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A young child with dark hair, wearing a bright yellow t-shirt, black shorts, and white sneakers with black accents, is captured mid-jump on a sandy beach. The child's arms are raised high in the air, and their legs are bent in a classic jumping pose. The background features a calm ocean with gentle waves lapping at the shore under a soft, golden sunset sky. The overall mood is one of pure joy and freedom.

LIVING WITH
ENTHUSIASM

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LIVING WITH ENTHUSIASM

By Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam

“Never lag in zeal, but be aglow and on fire, serving the Lord enthusiastically” (Romans 12:11) (NLB).

The word “enthusiasm” comes from two Greek words, “en theos”, meaning “inspired by God”. Are you inspired by the God of the Bible or the god of this world? If you are only enthused by the things of this world, then it is the god of this world. As born-again believers, we must be inspired by Jehovah, the true and living God whose love, mercy and goodness will give us the grace to live as victors and not as victims. We are to live with purpose and not just to exist. Nevertheless, the pressures of life can erode our zest for living, passion for work, marriage, social concerns and faith in God. We need to make a decision to allow Him to fill us with His peace, love and joy, daily. The Bible says, “**Not lagging in diligence, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord**” (Romans 12:11) (NKJ).

ENTHUSIASM MUST HAVE A FOCUS

Nobody can be enthusiastic over nothing. When God is your focus and you live to do His will, He will inspire you to be enthusiastic and excited about the good and godly values in life.

ENTHUSIASM HAS TO DO WITH YOUR WILL

You must make a decision to exercise your will to do the will of God. For instance, David said, “**The Lord is my shepherd**” (Psalm 23:1). It is a decision. Then he added, “**I shall not want**” (Psalm 23:2). He made up his mind that the Lord is his shepherd and there was nothing else he wanted. The Lord was David’s desire, purpose and reason for living – his all in all!

Life’s pressures can zap your enthusiasm. But, if you let the Lord be your shepherd, you can say what David said, “**He makes me to lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside the still waters. He restores my soul; He leads me in the paths of righteousness ... You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies ...**” (Psalm 23:3–5). In the midst of adversities and the pressures of life, you can be restored with enthusiasm and be victorious for he said, “**Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life**” (Psalm 23:6).

You will never find a person doing anything enthusiastically, if what he is doing is against his will! When there is willingness, we will be enthusiastic. There are three needful areas the believer has to be willing to have enthusiasm in serving the Lord.

“

When God is your focus and you live to do His will, He will inspire you to be enthusiastic and excited about the good and godly values in life.

”

1 OBEY ENTHUSIASTICALLY — A WILLING HEART

The Bible says, **“If you are willing and obedient, you shall eat the good of the land”** (Isaiah 1:19). When you know what God wants and are willing to obey, you will be enthusiastic and find success. You will not know how to obey human authority until you learn to obey God’s authority. If you obey human authority, because you have no choice, it is not willingness. It is obeying out of compulsion, and there is no enthusiasm in what you do. You will always wait for an opportunity to get out. If you are obedient to God, you will obey human authority, then obeying becomes a joy, whether it is your parents, church or government. You do it with enthusiasm, because your inspiration comes from God.

The story of David and Goliath illustrates this. “David’s father requested him to see how his brothers were doing as they were in Israel’s Army and fighting a war against the Philistines. David went to the army camp and heard the challenge from Goliath, a Philistine champion. He yelled, **“Why have you come out to line up for battle? Am I not a Philistine, and you the servants of Saul? Choose a man for yourselves, and let him come down to me. If he is able to fight with me and kill me, then we will be your servants. But if I prevail against him and kill him, then you shall be our servants and serve us”** (1 Samuel 17:8–9). But Israel was afraid. Though the Israelites talked about a great and able God, but when challenged they expressed fear and cowardness (1 Samuel 17:24). But, David, spoke boldly and offered to fight with Goliath. David’s older brother, Eliab reprimanded him for being boastful and full of pride! (1 Samuel 17:28–30). But David simply ignored Eliab and kept talking about

the greatness of his God. Word got to King Saul and he was shocked when he got to know that David was but a youth (1 Samuel 17:33). David said to the King, **“Your servant has killed both lion and bear; and this uncircumcised Philistine will be like one of them, seeing he has defied the armies of the living God.’ Moreover David said, ‘The Lord, who delivered me from the paw of the lion and from the paw of the bear, He will deliver me from the hand of this Philistine.’ And Saul said to David, ‘Go, and the Lord be with you!’”** (1 Samuel 17:36–37).

