

CALVARY NEWS

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Your labour for God is not in vain

By Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam

“See, today I appoint you
over nations and kingdoms
to uproot and tear down,
to destroy and overthrow,
to build and to plant.”

[Jeremiah 1:10](#)



“Therefore, my dear brothers, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labour in the Lord is not in vain” (1Corinthians 15:58).

God has a plan and purpose for your life. He does not want you to simply exist but be productive. Find out what God wants to do in and through you and do it. You will find fulfilment and meaning to life.

In [1 Corinthians 15:58](#), the apostle Paul is speaking to Christians. He calls them brothers and tells them that their labour in the Lord is not in vain. These are people who have repented of their sins and confess Jesus Christ as their Saviour and Lord. Paul is not speaking to those who do not confess Jesus Christ as Lord and are doing good works and are very generous.

Paul admonishes the brothers to “stand firm”. When you are serving God, there may be times when the very foundation on which

you stand will be shaken and you experience circumstances which make you wonder if it is worth labouring for God. You feel that you are wasting your time and want to give up. Nobody seems to recognise or appreciate what you are doing and there seems to be no benefit. Stand firm. “Let nothing move you.” “Nothing” means no exceptions. Your labour is not in vain because God sees and has a record of what you are doing and He will reward you. Nothing should move you no matter how tough, unique, difficult and exceptional the situation may

be. Keep doing God’s plan and purpose in your life.

You are always to “give yourself fully to the work of the Lord”. God can use whatever you have (things) but He is more interested in you than in what you can give him. He does not want substitutes for you. God expects this from you. As a mature Christian, you must know that your labour in Him is not in vain.

What is God doing in the world today? He is in the business of building lives to be involved in His work. The Bible in [Psalm 127:1](#)

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Calvary Convention Centre (CCC)



Artist's impression

Calvary Convention Centre Update

By Patrick Wong

God's grace reigns

Saturday, 1 October 2005, was a historic moment for Calvary Church. On that day, the leaders of Calvary Church gathered together to hear from our architects the details of the proposed Calvary Convention Centre.

Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam started the meeting by relating how God has helped us remove mountain after mountain that stood in our way.

Firstly, even to get the seller to sell the property to us was itself a challenge. Commercial organisations tend to shy away from financial transactions with religious institutions. The reason is that they do not want the bad publicity that results from them taking legal action against a religious institution in the event the religious institution

is not able to pay up. The Lord helped us and we were able to purchase the land.

The next mountain that stood in our way was that the purchase of the property had to go through the Federal Investment Committee for their approval. This process took six months and the approval came just in the nick of time—just before the deadline stated in the sales and purchase agreement.

The stamp duty for the property purchase amounted to slightly over RM 1 million. Our application for a stamp duty exemption was initially

turned down because the Calvary Convention Centre was viewed as a profit making project. We made an appeal and explained to the authorities what the convention centre will be used for. The Lord favoured us once again and the authorities granted us a 50% stamp duty exemption. Praise the Lord.

The development plans for Calvary Convention Centre were submitted to the authorities for approval in April 2004. With great rejoicing, we received approval from the authorities


in July 2005. This process took a mere one and a half years. According to people in the industry, to get approval in such a short time for a project of this size of Calvary Convention Centre is indeed astounding.

Soon after the development plans were approved, we also received approval from the tax authorities for the Calvary Convention Centre Building Fund to be tax exempt. This provides yet one more avenue where we can give towards God's work.

Let us move with one spirit, mind and heart

The Church leaders were given a virtual reality tour of the convention centre—to get a feel of what it will be like when it is completed. The aesthetic looking convention centre will have:

- A column free auditorium with a seating capacity of 5,000 people
- Nursery facilities
- Space for a cafeteria
- A multi-purpose hall that can be used for sports activities, as a banqueting hall, etc
- Rooms for various language groups
- An institute complex with classrooms and dormitories
- An office complex to be used as the Church office

We are working towards commencing earthworks by the end of 2005, or early 2006. Construction is expected to take another 24 to 30 months. The Lord has paved the way for us—making it possible for us to build. Now is the time for us to rally together; to be one in spirit, mind and heart—trusting God to work through us to make to make Calvary Convention Centre a reality. 

The various Committees

The following have been identified for the Calvary Convention Centre project.

- **Communications & Publicity Committee**
Chairperson | Liza Low
- **Fund Raising Committee**
Chairperson | Au Weng Sang
- **Human Resources Committee**
Chairperson | Lawrence Mak
- **Prayer Committee**
Chairperson | Jeannie Friis
- **Finance & Administration**
Chairperson | Patrick Wong
- **Watch (Technical) Committee**
Chairperson | Han Joke Kwang
- **CCC Secretariat**
Coordinator | Catherine Lim

Bowled over by Jesus' love

By Deborah Wee

It was a fine Saturday morning on 10 September 2005 where 88 individuals came together for the "Friendly Bowl", organised by the L.I.G.H.T. and Young Professionals Life Groups at One Utama, Bandar Utama.

From the beginning of registration, it was quite a sight to see the 36-lane bowling alley filled with laughter and chattering. The single adults and young professionals took the opportunity to befriend the 24 potential believers who were invited, having the purpose in mind to eventually share Christ through their friendship.

Before the friendly competition began, one of the highlights of the event was to hear Esther Cheah, the current World Bowling Championship Gold Medallist, share her testimony. Everyone was attentive to her recollection of God's help in her achievement in the championship. She testified that it was as though the Lord guided her hand every time she rolled the ball and that made her the first Malaysian woman to win the medal.

Subsequently, Assistant Pastor David Seah, in his devotional thought, suggested that if bowling can



Assistant Pastor David Seah sharing devotion with an attentive crowd



Warming up



One of the winning teams with Esther Cheah



Appetising lunch



Some of the L.I.G.H.T. and Young Professional LG members



Associate Pastor Timothy Ong appreciating Esther Cheah

be likened to how we live our lives, then the bowling pins can be likened to life's challenges.

His following remarks were, "... in a bowling lane, there will always be pins to

topple, and in life, there will always be inevitable challenges to face. In bowling, we have only two chances to sweep clean a set of ten pins. However, in life, every breath we have

represents an opportunity to overcome life's hurdles. We can choose to either allow external circumstances to overwhelm us or we can overcome them with God's help."

The thought was simple yet relevant. Six individuals acknowledged that they needed help from the Lord to overcome the current challenges in their lives and they were prayed for.

