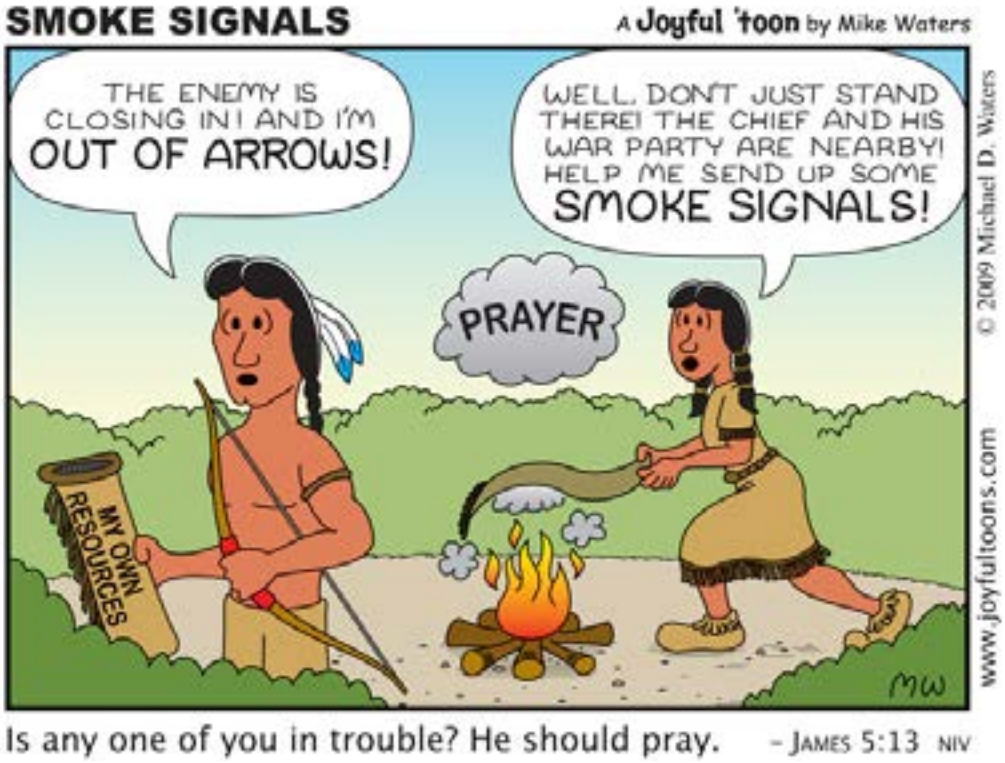
By Abigail Cheong

SELF-ESTEEM, a very important aspect of our lives! It is also known as self-worth, self-regard or self-respect. We come across this term quite often, but what does it actually mean? Is self-esteem just about body image or appearance? The answer is no. Self-esteem is actually a psychological term used to describe a person's overall evaluation or assessment of his or her own worth, that is the way you perceive and view yourself. Besides that, self-esteem also includes personal beliefs, such as "I am responsible," and emotions, like pride, shame, guilt and joy.

Moving on, why is self-esteem so important? Low self-esteem is generally viewed negatively. It is usually correlated with psychological, physical and social outcomes that may hinder successful development and transition to adulthood, such as body image dissatisfaction, depression and anxiety. Hence, self-esteem is so important, because it affects our entire being; if we evaluate ourselves as a valuable and functioning person, then we will have more confidence in everything we do. The origin of problems for many is that they dislike themselves, and perceive themselves as insignificant and unworthy of being loved. Low self-esteem is a problem for many people, and they recognize it (me too), but it is so difficult to change the way we view ourselves, because we view ourselves very critically, often much more critical than others.

What does the Bible say about self-esteem? In Genesis 1:27, it says, "So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them." The significance of this verse is that we are made in GOD'S IMAGE! If we are made in God's image, should we not be proud of it? One day, I hope I can proclaim like the man who wrote Psalm 139:14, which says," I will praise You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made; marvellous are Your works, And that my soul knows very well." Besides that, God loves every single one of us, despite all our weaknesses and failures, all of that does not matter to God. It is normal to care about what others think of us, but ultimately what God thinks of us matters the most. If God thinks we are worthy of love, we are. We may be very imperfect, but God is perfect, and He never changes.





One Ear In, One Ear Out

By Ruth Lew



MY son just started work recently. It was interesting to hear from him on his work situation at the office. I always thought that young adults would not hesitate to walk out of their jobs when they face difficult bosses or situations even though they may be receiving a fat pay cheque. In my son's case, working in an office with a number of difficult bosses, I liked what he shared with me - "one ear in, one ear out!"

Having worked in three organisations (I have had my share of difficult bosses in all three places), I can probably give some pointers on some simple management techniques!

Before I share some tips, let me identify a 'difficult' boss:

- A person who will not give you credit for your work but rather spend time picking up your faults and how you could have done the assignment better

- A person who blames you for missing time-lines even though you have done your part and put the work right under his or her nose within the time-line set

- A person who does not like you to take medical leave or emergency leave (whatever the reasons you give)

- A person who likes to remind you that you should be ever grateful to have a job and for the salary, perks or benefits you are enjoying

- A person who calls you just when you are ready to pack-up your work for the day and ask you to complete an assignment before you go off which means you may have to miss corporate prayer or other meetings

- A person with a mental block or negative mindset about you or your department based on his or her perception of you or your staff

I am sure those of us working in the stressful corporate world would have more to add to the list above based on your own experiences, but the more important thing is not changing your boss but changing yourself. I have learnt to apply the following rules:

Rule no 1 – The boss is always right
Rule no 2 – If the boss is wrong, refer to Rule no 1
Rule no 3 – If you do not agree with Rule no 1 or Rule no 2, then bring the problem to JESUS!

RULE No 3 always works!

Firstly – bring everything to Jesus. Be guided by Phil 4:6 to have no anxiety about anything but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God, and the peace of God which passes all understanding will keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

Thanksgiving is very important in such prayers as it will keep us from bitterness, hatred and anger towards our boss or the organization we work for. In my daily prayers on the way to work, I like to pray in detail asking God to help me with every memo that I write and to ensure that the memo is signed-off without major changes. If I need to read the mind of the boss on the scope of the assignment, I will ask God to give me the wisdom of Daniel who was asked to do something impossible i.e. tell the king his dream and the interpretation.

Secondly – one ear in and one ear out which means be like a 'statue' with no emoji or reaction. Don't let the hurtful words hurled at us go in one ear and go down to our spirit. Pray in tongues softly and keep on saying, "Jesus, Jesus," to yourself. It will help prevent the fear of man from creeping into our hearts. Sometimes, the words hurt so much, we may end up depressed for days. Do not fear, God loves us so much, He will deliver us from every attack of the enemy!

Thirdly – answer under the anointing of God. God will give us the anointing to answer any wrongful accusations against us. If we are led, we can give a gracious answer to the boss who can be stupefied in hearing our response! However, it does not matter even if we do not give any answer-back. We serve a God of righteousness and without injustice. He knows how to turn things around for us in ways we do not expect. Wait on the Lord, He will give us abundance of peace!

May God bless you as you begin your working life (for those who just joined the workforce) and may God help us to manage our emotions (for those who may be stressed-out by our bosses)! Please feel free to contact any of our leaders for counselling or prayers.



The team that went to the conference in Jakarta

World Generation Gathering

By Ruth Lee

THE World Generation Gathering (WGG), also known as UpRising, was held in the Sentul International Convention Centre (SICC) in Bogor, Jakarta from Jan 23 to 26, 2019. The theme was "Prayer & Missions: Receiving the Moravian Lampstand".

Six of us from HGC took the step of faith to sign up for this prayer gathering which was specially held to inspire young people all over the world to gather together in one place to hear inspiring messages and pray for world revival.

With memories of the last prayer gathering in South Korea in 2014 (which some of us attended), we were excited to go for this gathering to meet people of many nationalities, to establish contacts and to spend time praying together, particularly for each other's nations.

For my husband, Tim, and me, every UpRising is wonderful and impactful as it reminds us of the 2012 World Prayer Assembly (WPA) which was also held in Indonesia (even in the same stadium). After the 2012 assembly, there was a great move of God all over the world especially in Indonesia, the host nation. Many 24/7 prayer towers were set up. Many prayer initiatives or networks and missionary movements started to spring up all over the world. Although on a smaller scale, the WGG is just as grand and important as the WPA as the objective is the same – to be the prayer catalyst for world revival!

Here are some of our testimonies:

Jane Oo - "As I stepped into the small packed hall on the 11th floor of SICC Tower, my sleepiness from the midnight travelling vanished. The presence of God was so eminent and my tears just flowed as I worshipped God. I can hear the cry of the hearts of the people…wanting more and desiring for more of His presence. My spirit was awakened. The word I can use is 'miss'. I missed His presence just like missing someone dear to me. It's also God missing us that is what relationship is all about.

Another important experience would be the sermons. One of the most memorable messages came from Ps Andy (one of the key organisers) about the journey of giving birth to a new generation. Giving birth is expensive. It is not easy or cheap. But God will give us the courage to go through it and like actual giving birth, it is worth it. The message encouraged me as I had just joined the Children's Church ministry. I definitely want to see a new generation rising up!"

Calvin Lim - "I was asking God to open my heart for the nations. Meeting with so many delegates representing so many countries and seeing their passion to bring the Gospel to the nations sparked a new cry within me. There is a sense of ownership to reclaim the nations for Jesus. My highlight was definitely at the Solemn Assembly (a 6 hour prayer & worship rally on the last day at the Stadium grounds). We danced; we worshipped, and sought God's face for forgiveness as generations gathered. The opportunity to pray for one another was precious.

There were many great messages at the conference but the one I felt most connected with was by Rick Riding on Israel and the church. It has opened my heart and mind to ask God for His heart for Israel."