The challenges of discouragement can come in many ways. For instance, when your own brother or leader looks down on you and when your enemy mocks you, it is very easy to be discouraged and lose your enthusiasm. But David did not lose his enthusiasm because his focus was on his Shepherd, the living God and he was willing to fight Goliath. He said to Goliath, **“You come to me with a sword, with a spear, and with a javelin. But I come to you in the name of the Lord of hosts...”** (1 Samuel 17:45). And the rest is history! Just be willing to obey God and you will have the enthusiasm to do the will of God.

2 GIVE ENTHUSIASTICALLY — A WILLING SPIRIT

Giving is the lifestyle of a born-again believer. God said to Moses, **“Speak to the children of Israel, that they bring Me an offering. From everyone who gives it willingly (*enthusiastically*) with his heart you shall take My offering”** (Exodus 25:1–2). Enthusiasm is another way of saying, “I am willing.” You have not really given, when your giving is not from a willing heart. Giving grudgingly will not bring God’s blessing. Giving in the Bible is giving enthusiastically with a willing heart. The twin Scripture to this in the New Testament is, **“So let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful (*willing-hearted, enthusiastic*) giver”** (2 Corinthians 9:7–8).

God is looking for cheerful givers. Notice how the children of Israel gave with enthusiasm towards the building of the Tabernacle. The Bible says, **“And Moses spoke to all the congregation of the children of Israel, saying, ‘This is the thing which the Lord commanded, saying: ‘Take from among you an offering to the Lord. Whoever is of a willing heart, let him bring it as an offering to the**

Lord: gold, silver and bronze...” (Exodus 35:4–5). **“And all the congregation of the children of Israel departed from the presence of Moses. Then everyone came whose heart was stirred, and everyone whose heart was stirred and whose spirit was willing, and they brought the Lord’s offering for the work of the tabernacle of meeting, for all its service, and for the holy garments”** (Exodus 35:20–21).

The Bible says, everyone, whose heart was willing came to give. Everyone includes, men and women, rulers and children. Besides giving of offerings and material things, those who had skills, talents and abilities gave of themselves (Exodus 35:30–36:2). They gave enthusiastically. Enthusiasm starts with willing obedience.

“

Choose to obey willingly, give and serve Him wholeheartedly. Let God be your Shepherd and you shall not want.

”

3 SERVE ENTHUSIASTICALLY

The Psalmist said, **“Serve the Lord with gladness; come before His presence with singing”** (Psalm 100:2). When serving the Lord, be zealous, fervent and enthusiastic, and you will eat the good of the land. Watch out for two challenges. Firstly, do not allow what was once miraculous in your lives to become a monument, a mere memory. This can happen with your salvation, marriage and life itself. Do not lose the spirit of gratitude for what God has done for you. Secondly, do not take the opportunities God gives you for granted. For instance keep your enthusiasm for church services, life group meetings and ministry.

Choose to obey willingly, give and serve Him wholeheartedly. Let God be your Shepherd and you shall not want. Trust Him to restore, lead and be your provider. Live enthusiastically as God-inspired people. ✚

All Bible quotations are from the New King James Version, unless otherwise stated.

分享上帝丰盛的慈爱与怜悯

SHARING GOD'S ABOUNDING LOVE AND COMPASSION

今年我们的中文布道活动 (CEE) 已在2012年9月22日至23日在蕉赖的加略山活动中心 (PACC) 成功举行。我们今年的主题是“在基督里的丰盛”。参加这两天的活动的人数总共有570人，包括120位新人。主是信实和美好的！

何海山牧师有恩膏的歌唱，有力的见证和神话语的分亨，使来宾和加略山会友都受感动和得到服事。他的生命历程的见证，从曾是黑社会分子，后来染上恶习，到在监狱中接受基督，之后成为福音歌手，真激发人对神的信心和带来很大的鼓励！他以说、唱的方式，坦然分享他的见证，其中包括许多过去的欢欣和悲叹和风趣的反思。