After the devotional thought, the participants eagerly adjourned to their respective bowling lanes and began their friendly competition. Laughter was

heard in almost every lane, either cheering for a strike or giggling at balls that went into the gutter! Without a doubt, everyone enjoyed the game and the fellowship.

After the game, Esther Cheah presented the prizes to the winners. Associate Pastor Timothy Ong gave Esther a bowling pin as an appreciation gift from the Church. Together with the participants, Pastor Timothy prayed that the Lord will continue to use Esther for His glory in the bowling arena and for God's presence to abide with everyone.

The event concluded with a lunch. It was a time where stomachs were filled and friendships were made. Everyone went away as a winner, having met new friends and knowing that they can topple life's challenges with God's help. 🏏

Blessed to be a blessing!

The Life Group (LG) is a place where God's blessings flow. Those who have received God's blessings inevitably became a blessing to many others.

The following are testimonies of how three individuals were blessed through the Life Group Ministry and in turn became blessings.




Leong Dee Peng and Yeoh Kar Yen (seated first and second from the left) with the Women's LG-Taman Abadi, Old Klang Road

Yeoh Kar Yen and Leong Dee Peng

When Yeoh Kar Yen and Leong Dee Peng first attended Calvary Church, they were just "Sunday pew-warmers". One day, they came by a Women's meeting just to check things out. There they met Amy Tan, a Life Group leader. Through Amy's encouragement, Kar Yen allowed her home to be used for Life Group meetings and eventually, both Kar Yen and Dee Peng assumed leadership responsibilities in the LG.

Kar Yen and Dee Peng attended the LG meetings faithfully and were so blessed that they began to serve in other areas in Church, for example, the Visitor's Lounge. Together with others who came to the LG, Kar Yen and Dee Peng soon found themselves surrounded by friends who sat near each other during Services, attended the School of Christian Growth (SCG) and the Friday Prayer meeting together. There was a sense of support that developed. The genuine care and love within the group is seen by the obvious joy they greet each other in Church and also the regular prayer support they have for each other through the e-mail and SMS. Members who were blessed brought their friends and the attendance of the group has now doubled.

The members were so blessed that five of them applied to be received into Calvary's membership and four were water baptised. Others have started serving in Church for the first time; two are serving with them in the Visitors' Lounge, three in Carpenter's Workshop and one in the Choir. The members have a lot of fun times in their LG. They are always eager to welcome visitors to their group. Four of the members have gone for LG Leadership training and two have attended our Asian Institute of Ministries (AIM). This does indicate that LG has impacted their spiritual growth and created a desire within to be better equipped for God's use.

Just like the words of a song, "It only takes a spark to get the fire going, so it is with God's love, you want to pass it on" Truly the blessing goes on and on. Do you need God's blessing? Do you desire to be a blessing? Come join a Life Group, and you will never be the same. 

Call the Pastoral Care Department at 03-7728 6000 ext 307 for more information about which LG you can join.

Lucy Yee

Lucy Yee joined a Women's LG in 1998, shortly after accepting Jesus into her heart. She attended faithfully and grew in her Christian walk. She enjoyed LG very much and was soon enrolled in the LG Leaders Training course. When she saw how her LG Leader, Jeannie Friis, benefited through attending AIM, she herself enrolled in AIM for one year. The benefit she received from the LG Ministry was the primary motivation for her to assume LG leadership responsibilities.

Through Lucy's nurturing and encouragement, the attendance in both her LGs doubled. Four of the women started to serve for the first time in Tuesday Ladies Worship and Calvary Prayer Tower. One LG member was water baptised, filled with the Holy Spirit and has since completed LG Leadership training. This lady is now actively going out every Saturday with the Evangelism Team to share the gospel.



Lucy Yee (Back Row, far right) leads both the Women's LG-Bukit Bandaraya (top) and the Women's LG-Taman TTDI

The Great Disparity

By Associate Pastor Timothy Ong

"Now there was a rich man, and he habitually dressed in purple and fine linen, joyously living in splendor every day. And a poor man named Lazarus was laid at his gate, covered with sores, and longing to be fed with the crumbs which were falling from the rich man's table; besides, even the dogs were coming and licking his sores. Now the poor man died and was carried away by the angels to Abraham's bosom; and the rich man also died and was buried" (Luke 16:19-22, NASB)

The parable of the Rich Man and Lazarus as told by Jesus in [Luke 16:19-31](#), is a study of contrast and similarity. It describes the contrasts and discrepancies of this life. And it gives us a graphic picture of living on this earth, of death and life after death. It also gives us a glimpse of eternity. Most of us grapple and struggle with the unfairness of life. We cannot understand nor appreciate the disparities we see in the office, in society, in business and even within the family.

In the parable, tradition has named the rich man as Dives. It is the Latin name for "rich man". Dives was always seen with the rich and the prosperous. His linen underclothing was probably made of Egyptian flax. And it was probably as valuable as gold. The cloak, worn over his coat, was made of costly purple material. The dye for the material was obtained from a purple species of mussel and was very costly. His living was consistent with his clothing. The Bible in [Luke 16:19](#) tells us that Dives joyously lived in splendour. He was eating sumptuously and making merry without restraint. It is a picture of limitless wealth and indulgence, luxury and prosperity. Dives' feasting and fancy knew no reverence for the Sabbath or special days of fasting and prayer. No day was holy for him in his search for pleasure to satisfy his taste and touch.

Lazarus was a startling contrast. This is the only parable that a character is given a name. Lazarus was a poor beggar. He was covered with sores ([Luke 16:20](#)) and probably had leprosy. His life pitifully contradicted his name which means "God is my help". Did his mother give him the right name? Have you ever asked yourself, "Why do I, a Christian, have to go through so much hardship in life while the non-believer seems to be rich and enjoying life?"

Each day, Lazarus was plopped down ("was laid") at Dives' gate. He was flung very roughly or dropped there with contempt and complaint at the gate of Dives' mansion. The gate was a magnificent entrance of artistry and exquisite beauty. What a vastly contrasting backdrop for a poor vagabond such as Lazarus.

Not only in life did these two main characters live lives of great contrast. Even at death, there was a contrast in the way the bodies were disposed. The Bible only mentioned that the rich man was buried ([Luke 16:22](#)). Lazarus' body would have been flung on the burning rubbish heap outside the city wall. Dives was no doubt buried in a tomb above ground level,

reserved for the wealthy and powerful.