Josiah Chin - "The main highlight for me was the Solemn Assembly when Ps Jerome Ocampo called those under 35 to come forward for prayers. We started singing and praying from the depths of our hearts and I cried for my generation to turn back to God. I was blessed by realizing that it's time for our generation to start the change for our nation thus we really need to pray for the next generation to rise up."

Festus Chen - "It's the time when we started praying for the nations on Friday night. We called out the nations one by one and the representatives stood up with flags draped around them. There was so much power from God during that night. Pastors and intercessors were prophesying out loud to bless the nations.

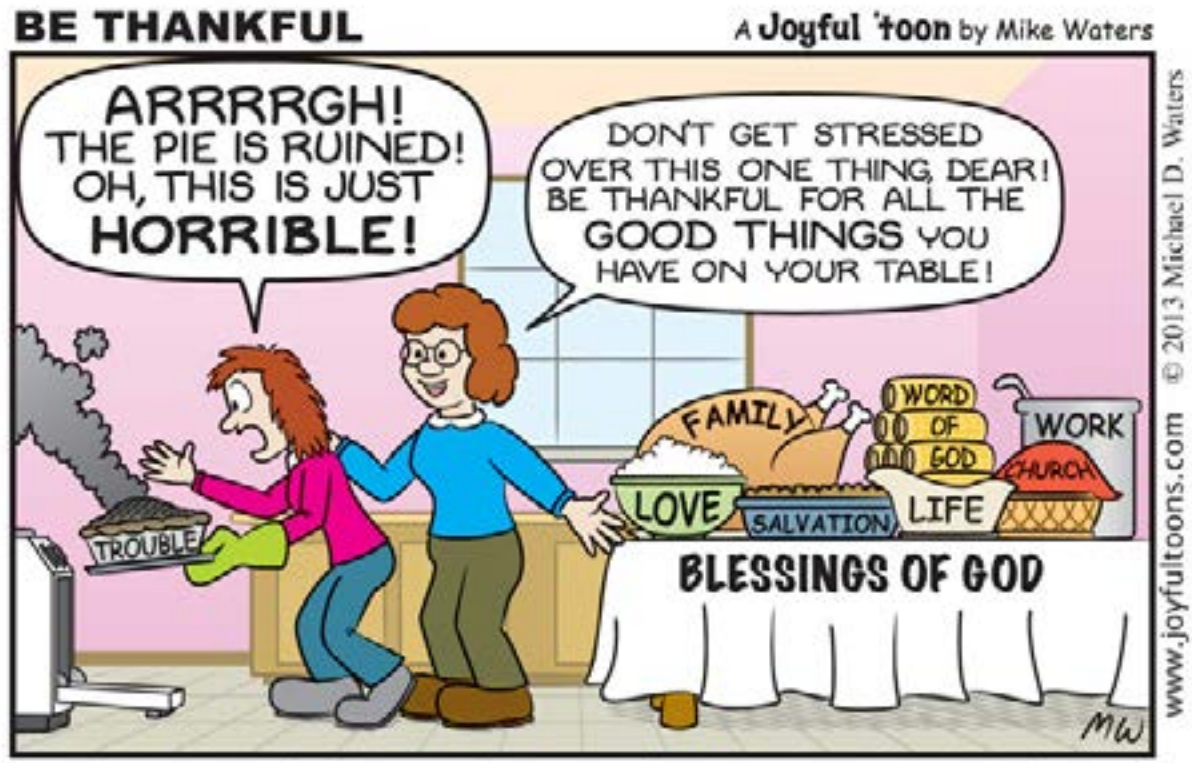
I felt God's touch in this event. The touch came with the assurance that everything will be fine. Everything that I am going through, the disappointments and fear of the unknown future somehow faded away and I felt really blessed because He assured me that I could rely on Him and my future will be great.

I was impacted by Ps Andy's message on being a leader. I thought that being a leader means just leading people and helping them but I realize that being a leader involves sacrificing time, energy, money and putting effort to connect with the ones we are leading and guiding spiritually. I was really blessed!"

Timothy Lew - "My personal takeaway is the inspiration to intercede for the nations and the generations. I am blessed to participate in all the prayers during the conference."

Ruth Lee - "I was deeply moved by the prayer tower at Level 12. The moment I stepped into it, I felt a deep REST came upon me. 24/7 worship and prayers were being offered in this place. It was truly holy ground. I It was like a time of sinking deeply into the cloud of His presence. I forgot all the messages…I only remembered the presence of God at the 24/7 prayer tower. I saw a wonderful vision as I laid hands on the huge globe in the centre of the room. Small groups of people were praying fervently in their own nations. From their mouth came a thin red line which went round and round the globe many times until they became thick lines of red. God said that He was only looking for the two or three people to stand in the gap; and even as they prayed the Gospel will begin to go over the world and circle the globe! Our prayers will certainly drive world missions. Little wonder that GBI, the church that started 24/7 prayer tower all over Indonesia is growing exponentially and experiencing signs and wonders.

On the last day at the Stadium, I was a distance away watching the prayers on a big screen. Suddenly, a young Indonesian girl came over to me introduced herself, laid hands on me and started to prophesy over me. I was stunned. She was speaking words that were accurate about the ministry that I was involved in. She said that I was a prayer warrior and that God hears my prayers. She also encouraged me not to give up the ministry! Later I found out that she was a prayer leader at one of the 24/7 prayer tower in Jakarta! Surely we will return to Jakarta especially to the prayer tower at Bogor!"



Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful.

– Colossians 3:15 NIV



We had more tables then we targeted

Encountering God in His Generosity

By Loke Wai Keng

GOD is a generous God as shown by His very nature and character in the Bible. I have personally experienced God's generosity. The verse which captivates me most is Romans 8:32, "He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things?"

While we were planning for our HGC 25th Anniversary celebration, I was thinking of how we could fill up the 60 tables, not even taking into account the amount of money involved. However, on the last two weeks prior to the day, during one of the Morning Prayer sessions, the Lord showed me two things. Firstly through this celebration, He would show me His generosity and secondly, to think of the next generation. I got excited and kept praying about what He revealed to me.

Ps Khor preached on giving during the last Sunday prior to the anniversary and the Lord challenged me to give twice the amount that I had decided. It was so amazing that after two weeks, I received a love gift of the exact amount I had given away. Truly God is generous.

Yet what was even more amazing was the day of the celebration. There was a great display of the Lord's generosity through all the people participating in the event during the lunch itself. We had 70 over tables more than what we had targeted. The huge support was an evidence of the joy we had in celebrating God's great goodness and faithfulness for the past 25 years. Certainly we can look forward to another 25 years to build, help and train the next generation to walk worthy of the Lord and to take on the baton. I believe in the mind of the younger members, this anniversary must have been a memorable signpost for their lives.

Then the worship coupled with the dance involving different ones of all ages captured the great goodness and faithfulness of God. I believe each one who participated had given much of their time in preparing for this event. I thank the Lord for His generosity as shown by all who put in so much to make this event so memorable.

At the end of the day, the Lord showed me that His extravagant generosity was not just shown by the ringgit and sen collected in the miracle offering, but so much more by the members and friends who joined in the celebration. My vocabulary is insufficient to describe how I felt inside, I could only worship God through my tears of joy, and my feelings of gratitude to Him as He displayed His generosity on that day.

Behind the Scenes

Compiled by Jeanette Chan



The awesome dance which the Lord showed Amy

BEHIND the scenes, months before the curtains went up; were two people whose roles helped put together a memory lane celebration, HGC's Silver Jubilee on March 10, 2019!

Calvin Lim's great desire was to have the celebration as poignant as possible. Although rushed for time, he took it all in good stride; for to rustle up a big scale celebration of 700 people is no mean feat. To Calvin, that is when leaning hard on God's directives were needed. Piece by piece the entire programme came together. Members of the church really gave their unreserved support by showing up for practice and sacrificing their Sunday afternoons for rehearsals. It was truly a showcase of maturity and love for a church that has stood the test of time.

We need to make an honorary mention of Yun Fei; who did most of the administrative works for the event such as the seating arrangements; doing up the power point slides, running around getting people to be involved, getting volunteers to make the tickets, liaising with the HGH Convention Centre, et cetera et cetera. She was also the emcee of the day with Calvin.

For Calvin, one of his challenges was to do up the anniversary video. He believes strongly that videos can help to recollect the past, yet ignite passion and vision for what is to come. There were some teary eyes when the video was played. If we could hear their silent tears; it would probably read: "I'm so glad I was a part of this great history."

In Calvin's own words, "In my working towards the anniversary, one of the key things that was constantly highlighted was the involvement of the next generation. When Amy Lim shared an idea with me about getting the youth to do a finale at the anniversary, a Bahasa song entitled 'Ini aku Tuhan, utus lah aku' kicked in. At once, all ideas were crystal clear from the video leading to the song presentation. I remembered back in the Uprising Conference at Jakarta, a flaming torch was passed by the senior pastor to a younger person – a sign of releasing the next generation with the fire of the Holy Spirit. I caught that and felt appropriate to bring this performance as a worship dedication to the Lord at the anniversary.

I was brought to tears at the rehearsals and the anniversary, to see our young people singing this song with such fervour and devotion. The commission has not changed since the days of the apostles. And it is my prayer that every single one of our young people may know the privilege they carry to bring the flaming gospel and to make Him known."

Amy Lim was given the task in January to prepare the opening dance for the anniversary. At that time she was clueless, so the best thing to do was to pray, "God if You want me to do it, show me!" On a Sunday, praying, sourcing and asking God simultaneously for the much needed song, it was finally revealed after three hours of conversation with the Lord. The appointed song was "Lord You Are Good and Your mercy endureth forever."

Amy recounted saying, "I saw in a vision HGC brothers and sisters of all ages rejoicing and celebrating the goodness of God for the glorious works He has done in the past 25 years.

