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THE LORD OUR JOY!

By Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam

*"If you keep your feet from breaking the Sabbath and from doing as you please on my holy day, if you call the Sabbath a delight and the LORD's holy day honorable, and if you honor it by not going your own way and not doing as you please or speaking idle words, then you will find your joy in the LORD, and I will cause you to ride on the heights of the land and to feast on the inheritance of your father Jacob.'
The mouth of the LORD has spoken" (Isaiah 58:13-14, NIV).*

The Lord is your joy. He is not a taskmaster and His commandments are not a burden.

His commandments are not to limit you from enjoying your life but are given so that He can protect and bless you. God has given us promises so that we can find our joy in Him.

However, His promises are conditional. If you understand and meet these conditions, you will experience the Lord your joy. The Bible says that if you keep your feet from breaking the Sabbath, call the Sabbath a delight and honour it, He will honour you or cause you to ride on the heights of the land and feast on the inheritance of Jacob. Therefore, you need to understand the purpose of the Sabbath and its implications (Isaiah 58:13-14).

Continued on page nineteen

Fruitful living

By Audrey Kum

“God loves us and wants us to be healthy, fruitful and successful,” said Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam at the opening session of the Church Summit which was held at Calvary Church Damansara Heights on 19 January 2007.

The Scripture text he used was John 12:20-26: “Now there were certain Greeks among those who came up to worship at the feast. Then they came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida of Galilee, and asked him, saying, ‘Sir, we wish to see Jesus.’ Philip came and told Andrew, and in turn Andrew and Philip told Jesus. But Jesus answered them, saying, ‘The hour has come that the Son of Man should be glorified. Most assuredly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the ground and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it produces much grain. He who loves his life will lose it, and he who hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life. If anyone serves Me, let him follow Me; and where I am, there My servant will be also. If anyone serves Me, him My Father will honor.’”

To experience fruitfulness, Senior Pastor explained, we have to go through the process of being hated, of losing and of dying. This will make us and not destroy us. Moses had to go from the palace to the desert. Joseph had to go to the pit and to prison. Jesus had to die on the cross. Death in the Bible means

separation and not annihilation. Death for the Christian is separation from whatever separates us from God. Referring to Romans 6:8-14 and 22, Senior Pastor said if we died with Christ, we shall live with Him. Believers are dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus. Sin no longer has dominion over us. We have eternal life and are therefore capable of bearing the fruit of holiness and good works.

Jesus said that unless a grain of wheat falls into the ground and dies, it remains alone but if it dies, it produces much grain. Therefore, we need to understand that we too must go to a “place” of death before we can experience fruitfulness. Satan tries to deceive us into thinking that when we “die”, it is over. However, it is merely the planting of the Lord which will result in life and fruitfulness. The Father will honour those who follow and serve Jesus.

Senior Pastor also referred to Psalm 23 and highlighted some interesting truths. In the first three verses, David speaks of what the Lord, his Shepherd, does for

him—“He makes me to lie down; He leads me; He restores me.” Senior Pastor likened this to the honeymoon period in the Christian life. In verse four, David has to mature by doing his part. To do this, he needs to walk through the valley of the shadow of death. We are to note that David did not walk to the valley but through it. The valley was not his destination. This is because on the other side of the valley, there is a prepared table and an anointing. Goodness and mercy would follow him all the days of his life and he would dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

What an encouraging message it was to all of us who want to be a fruitful, healthy and successful Christian!

The second part of the Church Summit was held at the Bukit Jalil Golf & Country Resort, on Saturday 20



Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam at the opening session



January 2007. Senior Pastor expressed his appreciation to all the leaders who set aside time on a public holiday, to attend it.



Assistant Pastor
Karen Seah

We were greatly blessed by Assistant Pastor Karen Seah's devotion. Senior Associate Pastor Petrina Guneratnam had asked her to share what the Lord had impressed on her

heart during one of the "Miracles of Love" meetings held last year. She saw a string of camels and heard an inner voice saying, "A famine of God's Word." She sensed the Lord saying that His people are feeding elsewhere than the Word of God. She sought God for an interpretation.

She found out some interesting facts about camels. These animals have powerful leg muscles which allow them to carry as much as 64 per cent of their weight, three times the usual comfortable load, over long distances.

They usually work as beasts of burden for six to eight months of a year and they need to rest and recuperate before they can carry such heavy loads again.


What was the Lord saying to us? Some of us are operating at a capacity that is much lower than what He expects of us. There are also those who are on the verge of breaking down under the heavy weight that they are carrying. The reason could be that they have not taken time to rest, both spiritually and physically. It is also possible that they have not been receiving proper nourishment for their soul.

A camel can go on for five to seven days with little food or water and can lose a quarter of its body weight without impairing its normal functions. Similarly, could these who "buckle" under the load be going on for days, weeks or even months without proper nourishment from the Word of God? They may appear to be functioning normally but their souls could be impoverished. The Bible says, "Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God" (Matthew 4:4).

Camels these days, according to Pastor Karen, usually depend on their

owners for their preferred food of dates, grass and grains such as wheat and oats. But a camel can also survive on thorny scrub or whatever it can find, even the owner's tent! Similarly, we can also 'survive' while feeding elsewhere than the Word of God but in reality, we are experiencing a famine or extreme scarcity of His Word in our hearts.

Pastor Karen challenged us not to wait until our spiritual resources are depleted before we respond to what God is saying to us. The camel's hump shrinks when it draws energy from it. Food and rest will restore the hump to normal. Let us learn from the camel. She exhorted us to feed on the Word and take time to rest so that our "spiritual hump" will not become flabby and shrink in size!

Spiritually encouraged, we then went into small groups to give suggestions on how to improve the effectiveness of the Departments of the Church. It was a fruitful time. The Summit ended with an update on the Calvary Convention Centre by Deacon Han Joke Kwang and prayer for the Church. Praise the Lord for a time well spent! 

Calvary Convention Centre (CCC)



Seize the opportunity to be blessed!

By Philemon Soon


In his first address to the Calvary Convention Centre (CCC) Committees for 2007, on 27 January 2007, Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam exhorted them to be bold as they go about doing their CCC tasks. They should be like the prophet Jeremiah whom God called to speak to the Israelites who were backslidden and rebellious.

Using Jeremiah 1 as his text, Senior Pastor told them that Jeremiah was terrified and fearful of the rebellious Israelites but God told him to go forth for He has made him "...a fortified city, an iron pillar and a bronze wall against the whole land" (Jeremiah 1:18).

For many, the CCC project looks like an impossible task, but if we would simply obey God, He will make it happen. Senior Pastor said that those whom God calls are often fearful and

lack the confidence to do the job. But this is the kind of people that God often chooses, as such people are brought to a place where they learn to trust God and do His bidding.

"All we have to do is to do our part and God will produce the results," said Senior Pastor. He added that God has opened up windows of opportunities for the people to be blessed. Opportunities are meant to be seized; otherwise they are lost.

