

MARCH/
APRIL

09

PUTTING GOD FIRST *P06*

**MOVING INTO
GOD'S DESTINY**

**YOUTH STAND
FOR GOD**

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calvary convention centre (ccc)



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INTRODUCING THE CCC PROJECT COMMITTEE

The Calvary Convention Centre (CCC) Project Committee is the Committee that steers and gives oversight to Working Teams that will implement various projects for the successful completion of the building of the CCC. The following are the members:



**PATRICK
WONG**
(Chairperson)



**HAN
JOKE KWANG**



**DATO' A.
NELSON**



PHILIP TAN



**HELEN
CHEAH**



**TAN SRI
DATUK DR NG
LAY SWEE**



**LYNDON
D'OLIVEIRO**



**JEANNIE
FRIIS**



**VERONICA
SEE**



**LAWRENCE
MAK**



**ASSOCIATE
PASTOR
PETER ONG**



“ **T**herefore, as *the elect of God, holy and beloved, put on tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering; bearing with one another, and forgiving one another, if anyone has a complaint against another; even as Christ forgave you, so you also *must* do. But above all these things put on love, which is the bond of perfection.” Colossians 3:12-14*

We are living in a world full of hatred, violence and immorality. God is calling His Church to be clothed with His love and compassion towards one another and be an example towards potential believers. Paul, the apostle, addressed the “elect of God, holy and beloved” to “put on love which is the bond of perfection” (Colossians 3:14). “To put on” suggests that it is something that is given to us and not what we can produce ourselves. Since it is given to us, our responsibility is

simply to receive God’s love by faith and act or behave as God’s love is merciful, kind, humble, meek, longsuffering, forbearing, forgiving and benevolent!

Paul, again, in writing to the church in Corinth, gives a clear definition of love. He says, **“Love suffers long *and* is kind; love does not envy; love does not parade itself, is not puffed up; does not behave rudely, does not seek its own, is not provoked, thinks no evil; does not rejoice in iniquity, but rejoices in the truth; bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things”** (1 Corinthians 13:4-7).

Love, like faith without action, is dead. Jesus told His disciples, **“By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another”** (John 13:35). People will know that we love God, not by what we say, but by our conduct and character. Love has evidence and proves that we are disciples

of Jesus Christ. When people witness our love, they will be convinced of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Love brings changes in our lifestyle. Paul says, **“If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God. Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth. For you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God”** (Colossians 3:1-3). We will love what God loves and seek things which belong to the kingdom of God. We set our minds on things which are eternal rather than on the temporal. This means we put God’s priorities first in our lives.

Therefore, we must put off that which displeases God. Paul says, **“Therefore put to death your members which are on the earth: fornication, uncleanness, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. Because of these**

“By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another”



things the wrath of God is coming upon the sons of disobedience, in which you yourselves once walked when you lived in them. But now you yourselves are to put off all these: anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy language out of your mouth. Do not lie to one another, since you have put off the old man with his deeds, and have put on the new man who is renewed in knowledge according to the image of Him who created him” (Colossians 3:5-10). The list of things Paul says must be put away can be done only by the empowerment of the Holy Spirit as the Bible says, **“Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit,’ Says the LORD of hosts”** (Zechariah 4:6).

Jesus often had encounters with the scribes and Pharisees who would question and reason with Him. Once, a scribe asked Jesus which is the first commandment of all because the Jews had more than 600 commandments. Jesus answered him, **“The first of all the commandments is: ‘Hear, O Israel, the LORD our God, the LORD is one. And you shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.’ This is the first commandment. And the second, like it, is this: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ There is no other commandment greater than these”** (Mark 12:29-31). Jesus seized every opportunity to teach kingdom principles to the people. By living kingdom principles, we have victory over sin, self and Satan.

We are to love the Lord with all our heart, soul, mind and strength. We must therefore maintain a personal relationship with God in four areas:

The heart: This is the seat of man’s affection and will. We must focus our will and our love on God and will to love Him. In one incident, Jesus called the Pharisees a brood of vipers and He said to them, **“How can you, being evil, speak good things? For out of the abundance of the heart, the mouth speaks. A good man out of the good treasure of his heart brings forth good things, and an evil man out of the evil treasure brings forth evil things”** (Matthew 12:34-35). A heart that is not in tune with God will sprout evil. God can give us a new heart. The Bible says, **“Cast away from you all the transgressions which you have committed, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit. For why should you die, O house of Israel? For I have no pleasure in the death of one who dies,’ says the Lord GOD. ‘Therefore turn and live!’”** (Ezekiel 18: 31-32).

The soul: This is the seat of man’s breath and life—the essence of man. The soul is eternal. We must love God with our soul. Jesus did not love His own life but gave it to do the will of God.

The mind: This is the seat of our understanding. The more we know Christ, the more we will be changed to be like Him. Paul says, **“For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ”** (2 Corinthians 10:4-5).

Strength: This speaks of our duty and our responsibility which is putting God first. It involves commitment and loyalty to God. We commit spiritual adultery when we say we love God and lust after the world. It involves trust and respect for God. He is the Creator and Sustainer of life. He is our Saviour, the Lord and coming King!

A loving relationship involves the giving and surrendering of oneself. We belong to God and He belongs to us.

If you desire to succeed in living for the Lord and to prosper in all your ways, put God first by loving Him with all that you are. ✚

All Bible quotations are from the New King James Version.