"My priority was to make a selection of dancers from all ages. God told me to divide the dancers into three groups:
The first group, led by Chin Wai Wai, comprised of the younger ones dancing with tambourines. This group represented "River – the Living Water."

The second group, led by Jane Oo, comprised of the elderly aunties. They represented "Fire – the Holiness of the Lord."
3rd group, led by Jo Liew, comprised of young adults lifting up huge flags. They represented "His Glory – the Warfare."



The youth singing with passion the song "Utuslah Aku"

"With limited time, and needing to get more than 50 dancers who were mostly untrained in dance skills, was an impossible task to achieve, humanly speaking. But I was very confident that I can do it because God was the Composer behind the scene. Being a dance choreographer in church, I have learnt to trust and obey. When God gives me a task, He will provide.

"One particular moment absolutely encouraged me in my spirit. It was during the first dance practice. I saw a 5 year old girl standing in the toilet looking at me with her big eyes. Her look told me she was seeking for help as her pants were wet. At that time I thought to myself how could this little girl be trained to dance the tambourine when she did not even know how to take care of herself? I was wrong, during the practice; she picked up the skills without a hassle or struggle. Seeing it, I shouted in my heart, "God, You're marvelous!" As for the rest of it, I do not need to elaborate further; the result of the whole dance was so joyful, perfect and marvellous! I give all glory to the LORD!!!"

Till the next anniversary.

God's Silver Jubilee

Compiled by Jeanette Chan



WHAT a day! What a noon! What a mass of smiling faces! What a joyous din reverberating within the walls of the HGH Convention Centre!

God's big happy family of The Hope of Glory Centre convened excitedly with invited guests, relatives and friends to celebrate its Silver Jubilee. How shall I even begin to describe the event? Let's eavesdrop on some of the remarks and opinions of the performances, of the adventures experienced in HGC, the launching of HGC's first book - Out of Ampang, their fondest memories et cetera, et cetera.

Ps Victor Maniam
I like the beginning part; the dance and the worship was so anointed. I could sense that the presence of God was so strong.

Karen Chin
I feel that the opening dance ushered in and welcomed the Lord's presence. It was so awesome. I was impacted by the strong presence of God to equip myself again to dance and glorify God.

Sumi Cheong
I like the opening dance. It was very grand. The right song was chosen - Lord You Are Good and Your Mercy Endureth Forever! As for the sharing by Ps Daniel Yap, it was great to know that God is opening doors for him in other countries.

Christina Khoo
I like the dance of the opening ceremony. I could see how great the love of all the children of God for Him and how great the love God has given to us, His children.

Sinclair Wong *(former church member)*
The combined dance of three generations at the beginning was certainly impactful.

Sue Suarno
The whole event was wonderful, from the beginning until the end. The venue, food and testimonies; especially Janelle's testimony!

Wendy Lim
I have been very touched by the video about Ps Khor and some of the pioneer members who have remained faithfully in HGC, having the spirit of perseverance and obedience; and trusting in God to walk and work alongside them to build HGC as a glorious church for His glory. Without them stepping out in faith, they would not have experienced the goodness and faithfulness of God. I also like the part where Bryan came out carrying a torch showing the younger generation, ready to be His light shining brightly for Jesus.

Ian Tan
I felt the impact during the performances of Khek Loong's family and the youth. I saw too, the unity of the leaders, the planning committee and the church working together.

Kenneth Hng
I really like the food for sure and the opportunity to catch up with brothers and sisters in Christ whom I have not seen for some time. I especially like Janelle's sharing of her experience with God.

Jay R
Impactful! Wonderful! In fact, it is hard to say; for me, it was amazing from the start to the end. Truly, it was not enough. Wish there was more. I felt God's presence and anointing upon each and every one. Also God's breakthrough was in my children, friends and neighbours.

Kevin Wan
What stood out for me were the testimonies & performances! Stories of real life encounters with God, display His glory and shines on us puny people.

Stephanie Lai *(former church member)*
I felt touched by the testimony of Khek Loong and Janelle Lim. The food was superlative. A couple of feedback on room for improvement: it would be good to have additional shofar blowers to create the impact. The sound system and the slide show could be more contemporary.

Soon Hoe
One of the exciting parts was the launch of the book "Out of Ampang." I finished reading it in one sitting, one day. I was so touched remembering our humble beginnings. Reading it keeps me humble. It was about Him, it is about Him, it will be about Him, as long as we remember Him. We are building God's church, not our tower of Babel. I couldn't put the book down... so many memories that touched me to tears... I would also say the days preparing and fasting for the celebration also brought remembrance - of dearly missed people like Jimi Yong and Hoe Seng.

Chin Nee
I would like to thank God for enabling us to publish the book "Out of Ampang" a testimony of God's great goodness & work in HGC for the past 25 years. I especially thank Him for the picture-perfect cover photo of the book. After many efforts in taking cover photos, none were suitable. Then on the morning of 23 Jan 2019, noticing that the sun was shining and the sky extremely clear, I immediately texted Bro Tham Seng at 8.39 am telling him that the sky was clear to take a good picture. By 9.28 am, this sporting septuagenarian had returned my text, "Just sent U by Gmail 6 pix (under Ampang skyline) taken 10 minutes ago." When I opened up the file and saw the beautiful panoramic photo of Ampang against a vibrant blue sky, I was awed. God had indeed provided.

John Chen
My fondest memory was my baptism by Ps Khor in the Jordan River during the trip to Israel with some HGC members.

Allison Chen:
My fondest memory of HGC was the opportunity to lead the Mothers Ministry for nine years. Being able to serve in Children's Church for ten years, praise & worship for four years and prayer ministry for four years is something which I am grateful to God. It has caused my spiritual life to grow in leaps and bounds. I love HGC as my second home.

Festus Chen
Well, I love serving in HGC: audio visual ministry, six years; prayer, one year; praise & worship, one year; children church, four years; youth, two years. All these are great memories to me. HGC is a place I find comfort and peace during my difficult moments. The leaders and shepherds help a great deal in assisting me to grow and encouraging me to be a better person.

Jennifer Shanta
I have been serving in my life group; the Sunrise LG for 17 months since I joined HGC 19 months ago. I love HGC: Ps Khor's great preaching, friendly brothers and sisters' guidance to help establish my faith and my experiences of God's mighty and wondrous miracles.

Ruby Oo
The first day I stepped into HGC 19 years ago and church camps are some of my fondest memories. To be honest, I love HGC simply due to our Ps Khor and his dear wife, Chin Nee, who are loving, friendly, kind, and approachable.

Aunty Teh
I love HGC which my late husband and I joined in 1998. I am very thankful for the Sunday Services where I experience His presence each time I worship Him.

Michael Wee
I have been with HGC for 19 years and have been serving in the Welcome Ministry around a year. I am thankful to God for HGC for its guidance, encouragement and helping hand in my time of need.





HGC 25th Anniversary

By Abigail Cheong

HGC has been through a wonderful 25 years, and for that we celebrated on 10 March 2019 at HGH Convention Centre from 11.00am to 2.00pm. This celebration was a reunion for many, as people from all around the world who have been impacted by HGC came back for this special occasion. The performances were splendid and inclusive of all ages. It was such a joy to see the elderly and young children share the stage during the opening flag dance.

While watching performances and listening to testimonies from various church members, good food was served to the congregation. A very special and symbolic moment was the passing of the torch from one generation to another. One of the highlights of that afternoon was the launch of HGC's very first book, "Out of Ampang" which tells about the many things that God has done for and through HGC. Also, Ps Khor prophesied that God's call for HGC in the next 25 years is to continue abiding in Christ and bearing fruit to glorify Him. Let us keep on going strong for Christ as we move forward!











Captions:

1 *The elderly aunties spreading the fire of God*
2 *HGC leaders blowing the candles of the 25th anniversary cake*
3 *Bryan holding up the torch while the youth sang "Utuslah Aku"*
4 *Orang Asli believers from Kg Gerachi joined the celebration*
5 *Ps Daniel & Ruth Yap came back from Switzerland for the occasion*
6 *Ps Khor reminding the church to keep on abiding in the Vine*
7 *Out of Ampang book launch*
8 *Chong Yun Fei and Sam Liew ordained as preachers of God's Word*
9 *Chris Cheong leading the praise and worship*
10 *Sunday School children sang and dance*
11 *The 25th Anniversary crowd*










3


4


9


11

Sg Congkak Outing

By Janelle Lim

SHADY trees, refreshing cool streams and perfect weather, the youth set out to Sg Congkak located near Ulu Langat for a day out on 25 May. Every one of the youth were in high spirits and excited for the day ahead. Upon arrival, we chose a sweet spot for us to settle down and have some food before starting the ice breakers and games.

As we dipped ourselves into the river, most of us were shrieking because of the cool water. Once we had settled, we played a few icebreakers to warm ourselves up for the day. After that, we split up into three groups and blindfolded everyone but the leaders of each group. The leaders had to guide their group on a treasure hunt around the compound. With amazing leadership skills and careful footing, the winning team managed to grab a few snacks for themselves as a prize! While the losing teams were "rewarded" some splashes to the face.

After the games, it was free and easy time where some of the youth ventured upstream and managed to catch some fishes and prawns. The leaders took the liberty of cooking lunch for everyone and had a great time fellowshipping with the youth over a nice warm bowl of Maggi Mee soup. We all went back home, tired but contented.



The Winners!!



Having icebreake



Group photo of the youth



ers in the river



Esther & Aleh enjoying the cool waters



Ready for some fun

JESUS IS RISEN! By Alicia Joy

What would it have been like in the days of Jesus, if they had the fast messaging system which we have today? Well, let us imagine the WhatsApp messages that would be transpiring among the religious leaders of the day and among the followers of Jesus at the hottest news of the century that JESUS HAD RISEN FROM THE DEAD!



PHARISEES 4EVA
Chief Priest, Jesus Hater, IamGreat, Nicodemus, Saul
online

6:55AM

Chief_the_Priest:
The guards we placed at Jesus's tomb have come running into the city.