On that note, the various Committees adjourned to their respective meetings after enjoying some light refreshments, eager to work on their plans which will give all Calvarites, their friends and even corporations, an opportunity to be blessed when they offer themselves, their skills, talents, funds, etc., to help make the CCC a reality! 

TUHAN

Kegirangan Kita!

Oleh Pendita Senior Prince Guneratnam



“Tuhan berfirman, ‘Jika kamu merayakan Hari Sabat sebagai hari yang suci, dan tidak mementingkan hal sendiri pada hari itu; jika kamu menghargai hariKu yang suci dan menghormatinya dengan tidak berpergian pada hari itu, tidak bekerja, dan tidak bercakap kosong, maka kamu akan berbahagia kerana mengabdikan kepada-Ku. Aku akan menyebabkan kamu dihormati di seluruh dunia, dan kamu akan menikmati hasil negeri yang Aku berikan kepada nenek moyang kamu, Yakub. Aku, TUHAN, telah berfirman” (Yesaya 58:13-14)

Tuhan ialah kegirangan kamu. Dia bukannya seorang yang mengerah kamu dan perintahNya bukanlah suatu beban. PerintahNya tidak menghadkan kamu daripada menikmati hidup tetapi diberikan supaya Dia boleh melindungi dan memberkati kamu. Tuhan telah memberikan kita janji-janjiNya supaya kita boleh menikmati sukacita kita di dalamNya. Akan tetapi, janji-janjiNya bersyarat. Kalau kamu faham dan dapat memenuhi syarat-syarat ini, kamu akan mengalami Tuhan, kegirangan kamu. Alkitab mengatakan bahawa jikalau kamu merayakan Hari Sabat sebagai hari yang suci, menghargai dan menghormati hari itu, Dia akan menyebabkan kamu dihormati seluruh dunia atau menikmati hasil negeri yang Dia berikan kepada nenek moyang kamu, Yakub. Oleh itu, kamu perlu memahami tujuan Hari Sabat dan pembabitan-pembabitannya (Yesaya 58:13-14).

Pemimpin-pemimpin alim pada masa itu menjadikan Hari Sabat sebagai tuan dan umat sebagai pelayan Hari Sabat. Ia adalah upacara amal yang mengongkong. Bekerja pada Hari Sabat dianggap melanggar undang-undang. Akan tetapi, Yesus banyak kali melakukan kerja-kerja BapaNya pada Hari Sabat. Hari Sabat dianggap sebagai satu hari untuk menyenangkan, menghargai dan menghormati Bapa Tuhan. Ia adalah satu hari dimana kamu tidak melakukan apapun yang kamu suka, bekerja dan bercakap kosong. Oleh itu, penekananNya bukan atas kerja tetapi adalah tentang menghormati dan membawa kemuliaan kepada Tuhan. Yesus berkata, **“Hari Sabat ditetapkan untuk kepentingan manusia; manusia tidak dijadikan untuk hari Sabat” (Markus 2:27)**. Adakah Yesus mengajar kita melanggar undang-undang? Tidak! Paulus berkata, **“Tetapi sekarang kita bebas daripada kuasa**

Taurat, kerana kita sudah mati terhadap Taurat yang dahulu menguasai kita. Kita tidak lagi mengabdikan diri dengan cara lama menurut hukum yang tertulis. Tetapi sekarang kita mengabdikan diri menurut cara baru yang ditunjukkan oleh Roh TUHAN” (Roma 7:6).

Orang-orang Kristen dalam Perjanjian Baru telah menjadikan hari Ahad iaitu hari pertama minggu, hari Tuhan atau Hari Sabat kerana Yesus bangkit dari maut pada hari itu. Mereka memilih untuk menetapkan hari itu untuk menghormati, menyenangkan dan menghargai Tuhan. Dalam Yesus Kristus, setiap hari adalah hari Tuhan. Kamu tidak perlu menghadkan bila-bila hari yang tertentu. Bagaimanapun, kamu mesti menetapkan sehari untuk menghormati Tuhan dan mengekalkan hari itu sebagai Hari Sabat kamu. Paulus juga berkata, **“Ada orang yang berpendapat bahawa suatu hari tertentu lebih mustahak daripada hari**

yang lain, sedangkan orang lain berpendapat bahawa semua hari sama sahaja. Hendaklah setiap orang yakin akan pendiriannya. Sesiapa yang mengutamakan hari-hari tertentu, berbuat demikian untuk menghormati Tuhan. Sesiapa yang makan apa sahaja, berbuat demikian untuk menghormati Tuhan, kerana dia bersyukur kepada TUHAN bagi makanan itu. Sesiapa yang hanya makan makanan tertentu, juga menghormati Tuhan dan bersyukur kepada TUHAN” (Roma 14:5-6).

Tuhan sendiri menjadi teladan dalam pemerhatian Hari Sabat. Ia mencipta dunia dalam masa enam hari dan pada hari ketujuh, Ia berehat. Alkitab berkata, **“Dengan demikian, selesailah penciptaan seluruh alam semesta. Pada hari yang ketujuh, TUHAN menyelesaikan pekerjaanNya, lalu Dia berehat” (Kejadian 2:1-2)**.

Hari Sabat adalah Hari Penyembahan kita—satu hari dimana kita

berhenti daripada rutin kerja dan menyerahkan diri dan kerja-kerja kita- perniagaan kita, keluarga kita dan persekolahan-kepada Tuhan untuk diberkatiNya. Hari Sabat adalah satu hari yang ditetapkan untuk Tuhan. Kita mengakuiNya sebagai sumber kekuatan dan pencapaian-pencapaian kita. Hari Sabat adalah kudus dan menyenangkan bagi Tuhan. Kamu menjadikanNya kesukaan kamu, hormatiNya dan menunjukkan kepadaNya junjungan kamu melalui penyembahan. Ia adalah satu hari yang kudus dan Tuhan dihormati! Alkitab berkata, **“Aku bersukaria di dalam Tuhan, jiwaku bersorak-sorai di dalam TUHANku, sebab Ia mengenakan pakaian keselamatan kepadaku dan menyelubungi aku dengan jubah kebenaran, seperti pengantin laki-laki yang mengenakan perhiasan kepala dan seperti pengantin perempuan yang memakai perhiasannya. Sebab seperti bumi memancarkan tumbuh-tumbuhan, dan seperti kebun menumbuhkan benih yang ditaburkan, demikianlah TUHAN akan menumbuhkan kebenaran dan puji-pujian di depan semua bangsa-bangsa”** (Yesaya 61:10-11).