当何牧师在与成人分享时，我们也有特别的儿童节目同时进行。在第一天晚上孩子们高兴能有灯笼游行。一共有76位儿童到来参加CEE。

超过100位加略山会友参与了今年的CEE，有招待员，陪谈员的服事和负责其他许多的职责如提供交通，准备茶点和布置PACC场地等。

赞美主他祝福了我们爱心的劳苦。一共有33位成人回应何牧师的邀请接受基督。有11位儿童也接受了耶稣基督为他们的王和救主。“所以，你们要去，使万民作我的门徒…我就常与你们同在…” (太28:19-20)。✝

Pastor Ho Hoi San sharing the Gospel through songs & testimony



This year, our Chinese Evangelistic Event (CEE), held on 22–23 September 2012 at Pusat Aktiviti Calvary Cheras (PACC), was themed “God’s Abundance through Jesus Christ”. A total of 570 people attended the two-day event with 120 newcomers. The Lord is faithful and good!

Calvarites and visitors alike were touched by and ministered to by Pastor Ho Hoi San’s anointed singing, powerful testimony and ministry of God’s Word. His testimony of his journey from gangster on drugs to accepting Christ in prison to singing evangelist is faith-inspiring and greatly encouraging! He interspersed his testimony with a medley of songs, which included many witty ruminations of his colourful past.



Senior Associate Pastor Petrina warmly welcoming all at the PACC

Left: Executive Pastor Peter Ong closing in prayer, with Donna Yee, Chinese Ministry Coordinator interpreting | Bottom: Praying for those who received Christ as Saviour & Lord at the altar



While Pastor Ho ministered to the adults, special programmes were also held for the children. The children were excited to have a Lantern Parade on the first night. A total of 76 children came for the CEE.

More than 100 Calvarites were involved in the CEE this year, serving as ushers, altar workers and many other duties like providing transport, preparing refreshments and decorating the PACC.

Praise the Lord for blessing our labour of love. A total of 33 adults responded to the invitation by Pastor Ho to receive Christ. 11 children also accepted Jesus as their Lord and Saviour.

“Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations... and lo, I am with you always.” (Matthew 28:19-20). +

Children responding to the teaching of God's Word



Associate Pastors, Timothy Ong & Richard Yun, giving out gifts to quiz winners



Clockwise From Left: Children's lantern parade | Participants overjoyed at their gifts | Good participation during games and fellowship time | Chinese choir's exhortation in song



中文布道活动所结的果子 (2010-2011)

赞美感谢神再次祝福我们今年的中文布道活动 (CEE)。在过去两年我们为配合中秋节也在蕉赖加略山卫星教会举办了中文布道活动。它们被证明是有乐趣和有效的传扬福音，如今年最近的活动一样 (2012)。

每一年，勤奋的工作小组，完善的准备，派发传单和祷告上的支持促成了我们能成功的举办此活动。但是每年，是神的同在与恩膏在聚会中和我们的身上留下了不可磨灭的印记。

这个简短的报告见证了神的手和信实临在2010-2011年的CEE聚会。我们总共有1000人参加这两年的活动。在2010年，有34人信主得救。其中两位是翁新传姐妹和丘蓓雯姐妹。她们在一年后都受洗。在2012年8月，翁新传姐妹也获得教会会籍。

在2011年，有一对夫妇，钱国安先生和他的妻子张月莲女士，接受了基督，并在2012年把他们家中的偶像和祭坛拆掉。现在这对夫妇与他们的孩子一起参加在蕉赖加略山卫星教会的聚会。+

FRUITS OF THE CHINESE EVANGELISTIC EVENT (2010-2011)

Praise and thank God for blessing our Chinese Evangelistic Event (CEE) again this year. We have held CEE meetings at the Cheras Satellite Church in conjunction with the Mid-Autumn festival for the last two years. They proved to be just as enjoyable and effective in proclaiming the Gospel as this year's recent event (2012).

Each year, the diligent working teams, good preparation, tracting and prayer support contributed to our success. But each year, it was the Lord's presence and anointing that made an indelible mark on the meetings and us.

This short report testifies to God's hand and faithfulness on the CEE meetings from 2010-2011. We had a total attendance of 1,000 people over these two years. In 2010, there were 34 salvations, with two individuals, Yoong Sin Chuan and Tina, getting water baptised a year later. In August 2012, Yoong was received into church membership.

