



Message from the President Elect

Dear Bishop Ong & President Tie, pastor-colleagues, brothers & sisters in Christ,

First of all, I want to give thanks to the Lord for calling me into this responsibility and the Church for acknowledging this privilege entrusted to me through the act of election.

In response to this calling, I want to echo the wise words of the Bishop-elect that, "I take office knowing that many have lost their positions and jobs. Many have become poorer. We live in challenging times in the midst of the Covid-19 pandemic that has affected every area of life."

Hence, this is not about winning a political election, but a call to servanthood leadership, a call to walk humbly with the Lord, a call to act justly and to love mercy, a call to dying to oneself, a call to live a life built on God's Word and prayer.

As the Church lay hands on me to be installed to this office, may I ask you to "... stand firm in one Spirit, striving together as one for the faith of the gospel." (Philippians 1:27). Additionally, please remember me before the Lord in your prayer.

In this installation service, when I cannot show you my full face, I am reminded to behold the glory of God; when we cannot have a large congregation to witness this occasion, I am reminded to desire the presence of the Holy God; When I felt overly overwhelmed by the election, I am reminded to be humbly dependent on God's power and grace.

On behalf of my family, may I wish you a blessed Christmas and new year ahead.

- Rev Lau Hui Ming

新会告就职礼拜 - 致词

首先，我要感谢主呼召我担任这项新的职务，也感谢教会通过选举共同的确认。对于选举，容许我应用候任会督献词的话说，“我上任就职时，却有许多人失去了职位和工作，许多人变得更加贫穷。在冠状病毒疫情中，我们生活在充满挑战的时代，因疫情影响了生活的各个领域。”

因此，这绝对不是赢得一个政治选举，而是一个仆人领导的呼召，一个谦卑与主同行的呼召，一个行公义，好怜悯的呼召，一个更加向自己死，向主活的呼召，一个必须建立在神的话语和祈祷生活的呼召。

当教会按手授职于我时，我恳请大家 "... 同有一个心志，站立得稳，为所信的福音齐心努力。..." (腓立比书1:27)。另外，我也祈求您在祷告中，常常在主面前纪念我。在这一次的就职礼拜中，当我无法向您露出我的全脸时，我被提醒要注目在上帝的荣光；当我们无法看到人山人海的群众观礼时，我被提醒要更加渴慕神的临在；当我被选上感到不知所措时，我被提醒要谦卑地依赖上帝的能力和恩典。

最后我谨代表我的家人，预祝你圣诞蒙恩，新的一年更爱主。

Message from the Chairman

Shalom Brothers & Sisters,

We welcome you to our quarterly Trinity Newsletter. We praise God for His goodness in leading us to revive this publication. Indeed, all glory to Him for making it possible to release this inaugural issue.

On 16 Mar, the Movement Control Order (MCO) was imposed in Malaysia due to COVID-19 pandemic. Since then, the urgency for an electronic newsletter becomes more obvious of choice to effectively disseminate our Church activities to members. It will be posted to our website at www.tmc.org.my and a small quantity will be printed out for those who prefer hard copies.

It is our prayer that you will find it filled with interesting information, testimonies, sharing or events that will touch or encourage you. The Psalmist said in 107:2 "Let the redeemed of the Lord tell their story". Yes, we also look forward to the contributions of your sharing to the future publications.

Thank God for a humble & willing Editorial Committee who took a step of faith to be formed and come to work together as a team to edify His children.

Together in Christ we serve

- David Teo



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Message from the Editorial

At the beginning of this year, David Teo approached me to revive the publication of The Trinity Newsletter. I was a bit hesitant about taking the position of the Editor but God reassured me that He who calls will also equip and provide. I was part of the former committee of the Trinity Newsletter and I was actually excited about the thought of the rebirth of the Trinity Newsletter. Reverend Lau in his message 'Come before winter' on 1/11/20 challenged us that when God calls, the opportunity to heed His call is today, now and not tomorrow. So in obedience I answered His call and accepted His challenge.

Trinity Newsletter will be a quarterly publication of God's people living under God's will and in obedience and guidance by His word. Writeups on the latest happenings will keep members connected. As Trinity Newsletter will be a joint newsletter for the 3 congregations, we welcome your contributions in the English, Chinese and Malay languages. Any ideas to make our newsletter relevant and engrossing will be most welcomed!

So we would like to take this opportunity to invite all of you at TMC to partner with us in the publication of Trinity Newsletter by contributing your testimonies, sharings or even photos that can offer hope and encouragement to its readers. Finally let us make Trinity Newsletter our mouthpiece in declaring God's goodness and His grace and mercy in our lives.

Welcome on board!

For His glory we serve,
The Editorial.

今年年初，David Teo弟兄邀请我再一次的投入在新版的《三一家讯》。犹记《三一家讯》在许多年前曾经出版过，但是因为一些因素而停办。而我还是当时《三一家讯》的成员之一。所以我对新版的《三一家讯》的重生感到兴奋。同时间，矛盾的我又对担任编辑的职位有些犹豫。但我要感谢神，是祂呼召我，又向我保证，祂会给予我应当的装备和提供。

之后，神在11月1日主日崇拜的证道中，透过刘会明牧师的“冬天之前”再一次向我提出挑战。当上帝呼召时，应当抓住机会，是今天，就在当下，而不是明天。因此，我顺服神的呼召，接受了祂的挑战。

新版的《三一家讯》将会每三个月出版一次。堂讯内容会包含神的子民如何顺从祂的旨意和话语的文章，或有关教会最新境况的消息，使会友们能够保持联系。新版的《三一家讯》也再一次的将成为华、巫、英语会友之间的桥梁。因此我们欢迎您提供英文，中文和国文的作品。再者我们也欢迎任何对堂讯有建设性的提议与评论。

因此，我们想借此机会邀请您，所有三一堂的朋友，与我们一起合作，出版《三一家讯》。您可以帮助读者们带来希望和鼓舞，透过您的见证作品，分享集甚至一些合宜的照片。

最后，衷心希望《三一家讯》成为我们的喉舌，来宣告上帝的良善以及祂在我们生活中的恩典与怜悯。
欢迎加入！

因祂荣耀而服事，
编辑部

Pada awal tahun ini, sdr. David Teo mendekati saya untuk menerbitkan semula penerbitan Berita Trinity. Saya agak ragu-ragu mengambil jawatan sebagai Editor tetapi Tuhan meyakinkan saya bahawa Dia yang memanggil juga akan melengkapkan dan menyediakan. Saya adalah salah seorang daripada bekas ahli jawatankuasa Berita Trinity dan saya sebenarnya teruja dengan pemikiran menerbitkan semula Berita Trinity.

Rev. Lau dalam mesejnya 'Datang sebelum musim dingin' pada 1/11/20 mencabar kita bahawa ketika Tuhan memanggil, kesempatan untuk mengindahkan panggilan-Nya adalah hari ini, sekarang dan bukan esok. Oleh itu, dalam ketaatan saya menjawab panggilan-Nya dan menerima cabaran-Nya.

Berita Trinity akan diterbitkan setiap suku tahun bagi umat Tuhan yang hidup di bawah kehendak Tuhan dan dalam ketaatan dan bimbingan menurut firman-Nya. Penulisan mengenai kejadian terkini akan menjadikan ahli sentiasa berhubung. Oleh kerana BT akan menjadi berita bersama untuk 3 sidang, kami mengalu-alukan sumbangan anda dalam bahasa Inggeris, Cina dan Bahasa Malaysia. Sebarang idea untuk menjadikan berita kami relevan dan menarik sangat dialu-alukan!

Oleh itu, kami ingin mengambil kesempatan ini untuk menjemput anda semua di TMC untuk bekerjasama dengan kami dalam penerbitan BT dengan menyumbangkan kesaksian, perkongsian atau bahkan gambar anda yang dapat memberikan harapan dan dorongan kepada pembacanya.

Akhirnya marilah kita menjadikan BT sebagai wadah atau tempat kita dalam menyatakan kebaikan Tuhan dan kasih karunia serta belas kasihan-Nya dalam hidup kita.
Selamat datang!

Untuk kemuliaan-Nya kita melayani,
Editorial

Answering God's Calling



Getting baptized at TMC in 2001

My name is Raymond and I would like share my testimony and my Journey to Seminary Theology Malaysia. I was born in a Christian family. My dad was from Sri Aman and my mum from Miri. They both met in Kuching and they ended up staying "full time" in Kuching. They were looking for a church at that time and they decided to attend Sunday worship services at TMC through the recommendation of some friends. I was then baptized at TMC at the age of 4 in 2001. As they continued to attend the Sunday worship services, I ended up in Sunday school. I hated going to Sunday school at first because I knew no one and I was actually forced to join the Sunday school. The kind Sunday school teachers were very patient with me, and they took really good care of me. As a result, I continued to join even though I was quite reluctant to join the Sunday school.

Unfortunately, my father passed away when I was 10 and that was 13 years ago. I was left fatherless and I had a void in my heart which I never knew I had. To fill that void, I tried to find joy in life through hobbies, books, music and all sorts of stuff. However, all of them only provided temporary joy and I was never satisfied. It wasn't until I had a personal encounter with the Lord when I was in Youth at the age of 13. I had a glimpse of the joy of following Jesus. Therefore, I stayed on, wanting for more. As I was in Youth, I learned more about who Jesus really is and my life was transformed from there. In the year 2016, during The Sarawak Youth Methodist Convention, I received my calling to serve God and dedicated my life for Jesus. During the altar call. I went forward and I remembered vividly that the Lord wanted me to serve in the youth ministry. Before that, I was planning to leave the Youth ministry as I was of age to leave. But the Lord had other plans for me. So, I obeyed. I remained in the Youth ministry as a young youth advisor till today. My calling became clearer and clearer when I served in various church ministries. God was calling me to minister to those who are lost, broken and hurt, especially amongst the young people. The number of young people in the church are declining. They think that the church is irrelevant and boring. They are pursuing after the world instead of Jesus. It is sad to see that so many young people chasing after fame, fleshly desires, wealth and worldly recognition that will never last. Matthew 6:19-21 19 "Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. 20 But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. 21 For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. I have a great burden to help all these young lost sheep to realize that when their true everlasting treasure is in Jesus and then

their heart will belong to Him too.

Recently, I graduated from Swinburne University as a Civil Engineer. Looking back, I asked God why I needed to endure 5 years of university education and not just go to Bible School directly after form 5. Amazingly, God answered my doubts through the story of Jesus where He was in the desert for 40 days before He started His ministry. Indeed, without the experiences that I had in university; I will never be what I am today. God was actually preparing me and now is the time for me to fulfill His calling. For those who are still waiting and praying for His direction, be reminded that God is with you and He is definitely preparing you for something greater.



2016 Sarawak Methodist Youth Convention

Matthew 6:24 mentioned that "No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money." Matthew 6:24 was the bible verse that reassured me in making the decision to become a full-time servant of God. This bible verse reminded me that God is so much more than all the riches and money in the world. Gold and silver will one day fade away, but the Lord remains forever. He is the same yesterday, today and tomorrow. Why serve the world when you can serve the almighty God who created this universe? Therefore, I have decided that I will serve Him until the day I meet Him again. I will dedicate myself fully and faithfully to Him for the rest of my life. My hope is to see that many more young people will rise up to join me in serving full-time for the Lord. Also, I longed to see spiritual revival in churches all over the world. All glory to God.

- Raymond Law



Commissioned by Pastor and Church leaders to Full Time Ministry on 28.06.2020

God's Calling Into Seminary



I came to Christ through The Boys' Brigade and my faith journey continues when I decided to join the MTS Short Term Mission School in 2010. That was the first time I joined a missionary program. Ever since then, God has given me a few C-lessons that started me to examine my heart and the inner me.

Guess what was the first C? The first C was literally a Grade C that I received for an assignment that I plagiarised. By the grace of God, this Grade C led me to the second C, Confess. The holy spirit convicted me to confess my wrong doing to my lecturer and to share this story to the rest of my friends before I graduated.

I remembered that during the graduation ceremony God gave me another C, Courage, through the sharing of Rev. Dr. Tie's to step out for God. Matthew 9:37: Then He said to his disciples, The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. The Gospel needs to be shared because we all need God and there are a lot of people who have yet to know God. It was during this period that I experienced the fourth C, which is the Calling from God.

In 2013, I was offered by the government to further my studies in Universiti Utara Malaysia. I questioned God. WHY UUM??? I mean God, I don't even know if the birds there lay eggs. I didn't understand then as to what God has for me in sending me there.

When I finally started my studies in UUM Sintok Kedah, I noticed that most of the people there were either Muslims or worshipping the many different Thai idols. UUM Sintok Kedah was indeed a land that the Gospel has yet to visit. I was the only Christian among the 38 Chinese intakes in my hostel.

As I continued in my studies I slowly understand God's will and His purpose of sending me there. I still remember during one of the home visitations when I asked the residents what they know about Christmas. The answers that I received were all concerning Santa Claus, Christmas tree, gifts etc, but nothing about Jesus Christ.

The Gospel is needed on this land.

In 2014, the Holy spirit changed my life thoroughly when my pride was crushed as I went through the refiner's fire. During the semester break that year, once again I joined the MTS Undergraduate Short Term Mission School. This time round, I joined with the hope to equip myself so I could serve God better when I am back in Kedah after the break. During the training, we attended a course (Apologetics) where it strengthened our faith and help us to spread the gospel among our Muslim friends. Once again, God talked to me through Isaiah 6:8 -- And I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, Whom shall I send, and who will go for us? Looking at the needs in the Muslim majority university that I was in, I once again responded, "Here am I; send me" on the last day of the STMS.

Throughout the four years of my university life, God gave me friends in Christ and a clear vision, which was to work together in God's ministry. God has continuously affirmed me on His calling. I can still vividly remember when a sister in Christ was sharing her life on how she experienced God. I too shared my worries and struggles

with her. Being the only child in my family, unquestionably I need to bear the responsibility to take care of my family after I finished studying. I had a lot of struggles and worries. She then said, 'Edwin, why would you underestimate God's power as the God is omniscience, omnipresent, omnipotence? Since our heavenly Father has called you to do His work, don't you think He would take care of your family for you?' Only then I realised that on such a wonderful day, God has sent an angel to erase my worries. What is even more amazing is that she is now my wife! God has given me my life partner who is willing to walk with me on this journey of full dedication to do God's work.

When I recall all these wonderful incidents in life, I have only endless praises for God and His wondrous deed and grace. Finally I understood why He sent me to the "Universiti Hutan Rimba"

In 2016, I was back in Kuching. I made a commitment to God that I would spend four years to work so that I could experience the world and try my best to be the light and salt for God in the workplace. These 4 years have also served as a testing period for me personally to know that nothing in this world could stop God's will in me. I thank God for providing me all that I need. Undeniably, there were countless temptations but God's word have helped me to guard my heart and soul to temptation. He saved me from evil.

I do not know what lies ahead. There will be challenges, problems and more. Lord Jesus said in Luke 9:23 that If any man would come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me. Therefore, I will accept God's calling. I know that my life is incomplete without Jesus and His sacrificial love. I would say it's definitely a blessing to be chosen by God. His calling is getting clearer every day, especially during this pandemic. His gospel must be spread around the world, in every corner, especially where we are standing -- Malaysia.

Here I am, God. Send me. Here I am, God. Send me.

By : Edwin Lai
Trinity Methodist Church
Oct 2020

Start^{them} Young!

– Ting Swee Choo

If we are not rooted in God's Word, tithing can be very painful for us. When my daughters were still in primary school, I gave them weekly pocket money, and I taught them to put aside 10% from their pocket money for tithing. I wanted them to practice this habit on their own and not just take money from me when the offering bag is being passed around. As the years passed by, both of them have cultivated the habit of tithing not only from their pocket money, but also when they received bonus money from the family – such as when grandma rewards them after scoring good results or as birthday gifts etc.

I remember vividly the Chinese New Year in 2015 when Rui Yu collected a large amount of angpau money. As usual, I reminded her of the 10% tithing, while she can take some for spending and the rest will be banked into her bank account." 10% was seventy over ringgit. She felt reluctant and really hesitant. We even got into an argument over this matter. Of course, when she realized that I am firm and serious about tithing, she pushed all the money and responsibility of decision to me and said "I don't want the money any more, you give all to God la". Notice that she said "you give all" not "I". She refused to accept the money as hers and was not at all willing to give that 10%. I understood that she needed time to obey my instructions, so I gave her time to cool down. After a week, she finally agreed to tithe.

During this MCO, my daughters did voluntary work for an organisation, which was cutting PPE for the front liners. It lasted the whole period of MCO. When MCO ended, the voluntary initiative ended as well. But then, the hospital still wanted the PPE, and they are willing to pay for the work of cutting the PPE. So the organization paid wages to Rui Yu for her work of cutting PPE. When Rui Yu received her 1st income this MCO, she felt troubled over whether to submit 10% tithing or 1st fruit to God. She asked Rui Jie and I. We quoted her the verse

2 Corinthians 9:7

Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And Proverbs 3:9 Honor the LORD with your wealth and with the first fruits of all your crops. After prayers, finally she decided to give her first fruit.

Through Rui Yu's growth, I realized how faithful God is. He truly makes everything beautiful in His time and brings up His wonderful children, as long as they walk in His path. 1 Cor 3:2 says that "I give you milk, not solid food, for you were not yet ready for it." Indeed Rui Yu was not ready to handle larger amounts of money in 2015 but now she, definitely has a more matured view of money.

From the reluctance to give 10 % tithing back in 2015, I can see that Rui Yu was not ready for God's solid food. However after she submitted her 1st fruit, we can see Rui Yu's growth in Christ. I truly praise God for He is the best parent anyone can ask for their children. Hallelujah!



God's Superior Plan

– Rebecca Chang

Over the years, I have learnt to not trust my own plans but the ones God has for me, as my plans were nothing compared to God's. This is my story:

I grew up in a Christian family in Kuching. I was what you might call the black sheep of the family in terms of languages, studies and musical talent. Although the others in my family were talented in those areas, I struggled no matter how much tuition I attended. As I grew older, so did my talent and passion for helping people with their mental health and I often find myself being the person others would confide in.

After form 5, I wanted to study psychology. However, mum was concerned of the life I would have, and if I would be able to support myself in a field that was not looked upon highly then. Hence as a compromise, I decided to do Hospitality Management. With hospitality management, my plan was to complete my studies in Australia, work for a few years and then be a hotel manager in 10 years! However during a break from my studies in Australia, I spoke to my dad about Switzerland being the best place for hospitality training. Before I knew it, arrangements were made for me to complete my bachelors in Switzerland. It turned out to be a blessing as the school gave me a double degree i.e. one from Switzerland and another from Manchester Metropolitan University from the UK. Upon completion, I came back to Malaysia for work where I was promoted in a short period of time, as manager and soon after as a hotel consultant. All this happened in less than 5 years rather than my original plan of 10 years.