Jesus_Hater_overhere:
What did they say?

Chief_the_Priest:
It seems an angel of the Lord appeared at the tomb, and the stone rolled away. The men ran away in fear, but one of them reports having seen two women near the tomb with spices and gifts.
I have sent another one to see what has happened.

7:10AM

Chief_the_Priest:
I have bad news.
Jesus's body is gone, and the women are saying they have seen him alive.

IamGreat:
We should have arrested them when we had the chance. Now they will spread lies all over our good country.
Why couldn't they have all been like that Judas Iscariot?

😡

Nicodemus:
Well for one thing all of them do not care about riches, and they are extremely devoted to him and his teachings. It's amazing.

Saul the persecutor:
Nicodemus, all of us know you have talked to this man and brought enough myrrh for a king when he was buried. Did he tell you anything?

Jesus_Hater_overhere:
Obviously.

🤦

Nicodemus:
He said this to me:
"No one has ascended to heaven but He who came down from heaven, that is, the Son of Man who is in heaven. And as Moses lifted the serpent in the wilderness so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life."
Wouldn't that mean He, as the Son of God, has eternal life? And death has no power over Him?

IamGreat:
BLASPHEMY

Saul the persecutor:
The lies of the devil are great. They pose a great threat to our religion.

Chief_the_Priest:
You are right. I will give the soldiers some money to ask them to tell the people that his disciples came at night and stole him away while they slept. And if the Governor hears of this, I will take care of it.

Nicodemus:
Fine. But be warned: if He really is the Son of God, we will all be doing a great sin against Him.

NICODEMUS HAS LEFT THE GROUP

IamGreat:
That man is a disgrace to us all.

Chief_the_Priest:
Oh, and Saul, help keep an eye on those disciples of his. I don't want them causing any trouble.

Saul the persecutor:
I will....

Faithful Followers of Jesus Christ
online

5:00AM

Mary Magdalene:
Good morning everyone. Some of the other women and me are going to Jesus's tomb. Would anyone like to join?

Mary mother of James:
Don't bother asking, no one will wake so early on Sunday morning

I am bringing the spices you requested. Will meet you. OTW

7:00AM

Mary Magdalene:
JESUS IS ALIVE!



On our way to the cave there was a giant earthquake. The soldiers ran away and the stone had rolled away from the tomb. Inside there was an Angel of the Lord who told me that Jesus has risen!

AND I actually saw Him and touched His feet!! He told me that He will come to see all of you before He ascends to His Heavenly Father.
PRAISE THE LORD!

Simon Peter:
WHAT
Mary are you OK?

Mary Magdalene:
Yes, although I was very afraid when I saw the Angel.

James:
Are you ill? Hallucinating, maybe?

Mary Magdalene:
No...

Simon Peter:
Wait I'm going to the tomb with John to check.

7:15AM

Simon Peter:
GUYS JESUS' BODY IS GONE FROM THE TOMB!



John the Beloved:
Yes! He's gone!

Matthew:
WHAT? WAIT! Did the Pharisees take Him?

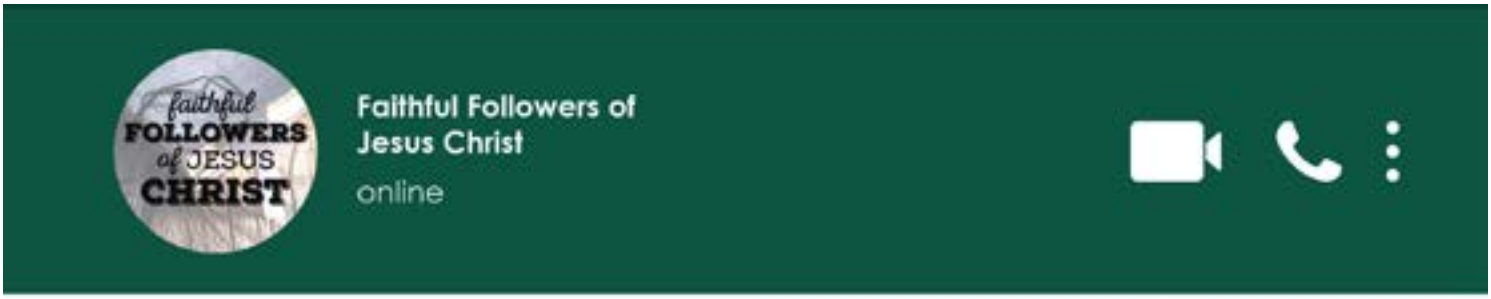
Simon Peter:
I DON'T KNOW ONLY HIS LINENS ARE HERE WHY IS HE NOT HERE. AHH PLS HELP ME!

Matthew:
Chill bro.
We can discuss this at our meeting tonight at Galilee.

Thomas:
Sorry guys I won't be able to make it tonight.

5:15PM

Cleopas:
My fellow brothers, I, too have seen the Lord alive.



James:
Not another one...

Cleopas:
The Lord appeared to me and my fellow disciple as we were journeying to Emmaus from Jerusalem. He spoke to us of the Resurrection and answered many of my questions about the Scriptures. Alas, I did not know it was Him until He broke bread with us. But then He vanished before my very eyes...

Simon Peter:
GET OVER HERE NOW WE NEED TO DISCUSS THIS

Cleopas:
On my way

6:00PM

JESUS HAS ENTERED THE GROUP

Jesus:
Hello, my disciples. How are all of you?

Simon Peter:
Who are you, and how did you get this number?!?

James:
HACKER ALERT

Jesus:
It is I, Jesus, the Son of God. Why do doubts arise in your hearts?
Do not fear, for I am coming to show Myself to you that you may believe.

Simon Peter:
Wait, my Lord, the door is locked
How will You get in?
Hello?

Mary Magdalene:
Anyone knows where Jesus went?

8:00PM

John the Beloved:
Nope. He left as mysteriously as he came.

Thomas:
Wait, u guys saw Jesus?!

Simon Peter:
Yup
I'm still SHAKEN.

Thomas:
You guys must have had too much wine

Matthew:
Nope. We're definitely not drunk.
Or hallucinating.
HE IS REAL.

Thomas:
Unless I see and touch in His hands the print of the nails, I will not believe.

John the Beloved:
Suit yourself.

Jesus:
Thomas, I know you are doubtful. Be patient and I will reveal the truth to you.
Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.

James:
WOW! I cannot believe what has happened today. Maybe this is just the beginning of many wonderful things to come.

Jesus:
Indeed, James. For soon you all will go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you, and lo, I will be with you always, even to the end of the age.





WE woke up to a new beginning on 1 Jan 2019. It was wonderful to be in church at 6 am in the morning to welcome the New Year.

For the past two years, our church had opted for a Sunrise Service on 1 Jan rather than the Watchnight service on 31 Dec. It seems fitting for us to step into 2019 to honour God first on the first hours of the first day of the year worshipping Him in His House.

We had a wonderful and awesome worship ushering in the presence of God in our midst. Shofars were blown to crown the meaningful occasion declaring victory over darkness in our midst. Simultaneously with the blowing of the shofars, a video of the sun breaking through dark clouds was shown as prophetic sign of the Light of God triumphing over the works of darkness and declaring the dawn of a New Year!

Testimonies after testimonies flowed unceasingly. There was thanksgiving to God for miraculous healing, breakthrough in the workplace, salvation of souls and the awesome work of the Holy Spirit in our lives. One memorable testimony was shared by a young lady on how God helped her pass her driving exams after she sat for it for the fifth time!

Pastor led us to read the Scriptures together declaring to the Lord that we honour Him by honouring His Word. We read Genesis 1:1-2:3, John 1 and Psalm 1. The Spirit breathed life to us from His Word as we read out aloud in unity. We then partook the first Holy Communion of the year together to remember His great love and great sacrifice for us. We also prayed to dedicate our lives to Him for 2019.

Pastor then released a message from Rev 1 to 3 where the Lord spoke to the church of His great love and revealing His awesome majestic glory. He declared that the Lord will come to meet with us and we will experience fresh encounters with Him that will transform our lives. The Lord is going to cause us to experience His great everlasting love such that we will fall in love with Him over and over again. His fiery love will keep our first love burning stronger and stronger for Him.

As we welcome 2019, let us also declare Psalm 65:11 for ourselves and for our church, "You crown the year (2019) with Your goodness and Your paths drip with abundance."

The Cup of Suffering & The Cup of Salvation

By Lim Chin Nee



The cup of suffering & salvation

GOOD Friday and Resurrection Sunday are two very significant and meaningful events in history which mark the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. This year they were celebrated on 19 and 21 April.

For this year's Passion Week, HGC had the theme "The Greatest Bitterness for The Greatest Betterment." Two cups were set up in front of the church to bring out this theme: a cup of thorns and a silver cup. The cup of thorns represented the greatest bitterness and sorrow Jesus suffered on our behalf: the sinless for the sinful, the righteous for the unrighteous. The silver cup represented the salvation and blessings which are given to all who believed in Jesus Christ.

On Friday night, Ps Khor preached on the cup of wrath. Jesus had prayed, "Abba, Father, all things are possible for You. Take this cup away from Me; nevertheless, not what I will, but what You will." Why did Jesus ask for that cup to be removed?

It was the night before His crucifixion; and anyone would be agonising over the impending shame, pain and suffering of crucifixion. However, Ps Khor stressed that Jesus was not merely agonising over His physical suffering, rather His agony came from having to drink the bitter cup of wrath. His Father was going to pierce Him for our transgressions and crush Him for our iniquities. His Father was going to lay on Him the iniquity of us all and make His life an offering for sin (Isa 53:5,6,10)

Why did Jesus have to endure such bitterness? It was all for our greatest betterment. 2 Cor 5:21 tells us, "God made Him (Jesus) who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in Him we might become the righteousness of God. And 2 Cor 8:9 says that, "For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sake He became poor, so that you through His poverty might become rich."