Pastor Jeremy Seaward



YOUTH STAND FOR GOD

By Azalea Lee

On 15 December 2008, Calvary Youth went down to Port Dickson for their much anticipated youth camp. For four days and three nights, 258 young people were brought together under the camp's powerfully relevant theme of "This is Now". The theme represented a challenge to the young people to make a stand for their generation and to be all that God wants them to be in a day and age where it is so easy to do put oneself first.

Cementing the idea of "taking the stand", an interesting game, called the Life Game, was played during the camp. Teams were each given a "life" to do with as they pleased. The different phases of life and choices associated with that stage like getting an education, choosing to go to church, earning an income, selecting a career were represented by activities and challenges in different stations. Just like decisions made in the real world, decisions made in the Life Game had their consequences, problems and rewards. After a surprise twist in the game, it ended with only two lives who made it to heaven. The game made a huge impression on its players on how important one's decisions are and how easy it is to get sucked into the cares and concerns of life and forget about the One who gives true life.

The youth were very much blessed by the camp speaker, Pastor Jeremy Seaward. In clear, straightforward messages, he impressed upon the youth the importance and necessity of making "The Stand for God". Every session saw many young people responding to the altar publicly confirming their decision to live their lives for their Lord. We also thank God for the three youths who gave their lives to Jesus for the first time and for those who were baptised in the Holy Spirit. +

YEAR END THANKSGIVING AND AWARDS CELEBRATION

By Jim Guneratnam



Associate Pastor
Steven Kum



royal rangers

Samuel and Hansel with
their proud parents

The Royal Rangers gathered on Sunday, 14 December 2008 to give thanks to God for His many blessings in 2008 with a time of praise and worship, testimonies, devotion by our Chaplain, Associate Pastor Steven Kum and recognition for the Rangers' achievements.

Congratulations to Expedition Rangers Samuel Ngeow and Hansel Wong on achieving the Gold Medal of Achievement (GMA), the highest national achievement in the Royal Rangers! Congratulations also to Adventure Rangers Joshua Mohan, Brian Soh, Alexander Lee, Stephanie Yap and Expedition Ranger Lisa Toh for achieving the Bronze Medal of Achievement. +



Expedition Rangers Samuel
Ngeow (left) and Hansel
Wong received the Gold
Medal of Achievement



From left: Adventure Rangers Joshua Mohan,
Brian Soh, Alexander Lee, Expedition Ranger
Lisa Toh and Adventure Ranger Stephanie Yap
received the Bronze Medal of Achievement





Rev. Rick Seaward

MOVING INTO GOD'S DESTINY

By Carol Weller

Atending the Revival Meeting on 9 January 2009 was a good way to start the year. Desiring to make God's kingdom our priority, we came to hear the speaker, Rev. Rick Seaward, who is the founding pastor and Senior Overseer of Victory Family Centre, Singapore, which to date has established 1,500 churches in 70 nations. He helped to pioneer our Charismatic outreach at the Merlin Hotel in the 1970s.

In his message entitled "Moving into God's destiny", Rev. Seaward said that many of us miss God's purpose for our lives because we fail to prioritise the Kingdom. Speaking on his main text of Joshua 1, he explained that Joshua, who had a destiny to lead the people of Israel into the Promised Land, needed a nudge from God: "Moses my servant is dead. Now therefore, arise, go...." (Joshua 1: 2). In that passage, God had to exhort Joshua at four different occasions to "Be strong and of good courage".

Desiring to move into God's destiny



The Youth Ensemble 2 and 3 singing, "Take My Life"



The Sanctuary Choir singing, "God of This City"



"Somebody's Got to Do It" – a skit by the Creative Arts team




KIDS CHOOSE GOD'S STUFF FIRST!

By Jeannie Low


On January 2009, the children's Revival Meeting was held simultaneously with the adults' Revival Meeting. The main focus of this event was in line with our Church theme, "God's Kingdom, Our Priority" (Matthew 6:33). The session started off with a meaningful time of praise and worship. Assistant Pastor Yong Chee Weng shared an impactful message on "Choosing God's Stuff First" – challenging the children to put God first, to obey Him and follow His ways, in all aspects of their lives. At the end of his message, many children responded for prayer, asking God to help them to always choose His stuff first! +