Hari Sabat juga adalah satu hari untuk membetulkan cara-cara kamu. Periksalah hati dan motif-motif kamu dan tengok jika kamu berjalan dalam cara-cara Tuhan. Adakah kamu hidup seperti orang yang diberkati sebagaimana yang diterangkan oleh penulis Mazmur? **“Berbahagialah orang yang tidak mengikut nasihat orang jahat, tidak mengikut contoh orang yang berdosa, atau bergaul dengan orang yang menghina TUHAN, tetapi suka mentaati Taurat Tuhan dan merenungkannya siang malam. Mereka berjaya dalam segala usaha; mereka seperti pokok yang ditanam di tepi sungai yang berbuah pada musimnya, dan tidak pernah layu daunnya”** (Mazmur 1:1-3). Berputuslah untuk berjalan dengan benar untuk menyenangkan Tuhan. Alkitab berkata, **“Kamu akan selamat jika pertuturan dan perbuatan kamu benar. Jangan gunakan kuasa kamu untuk menipu orang miskin, dan jangan terima rasuah. Jangan ikut orang yang merancang pembunuhan atau melakukan kejahatan lain. Dengan demikian kamu akan selamat, kamu akan terlindung seolah-olah kamu di dalam kubu yang kuat. Kamu akan mendapat makanan dan minuman. Sekali lagi kamu akan menyaksikan seorang raja memerintah dengan kemegahan”** (Yesaya 33:15-17). Kita mesti berjalan seperti kata-kata kita.

Hari Sabat ialah hari yang diberkati oleh Tuhan. Ini ialah satu-satunya hari dimana Tuhan mengumumkan berkat. Alkitab mengatakan, **“Lalu TUHAN memberkati hari ketujuh itu dan menguduskannya, karena pada hari**

itulah Ia berhenti dari segala pekerjaan penciptaan yang telah dibuat-Nya itu” (Kejadian 2:3). Sudahkah kamu meluangkan satu hari sebagai hari Sabat kamu, untuk diberkati oleh Tuhan? Apa yang kamu perlu lakukan untuk menjaga hari Sabat kamu? Terdapat tiga syarat diberi dalam teks ayat. **Pertama**, pastikan kamu tidak melanggar hari Sabat dan melakukan apa sahaja yang kamu suka. Kehidupan dan aksi-aksi kamu akan diadili. Manusia, secara semulajadi tidak ada keinginan untuk melakukan apa yang benar dan kudus. Jika kamu sudah berdosa, minta ampun dan penyucian. Dedikasi dan serahkan diri kamu kepada Tuhan. Paulus jelas benar apabila dia berkata, **“Karena itu, saudara-saudara, demi kemurahan TUHAN aku menasihatkan kamu, supaya kamu mempersembahkan tubuhmu sebagai persembahan yang hidup, yang kudus dan yang berkenan kepada TUHAN: itu adalah ibadahnya yang sejati. Janganlah kamu menjadi serupa dengan dunia ini, tetapi berubahlah oleh pembaharuan budimu, sehingga kamu dapat membedakan manakah kehendak TUHAN : apa yang baik, yang berkenan kepada TUHAN dan yang sempurna”** (Roma 12:1-2).

Kedua, panggil hari Sabat kegirangan dan hari Tuhan yang kudus kehormatan. Jadikan hari itu satu kegirangan dengan menghormati Tuhan. Pergi ke bait Tuhan dan menyembahNya. Luangkan masa dengan keluarga dan jadilah ketua rohani dalam rumah kamu. Apa jua yang kamu lakukan, lakukannya untuk kemuliaan Tuhan. Alkitab berkata, **“Tetapi carilah dahulu Kerajaan TUHAN dan kebenarannya, maka semuanya itu akan ditambahkan kepadamu”** (Matius 6:33).

Ketiga, hargai Tuhan dengan tidak mengikut cara kamu dan bercakap kata-kata mensia-siakan. Jinakkan lidah kamu dan kamu akan mendapati bahawa kamu mempunyai kurang masalah. Alkitab berkata, **“Demikian juga lidah, walaupun suatu anggota kecil dari tubuh, namun dapat memegahkan perkara-perkara yang besar. Lihatlah, betapapun kecilnya api, ia dapat membakar hutan yang besar. Lidahpun adalah api; ia merupakan suatu dunia kejahatan dan mengambil tempat di antara anggota-anggota tubuh kita sebagai sesuatu yang dapat menodai seluruh tubuh dan menyalakan roda kehidupan kita, sedang ia sendiri dinyalakan oleh api neraka.”** (Yakobus 3:5-6). Berjaga-jaga akan kata-kata kamu. Alkitab berkata, **“Hendaklah kata-katamu senantiasa penuh kasih, jangan hambar, sehingga kamu tahu, bagaimana kamu harus memberi jawab kepada setiap orang”** (Kolose 4:6).

Apabila kamu mentaati Tuhan, Dia akan menyebabkan kamu tunggang di atas ketinggian bumi. “Ketinggian”

bermaksud perlindungan dan pembekalan. Apabila Tuhan menyelamatkan Daud daripada tangan musuh, dia berkata, **“TUHAN, Dialah yang menjadi tempat pengungsianku yang kuat dan membuat jalanku rata; yang membuat kakiku seperti kaki rusa dan membuat aku berdiri di bukit”** (2 Samuel 22:33-34). Kamu boleh berkata seperti Daud, **“Aku mengasihi Engkau, ya TUHAN, kekuatanku! Ya TUHAN, bukit batuku, kubu pertahananku dan penyelamatku, TUHANku, gunung batuku, tempat aku berlindung, perisaiku, tanduk keselamatanku, kota bentengku! Terpujilah TUHAN, seruku; maka akupun selamat dari pada musuhku”** (Mazmur 18:1-3).

Apabila Tuhan ialah kegirangan kamu, Dia akan menyebabkan kamu menjamah warisan atau janji yang Dia telah berikan kamu. Kamu akan ada kepuasan penuh. Alkitab berkata, **“Dibuat-Nya dia berkenderaan mengatasi bukit-bukit di bumi, dan memakan hasil dari ladang; dibuat-Nya dia mengisap madu dari bukit batu, dan minyak dari gunung batu yang keras, dadih dari lembu sapi dan susu kambing domba, dengan lemak anak-anak domba; dan domba-domba jantan dari Basan dan kambing-kambing jantan, dengan gandum yang terbaik; juga darah buah anggur yang berbuih engkau minum”** (Ulangan 32:13-14).

Apabila kata-kata kamu bercanggah dengan kehidupan kamu dan kepercayaan kamu bercanggah dengan kelakuan kamu, Alkitab berkata, **“Jangan lagi membawa persembahanmu yang tidak sungguh, sebab baunya adalah kejijikan bagi-Ku. Kalau kamu merayakan bulan baru dan sabat atau mengadakan pertemuan-pertemuan, Aku tidak tahan melihatnya, karena perayaanmu itu penuh kejahatan. Perayaan-perayaan bulan barumu dan pertemuan-pertemuanmu yang tetap, Aku benci melihatnya; semuanya itu menjadi beban bagi-Ku, Aku telah payah menanggungnya. Apabila kamu menadahkan tanganmu untuk berdoa, Aku akan memalingkan muka-Ku, bahkan sekalipun kamu berkali-kali berdoa, Aku tidak akan mendengarkannya, sebab tanganmu penuh dengan darah”** (Yesaya 1:13-15).