Jesus drank the cup of suffering which was meant for us, so that we do not need to drink it. In exchange He offered us the cup of salvation, blessings, forgiveness and restoration to God.

Jesus, after supper, took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood; do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me." 1 Cor 11:25
Dr Leow, a lecturer of the Bible Seminary of Malaysia, took on from there and preached on the cup of salvation from Rev 1:4-6.

Because Christ loved us and sacrificed His life for us, our sins are washed away by His blood. We are now made kings to reign with Him and made priests to serve Him. We have a High Priest now who intercedes for us daily (Rom 8:34) and we have the promise of the new heaven and new earth. (Rev 21:1)

The end of the service was a poignant time as we took the Holy Communion, remembering the great exchange that Christ bought for us at the price of His own life.

Resurrection Sunday Service was held at 6.00 in the morning. Thank God for the amazing turn out on that morning. We praised and worshipped God for all that He had accomplished for us.

Dr Leow preached that Sunday morning, reminding us of our role and responsibility now as redeemed ones of the Lord. As priests of God now, we are to offer ourselves as living sacrifices to Him and that our ministry is to pray. He encouraged us to be men and women of prayer and to pray unceasingly for the will of God to be done on earth as it is in heaven. He encouraged us to speak for God and carry out His will.

The psalmist in Psalm 116:12-13 said, "What shall I return to the LORD for all His goodness to me? I will lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the LORD."

Encountering Christ through the Gospel of John

By Justin Yong



Rev Victor Lee is a very good teacher of the Word.

IN the first quarter of the year, a seminar on the gospel of John was conducted on 30 March 2019 by Rev Victor Lee, the president of the Bible College of Malaysia. Rev Victor encouraged the church to read through the book of John from beginning to end without stopping – a very good exercise indeed.

Rev Victor granted us a bird's eye view on the structure of the book: the divine prologue, book of signs, book of glory and finally the epilogue. Compared to the other gospels which looked at the historical account of Jesus, John's gospel asks the overarching question on who the person of Jesus truly is.

Pertaining to the person of Christ, the book of John makes a comparison with the book of Genesis where the words, "...In the beginning..." were used to link both the books. John as a writer attempts to bring us to timeless eternity where the Word already existed. This is important for at that time the Greeks believed in the conceptualisation of an idea before an object. Thus, John in his writing states that in the beginning was the Word/logos (the idea) who had come in the person of Jesus Christ (the object).

Jews on the other hand could not accept that Jesus is God. They believed that He only possesses attributes of the divine. Thus John continues by stating the important verse that, "...the Word was with (facing) God..." to show the closeness of relationship in the Godhead; and that the Word was already God, having the full image of God. Jesus also takes on numerous titles in the book of John amongst them include the Light, the Life, the Son and the Lord.

Jesus also used the seven "I AM"s to declare His identity to the people. Each of the "I AM" says something about Who He is and helps people to believe in Him. "I Am" is the very name of God in the Old Testament. This is high Christology which emphasizes on the divinity of Christ.

John also presented seven particular signs to help readers believe in Jesus Christ (John 20:30-31). While it seems from the book of John that everyone is judging Jesus, in actual fact, it is Jesus who judges and calls in the witnesses.

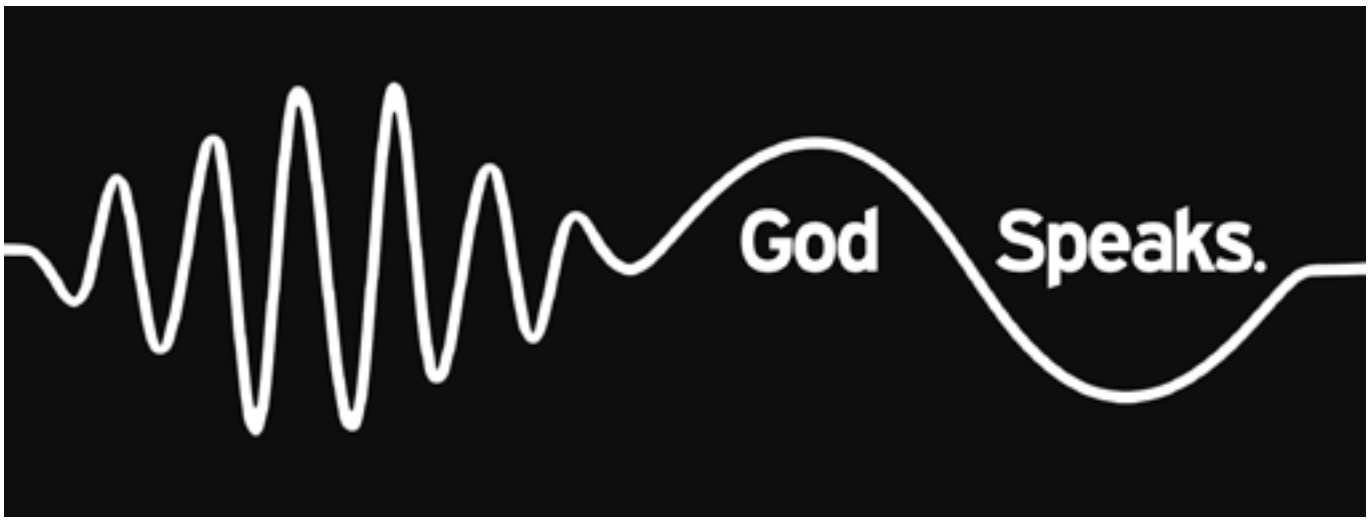
We were encouraged, when reading John, to look past the surface meaning to uncover a deeper meaning. Rev Victor proceeded to suggest that we get good commentaries to aid our study of the book.

The seminar's last session ended with a splitting into seven groups to identify the seven signs of Jesus and to study what Jesus is demonstrating about Himself via those seven signs. They are: the miracle of turning water to wine, healing of official's son, healing at the pool, the feeding of five thousand, healing a blind on Sabbath, Lazarus' resurrection, and death of Christ Himself. The question we needed to ask is why John chose these seven signs specifically. What did he want us to know about the life of Christ through his writing?

During the seminar, I was inspired by Rev Victor to read through the gospel of John in one sitting, to consider the clarity of writing and the very personal nature of John's encounter with Jesus. I recall that John is famously known as "the disciple whom Jesus loved," thus indicating his close relationship with Jesus. Through the seminar, I came to learn that John's conviction on the divinity and identity as the Messiah is rooted in the consistent use of the term "I AM," and the 7 signs.

I had the opportunity to discuss with my group on sign no. 4 which is the feeding of the five thousand. On reading John's account of the incident, he seems to want the readers to know the attractiveness of Jesus to people facing personal hardships which include the lack of food, physical tiredness and being far from home. John also wanted his readers to know that the miracle of Jesus was participatory and felt by the people practically. The people were able to taste the bread, and fish, while John along with the disciples was actively involved in the distribution of limited food portions. I believe these aspects of Jesus demonstrate His supernatural abilities and alignment to the description of the promised Messiah which calls for a verdict on His claims to be the Christ.

May the book of John open new insights and discoveries into our understanding of Jesus as our Lord and Saviour. As we read, may we ask the Holy Spirit to uncover new truths for us to encounter Jesus Christ in our study on the book of John.



The LORD Still Speaks Today

By Lim Chin Nee

THE LORD, whom I have come to know, love and trust is a living God who speaks today as He did in the days of the Bible. God speaks; and the Bible is full of accounts of Him speaking to His people. He spoke to Noah to build an ark, to Abram to leave his country and go to the land of Canaan, to Moses to lead His people out of captivity, to young Samuel, to David, to His prophets.

And the living God who speaks, came in human flesh two thousand years ago. He lived and walked thirty-three years among His people, speaking to them, touching them and changing their lives. Towards the end of His earthly mission, He sacrificed His life for the sins of the world. He died and three days later He rose triumphantly from the grave, opening a new and living way for people to be restored back to God.

When He ascended back into heaven, His Spirit was poured out upon His people. The book of Acts is full of accounts of the Holy Spirit speaking to the apostles, empowering and directing them. The Holy Spirit spoke to Philip to go near the chariot of an Ethiopian eunuch, to Peter to arise and follow three men that were coming to look for him, to the early church to separate Barnabas and Paul for the work of the ministry and to many others.

Not only does God speak in times past to His people, He continues to speak today because He is the living God. He speaks to us in many ways through His Word and Spirit, through dreams, visions and prophecies.

I enjoy hearing God speak to me regularly through His precious Word. On rare occasions, I have heard God speaking directly to me. I would not say that they were audible but they were certainly as clear as day.

One of these precious occasions was when I was watching a documentary show regarding the Himalayan Lamas. It showed several of them in their saffron robes sleeping on the hard, snow-covered and frozen ground of the mountain. On the following morning, they woke up completely fine, with no frost bites or hypothermia. Another scene showed wet towels being placed on their backs. The towels soon became dry, as if placed on a heater. As I watched, a question came to me, "These Lamas have such power to amaze the world. What power do we Christians have to display to the world?"

God answered me so instantaneously that I was taken aback. He said, "THE POWER OF LOVE."I heard it clearly. How true! Indeed, the greatest power on earth is the power of love - God's love! Jesus said in John 13:34-35, "A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another. By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another." His Word also tells us that if we have no love, we are nothing!

A more recent experience was during my Uncle Lim Nee Meng's wake service. I had expressed my condolence to my cousin, Lee Fah and her children. Her youngest son responded with the brightest smile, while her 17 year old daughter stood up to greet me. I was pleasantly surprised by her respectful manners.

The young lady's politeness touched me and I felt a stir in my heart to share the gospel with her. I wished I could remember her name but I could not as I hardly meet this cousin of mine, and the last I saw her daughter was when she was probably five or six.