However throughout my time of working in the hotel field, I still held a strong interest and passion for mental health and decided to do Masters in Counselling. My plan was to do psychology but God showed me counselling instead and I obeyed and completed my masters in 2019. Again, my plan was to settle down by getting a graduate visa and work a few years in Australia. However, unexplainable things happened one after another, starting with the forest fires in Canberra to a problems with processing of my graduate visa and finally the Covid-19 pandemic which led to the cancellation of my graduation. I had no choice but to come back to Malaysia. Little did I expect that I would face yet another hurdle when the local counselling board rejected my application for registration and required that I take up courses in a local university. Upon further checking with the registration board, even the option of study at a local university to make up the qualification didn't look promising.

While waiting for the official letter or advice from the board, I kept my hopes up by applying for various jobs all over Malaysia, Singapore and Canada that was related to counselling. I also started a website called "Let's Talk" and approach TMC to offer my counselling services for free. Unexpectedly earlier this month I was called for a job interview. As I wanted to be honest with the employer and not get anyone in trouble, I explained my current situation of registration to the employer in my first interview and thought that the chances of being employed were very slim. A few days later, I got a call for a follow up interview but because I had made arrangement to see Rev Lau on the free counseling at church, I propose an alternative time for the second interview. Miraculously the employer called again to offer me the job without a second interview. In disbelief, I called to clarify the situation of my registration and concerns but the employer was very understanding and reassured me so that I would be comfortable taking on the job.

With this I can only say that my journey has definitely been one where God has played a huge role and I am truly blessed. His plans for me were not what I could have planned for myself.

Bring God even on your Hikes

I had a most dramatic experience last September when 8 of us with 5 children went to Tanjung Datu National Park for a 3D 2N hike. It turned out to be a 2D 1N trip for some of us! You see I had a sudden serious allergy attack on the second day, so serious that my face became a blowfish, and I fainted within 20 minutes.

For those who may not know, Tanjung Datu National Park is at the tail of Sarawak and is only accessible by boat, roughly an hour by fast boat from Sematan. But the allergy attack was of course not planned, so there was no fast boat available to take me to the nearest hospital.

So as you can imagine, the rescue task at such a remote place was a true challenge. Nonetheless, God had arranged for a rather smooth but long rescue despite that no fast boat was available at the national park.

What are the odds of having a fisherman's boat nearby bringing a group of photographers? The fisherman's boat was not a speed boat, so it took 30 minutes to reach the village where I laid half conscious in a verandah whilst waiting for a transport out.

It seemed like the whole village came to check on what was going on

when a bomoh suddenly appeared! He chanted and then spitted water on my face 3 times. I was still paralysed then, so I couldn't react much to the uninvited 'help' except to squint my eyes hidden in my blowfish face and say a silent prayer that God will be with me and that the Devil shall flee in the name of Jesus Christ.

After the boat ride, it took another 30 minutes hilux ride on a dusty and untarred road to Sematan where I received preliminary treatment at a clinic. Finally I was brought in an ambulance to Lundu Hospital.

Despite the long journey to the Lundu Hospital, I believe that God had already rescued me when He sent that fisherman and his boat to rescue me. He also made me alert at the crucial time so I could battle a probable spiritual attack and call on the name of Jesus Christ to protect me from the evil one.

I really thank my strong and loving hiking friends for acting fast and doing their best to help me, including carrying a 50kg me into and out of the boat and hilux, and praying earnestly for God's mercy to save me.

I am very glad that I know this one and only God who saved me and granted me the faith to surrender myself to Him, and even provided me with spiritual armour to battle a probable spiritual war.

May this testimony be a reminder to be grateful for every new given day and to call on Him at times of troubles.

- Jacqueline Hii, Tree cell 4

Nuggets of gold

- Lee Ting Siing & Ivy Teo

We started our biblical adventure journey of 32 weeks of Disciple Gold with an orientation on the 9th February 2020. Praise the Lord in that we were able to complete this course even in this time of Covid – 19 pandemic. At first, we were a bit worried of how we were going to continue this course in view of the implementation of MCO where all church activities were suspended. Praise the Lord for his providence in that our facilitators Rev. Dr. Lau Hui Ming and sister Hilda Chan agreed to conduct this course via zoom meeting. We were really blessed in that we were able to savour this spiritual food in spite of this MCO. This is the first time we experienced this mode of study which is conducted virtually without physical interaction. This MCO also advocates 'Stay at home' which means we had more time to do research as well as make cross references on the interpretation of the Bible scriptures assigned to us each week. Even though we do more references, but it is very rewarding because it actually strengthens our faith and deepens our biblical knowledge. This really gives us great satisfaction as God's words are always trustworthy and alive in our everyday lives.

There are actually seven participants in this course. Four of them are from TMC (Lau Mee Ting, Judith Tang, Shirley Kho and Wong Yut Tung) whereas three are from TTMC (Agnes Lee and both of us). We varied in ages, qualifications, working experiences and personalities, hence we view Scripture passages and questions from different perspectives. Thus we learn through our diversity. It is a very small group hence we have intimate and wonderful time of virtual learning and growing spiritually together in God's words.

It is an amazing course which really gives us great insights on a lot of books which we are doubtful on its interpretation. We learned that the book of Psalm is a collection of sacred poems that were intended to be sung and used for worship. Our involvement in the writing of Psalms of joy as well as Lament gave us a better understanding on the book of Psalms and Lamentations. We are also being reminded by the book of Proverbs, on wise principles and suggestions for successful and fulfilling living. The book of Job tells us vividly that as God's people, we also had to suffer afflictions and hardships but his grace and mercy will enable us to overcome these hardships. The teacher of Ecclesiastes gives us the impression that everything is meaningless but there is a time for everything and at the end, it is the duty for all men to fear God and keep his Commandments which will always bring hope to mankind. The book of Esther is a clear illustration of

how God works behind the scenes to intervene in the history of a nation and in the lives of individual people. In summary, the Writings of the Old Testament teaches us how to deal with the harsh realities of daily life and how to live a meaningful one through the providence of our Almighty God who works quietly and faithfully behind the scenes, who does not forget or forsake us.

The book of John tells us the essential truth of who Jesus is, i.e. the identity of Christ and Jesus divinity and how believers in Him will have eternal life. As believers of Christ, we should know that God's judgement on the world is imminent and that to prepare for this judgement, we shall not only repent for our sins, be baptised but we shall produce appropriate fruits of repentance. We are also touched by the footwashing act of Jesus on his disciples (John 13). This act reminds us to be humble and to serve and not to be served. Whereas the book of Revelation, the apocalypse of John, gives moral admonitions to the seven churches, which reflect also the situations of most churches nowadays. Thus as church, we need to heed to the Spirit of God and strive to be faithful. The vivid imagery of disasters and sufferings all over the world show the judgement of God, until the power of evil is totally destroyed by our Lord. This shows that final victory and glory belongs to God which is also our hope and faith. This enables faithful Christians to finally attain fully in the promise of eternal rest in the Glory of God's New Heaven and New Earth (Revelation 21:1;4) where there is no suffering and pain and most importantly God dwells amongst us. (Revelation 21:3)

This course makes us realise our weakness as depicted in the human condition but we will gradually and surely be moulded and refined into finer Gold through the transformation from our human conditions into marks of faithful community. We will surely move towards completion – 'When he has tested me, I shall come out like gold (Jobs 23:10), reflecting with the colour of Disciple Gold.

Lastly, we would like to give thanks to our Lord for providing us with very faithful, committed and enthusiastic facilitators Rev. Dr. Lau Hui Ming and sister Hilda Chan. They had sacrificed their precious time of 32 weeks to guide us in studying God's words. We would also like to thank brother Wong Yut Tung for faithfully coordinating the weekly zoom meeting. Not forgetting all my fellow disciples who assist and encouraged us in this study. We are really inspired spiritually by the vast knowledge shared by our fellow Disciples.

Disciple Red: Snippets of blessings

I'm challenged to uphold this Great Commission and the Great Commandment to love God and to love my neighbour as myself.
Dr Yap Chin Hong (TTMC)

At first, the bible was just words to me; but now it speaks to me and I can share the verses with my friends and family.
Lai Kiu Fah (TMC)

Disciple Red has helped me to grow to be more Christ-like and has enriched my quiet time with God.
Susan Chua (TMC)

The Movement Control Order enabled me to attend almost all the lessons. God once again showed me how to put my faith in Him and that He would show me the way.
Lee Jia Ning (FMC)

The supporting materials with historical background has greatly enriched my understanding of God's word which now has become more impactful to me each time I read the Bible.
Rebecca Ling (TTMC)

Through this course, I have gained a new perspective of things, that is; I have learnt to find the good in the bad.
Liew Hui Woan (FMC)

At first, I felt at odds being in a Bible study group that consisted of believers of different age groups. As time went by, I had the opportunity to listen to different view points of the Bible truths and have learnt about things that would rarely cross my mind.
Grace Kho (TMC)

I pray that this study of God's word will continue to impact us throughout our lives as we joyfully reach out to love and serve others particularly those who have yet to know Jesus. It is my prayer that all believers will have a chance to go through this course.
Christie Chou (TTMC)

A DOCTOR'S REFLECTION ON LIFE.

- Angela Chin

My name is Angela. I work in SGH, O&G Department as a doctor. I had been attending TMC since July last year. I am very happy to be a part of TMC and had been blessed greatly by the warmth and kindness of the members. I have been attending cell group now led by brother Steven.

I want to share with you my personal Covid experience working in the Hospital. As our country first announced shut down on March 18th, my first reaction was 'oh good. Our country officials are reacting quickly to this pandemic/epidemic to curb COVID'. At the beginning, we were suddenly hit with having to shut our doors and informed patients that we are closed because of covid. Clinic appointments have to be rescheduled, but soon we realized how do we get the medications across to the patients? By mail? How do they collect the medication slips? When is the right time to reschedule them? We realized then that those rescheduled for two weeks ahead, had to be rescheduled again because the shutdown was extended for another two weeks; and another two weeks, and another two weeks, and yet another two weeks..... so the backlog became longer and longer and longer. We had to explain to the patients that this is because of covid. If you do not need emergency treatment, don't come to the hospital. Operations have to be delayed. For those with cancer on board, how do we justify that by delaying their operations we are not delaying their treatment that they need, and risk the cancer from spreading by the day?

We have to reserve the hospital beds for symptomatic patients and reserve ICU beds for very sick patients. We divided the wards for positive covid, high risk for covid and suspected covid cases. Besides we also have to cater for non covid patients. Our covid ward which was just one ward on the highest floor began expanding one floor down, and another, and another until we had to reserve the wards from the 9th floor till the fourth floor for COVID cases. We knew that situation will get out of hand at some point, and drastic measures had to be taken to contain the covid.

Soon enough, one by one of our staff had become COVID positive. Discretely the virus had spread quickly like a plague sweeping across the hospital workforce. Once a staff is covid positive, at least 70-80 staff will be quarantined, along with all their household members for two weeks. We were forced to call back doctors from non covid hospitals to help out because we were running short of staff. As time went by, we started screening all staff, and practised social distancing to keep the spreading under control.

While being quarantined for two weeks early in the pandemic, I faced fear everyday. When I wake up, I feared having the symptoms of covid

and envisioned myself being sick and dying! However I am truly blessed with friends who kept me in their prayers and always making sure that I have enough to eat. They sent me home cooked meals, and reaching out to me. I felt very much cared for and loved. They prayed with me, asking God for a breakthrough and for strength and protection.

One day while entering a shopping mall, I was spotted with my hospital tag. I was asked where I worked and was declined entry initially. It dawned on me that the stigma of covid is real, and that people are scared and feared the worst of the unknown.

Recently, I was called by my junior colleague to inform me that a patient had collapsed. I rushed to the hospital and joined the team that was trying very hard to resuscitate this patient. She was a patient suffering from cancer, and she just had her operation 5 days ago. At stage 3 cancer, her chances of a 1 year survival stood at 50% if treated. She was planned for discharge the next day. God did not grant her the 50% survival chance but instead He took away her life so suddenly and left everyone in shock.

As I reflect upon my life as a Christian working in my line of field, I feel God is teaching me these lessons:

1. Be not afraid of their faces: for I am with you to deliver you, said the Lord. Jeremiah 1:8 There are many challenges which I face that at times I do not know how to handle. And I pray before handling these challenges for courage, wisdom and strength to face them.
2. Jehovah gave, and Jehovah has taken away, blessed be the name of the Jehovah. Job 1:21 In times of trial, trust in the Lord always, for he is my provider and my Jehovah jireh.
3. We love him, because he first loved us. 1 John 4:19 I remember not to forget family and friends, to love them and cherish them, keeping them in my prayers. I am blessed with people who care for me dearly and I thank the Lord for them.
4. But of that day or hour no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the son, but the father alone. Be on the alert then, for you do not know the day nor the hour. For this reason you also must be ready, for the son of man is coming at an hour when you do not think he will. Mark 13:32, matthew 24:42, 44. God had shown me again and again, that no matter how much I know, there are things that I do not know. Therefore I am reminded to stay alert, for the time is unknown. Someone once shared with me that there are four sides to life: one side that I know and everyone else knows; one side that I know and no one else knows, one side that everybody knows but I don't; and one side that no one knows. And this side, is the side that only God knows.

EXPERIENCING GOD IN NZ DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC

On 25th February 2020, I travelled to New Zealand (NZ) with my brother Colin and we arrived in Auckland the next day, which happens to be Ash Wednesday. I planned to stay only for 5 weeks and to return to Kuching on 3rd April in time for Easter. My prime purpose of going to NZ was to celebrate my eldest nephew Simon's 50th birthday on 28 March. This is an important marker of God's grace and mercy because Simon has been on dialysis since he was 26 years of age. However, God has other plans in mind for me. Proverbs 16:9 says, "In their hearts humans plan their course, but the Lord establishes their steps."

We drove to Wellington in early March to stay a week with my younger niece Audrey, who works in a government research laboratory there. On 22 March, the NZ Prime Minister proactively announced a 4-level national plan to cope with the Covid19 global pandemic. All persons above 70 years were advised to stay home, which I did. After another 3 days, the whole country went into lockdown. All international flights were cancelled, including my return flight to Kuching, with no indication as to when things will return to the normal we knew.

At first, being a keen gardener, I was delighted to spend long hours in the grounds of my brother's house – weeding, trimming the rose bushes, pruning the fruit trees and harvesting the persimmons and feijoas. The many birdsongs reminded me how God provides for even the common sparrow within His care. The autumn flowers make me consider how God clothe them transiently in such splendor, surpassing that of King Solomon's regal robes.

Indoors, I re-discovered a book I first read in 2011 – "The Grand Weaver" by Ravi Zacharias. Reading the book again helped me recall how God has shaped and molded me through all the events of my life. I listened to many edifying Ravi Zacharias International Ministry (RZIM) talks on youtube. I spend time challenging my brain with crosswords. (Providentially, God led me to a bookshop 2 days before lockdown and I purchased a book with 600 crosswords!!).

Sometimes, I watched CGTN (China Global Television Network) which has many bilingual programs on the history, culture, as well as current and future development of China. I re-learned my long forgotten Mandarin and somewhat corrected the warped perspectives I held about Chinese traditions and culture.

On Sundays, I worshipped on TV through "The Hour of Power" conducted by Bobby Schuller at Shepherd Grove Church in California. Later in the day (NZ being 4 hours ahead of Malaysia) I followed the English services at Methodist Churches in Sarawak. This is truly a double portion of God's blessing!!

What keeps me sane and walking close to God during the period of restricted movement was the creed which begins every worship

service on "The Hour of Power":

"I am not what I do, I am not what I have,
I am not what people say about me,
I am the beloved of God; that's who I am,
No one can take it from me.
I do not have to hurry, I do not have to worry,
I trust my friend Jesus, and share His love with the world."

I stayed in the same household with Colin, his wife Rose and daughter Yvonne, enjoying the family dynamics & communal relationships, and unlearning some of the individualistic thinking and self-centredness which is typical of a person accustomed to solitary living. When the alert level dropped to Level 2 in early June, I was able to go and stay 2 weeks with my elder brother Tony, his wife Josephine and Simon who lives in another suburb. Similarly, I experienced congenial sibling relationships and tender loving care in a different household. To preserve domestic peace and harmony, I learnt to let go of my ego, keep my mouth shut, bite my tongue on innumerable occasions and just enjoy the companionship of family.

I was able to fly back to Kuching via Kuala Lumpur on 5th July, which happened to be my 71st birthday. In the interim 4 months, we celebrated the birthdays of Simon, Yvonne and Jade (a grand-niece who turns 18 on June 23), as well as Tony's 78th birthday. We also dined out for Tony and Josephine's 51st wedding anniversary. I would otherwise have missed all these family festivities.

I was really blessed to return to sunny Malaysia as winter begins in Auckland and NZ. I was on a flight to Kuching after transit in Kuala Lumpur. In Kuching, I was kept with other passengers in Harbour View Hotel for 4 days before allowed home to complete the 14day quarantine. The 4 days of "eat and sleep" in the hotel, courtesy of Sarawak State Government, was sufficient time for me to get over my jetlag and energized me to make my home habitable again. Indeed, God always provides beyond our expectations!!

Dear Abba Father, thank You for the pestilence which stopped the world in its tracks, making us sit up to take notice of the mess we have made of this world which You created and blessed us with. May we accept and appreciate the restriction of movement as an opportunity to be still and spend time with You, to grow closer to You, to discern Your Will and to experience Your presence in our chaotic lives. May we repent, especially our sins of omissions, change our sinful habits and practices and establish new ways of living which are worthy of Your Holy name. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

- Gracia Tiong

Our laments to God amidst crisis: A lesson from Habakkuk

- Batu Lintang Small Group

Our Father In Heaven
We Pray To You Daily
When Will You Be Coming?
When Will You Deliver Us As You Promised?
How Long Must We Wait ?
How Long Must We Fend Off The Enemies Who Long To Take Our Hearts?
How Long Before More Will Accept The Grace You Offer Freely?
How Long Before We Will All Walk With You And Live In Peace And Harmony With Love For Each Other ?
Will You Not Come And Help Us Receive You And Follow Your Commands?
Many Walk On Their Own And Bring Disaster In All Forms Upon Themselves
Will You Not Help Us Open Our Eyes, Our Ears And Our Hearts So That Salvation Will Be For All Of Us
And That Peace Will Reign Supreme And There Will Be No More Tears In Our Eyes?

Dear Lord
I Know You Will Always Hear Us And That Your Will Shall Be Done In All Our Lives.
Help Us To See It Clearly And Seek Your Will In All That We Do
For I Trust In Your Unfailing Love, My Heart Rejoices In Your Salvation. I Will Sing Of The Lord's Praises For He Has Been Good To Me .
Psalm 13:5-6 - Siew Hueh Fen

O Lord, 2020 has been a year like no other
Where are you, O Lord in the midst of this pestilence?
We have been confined, confused and confounded
O Lord, do not hide yourself from us
The unseen enemy has wreaked havoc in our lives and livelihood

But you, O Lord have been gracious and merciful
You have protected, preserved and prospered us
You have kept us connected to our families and church throughout this pandemic
As the pandemic continues to rage on, O Lord do not forget us now
We look to you for deliverance

As you have brought down the walls of Jericho
As you have parted the Red Sea to deliver the Israelites
O Lord, we pray you will bring down the borders and walls between humanity
You will deliver safe passages so we can reconnect with each other
Hear our cry, O Lord, we thank you.