Is there no justice? How can a good God allow such inequality? Why do the pretty ladies get to marry and divorce, then remarry and divorce again and still can get to remarry one more time? Whereas, some of the not so pretty ones never even get a chance to marry even once! So many questions are unanswered in life. Many are mistreated. There is much unfairness, injustice, pain and suffering and oppression of the poor and the weak. The rich become richer and the poor become poorer.

When life becomes tough and there seems to be no way out and when there is so much inequality, then the "Great Equaliser" comes. An "equaliser" is something that will make equal all the inequalities of life. It makes right life's imbalances. It makes equal all the pains and sufferings that you feel are unjustified. What is that "Great Equaliser"?

The Bible tells us that "The poor man died". And "the rich man also died" ([Luke 16:22](#)). The Bible in [Hebrews 9:27](#) says, "It is appointed for men to die once and after this comes judgment". The tables are turned in the afterlife. However vastly contrasting and varied our lives' conditions or status can be, we all have an appointment with death, if Jesus carries.

And, after death, comes the judgment. And judgment is supposed to make right that which is wrong. The poor is not poorer at death. The rich is not richer at death. We are all equal when we come before God's throne of judgment.

There is such liberation in this truth. The seamless transition in this story from living to life after death reveals to us that each man's eternal condition is an extension of man's spiritual condition during life on earth. Jesus' advice to us in the face of this democratic fact of life, death, and judgment is summed up in [Matthew 6:20-21](#), "But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys, and

where thieves do not break in or steal; for where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." When life is hard, tough and unfair, the patient waiting of the righteous always ends in joy. God will turn the table over. Learn to humbly wait for God's hour. His help will surely come, even if it seems to be delayed.

If you are an unbeliever and you were to die physically today, where would you spend eternity? If you are a believer, what are you laying up in heaven? Wood, hay and stubble or gold, silver and precious stones? Are you a good steward?

In the Bible, there are only two occasions where we are told that someone from the dead actually called out. First, in the book of Genesis, when Abel was murdered by Cain, 'his blood' called out to God for justice. Second, in [Luke 16:23-26](#), the rich man called out from Hades: "In Hades he lifted up his eyes, being in torment, and saw Abraham far away and Lazarus in his bosom. And he cried out and said, 'Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus so that he may dip the tip of his finger in water and cool off my tongue, for I am in agony in this flame.' But Abraham said, 'Child, remember that during your life you received your good things, and likewise Lazarus bad things; but now he is being comforted here, and you are in agony. And besides all this, between us and you there is a great chasm fixed, so that those who wish to come over from here to you will not be able, and that none may cross over from there to us.'" Here we are given a glimpse of the realm of departed spirits.

Hades is the place of the departed spirits where the unbelieving are confined till Judgment Day. Our attention is drawn to Dives. This rich man realised where he was. After a person has died, there is consciousness. He can feel the pain and suffering in the burning fire. And, his condition in the eternal fires is irrevocable. There in Hades, Dives had no power to call his servants and slaves to

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Woodcut illustration by Julius Schnoor von Carolsfeld, World Missions Collection

When God's People Pray

By Assistant Pastor Karen Seah



In conjunction with the recent Prayer Emphasis Week from 14-20 August 2005, a prayer musical was presented for the first time by the Music and Creative Arts Department as a climax to the week of prayer.

A total of 784 came out for the two-hour prayer musical entitled "When God's People Pray" which is based on the American production, "Somebody's Praying Me Through" written by Karla Worley and Gary Rhodes.

Excellent. Awesome. Touching. These general comments received, aptly summed up the entire presentation. The excellent rendition of the eight musical numbers by the 80-strong Adult and Children's Choir coupled with the earnest desire of God's people to seek Him created a beautiful atmosphere of prayer and worship. It was indeed a wonderful experience of God's awesome presence. The powerful testimonies shared by the eight 'story-tellers' touched and stirred great faith in the hearts of many to believe God for their own miracle.

Just before the children's choir sang "Pray for Me", Daniel Tan, Jessica Lim, Joshua Cheah and Ruth Hoo shared how the prayers of their parents impacted their lives and wrought great results. Ngeow Zoo Gin and Hoe Wee Fang reinforced the vital importance and rewarding experience of praying together as a family.

For those struggling to believe God for the salvation of their loved ones, Chow Sang Hoe's testimony was a great encouragement of the unfailing faithfulness of God. The decade of persistent prayer by his sister-in-law, Sharon, saw a bountiful harvest in 1999. Within a short span of nine months, seven family members either gave their hearts for the first time or rededicated their lives to the Lord.

Tears were shed by many as Sharon Soon recounted how she found God's grace to be more than sufficient during her late husband's battle with cancer. The four years of struggle had provided opportunities for greater family intimacy and brought joy despite pain. More importantly, it has caused her to have a deeper appreciation for God and the gift of life.

From top: The Adult Choir; The Children's Choir; Ngeow Zoo Gin, Ruth Hoo, Daniel Tan, Jessica Lim, Joshua Cheah and Hoe Wee Fang sharing on the rewarding experience of praying with their families; Senior Associate Pastor Petrina Guneratnam leading in prayer for families; The people believing God for breakthroughs in their lives

Music & Creative Arts

A first: Young Directors Workshop

By Christopher Ling

The month of September saw the completion of the Music & Creative Arts Department's first Young Directors Workshop (YDW) with the staging of a double-bill of plays entitled "Communion|The Room" over three nights at The Studio Theatre, Creative Arts Centre, Damansara Perdana, on 13 to 15 September 2005 at 8.30pm each night.

This YDW saw the collaborative efforts of four young directors, five actors and one stage manager in bringing to life a 45-minute piece of Christian drama that would be able to communicate God's love to Christian (and non-Christian) alike.


Written by Christian playwright David Lampel, "Communion" took audiences through the burial rites of a modern-day funeral whilst addressing the thoughts,

regrets and joys of those closest to Jesus at the time of His death, burial and resurrection.

The second of the two plays, "The Room", was an ensemble piece written by Christian author, Joshua Harris, that touched on the universal themes of guilt and redemption.

Each performance ended with an invaluable time of Post-Performance Discussion where members of the audience had the opportunity to share their feedback on what they had just seen with the Production Team.


Organised by the Drama Ministry, the YDW is a three-month programme in basic directing skills for the theatre—taught from a Christian perspective.

Through both theoretical and practical means, young directors are taught how to interpret scripts, guide actors and envision the design for performance. They are also taught how to handle the technical aspects of a fully staged production and look after the spiritual focus of the project as a whole. 