God knew my heart and something amazing happened during the second night of the wake. As she walked passed me, a name came clearly to me. I could even see the spelling of the name - Yinn Hui. Was that her name I asked myself?

Quickly I inquired, "Is your name Yinn Hui?" She replied, to my excitement, "YES!" And upon checking the spelling, it was exact. Who but God could have told me? I knew she was special. I shared God's love with her, right after my Uncle's final rites. That day Yinn Hui received Jesus as her Saviour, much to my joy.

Our God speaks. May I, His sheep, tune my heart and ears to enjoy hearing His voice and follow Him daily!

Oh Lord! What Should I Do?

By Ho Gek Neo (Aunty Teh)

MY knees were giving me problems. On 22 Nov 2018, I went to have my knees x-rayed. Three doctors attended to me that day. The senior doctor told me that I could either take medicine or have knee replacement operations. He said that the procedures would be completely free as my late husband was a government servant. He even said that I was an intelligent lady and could make my decision.

I did not know what decision would be right. The doctor gave me some time alone to decide. I went down on my knees and cried out to the Lord. I cried and cried so much. Then suddenly, I heard God say, "No operation. Medicine!"

When the doctors returned, I told them, "No operation but medicine!". The senior doctor told me that I had made a very good and wise choice. I told them it was the decision of my God. He asked me, "Who is your God?" I told him Jesus.

My knees are doing much better nowadays with the medicine I am taking twice a day. I thank God for speaking to me and guiding me to make the right decision.

The Lord our Shepherd has a voice and He loves to speak to us. He said, "My sheep hears My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me. And I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; neither shall anyone snatch them out of My hand. (John 10: 27-28)

I Will Heal You

By Lee Chai Ha (Chin Nee's 86 year old mother)

IT was 8 Dec 2018. I was reading an article in a local Chinese newspaper written by the psychiatrist, Dr Seed Hon Fai. At 2.30 in the afternoon, while wondering how I could contact and seek him for a consultation for my anxieties, I heard a voice clearly telling me, 'I will heal you. You do not need to go and see a doctor.'

I was so happy and thankful that God spoke those comforting words to me. I do not need to seek the doctor. God will be my healer. Peace came into my heart. Nowadays, whenever I have any stress or anxieties, I would focus on His word to me and the anxieties would leave me.



Jesus Take the Wheel

By Abigail Cheong

DRIVING was so difficult for me. Honestly, I felt like such a failure every time I did not pass the driving test. I mean anyone who failed four times like me, would definitely feel the same way. I hated letting my parents down, I hated people's looks of pity, I hated the embarrassment; but no matter how hard I tried, I just could not pass the test.

My fifth try on the test was scheduled on the 31 December 2018, the last day of the year. So, I told God, "God, please let me end this year well. I don't want to be sulking and sad as I go into the New Year." After praying, I still was not sure if I would pass, but I knew that God was with me all the way.

When I was in the test car, I started humming praise songs; it made me calm down. Thank God even when I made a mistake, the officers did not see it, and before I knew it, I had already completed the test. I still remember how happy I felt, it was as if I had done the impossible, because it was such a breakthrough for me. Nevertheless, I prayed and tried my best in every single test, but I did not pass till the fifth try, it was God's timing I guess. Thank you God for letting me end my year with a bang.



Knowing Jesus Afresh

By Angy Cheng

BEING educated in a convent, I was in some ways influenced by their teaching. Therefore, when I was a young adult, I was baptized in a Catholic church. Though I had a Bible I seldom read it. I only continued faithfully in the religious practices of saying my prayers with the rosary and using other booklets as my guide. However, I felt that I did not communicate with Christ effectively.

A few years ago a friend took me to The Hope of Glory Centre and to her Life Group. I felt so welcomed by Ps Khor and the church members. The warmth of church members touched me greatly and I felt being cared for.

I was very impressed by how friendly and concerned the sisters were in the Life Group. I remembered one of them saying, "We are all one big family." I agreed totally. Through that, some of my fears were dealt with and I began to grow. I felt the need to grow deeper in the Word of God. As I began reading the Bible by following the Bible Project, I began to know God more.

One of the sisters took time to disciple me through the discipleship program that HGC uses. It was during those studies that I was seriously challenged to accept Jesus as my personal Saviour. It was not an easy decision for me, because that would mean that I had to cut off completely my previous practice of prayers using the rosary and my beliefs concerning Mary; and to put Jesus as first in my life instead. As I continued with the study, the Spirit of God convicted me not only to accept Jesus as my Saviour but to go through water baptism too. I consulted my children who are all Catholics of my decision. Praise God they gave me their blessings.

I was baptised on 26 Nov 2016. Now, I feel like a whole new person being a child of my Heavenly Father, and knowing Jesus as my Saviour and Friend, and the Holy Spirit as the Comforter and Guide of my life.



Follow the Light

By Simon Lim Wee Hoong



"PA, Jesus loves you… very much! Remember that Jesus always love you. If you see the light, follow the light. Jesus is there waiting in the light for you. He loves you very much!" I told my father again and again as he lay on the hospital bed in the High Dependency ward. He was admitted on 16 July 2018 due to multiple complications.

My cousin sister, Ps Lee Ping, had visited my father on the afternoon of 13 Aug 2018, which was almost a month since he was admitted. She found him to be surprisingly quite conscious and alert and led him to say the sinner's prayer again. My father followed her, word for word. After her visit, she called me, telling me I must pray for my father and to tell him to follow the light of God.

I was not even sure whether that was a right and filial thing to do. Was I, in other words, telling my father to die? That evening as I fed my father a few spoonsful of soup, wiped him and massaged him gently, I found the strength to speak those words repeatedly to him. He seemed to acknowledge what I said. I told him, "Pa, Jesus loves you! If you see the light, follow the light. Jesus is behind the light waiting for you." He nodded.

All of a sudden my eyes noticed the monitor next to him. His blood pressure was falling rapidly. Quickly, I called the attention of the nurse and doctor. They pulled the curtain and asked me to wait outside. In less than 15 minutes, the doctor came towards me and said, "Your father has stopped breathing."

It happened so quickly. A moment ago I was just feeding him soup and then he left. I am greatly assured that as I spoke of Jesus' love and light, he must have seen the light and followed it.

I am so thankful for the salvation of my father, Lim Nee Meng. He was baptized on 1 Oct 2006 but he never really grew to know Jesus. He did not read the Bible and only came a few times to church for worship. Yet God the Father was so faithful to preserve and save his soul. It is the undeserved grace of God.



My Leg Was Saved!

By Samuel Kugen

IN Nov 2018, I experienced a harrowing ordeal. Whilst coming back from work in the evening on my motorbike, a car brushed me causing me to lose control of my bike. A short while later another car knocked me completely off causing me to be hurtled into the air. I landed against the road shoulder knocking into some barriers placed by construction workers. I fell unconscious and was sent to the hospital by some passers-by.

Shocked at what had happened, my mum, sisters and brother came rushing to the hospital to find out about my condition. Meanwhile, the doctors tried to figure out what to do with my shattered right leg. I had multiple fractures, and most of my veins (except for one vein) had stopped circulating blood to my leg due to the impact of the accident. I was in great and indescribable pain.

The doctors came to see my mother with a form asking her to sign to allow them to amputate my right leg. She was stunned and confused not knowing what to do. Thank God for my sister and brother who pleaded with the doctor to save my right leg. They remembered a testimony of a pastor who shared how he recovered completely even though many bones in his body were shattered after an accident. They kept on telling my mother not to sign the form.

Finally, my mother told the doctor that she was not signing the form and asked the doctor to do their best to save my leg. Seeing the desperate pleas of my family members, the doctors decided to cut one vein from my left leg to bring it over to the other leg to get the blood flowing again.

To this day, I really do not know how they did it but after the incision was made (you can still see the long huge cut on my left leg), the doctors suddenly saw an amazing thing on the screen in the operation theatre – blood was gushing through the veins in my right leg!

It was a miracle! My right leg was saved although it had to be placed in a round steel frame to enable the bones to set and heal, I am grateful not to lose my right leg.

In my time of need, my family members especially my mother had pleaded to God on my behalf and their prayers were answered!

Doctors informed me that it will take one year before I can walk normally again. However, I am trusting God for another miracle for my healing period to be shortened. Thank you to all the church members who prayed for me.



My "Da Chieh"

By Jeanette Chan

I HAD this niggling feeling to visit my 82 year old eldest sister back in 2016. I knew it was the Holy Spirit nudging me. This feeling increased towards the end of 2017. Though I obeyed, I now realized that it was not as often as it could have been. Regrets? Yes, but it would have been worse if I had pushed that niggling feeling away.

Having been entirely independent all her life; this sister of mine, loved travelling, held together two businesses simultaneously; a hair salon and a tailoring business. Hence, having to be confined to a wheelchair a few years ago was like a death sentence to her. Life dealt another blow on her when her husband died more than a year ago. It shattered her. She lost her will to live and had always declared vehemently of her desire to die.

That spurred me to tell her about how Jesus could help her with her miseries but she would have none of it. Each time I went to see her, I would persuade her to try Jesus but she would resist with, "I'll do that when I'm well; I'll accept once my illnesses are gone; et cetera, et cetera...."

Anyway, I determined to continue ministering to her. In 2018, when Christmas was around the corner, I made plans to take her to our church celebration at the MCA Hall. However, sadly, I learnt that she had been bedridden for nine days and was later admitted into the CCU on Christmas Day. Fearing for her, I asked the Holy Spirit to preserve her life as I hurried to see her.

It was ghastly to see her deathly pale face with almost bloodless lips. For her to talk was most difficult. She was on drip and her mouth and lips were parched. So, I hushed her and said I would do all the talking but I had no idea at all what to say. I prayed fervently in my heart believing that the Holy Spirit would give me the words I needed as He had promised. So, I opened my mouth by faith and the words started pouring out.