In 2011, a couple, Chin Kok Onn and his wife, Chong Yet Len, accepted Christ and had their idols and altar removed from their home in 2012. This couple is now attending Calvary Church Cheras together with their children. +

HIDUP DENGAN SEMANGAT

Oleh Pendita Kanan Prince Guneratnam

“Janganlah hendaknya kerajinanmu kendor, biarlah rohmu menyala-nyala dan layanilah Tuhan” (Roma 12:11).

Perkataan “semangat” berasal dari dua perkataan Yunani, “en theos”, yang bermaksud “yang diilhamkan Tuhan”. Adakah kamu diilhamkan oleh Tuhan Alkitab atau tuhan dunia ini? Jika kamu hanya berminat dengan benda-benda dalam dunia ini, maka ia adalah tuhan dunia ini. Sebagai orang percaya yang dilahirkan kembali, kita mesti diilhamkan oleh Jehovah, Tuhan yang benar dan hidup, yang mengasihi, berbelas kasihan dan kebaikanNya akan memberikan kita rahmat untuk hidup sebagai pemenang dan bukannya mangsa. Kita mesti hidup bertujuan dan bukan hanya wujud sahaja. Namun demikian, tekanan hidup boleh mengikis semangat kita untuk hidup, keghairahan untuk bekerja, perkahwinan, perkara-perkara sosial dan iman kepada Tuhan. Kita perlu membuat keputusan membenarkan Tuhan memenuhi kita dengan kasih, damai dan sukacitaNya, setiap hari. Alkitab mengatakan, **“Janganlah hendaknya kerajinanmu kendor, biarlah rohmu menyala-nyala dan layanilah Tuhan” (Roma 12:11).**

SEMANGAT MESTI MEMPUNYAI TUMPUAN

Tiada siapa boleh bersemangat tanpa sebarang dasar. Apabila Tuhan adalah tumpuan kamu dan kamu hidup untuk

melakukan kehendak-Nya, Dia akan mengilhamkan kamu untuk menjadi bersemangat dan tertarik dengan nilai-nilai hidup yang baik dan saleh.

SEMANGAT ADA HUBUNGAN DENGAN KEHENDAK MU

Kamu harus membuat keputusan untuk melatih kehendakmu untuk melakukan kehendak Tuhan. Sebagai contoh, Daud berkata, **“Tuhan adalah gembalaku” (Mazmur 23:1)**. Ini adalah keputusan. Kemudian dia menambah, **“Takkan kekurangan aku” (Mazmur 23: 2)**. Dia membuat keputusan bahawa Tuhan adalah gembalanya dan tiada apa-apa lagi yang dia inginkan. Bagi Daud, Tuhan adalah keinginan, tujuan dan sebab untuk hidupnya— kesemuanya dalam semua!

Tekanan hidup boleh menghilangkan semangat kamu. Tetapi, jika kamu membiarkan Tuhan menjadi gembalamu, kamu dapat mengatakan apa yang Daud katakan, **“la membaringkan aku di padang yang berumput hijau, la membimbing aku ke air yang tenang; la menyegarkan jiwaku. la menuntun aku di jalan yang benar oleh kerana nama-Nya. Sekalipun aku berjalan dalam lembah kekelaman, aku tidak takut bahaya, sebab Engkau besertaku gada-Mu dan**

tongkat-Mu, itulah yang menghibur aku. Engkau menyediakan hidangan bagiku, di hadapan lawanku”... (Mazmur 23:2–5). Di tengah-tengah kesengsaraan dan tekanan hidup, kamu boleh dipulihkan dengan semangat dan menang kerana dia berkata, **“Kebajikan dan kemurahan belaka akan mengikutiku, seumur hidupku; dan aku akan diam dalam rumah Tuhan sepanjang masa” (Mazmur 23:6)**.

Kamu tidak akan menemukan seseorang melakukan sesuatu yang bersemangat, jika apa yang dia lakukan adalah bertentangan akan kehendaknya! Di mana ada kemahuan, kita akan bersemangat. Ada tiga bagian yang diperlukan untuk orang percaya harus bersedia memiliki, semangat dalam melayani Tuhan.