From top: Calvary Prayer Tower Coordinator, Pastor Karen Seah, leading in prayer for salvation of loved ones; Chow Sang Hoe and Sharon Soon sharing powerful testimonies

Having heard the 'stories' of His exceeding greatness, how can God's people help but to praise Him for answering prayers and give thanks for the privilege of prayer. And most of all, how can they help but PRAY. It was in this attitude of reverent awe and confident trust that prayers were offered that night on behalf of families, the church and nation. Time was also taken to pray for those seeking God for specific breakthroughs in their lives.

"When God's people pray, miracles happen that you can't explain away. . ." Certainly, there is every grain of truth in the lyrics of the theme song for the prayer musical. Matthew 18:19 declares, "Again, I tell you that if two of you on earth agree about anything you ask for, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven." There is great power in united prayer. Make time to pray with God's people in the corporate prayer meetings of the Church: Morning Watch, every Wednesday, at 7am and Friday Prayer Meeting at 8.15pm. 

For more information, please call Calvary Prayer Tower at 03-2092 1778 or 03-2093 3946.

What two participants of the first YDW say:



"I thank God for His immeasurable grace upon me as I went through the YDW. He guided me through this process of learning a completely new facet of the drama ministry. I experienced a string of wonderful events one after another despite the heavy schedule at work and home. The Holy Spirit was with us all throughout as we committed the YDW to Him. There were times when we at the crossroads but the Holy Spirit took us through and the presentations on the three nights were simply the result of His intervention and perfection!"

Natasha David, Young Director



"Being a part of the YDW has definitely been a constructive experience. Throughout the classes held weekly, we have been able, as actors, to find what it means to be able to interpret a script and to turn it into a full-scale performance with the help of our respective directors. Not only have we learnt skills involving drama, I believe that each and everyone involved in the workshop has been blessed spiritually, where all of us found growth and renewed faith in God."

Jeffrey K. C. Lau, Actor

Interested in serving God through music and creative arts? Call 03-7728 6000 ext 322 or e-mail music.carts@calvary.org.my

Children's Day

Every child is a gift from God

By Audrey Kum

Sons are a heritage from the Lord, children a reward from him. Psalm 127:3

At Damansara Heights



Parents and children waving their "flags" with joy

Every child is a gift from God and every child is precious. For several years now, our Church has chosen a specific day each year, to be "Children's Day". The purpose? To set aside a special day to let the children know that they are valued and very precious and to give the parents the opportunity to know that the Church supports them as parents.

This year, on Sunday, 25 September 2005, all the children and their parents and teachers sat at designated sections during the first 20 minutes of the Worship Services at all the various Church locations. The songs of worship that day were chosen with the children in mind. It was heartwarming to see parents doing the actions that accompanied the songs, together with their kids. The Pastors at each Service prayed for

the parents and children.

After that, the children went to their classes for their lessons, games and loads of food. We praise the Lord that attendance swelled to 974 (including the teachers and helpers) as special effort was made to invite new friends as well as those who had not been coming regularly. There were 30 newcomers to the Carpenter's Workshop (CW) and three to

the Calvary Nursery Care (CNC) that day.

While we may designate one day for Children's Day, may this event serve to remind us everyday, that children are gifts from the Lord!

Thank you parents for your generosity in providing the food and for your support and cooperation!

Senior Associate Pastor Petrina Guneratnam welcomed the parents and children before praying for them at Damansara Heights



At Ampang



At Damansara Perdana



At Cheras



At Damansara Heights



Calvary Prayer Tower Prayer Seminar

By Audrey Kum

Ruthanne Garlock



To help Calvarites to pray more effectively, the Calvary Prayer Tower Ministry organised a Prayer Seminar on 19 and 20 September 2005.

Praying effectively to fulfil God's vision | 19 September 2005

The speaker, Ruthanne Garlock, who teaches on prayer and spiritual warfare at seminars and women's retreats and co-authored more than 15 books on prayer and related subjects, was encouraged to see that 415 people took time to come out on a Monday night to learn about prayer.

In order to pray effectively, there is a need to know how to stand against the enemy. She therefore systematically gave us valuable principles of spiritual warfare. Her text was Ephesians 6:10-20, which she referred to as Paul's thorough treatise on spiritual warfare.

First, identify the enemy—Satan. He is not all-powerful. The devil is also not omniscient but he knows the frailties of man and will attack areas of weakness to steal our victory. We must ask the Lord to discipline us to overcome these weaknesses. Satan is not omnipresent as he sends emissaries to do his work all

over the world to bring conflict and dissension. We are to examine our hearts and choose to forgive so that Satan cannot have a stronghold over our lives.

Second, identify the place of battle—very often, our minds. Do not entertain the thoughts that the enemy plants in our minds. Satan brings condemnation but the Holy Spirit convicts. Respond with Scripture.

Third, look at the situation with spiritual eyes—through God's perspective. You can then see that God is able to overcome every problem. Believe that God is working in the spiritual realm to glorify His Son in ways that you cannot see in the physical.

Fourth, ask God to give us a strategy. In 2 Chronicles 20, King Jehoshaphat called the people to pray and fast and seek the Lord for His help against their enemies. God gave him direction and he sent singers ahead of

the army to praise and worship God. God caused confusion among their enemies and they destroyed each other! Sister Ruthanne Garlock said, "Get your mind off the problem and on the answer. God's record of faithfulness is without flaw." God never fails but He does answer in His own time.

Fifth, ask God for a specific Scripture. God can bring a *rhema* Word from the *logos* and bring it to your attention. Sister Ruthanne related how a missionary, Ruth Evelyn Garlock, was very ill when she was pregnant but she clung tenaciously to Mark 11:22: "Have faith in God". Thankfully she did because she was healed and gave birth to John Garlock, Sister Ruthanne's late husband, who has served God in more than 25 countries, teaching and training God's people through Garlock Ministries, Inc. The Word of God is the most valuable weapon against the enemy!

Sister Ruthanne Garlock praying that God will guard our ears and our minds from the attacks of the enemy

Continued on facing page





Elizabeth Alves

Hearing the voice of God | 20 September 2005

The second session of the Prayer Seminar was held in conjunction with the Tuesday Ladies' Worship Service. Elizabeth Alves, a core faculty member of Wagner Leadership Institute, was the speaker.


Also a great-grandmother and married for over 50 years, she shared from a wealth of personal experiences.

How do you hear the voice of God? Sister Elizabeth Alves pointed out that very often, we do not give God a chance to speak and also, we do not listen when He does speak! She gave us some pointers as to how we can hear the voice of God.