Things played like a movie in my mind and I poured out of my life on earth, my disappointments and traumas which I had faced and how Jesus was the One who pulled me through and stood me strong. With that I cajoled, "Da Chieh (Eldest Sister), you too can call on Him when you feel lonely, afraid, in pain, confused, worried, in fact, anything at all. Just call on His name and He will help you, ok?"

I took a deep breath; she replied in a low voice, "I'm afraid." When queried of her fear, she could not name it. It's just fear. Again I prayed, and by faith opened my mouth and the words came. "Jesus can vanquish all fears, known and unknown. You just need to call on Him." But she was certain that she would forget to call on Jesus. I promised to pray for her that Jesus will remind her to call on Him.

I popped the question again, "Let's do it together ok? Jesus is very miraculous, He can do anything. We pray to Him together ok?"

SHE NODDED! She nodded! With a grateful heart for God's mercy, I led her through the salvation prayer in Cantonese. I was amazed at myself for the fluency!

Two days later, I visited her and asked if she had slept well.
"No, I couldn't sleep at all"
Undaunted, I persisted, "What did you do then?"

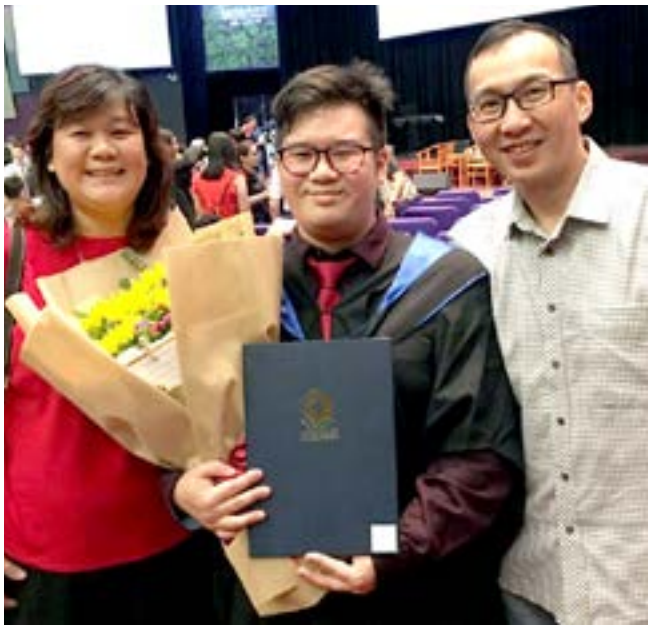
"I called Jesus' name and said I can't sleep. After that, I slept for a long time," she smiled.

WOOHOO! The feeling was indescribable! Such exhilaration and gratitude! God is the greatest!

Although, she was discharged a few days later to her heavenly home, great peace reigned in my heart.

With God I Overcame

By Jonathan Liew



Jonathan's Graduation Day

I GREW up with ADHD (Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder) and was extremely active which greatly hindered my attention span. I had always struggled in school, be it in academics, relationships with my classmates or in sports. I was not regarded as the sharpest of mind and was often ridiculed for having to eat pills to suppress my active mind. Over the years I have faced different challenges from rejection by my friends or teachers and having suicidal thoughts. However, God has been faithful and loving towards me. More than once, He would send in guardian angels over my life to encourage me. These people believed in me and gave me hope that I can be someone successful.

At the age of 19, I enrolled into the Methodist College Kuala Lumpur for the Diploma in Early Childhood Education course. Prior to enrolling into this course, my parents and relatives saw that I had a burden for children, especially those with learning disability. I know it was the Holy Spirit who has called me to be a teacher to young children.

Studying this course was not easy. I was the only male student in my cohort, and it can be difficult interacting with girls. I thank the Lord for His guidance and mercy towards me during my studies. Even though it got difficult at times, I managed to overcome it. Even during my time as an intern, the favour of the Lord was with me and His faithfulness towards me never ceased. I am honoured and glad to have been able to make a difference in the lives of many children.

Walking up the stage during my graduation ceremony after all the trials and tribulations, I knew deep down that I would not have been able to accomplish this without the guidance of the Lord. As I took hold of my certificate and shook the hand of the CEO and the guest of honour, I felt joy so indescribable. My heart was full of gratitude for the Lord's mercy and grace and for all who had helped me along this journey. For I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me! (Phil 4:13)

An Unexpected Miracle

By Hng Tek Hing

IT was on a working day, last year, 2018. After work, I had to travel to a dinner appointment via the Salak Selatan LRT. My walking stick is like a guide dog for the blind. Using it to guide me, I moved slowly towards the front of the queue on the LRT platform where there was quite a crowd waiting for the train. I had no idea that I was too near the edge. All of a sudden I felt myself falling down into the track. I screamed, "Sakit, sakit!" (painful painful) and felt bruised all over.

Two auxiliary policemen ran over and managed to pull me up just in time as the next train was just a minute away. They took me to a nearby room where I requested them to massage me on my right hip and it did help a little bit. My friend came to send me home where I had to painfully drag myself up the staircase to my home which is on the fourth floor.

The following day, my son, Kenneth admitted me to the Gleneagles Hospital where the doctor checked me up. Ps Khor proclaimed health and healing over me when he came to visit me with Bernard Chong. The doctor asked me on his morning rounds if I would like to go home as there were neither internal injuries nor any serious wounds. I was so glad to hear of the good report from the doctor. God had surely protected me from any serious harm. Truly, He is Jehovah Rohi, my Shepherd!



Unceasing Grace and Blessings from God

By Surin Leong



Surin in front of her new detached home

I WOULD like to express my heartfelt thanks and praise to God for providing for my retirement years.

Firstly, God blessed me with a second hand fifteen seater Toyota van in late April, 2018. The Lord knew that although I am well passed my retirement age, I still need to give English tuition. Perhaps, He provided me the vehicle so that it can be used as a mini school bus to provide alternative income for my old age.

Secondly, never for once did I think that at the age of 70, I would own a nice spacious detached house in Kampung Tasik. How did it happen? About forty years ago in 1979, while I was still a postgraduate student, my second brother-in-law came suddenly to my hostel telling me that his elderly neighbour was selling his wooden plank house for a few thousand ringgit. He urged me to buy it so that I would have my second sister as my neighbour and we could take care of each other in our old age. I hesitated but somehow took his advice. I gathered some cash and bought it. Having to concentrate on my studies, the house was left mostly vacant except for a ten year period when it was rented out to a single mother.

Two years ago my second brother had the idea of using the property to plant some fruit trees. When renovation work to the kitchen and toilet began, we found it had been attacked by termites and the whole house had to be pulled down and rebuilt at a hefty sum!

The Holy Spirit prompted me to sell the low cost flat which was left behind by my husband. However, that was still not enough and I had to sell my apartment in Taman Kosas to raise the funds for the reconstruction.

Praise God my wooden plank village house has been transformed into a spacious six-room brick detached house, with a study room built at the back for my quiet hour with the Lord. The backyard of this 4,000 sq feet piece of land overlooks some serene distant hills. I am opening this place for the interaction of the local community, for sports activities and a place for neighbours to come together to know God.

Thirdly, the Lord came to my rescue with His benevolent providence. An empty house without furnishings and furniture is not a home and I was running out of cash. Just before Christmas last year, as I was worrying about where to get the money for furnishing and furniture, I was told that a sister was planning to sell off her father's house and dispose of his furniture. I was asked whether I wanted the furniture – sofa, beds, wardrobe, cupboards, chest of drawers etc. Praise God for His beautiful, timely gifts just a week before Christmas! Within two days, the Holy Spirit helped me to locate a lorry and a very helpful lorry driver to transport all those bulky furniture.

Fourthly, Father God in His grace provided a team of people to help me. He knew that at the age of 70, I would need a lot of manual help to move the furniture around. As I prayed for help, the Lord send a team of nine ladies from my Taman Putra Praise Dance group to help me to hang the curtains, put up some fixtures and arrange the bulky furniture.

Fifthly, while I was holding a simple house warming gathering on New Year's Day, 1 Jan 2019, to thank my friends for helping me to shift and settle in, one of the ladies observed that I was using paper plates and cups to serve the food. The following week, she gave me a whole set of table plates, glassware and glass containers. She said that since I was going to use the home as an activity centre, I would need all those kitchen wares. What a pleasant surprise again!

Finally, to top up all the joy and celebrations, my youngest god-daughter got married on 26 January 2019. Now, I am blessed to have a god-son-in-law.

All thanks and praise to God who understand all our needs and gives us His providence at His perfect timing.

Seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness
and all these things shall be added unto you. Matt 6:33

Delight in the Lord and He will give you the desires of your heart. Psalm 37:4

Love is for Everyone

By Chan Yi Hern

WHAT a day for our visitation - 14 Feb 2019, internationally known as Valentine's Day! As I entered that Old Folks Home, memories of my late "Gung Gung" (grandfather) came back. I used to 'play' with him at home before he became very sick and stayed in a nursing home. My mom and I visited him every day until the last day.

I did not see many men compared to women here. Most of them were on wheelchairs and needed assistance.

Aunty Wai Keng's mom is very old. She could not sit steadily and could only talk softly. She was glad to see us. Mom and a few aunties from her Life Group were with her.

I walked around freely. My mom did not notice I was not beside her. I spotted a vacant lazy chair, so I took a seat. Looking from where I sat, I saw that this place was over crowded! Most of the elderly needed attention and care. I wondered how the staff managed. There was only one air conditioner in the big hall full of beds and another air conditioner at the other end. Nonetheless, it was pretty clean.

It was their lunch time. Those who could feed themselves, ate on their own while some who could not, had to be fed by the staff.

Each of them is the Lord's precious golden jewel. And I would describe them as adorable!

I found one silver haired lady who looked quite like my late "Por Por" (grandma). She was seated with a few golden jewels eating their lunch. I saw their food and it did not look appealing to me. She was struggling to finish her food.