- Rosaline Eu

God, our world is in trouble
Our vaunted health care is in chaos
Hospital beds are overflowing with the sick and the dying,
Some are left in corridors or left to die at home

The queue for hospital beds seem never ending;
New occupants lying on recently vacated beds
Whose previous occupants were hurriedly bundled to the morgue
Burial plots are running out of space
Funeral homes are overwhelmed.
Seemed like they are the only businesses that are thriving at this moment.

Patients are dying alone, frightened, anxious,
Some are defiant, in denial of their sicknesses
Healthcare workers are exhausted and burnt out
Yet no relief is coming.
Some live from day to day, in numbness and weariness
Some give up, leave, to retain their sanity
Who can blame them?

What's next, Lord?
Why aren't You doing anything?
Lord, why are You still standing by, with Your hands in Your pockets?

Lord, surely your eyes are too sharp not to see our misery
Your compassion too deep to ignore our cries for help
Your hands are not too short that they cannot deliver us out of this catastrophe
Neither is Your love so forgetful of the millions who are afflicted and dead.

Surely, Lord, You will not forget the names of those who will never come home again
Those who had spent their last days in oxygenated tents, behind polyester shields,
Alone, fighting for each breath,
Till all energy is exhausted and final breath surrendered.

Lest we fail to remember, Lord,
Remind us that You had engraved our names upon the palms of Your hands,
You had covenanted to never leave us or forsake us.

Arise, Lord, over the chaos and our fears, our anxieties and our insecurities
Breathe Your peace upon our troubled souls
Calm us like a weaned child leaning upon its mother's breast
Relieve us of our burdens, our anguish and our perplexities,
Pour upon Your bewildered, fragmented world Your balm of healing grace.

Grant wisdom to the doctors and nurses who struggle to keep relatives, friends, neighbours and strangers alive, so that they can return home once again
Grant breakthrough in research and enable scientists to develop a safe, efficient and effective vaccine to curb the spread of the pandemic that has brought a proud, self-sufficient world to her knees.
Grant equal access to healthcare facilities to all nations, rich and poor, so that the barriers that has divided us for so long might be torn down by our common need for health, food and livelihood.
Grant economic recovery, social reintegration and political concord that men and women of all language, race and creed might lay down weapons of destruction and forge them into implements of aid, responsible agricultural policies and fair industrial practices so that no one is exploited.

Lord, as You had acted in the past centuries
To stop the bubonic plague, smallpox epidemic and lately SARS,
Lord, act in power once again, to deliver us from the SARS-CoV2 pandemic.

Let our prayers not be in vain, Father,
As we plead for the healing of Your world, Your creation, Your people,
The apple of Your eye, the sheep of Your pasture.

Gladden our hearts once again, Lord,
With the hope of Your deliverance
With the promise of Your hoped-for, long-awaited salvation.

We cling to Your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ,
For, in Him, all Your promises are "Yes"!
Glorify Your Name, Father, over all the earth
And may earth and sea echo our heartfelt adoration back to You
In loving wonder, awe and praise.

- Wong Chee May

My Lord, my God,
 Did you not promise us that you have plans to prosper us and not to harm us,
 Plans to give us hope and a future?
 But Lord, look around us! The sick and the dying are on the increase daily!
 We all live in fear and anxiety! Everyone for his own, for fear of COVID!
 Surely this is not what you promise us and surely this is not how we should live our lives!
 Lord, help us to seek you with all our heart so that you can be found.
 Bring us back from the captivity of fear into your sanctuary of love for your name's sake.
 Deliver us from all harm and keep us safe under the shadow of Your wings.
 We renew our consecration to You and ask You for permission to enjoy your creation here for a little longer with the ones we love. Help us, as temple of the Holy Spirit to worship and glorify you and only you.

- Yeoh Gim Suan

Dear Heavenly Father,
 Teach us to be your faithful people in this time of global crisis.
 Let us not be complacent but mindful and prayerful that you God Almighty will look down mercifully on this world which we are in, in this time of COVID pandemic. Thousands of people are still dying everyday.
 Father, please hear our lament and cry, please be merciful as we seek your face and we plea with you God. Hear our cry Almighty God. Please listen to our prayers. How long will this disease last? There seems to be no slowing down but an escalating of suffering and deaths in countries like India, Brazil and the US. From fear filled hearts and anxious minds, we plea with you to please rescue us. Father, we rejoice with those who rejoice, we weep with those who weep....

especially those who are suffering and in pain and those who have lost their love ones. As Christians we grieve with hope, because you are our God of hope which fills us with joy and peace by the power of the Holy Spirit.
 The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, His mercies never come to an end, they are new every morning. Great is thy faithfulness, O God. In God we trust and pray,
 Amen.

- Esther Chew

My God, why have you allowed a united nation to be divided?
 Why have you permitted the elite to use race, religion and status to set us apart? Our nation was created with fairness and equality with justice and respect for one another but the elite have created policies to pull us apart! They use their power to issue permits, licenses and quotas to rob from the people. They use religion to differentiate us and to gain support for themselves. They use their corrupt ways to accumulate wealth so as to exert influence on the people. Lord, our nation is trapped in the middle - income economy. And amidst all this Lord, the covid pandemic has added a heavy burden on the people. We are all cocooned in our homes. There are no gatherings and meeting of friends.
 Oh Lord, when will the elite change their ways? When will the people open their eyes to ways of the wicked? When, Lord will the wicked be punished?

Oh God, creator of the universe, you are are a righteous, just and a loving God. You hate evil and injustice. Your ways are higher than our ways and we know that it is not our will but your will be done. Strengthen us to live joyful lives that glory you.

- Chieng Yu Tang



Diversity allows everyone to be unique, each with our own individual differences. These differences can be along the dimensions of race, ethnicity, gender & even the language that we communicate in!

Trinity Methodist Church consist of three congregations, the BM-speaking congregation, the Chinese-speaking congregation, and the English-speaking congregation. This is the most unique church under SCAC. From the languages that we speak, you can tell about our culture, background and race. With language differences, our perspective in life, the way we do things, the way we interact with one another varies as well.

However despite our differences, we have many common essentials -

1. Same Lord, & same Spirit
2. Same Christian Value system
3. Same mission – to make Disciples for Christ

Personally, I do not know how to appreciate this diversity until recently. When I started serving in the LCEC and I needed to work with all the 3 congregations, it took me a long time to accept our differences in handling and doing things. I confess that I have criticized my brothers

and sisters; I have complained many times about their way of doing things. However, it is through this process of learning to work as a team that I realise my ego is way too big - thinking that my way of doing thing or handling a matter is the best. This is the most precious lesson I have learned.

In addition, God led me to see that all of us (Chinese, Iban, Bidayuh, Indian) are created in His image and we are all fearfully and wonderfully made. Slowly, I learn to see things from their perspective and from their cultural standpoint and their background. Then, I started to realise that not only can I learn so much from them, in fact, I enjoy this kind of working environment and fellowship. Beyond language, beyond culture, beyond our differences, we are one in Christ.

Thanks be to God, for putting me in TMC so that I can learn this valuable lesson, not only to accept our differences but to celebrate our diversity for God is a God of Unity and a God of Love. Let the Love of God continue to bind TMC together for the glory of His Name.

- Lau Mee Ting

WE CAN'T, BUT HE CAN

I started joining TRee cell 5 after I graduated and came back from Kuala Lumpur in 2015. I come from a non-Christian family and had first heard of the gospel while I was in my secondary school. It did not really move me then because I felt that I was good enough even without God. I prayed occasionally to the gods on the altar at my old house before important exams, hoping they would help me to perform better. Other than that, I was not particularly religious. I heard about the gospel again when I was in A level. My new friends brought me to church and for the first time, I set foot in a church. Instead of having to follow sets of rules which we normally had to observe in other religious places, I felt exceptionally calm and welcomed. I started to ponder on what made the church so special. I decided to attend student cell group and Sunday service regularly. Through these, I slowly learned more about God through bible studies and Sunday sermons. In 2014, I made the decision to put my faith in Jesus and be baptised.

So, after five years, do I call myself a transformed Christian? I wouldn't say I am completely transformed but I have learnt a lot and have experienced God in my life. I am still learning to walk with Christ faithfully and to walk towards Him in every decision. It is a gradual process but I am thankful that I am not alone in this journey as I am surrounded by people who are encouraging and supportive. Recently,

I once again experienced God's faithfulness and blessing.

I was recently transferred back to Kuching after working in Mukah for three years. Transfer applications in civil service for pharmacists are generally difficult as there is a lack of permanent posts for pharmacists in government hospitals. As my senior colleagues have waited for 4 to 5 years to be transferred back to Kuching, I was not putting much hope for my transfer back before my wedding. God through my fiancée, Gabriel, assured me to apply and trust in God because we should never underestimate what God is capable of.

After submission of my transfer application, Covid outbreak struck and jeopardised everyone's life. All transfers were put on hold in order to curb the outbreak. Once the MCO was lifted, a senior colleague managed to get his transfer. I was then mentally prepared to wait for maybe another year before getting my transfer. However, God never fails to surprise by giving our facility an extra permanent pharmacist post. I received my transfer letter and moved back to Kuching within 1 month after my colleague! This is God telling me that 'you of little faith, look what your heavenly Father is capable of! God gave my fiancée and I the best gift; being able to plan our wedding together. Moreover, I am back with my family during this uncertain times. Instead of being a worrier I should learn to be a warrior who trusts in God's timing as Matthew 6:34 says: 'Therefore, do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.'

From extensive planning for our wedding, we have learnt to be more flexible. We have learnt to follow God's will. From being self-centered, we learn to be more God-centered. We have also learnt to treasure time and life more, and to turn to God in prayer. - Lau Siew Sia

COMING TOGETHER DURING CRISIS



The church has witnessed numerous great events throughout the decades which had shaped the future growth of the church's brigade ministry. 28 November 2020 is one of the more memorable historical moments for Trinity Methodist Church's brigade ministry, when The Boys' Brigade (BB) Malaysia, 2nd Kuching Company and The Girls' Brigade (GB) Malaysia, 3rd Kuching Company were united as one.

This event was highly significant as it coincided with the new appointments of the captains of the BB and GB for the year 2021. They are Captain Ng Kim Yeng and Captain Cindy Chow respectively. With the new leadership and vision, and by the grace of God, the two ministries will be united for the first time in decades.

More than 30 people attended this great revival meeting. This included all the pastors of Trinity Methodist Church and their families who fellowshiped over dinner. As Advisor Lau Mee Ting once said 'Food always breaks the ice', all the officers took turns introducing themselves and shared about their years of service. Rev. Lau Hui Ming shared on the duties of the Captains when attending all Local Conference (LC) and Local Church Executive Committee (LCEC) meetings. He explained some administrative rules on the usage of facilities of the church and procedures in claiming reimbursements. He stressed that the most important thing is the communication between ministries. A group photo was taken to commemorate this significant event.

The gathering was fruitful as officers got to know one another and they shared ideas and challenges faced during the virtual meetings. Plans were made to share resources and to have more collaboration



next year by God's grace and in His perfect will. Both Captains shared the same vision of strengthening the officers in all aspects before impacting the lives of the boys and girls.

As we venture into the new year full of uncertainties, we believe that The BB and The GB officers will have a renewed camaraderie as brothers and sisters in Christ. This get-together session will be a milestone where both sides are willing to let go of the past and embrace what is yet to come. I would like to encourage all the BB and GB officers with this verse from Romans 15:5 (NIV) "May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you the same attitude of mind towards each other that Christ Jesus had, so that with one mind and one voice you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ."

Last but not least, on behalf of The Boys' Brigade, 2nd Kuching Company and The Girls' Brigade, 3rd Kuching, we would like to thank you for your support throughout the years and do continue to keep us in your prayers.

- Lt. Esther Chua
Secretary of The Girls' Brigade Malaysia,
3rd Kuching Company

Quarantined during Covid-19 Pandemic



My view from Hotel Room

I had just graduated in February 2020 and was staying back in Perth hoping to get a job. Then the Covid-19 pandemic started and WA started its lockdown.

My parents were obviously concerned and asked me to check if there were any available flights back to Kuching but for weeks there were none. One Saturday morning, mum and her BSF ladies were praying for me. That evening Mum just happened to scroll her Facebook and saw a newspaper article about MAS having two special flights to Kuala Lumpur on the following week!!!

I immediately booked to fly on the 27th April flight arriving early next morning in KL despite being worried about flying in this pandemic situation. My heart dropped when I found that the next connecting flight to Kuching was on 1st May. It meant that I might have to be quarantined for three or maybe even fourteen days in KL!!

We prayed and amazingly God answered our prayers few days later because there was a new flight to Kuching on 28th April! Now I could transit to Kuching on the same day and avoided being quarantine in KL. Later we found that Uncle Jonathan from Kuching would be on the same flight and that cheered me up knowing "Ok, at least there's someone I know".

27th April arrived. It had been a hectic week of packing and clearing up my place. While waiting to board my flight, I prayed for God's protection as there was no social distancing in the plane but even though the flight was quite full, God provided an empty seat next to me! It comforted me knowing that a lot of people were praying for me and my safety home. Instead of worrying, I submitted everything to God as he would always be with me throughout this journey. A dear pastor sent me a Bible verse from Isaiah 25:4 – "You have been a refuge for the poor, a refuge for the needy in their distress, a shelter from the storm and a shade from the heat. For the breath of the ruthless is like a storm driving against a wall".

Upon arrival in KLIA at 3.40am, we all had to fill a Health Declaration Form and the KKM health officers inquired if I had any symptoms of Covid-19. Our temperature and nose swab were taken which was rather uncomfortable. The whole process took almost 3 hours to clear through to immigration and boy, was it tiring.

Then that was the start of a lifetime experience – there were 14 of us from Perth to Kuching and we were escorted by 10 police officers to our departure gate. We even had escort service to the toilets. Yup! No privacy at all but we all found it amusing and joked that we better enjoyed the special 'VVIPs' escort. There were passer-by taking videos or photos of us and I thought maybe we might become social media famous.

Furthermore, no shops were opened so we were all deprived of water and food until our connecting flight to Kuching which was supposed to take off at 12pm. We were boarded with full escort but unfortunately our flight was delayed for two hours just to wait for four other passengers – bad service MAS! We were all absolutely drained already.

Once again, I thanked God that I had an empty seat next to me. By the

time we arrived in Kuching it was around 4pm and there were more declaration forms to fill to prove that we are Sarawakians. All of us from Perth had to queue at a designated blue lane where we had a meticulous interrogation. The officer who interviewed me classified us as "foreign viruses". After that we were given a blue tag to wear and required to log in twice a day at 8am and 8pm. I felt like a criminal being tracked. We were also given a checklist to record our symptoms daily. However, I was more anxious to know which hotels we were designated to. Was hoping for either Pullman or Hilton but unfortunately they were full. This was the first time my parents weren't allowed to pick me up from the airport but instead we were ushered into groups of 15 into 6 coaches escorted by police cars & sirens to our quarantine hotel Harbour View.



First thought that came to my mind was "Is the hotel clean or not?" Nonetheless, I shouldn't complain which hotel was provided and Uncle Jonathan that happened to be on the same flight joked, "Don't worry, Harbour View hotel is alright, at least still got view right?" That got us laughing. We even had two police officers in our coach to guard us and when we got down, we all had our hoodies on. The police officers asked us, "Where are you all from? Is Kuching that cold?" No, Kuching wasn't cold but it was our own protection if we were required to be fumigated.

We were the last group to check in to our hotel rooms and by then it was already 8pm. I was extremely exhausted after almost a 24-hours journey from Perth to Kuching but I thanked God for bringing me safely home.

My quarantine was 14 days in my tiny hotel room. I was not even allowed to come out of my room except to take in my meals or empty my rubbish bin. My thoughts were "How can I possibly survive in a room for 14 days where I can't see anyone at all?" Nevertheless, I was grateful that I had a room with the Sarawak river view and Uncle Jonathan was my neighbour. The hotel's wife was like a snail unless I stood near the toilet and only in the mornings. There wasn't any hot water to shower but yes, I survived 14 days with cold water.

On the first day, our breakfast was served at 5.30am!! Understand all our meals were prepared by KKM (Kementerian Kesihatan Malaysia) and they were basically fishy oily sardine meals most of the time with limited vegetables provided.

I was craving for kolomee and laksa but we were told that only dry food could be sent in. However, I was so delighted when mom managed to send me a hot bowl of Sarawak Laksa. Aunties made me cinnamon rolls, chicken pies, pork paus, curry puffs and lo ma kai and an uncle sent roasted pork belly with salad! The KKM staffs asked us to fill up a feedback form on the 2nd day of our quarantine and informed that snacks would be provided but till the 14th day, none arrived. Our temperatures were also monitored daily and the doctors would check that we were alright. Nonetheless, time past by so slowly and quarantine life was definitely challenging. I was getting restless so I started counting the number of red cars, white cars, black cars, the number of people walking and the number of sampans crossing the river. When my parents delivered meals to me, they would park by the riverfront

and I would wave to them from my room. At night when I glanced out of the window, I realised Kuching looked like a lifeless city as there wasn't any cars on the roads at all. The only excitement that I had daily was opening my room door to see what meals were being served. It was such a joy just to see Uncle's head when we popped out to get our food.

I thanked God for my parents, uncles, aunties, cousins and friends who checked on me regularly ensuring that I was alright. There was a worrying day when four ambulances arrived to take four people away. Yes, it was lonely at times but I remembered that God is constantly with me. Besides, I found peace doing my BSF weekly lesson and my daily devotions. I was prompted of this bible verse from Deuteronomy 31:9 'The Lord himself goes before you and will be with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged'.

Our second swabbing was done on the 10th day and I was so delighted

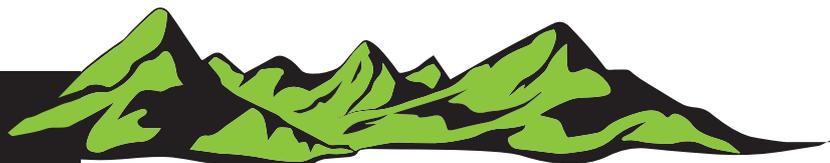
to be able to finally step out of my room. The moment of excitement ended after 20 minutes. I was praying to God that my second swabbing test would return negative so that I could go home.

Moreover, I was counting down to the number of days to go home to see my parents, enjoyed my favourite food, my bedroom and of course the freedom of roaming around. A couple of days before I was released, I was asked to fill up my release order forms and to declare that I would adhere to rules even after being released.

Finally on 12th of May, I was released! So extremely happy to be reunited with my family. It had been an adventure. Regardless of my 14 days quarantine, I truly thanked God and my parents who had been journeying each day with me. As in Proverbs 3:5-6 'Trust in the LORD with all your heart; and lean not to your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct your paths'. Indeed He has direct my paths, all glory to God.