She encouraged us to draw near to God and listen. When we spend time in our minds as well as in our hearts with Him, we will get to know Him and His ways. That is how she knows her husband so well!

She suggested journaling and recording thoughts and Scriptures of what God is saying to us. We may even draw out the impressions we receive from God. She urged us to try just listening for 15 minutes everyday. We should check the journal regularly and identify the things we have obeyed and those we have ignored and did not do as God directed.

God speaks to us in many ways as we are all made differently. He can speak to us even when we are shopping for groceries! We just have to learn to listen to His voice. His Holy Spirit will help us.


The Holy Spirit has many facets. He convicts us of sin, cleanses us, helps us to commune with God and to be compassionate. He counsels us, commands everything to submit to God's authority, conquers so that we might be victorious and surrounds us with a concert of songs of deliverance. With His help, we can surely hear the voice of God speaking to us. 



Water Baptism

Seventeen baptised in water



Praise the Lord for the 17 individuals who followed the Lord in water baptism on 14 August 2005. By their obedience, they declared their faith and trust in the Lord Jesus Christ as their Saviour, Lord and Master. 

Left to Right

Front:

Chang Chun Yoon, Cheryl Tan Mei Kwan, Ariel Cheong Yoke Wann, Jessica Goh Sue Li, Jeremy Goh Ren Yong, Jecelia Ng Wai Cheng, Herti Sirait, Ng Sui King, Zhu Li Zhong

Back:

Beh Eng Heng, Foo See Nee, Choong Yau Kong, Pearly Pavani Williams, Kevin Paul, Chew Wah Leng, Wee Lin San

Not in picture:

Charissa Lee Le-Yin

Chinese Evangelistic Meetings

You can be “a blessed man”

By Lim Chune Sin

More than 600 people attended the three nights of the Chinese Evangelistic Meetings held at Pusat Aktiviti Calvary, Damansara Perdana from 23 to 25 September 2005.

Rev. Tang Chee Sing



Associate Pastor Timothy Ong



Rev. Tang Chee Sing shared on what it means to be “A Blessed Man” and how to be one. This was the theme of our meetings. He related his personal testimonies and experiences of how God has been real and faithful since he was saved and accepted Jesus Christ as his personal Saviour and Lord. God has been faithful to provide, protect and guide him every step of his life. To him, God is a God of the miraculous. God delivered and healed his wife who had a big stone in her kidney.

The group that presented the opening song



Kay Lim (left) and Samantha Ong singing a Cantonese song



“One Minute” by the Music and Creative Arts Department



Children singing about the ‘wise man’

Each night, special items were presented. A mixed group presented a spirited Mandarin song, a duet sang a Cantonese song and a cute children’s group sang about the ‘wise man’ who built his home on the rock. Testimonies were shared by individuals of how

God had delivered them from idol worship, fears, anxieties and the dominion of darkness. A skit entitled “One Minute” by the Music and Creative Arts Department added to the impact of the message, each night.

Many of our Calvarites brought their friends and



Rev. Tang Chee Sing praying for those responding to the altar call

relatives. People from all walks of life attended our meetings. A total of 17 people made personal decisions for Christ for the first time when the invitation was given during the altar call. There were 94 visitors, of which many are still potential believers. We have planned three special Life Group gatherings to re-invite

these to experience what it is like to be a Christian who is blessed of God.

Many people went to the altar to receive prayer for healing. One man was healed of a pain behind his ear, one of heart problem and another, of neck pain. We can truly thank God for all that He has done. 🙏

The Great Disparity

satisfy his whims and fancies. His knowledge of his painful state was intensified by the fact that he could see beyond the chasm and bottomless gulf. He could see the difference between the gnashing of teeth in the fires in Hades and the comfortable pleasure of the glory of Paradise.

Paradise is called "Abraham's bosom". Lazarus was resting in Abraham's bosom. There were no leprous sores, no look of hunger and no bloated stomach. He was not fighting for food with the dogs anymore. Joy exuded from his brilliant face, like a diamond in the midst of multiple lights. Now it was Dives who was asking the liberated leper to cool his fevered tongue! But Abraham's words sealed the eternal destiny of the departed spirits. Abraham said in [Luke 16:26 b](#), "...between us and you there is a great chasm fixed, so that those who wish to come over from here to you will not be able, and that none may cross over from there to us."

Dives' hope that his thirst would be quenched was dashed. There was a bottomless chasm. There is a great divide which no spirits can cross over. Dives never had thoughts of love apart from a selfish love for himself and for selfish gratification. But now, out of the corner of this rich man's mind came a selfless thought. Dives had five brothers ([Luke 16:27-28](#)). They must be warned. They needed to be alerted of this place called Hades. Somebody must warn them.

There are many out there whose senses are callous. They need to be awakened to the potential and eternal doom at the end of life's journey. They must be shown compassion and be prepared for eternity beyond death's decisive door. Abraham's reply was incisive: "If they do not listen to Moses and the Prophets, they will not be persuaded even if someone rises from the dead" ([Luke 16:31](#)). They had the teachings of the Law and the Prophets. Moses had given clear instructions on generous and ethical living. The prophets had warned and called for a living of justice, faithfulness and obedience.

We are the people who have the Word of God. People need to come back to God. But the message will not be brought to them by people who are already dead, neither from Hades, nor Paradise. No permission has ever been

granted for any soul or spirit of the departed to come back to earth to give any message. We must beware of lying spirits as seen in the cases of Saul who asked the witch at Endor to bring up the spirit of Samuel who had died ([1 Samuel 28](#)) and Ahab who believed a lying spirit who told him to attack Ramoth-Gilead ([1](#)



Woodcut illustration by Julius Schnoor von Carolsfeld, World Missions Collection

[Kings 22](#)). We are the people that have the Word of Eternal Life. It must be our responsibility to bring this message to every one whom we know.

The curtain now slowly draws back on the final scene of this dramatised story. The poor man did not go to Paradise because he was poor, neither did the rich man go to Hades because he was rich. Jesus (God Himself) has slightly drawn aside the thick mysterious veil between life here and life thereafter. A warning has been issued in [Luke 16:31](#). If they did not listen to Moses and the Prophets, they would not be convinced even if someone rose from the dead. Seen positively, this warning actually tells us that we can choose our destiny. Today is the day of salvation ([2 Corinthians 6:2b](#)). Not tomorrow. Not after death.