Assistant Pastor Yong Chee Weng






Pastor Janey Hii of Calvary Taman Desa sharing her testimony



Pastor Kathelin of Bethel Chapel Balakong sharing her testimony

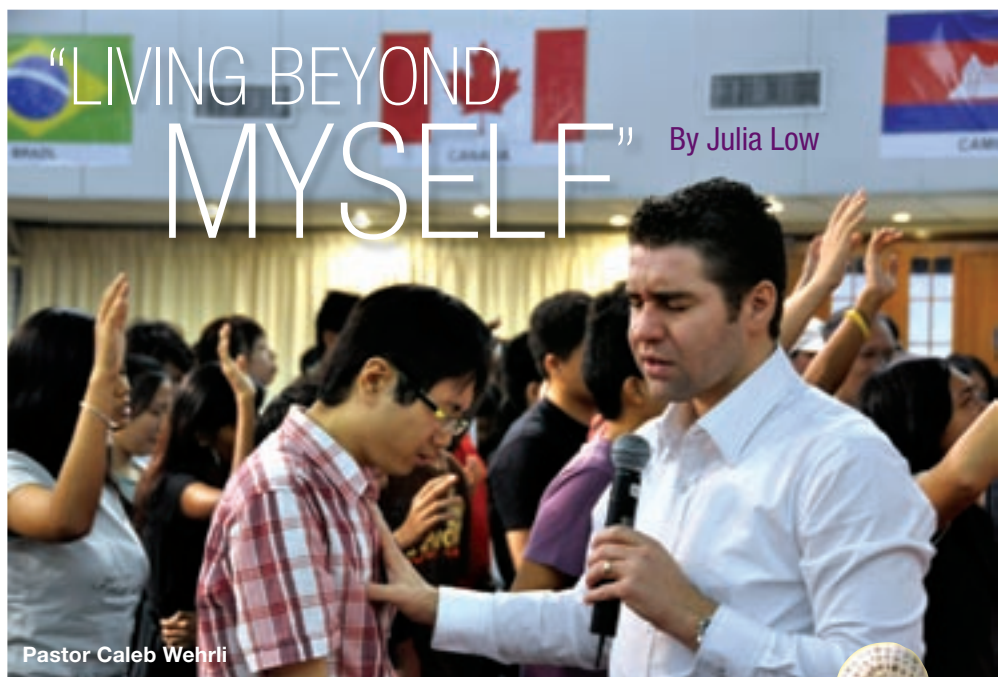


Senior Associate Pastor Petrina Guneratnam introducing Rev. Rick Seaward whom she knew since he was a child

Rev. Seaward reminded us that even the heroes of the Bible are but ordinary people but all believers are meant to be His ministers (Isaiah 61:5-6). All of us have a common destiny to touch lives around us in the “marketplace”, family and neighbourhood and to influence the ‘atmosphere’ in society. We are also to expand His Kingdom around the world.

However, we can allow things of the past or the failure of others to hold us back. We sometimes may be too comfortable with the status quo or be locked in to old methods of serving, or be too fearful of change, to move into the fullness of our destiny. A lack of commitment or being distracted can also be a hindrance.

Rev. Seaward left us with the challenge to identify and fulfil God’s destiny for us, remembering His encouraging promise that He is able to do “exceedingly, abundantly above all we can hope or imagine...” when we put Him first in our lives (Ephesians 3:20). +



Pastor Caleb Wehrli



The youth desiring to live beyond themselves

JB and Dominique rapping

Saturday, 10 January 2009, marked a very special day for Calvary Youth, as it was Youth Missions 2009. The youth meeting began at 3pm with a joyful and intimate time of praise and worship, led by college student Darren Here, before proceeding with an upbeat rap performed by two of our youths, JB (Juan Badathuruge Aswin) and Dominique Braun! The young people cheered them on as they rapped about how God is the solution to all our problems.

There was then a special video testimony by Tabitha Ong, also one of the youths, which was recorded all the way from the United States. She shared with the young people on the power of God and how He was moving with miraculous signs and wonders to encourage us in our faith.

The Lord used Pastor Caleb Wehrli, teen missions director and young adults pastor of Victory Christian Centre, USA, to share a powerful message to the young people. With his sermon entitled “Living Beyond Myself”, Pastor Caleb spoke of how our focus should not be on ourselves, but on others, as well as the need for us to reach out, because what we have, people need—and that is our Saviour, Jesus. The Holy Spirit moved as youths responded at the altar and there was a special time of prayer for seven young people who responded to the call into full-time ministry.

Praise the Lord for the 137 people who attended and for a blessed youth meeting! +



Enjoying the message



Exuberant worship!

faith promise sunday

FAITH PROMISE— A WAY TO BRING SALVATION TO A “THIRSTY WORLD”

By Carol Weller

This was the opportune time again for Calvary Church to renew our Faith Promise and Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam reminded the congregation that as we give to God’s kingdom, we are to be aware that there is another kingdom—of Satan which will try to hinder the work of God in Missions.

We were blessed by the message brought to us by Rev. Rick Seaward who encouraged us to make promise of faith, which is different from a promise to give out of what is our excess or to make an emotional promise which is one where the amount was not prompted by the Holy Spirit but by our own presumption. Making a Faith Promise



Rev. Rick Seaward
leading in prayer
for the Faith
Promise partners

which stretches our faith, puts us in a supernatural dimension and will yield supernatural results.

In Isaiah 41:17-19, God promises to make rivers flow in the wilderness. He has made a covenant with the lost to bring them His salvation. The Church is the “river” that God will use to bring the message of salvation. Rev. Seaward also used the illustration from 1 Kings 17:7-16 of the widow of Zarephath. He said that the church was like the widow, who had been commanded by God (verse 9)

to feed Elijah who represents “a thirsty world”. The widow was reluctant to give of her flour because it was what she depended on for her life but had been prepared only to give of her water of which she had ample stock. Do we also only give the “water” of our excess, or are we willing to give our “flour” and exercise our faith in the Lord?

Let us not miss the opportunity to see supernatural results in missions through the making of our Faith Promises. +



On the steps: Denzel Long Kwok Yan, Faythe Chow Ka May, Natalie Seah Sern Ann, Jamie Prince Guneratnam **On the right side:** Daniel Wong Jing Yi, Grace Wong Ying Heng, Christopher Tan Wye Meng **Front row:** Emmanuel D’Cruz, Nicole Wong Zi-Yen, Shawn Ng You Wei, Daniel Lee Chee Sern, Michelle Wong Joon Li, Alicia Sabrina Gomez, Rachel Ong Su Lin, Jonathan Wong Zi-Cai **Back row:** Jonathan Wee Tze Han, Christine D’Cruz, Chester Wong Chee Tak, Ivan Ten Kar Wai, Caleb Lee Chee Yoong, Agu Christian Chukwuma, Khoo Chang Seng, Irene Ong Eng Mui, Nicky Lim Boon Wan, Jeremy Wong Zi Jun, Arin Chang Yoke Mei, Ivy Ong Saw Cheng

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BAPTISED IN WATER!