Biarlah Hari Sabat kamu menyenangkan Tuhan dan kegirangan Tuhan menjadi kekuatan kamu! 🙏

Untuk maklumat lanjut tentang Pelayanan Bahasa Malaysia, sila hubungi 03-7728 2694 sambungan 307.

Journey of spiritual transformation

Each believer's Christian journey is uniquely crafted by God. The potential believer embarks on an exciting journey of transformation once they meet with believers who pray and invite them to Church events. Here are testimonies of three Calvarites whose spiritual journeys started off as a result of attending Calvary's Easter evangelistic presentations. They are growing from faith to faith.

"God loves me" PHILIP YONG FEN CHU, Business Development Manager

In 2002, Philip's client, a Calvarite, William Chow, witnessed to him and gave him a Bible. Upon William's invitation, Philip brought his whole family to the Calvary Easter presentation. He rededicated his life to the Lord at the altar call and since then has attended Calvary Church. "I was in my early twenties when I first accepted Christ. However, I backslided and was practising all kinds of cultic religion. Nothing turned out right. I was on a long slide down. I thank God for leading me back to Him. I was lost and He found me. He loved me even when I had sinned and turned away from Him. He sent godly friends when I needed them most," says Philip.

Philip has experienced the truth that Jesus will never leave him nor forsake him. Philip adds, "Recently, I faced threats on my life and God was there for me. He protected me and brought me safely home amidst danger. I have never been more at peace in my life. Even when things are uncertain, I know I can trust God to lead and guide me. Praise and thanks be to God for His great love for me."



Philip and Cindy with their children, William, Olivia and Gordon and Philip's mother, Madam Choo

"Step by step" CINDY SIM, Business Owner

Cindy's priority was to be a dutiful wife. She followed her husband to the 2002 Calvary Easter presentation and Sunday Church Services. Little did she know it was a step that would make her a Christ follower too. She made a decision for Christ on her very first visit to Calvary Church at the Visitors' Lounge. Since then, she has experienced God's touch and blessings. She was baptised in water in September 2002, accepted into membership in 2005 and soon after became an office Life Group Leader. Cindy is grateful to the Lord for touching her children, William (11), Olivia (eight) and Gordon (seven). "They have changed so much. They are more confident and happier to share their feelings with their friends and with elders. They are eager to help at home as well as in any Church event. They enjoy going for Carpenter's Workshop, Royal Rangers and Missionettes classes tremendously," says Cindy.

Cindy says that personally, she has grown gradually. She is greatly blessed by the Sunday sermons and SCG (School of Christian Growth) classes. She has a great conviction that she can be a good Christian example at home, in the neighbourhood and in the office. Her desire is to be a witness for Christ.

"Pressing on" BEH ENG HENG, Administrative Assistant

For Beh Eng Heng, it all started in March 2005. He saw an advertisement in The Sun newspaper about Calvary Church's Easter presentation. Two colleagues who are believers, one of whom is a Calvarite named Jeffrey, urged him to attend. He did, on his own. He felt God speaking to him through Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam's message on the Prodigal Son that God loves him. The following week, he attended Calvary Church with Jeffrey and said the sinner's prayer in the Visitors' Lounge.

Before accepting Christ, Beh was dissatisfied with the people he was mixing with. He felt they do not understand him and are materialistic, self-centred and negative in outlook. When things were rough, he became angry, frustrated and worried a lot. Since knowing Christ, he has found joy in Christ. He is able to control his temper and has a good attitude, especially in difficult times. He enjoys God's favour, especially in his work place. He has been promoted and rewarded for his diligence. He enjoys good relationship with his colleagues. Beh's mission is to glorify the Lord and be the salt and light in the market place. He had witnessed to many potential believers at work and is an encouragement to his colleagues. He is actively involved with the Office Life Group in Wisma Goldhill.



**If you are desiring to reach out to potential believers or
desiring to embark on a journey of transformation for yourself,
call Pastoral Care at 03-77286000 ext. 307 & 308.**

We will equip you to help others or walk with you on your spiritual journey.

A new service added: Children Counselling

Calvary Life Ministries is an Extended Ministry of Calvary Church. Our purpose is to express the love and compassion of Christ through the ministry of counselling and care-giving. Since 1994, we have provided adult counselling services. In 2006, CLM has helped more than 300 people.

Since the beginning, we have also had the desire to serve children as well and it was with great delight that in 2004, we offered our first training programme in Children Counselling through the Asian Institute of Ministry. Seven people graduated from this programme and from there, five have committed themselves to serve as Children Counsellors.

What do we offer to the community?

CLM Children Counselling Unit is dedicated to provide care and hope to struggling children to meet their psychological and social-emotional needs. These children could be suffering from:

- Anxiety • Anger • Abuse (physical/sexual/emotional) • Behavioural issues
- Conflicts • Grief • Hurts • Low self-esteem • Stress • Trauma

The use of Diagnostic Art Therapy is the primary tool used for counselling children. Children often do not have the sophistication in language to be able to express, communicate and describe what they are thinking and feeling as such adult talk therapy is not the most suitable for working with children.

Research has shown that art therapy:

- is an effective method for children to express difficult feelings and experiences
- provides children with a safe, non-judgmental place to pour out their thoughts and feelings
- improves communication skills
- builds self-esteem and a sense of identity



What is our approach to help children?

We use Diagnostic Art Therapy to first identify the key issues that the child is struggling with and from there, we help children find healing and resolution to their challenges. In a session of art therapy, the child will be given a variety of art media to create artwork and to perform activities. Assessment will be conducted on the artwork/activities done by the child. Resulting from the assessment, CLM counsellors may adopt the following methods to help the child handle his/her issue:

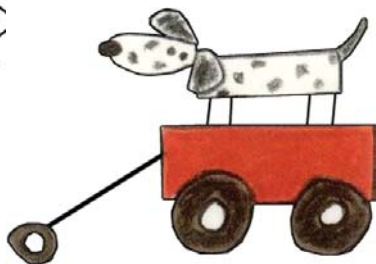
- intervention programme with the child and his or her family
- dialoguing/counselling/teaching alternate coping style

Our work with children will always include the support of their parents/caregivers which is critical in helping any child. Our services are open to any child regardless of religious or ethnic background.

If you know of any child in need of support and help, or if you have a desire to be trained and serve in this Ministry, please call Calvary Life Ministries (CLM), to find out more about its Children Counselling Unit.

Tel.: 03-7710 3360.

Web: www.clm.org.my/services/art_therapy.html 



Salvation is in Christ

By Ken Horn

Last week's Living It [Calvary News: January-February 2007 issue] was about the fall of humanity, the fact that every person is a sinner. It is a sad fact. But there is a happy fact that follows it: There is salvation in Jesus Christ!

Jesus died on the cross to provide the way out of punishment for sin. John 3:16 says, "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life" (NIV).

Man's only hope of redemption is through the shed blood of Jesus Christ the Son of God. The Bible reveals the steps that lead to salvation, steps that multitudes have taken to bridge the separation between themselves and God.