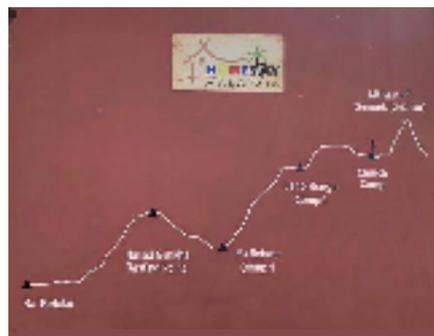
- Janna Teo

My Journey Of Faith To Mt Murud Prayer Mountain 18-21 July 2019



Murud Church Camp @ 2,134m

It was mooted in June 2018 during the Methodist Prayer Convention in Sibiu that a few of us would commit to join 2019 Prayer Conference in Murud, Ba'Kelalan. We (my wife & I) wanted to book our MASWing flights in Dec 2018 but to our surprise, there were no more available seats. So we left it until April 2019 when we managed to book our flights for 13 July and stayed 4 days in Ba'Kelalan ahead of our climb together with our team of 15. We took a Hilux from Ba'Kelalan to Lepo Bunga (about 1hr drive) to start our climb to the Church Camp. The trail was hard & indeed it was a journey of faith & perseverance in seeking the Lord; like a little glimpse of how Jesus carrying the cross to Calvary. I walked in front each time pointing to my wife those easier trail to step on. Praise the Lord, she did not give up or else we would have to hire a porter to carry her! The trail basically has 3 sectors, Lepo Bunga to Joy Bridge, Joy Bridge to Batu Linanit (or detour to use the Porter's trail going around it) & Batu Linanit to Church Camp. It may take 2-8hr depending on how fit you are & the trail condition. We took 7.5hrs to reach the Church Camp & 6.5hrs when descending. We were obviously the last of our team members to reach the destinations. Nevertheless, we thank God, by His grace & strength we were able to make it. Hallelujah, Praise the Lord!



A day's walk from Ba'Kelalan to Lepo Bunga before the road was accessible

The Conference was very well attended with 1,100 participants from Sarawak, JB, KL, Brunei, Indonesia, Singapore, etc.



Session in progress

I was personally touched during the Praise & Worship sessions, singing in tears, immersing & submitting to Him. Our team had each encountered God in a new way & experienced so much joy, fun, love & care living under one roof as one big family. All glory to God.



The IBUs at Cikgu Sang's Home

We were so blessed to have 5 IBUs including Ibu Bulan, Ibu Inang & Ibu Maria to pray for us. A pilgrimage trip to Israel is to walk in the footsteps of Jesus, but here to Mt Murud Prayer mountain, we really have to walk/work in faith relying on His strength.

- David Teo

God provides
even pants!



Ever since a family friend told me about the great revival back when I was very young, I have always wanted to experience and visit the prayer mountain called Mount Murud. In 2019, it was when God called me and made it all possible to do so. Leading up to the trip to Mount Murud, I became more and more anxious of the experience I was going to have. I questioned my 'city boy' self if I was able to survive the "interesting" environment I am placing myself into. I questioned if I was going to experience God. I questioned if I would make it up to the church camp and the summit. I questioned this, I questioned that, I questioned a lot and have little faith in stepping out of my comfort zone. That was where I realised I needed to be like Queen Esther. Queen Esther abandoned her comfort zone and stepped out in faith to fight for her people.

Easy is not how I would describe the journey from Lepo Bunga to the church camp where we stayed, and from the church camp to the summit. In fact, it is way on the opposite end of the scale. During the journey of not turning back (because if you turn back, you got no transport back anyways) the only thing on my mind was to do it for God. And it was only God who is able to give me strength to reach my destination. I was then reminded that most of the time, I do many things in my own strength and I should now depend all on God and always seek him and thank Him for his providence. It is very easy for us in our worldly world to forget about God, to neglect him and only seek him when we are really in need, but that was a great reminder that I should "in all your ways submit to him, and He will make your paths straight." Proverbs 3:6.

During my time at Mount Murud, the journey from the church camp to the summit and back was where I was reminded of a few things. Firstly, God's ways are greater than our ways. The route to the summit was one that is swampy and difficult. It was like I am playing hopscotch all over again just that I was doing it on branches with far reach. During one of the far reaches, I have forgotten about the limitation of the track pants

I wore. There and then, I heard the last thing you would want to hear whilst being away from your wardrobe; the sound of the splitting of pants. After the ordeal, I continued with a high conscience as if the whole world was looking at my splitted pants. At the same time, I questioned God, "Why must this happen now? How am I going to the summit and down again?" I also prayed hard to God to find a needle and thread so that I can fix the embarrassment. We were one of the last to arrive at the summit, and brother Michael Kho followed right after. Brother Michael Kho was the "Doremon" in our group where he came well prepared with everything. So, the obvious choice was to ask him right away when he was seated what was in his bag that he carried. I was disappointed to find out that he only brought a change of shirt, water and food. But something led me to ask him: "You did not bring any pants?". He replied: "Not in my bag. BUTTT... I am wearing TWO!" After he gave me his pants and everything was settled, I was reminded that God is good. In my mind I have only asked for a thread and a needle, and he provided me a full pants from an angel.



Secondly, I was reminded about God's protection and love towards me. After the sermon at the summit, everyone left at the same time. And us being tired, we were slow. Where there was any area to have a firm footing, we would let the fast people by. During an occasion I did that, I jumped off a rock and landed on the mud. And I felt that I could not move forward after that. I looked down onto my shoes and realised that a tree root of about 1cm diameter impaled through my shoes. The first thought that came to my mind was "My Toes!". However, I did not feel any pain. And thought that it was my adrenaline taking into effect. After freeing my shoe, I wiggled my toe to find out that it was completely fine. Till this day, I do not know how the root did not injure any part of my feet. I was blessed to have this experience of God's protection over me.

The experience of this retreat is one that is memorable. The amazing team and wonderful people I met along the way. This trip really shows that God is so big and He is everywhere. I would like to encourage all of you to experience this journey at least once.

- Eric Ting

Be GOLD for GOD

- Lau Mee Ting

Thank God, not only could we complete our Disciple Gold study during the MCO, in fact, we really enjoyed the class either in physical gatherings or via Zoom studies at home. We thank God, for our dedicated and knowledgeable facilitators – Rev. Lau and Sister Hilda. And thanks to all my fellow disciple Gold brothers and sisters for their input, sharings, love, prayers, fun, fellowship and food.

Through Disciple Gold, I learned:

1. From the Writings which include the poems, wisdom, history, and stories of the Old Testament, that God is faithful. Being in a faithful community, we listen to wisdom and try to incorporate those insights into our daily behaviour.
2. To look at the books of John and Revelation from different perspectives and came to the conclusion that the main message is – Faithful unto Death.

In conclusion, let us be

G- -Growing deeper in love with Christ.

O - Obey and abide in Christ to bear the fruit of service.

L - Live a life that is pleasing to God and be faithful to Him.

D – Disciple making is our motto of life. So go and make Disciple of all nations.

MUD FAITH



Mount Murud is the highest mountain in Sarawak with a height of 2423m. Every two years, the Lun Bawang people will climb up to the mountains to host a revival meeting for all nations to come and pray. It is a sacred place where God has chosen. When I heard about the miracles and the revival that have took place in Bekalalan, it really stirred my heart of wanting to go and personally see how true this revival is. I was in awe of how God was working miraculously during this revival meeting and it really helped me in my spiritual journey. All the stories and memories that I made up there will forever be in my heart.

This is my second trip up to Mount Murud. Actually, for a second time, I did not have much conviction to go. I was thinking that since it was my semester break, I might as well spend my 3 months holiday on something meaningful. Therefore, I said yes to the trip up to Mount Murud. But I still did not feel very much enthusiastic about going on this trip. It wasn't until we had our second meeting where everyone was somewhat excited and pumped up to climb up to the mountain and longing to have an encounter with God. God reminded me of the first conviction that I had when I heard about the revival meeting and that excitement that I had two years ago. Only then did my willingness and conviction to go on this trip increases.

Forward to the day of climbing up to the church camp up in Mount Murud, I was assigned to climb with two lovely aunts, Aunt Suzy and Dr. Siew. We managed to get from Lepo Bunga to Joy Bridge in just merely 2 hours. I was surprised that the two aunts managed to climb with such a fast pace. However, I overtook them and just went off my way for the second part of the climbing. It was not until then the Holy Spirit stirred my heart saying that I had some pride in me to be the fastest to reach the church camp instead of focusing on the welfare of others. So, I sat down on the rocky path and I repented before the Lord and there was a deliverance for me, and I praise my heavenly father for that.

I have several encounters with the Lord throughout the revival meeting. One of the most crucial encounters I had was that He confirmed my calling to go into full time ministry and He is going to prepare a way for me to minister to the young people. He also reminded me to be more like Daniel in the Bible and to pray more for His people and His Kingdom. Another encounter I had was that I saw a vision of a waterfall full of God's living water flowing from His throne as shown in Revelations 22:1. The living water flowed through us and washed away all our iniquities and flow down the mountain to the rest of Sarawak and then to Malaysia. I also saw that the living water is also flowing in our church, but its just that we do not spend time to pray and plead with God for the outpouring of the living water. Therefore, we need to be constantly be praying to God for our church TMC. I also encountered the Lord as he restored my relationship with Him and Him calling my name and being my heavenly father. My spirit has been refreshed as our heavenly father embraces me just like the prodigal son in the bible.

Many have said that TMC is like a "cold" church where people are not caring or loving enough to others. But what I saw with the 15 of us in the mountain really changes my perspective of what TMC truly is. TMC can be loving and caring and TMC can also be a church where the love God dwells. It's just that we don't spend enough time with each other that causes distance with each other. When we were up in Mount Murud, we cook, eat and have fellowship together just like the early church. There is so much love for each other. I pray that all TMC members can spend more time with one another and build up relationships that will last for a very, very long time and to break the curse of being a "cold" church.

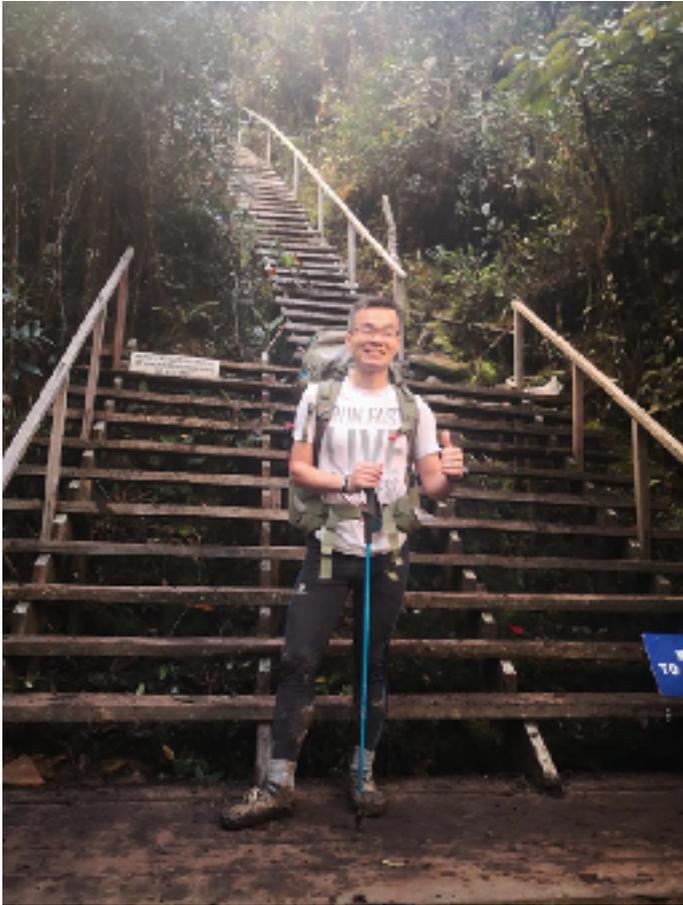


I also pray that all people will learn more about this revival meeting and the things God is doing in Sarawak. I hope that many will take on this journey of faith with great expectation that He will do great things. May the love of Our Lord Jesus Christ be always with you.

Love,

- Raymond Law

God's pattern



I love hiking and I was up to the Rock Garden two years back. It's part of the journey from Lepo Bunga to Bario with my hiking friends. Without reaching the summit was God's plan to urge me coming back this year. He wants me to bring "my family" to the summit.

Trusting in God's plan was the only promise I pledged. His Spirit moved my heart and hands to book the air ticket last December. Though many uncertainties were still in my mind, I was convinced He will provide. In my busy schedule, I only get all things ready two days before my departure. God is good, nothing is left out.

18.07.2019

It is about 2:30pm, I load myself again with 18kg backpack, to hike 5 hours, about 4.8 km slope distance to the Reked Meligan Church Camp (Holy Ground). Is it heavy? With God, He says "my burden is light."

19.07.2019

For the first time I experience a heavenly worship with songs of different languages. It is just so sweet and joyous. My heart is touched, my eyes are wet.



20.07.2019

Saturday morning is the moment I wait for. Journey to the summit starts at 6am. I can't wait to bring three (3) Chinese dumplings with Red bean filling made by my mom to the top. They represent my family. I run and overtake, be the first 50 to reach the top within 3 hours for about 4.3 km. After capturing my triumphant moment at the peak, quickly I find a place to say my prayer to God, a sweet encounter with Him. I pray especially with the dumplings open to ask God's salvation pouring down my family. By the invitation of the Holy Spirit, He says "Cast all your anxiety on ME because I care for you." (1 Peter 5:7) So, I submit my wife and kids, health, works, ministries, unbelieving friends, worries, sins, unfinished tasks, etc to His Him. My burdens are suddenly unloaded, Hallelujah...

21.07.2019

I don't have the burning bush experience at Mt Murud though I wish to. Absolutely He is still real to custom-make the PATTERN for me to download. His PATTERN is not confusing and unadorned, His Word is the PATTERN. He reminds me to start any church events with His word. My mind is suddenly filled with all church activities, including games, sports, tuition, small group, meetings, home worship, prayer hours, festival services and many more. God wants me to name them and promise to open with His word. God is good He knows my limits. He doesn't give me complicated PATTERN, but simple within my ability.

I enjoy the whole trip as it is full of cool air, colourful nature, beautiful people, close fellowship, great local food and His companion. I know I will come back again to enjoy His wonderful creation.

- Wong Kien Kwok



Over the past 20 years, I have had a number of health issues - some of which have been potentially life-threatening. Some have been dealt with, while others, I have learned to live with.

Year	Issue
1999	Right lower limb Deep Vein Thrombosis
2001 & 2009	Heart attack
2001 & 2009	Heart failure
2006 - present	Polycythemia Rubra Vera (too many red blood cells)
2007 - present	Kidney disease
2009 - present	Diabetes
2011 - present	Carpal Tunnel Syndrome
2019	Skin cancer right arm above elbow
Jan 2020	Unstable Ventricular Tachycardia
Nov 2020	Right Axillary Clearance & Wide Excision of the left Breast

The worst thing about having heart attack for me was not being able to fly to Boston when our son Julian graduated from Berklee College of Music. It really hurt to know that he was alone during this milestone in his life. My only sibling Tom got married that same year but because of heart failure, I could not travel. Two missed momentous occasions made me so sad.

I could be "woe is me" and throw a pity party every time some ailment comes along but that is not the way I am, nor was it the way I was raised. I take whatever is given and try to look on the bright side - sometimes it is difficult but it is a must if I want to move on.

During ailments and hospital stays I find HOPE in Christ in many different ways. During an angiogram I remember singing "God is good all the time" in my head.

Opening my Bible when I could hold it, Psalm 121 stood out and told me God never slumbers or sleeps and he will watch over me both now and forever.

In 2001, Poh Hui left me in hospital breathing with a big oxygen mask after heart failure. Instead of going home, he somehow drove to church and found all the pastors there. He prayed and sang "God will make a way," with our then pastors Hii, Peter and Ampie. Upon his coming back to the hospital, I was only using the very small oxygen mask. He asked the nurse when the big mask came off - it was the at time they were praying and singing. How could we not have HOPE in Christ.

Earlier this year many miracles happened to not just me but also Poh Hui and Angela to let us know that our Lord was with us. For instance it was a miracle I got to hospital on time. It was a miracle that the medical team were able to reduce my heart rate and stabilise me and transfer me to Samarahan Heart Hospital. And it was a miracle that the pacemaker-defibrillator is now implanted in my body. There was no

guarantee that there would have been ready stock at such short notice, but it was ordered from KL one afternoon, flown over and arriving Kuching by noon the next day, and implanted in me that very same afternoon. No matter what happens we have HOPE in Christ.

On the first Sunday afternoon in Cardiac Care Unit, I couldn't hold a Bible so I thought I would just read the devotional study book "Judges". I was up to day 13 and in bold red writing it read, "When God does something for us, the natural response of our hearts should be to praise Him and acknowledge publically what He has done for us." These words humbled me. God has done so much for me and yet when asked to testify, I say "not me". I cried and asked God for His forgiveness. Yes, I thanked God for what he had done for me privately but had only ever testified publicly twice. I prayed there and then that I would testify when it was possible to do so. And, here I am. I have many reasons to praise God for what He has done in my life. Even in my darkest times He has given me peace and comfort. Even if I had died, I would expect Him to be praised for giving me the life I have shared with my family, and others for almost 70 years.

When in hospital or sick in bed we have time to pray, meditate and converse with God. Our busyness is gone. When we get better we should reflect on that time and try to spend more time with God. That's what He desires.

Following the discovery of a lump in my right armpit in October this year, I was sent for a CAT scan, then a mammogram and an ultrasound. On the 6th November I was admitted to hospital five days before the operation as I am at high risk and had to be taken off certain medications and to be monitored. Actually those five days were a God send - as the medical team were taking care of my physical health, I had time with God - talking, praying, studying and meditating with God - who took care of my spiritual health. I felt immense peace and joy. I was not afraid. I definitely had HOPE in Christ. It's God's will not mine, whatever the outcome.

On the 11th of November two operations were performed consecutively - a right axillary clearance (the lump and lymph nodes were taken out) and a wide local excision of the left breast (a small lump was taken out). I was discharged on the 17th of November. I have to go back for the monitoring of my surgical wounds and blood as well as the draining tube attached to my side - the fluid coming out had to be measured.

As I write this, I am awaiting the lab results of the removed tissue.

I would like to share what I have learned from my sicknesses over the years.

Never take anyone or anything for granted - spouse, children, friends, pastors and especially not God. Don't assume that someone should do what you want them to because its their duty, it's not. Say thank you and appreciate all that is done for you at home, hospital, church or work. People are kind and caring in the main. Appreciate all the prayers given for you.

Ask for and accept help. This is hard for me because I can do everything for myself. Well now I've learned I can't. It's pride and I must replace it with humility. People are wanting to help me, and now I'm trying to say "thank you" instead of "I can manage".

As you can see, I am a work in progress and my Hope is indeed in Christ!

Praise God that I am willing and able to share my testimony with you.

Blessings to you all

- Hilda Chan.

ON DIRT & SPEED

- Rev Lau Hui Ming



Many people asked me about my experience at the Mt Murud Prayer Gathering. This was my first encounter and I want to say that the prayer experience was really not just about the organized gatherings at the Church Camp but the whole journey. In other words, my whole Mt Murud Prayer experience includes the packing, climbing up and down the mountain and daily interactions with people. Let me just share two of the many encounters.