Praise the Lord, twenty-seven individuals were baptised in water on 21 December 2008 at Damansara Heights!

We thank God for each one of them who, by this act of obedience, publicly declared their faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. +



CW children from all the Church locations participating in missions through the Faith Promise programme

A PRIVILEGE TO GIVE TO MISSIONS

By Jeannie Low

It is always a privilege to give towards God's work, especially to missions.

On 11 January 2009, the Carpenter's Workshop (CW) children had just such a privilege, when they participated in the renewal of their Faith Promise pledge (7-13 age group) and be involved in the Coin Box giving (5-6 age group). Through various illustrations and a lesson based on Senior Pastor's message in the 'Calvary Missions Kidz' newsletter, the children learnt what it meant to have God's kingdom as their priority.

They were challenged to set Godly priorities in these three specific areas: Love God and His ways first, share Jesus with their friends and neighbours and do what is right as that makes God happy.

Matthew 6:33 (NIV) says, "But put God's kingdom first. Do what he wants you to do. Then all of those things will also be given you." Many of the children raised their hands to indicate their desire to have faith in God to provide for their Faith Promise pledges and to share Jesus with others. They certainly held the biblical principle in Matthew 6:33 close to their hearts. All glory to God! +



DAMANSARA HEIGHTS



DAMANSARA PERDANA



AMPANG



CHERAS



“Karena itu, sebagai orang-orang pilihan Allah yang dikuduskan dan dikasihi-Nya, kenakanlah belas kasihan, kemurahan, kerendahan hati, kelemahlembutan dan kesabaran. Sabarlah kamu seorang terhadap yang lain, dan ampunilah seorang akan yang lain apabila yang seorang menaruh dendam terhadap yang lain, sama seperti Tuhan telah mengampuni kamu, kamu perbuat jugalah demikian. Dan di atas semuanya itu: kenakanlah kasih, sebagai pengikat yang mempersatukan dan menyempurnakan.” Kolose 3:12-14

Kita hidup dalam dunia yang penuh dengan kebencian, keganasan dan ketiadaan moral. Tuhan memanggil GerejaNya untuk mengenakan kasih dan simpatinya untuk satu sama lain dan menjadi tauladan kepada orang yang berpotensi menjadi umat Kristian. Paulus, pengikut Yesus menyatakan bahawa “kenakanlah kasih, sebagai pengikat yang mempersatukan dan menyempurnakan” (Kolose 3:14). “Kenakanlah” mencadangkan ini merupakan sesuatu yang diberikan

kepada kita dan bukannya sesuatu yang kita boleh hasilkan sendiri. Kerana ia ialah sesuatu yang diberikan kepada kita, tanggungjawab kami ialah hanya untuk menerima kasih Tuhan dengan iman dan bertindak kerana kasih Tuhan adalah belas kasihan, kemurahan, kerendahan hati, kelemahlembutan dan kesabaran, bersifat mengampuni dan bermurah hati!

Paulus, sekali lagi, dalam tulisannya kepada gereja di Korintus, memberi definisi yang jelas. Dia berkata, **“Kasih itu sabar; kasih itu murah hati; ia tidak cemburu. Ia tidak memegahkan diri dan tidak sombong. Ia tidak melakukan yang tidak sopan dan tidak mencari keuntungan diri sendiri. Ia tidak pemarah dan tidak menyimpan kesalahan orang lain. Ia tidak bersukacita karena ketidakadilan, tetapi karena kebenaran. Ia menutupi segala sesuatu, percaya segala sesuatu, mengharapkan segala sesuatu, sabar menanggung segala sesuatu”** (1 Korintus 13:4-7).

Kasih, seperti iman tanpa tindakan adalah seperti maut. Yesus memberitahu

pengikut-pengikutnya, **“Dengan demikian semua orang akan tahu, bahwa kamu adalah murid-murid-Ku, iaitu jikalau kamu saling mengasihi”** (Yohanes 13:35). Orang akan tahu kita mengasihi Tuhan, bukan daripada apa yang kita kata, tetapi daripada tingkah laku dan perwatakan kita. Kasih mempunyai bukti dan dapat membuktikan bahawa kita adalah umat Kristian. Apabila orang menyaksikan kasih kita, mereka akan menjadi yakin akan Berita Baik Yesus Kristus.

Kasih membawa perubahan dalam hidup kita. Paulus berkata, **“Karena itu, kalau kamu dibangkitkan bersama dengan Kristus, carilah perkara yang di atas, di mana Kristus ada, duduk di sebelah kanan TUHAN. Pikirkanlah perkara yang di atas, bukan yang di bumi. Sebab kamu telah mati dan hidupmu tersembunyi bersama dengan Kristus di dalam TUHAN”** (Kolose 3:1-3). Kita akan mengasihi apa yang Tuhan kasihi dan mencari perkara-perkara dalam kerajaan Tuhan. Kita menetapkan fokus kita atas perkara yang bersifat kekal abadi daripada yang sementara. Ini bermakna

kita meletakkan keutamaan Tuhan dalam kehidupan kita.