First, one must admit being a sinner and believe in Jesus Christ as the only hope of salvation. In John 14:6, Jesus says, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

Asking God's forgiveness with a repentant heart is next. He stands ready to accept all who do this sincerely. Repentance means regretting one's sin and intending to change completely, with God's help (Acts 3:19). The person who does this receives Christ and becomes a child of God (John 1:12).

After one receives Christ, it is important for the new believer to confess verbally that Jesus is Lord (Romans 10:9,10). The outward evidence of a changed life and lifestyle follows (Ephesians 2:8-10). The new believer is a new creation (2 Corinthians 5:17), certainly not perfect, but clearly demonstrating his relationship with Christ.

Based on one of 16 foundational truths and one of four cardinal doctrines of the Assemblies of God.

*Today's Pentecostal Evangel,
19 February 2006*



Live to please God!

By Lesley-Ngai-Parker and Audrey Kum

The Church was encouraged to “Begin the Year with God”. There was a tangible sense of God and His Holy Spirit’s move amongst the congregation on each of the three nights of the meetings that were held from 10 to 12 January 2007 at Damansara Heights. The people came out expecting to receive God’s Word and God was faithful. Rev. Dr. James O. Davis, a powerful speaker, was both humorous and anointed. His messages came across clearly and we were challenged and exhorted. Each evening, he shared from his heart and gave the congregation “nuggets of truth” in one-liners. One of the key challenges repeatedly given to the congregation was about pleasing God. He said, “If you please God, it really doesn’t matter whom you displease. But if you displease God, it really doesn’t matter whom you please”.

10 January 2007 | Joy to Live

“We walk by faith and not by sight”, said Rev. James, on the opening night. With that, he gave the people five key foundations in building “fortified faith” (Hebrews 11: 8-13).

The first was the “**Voice Principle**”—learning the voice of God. We need to learn God’s Word because God speaks more often through His written Word, the Bible, than through an audible voice. Those who know His voice, like Abraham, walk by faith.

The second was the “**Venture Principle**”—walking by faith and not by sight. Abraham knew God’s voice and left in search of the Promised Land, not knowing where he was going yet he trusted, believed and followed God.

The third was the “**Values Principle**”—willing to live on less, by faith, in order to invest more in the kingdom of God. Abraham was a very wealthy man, yet he chose to live in a tent because he

knew he was a pilgrim who was just passing through this life.

The fourth was the “**Vision Principle**”—seeing the invisible and doing the impossible by faith. Abraham was looking for a city whose architect and builder is God. If only we learn to get our eyes off the world and on Jesus, we would have clarity in our vision.

Finally, there was the “**Victory Principle**”—believing and knowing that God is going to bless. God promised to bless Abraham in ways that he never imagined.

It is only when we learn to hear the voice of God through His Word and put God first so that we choose to please Him that we are able to venture into the unknown. As pilgrims on this earth, who fix our eyes on Jesus, we can claim our victory in Him.

Rev. Dr. James O. Davis, president of the Global Pastors’ Network



11 January 2007 | Joy to Serve

The life of a believer is a life of faith. When we give to God’s work, we are sowing in faith. The blessings God gives us—daily protection, jobs and good health—are too many to count. We have been reaping and surely we cannot outgive God. A believer’s life is not meant to be without pain, challenges and heart aches. The question is, “What will a believer do when the lights go out?” How do you stay faithful in times of darkness? “Diadems of darkness” were the nuggets shared on the second night (Isaiah 50:3-5 and 10-11).

The first: **Faith’s Devotion**—“Those of deepest devotion sometimes know the deepest darkness.” Job was a man who was deeply devoted to God, yet the tragedies in his life were heart wrenching (Job 19: 8). But Job trusted God throughout his pain. Rev. Dr. Davis said, “A faith that cannot be tested is a faith that cannot be trusted.” The testimony is in the test. There will be no testimony without the test!

The second: **Faith’s Development**—“The faith born in the light is developed in the dark.” Faith is like film which is better developed in the dark. We live out our faith not with reasoning or explanation but according to the promises of God. In the dark, we should spend time with God and with people who love God; people who would help us come closer to God

and help us see beyond the natural during the “dark soul of the night”.

The third: **Faith’s Discernment**—“There are some things you can see in the dark that you can’t see in the light.” It is amazing how quickly people can prioritise their life when darkness comes their way.

If we learn where the furniture in our home is when the lights are on, we will know how to walk in our home when the lights are out. Similarly, what we learn about God in the light will help our walk when darkness comes. Indeed, whilst we learn about God in the light, we learn more about ourselves in the night; that we can handle more than we thought we could.

The fourth: **Faith’s Danger**—“It is better to be serving God in darkness than to be standing alone in man-made light.” We need to take care not to manipulate ourselves out of the darkness that may come our way. Our families, colleagues and friends watch how we respond when we go through challenges. Hence, we must learn to wait on God as He moulds and shapes us. Light always overcomes darkness.

And because is God is faithful, there is the final diadem: **Faith’s Daybreak**—“If your sun has gone down, it will come back up.” The Bible tells us that weeping may endure for a night but joy comes in the morning. Those who sow in tears will reap in joy.

Testimonies relating to serving God were shared by Anabelle Wong (left) and Gan Chew, on the second night



12 January 2007 | Joy to Love

With fortified faith that is developed in darkness, we learn how to walk with God like Enoch did. Rev. Dr. Davis, on the final night, shared the “dark nights of his soul”; how he and his wife, Sheri, experienced pain when his daughter lived for only six days and his son lived only one day after birth. He used Enoch as the example of a life that pleased God because he walked in close fellowship with God (Genesis 5:21-24). God wants to walk with us and He wants us to walk with Him.

There are some elements in this walk of faith. First: It is a “**Walk of Fellowship**”—one that means spending time with the Lord everyday. Rev. Dr. Davis challenged us to choose our friends carefully because we need to take care whom we walk with. Learning from others who have walked in close fellowship with God can help us in our faith because “faith is just as much taught as it is caught”. We can learn from the Bible and we can also “catch” it in fellowship with other believers.

Second: It is a “**Walk of Faithfulness**”. Enoch walked with God for 300 long years. This walk was cultivated over various seasons of his life but he stayed on the path that God had for him.



Finally: “It is a Walk of Fruitfulness”.

Senior Associate Pastor Petrina Guneratnam (left) praying for families on the third night before the children adjourned to their own classes

Enoch lived in the days of Noah, in a real world, full of sin, decadence and death yet he remained faithful and God was so pleased with him that he did not experience death but was taken away by God to be with Him (Hebrews 11:5-6).

Enoch had a son called Methuselah whose name means, “When he is dead, it will be sent.” Rev. Dr. Davis highlighted that in naming his son, he could have been prophesying that when Methuselah died, the Flood will come. He lived for 969 long years, longer than any other person on this earth. This showed God’s longsuffering and mercy as He withheld His judgement for such a long time. In Jude 14 and 15, Enoch prophesied that the King will be coming again to judge everyone. Therefore, let us do all we can to bring the harvest in.