Initially, when I started the climb, I wanted to make sure that I stepped on the right footings so as not to slip and not to get my shoes into the mud. But as I went along, I found myself stressed up unnecessarily. Moreover, I thought I could have walked faster. So, I tried to just let go and not to be bothered by the dirt; then, surprisingly I found myself lighter, faster and more efficient. In the same way, if I am conscious about dirt collected in my hands all the time, I can never be able to serve joyfully and light-heartedly.

Another thing that I was over conscious in the course of climbing is "how long more?" Needless to say, the climb was challenging. Thus, I wonder how long more would I reach at the destination. I asked almost every person that came in my opposite direction, "How long more?" They replied, "Not long, one more hour." Or "Not very long,

another half an hour." But these people's definition of time is different from mine. Their speed is not my speed. Their one hour could mean three hours in my speed.

And apart from replying my question on time, they were more concerned about encouraging me, "Uncle, perlahan! Uncle, semangat! (slowly and steady! Cheer up!)"



I prayed to God, "Lord, what is it that you want to teach me through this?" The Lord impressed upon me that, following Him is not about speed, it is about faithfulness in the journey and doing what He commands. The Lord reminded me that I do not need to compare with others how soon I arrived at the destination, but how well I run the race.

I pray that these prayerful encounters and many others will continue to impact my walk with the Lord and my love towards people.

Daddy had finished the race



- Sung Family

I lost my husband and soulmate on 29th July 2018. We were married for 17 years and had been together for almost 20 years. He went for a marathon trial run near Kampung Sting and never came home. He frequently participated in marathons and was a healthy, fit man. The hardest thing for me was that we didn't get to say goodbye. After his sudden death, I was in total shock and devastation. My life turned upside down.

The first question I asked was "God, where are you"? I felt truly alone and hopeless. I didn't know what to say and how to pray. I remembered there was total silence from God. For the first time in my entire Christian life, my faith was being shaken. All the emotions were overwhelming, and my heart was broken.

How do we trust God when the person we love so much is taken away? I felt that my world was crumbling down, and I could not see the light in the tunnel. Depression, darkness, anger, doubts of God's goodness and power followed immediately. I wished God could remove all my emotions as the pain was unbearable. One night, I told Emma and Ian that I was angry with God. I remembered Ian asked me "are you allowed to say that?" I told him if my God is not big enough to take my anger, then he is not qualified to be my God. From that day onwards, I felt a big breakthrough in my faith. I started to face my fear and learned to put my trust in God again. I got through my days one day at a time. Somedays, I managed to put one foot in front, but the next day. It was a few steps back.

Many helped me during the lowest point of my life. I have received so

much help from close family members, relatives, CG members and friends. They offered words of comfort, prayers, foods, sending my kids to school and much more. As I look back now, I am so grateful for the people who had shown their love and support for my family. My mum was especially touched by the outpouring of love from my CG members. She witnessed the act of kindness, love and generosity from them that she recommitted her life to God.

Emma and Ian have given me tremendous support. As parents, we always feel that we should be strong for our children, but to my astonishment, at my weakest moment, God sent Emma and Ian to comfort and strengthen me. After Alvin's death, we slowly learned to adapt to a new normal. The first occasion we celebrated without him was Emma's birthday. It was the hardest because Emma and Alvin share the same birthday. I was torn apart, but I managed to organise a meaningful birthday for both.

Two years and 4 months have passed since Alvin left us. This is painful and is still painful for I am still grieving for the loss. Not a single day goes by that I do not think of him. However, it gives me great comfort knowing that Alvin is with the son of God and Prince of Peace. Alvin is now with the Lord and one day we shall meet again in heaven. Meanwhile, I am holding on to the promises of God. In Deuteronomy 31:6 God says " And the LORD, He is the One who goes before you. He will be with you, He will not leave you nor forsake you; do not fear nor be dismayed.

- Alvin Lau

My father passed away on the 29 th of July 2018. I vividly remembered that on the 28 th of July 2018, I attended the “no apologies” course in church. The course ended around 5pm and I was waiting for my mother to pick me up. After a long wait, I called her. I felt that her mood was very down, and she sounded like she just teared. When I reached home, I could sense that something was wrong. My mother told me what happened to my father and what we did was contacting our relatives and friends for help. There was nothing much I could do. The first thing that came to my mind was to pray. I have never prayed that much in my life. I was so fearful, and a lot of negative thoughts went through my mind. At night, my mother sat us down and we prayed together. All of us teared.

I couldn't sleep the whole night. In the morning, my brother came in and told me the news that my father had passed away. I was in disbelief. I was shock. I didn't cry because it was just too sudden. I could not imagine the life without my father. It was the most devastating day in my life. After that, my mother came in and she said, “Daddy has finished the race, he is with the Lord.” I burst into tears.

More and more relatives and friends come to our house and my phone was filled with condolences messages. That was the time I started to realise; my father is no longer on earth. The whole week was chaotic and painful.

About a week after my father passed away, I had a dream. In my dream, my father walked in the house wearing his blue office clothes. All of us were in the kitchen chatting. When I saw him, I immediately hugged him tightly. I tried to listen to his heartbeat, but there was none. He talked to us in a funny and exaggerated way, just like what

he normally does. He told us that he was sorry for the “tragic” (at that time I did not know what tragic means) incident that happened and he told us that we need to thank the kampung people who carried him out of the jungle.

After that dream, a part of my burden was lifted, I felt a bit relieved.

To say the least, it had been a tough journey. Never in my life I thought that I will lose my father at the age of 14. But I'm glad that God has always been with me throughout this alley of darkness, fear, and uncertainty. Gone too soon daddy, till we meet again.

- Emma

I had a father whom was very cheerful, happy and polite but now he can only do that in heaven and in my heart. I cannot feel him in my heart, but I can still remember him as my father. I miss him dearly; I was shock when I received the news that my dad has passed away. The day he passed away was so hard for me; I just kept thinking that it was my fault. I cried almost the whole day as the pain in my heart was so intense when I think about him. I love him more than anything in the world because without him, I will not be who I am today.

The last day I spent time with my dad was on (28/7/2018). It was a Saturday, but I had to go to school because I had replacement. In the afternoon around 4pm, my dad and I went for a run together called Siyok (chicken) run. It was a 4km run. After the run I asked my dad to bring me for a swim at Sarawak club. We had dinner together and we came home to rest. On that day he was really busy at work, but he still spent time with me. I wish I could see and meet him again!

- Ian Sung



Garam

dan

Terang Dunia

Teks Firman Tuhan: Matius 5:13-16

Pengenalan

Saudara-saudari, kita hidup di dalam waktu yang mencabar. Pandemik Covid-19 yang terjadi tanpa dijangka, telah membawa bersama pelbagai kekangan. Masihkah kita ingat bagaimana gentingnya situasi pada bulan Mac yang lalu? Semua kita terpaksa ‘berkurung’ di rumah, tidak dapat bekerja, tidak dapat ke gereja.

Dan meskipun keadaan sudah beransur pulih, kehidupan seharian kita masih dibatasi dengan pelbagai SOP atau larangan. Misalnya, sekarang PBM gereja kita hanya 90 orang sahaja yang dibenarkan untuk hadir beribadah di gereja. Warga emas dan kanak-kanak tidak digalakkan. Sudah sekian lama anak-anak kita tidak dapat ke Sekolah Minggu. Begitu juga dengan Kelompok Kecil. Dahulu kita boleh berkumpul setiap minggu, namun kini hanya sebulan sekali. Selain itu, tidak kurang juga aktiviti yang terpaksa ditunda atau dibatalkan.

Semua ini secara tidak langsung mempengaruhi kerohanian kita sebagai orang percaya. Ketika adanya aktiviti atau pelayanan, kita mungkin merasa di situlah wadah atau tempat untuk kita boleh melayani, tempat kita boleh saling menguatkan, tempat kita saling membangun. Tetapi bagaimana pula sekarang? Tatkala semuanya

terbatas, bagaimanakah kita sebagai orang percaya dapat tetap kuat dan melayani Tuhan?

Dengan ini, saya ingin membawa kita semua untuk merenungkan kembali identiti kita di dalam Tuhan dan peranan kita di dalam dunia ini. Mari kita belajar daripada perkataan Yesus yang tercatat di dalam Matius 5.

Isi 1 (Identiti Kita – Garam Dunia)

Yang pertama, mari kita perhatikan ayat 13. Yesus berkata seperti ini:

13 "Kamu adalah garam dunia. Jika garam itu menjadi tawar, dengan apakah ia diasinkan? Tidak ada lagi gunanya selain dibuang dan diinjak orang.

Saudara-saudari, jika kita membaca dari awal Matius 5, kita akan mendapati bahawa perkataan Yesus ini diucapkan kepada pengikut-pengikut-Nya. Sebelum Yesus sampai kepada bahagian ini, Yesus menyampaikan khutbah yang menyentuh tentang 8 kebahagiaan yang sejati. Berbahagialah orang yang rendah hati, berbahagialah orang yang betul-betul melakukan kehendak Tuhan, berbahagialah

orang yang murni hati, berbahagialah orang yang membawa kedamaian dan beberapa lagi.

Saya percaya di bahagian ini, Yesus telah menggariskan perbezaan antara pengikut-pengikut-Nya dengan orang-orang yang tidak mengenal-Nya. Justeru, ketika tiba di bahagian berikutnya, iaitu ayat ke-13, Yesus memberitahu pengikut-pengikut-Nya tentang identiti mereka. Dia berkata bahawa mereka bagaikan garam dunia.

Saya secara peribadi percaya bahawa garam dunia ini bukan hanya kiasan tetapi ianya sungguh-sungguh menggambarkan identiti kita di dalam Tuhan.

Garam, nampak biasa tetapi ianya adalah sebuah komoditi yang amat penting. Garam memberi rasa. Tidak banyak yang perlu diletak, hanya sedikit sahaja, sudah cukup untuk membuat masakan menjadi enak. Seseorang manapun makanan, jika dimasak tanpa garam pasti tawar. Garam penting kan?

Garam juga boleh digunakan untuk mengawet makanan. Dari inilah kita mendapat ikan masin, kasam dan lain-lain. Makanan yang diawet dengan garam dapat bertahan lama kerana ia menghalang pereputan dan membunuh kuman yang menyebabkan pembusukan.

Betapa pentingnya garam. Oleh sebab itu, jika garam itu menjadi tawar, ia hilang kegunaannya dan akan dibuang.

Nah, apabila pengikut-pengikut Yesus diibaratkan sebagai garam dunia, ia bererti pengikut-pengikut Yesus memiliki identiti yang khusus. Dan ini termasuklah kita semua, pengikut-pengikut Yesus, orang-orang percaya pada zaman ini. Kita memiliki identiti khusus!

Tuhan menempatkan kita sebagai garam dunia untuk memberi rasa kepada orang-orang di sekeliling kita yang mungkin hidupnya hambar, tidak berprestij, hilang sukacita, stres dan sebagainya. Dengan adanya kita sebagai 'garam' di sekeliling mereka, perkataan kita, kesaksian hidup kita memberi rasa kepada kehidupan mereka.

Seperti yang saya katakan tadi, tatkala aktiviti pelayan terbatas, bagaimanakah orang percaya dapat terus melayani Tuhan? Sebenarnya banyak sekali caranya. Salah satu cara yang paling mudah adalah memberkati orang lain melalui perkongsian kita di media sosial. Saya mengalami ini beberapa kali secara peribadi. Apabila saya membaca dan mempelajari Firman Tuhan, bila ada ayat yang memberkati saya, saya akan post di status Whatsapp atau mengirimbkannya kepada teman-teman dan keluarga saya.

Setiap pagi, saya suka share doa yang menyentuh hati di status whatsapp saya. Yang menariknya ada seorang kawan lama, saya kenal dia pada tahun 2006, kami sama-sama mengikuti Kursus Asas Asuhan Kanak-Kanak. Selepas itu kami jarang berhubung ataupun berjumpa. Tiba-tiba masa awal PKP bulan 3 yang lalu, dia menghubungi saya memberitahu bahawa dia suka dan tersentuh hati dengan doa yang saya share setiap pagi. Kemudian dia pun copy dan paste di status whatsapp dia sendiri. Ini hanya contoh yang sederhana tetapi sebenarnya cukup mudah untuk kita lakukan. Jadi saya mengalakan kita semua post atau share sesuatu yang boleh mengarahkan kehidupan orang lain menuju kepada Yesus Kristus, Amen.

Garam juga boleh digunakan untuk membasmi kuman. Di dalam Alkitab, kita tahu bahawa orang Israel mengembara di padang gurun selama 40 tahun kan? Di padang gurun itu mereka tidak membina tandas. Kalau mereka mahu buang air, mereka akan gali lubang, lepas buang air, mereka akan menimbus dengan pasir. Dan lepas itu mereka tabur garam di atas. Untuk apa? Untuk membasmi kuman, supaya kuman najis itu tidak merebak keluar dan membawa penyakit.

Sebagai 'garam dunia', kita juga dapat membasmi kuman marah, kuman dendam, kuman dengki, kuman cemburu yang mungkin ada di tengah-tengah keluarga kita, di tempat kerja, di sekolah atau di mana-mana kita ditempatkan. Hal ini juga dicatat di dalam:

Markus 9:50 (b), '...Hendaklah kamu selalu mempunyai garam dalam dirimu dan selalu hidup berdamai yang seorang dengan

yang lain.'

Dalam keluarga saya, saya mempunyai seorang abang dan seorang adik lelaki. Pada tahun 1993 adik lelaki saya berkahwin dengan perempuan Melayu di Semananjung Malaysia dan ini membuat abang saya sangat marah dengan dia. Mereka tidak mahu bercakap atau berhubung dengan satu sama lain. Kalau mereka rindu dan ingin bertanya khabar, saya akan jadi orang tengah. Abang tanya bila dia mahu balik. Adik cakap dia tidak mahu balik, nanti abang marah.

Masalah ini berlarutan sehingga beberapa tahun. Dalam hal ini saya sedar bahawa saya memainkan peranan yang penting, saya harus menjadi garam membawa damai supaya abang dan adik saya tidak berterusan dengan pertelingkahan mereka. Saya cakap dengan adik saya, kamu telah membuat keputusan atau pilihan yang menyakitkan hati abang, kamu harus minta maaf dengan abang dan saya cakap dengan abang, abang kamu harus memaafkan adik walaupun dia telah membuat pilihan yang salah. Banyak kali saya cakap dengan mereka dan akhirnya setelah sekian lama, puji Tuhan, mereka sudah boleh berhubung terus dengan satu sama lain.

Garam yang 'masin' dapat mengubah sekelilingnya. Garam yang 'masin' dapat membasmi segala yang merosakkan. Itulah saya dan saudara-saudari sekalian. Pastikan kita menghidupinya, jika tidak, hidup kita tiada bezanya dengan orang-orang yang tidak mengenal Tuhan.

Isi 2 (Identiti Kita – Terang)

Yang kedua, mari kita perhatikan ayat 14-15. Yesus berkata seperti ini:

Matius 5:14-15

14 Kamu adalah terang dunia. Kota yang terletak di atas gunung tidak mungkin tersembunyi.

15 Lagipula orang tidak menyalakan pelita lalu meletakkannya di bawah gantang, melainkan di atas kaki dian sehingga menerangi semua orang di dalam rumah itu.

Orang-orang percaya adalah terang bagi dunia. Tanpa terang, dunia ini akan menjadi gelap gulita. Pernahkah saudara terlanggar tepi katil atau tepi almari ketika berjalan di dalam gelap di bilik tidur? Pasti sakit jika terlanggar sesuatu di dalam gelap.

Terang menerangi kegelapan. Tanpa terang, mustahil untuk melihat dan mencari arah.

Kita tahu bahawa di luar terang Tuhan, dunia ini sarat dengan kegelapan. Orang hidup di dalam dosa dan tidak bertaubat, saling memusuhi, berebut kuasa dan sebagainya. Tetapi Yesus berkata, bahawa kita, umat-Nya bukan terdiri daripada kegelapan itu. Dia memberi kita identiti khusus. Kita dilabel sebagai terang atau cahaya.

Mungkinkah ini? Ya, kerana Yesus sendiri adalah terang bagi dunia. Lihat **Yohanes 8:12, "...Akulah terang dunia; barangsiapa mengikut Aku, ia tidak akan berjalan dalam kegelapan, melainkan ia akan mempunyai terang hidup."**

Amen! Yesus adalah terang yang memampukan kita untuk bersinar. Apabila hidup kita bersinar, orang akan datang kepada kita untuk mencari arah. Hal ini juga saya alami secara peribadi.

Semasa mengikuti Kelas Top 1, kami diminta untuk memberitakan Berita Baik kepada sekurang-kurangnya 1 orang. Saya berdoa tanya Tuhan siapakah orang yang boleh saya pimpin. Tuhan jawab dan hantar orang itu sendiri datang ke rumah saya. Dia sudah lama percaya kepada Tuhan tetapi banyak hal yang dia lalui. Dia sakit, lemah, sehingga imannya menjadi pudar dan hilang arah tuju.

Dengan kesempatan yang ada, saya membangun persahabatan dengan dia, membawa dia berdoa bersama, berkongsi kepada dia. Dan setelah beberapa bulan, saya melihat sendiri perubahan dalam hidupnya. Dia sudah boleh berdoa sendiri dengan tekun, bahkan dia juga mendoakan saya. Dia rajin membaca Firman Tuhan dan kembali

bersemangat. Benar-benar seakan-akan orang yang hidupnya gelap, beroleh terang Tuhan. Jadi begitulah, betapa besarnya kesan terang Tuhan yang ada di dalam hidup kita.

Di dalam **Efesus 5:8-9**, **Rasul Paulus berkata "Memang dahulu kamu adalah kegelapan, tetapi sekarang kamu adalah terang di dalam Tuhan. Sebab itu hiduplah sebagai anak-anak terang, karena terang hanya berbuahkan kebaikan dan keadilan dan kebenaran."**

Jadi, hidup kita hendaklah berpadanan dengan terang Tuhan yang ada di dalam diri kita. Dengan demikianlah, barulah kita seperti pelita yang diletakkan di atas kaki dian sehingga menerangi semua orang di dalam rumah itu. Amen

Sebagai anak-anak terang, untuk kita memancarkan terang kepada orang lain, janganlah kita bersekongkol dengan kegelapan. Kita sepatutnya menjauhkan diri dari semua perbuatan yang boleh membuat kita jatuh ke dalam dosa seperti minum arak, berjudi, membeli 4, main holo, menyabung ayam dan sebagainya. Sekiranya kita ada kawan yang selalu mengajak kita melakukan perkara yang tidak baik, tidak menyenangkan hati Tuhan atau perkara yang membuat iman kita merosot, jauhkan diri dari kawan yang seperti itu. Sebab kalau tidak, kita akan terikut-ikut perbuatan mereka yang jahat juga.

Jauhkan diri dari keadaan dimana kita boleh digodai. Kita mesti berani menolak segala perbuatan yang jahat dan menunjukkan teladan yang baik dengan menjauhi perbuatan-perbuatan yang tidak baik di mata Tuhan. Jika kita bersekongkol dengan kegelapan, kita samalah seperti pelita yang diletak di bawah gantang tidak dapat menerangi kegelapan.