The truth may be stranger than fiction. The truth of Jesus' Word is marching forward with ascending power. It resounds in the souls of all believers. These are the truths: We will all live forever. Immortality is not a choice. Neither is it something that we need to strive to achieve. Death is not an ending. It is a transition to immortal life. No one can destroy the inner person, which is the soul and spirit. At the point of death, it immediately transits into the life after. It is a seamless transition. There's no break in-between the last breath on this earth and moving on into eternity ([Luke 16: 22-23](#)).

Only God can determine our final resting place. The Bible in [Hebrews 9:27](#) says, "It is appointed for men to die once and after this comes judgment." In [Revelation 1:18](#), Jesus says, "I have the

keys of death and of Hades." In [Revelation 20:15](#), "If anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire." The lake of fire is the second death. But we determine our own destiny while on this earth. The Bible in [Revelation 20:12b](#) says, "...another book was opened, which is the book of life; and the dead were judged from the things which were written in the books, according to their deeds done as recorded in the books." This makes it urgent that we consider the question: "Where will we spend eternity?"

There was a philosopher who once said that people who spend their lives preparing for life in another world might neglect this one. But, in the light of God's Word, how should you view life now? Jesus has shown that there are two distinct spheres of life after death. There is Paradise and there is Hades. Therefore it makes sense that Jesus proclaimed with great fervency, the Kingdom of Heaven. He called people to a joyous and blessed relationship with God that would stretch from earth till eternity. But Jesus' teaching on hell is no less vivid. Heaven is a real place. Hell is also a real place. If there is a "Heaven", there is also a "Hell".

The parable of the Rich man and Lazarus teaches us that what we do about what we believe determines our eternal destiny. We all have our sets of belief-systems. And what we do eventually about what we believe determines our eternal destiny. The parable also teaches us that the demarcation line of death is final. Death is not like a thin line between truth and non-truth. Death is a bold line drawn between this life and the life after death. But it is a seamless transition from one life to the other. Yet death is like "a point of no return".

In conclusion, Jesus said in [John 11:25-26](#), "I am the resurrection and the life; he who believes in Me will live [quality life—life in the presence of God] even if he dies, and everyone who lives and believes in Me will never die. Do you believe this?" If the life after is an extension of the person you are now, what would you like to change about yourself in this life? What would you do with your spare time? How would you prioritise your limited amount of time? Would you store up more on this earth, or would you rather store up more in heaven? 🙏

All Bible quotations are taken from the New American Standard Bible.

你們為主的勞苦不是徒然的

(文：古納南主任牧師 譯：林俊新)

「所以，我親愛的弟兄們，你們務要堅固，不可搖動，常常竭力多做主工，因為知道你們的勞苦，在主裡面不是徒然的。」(林前15:58)

上帝在你的生命中有一個計劃和目的。祂不要你只是為了生存，而是做一個有用有成效的人。尋找上帝要在你身上及藉著你作成的事，並去完成它，你就能找到人生的滿足和意義。

在哥林多前書15：58，使徒保羅是在向基督徒說話。他稱他們為弟兄並告訴他們說，他們在主裡面的勞苦不是徒然的。這是一群已經認罪悔改及承認耶穌基督為他們的救主和主宰的人。保羅不是向那些還未承認耶穌為主，卻行了許多善事和非常慷慨的人說話。

保羅在勸勉弟兄們要「站穩」。當你在事奉上帝的時候，有些時候你所站立的根基可能會遭受搖動，你會經歷一些情況使你迷惑到底是否值得為主勞苦。你覺得你正在浪費你的時間並要放棄。似乎沒有人察覺或感激你所做的，而所做的好像沒有任何的益處。要站穩。「不可讓任何事情搖動你」。「任何事情」是指沒有例外的事情。你的勞苦不是徒然的，因為上帝察看和記錄你所做的一切，祂將會獎賞你。沒有任何事情可以搖動你，不管情況是怎樣的艱苦，不平常，困難和異常。繼續遵行上帝在你身上的計劃和目的。你務要常常「竭力多做主工」。上帝能使用你一切所有的(東西)，可是比起你所能給予祂的，祂是更加地眷顧你。祂不要以任何的東西來代替你。上帝對你有這樣的期盼。身為一位成熟的基督徒，你必須知道你的勞苦，在主裡面不是徒然的。今天上帝在世界里要做的是什麼？祂的聖工是在建造生命來參與祂的工作。聖經在詩篇127：1說，「若不是耶和華建造房屋，建造的人就枉然勞力；若不是耶和華看守城池，看守的人就枉然警醒」。上帝是在建造生命。保羅在哥林多後書5：1說，「我們原知道，我們這地上的帳棚若拆毀了，必得神所造，不是人手所造，在天上永存的房屋」。上帝已經把祂的兒子，耶穌基督賜給我們了，祂也差派聖靈在我們身上運行塑造我們成為祂的傑作。有一天，我們將被獻給天父，洗淨，毫無玷污皺紋。

上帝如何建造生命呢？這是與一個原則有關聯，在耶利米書1：10可以見到，「看哪！我今日立你在列邦列國之上，為要施行拔出、拆毀、毀壞、傾覆，又要建立、栽植。」上帝的建造是始於你接受祂進入你的生命里面。可是在祂還未建造工程之前，祂必須先要拆毀及毀壞。在自然界中

也是如此。在開始建造一座建築物之前，建築工人必須先向下挖土打好地基。那些不需要的東西將被移走清除，這樣一個堅固的地基就可以被建立，建築物就能夠站立穩固能經受住一切的風雨。

當上帝要使用一個被罪損壞的器皿時，罪惡的生活方式一定要先被除去，然後屬靈的生命才能活出及被祂悅納。對付老我的生命的唯一方法就是要治死他。它不能夠與新生命共存。因此，在上帝未建造或栽種之前，祂要施行拔出、拆毀、毀壞和傾覆。你可能不會明白祂施行的方法，因為聖經上說，「耶和華說，我的意念非同你們的意念，我的道路非同你們的道路」(賽55：8)。不要為接受祂的方法掙扎，因為聖經繼續地說及，「天怎樣高過地，照樣，我的道路高過你們的道路，我的意念高過你們的意念」(賽55：9)。當你屈服自己的方法去順服祂的方法時，你將看見你的生命會變成有果效和有意義。