In 2007, let us fellowship with God, learning to listen to His still small voice through the Bible and through the preaching of the Word and fellowship with other believers. Let us learn to swim in faith even when reasoning fails us and we have to walk in darkness. Let us trust in God’s promises in our walk of faith because without faith we cannot please God. Indeed “faith is the only economy that moves God”. Because our God is faithful, He will reward those who diligently seek Him.



The Creative Arts team presenting a skit entitled, “Finding God”, on the first night



Begin the Year with God

Kids begin their year with God

By Audrey Kum

The children, aged five to 13 years, enjoyed the interesting programmes that were planned for them while the adults had their meetings in the Church sanctuary from 10 to 12 January 2007.

They learnt that Jesus is their provider, their protector and their hope. On Friday night, they joined the adults during worship before they adjourned to their own classes.



The KidsCAT kids leading in worship with Associate Pastor Christopher Lee at the sanctuary on Friday



Youth learn to run like champions

By Ng Wei Chin

On 13 January 2007, about 205 enthusiastic youths came out for the Youth Revival Meeting with Rev. Dr. James O. Davis, held at Damansara Heights.

That afternoon, the AIM (Asian Institute of Ministries) team kicked off the meeting by presenting a number entitled "Tears of Heaven". After a refreshing time of praise and worship, we had a sketch presented by two very talented young people entitled "Spiritual Fitness Kit". Amidst the laughter, the message of the sketch was clear: There are no short cuts to spiritual growth. We must apply the spiritual disciplines to our lives if we want to grow.



The AIM team

we make today the starting point for the rest of our lives and live it well for Jesus.

More than 80 per cent of the youths responded to the altar call, desiring to make the rest of their lives the best for Jesus. All that came that day were enriched by God's Word and His amazing presence. Praise the Lord!

Rev. Dr. James O. Davis



Taking his text from Hebrews 11:39 to 12:2, Rev. Dr. Davis spoke about how we all need inspiration and determination to run the race. He also said that life is too short, eternity too long, and souls too precious for us to even waste another minute. This is why we must run the race with perseverance and not give up. He also taught us that our past does not really matter anymore. Instead, what matters is that





Rev. Dr. James O. Davis



Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam leading in prayer for the Faith Promise partners

Faith pleases God

By Lesley-Ngai-Parker

“How can I please God?”
Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam asked all the congregations on Faith Promise Sunday, 14 January 2007. He emphasised that it is impossible for us to please God without faith (Hebrews 11:6). And faith comes by the hearing of God’s Word (Romans 10:17). Then he asked, “Who does God love?” The answer is clearly found in 2 Corinthians 9:7. God loves a cheerful giver who gives as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or out of necessity. He commended the Church for their faithfulness in their commitment to give towards missions. Leaving us to reflect on our response to the two questions, he introduced the speaker, Rev. Dr. James O. Davis.

Rev. Dr. Davis reminded us that our priority in life is to please God. He

shared from Genesis 15:3-16; 50:22-26 and Hebrews 11:22. He said that Joseph knew that he was not an “accident” but rather “an incident in the plan of God”. He knew that he was not just the “Prime Minister” in Pharaoh’s palace but a “link in the fulfilment of God’s plan and promises to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob”.

Do we have that same kind of belief or conviction in the unbreakable promises of God? Do we know and truly believe that we have a part to play in God’s great plan of salvation? Jesus died that all men may be saved and that every tongue may confess and every knee may bow to Him. God is able to save. Joseph trusted in God’s faithfulness to save the Israelites because of His promises to Abraham and Isaac. Like Joseph who knew and believed in God’s plan for him that he would be saved from the pit, protected

in the jail and favoured by Pharaoh, we can rely in God’s unshakeable power to deliver us and rest in His unmistakable peace.

God wants to empower us to fulfil the Great Commission. Everyone must be involved. Can Calvary Church be counted to do our part? Would knowing Jesus be our greatest privilege in life? If so, would leading someone to know Jesus then be the second greatest privilege for us? If we believe it is so, we must do all we can to fulfil the Great Commission. There are about 27.9% of the world population or 1.8 billion people on earth who have never yet had the opportunity to hear the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

It takes faith to please God but it also takes funds to bring the Gospel to others. Our Faith Promise giving must reflect what we believe. 🙏

Praise the Lord for the Carpenter’s Workshop children at all Church locations who exercised their simple faith and became Faith Promise partners! 🙏

Coin boxes all ready!

Watching the the CMNN (Calvary Missions News Network) video

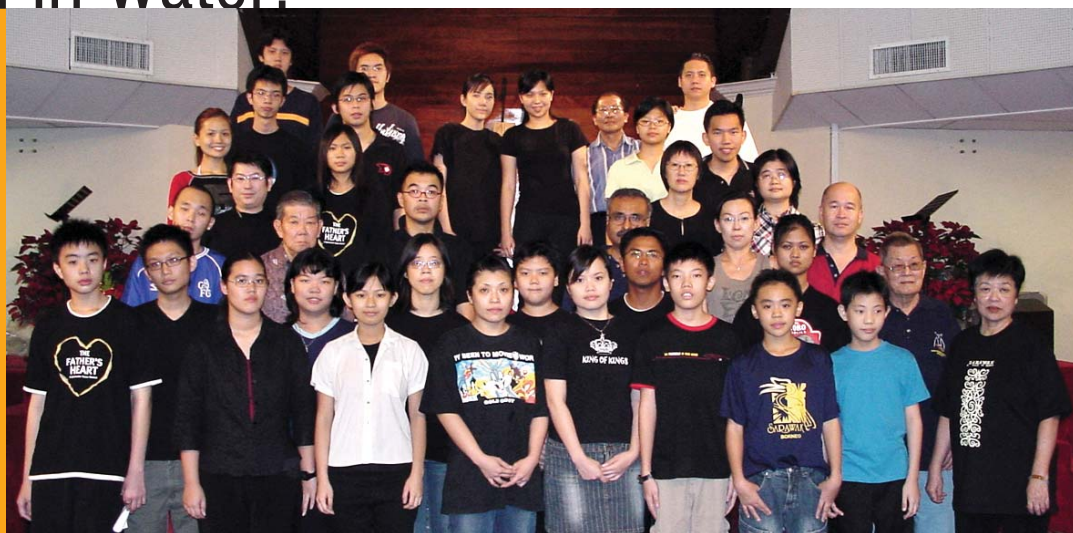
With their Mission Kidz magazines and coin boxes



Water Baptism

37 baptised in water!

Praise the Lord for the 37 individuals who followed the Lord in water baptism on 17 December 2006! By their obedience, they declared their faith and trust in the Lord Jesus Christ as their Saviour, Lord and Master.