Maka itu, kita mesti menanggalkan apa yang tidak disukai Tuhan. Paulus berkata, **“Karena itu matikanlah dalam dirimu segala sesuatu yang duniawi, yaitu percabulan, kenajisan, hawa nafsu, nafsu jahat dan juga keserakahan, yang sama dengan penyembahan berhala, semuanya itu mendatangkan murka TUHAN (atas orang-orang durhaka). Dahulu kamu juga melakukan hal-hal itu ketika kamu hidup di dalamnya. Tetapi sekarang, buanglah semuanya ini, yaitu marah, geram, kejahatan, fitnah dan kata-kata kotor yang keluar dari mulutmu. Jangan lagi kamu saling mendustai, karena kamu telah menanggalkan manusia lama serta kelakuannya, dan telah mengenakan manusia baru yang terus-menerus diperbaharui untuk memperoleh pengetahuan yang benar menurut gambar khaliknya”** (Kolose 3:5-10). Senarai benda yang Paulus kata mesti ditanggalkan hanya boleh dilakukan dengan penguasaan Roh Kudus kerana Alkitab berkata, **“Bukan dengan keperkasaan dan bukan dengan kekuatan, melainkan dengan roh-Ku, firman TUHAN semesta alam”** (Zakharia 4:6).

Yesus sering berdepan dengan ahli Taurat dan ahli Farisi yang akan menyoal dan berdebat dengan Nya. Pada satu kali seorang ahli Taurat bertanya Yesus yang mana satu adalah perintah pertama daripada lebih 600 perintah. Yesus menjawab dia, **“Hukum yang terutama ialah: Dengarlah, hai orang Israel, TUHAN kita, Tuhan itu esa. Kasihilah TUHANmu, dengan segenap hatimu dan dengan segenap jiwamu dan dengan segenap akal budimu dan dengan segenap kekuatanmu. Dan hukum yang kedua ialah: Kasihilah sesamamu manusia seperti dirimu sendiri. Tidak ada hukum lain yang lebih utama dari pada kedua hukum ini”** (Markus 12:29-31). Yesus mengambil setiap peluang untuk mengajar prinsip kerajaan Tuhan kepada semua orang. Bila hidup dalam prinsip kerajaan Tuhan, kita mempunyai kemenangan atas dosa, jasmaniah dan iblis.

“Dengan demikian semua orang akan tahu, bahwa kamu adalah murid-murid-Ku, iaitu jikalau kamu saling mengasihi”

Kita patut mengasihi Tuhan dengan sepenuh hati, jiwa, fikiran dan kekuatan. Kita, dengan itu, harus mengekalkan hubungan peribadi dengan Tuhan dalam empat perkara:

Hati: Ini ialah tempat duduk kasih dan kehendak manusia. Kita mesti memusatkan kehendak dan kasih kita kepada Tuhan dan kehendak untuk mengasihiNya. Dalam satu situasi Yesus memanggil ahli Farisi sebagai sekumpulan ular dan Dia berkata dengan mereka, **“Hai kamu keturunan ular beludak, bagaimanakah kamu dapat mengucapkan hal-hal yang baik, sedangkan kamu sendiri jahat? Karena yang diucapkan mulut meluap dari hati. Orang yang baik mengeluarkan hal-hal yang baik dari perbendaharaannya yang baik dan orang yang jahat mengeluarkan hal-hal yang jahat dari perbendaharaannya yang jahat”** (Matius 12:34-35). Hati yang tidak selaras dengan Tuhan akan membuahkannya kejahatan. Tuhan akan memberi kita hati yang baru. Alkitab berkata, **“Buangkanlah dari padamu segala durhaka yang kamu buat terhadap Aku dan perbaharuilah hatimu dan rohmu! Mengapakah kamu akan mati, hai kaum Israel? Sebab Aku tidak berkenan kepada kematian seseorang yang harus ditanggungnya, demikianlah firman TUHAN. Oleh sebab itu, bertobatlah, supaya kamu hidup!”** (Yehezkiel 18: 31-32).

Jiwa: Ini adalah tempat duduk nafas dan nyawa manusia-intipati manusia. Jiwa adalah kekal abadi. Kita mesti mengasihi Tuhan dengan jiwa kita. Yesus tidak mengasihi nyawa Nya

sendiri tetapi memberikan Nya kepada Tuhan.

Pemikiran: Ini adalah tempat duduk pemahaman kita. Semakin mendalam kita mengetahui Kristus, semakin banyak kita akan berubah menjadi seperti Nya. Paulus berkata, **“Karena senjata kami dalam perjuangan bukanlah senjata duniawi, melainkan senjata yang diperlengkapi dengan kuasa TUHAN, yang sanggup untuk meruntuhkan benteng-benteng. Kami mematahkan setiap siasat orang dan merubuhkan setiap kubu yang dibangun oleh keangkuhan manusia untuk menentang pengenalan akan TUHAN. Kami menawan segala pikiran dan menaklukkannya kepada Kristus”** (2 Korintus 10:4-5).

Kekuatan: Ini adalah tentang tugas dan tanggungjawab kita dimana kita mengutamakan Tuhan dulu. Ia melibatkan komitmen dan kesetiaan kepada Tuhan. Kita melakukan perzinaan rohani apabila kita berkata kita mengasihi Tuhan dan taksub kepada duniawi. Ia melibatkan kepercayaan dan hormat kepada Tuhan. Dia ialah Pencipta dan Pengekal nyawa. Dia adalah Juruselamat, Tuan dan Raja yang akan datang!

Hubungan yang saling mengasihi melibatkan pemberian dan penyerahan diri. Kita kepunyaan Tuhan dan Dialah kepunyaan kita.