Sebaliknya, seperti lampu yang ada di landasan kapal terbang. Pada waktu malam, lampu itu dihidupkan supaya juruterbang atau pilot kapal terbang dapat melihat jalan landasan dan mendarat dengan selamat.

Menjadi terang bererti membuat hidup menjadi saksi yang boleh dilihat dan didengar orang, memimpin orang lain melakukan apa yang baik pada pandangan mata Tuhan. Membawa orang mengenal Yesus. Membawa orang yang tidak tahu arah tuju hidupnya kepada Tuhan. Tuhan rindu melalui kehidupan kita nama Tuhan dimuliakan dan disanjung.

Menjadi terang juga seperti kota yang terletak di atas bukit, yang kelihatan dari jauh. Contohnya, seperti sebuah rumah api. Rumah api ialah menara atau bangunan tinggi yang dibina bagi membantu ahli pelayaran, juru mudi atau nakhoda kapal di laut untuk belayar dan berlabuh dengan selamat. Menara ini dilengkapi dengan sistem lampu atau terang api. Biasanya rumah api dibina di kawasan tebing tinggi yang strategik bagi memudahkan kapal dagang datang berlabuh pada waktu malam hari. Rumah api juga boleh membantu menandakan kawasan yang berbahaya.

Dunia ini, masyarakat ini, bahkan mungkin keluarga kita sendiri memerlukan kita untuk menjadi 'rumah api' untuk menunjukkan arah, memberi peringatan dan menandakan bahaya yang mendatang bagi yang tidak mengikut jalan Tuhan. Sebagai contoh, anak-anak kita membesar di era teknologi yang serba maju. Mereka dikelilingi dan terdedah kepada bermacam-macam pengaruh, baik daripada rakan sebaya mahupun daripada budaya moden. Oleh itu, penting bagi kita sebagai ibu bapa untuk tidak putus-putus mengingatkan mereka akan jalan Tuhan. Tarikan dunia ini kadang kala begitu kuat, tetapi teruslah konsisten menjadi terang, menjadi rumah api dan menjadi teladan bagi mereka. Mereka perlukan itu. Boleh ya, ibu bapa sekalian? Kita sama-sama lakukan.

Penutup

Saudara-saudari, saya ingin mengakhiri perkongsian ini dengan ayat yang ke-16.

Matius 5:16 **Demikianlah hendaknya terangmu bercahaya di depan orang, supaya mereka melihat perbuatanmu yang baik dan memuliakan Bapamu yang di sorga."**

Kalimat 'hendaklah terang kita bercahaya di depan orang' membawa erti bahawa hidup kita hendaklah tampil berbeza. Ini kerana sesuatu yang berbeza akan menjadi tumpuan, yang menjadi tumpuan akan dapat memberi pengaruh. Betul kan?

Jika kita renungkan kembali, apa persamaan garam dan terang? Keduanya memiliki kebolehan untuk mempengaruhi persekitaran. Jika sesuatu itu tawar, ditaburi dengan garam akan menjadi masin. Jika sesebuah tempat itu gelap, diterangi cahaya akan menjadi terang benderang. Perubahan persekitaran pasti terjadi jika keduanya ada dan memainkan peranan.

Demikian juga kita, jika hidup kita memancarkan sinar, kesaksian hidup kita, baik melalui perbuatan atau kata-kata, pasti akan membawa perubahan yang efektif kepada keluarga kita, gereja kita dan masyarakat kita. Orang-orang yang melihatnya akan memuji dan memuliakan Bapa kita yang di syurga. Itulah tujuan Tuhan menjadikan kita garam dan terang bagi dunia ini, tidak lain tidak bukan supaya kita membawa kemuliaan bagi nama-Nya.

Contohnya, jika kita melihat seorang anak yang tertib dan berbudi bahasa. Kita pasti bertanya, 'Anak siapa ini?' Katakanlah, dia adalah anak John. Pasti kita selanjutnya akan berkata, 'Wow, bagus betul anak John.' Anak itu membawa sukacita dan pujian untuk ibu bapanya.

Oleh itu saudara-saudari, di dalam situasi dunia yang tidak menentu ini, biarlah terang kita bersinar, biarlah garam kita memberi rasa. Ramai yang memerlukannya. Biarkanlah Roh Kudus Tuhan menuntun kita dalam setiap pekerjaan baik sehingga kita dapat menjadi 'garam' yang benar-benar masin dan 'terang' yang benar-benar bersinar.

Jika Tuhan menggerakkan kita untuk menyumbangkan kewangan, lakukanlah itu. Jika Tuhan menggerakkan kita untuk berkongsi sesuatu untuk membangun seseorang, lakukanlah itu. Jika Tuhan menggerakkan kita untuk memberikan pertolongan kepada seseorang yang di dalam kesusahan, lakukanlah itu. Perbuatan kita yang baik mencerminkan Tuhan kita yang baik. Bukan hanya di gereja atau di dalam program pelayanan sahaja kita dapat melayani Tuhan. Hidup kita inilah pelayanan. Hidup kita setiap hari adalah kesempatan untuk menjadi garam dan terang bagi dunia. Amen

Mari kita berdoa ...

Tuhan Yesus, terima kasih kerana Engkau telah menyelamatkan kami dan menebus dosa kami. Kami bersyukur untuk hidup baru dan kelimpahan yang Engkau berikan kepada kami. Tuhan, kami percaya Engkau memanggil kami untuk menjadi garam dan terang bagi sekeliling kami.

Kami percaya Tuhan juga memberikan kami kekuatan, kemampuan, kebijaksanaan dan pimpinan untuk mengerjakan panggilan tersebut. Oleh itu, kami berdoa, perbaharui kami setiap hari. Biar kami mendengar suara Tuhan, beri kami pengertian ketika kami membaca Firman Tuhan dan beri kami kesanggupan untuk melakukan firman Tuhan, agar kata-kata kami, perbuatan kami, hati dan fikiran kami boleh dipakai oleh Tuhan, untuk menjadi berkat bagi orang di sekeliling kami.

Kami siap Tuhan. Kami mau bangkit, kami mau bercahaya dan mengarami persekitaran kami dan kami percaya orang-orang di sekeliling kami akan melihatnya, dan memuji Bapa kami yang ada di syurga. Segala kemuliaan hanya bagi Tuhan. Di dalam nama Tuhan Yesus, kami sudah berdoa.

Amen!

-Sitie Ak Jet

Menjawab panggilan Tuhan



Getting baptized at TMC in 2001

Nama saya Raymond dan ini adalah kesaksian saya. Saya dilahirkan dalam sebuah keluarga Kristian. Bapa saya dari Sri Aman dan mak saya dari Miri. Mereka bertemu di Kuching dan mereka membuat keputusan untuk tinggal di Kuching. Pada masa itu, mereka sedang mencari sebuah gereja untuk menyertai kebaktian Ahad dan mereka memilih TMC melalui perbualan dari beberapa rakan dari TMC. Saya juga dibaptiskan di TMC pada umur 4 tahun.

Semasa mereka menghad-

iri kebaktian Ahad, saya juga menghadiri sekolah minggu. Pada mulanya, saya tidak suka pergi ke sekolah minggu kerana saya tidak mengenali sesiapa pun dan saya juga dipaksa oleh ibu-bapa untuk menyertainya. Nasib baiknya guru sekolah minggu itu menjaga saya dengan baik dan sabar. Dengan itu, saya teruskan menyertainya walaupun saya tidak begitu suka untuk menghadiri sekolah Minggu. Malangnya, ayah saya meninggal dunia pada tahun 2007 dan saya hanya berumur 10 tahun pada masa itu. Saya ditinggalkan tanpa ayah dan saya mempunyai suatu kekosongan dalam hati saya. Dalam usaha untuk mengisi kekosongan itu, saya berusaha mencari kegembiraan dalam hidup melalui hobi, buku muzik dan pelbagai jenis barang. Namun, semuanya hanya memberikan saya kegembiraan yang sementara dan saya tidak pernah berpuas hati dengan hidup saya. Dalam masa itu, Tuhan berbelas kasihan kepada saya dan membenarkan saya untuk mengalami perjumpaan peribadi dengan-Nya semasa saya menyertai persekutuan muda-mudi. Saya mendapati banyak kegembiraan saya akan dapat jika saya mengikuti Yesus Kristus. Oleh itu, saya tetap menyertai persekutuan muda-mudi dan mahu lebih banyak lagi kegembiraan ini. Semasa saya dalam persekutuan muda-mudi, saya mengenali siapa Yesus Kristus sebenarnya dan kehidupan saya berubah pada saat itu. Dari persekutuan muda-mudi juga, saya menerima panggilan Tuhan yang pertama untuk melayani-Nya pada tahun 2016. Pada tahun itu, dalam Konvensyen Methodist Belia Sarawak 2016 ada satu panggilan mimbar untuk orang ramai mendedikasikan hidup mereka kepada Yesus Kristus. Saya terus maju ke depan dan saya ingat dengan jelas bahawa Tuhan mahu saya melayani dalam persekutuan muda-mudi. Sebelum itu, saya bercadang untuk meninggalkan persekutuan muda-mudi kerana saya sudah cukup umur. Walau bagaimanapun, Tuhan mempunyai rancangan lain untuk saya. Jadi, saya mematuhi rancangan-Nya dan sampai hari ini, saya masih melayani dalam persekutuan muda-mudi sebagai penasihat belia muda. Panggilan Tuhan menjadi semakin jelas ketika saya melayani dalam pelbagai pelayanan gereja. Tuhan memanggil saya untuk menjadi seseorang yang dapat melayani orang-orang yang sesat, patah hati dan terluka, terutamanya golongan belia. Kini, jumlah pemuda-pemudi di gereja semakin menurun. Mereka berpendapat bahawa gereja itu tidak relevan dan membosankan. Mereka mengejar dunia dan bukannya Yesus Kristus. Apa yang lebih menyedihkan adalah semasa melihat begitu banyak belia mengejar kemasyhuran, keinginan daging, kekayaan, dan pengakuan duniawi yang tidak akan kekal.

Matius 6:19-21 "19 Jangan kumpulkan harta di dunia kerana di situ gegat dan karat merosakkannya, dan pencuri datang untuk mencurinya. 20 Kumpulkanlah harta di syurga, kerana di situ gegat dan karat tidak dapat merosakkannya, dan pencuri tidak datang untuk merosakkannya, dan pencuri tidak datang untuk mencurinya. 21 Lakukanlah hal itu, kerana perhatian jamu sentiasa tertumpu kepada hartamu!"

Saya mempunyai beban yang besar untuk

menolong muda mudi ini supaya menyedari bahawa harta yang kekal hanya ada dalam Yesus dan hati mereka juga akan menjadi milik-Nya. Saya baru-baru ini menamatkan pengajian di Swinburne sebagai seorang Jurutera Awam. Semasa saya imbas kembali, saya bertanya kepada Tuhan mengapa saya perlu menjalani pengajian selama 5 tahun di universiti dan bukan pergi ke sekolah teologi secara langsung. Tuhan menjawab keraguan saya secara luar biasa melalui kisah Yesus di mana Dia berada di padang gurun selama 40 hari sebelum Dia keluar untuk pelayanan-Nya. Jelaslah bahawa, tanpa pengalaman yang saya lalui di universiti, saya tidak akan menjadi seperti sekarang ini. Tuhan ingin mempersiapkan saya dan sekarang adalah masa untuk memenuhi panggilan-Nya. Jika anda masih menunggu dan berdoa, ingatlah bahawa Tuhan bersama dengan anda dan Dia pasti mempersiapkan anda untuk sesuatu yang lebih besar.

Dalam Matius 6:24, Yesus berkata bahawa "Tidak seorang pun dapat menjadi hamba kepada dua orang tuan. Dia akan membenci yang seorang dan mengasihi yang lain, atau dia akan setia kepada yang seorang dan menghina yang lain. Demikianlah kamu tidak dapat menjadi hamba Allah dan juga hamba kekayaan."



2016 Sarawak Methodist Youth Convention

Matius 6:24 adalah ayat Alkitab yang menegaskan saya dalam membuat keputusan untuk menjadi hamba Tuhan sepenuh masa. Ayat Alkitab ini mengingatkan saya bahawa Tuhan lebih penting daripada semua kekayaan dan wang di dunia ini. Emas dan perak suatu hari akan lenyap, tetapi Tuhan kekal selama-lamanya. Dia tetap sama, baik dahulu, sekarang, dan selama-selamanya. Mengapa melayani dunia ini apabila saya dapat melayani Tuhan yang maha kuasa yang menciptakan alam semesta ini? Oleh itu, saya telah memutuskan bahawa saya akan melayani-Nya sehingga satu hari saya bertemu dengan-Nya lagi. Saya akan mengabdikan diri sepenuhnya dan setia kepada-Nya sepanjang hayat saya. Harapan saya adalah untuk melihat lebih banyak orang, terutama orang muda akan bangkit bersama saya dalam pelayaan sepenuh masa untuk Tuhan. Saya juga ingin melihat kebangkitan rohani di gereja-gereja di seluruh dunia. Segala kemuliaan bagi Tuhan. Amen.



Commissioned by Pastor and Church leaders to Full Time Ministry on 28.06.2020

Tuhan panggil ke seminari

Shalom, saudara saudari sekalian. Nama saya Edwin dari Pelayanan Bahasa Cina. Saya mengenali Tuhan melalui Briged Putera di TMC. Pada tahun 2010, selepas habis SPM, saya berpeluang untuk menyertai Sekolah Misi Jangka Pendek Bahasa Cina Ingeris di MTS buat kali pertama. Melalui program ini, Tuhan telah memberi saya banyak pengajaran yang berhuruf "C", dan saya mengalami Tuhan melalui pengajaran tersebut.



Huruf "C" yang pertama ialah Gred C dari aspek keputusan. Ini disebabkan saya telah menipu dalam tugas yang diberikan oleh pensyarah di MTS. Rahmat Tuhan telah memimpin saya kepada huruf "C" yang kedua, iaitu "Confess" (Pengakuan), sebab Roh Kudus telah mengingatkan saya, bahawa saya perlu mengakui kesalahan tersebut.

Selepas itu, pada hari majlis tamat pengajian STMS, semasa Rev. Dr. Tie berkhotbah, beliau berkongsi tentang huruf "C" yang seterusnya, iaitu "Courage" (Keberanian), keberanian untuk melangkah keluar demi Tuhan kerana seperti yang ditulis dalam buku Matius 9:37 "Yesus berkata kepada pengikut-pengikut-Nya "Tuaian sungguh banyak, tetapi penuai hanya sedikit". Injil perlu dikongsikan kepada sesiapa yang belum pernah dengar, Dengan itu saya telah mengalami huruf "C" yang terakhir iaitu "Calling" (Panggilan) dari Tuhan.

Pada tahun 2013, selepas STPM, saya mendapat peluang untuk melanjutkan pelajaran ke IPTA, iaitu UUM. Tapi pada masa yang sama, saya juga bertanya kepada Tuhan, kenapa UUM? Sebab Universiti itu dekat hutan rimba, saya tidak tahu sama ada burung bertelur di sana atau tidak? Masa tu, saya memang tidak tahu kenapa Tuhan mengutus saya pergi UUM.

Selepas saya belajar di UUM dekat Sintok Kedah selama beberapa bulan, saya mendapati bahawa kebanyakan mahasiswa mahasiswi di sana adalah beragama Islam, manakala kebanyakan penduduk Cina di Sintok adalah Buddhist atau menyembah patung Thailand. Masa itu saya baru menyedari bahawa negeri Kedah ini, terutamanya Sintok adalah satu tempat yang belum dijangkau dengan injil.

Di asrama saya tinggal bersama-sama 38 orang pelajar Cina, saya adalah satu-satunya pelajar yang beragama Kristian, cuba bayangkan, 37 pelajar mempengaruhi 1 pelajar lebih senang atau yang sebaliknya?

Saya masih ingat dengan jelas, pada suatu hari saya pergi melawat satu rumah penduduk tempatan. Saya bertanya sama ada mereka tahu tentang Hari Krismas, jawapan yang saya dapat adalah berkaitan tentang Santa Claus, pokok Krismas, hadiah dan sebagainya, tetapi tiada satu jawapan yang berkaitan tentang Yesus Kristus. Saya sekali lagi mendapat pengesahan bahawa tempat ini memerlukan Injil.

Pada tahun 2014, Roh kudus telah mengubah saya secara menyeluruh dengan menghancurkan kesombongan dalam diri saya, kehidupan saya telah dipangkas dan dibentuk semula. Sekali lagi, saya

menyertai

Sekolah Misi Jangka Pendek Bahasa Cina STMS 2014 semasa cuti penggal universiti. Kali ini, saya menyertai STMS dengan keinginan untuk melengkapkan diri dari segi pengetahuan Alkitab. Dalam 2 bulan tersebut, saya ingat dengan jelas sekali, bahawa kami telah menghadiri satu kelas iaitu "Apologetics". Melalui kelas tersebut, iman kami tentang agama Kristian dikuatkan, dan kami telah belajar cara mengongsikan Injil dengan kawan Muslim. Pada masa yang sama, Tuhan bercakap dengan saya melalui Yesaya 6:8 "Lalu aku mendengar suara Tuhan berkata: "Siapakah yang akan Kuutus, dan siapakah yang mau pergi untuk Aku?" Maka sahutku: "Ini aku, utuslah aku!"

Sepanjang 4 tahun di UUM, Tuhan telah memberi saya dan saudara saudari dalam Kristus dengan satu penglihatan yang jelas, iaitu bersatu dalam pelayanan Tuhan di Sintok. Tuhan terus mengesahkan saya tentang panggilan-Nya. Saya masih ingat pada suatu hari semasa saya memandu van gereja balik ke Universiti, seorang saudara dalam Kristus berkongsi pengalamannya mengalami Tuhan dengan saya. Pada masa yang sama, saya juga berkongsi dengannya tentang panggilan Tuhan terhadap saya, saya memberitahunya tentang masalah dan kerisauan saya, memberi respon kepada panggilan Tuhan kerana saya adalah anak tunggal dalam keluarga saya. Ini bermaksud saya perlu memikul tanggungjawab untuk menjaga kehidupan ibu bapaku selepas tamat pengajian. Saudari itu telah membalas aku dengan pertanyaan, "Edwin, kenapa kamu memandang rendah Tuhan yang merupakan Tuhan Maha Tahu, Maha Hadir and Maha Kuasa?" "Jika Tuhan sudah memanggil kamu untuk mengikut-Nya, DIA pasti akan menjaga ibu bapamu. Selepas mendengar penjelasan dari saudari itu, barulah saya sedar bahawa kerisauanku itu adalah kebimbangan yang berlebihan. Saya bersyukur kepada Tuhan kerana DIA telah menghantar seorang Malaikat untuk memadamkan kerisauanku, dan satu lagi yang saya mahu bersyukur ialah saudari tersebut sekarang telah menjadi isteriku. Tuhan telah mengurniakan saya dengan teman hidup yang sudi menyokong saya dalam melayan Tuhan sepenuh masa.

Apabila saya mengimbas kembali semua peristiwa yang bermakna dalam kehidupan Universiti saya, saya hanya boleh memuji Tuhan yang begitu hebat, maka akhirnya saya faham mengapa Tuhan mengutus saya ke UUM.