在上帝還未建造之前，我們頑固的意志必須先被破碎。詩篇的作者說，「你不可像那無知的騾馬，必用嚼環轡勒住牠，不然，就不能馴服」(詩32：9)。馴馬師知道當一匹馬的野性被駕馭的時候，牠就能夠被訓練而有傑出的表現。上帝知道世人也像騾馬一樣的頑固。一旦你倔強的意志被屈服時，上帝說，「我要教導你，指示你當行的路；我要定睛在你身上勸戒你」(詩32：8)。耶穌說，「只等真理的聖靈來了，他要引導你們明白一切的真理，因為他不是憑自己說的，乃是把他所聽見的都說出來，並要把將來的事告訴你們。他要榮耀我，因為他要將受於我的告訴你們。凡父所有的，都是我的，所以我說，他要將受於我的告訴你們」(約16：13-15)。無論你或其他的人的想法是怎樣，你必須順服和服從聖靈的引導。

參與上帝的事工是需要受到管教。即使世人身為父者，為了他們的孩子們的好處管教和訓練他們，何況我們的天父呢？祂必更加的管教祂的子女。聖經在希伯來書12：11說，「凡管教的事，當時不覺得快樂，反覺得愁苦，後來卻為那經練過的人結出平安的果子，就是義」。管教是有其目的的。它不該在受挫折和忿怒的時候施行，如發生在一些為人父者中。在管教中是帶有信息的。上帝可能在告訴你停止你所做的是不對的，對你是無益的事情或是祂要藉著管教督促你更堅強或成熟。

要成為世上的鹽和光(太5：13-14)，是需要付出代價。上帝帶摩西到曠野，但以理到獅子坑，早期的門徒到監牢里。然而，上帝大大的獎賞那些為祂的工作所建造的人。保羅說，「我們有這寶貝放在瓦

器裡，要顯明這莫大的能力，是出於神，不是出於我們。我們四面受敵，卻不被困住；心裡作難，卻不至失望；遭逼迫，卻不被丟棄；打倒了，卻不至死亡。身上常帶著耶穌的死，使耶穌的生也顯明在我們身上。因為我們這活著的人，是常為耶穌被交於死地，使耶穌的生，在我們這必死的身上顯明出來。…所以，我們不喪膽。外體雖然毀壞，內心卻一天新似一天。我們這至暫至輕的苦楚，要為我們成就極重無比永遠的榮耀。原來我們不是顧念所見的，乃是顧念所不見的；因為所見的是暫時的，所不見的是永遠的」(林後4：7-11；16-18)。

遵行上帝的旨意可能與人的智慧不合，但是務要堅固。不可搖動。常常竭力多做主工，因為知道你們的勞苦，在主裡面不是徒然的！當你跟隨上帝對你生命的計劃和目標時，你的生命就會有成果及你會過一個有意義及滿足的生活。✚

(以上經文是採用中文聖經和合本)

十一月份

中文聚會

日期：27-11-05
時間：下午五時正
地點：伯特利樓
講員：周志強牧師

祈禱週

日期：27-11-05—3-12-05
主題：禱告和相信(可11：24)

十二月份

申請浸禮及會籍

課程
日期：10-12-05(星期六)
時間：下午二時正

浸禮聚會

日期：18-12-05(星期日)
時間：下午五時正
地點：大堂
報名截止日期：6-11-05

聯合聖誕節崇拜聚會

「慶賀耶穌的誕生」
日期：25-12-05
時間：早上十時正
地點：武吉加里爾太子室內體育館
講員：古納南主任牧師

感恩聚會

日期：30-12-05
時間：晚上七時正至晚上十時正
地點：大堂

November

Chinese Fellowship Sunday 5pm

- 27 Speaker: Rev. Simon Chow
Venue: Bethel Hall
- * *Bring your Chinese-speaking family and friends. They will enjoy the warm fellowship and food. Call Peng Peng at 03-7727 3948 ext. 323 for more information.*

Christ's Ambassadors Saturday 2.30pm

Theme: The Days of Elijah

- 5 In the Widow's House
- 12 The Challenge on Mount Carmel
- 19 The Sound of Rain
- 26 Youth Celebration

College Students' Ministry Saturday 2.30pm

Theme: Holy Spirit Empowered Lives!

- 5 *Dunamis*—Empowered to impact our world!
- 12 *Glossalalia*—Enabled to intercede and more!
- 19 *Charismata*—Entrusted to intervene and overcome!
- 26 Youth Celebration

Bahasa Malaysia Fellowship Sunday 12.30pm

- 27 Speaker: Assistant Pastor Karen Seah
Venue: Bethel Hall

WATER BAPTISM & MEMBERSHIP

Water Baptism/Membership Class

Saturday | 10 December 2005 | 2.00pm

Water Baptism Service

Sunday | 18 December 2005 | 5pm

Closing Date for submission of forms:

Sunday | 6 November 2005

December

Christ's Ambassadors Saturday 2.30pm

Theme: Moving Ahead

- 3 Putting an end to Woulda, Coulda, Shoulda
- 10 Getting out of the Box
- 17 Living Dangerously
- 24 Youth Christmas Outreach
- 31 Youth Rally

College Students' Ministry Saturday 2.30pm

Theme: Because Jesus Came...

- 3 "God with us"
- 10 "God in us"
- 17 "God through us"
- 24 Youth Christmas Outreach
- 31 Youth Rally

Bahasa Malaysia Fellowship

BM Thanksgiving Service

speaker | Senior Associate Pastor Petrina Guneratnam

venue | Bethel Hall

date | 11 December 2005

time | 12.30 pm

27 November-3 December 2005

Prayer Emphasis Week

Pray and Believe Mark 11:24

Youth Camp 2005 is coming your way...

Undivided...a true story to be told by our **Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam**

Get ready to be **IMPACTED** by 4 days, 3 Nights of ·Energetic Praise & Worship

·Power-packed and anointed preaching ·Wholesome fellowship and fun

Be sure you block out 26-29 December 2005! See you at Shahzan Inn, Fraser's Hill.




Sunday Services

Damansara Heights (DH) 8am • 10.30am		Ampang/(DH) 10.30am 5pm	Cheras 9am	Damansara Perdana 10.30am
	<i>Communion</i> Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam	<i>Communion</i> Associate Pastor Timothy Ong/ Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam	<i>Communion</i> Senior Associate Pastor Petrina Guneratnam	<i>Communion</i> Senior Associate Pastor Petrina Guneratnam
6				
13	Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam	Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam/	Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam	Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam
20	Associate Pastor Steven Kum	Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam / Associate Pastor Timothy Ong	Associate Pastor Peter Ong	Associate Pastor Peter Ong
27	Associate Pastor Timothy Ong	Associate Pastor Richard Yun	Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam	Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam
NOVEMBER				

4	<i>Communion</i> Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam	<i>Communion</i> Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam	<i>Communion</i> Associate Pastor Richard Yun	<i>Communion</i> Associate Pastor Richard Yun
11	Associate Pastor Peter Ong	Associate Pastor Timothy Ong	Associate Pastor Steven Kum	Associate Pastor Steven Kum
18	Associate Pastor Richard Yun	<i>Water Baptism</i> Associate Pastor Peter Ong	Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam	Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam
25	Combined Christmas Worship Service at Putra Stadium at 10am Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam			
DECEMBER				

Experience an unforgettable Christmas Celebration as a family!