Sekiranya kamu ingin berjaya dalam hidup untuk Tuhan dan berhasil dalam segala urusan mu, utamakan Tuhan dengan mengasihi Nya dengan segenap jiwa kamu. ✚

让神居首位

文:古納南主任牧師

「所以你们既是神的选民,圣洁蒙爱的人,就要存怜悯,恩慈,谦虚,温柔,忍耐的心。倘若这人与那人有嫌隙,总要彼此包容,彼此饶恕。主怎样饶恕了你们,你们也要怎样饶恕人。在这一切之外,要存着爱心。爱心就是联络全德的」(西3:12-14)。

我们生活在充满憎恨,暴力,和不道德行为的世界。神在呼召他的教会要存着他的爱心和慈心,彼此相待并成为未信者的榜样。使徒保罗对「神的选民,圣洁蒙爱的人」说话,要他们「存着爱心,爱心就是联络全德的」(西3:14)。「要存着」暗示它是赐予我们,而不是我们能够自己产生的东西。既然如此,我们的责任就要凭着信心来支取神的爱,并以爱心行事为人因为神的爱是怜悯,恩慈,谦虚,温柔,忍耐,宽容,饶恕和慈善!

保罗在他所写给哥林多教会的信中再次给爱下了一个清楚的定义。他说,「爱是恒久忍耐,又有恩慈。爱是不嫉妒。爱是不自夸。不张狂。不作害羞的事。不求自己的益处。不轻易发怒。不计算人的恶。不喜欢不义。只喜欢真理。凡事包容。凡事相信。凡事盼望。凡事忍耐」(林前13:4-7)。

爱就好像信心一样,没有行动是死的。耶稣告诉他的门徒说,「你们若有彼此相爱的心,众人因此就认出你们是我的门徒了」(约13:35)。众人会知道我们爱神,不是由于我们所说的话,而是从我们的操行和品格。爱是有凭证和证明我们是耶稣基

督的门徒。当众人看到我们的爱,他们就会相信耶稣基督的福音。

爱为我们的生活方式带来改变。保罗说,「所以你们若真与基督一同复活,就当求在上面的事。那里有基督坐在神的右边。你们要思念上面的事,不要思念地上的事。因为你们已经死了,你们的生命与基督一同藏在神里面」(西3:1-3)。我们会爱神所爱的,并寻求属于神国的事。我们要思念永恒的事胜于短暂的事。这意谓我们让神的事在我们生命中居首位。

因此,我们必须除去神所不喜悦的事。保罗说,「所以要治死你们在地上的肢体。就如淫乱,污秽,邪情,恶欲,和贪婪,贪婪就与拜偶像一样。因这些事,神的忿怒必临到那悖逆之子。当你们在这些事中活着的时候,也曾这样行过。但现在你们要弃绝这一切的事,以及恼恨,忿怒,恶毒,毁谤,并口中污秽的言语。不要彼此说谎,因你们已经脱去旧人和旧人的行为,穿上了新人。这新人在知识上渐渐更新,正如造他主的形像」(西3:5-10)。保罗所列出的事唯有靠圣灵所赐的能力才能除去,正如圣经所说,「万军之耶和华说,不是倚靠势力,不是倚靠才能,乃是倚靠我的灵,方能成事」(亚4:6)。

耶稣时常与文士和法利赛人相遇并受到他们的发问和理论。有一次,有一位文士问耶稣诫命中那是第一要紧的呢因为犹太人有超过600条诫命。耶稣回答他说,「第一要紧的,就是说,以色列阿,你要听。主我们神,是独一无二的主。你要尽心,尽性,尽意,尽力,爱主你的神。其次,就是说,要爱人如

己。再没有比这两条诫命更大的了」(可12:29-31)。耶稣抓住每一个机会要教导人神国的法则。遵照神国法则生活,我们能够胜过罪,自我和撒旦。

我们要尽心,尽性,尽意,尽力爱主。因此我们必须在四方面保持个人与神的关系:

「心」:这是人的爱慕和意志的所在。我们必须集中我们的意志和爱慕在神身上,并定意要爱他。有一次,耶稣称法利赛人为毒蛇的种类,他向他们说,「你们既是恶人,怎能说出好话来呢。因为心里所充满的,口里就说出来。善人从他心里所存的善,就发出善来。恶人从他心里所存的恶,就发出恶来」(太12:34-35)。一个与神不一致的心会长出邪恶。神能够给我们一个新的心。圣经上说,「你们要将所犯的一切罪过尽行抛弃,自作一个新心和新灵。以色列家阿,你们何必死亡呢。主耶和华说,我不喜悦那死人之死,所以你们当回头而存活」(结18:31-32)。

「性」:这是人生命和气息的所在——人的本质。「性」是永恒的。我们必须尽性爱神。耶稣没有爱惜自己的生命,而为遵行神的旨意献上它。

「意念」:这是我们知性的所在。我们认识基督愈多,我们愈多得到改变更像他。保罗说,「我们争战的兵器,本不是属血气的,乃是在神面前有能力可以攻破坚固的营垒,将各样的计谋,各样拦阻人认识神的那些自高之事,一概攻破了,又将人所有的心意夺回,使他都顺服基督」(林后10:4-5)。

「力量」:这是说到我们的本分和责任,就是要让神居首位。它关乎委身和对神忠心。当我们说我们爱神却去爱世界我们就犯了属灵的奸淫。它是关乎对神的信靠和尊敬。他是创造主和生命的护理者。他是我们的救主,生命之主和将临王!