Seeing her and sensing her loneliness and emptiness, and how she was enduring all these silently, I just wanted to shower her with love! Anyway it was Valentine's Day that day; and love is for everyone! 1 Corinthians 13:13 says, "There are three things that will endure, faith, hope and love, and love is the greatest of ALL!

I could not help my feelings. I bravely went over to hug her a few times. Aunty Ginna who was talking to another old lady friend, quickly apologized to her. But she said it was ok. She was of course shocked and amazed by my hug. I presumed she had not been hugged for a long time! I could also sense she was glad to receive my hug today. I hope I had made her day and would treasure that special moment in her heart. I too will treasure this.

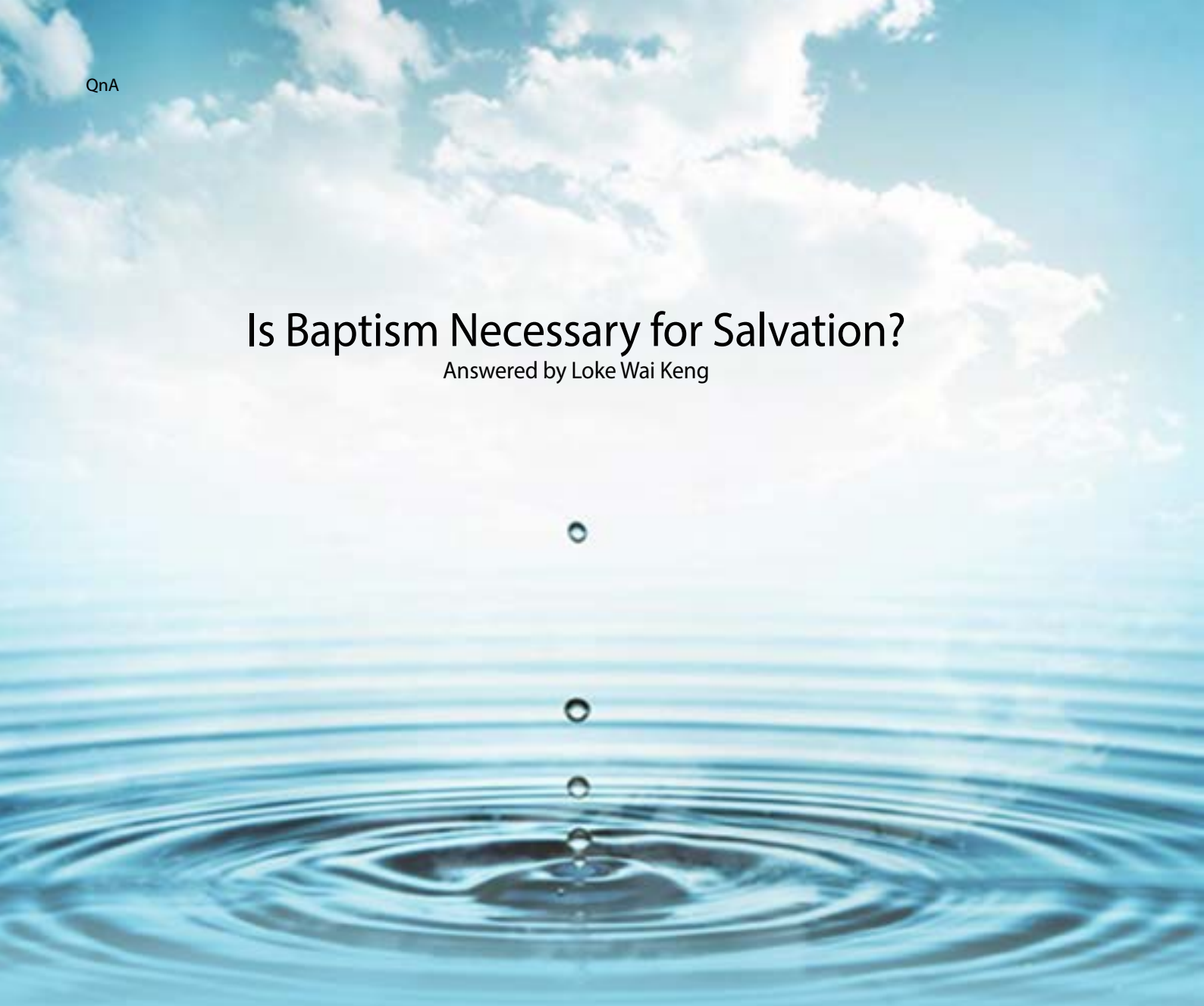
Thank You Lord for giving me Your courage. May Your loving touch upon that "por por" bring her faith, hope and love to sail through the rest of her life in Your peace.



A meaningful time at the Old Folks' Home

Is Baptism Necessary for Salvation?

Answered by Loke Wai Keng



STRICTLY speaking, the answer is "No." A person can be saved who has not been baptized. However, the Bible makes it clear that baptism is extremely important, and that those who have accepted Jesus Christ as their Saviour and who have decided to follow Him are to be baptized.

Mark says, "He who believes and is baptized will be saved" (Mark 16:16, NKJV). Notice here believe comes first then baptized. A person who does not believe cannot be baptized.

Jesus told Nicodemus, "Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born of water [baptized] and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God" (John 3:5, NKJV).

Jesus further told His disciples to go everywhere preaching the gospel and making disciples and baptizing them in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit (see Matt 28:18-20). If we read just these verses in isolation, we might think that it is impossible to be saved without being baptized. However, the Bible is clear that there is no saving virtue or merit in the act of baptism itself. Only through faith in Jesus Christ alone are we saved. (see John 3:16; Acts 4:12; 2 Cor 5:17-21).

Hence, baptism is not necessary for salvation. The act of baptism, itself, does not save us. But this does not mean that baptism is not important or optional. It does not mean that we can choose either to be baptized or not to be after having believed in Jesus and having accepted Him as our Saviour. Jesus said, "If you love Me, keep My commandments" (John 14:15, NKJV). And He has commanded us to be baptized (see Matt 28:18-20). A person who loves Jesus and accepts Him as his or her Saviour will want to follow Him in baptism.

Baptism is important because it is a public declaration that we have accepted Jesus and are turning our back on the old life of sin and are now trusting Jesus to live a new life as a Christian. When we are placed under the water and raised back out of it, we are symbolically stating that we have died to sin, that our old life of sin has been buried, and that we have been raised to new life in Jesus – just as He died for our sins, was buried, and was raised to life again (see Romans 6:3-5).

Salvation comes only through the shed blood of Jesus on Calvary (see Roms 3:25; 5:9; Eph 1:7; Col 1:14, 20; Heb 9:22; Rev 1:5 etc.). And those whom Jesus Christ has saved will gladly follow Him in the extremely important step of baptism.



Blue Lor Mai Kai

(Steamed Glutinous Rice with Chicken)

By Magdeline Chin











Ingredients:

400g glutinous rice, rinsed and soaked for 2 hours
25pcs dried blue pea flower, washed and drained
600g chicken, chopped into bite-sized pieces
10pcs dried Chinese mushrooms, soaked, drained and cooked
1 Chinese sausage, thinly sliced diagonally
Some shallots and garlic, chopped
3-4 tbsp oil

Marinade (A) for chicken:

2 tbsp oyster sauce
1 tbsp light soy sauce
3/4tsp thick soy sauce
1 tbsp ginger juice
1 tsp sesame oil
1/4tsp white pepper powder
1 tbsp Shaoxing wine
1 tsp cornflour

Seasoning (B) for glutinous rice:

1 tsp salt
2 tsp white pepper powder
Water just enough to cover glutinous rice

Method:

1) Season chopped chicken with marinade (A).
2) Boil 2 bowls of water. When water is boiled, add in dried blue pea flowers. Let it simmer for 3-4 minutes or until you see the water turns blue.
3) Sieve and collect the blue water.
4) Mix seasoning (B) with glutinous rice. Fry shallots and garlic until fragrant, add in glutinous rice. Lightly fry.
5) Remove onto a tray, add in blue water until just reach the top of glutinous rice and steam for 40 minutes.
6) Place a piece each of Chinese sausage, Chinese mushroom and marinated chicken at the bottom of the aluminum bowls. Fill up with cooked blue glutinous rice. Use the back of a rice ladle to press rice down until it is ¾ full.
7) Arrange on a steamer and steam over rapid boiling water for 40 minutes.

HAPPENINGS IN HGC

CHURCH EVENTS | Jan– June 2019



CHURCH EVENTS

New Year Sunrise Service	**1 Jan**
Ordination of Preachers: Sam Liew & Chong Yun Fei	**3 Mar**
English Worship Night	**8 Mar**
HGC 25th Anniversary Celebration	**10 Mar**
Seminar on Gospel of John with Ps Victor Lee	**30 Mar**
Annual General Meeting	**12 Apr**
Good Friday Service	**19 Apr**
Easter Sunrise Service with Rev Dr Leow Hong Too	**21 Apr**
Children Sunday School Camp	**25 May**



NEW BORN

Ellie Rey Tan **27 Mar**
(2nd Child of Jason Tan & Joann Lim)

Josiah James **9 Apr**
(1st Born of Ps Joseph & Jane Teruel)



IN LOVING MEMORY

Susan Yong Yin Chin **20 Feb**

Chintana Kaewdam aka Wen Jie **21 Apr**



MISSIONS TRIP

Sibu, Sarawak **22 – 25 Mar**



NEWLY WED

Yap Chin Yau & Chia Wan Tin **26 Jan**

COMING EVENTS in 2019

Church Camp @ Refreshing Spring	**15-17 Aug**
Love Ampang Community Project	**21 Sep**

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

1A,1B & 1C, Jalan Wawasan Ampang 2/2,
Bandar Baru Ampang, 68000 Ampang, Selangor, Malaysia.
Tel : 603-42951700 Fax : 603-42952701 E-mail : mail@hgc.org.my

The Hope of Glory Centre