In alphabetical order: Adrian Tan; Aenie Wong; Alyssa Chan; Amanda Chua; Arnold Liew; Ashley Chua; Benjamin Ng; Bethia Wong; Chan Yun Sing; Daniel Wong; Dann Lee; Deirdre Lee; Elish Chua; Esther Ong; Eunice Chin; Francis Lee; Jared Lee; Jason Gan; Jay Ryan; Judy Yeoh; Ken Kuan; Lai Hock Heng; Lee Kah Yun; Leong Chee Hoong; Loo Wai Ming; Lucas Khiew; Melissa Wong; Molly Wong; Nastenka Yap; Ng Kok; Nicholas Chan; Nicholas Wong; Paul Edward; Punnose P. Kovoov; Rustinah; Sim Pohann; Tiffany Chan

Baby Dedication

Seven babies dedicated to the Lord!

On 21 January 2007, at the 10.30am Worship Service at Damansara Heights, Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam dedicated seven babies, including a pair of twins, to the Lord! It was also a very special occasion for our Senior Pastor as he dedicated his grandson, Prince Guneratnam III, James, to the Lord. Praise God for parents who seek to nurture their children in the ways of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam and Senior Associate Pastor Petrina Guneratnam dedicating their grandson to the Lord



Colette Shun



Caleb Woon



Mirabelle Woon



Joshua Looi



Eunice Wong

Ng Qi Jun



From left: Ng Pak Kin & Sia Li Li with baby Ng Qi Jun; Dr Christopher Shun & Choy Sook Leng with baby Colette Shun; Jim & Amelia Guneratnam with baby Prince Guneratnam III, James; Wong Chee Weng & Crystal Wong Siew Chin with baby Eunice Wong; Andrew Looi & Belinda Chin with baby Joshua Looi; Sam Woon Wei Kong with Caleb Woon & Chong Wai Mee with baby Mirabelle Woon




Connectivity 2006 by Benjamin Ong

On 29 and 30 December 2006, over 90 young people came together to learn what it would be like to be a true community of believers and the importance of working together to achieve God's purposes.

Connectivity 2006 highlighted the value of a united Christian community which will be stronger and far more effective in ministry when it is united than divided. Associate Pastor Steven Kum kicked off the first session by reminding us that first and foremost, we have to be well connected with God. An interesting and challenging group treasure hunt followed thereafter, testing each team's ability to communicate and work together. We spent the afternoon at Desa Water Park where many got to know each other much better while having a splashing good time.

The next morning, the college students and secondary students had separate group discussions and activities based on the theme "Unity". Towards the afternoon, there was a video teaching by Andy Stanley on

the topic, "Encourage One Another." We ended Connectivity 2006 with a Celebration Service where each young person was challenged to do all they can to bring their friends to Jesus Christ, in the following year. 



Sunday Services

Damansara Heights (DH) 8am • 10.30am		Ampang/DH 10.30am 5pm		Cheras 9am		Damansara Perdana 10.30am	
	<i>Communion</i>	<i>Communion</i>	<i>Communion</i>	<i>Communion</i>	<i>Communion</i>	<i>Communion</i>	<i>Communion</i>
4	Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam	Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam	Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam	Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam	Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam	Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam	Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam
11	Senior Associate Pastor Petrina Guneratnam	Associate Pastor Richard Yun	Associate Pastor Richard Yun	Associate Pastor Steven Kum	Associate Pastor Steven Kum	Associate Pastor Steven Kum	Associate Pastor Steven Kum
18	Associate Pastor Timothy Ong	Associate Pastor Steven Kum	Associate Pastor Steven Kum	Senior Associate Pastor Petrina Guneratnam	Senior Associate Pastor Petrina Guneratnam	Senior Associate Pastor Petrina Guneratnam	Senior Associate Pastor Petrina Guneratnam
25	Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam	Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam	Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam	Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam	Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam	Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam	Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam
MARCH							

1	<i>Communion</i> Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam	<i>Communion</i> Associate Pastor Timothy Ong/ Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam	<i>Communion</i> Associate Pastor Peter Ong	<i>Communion</i> Associate Pastor Peter Ong
8	Easter Combined Worship Service Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam			
15	Associate Pastor Peter Ong	Assistant Pastor David Seah	Associate Pastor Richard Yun	Associate Pastor Richard Yun
22	Assistant Pastor David Seah	<i>Water Baptism</i> Senior Associate Pastor Petrina Guneratnam	Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam	Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam
29	Associate Pastor Richard Yun	Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam/ Associate Pastor Timothy Ong	Assistant Pastor David Seah	Assistant Pastor David Seah
APRIL				

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March

Chinese Fellowship Sunday 5pm

- 25** Speaker: Associate Pastor Timothy Ong
Venue: Bethel Hall
- * *Bring your Chinese-speaking family and friends. They will enjoy the warm fellowship and food. Call Chua Ken Tee at 03-7727 3948 ext. 320 for more information.*

Christ's Ambassadors Saturday 2.30pm

Theme: **Impact Your World**

- 3** Made for a Mission
- 10** A World-class Christian
- 17** The LIFE Balancing Act
- 24** Living with Purpose
- 31** **Youth Celebration**

College Students' Ministry Saturday 2.30pm

Theme: **Life songs-Psalms**

- 3** Songs along the journey of life (Psalm 121)
- 10** Songs in a minor key (Psalm 13)
- 17** Songs in the night (Psalm 6)
- 24** Songs of victory (Psalm 145)
- 31** **Youth Celebration**

Bahasa Malaysia Fellowship Sunday 12.30pm

- 25** Speaker: Assistant Pastor David Seah
Venue: Bethel Hall

WATER BAPTISM & MEMBERSHIP

Water Baptism/Membership Class

Saturday | **21 April 2007** | 2pm

Water Baptism Service

Sunday | **22 April 2007** | 5pm

Closing Date for submission of forms:

Sunday | **18 March 2007**

April

Chinese Fellowship Sunday 5pm

- 29** Speaker: Pastor Lynda Choi
Venue: Bethel Hall
- * *Bring your Chinese-speaking family and friends. They will enjoy the warm fellowship and food. Call Chua Ken Tee at 03-7727 3948 ext. 320 for more information.*

Christ's Ambassadors Saturday 2.30pm

Theme: **The Heart of Worship**

- 7** Combined with Easter Presentation
- 14** When God Seems Distant
- 21** Worship that Pleases God
- 28** **Youth Celebration**

College Students' Ministry Saturday 2.30pm

Theme: **Careers and Vocations**

- 7** Combined with Easter Presentation
- 14** Finding your life's work
- 21** Fruitfulness in your life's work
- 28** **Youth Celebration**

Bahasa Malaysia Fellowship Sunday 12.30pm

- 29** Speaker: Assistant Pastor David Seah
Venue: Bethel Hall

18-24 March 2007

Prayer Emphasis Week

Delight...in seeking Him

Job 22:26-27



The religious leaders of the day made the Sabbath the master and the people, the servants of the Sabbath. It was a ritual that was binding. It was considered unlawful to work on the Sabbath. However, on many occasions, Jesus did the work of His Father on the Sabbath. The Sabbath was meant to be a day to please, delight and honour the Father. It was a day you were not to go your own way, do your own thing and speak idle words. Therefore, the emphasis was not about work but about honouring and bringing glory to God. Jesus says, **“The Sabbath was made for man, not man for the Sabbath” (Mark 2:27)**. Is Jesus teaching us to break the law? No! Paul says, **“But now we have been delivered from the law, having died to what we were held by, so that we should serve in the newness of the Spirit and not in the oldness of the letter” (Romans 7:6)**.