Celebrate JESUS' Birth
A CHRISTMAS WORSHIP SERVICE
25 December 2005 | 10am | Putra Stadium, Bukit Jalil

Be sure to attend!

Thanksgiving Service
7-10pm
30 December 2005
Calvary Church
Damansara Heights

says, **“Unless the LORD builds the house, its builders labour in vain. Unless the LORD watches over the city, the watchmen stand guard in vain.”** God is building lives. Paul says in [2 Corinthians 5:1](#), “Now we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, an eternal house in heaven, not built by human hands.” God has given us His Son, Jesus Christ and has sent the Holy Spirit so that we can be His workmanship. One day, we will be presented to the Father, cleansed and without spot or wrinkle.

How does God build lives? There is a principle involved and it is found in [Jeremiah 1:10](#): **“See, today I appoint you over nations and kingdoms to uproot and tear down, to destroy and overthrow, to build and to plant”** God begins to build you when you welcome Him into your life. But before He constructs and builds, He has to tear down and destroy. This is also true in the natural. Before the construction of a building can begin, the builders must dig down to build a foundation. What should not be there will be removed so that a strong foundation can be built and the building will be able to stand strong against all weather.

When God uses a vessel marred by sin, the sinful lifestyle must go before the spiritual life can live and be acceptable to Him. The only way to treat the old life is to let it die. It cannot co-exist with the new life. Therefore, before God builds or plants, He uproots, tears down, destroys and overthrows. You may not understand the way He does it because the Bible says, **“For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the LORD”** ([Isaiah 55:8](#)). Do not struggle to accept His ways because the Bible continues to say, **“As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts”** ([Isaiah 55:9](#)). When you submit your ways to His ways, you will find that your life will

become productive and meaningful.

Our stubborn will must be broken before God can build. The Psalmist says, **“Do not be like the horse or the mule, which have no understanding but must be controlled by bit and bridle or they will not come to you”** ([Psalm 32:9](#)). Horse trainers know that once the horse’s spirit is broken, it can be trained to perform splendidly. God knows people can be as stubborn as horses and mules. Once your stubborn will is broken, God says, “I

Your labour for God is not in vain



will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you and watch over you” ([Psalm 32:8](#)). Jesus says, **“But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come. He will bring glory to me by taking from what is mine and making it known to you. All that belongs to the Father is mine. That is why I said the Spirit will take from what is mine and make it known to you”** ([John 16:13-15](#)). You are to submit and obey the leading of the Holy Spirit regardless of what you or others think.

To be involved in God’s work involves discipline. Even human fathers discipline and train their children for their own good. How much more will our Father in heaven do the same and more for His children? The Bible in [Hebrews 12:11](#) says, **“No discipline seems pleasant at the time, but painful. Later on, however, it produces a harvest of righteousness and peace for those who have been trained by it.”** There is

a purpose for the discipline. It should not be given out of frustration and anger as in the case of some human fathers. There is a message in the discipline. God may be telling you to stop what you are doing that is not right and good for you or He may be using the discipline to spur you to be stronger or mature.

To become the salt of the earth and the light of the world ([Matthew 5:13-14](#)), a price has to be paid. God took Moses to the desert,

Daniel to the lion’s den and the early disciples to prison. However, God greatly rewards those whom He is building for His work. Paul says, **“But we have this treasure in jars of clay to show that this all-surpassing power is from God and not from us. We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed; perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not abandoned; struck down, but**

not destroyed. We always carry around in our body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be revealed in our body. For we who are alive are always being given over to death for Jesus’ sake, so that his life may be revealed in our mortal body... Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen. For what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal” ([2 Corinthians 4:7-11; 16-18](#)).

Doing God’s will may be contradictory to human wisdom, but stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourself fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labour in the Lord is not in vain! When you follow God’s plan and purpose for your life, your life will be productive and you will live a meaningful and fulfilling life.

All Bible quotations are taken from the New International Version.

Men's Life Group (LG) Ministry



Edwin Marsden welcoming the first-time visitors to an event organised by the Calvary Men

The secret to success

By Kenny Cheah

On Saturday, 17 September 2005, 123 men attended Calvary Men's BBQ & Talk on "My Success Story" and enjoyed a meaningful evening of fellowship and sharing of testimonies. Men's Life Group leader, Edwin Marsden, welcomed all the men and took the opportunity to mention the purpose of the Calvary Men's Ministry, which is to build and reach men for Christ.

Three men; Gan Kim Khoon, Cheam Tat Inn and Philip Chan, shared their guiding principles for their successes in the market place. Proverbs 3:5-6 is Gan Kim Khoon's guiding principle in his choice of numerous job offers and in his analytical writings which have been done in a truthful and impartial way. He believes that if something has been held back, it is because God has something better for him which is beyond his own understanding.

Cheam Tat Inn shared that God has a purpose and He will put him in a place where God can use him. He shared how God placed him strategically in the IT



Fellowshipping over a sumptuous BBQ



Gan Kim Khoon



Cheam Tat Inn



Philip Chan



Signing up to join Discussion Groups



world even though he was not an obvious choice for the job according to man's perspective. The offer came after he learnt to yield himself to God.

Philip Chan concluded from Proverbs 19:21 that despite his meticulous planning, he had to humble himself before God blessed his career.

In addition, as a result of yielding to God, his relationship with his parents improved significantly and this resulted in his parents' salvation. The common biblical theme that threads through all these testimonies is that true and lasting success comes to those who obey God and trust in His Word.

After these testimonies, Associate Pastor Richard Yun exhorted us to be faithful in our walk. As Christians, we need to have faith that is relevant and influential for Jesus. Eleven men rededicated their lives to God and two accepted the Lord. Forty-five men indicated their interest to join the Discussion Groups on how to achieve true success organised by the Men's Life Group. Later, the men enjoyed a wonderful BBQ dinner. 🙏



CALVARY CHURCH (Assemblies of God)
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