Pada tahun 2016, selepas tamat pengajian, saya telah kembali ke Kuching untuk bekerja. Saya telah membuat komitmen dengan Tuhan bahawa saya akan meluangkan 4 tahun untuk bekerja supaya saya boleh mendapat pengalaman bekerja dalam dunia yang penuh dengan cabaran dan cuba sedaya upaya untuk menjadi garam dan terang di tempat kerja saya. Saya juga menganggap 4 tahun ini sebagai satu tempoh ujian bagi diri sendiri, untuk mengetahui bahawa tiada apa-apa dalam dunia yang penuh cabaran ini dapat menghentikan panggilan Tuhan dalam diri saya. Saya berterima kasih kepada Tuhan kerana telah menyediakan semua yang saya perlukan. Tidak dapat dinafikan, bahawa masih terdapat banyak godaan dari dunia ini, tetapi firman Tuhan dari Alkitab telah menolong saya menjaga hati dan jiwa saya.

Saya mungkin tidak tahu apa yang akan berlaku pada masa hadapan, mungkin ada cabaran, masalah dan sebagainya. Tetapi sama seperti apa yang dikatakan oleh Yesus Kristus dalam Lukas 9:23 "Sesiapa yang hendak mengikut Aku mesti melupakan kepentingan sendiri, memikul salib tiap-tiap hari dan mengikut Aku. Sesiapa yang memper-tahankan hidupnya akan kehilangan hidup yang sejati, tetapi sesiapa yang mengorbankan hidup untuk-Ku, akan mendapat hidup yang sejati." Oleh itu, saya menjawab panggilan Tuhan, kerana saya tahu bahawa kehidupan saya tidak lengkap tanpa Yesus Krisitus dan kasih-Nya. Dipanggil oleh Tuhan merupakan satu rahmat, dan Injil-Nya harus disebar ke seluruh dunia, ke setiap sudut, terutamanya di tempat kita berdiri – Malaysia.

"Ini aku, utuslah aku!"

Oleh: Edwin Lai

Gereja Methodist Trinity (Pelayanan Bahasa Cina) Okt 2020

Masih Ada Harapan Di Dalam Kesakitan



Saya Rose Anak Changgai ingin bersaksi mengenai sakit mata yang saya alami pada 4 Jun 2020. Pada masa itu, mata saya tiba-tiba sakit lalu menyebabkan kepala pening-pening serta muntah-muntah semalam-malaman.

Pada keesokan harinya, saya pergi berjumpa doktor pakar mata sebab sudah diberikan temujanji untuk berjumpa doktor mata. Disanalah doktor pakar mata memeriksa mata saya dan doktor cakap kes mata yang tinggi. Puji Tuhan, doktor memeriksa mata saya dengan teliti dari doktor pintu 1 hingga pintu nombor 12. Selepas diperiksa, saya dimasukkan ke wad pesakit untuk mengenal pasti sakit mata saya.

Doktor kata, mata saya banyak cecair di dalam mata sebelah kanan dan perlu di laser untuk membuat lubang. Sebabnya ialah untuk mengeluarkan cecair di dalam dalam mata saya. Oleh sebab kepala saya sakit dan tinggi tekanan, tulang belakang saya perlu ditebuk untuk mengambil contoh air daripada otak untuk mengesan punca sakit kepala.

Semasa doktor menebuk tulang belakang, saya mengalami kesakitan yang amat sekali kerana dicucuk jarum seperti renjatan elektrik. Walaupun sudah diberikan ubat bius tetap juga merasai kesakitan. Saya berdoa di dalam hati sambil memanggil nama Tuhan Yesus untuk meminta pertolongan-Nya.

Selepas selesai semuanya, doktor berikan saya ubat dan mengesahkan sakit kepala yang saya alami itu adalah migran. Doktor yang telah memeriksa mata saya, dia dapati ada tompok-tompok di dalam mata dan doktor memberitahu bahawa mata saya adalah TB mata. Selepas itu, doktor berikan ubat TB mata dan membenarkan saya pulang ke rumah selepas 14 hari masuk wad. Walaupun saya dibenarkan pulang, saya diminta untuk datang ke Klinik Komuniti Demak Laut setiap hari untuk makan ubat TB mata selama dua minggu.

Pada 8 Ogos 2020, mata saya mengalami tekanan yang amat tinggi dari sebelum ini, saya tidak dapat tahan lagi dan terus dimasukkan ke dalam wad. Setelah diperiksa oleh doktor pakar mata, mereka mengesahkan saya mengidap sakit mata glaukoma.

Setelah lima hari di hospital, saya pun dibenarkan pulang ke rumah serta diberikan ubat glaukoma. Saya makan ubat glaucoma dan merasakan kesan sampingannya. Saya selalu merasa kebas anggota badan iaitu kebas tangan, kaki, mulut dan kepala.

Selepas sebulan saya datang untuk temujanji dengan doktor pakar mata, dia ada bertanya tentang bagaimana kesan ubat glaukoma. Doktor beritahu saya bahawa tiada ubat lain yang boleh mengubati sebab semua ubat telah doktor pakar mata berikan tetapi tetap sakit dan tinggi tekanan mata saya. Doktor pun mencadangkan saya berjumpa dengan doktor pakar mata dari Semenanjung, dia bukan doktor yang tetap disini.

Saya diberikan temujanji untuk berjumpa dengan dia dan dia memberitahu saya bahawa saya ada pilihan iaitu makan ubat ataupun di laser. Dia memberikan penjelasan mengenai makan ubat glaukoma boleh menyebabkan cacat anggota badan serta kerosakan buah pingang, manakala jikalau mata saya di laser boleh memamatkan cecair itu agar tidak tumbuh lagi. Oleh sebab umur saya masih muda, cecair di dalam mata saya ada kemungkinan dapat tumbuh lagi, tidak mati sepenuhnya. Jika di laser, risikonya mata saya boleh buta. Saya tidak kisah mata saya buta asalkan sihat selalu dan tidak sakit lagi. Dengan ini saya meminta saudara dan saudari mendoakan supaya cecair dalam mata saya tidak tumbuh lagi.

Saya setuju dengan penjelasan dari doktor pakar mata glaukoma, mata saya pun di laser. Semasa mata di laser saya dibius di mata sahaja. Walaupun sudah dibius saya tetap merasa sakit yang amat sangat, saya meraung-raung memanggil nama Yesus minta pertolongan-Nya untuk menghilangkan kesakitan itu. Puji Tuhan, Dia sangat baik menolong saya melegakan kesakitan saya. Selepas di laser mata selama satu jam, kemudian saya dibenarkan pulang ke rumah. Doktor berikan saya ubat untuk menahan sakit. Saya berdoa lagi kepada Tuhan untuk memberikan saya kesembuhan. Saya juga meminta sokongan doa dari "Team TMC Covid Prayer Support". Pada pukul 10 malam barulah kesan laser itu tidak sakit lagi.

Sampai sekarang cuma mata saya ada kemerahan di mata. Mata saya yang sudah di laser itu tidak nampak lagi, sudah buta. Saya tidak kisah asalkan mata saya tidak sakit lagi. Saya bersyukur kepada Tuhan Yesus yang selalu bersama saya. Di dalam Dia ada harapan. Puji Tuhan, mata saya tidak sakit lagi. Tuhan telah mengutus doktor pakar mata glaukoma untuk mengubati mata saya. Terima kasih juga kepada "team TMC Covid Prayer Support" yang selalu menyokong saya di dalam doa. Segala kemuliaan bagi Tuhan. Sekian, terima kasih.

- Rose Anak Changgai

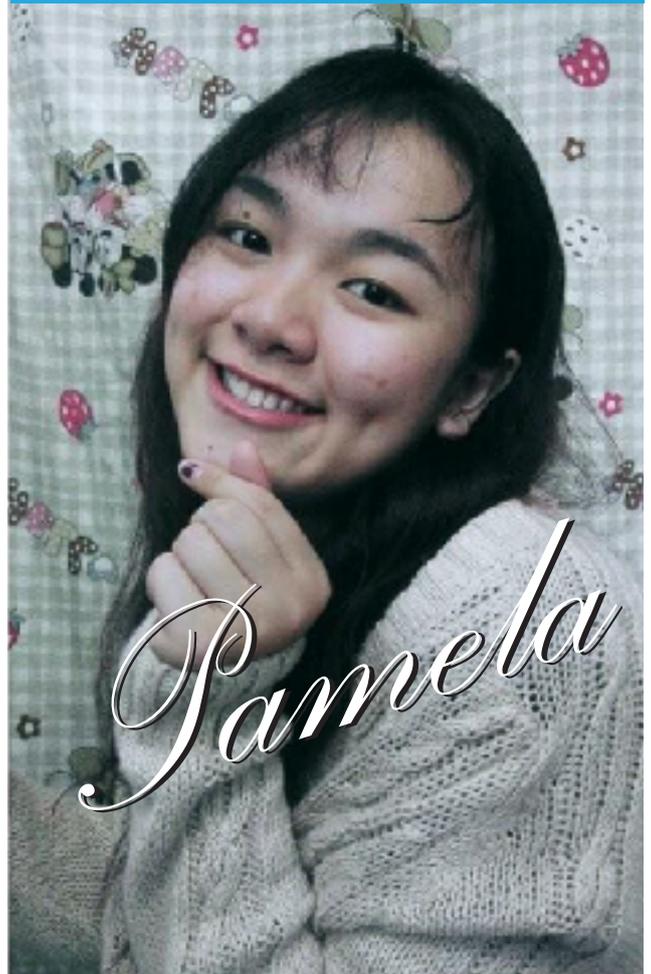
Shalom saudara & saudari dalam Kristus, hari ini saya bersyukur diberi kesempatan untuk memberi kesaksian mengenai kerjaya saya. Pada bulan Februari 2020, saya baru sahaja habis belajar peringkat diploma dan mendapat tawaran pekerjaan. Pada masa itu saya merasakan bahawa Tuhan telah menyediakan perancangan untuk saya dengan lengkap tanpa harus saya berusaha tetapi itu hanyalah sebentar sahaja.

Pandemik mulai banyak meragut nyawa orang bukan setakat itu juga ramai orang kehilangan sumber pendapatan dan pekerjaan. Tempat saya bekerja mulai merosot dan banyak pekerja termasuk saya terpaksa diberhentikan atas sebab ingin mengurangkan kos. Pada masa itu, saya ada berasa kecewa sedikit namun saya terima dan bersyukur apa pun ujian yang menimpa saya. Setelah sebulan lebih tiada pekerjaan tetap, saya mulai merasakan tekanan dari orang sekeliling yang asyik tanya pasal kerja dan mengesa saya cari kerja. Apabila orang sebut perkataan KERJA, saya akan mulai rasa tiada mood dan diam sahaja.

Sejak gereja mula dibuka, saya setiap minggu datang dan mendengar khotbah dari pastor dan pemimpin lain. Setiap khotbah yang disampaikan banyak mendorong saya, salah satu khotbah dari saudara Wong Chin Hook yang berkata kebimbangan itu hanya membuang masa, lebih membuat perancangan dan juga khotbah dari Pastor Chan mengenai penyembah yang sejati di mana Tuhan ingin menyingkirkan sesuatu yang menghalang kita daripada benar-benar mentaati Tuhan. Pada masa itu saya mulai menjumpai jalan penyelesaian keluar dari tekanan saya, saya mulai giat dalam pelayanan di gereja seperti pemimpin pujian, mengikuti komsel belia dan mengikuti semula tarian rebana. Bukan itu sahaja, saya juga dalam membuat perancangan untuk menyambung pelajaran ke peringkat degree.

Dalam Ibrani 11:39-40 berkata " Alangkah besarnya kejayaan yang dicapai oleh semua orang itu kerana iman mereka! Namun mereka tidak menerima apa yang dijanjikan oleh Allah, kerana Allah mempunyai rancangan yang lebih baik bagi kita. Dia merancang bahawa hanya bersama-sama kita, mereka akan menjadi sempurna. " Apa yang saya belajar ialah untuk terus berdoa dan berharap pada Tuhan walaupun harus tunggu sebulan atau setahun untuk menerima jawapan, kerana Dia yang lebih tahu apa yang kita perlukan. Saya juga mendorong jemaat terutamanya anak muda FOKUS dan JANGAN TIDUR waktu khotbah atau perkongsian sebab setiap kata-kata yang dikongsikan mungkin Tuhan ingin sampaikan pada kita. Sekian itu sahaja kesaksian dari saya.

Harapan Dalam Kerjaya



Melengkapi diri, bertumbuh dan tekun melayani



Syalom, saya bersyukur dan berterima kasih di atas kesempatan yang diberikan oleh Tuhan untuk saya mengongsikan pengalaman saya semasa mengikuti kelas pembelajaran Top 1.

Sepanjang saya menghadiri kelas Top 1 yang dimulai pada 5 Februari 2020, Saya memang sudah berkeyakinan untuk membuat kesinambungan dari Disciple Merah ke kelas seterusnya. Apa yang membuat

saya terus ingin melangkah ke kelas Top 1 kerana saya merasakan ini adalah panggilan Tuhan, jadi saya tidak menolak, ingin belajar Alkitab dan kerana saya ingin melayani Tuhan. Sebab yang lain untuk terus berkomitmen dalam pembelajaran Top 1 ialah saya ingin betul-betul berkomitmen dari segi pelayanan dalam gereja, mengaturnya semula kehidupan masa lampau dan berbalik lagi kepada Tuhan. Saya bersyukur saya dapat u-turn untuk mengalami dan mengenal Tuhan.

Walaupun kelas Top 1 dijalankan melalui zoom, itu tidaklah mematahkan semangat saya untuk terus mengikutinya. Kelas Top 1 tamat pada 7 Julai 2020. Puji Tuhan atas penyertaan dan pemeliharaan sepanjang kelas pembelajaran dijalankan kerana salah satu poin dalam mencari Tuhan adalah ketekunan. Kalau kita tidak tekun mencari Tuhan maka itu adalah kejahatan dan sia-sia. Kita harus memiliki tujuan hidup yang jelas dalam rancangan Tuhan bukan rancangan manusia. Maka itu carilah Tuhan disertai ketekunan akan menuntun kita semakin bertumbuh dan matang di dalam Kristus.

Dengan ini saya mengalakkan kepada jemaat yang lain untuk sama-sama mengikuti kelas pemuridan, sekiranya kelas diadakan. Ini adalah peluang kita dapat bersekutu dengan saudara seiman, berdoa dan melayani sesama. Hasilnya dari kelas pemuridan ini, kita akan mempunyai pembentukan kehidupan yang lebih baik.

Sekian, Tuhan memberkati.

- Dalina Ak Jawan



神 呼召我 如何

(Raymond刘家维写)

我来自于一个基督化的家庭。我的爸爸来自斯里阿曼，而我妈妈是从美里来的。他们俩却在古晋相遇，交往，然后彼此就决定要长相厮守一辈子。就这样他们俩在古晋定居下来。既然有意在古晋长住，他们就要找一间教会，以便可以固定的参加崇拜。透过朋友的介绍，他们就找到了一三一堂。我也就顺理成章的跟着爸爸妈妈来到三一堂。

我还记得，我四岁时在三一堂接受儿童洗礼。我也参加了三一堂的儿童主日学。起初我是很讨厌被父母带去主日学，因为我在那里没有朋友。我都是被逼着去参加儿童主日学。虽然老师们都很温柔细心，但我还是很不愿意去主日学。

2007年，我爸爸离开了我，离开了这个世界。犹记那时我才十岁。虽然还小，但我查觉到我一部分的心也随着爸爸的离去而一起消失了。我就开始尝试透过不同的爱好如看书，听歌等来弥补心中的那个缺。可悲的，这些事物只能带给我短暂的快乐，根本无法满足我的失去。

这状况一直困扰我到十三岁。那年我想我一辈子也不可能忘记，我在少团里亲身经历了神。我亲身体验到一种我从来没有尝过的爱，那就是主耶稣的爱！因此，我就决定无论如何一定要留在少团里，多认识这一位神。当我更多的认识耶稣基督时，我的生命也开始翻转~苦涩变甘甜，空虚变充实。接下来，2016年我得到了上帝给我的呼召。那时是在砂劳越卫理公会少团大会。讲员呼召全部年轻人要将生命献上给耶稣，我就勇敢的走到台前，接受这个呼召。我很清楚的记得上帝要我留在少团里服侍年轻人。其实那时候因为年龄关系，我原本的打算是离开少团。但神对我还有祂的计划。所以，我服从了。我也因此担任了少团顾问，这样也能让我还能在少团里服侍年轻人。当我在教会各个事工服侍时，神对我的呼召也变得更加清晰了。神要我成为一个牧者，帮助那些迷失，破碎及被伤害的年轻人。众所周知，教会的年轻人在逐年减少。他们认为教会与他们无关，教堂的节目也很沉闷。令人遗憾的是，现今许多的年轻人在追逐名望，肉欲，财富以及世俗的认可。这些东西有一天都会消失。他们追求这世界而不是主耶稣。

马太福音 六：19-21「不要为自己积攒财宝在地上；地上有虫子咬，能锈坏，也有贼挖窟窿来偷。只要积攒财

宝在天上；天上没有虫子咬，不能锈坏，也没有贼挖窟窿来偷。因为你的财宝在哪里，你的心也在那里。」我有这个负担来帮助这些年轻人，帮助他们寻找这一个永恒的财宝，那就是耶稣基督。我今年刚从Swinburne私立学院毕业。我主修土木工程。回顾这五年的学生生涯，我就问了上帝为什么要我先拥有一个学术学位，而不是直接呼召我去献身作传道人。感恩的是，神透过耶稣的故事回答我的疑惑。耶稣在服事前，也经历了四十天的旷野旅程。所以，我相信神用了五年来预备我，我一天也没有白过。再说如果没有这五年，我就不是今天的我。朋友们，如果你今天还在等待着上帝的呼召，你祷告时要切记神依然在预备你为祂做事。马太福音 六：24「一个人不能事奉两个主；不是恶这个、爱那个，就是重这个、轻那个。你们不能又事奉神，又事奉玛门。」这节经文让我肯定了我要做全职牧者的呼召。经文也提醒了我，神是比世界，金钱及权力来的重要。金和银一天会消失，但是神却永远长存。因为耶稣基督昨日、今日、一直到永远，是一样的。为何我们要服侍这世界，如果我们有机会服侍创造天地万物的主呢？因此，我决定我要用我的一生来侍奉祂，直到我与祂相见为此。我希望可以看到更多人，特别是年轻人会愿意献身成为全时间传道人。我也渴望见证教会经历复兴。愿荣耀归于神。





神 如何 呼召我

(Edwin 赖国炜写)

孩提时，透过男少年军信主。之后在2010年第一次报名参与 MTS 的短宣课程，终于可以初步体验短宣的生活。透过那一次的短宣，我最大的得着就是我会诚实的省察自己的内心。更甚的是，上帝让我一次过学习到四个“C”。第一个“C”是学业成绩上考获C等级（C Grade），因为在短宣学校里，我在完成讲师给予的其中的一个功课当中做了抄袭（plagiarism）。上帝在那短短一个多月里头的作为非常的奇妙，祂给了我第二个“C”（Confess）。圣灵感动我向讲师承认自己的错，也在短宣毕业前的分享会中分享及承认自己的错。之后在结业礼的当天，当时的池金代院长也送了我们这一届毕业生一个“C”（Courage），就是要我们勇敢为主走出去，因为“要收的庄稼多，做工的人少”（太九:37）。福音需要被广传，因为人们需要主！也在同一段时间，我经历了上帝的蒙召（Calling），在众人面前举手回应了上帝。