The New Testament Christians have made Sunday, the first day of the week, to be the Lord’s Day or our Sabbath because Jesus arose from the dead on that day. They chose to set aside that day to honour, delight and please God. In Christ Jesus, everyday is the day of the Lord. You do not need to be restricted to any particular day. However, you are to set aside a day to honour God and to keep that day as your Sabbath. Paul also says, **“One person esteems one day above another; another esteems every day alike. Let each be fully convinced in his own mind. He who observes the day, observes it to the Lord; and he who does not observe the day, to the Lord he does not observe it. He who eats, eats to the Lord, for he gives God thanks; and he who does not eat, to the Lord he does not eat, and gives God thanks” (Romans 14:5-6)**.

God Himself set the example of observing the Sabbath. He created the world in six days and on the seventh day, He rested. The Bible says, **“Thus the heavens and the earth, and all the host of them, were finished. And on the seventh day God ended His work which He had done, and He rested on the seventh day from all His work which He had done” (Genesis 2:1-2)**.

The Sabbath is our Worship Day—a day we cease from the routine of our work and present ourselves and our works—from our business, our home and at school—to God for Him to bless. The Sabbath is a day that is set aside for the Lord. We recognise Him as the source of our strength and accomplishments. The Sabbath is holy and a delight to the Lord. You make Him your pleasure, honour Him and show Him reverence through worship. It is a holy day and the Lord is honoured! The Bible says, **“I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, My soul shall be joyful in my God; For He has clothed me with the garments of salvation, He has covered me with the robe of righteousness, As a bridegroom**

decks himself with ornaments, And as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. For as the earth brings forth its bud, As the garden causes the things that are sown in it to spring forth, So the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise to spring forth before all the nations” (Isaiah 61:10-11).

The Sabbath is also a day to amend your ways. Search your heart and motives to see if you are walking in God’s ways. Are you living like the man the Psalmist described as blessed? **“Blessed is the man Who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly, Nor stands in the path of sinners, Nor sits in the seat of the scornful; But his delight is in the law of the LORD, And in His law he meditates day and night. He shall be like a tree Planted by the rivers of water, That brings forth its fruit in its season, Whose leaf also shall not wither; And whatever he does shall prosper” (Psalm 1)**. Decide to walk uprightly to please the Lord. The Bible says, **“He who walks righteously and speaks uprightly, He who despises the gain of oppressions, Who gestures with his hands, refusing bribes, Who stops his ears from hearing of bloodshed, And shuts his eyes from seeing evil: He will dwell on high; His place of defense will be the fortress of rocks; Bread will be given him, His water will be sure. Your eyes will see the King in His beauty; They will see the land that is very far off” (Isaiah 33:15-17)**. We must walk the talk!

The Sabbath day is blessed by God. It is the only day on which God pronounced a blessing. The Bible says, **“Then God blessed the seventh day and sanctified it, because in it He rested from all His work which God had created and made” (Genesis 2:3)**. Have you set a day as your Sabbath, for God to bless you? What do you need to do to keep your Sabbath? There are three conditions given in the Scripture text. **First**, you are to keep your feet from breaking the Sabbath and stop doing as you please. Your walk and your actions will be judged. The natural man has no desire to do what is righteous and holy. If you have sinned, seek forgiveness and cleansing. Dedicate and commit yourself to the Lord. Paul puts it well. He says, **“I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God” (Romans 12:1-2)**.

Second, call the Sabbath a delight and the Lord’s holy day honourable. Make the day a delight by honouring God. Go to the house of God and worship Him. Spend time with your family by being the Priest of your home. Whatever you do, do all for the

glory of God. The Bible says, **“But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you” (Matthew 6:33)**.

Third, honour the Lord by not going your own way and speaking idle words. Tame your tongue and you will find that you will have less problems. The Bible says, **“Even so the tongue is a little member and boasts great things. See how great a forest a little fire kindles! And the tongue is a fire, a world of iniquity. The tongue is so set among our members that it defiles the whole body, and sets on fire the course of nature; and it is set on fire by hell” (James 3:5-6)**. Watch your words. The Bible says, **“Let your speech always be with grace, seasoned with salt, that you may know how you ought to answer each one” (Colossians 4:6)**.

When you obey the Lord, He will cause you to ride on the heights of the land. “Heights” speak of protection and provision. When the Lord delivered David from the hand of his enemies, he said, **“God is my strength and power, And He makes my way perfect. He makes my feet like the feet of deer, And sets me on my high places” (2 Samuel 22:33-34)**. You can say like David, **“I will love You, O LORD, my strength. The LORD is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer; My God, my strength, in whom I will trust; My shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold. I will call upon the LORD, who is worthy to be praised; So shall I be saved from my enemies” (Psalm 18:1-3)**.

When the Lord is your delight, He will cause you to feast on the inheritance or promises He has given you. You will have full satisfaction. The Bible says, **“He made him ride in the heights of the earth, That he might eat the produce of the fields; He made him draw honey from the rock, And oil from the flinty rock; Curds from the cattle, and milk of the flock, With fat of lambs; And rams of the breed of Bashan, and goats, With the choicest wheat; And you drank wine, the blood of the grapes” (Deuteronomy 32:13-14)**.

When your talk contradicts your walk and your beliefs contradict your behaviour, the Bible says, **“Stop bringing meaningless offerings! Your incense is detestable to me. New Moons, Sabbaths and convocations—I cannot bear your evil assemblies. Your New Moon festivals and your appointed feasts my soul hates. They have become a burden to me; I am weary of bearing them. When you spread out your hands in prayer, I will hide my eyes from you; even if you offer many prayers, I will not listen. Your hands are full of blood” (Isaiah 1:13-15)**.

Let your Sabbath be the delight of the Lord and the joy of the Lord, your strength!

All Bible quotations are from the New King James Bible unless indicated otherwise.

Year End Thanksgiving and Awards Celebration

By Jim Guneratnam

The Royal Rangers concluded the year with a thanksgiving and awards ceremony at the Calvary Refreshment Centre on Sunday, 17 December 2006. We praise God for another fruitful year as we recognised the Rangers for their participation and hard work in the Royal Rangers Programme.

The Celebration was a time of thanksgiving with a Ranger from each Outpost sharing a testimony followed by a testimony by one of the parents. Ranger Cheryl Ang received the Bronze Medal of Achievement and Rangers Josephine Tiew, Josephine Raj and Hansel Wong received the Silver Medal of Achievement. In total, 116 Rangers received awards in 2006.

We are looking forward to an exciting 2007 with many activities planned in conjunction with our 25th Anniversary.

Look out for more details on our website at www.calvary.org.my/rr.

Associate Pastor Steven Kum praying for those who received Medals of Achievement



CALVARY CHURCH (Assemblies of God)

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