一个相爱的关系涉及施予和把自己献上。我们属于神和他属于我们。

如果你渴望成功为主而活和凡事顺利,那么让神居首位,以你的全人来爱他。✝

三月份

中文聚会

日期: 29-3-09

讲员: 古师母

地点: 伯特利楼

时间: 下午五点正

祷告强调周

日期: 1-3-09 - 7-3-09

主题: “救恩的突破...透过祷告”

(太5:16)

四月份

中文聚会

日期: 26-4-09

讲员: Rev. Lynda Choi 牧师

地点: 伯特利楼

时间: 下午五点正

申请浸礼及会籍

课程

日期: 18-4-09 (星期六)

时间: 下午一点四十五分

浸礼聚会

日期: 19-4-09 (星期日)

时间: 下午五点正

地点: 总堂

报名截止日期: 8-3-09 (星期日)

参与复活节音乐布道会, 让我们向我们的城市传福音

日期: 10-4-09 - 12-4-09

地点: 武吉加里尔, 布特拉室内体育馆

我们的复活节联合敬拜聚会将会在12-10-09早上10点正, 在同一地点举行。



Laura, the host and Ms Sumi,
second and third from left



Sulojana and Madam Ho,
second and third from left

EVANGELISM THROUGH HOME GATHERING

Reaching potential believers through home gatherings is one of the strategies amongst Life Groups (LGs) in Calvary Church. The format of each gathering will include provision of light refreshments, viewing an evangelistic movie or testimony, sharing a salvation testimony and seeking response for salvation. Since the LG Evangelistic thrust kicked off last December, praise God for 27 salvation and rededication!

The results can be attributed to the effectiveness of inviting potential believers to a home setting and the impactful testimonies contained in the high quality evangelistic DVDs available.

Hear from one of our LG members, Laura Lee, who enjoyed hosting such a gathering on Christmas day.

“At the requests of some multi-racial friends to do a Christmas ‘open house’, I finally agreed. When I invited my Life Group Leader, Sulojana, to the celebrations, she asked whether I would like to make it an evangelistic event. At first, I was very reluctant. I gave her many excuses and concluded that it was an open house for my “muhibbah” friends not a church event, and therefore, not appropriate.

However, God’s ways are always higher and of course I changed my mind after pondering over the idea. I began to realise that I must seize every opportunity I have to make it count for Jesus! After discussions with Sulojana, we decided that I will serve the physical food and she will serve the spiritual food.

After the feasting and some singing of carols, we showed the DVD entitled, “It’s Never Too Late”, which features Neville Tan’s testimony. He was a gangster whom God transformed and called to be a missionary and a pastor. Some guests were engrossed with Neville’s testimony. Amongst these were Madam Ho, who is a colleague of my sister-in-law, Judy, and my former colleague and dear friend, Ms Sumi. Judy has often shared testimonies with Madam Ho on how God works in the lives of believers while I have invited Ms Sumi to Calvary Church before.

Praise God that both Madam Ho and Ms Sumi invited Jesus into their hearts when Sulojana gave the invitation. I never thought God can use an ‘open house’ as His harvesting time. As I reflect on my Christmas 2008 celebration, I continuously give praise and thanks to our Almighty God for His wondrous way of ushering two new souls into His Kingdom. All Glory to Him!”

You too can reach out to your loved ones and friends by hosting an evangelistic gathering! Please call the Pastoral LG Ministry at 03-7728 6000 ext. 310 and 322 today. +

	DAMANSARA HEIGHTS (DH) 8am + 10.30am	AMPANG/ DH 10.30am/5pm	CHERAS 9am	DAMANSARA PERDANA 10.30am
march *1 8 15 22 29	Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam 	Associate Pastor Peter Ong/ Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam	Associate Pastor Steven Kum	Associate Pastor Steven Kum
	Associate Pastor Peter Ong	Associate Pastor David Seah	Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam	Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam
	Senior Associate Pastor Petrina Guneratnam	Associate Pastor Steven Kum/ Rev. Margaret Seaward	Associate Pastor Timothy Ong	Associate Pastor Timothy Ong
	Associate Pastor Steven Kum	Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam/ Rev. Margaret Seaward	Associate Pastor Peter Ong	Associate Pastor Peter Ong
	Associate Pastor David Seah	Associate Pastor Timothy Ong/ Rev. Margaret Seaward 	Senior Associate Pastor Petrina Guneratnam	Senior Associate Pastor Petrina Guneratnam
april *5 12 19 26	Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam	Senior Associate Pastor Petrina Guneratnam/ Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam	Associate Pastor Richard Yun	Associate Pastor Richard Yun
	EASTER COMBINED WORSHIP SERVICE 10am at Putra Stadium, Bukit Jalil Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam			
	Associate Pastor Timothy Ong	Associate Pastor Richard Yun WATER BAPTISM	Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam	Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam
Associate Pastor Richard Yun	Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam/ Associate Pastor Timothy Ong	Associate Pastor David Seah	Associate Pastor David Seah	