在2013年，我被政府派到位于吉打州樟仑的北方大学（UUM）去读书。在去 UUM 之前，我内心一直都有一个疑问。我很不明白上帝为什么派我到那种穷乡僻壤，鸟不生蛋的大学。祂的心意到底是什么呢？现在回头一看，一切自有祂的安排，我不得不感谢主让我在UUM深造。我不说你可能不知道，吉打州是一个福音硬土，当地居民大多数是回教徒。而当地华人就大多数都是信奉民间信仰，泰国神等。就连当地的一些所谓的基督徒，也是偏向于异端。我住的男生宿舍中共有三十八位华裔，我就是唯一的基督徒华裔。顿时，我才开始明白上帝的心意，祂派我到这里来的目的。还记得有一次住家探访中，我问了当地的长辈有关于圣诞节的意义，他们的回答都是离不开圣诞老人、圣诞树、礼物等等，可是却完全不知道圣诞节真正的主角是耶稣基督。由此可见，吉打州樟仑是多么的需要福音！

到了2014年，圣灵开始在我的生命中动工。上帝透过在大学生活，教会服事生活，慢慢的打碎我自己骄傲的生命。经历无数次的修剪与重新建立，我赞叹神奇的神迹和作为。2014年的大学假期，我再一次的报名参加 MTS 的大专短宣课程。我还是抱着期待和渴慕的心，来到神学院装备自己。我希望自己日后重返大学时，可以善用神学院所装备的，在樟仑为神做更多的事。大专短宣生活中，印象最深刻的是我们被安排了上“护教学”。这课程不单帮助学生坚定自己的信仰之外，也提醒我们要向M族群传福音。而我就读的UUM恰恰超过一半以上的学生和教授都是 M 族群。上帝也再次的透过这个课程在我心里不断的呼召和感动我，就如祂呼召以赛亚那样：“我可以差遣谁呢？谁肯为我们去呢？”

（赛六:8）。这更让我明白吉打州，樟仑这个地方需要福音，福音将会在樟仑这个地方复兴起来！短宣结业礼当天，我再次回应了上帝的呼召，对神说：“我在这里，请差遣我！”（赛六:8）整个四年的大学生涯，我们这一群的大专生都见到上帝给我们的异象，我们也愿意同心合意的为祂做美好的工作。上帝也不断的帮助我在大学生涯里肯定祂的呼召。印象最深刻的是有一天，我正开着福音车往教会的途中，和坐在身边的一位姐妹分享自己生命的经历和上帝的呼召。我告诉了她，我的挣扎。那是因为我家里是独生子，毕业后理应撑起整个家，照料父母亲的生活等等。这一位姐妹回应了我：“Edwin，为什么你要把上帝框起来呢？你既然相信祂是无所不在，无所不知，无所不能的上帝，难道上帝呼召你去做祂的工时候，祂就不会看顾保守你的父母亲吗？”当下的我好像茅塞顿开一样，上帝真的很奇妙，派来一位天使解除我一直以来的担忧和困扰。更奇妙的是这一位姐妹后来竟然成为了我的妻子，也愿意陪我走这献身道路的一生佳偶。回想这一切的一切，我只能不断的赞美上帝奇妙的作为和数不尽的恩典。

2016年回到了家乡古晋工作，我跟上帝立约，给自己四年时间经历社会，经历所谓的江湖。我坚信在这四年里，上帝也会透过我在职场上为祂发光做盐。同时也透过这四年再次肯定祂对我的呼召是不会被社会的现实给磨灭。感谢神，再次回头一看，上帝的供应和祝福总是满满的。无可否认，在职场上遇到了很多的试探和诱惑，但是感谢神透过祂的话语，帮助孩子保守自己的心，抵挡撒旦的作为。

虽然我目前不晓得的接下来的日子会如何，也许前面的路会有很多的挑战等待着我。耶稣也说：“若有人要跟从我，就当舍己，天天背起他的十字架来跟从我。”（路九:23）我愿意顺服上帝的呼召，因为若没有耶稣那牺牲的爱，我的生命也不可能完全。我也坚信神是耶和華以勒。我确信一个人愿意被上帝使用，那个人真是拥有无比的福份。尤其是在全世界都在面对疫情的这段时间，祂对我的呼召是持续性的，是一天比一天更强烈的。祂也让我看到人们需要主，福音需要传到世界的每一个角落，特别是我们目前所在的这片土地，马来西亚。

阿爸天父，“我在这里，请差遣我！”（赛六:8）

紫本门徒课程之读后心得



还记得去年的今天也是我读完绿本的门徒课程。时间过得真快，今年我又完成一个不可能的任务，那就是我再次尝试报名参与紫本门徒课程。我为什么说这是不可能任务呢？因为就在去年的11月我一家人搬家了，从住在市区搬到三马拉汉，我有很多的顾虑，担心路途遥远，塞车和时间的关系导致我一直怀疑我会不会半途而废。但是我的顾虑是多余的，因为当我决定报名参加门徒课程的时候，我祷告神要帮我安排时间和排除我所有阻碍和顾虑。神垂听我的祈求，今年我们只有在教会上了5课，由于新冠肺炎疫情的关系，

其余的26课我们都是在线上上课。虽然这个疫情让我们恐慌，惧怕，但神的话在这种状况下没有终止，祂的话还是依然延续下去。门徒课程也没有因为疫情的关系停止，感恩的是现今有先进的科技和网际网络，使我们可以应用zoom在线上学习。那我之前担心的路途遥远，时间安排，塞车根本就是多余的，因为今年都不用出门上课，而是在家线上上课，神的作为多么奇妙，不可思议。

紫本门徒是研读先知书和保罗书信的一本书，它的主题是“紧记

你们是谁”。当我拿到这本书的时候，我就问我自己我是谁，我就知道我是神的孩子。研读完这本门徒后，我发现我们每一个人都是神预先拣选的，也不是偶然的，是预定的。我们不只是神的子民和孩子，我们蒙召是要做外邦人的光和盐，因为主耶稣就是我们的榜样，祂是世上的光。主耶稣召我们就是要我们做祂的光，把神的爱和真理传给外邦人，就像保罗一样。在哥林多后书四:7记载：我们有这宝贝放在瓦器里，要显明这莫大的能力是出于上帝，不是出于我们。神的恩典在人性软弱的覆盖下更显而易见，更强而有力，因此，我们这些见证人就像瓦器，我们这些瓦器不可掩盖自己，反而更要彰显内里所收藏的耶稣宝贝的荣光。

从旧约先知书到保罗书信，我可以看见神所呼召的先知和保罗都是平凡人，但他们愿意顺服神的呼召，虽然他们知道这条道路并不好走，但他们选择依靠，降服于神，并且他们对神的信心是多么强大，靠着神给他们的力量去克服所有逼迫和苦难。这些先知和保罗的作为再次提醒和激励我们不要为明天忧虑，因为神每一天都在我前头牵着我的手，引领我走每一步。我要学习的是完全交托，完全信靠，对神有百分的信心，不要以自己的小聪明去行事和解决大大小小事情。

最后，在门徒课程里我学习与导师和弟兄姐妹分享自己的经历和看见并且从中学习神在每个人身上的恩典和经历。再次，我要谢谢这一班弟兄姐妹和导师们在这9个月里的付出，扶持和全心全意的献上时间和精力来完成紫本的门徒课程。

- (李美莹)

又一次的完成了那说长不长说短不短的九个月门徒课程。相比之下，不一样的人，不一样的学习，不一样的内容，不一样的领受.....还有很多的不一样.....但我们知道我们敬拜的对象是同样的，我们学习的“老大”是同一个，我们的目的是同样的。

门徒紫本的象征颜色代表着悔改，忏悔，尊贵；标题则是“紧记你们是谁”。

这三年以来，今年是我上过最特别的一次的门徒课程。才刚刚起步，与同学见面却不到十次，新型冠状病毒就前来“探访”，使我们被迫关在家中，线上上课。不过很感恩，我们还有网络，还能上课。这是一次很不一样体验。毕竟有很多东西都被限制了，好比（实体）联谊。但是，一想到学习的初心，总是唤起我学习的动力。

透过这次的学习，加上疫情的攻击，就好像在提醒我那日子临近了。而我们当紧记我们是谁，无论顺境逆境都当悔改转向那尊贵的神，在祂面前忏悔。

翻开目录，32个星期，32课，先知书与保罗书信。先知书是我本身鲜少去翻阅的书卷。毕竟它对于我来说感觉很遥远，潜意识里总认为先知书很深奥。因此我对于以色列王和先知们的历史也是迷茫茫茫，似懂非懂。透过门徒课程，我翻开了那些我觉得很“冷门”的书卷，例如：《阿摩司书》，《玛拉基书》，《俄巴底亚书》等。这些书卷丰富了我对以色列的认知。

上帝看顾祂的子民，恳切盼望他们悔改转向祂，但人心的傲慢，视而不见，就算预言已发出。“看哪！看哪！日子快到了，所定的灾已经发出。杖已经开花，骄傲已经发芽。”以西结书七:10

而在保罗书信中，保罗的委身震撼我心。无论他在哪里，在监狱也罢，他都不忘神给与他的使命。他励志写信给各个地方的教会，给予教导，同时不断地为着不同的教会祷告。对于我来说，保罗教导让我重新审视自己，反省自己过去的所作所为。他的谦卑顺服成为了我的榜样与目标。

门徒紫本有个部分叫做顺服社体的标志，它时刻反映出了社会的现实，因而提醒我当作的责任。即便是很小的责任，我都不应该忘记。因此，透过这个部分，让我紧记自己作为基督徒的责任。

信心社体为着没有听命及回应上帝对履行公平与公义的要求而悔改。审判：上帝的呼唤

门徒紫本让我重新反省自己的生活，让我要勇敢面对自己不想面对但又一定要面对的；也许我还未遇见、经历那些事，但我深信神的预备，神的看顾，祂会带领我走过这段路。祂从不撇弃祂的子民，就如以色列民犯了错，但他们悔改，神依旧为他们感到欢喜快乐。

感恩神的给予，感恩神的眷顾，虽然我知道自己在许多事上的不足，但神没有离开。

“我们有这宝贝放在瓦器里，要显明这莫大的能力是出于上帝，不是出于我们。”哥林多后书 四:7。愿在未来的日子里我能更多荣耀神名。

- (汪劲蔚)



2020年

三一堂

华文部文字写作比赛

比赛题目：我认识的教会属灵长辈

作者：曾其生 (第一名)

自从我信主加入三一堂，成为会友之后，我就一直留在母堂，见证教会的成长。也因此有机会认识好多位教会执事和牧者，他们都是我的属灵长辈。他们的属灵生命正如使徒保罗所说的好执事：羡慕善工，只作一个妇人的丈夫，有节制，自守，端正，乐意接待远人，不滋事，性情温和，不贪财，能好好管理家庭，有好名声，而且存清洁的心，固守真道（提前三：1-9）。这些属灵长辈，按神的旨意，带领教会稳步进展。若以年龄而论，黄世璋（会众尊他为uncle Robert）是我认识可敬的一位属灵长辈。

有合神心意的家庭

世璋长辈有一个合神心意的家庭，一夫一妻（提前三：2），与贤妻陈芳华，相亲相爱，育有儿女四人，全家信主，完成了传承信仰的责任。

完全的属灵生命

《我传我写》是他的著作。他在书的封面上写到：“确知主是可畏的，我被激励劝慰人。”我想这句话就是他属灵生命的写照。他非常敬畏上帝，而且将自己完全摆上，被主使用去激励和劝慰人。他在讲道和谈话中，多次提到要对神信靠和顺服，不可靠自己的聪明，要遵行神的旨意和教导来过每天的生活，把最好的献给主，讨主喜悦。

忠于事奉，勤于学习的他，不断地竭力苦读，挑灯独坐，钻研集思，撰写交课，终于2003年考获博士学位证书，但他从不夸耀自己，而把荣耀归给天父

敬虔加上知足的心便是大利（提前六：6），是世璋长辈的座右铭。他认为自己很富足，因有耶和華為牧者，在神的看顾之下，可以无忧无虑地享受神的供应和保守。相信神必会扶持他度过每一天。

世璋长辈羡慕善工（提前三：1）。开设伯特利辅导中心，亲自用神的话语来帮助和安慰有需要的社会人士，也藉此把人带到主跟前。

2013年，适逢85岁大寿，他摆设宴席，招待亲友，而且把所有贺礼，悉数捐赠基甸基金，购买圣经，诚为一位好施及乐意接待人的长辈。固守真道，实践真理

“只是你们要行道，不要单单听道……，随即忘记……”。乃是要实行出来”（雅一：22-25），世璋长辈将神的话语牢记心里，实践在生命里。他经常前往古晋监狱，护疗关怀（戒毒）中心，少年感化院去讲道，劝导和安慰在那里的人，把他们带到上帝面前，感受主爱甘甜的滋味。

曾为三一堂会友传道的他，多次在台前分享信息，给会众印象深刻。他也在古晋基甸会，全福音团契事工上，献上己身，全力付出。

高龄92岁的他，在事奉上，从不言休，诚为可钦可佩，实为晚辈们的典范。

比赛题目：那些年三一堂的事与情

作者：黄静明 (第二名)

2006年来到三一堂，当时老大刚好六个月大。每个星期天的主日崇拜我跟儿子就待在婴儿室，我和我的先生不认识其他的人，也没参加任何的团契。这样的日子就一天天的过，时间一长之后渐渐的就觉得我好像缺少了什么，我觉得我好像逐渐枯干的树木；没有水的浇灌；也没有阳光的照射。越来越阴暗，如果用花园来比喻我的内心的话那绝对是杂草丛生和一片荒芜的花园。当时的我内心焦急不已但又不知道从何下手改变，虽然有读经祷告但也无法让我在灵命上有更好的成长。就在那个时候当时的成团主席来探访也邀请我们出席成团的聚会，当时我还在心里暗暗的想参加团契应该也是于事无补的。所以就抱着试试看的心态参加了成团的聚会。后来我才觉悟到其实真正邀请我的是神，那并不是偶然的。

去爬山直到颤着双脚好不容易的走下来；累着并快乐着。我以为成团应该是沉闷的，契友应该是很严肃的可是我成团的弟兄姐妹真的另我大开眼界，他们活泼爱笑又良善。每个星期的聚会让我能够像洋葱一样一层一层的剥开弟兄姐妹最真实的一面，有催人泪水的感动时刻，有振奋人心的生活见证。我们一起查读神的话语、遇到挫折时我们互相代祷、用神的话彼此激励、更是一起高歌赞美我们的主、一起在神的家同心服事。2019年我们的一位弟兄离开了我们回到了天父的怀里，我们很难过和不舍更多的是想念他灿烂的笑容，虽有不舍但我们都知道将来我们会再见。在成团我跟弟兄姐妹一起经历了许多许多的喜乐也一起度过了悲伤的时候。更让我学习到如何在一个肢体里彼此配合和生活。

基督徒是需要团契聚会的，因为我们需要过一个肢体的生活，一起聚会彼此激励、劝勉，在基督里学习同心合一。我们要的不单单是自己个人的成长更是团体的。因为圣经说：无论在哪里有两三个人奉我的名聚会，那里就有我在他们中间，因为那招我来聚会的是神，而我们的中心和目的也是为了敬拜神。你们不可停止聚会，好像那些停止惯了的人，倒要彼此，即知道那日子临近，就更当如此。（来10：25）



加入了成团之后就这样的开启了我和我先生的很多第一次。为了成团主日被推上台手忙脚乱的跳了人生第一次的山地舞；我的先生也演了人生的第一个话剧；不爱运动的我们也被大家拖着拉着



引我到你至圣所，让我寻见你，领我进入你怀中，容我陶醉在你同在里” (取之诗歌：我的心渴慕你)

说起关于我在三一堂的那些年，经历过的事与情，总要说那那一年。原本参与英语崇拜的我，从教会消息中得知，华语部即将举办一场“解开枷锁”的讲座与研习会。当天崇拜后就立即报了名。

研习会的那个下午，提早来到现场，正在安静预备心的当儿，牧者来到我身边，问我可否帮忙为会前的领唱时光担任钢琴伴奏。主办方没有事先安排伴奏，临时找人伴奏，而由于牧者是我过去团契的同工，知道我会弹琴，应该也是会场中唯一认识我的人。当下就毫不犹豫，一口答应。于是在参与了下午与晚上的研习会的同时，也就首次在一班陌生的会友面前，一连当了两个时段的伴奏。

几年之后，由于发现华语崇拜时间比较适合早起的我，就选择参与了早晨八点钟的崇拜。连续参与一个月后，一天主日早上，一如既往抵达教堂。正要进入圣堂时，一位曾经一同参与研习会的姐妹进前来，说她发现我这个跨语言的过客，问我会否在华语堂落地生根。如果我确定在此落脚，可否委身司琴的服事。过后经过认真祷告思考，加上当时也没有参与任何的服事，于是就毫不犹豫的选择在此落脚，委身于崇拜，领唱与乐龄诗班司琴的服事。

一路走来，在服事的道路上，有起有落。老实说，相信耶稣，接受他成为我个人生命的救主，这个决定，我从来没有后悔过。可是，在服

事的道路上，我却不止一次向上帝递上辞呈。然而，上帝不只一次，透过身边不同的人，种种的事与情，让我学会了许多事。

记得一次晚会，从筹备到呈献，经历了不少波折。当时就告诉自己，事成之后，就默默的继续例常的服事，不再轻易答应筹备任何额外的，吃力不讨好的活动。可是，上帝的安排无比奇妙。无意中跟一个同工的分享中，他分享了以下一段关于孩子的趣事。

他回忆说，每一次吩咐孩子除草，孩子总爱推三道四，诸多借口。就算真的背上割草机，也是边除草边埋怨。然而有一次，令他难以置信的是，孩子竟然一大清早背上割草机出门。傍晚回来时，不但没有怨言，还满面春风，恨不得草地再大一些，可以多割一会儿。细问之下，才知道，孩子今天是到女朋友家除草去了。同工无比感慨的说，在自己家除草是责任，在女朋友家除草是荣耀。

各位亲爱的读者弟兄姐妹们，我们都是上帝以他儿子耶稣基督的宝血重价买赎回来的。我们的服事不是勉为其难的职责，而是无比荣幸的福份。

“求你指教我们怎样数算自己的日子，好叫我们得着智慧的心” (诗九十：12) 恳求上帝在我们服事的历程中，不断的教导我们。当我们尝试在服事与生活琐事上取得平衡之际，更求他赐给我们，那懂得“取舍”的智慧。

Trinity Methodist Church Worship Service

B.M : 08:00 a.m. Sunday
Chinese: 08:00 a.m. Sunday
English: 10:30 a.m. Sunday

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