* communion

BAHASA MALAYSIA FELLOWSHIP

Sunday | 12.30pm

29 MARCH 2009

speaker ASSOCIATE PASTOR DAVID SEAH

venue BETHEL HALL

26 APRIL 2009

speaker ASSOCIATE PASTOR DAVID SEAH

venue BETHEL HALL

Water Baptism & Membership

WATER BAPTISM/ MEMBERSHIP CLASS

date 18 APRIL 2009, SATURDAY

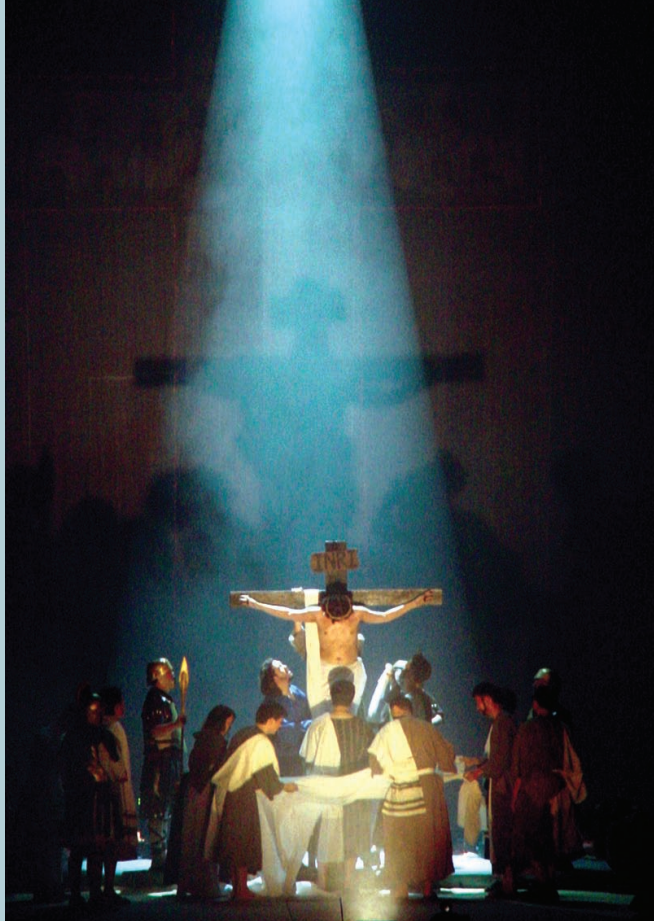
time 1.45PM

WATER BAPTISM SERVICE

date 19 APRIL 2009, SUNDAY

time 5PM

Closing Date for submission of forms: **8 MARCH 2009, SUNDAY**



Get involved in reaching our city through our Easter Evangelistic Musical!

date 10-12 APRIL 2009 (FRIDAY –SUNDAY)
time 8PM
venue PUTRA STADIUM, BUKIT JALIL

OUR EASTER COMBINED WORSHIP SERVICE
WILL BE ON SUNDAY, 12 APRIL 2009 AT 10AM
AT THE SAME VENUE.

SALVATION BREAKTHROUGH... THROUGH PRAYER

Prayer Emphasis Week

1-7 MARCH 2009

“In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven.” Matthew 5:16

CHINESE FELLOWSHIP

Sunday | 5pm

29 MARCH 2009

speaker SENIOR ASSOCIATE PASTOR
PETRINA GUNERATNAM

venue BETHEL HALL

26 APRIL 2009

speaker REV. LYNDA CHOI

venue BETHEL HALL

* Bring your Chinese-speaking family and friends. Call Assistant Pastor Chua Ken Tee at 03-7728 6000 ext. 320 for more information.

YOUTH: march



Ephesians 6:12 says that our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. As believers, Paul says we are involved in a spiritual warfare whether we like it or not. The question we must ask ourselves is how can we better equip ourselves for it? What are the weapons that we have at our disposal which God has provided for us?

YOUTH: april



The first priority for every believer is the Great Commission. As we enter into the Easter season, we once again focus on the meaning and purpose of Christ's death on the cross. He has given us the wonderful gift of salvation...Let us make

a fresh commitment to share this wonderful gift to our loved ones and friends through our testimonies, lifestyle, giving and through witnessing and evangelism.

**COME AND JOIN CALVARY YOUTH
EVERY SATURDAY AT 3PM AT
DAMANSARA HEIGHTS TO FIND OUT MORE!**



At Bagan Lalang beach

MISSIONETTES

By Rachel Gan

ON A MISSION!

On a bright, sunny morning on 25 November 2008, twelve girls from the Friends, Girls Only and one from the Stars Club gathered at the Church with their Sponsors before departing to Calvary Praise Assembly, Sungai Pelek, for a three-day missions trip. For some of the girls, this was their first time away from home on their own. After one and a half hour's ride, we finally reached the outreach. With great excitement, we walked into the outreach with an open heart, ready to serve God and reach out to the children there.

As the children started pouring in, we found that most of them spoke Mandarin as expected. Thankfully, we had some Missionettes girls who could converse well in Mandarin. A total of 36 children from the outreach attended the Vacation Bible School. Almost half of them were non believers but we trusted God and put our faith in Him that He would help us reach out to them.

The children were taught lessons on loving God, believing in Him, obeying and trusting Him. Opportunities were given to the children to accept Christ on the second and third day. All in all, almost all the potential believers responded to the salvation message. We all praised God for that!

On the last day, we went to the Bagan Lalang beach. The children had fun catching crabs and playing tele-matches. Overall, the missions trip was truly a great experience for all of us as this was our first trip ever. Despite all the challenges we encountered such as language barrier, mistakes made, a team member who fell sick on the day she was scheduled to share the Bible story and the many flies in the air, we all had fun. Above all, we were glad to know that during this mission trip, God had used us in some way to reach out to the children. Another missions trip? The response from the missions team is a resounding YES! +



Teaching the children the theme song



Children saying the sinner's prayer



CALVARY CHURCH (Assemblies of God)

CHRIST-CENTRED | EVANGELICAL | MISSIONARY

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