1 MENTAATI DENGAN SEMANGAT— HATI YANG RELA

Alkitab mengatakan, **“Jika kamu menurut dan mau mendengar, maka kamu akan memakan hasil baik dari negeri itu” (Yesaya 1:19)**. Apabila kamu tahu apa yang Tuhan ingin dan bersedia untuk mentaatinya, kamu akan jadi bersemangat dan menemukan keberhasilan. Kamu tidak akan tahu bagaimana untuk mentaati wibawa manusia sehingga kamu belajar



mentaati Tuhan. Jika kamu mentaati manusia kerana tiada pilihan, itu bukan kerelaan. Itu adalah ketaatan yang dipaksa, dan kamu tidak bersemangat dalam apa yang kamu lakukan. Kamu akan sentiasa menunggu kesempatan untuk keluar. Jika kamu taat kepada Tuhan, kamu akan taat kepada wibawa manusia, maka ketaatan dilakukan dengan sukacita, sama ada kepada orang tua kamu, gereja atau pemerintah. Kamu melakukannya dengan penuh semangat, kerana ilham kamu adalah dari Tuhan.

Cerita Daud dan Goliath menggambarkan hal ini. Bapa Daud memintanya untuk melihat keadaan saudara-saudaranya di Tentera Israel yang sedang bertempur melawan orang Filistin. Daud pergi ke kem tentera dan mendengar tantangan dari Goliath, seorang juara Filistin. Dia berteriak, **“Mengapa kamu keluar untuk mengatur barisan perangmu? Bukankah aku seorang Filistin dan kamu adalah hamba Saul? Pilihlah bagimu seorang, dan biarlah ia turun mendapatkan aku. Jika ia dapat berperang melawan aku dan mengalahkan aku, maka kami akan menjadi hambamu; tetapi jika aku dapat menungguli dia dan mengalahkannya, maka kamu akan menjadi hamba kami dan takluk kepada kami”**(1 Samuel 17:8-9). Tetapi Israel takut. Walaupun Israel bercakap tentang Tuhan yang besar dan mampu, tetapi apabila dicabar mereka menunjukkan ketakutan dan menjadi pengecut (1 Samuel 17:24). Tetapi, Daud, bercakap dengan berani dan menawarkan untuk berlawan dengan Goliath. Abang Daud, Eliab menegur dia kerana sombong dan penuh kebanggaan! (1 Samuel 17:28-30). Tetapi Daud tidak mengendahkan Eliab dan terus berbicara tentang kebesaran Tuhannya. Kejadian ini telah disampaikan kepada Raja Saul dan dia terkejut apabila dia melihat Daud hanyalah seorang pemuda sahaja (1 Samuel 17:33). Daud berkata kepada raja, **“Baik singa maupun beruang telah dihajar oleh hambamu ini. Dan orang Filistin yang tidak bersunat itu, ia akan sama seperti salah satu daripada binatang itu, kerana ia telah mencemuh barisan daripada Tuhan yang hidup.”** Pula kata Daud; **“TUHAN yang telah melepaskan aku dari cakar singa dan dari cakar beruang, Dia juga akan melepaskan aku dari tangan orang Filistin itu.”** Kata Saul kepada Daud: **“Pergilah! TUHAN menyertai engkau”** (1 Samuel 17:36-37).

Cabaran yang melemahkan semangat boleh datang dalam pelbagai cara. Sebagai contoh, apabila saudara atau pemimpin kamu sendiri merendahkan kamu dan apabila musuh mencemuh kamu, adalah sangat mudah untuk menjadi kecewa dan kehilangan semangat. Tetapi Daud tidak kehilangan semangat kerana tumpuannya adalah pada Gembalanya, Tuhan yang hidup dan dia bersedia melawan Goliath. Dia berkata kepada Goliath, **“Engkau datang melawanku dengan dengan pedang, tombak dan lembing, tetapi aku datang melawanmu dengan nama TUHAN Yang Mahakuasa, Tuhan tentera Israel yang kau hina itu...”** (1 Samuel 17:45). Selebihnya adalah sejarah! Hanya bersedia untuk mentaati Tuhan sahaja dan kamu akan mempunyai semangat untuk melakukan kehendak Tuhan.

2 MEMBERI DENGAN SEMANGAT – ROH YANG RELAX

Memberi adalah gaya hidup orang percaya yang lahir baru. Berfirmanlah Tuhan kepada Musa, **“Katakanlah kepada orang Israel, supaya mereka memungut bagi-Ku persembahan khusus; dari setiap orang yang terdorong hatinya (bersemangat), haruslah kamu pungut persembahan khusus kepada-Ku itu”**(Keluaran 25:1-2). Bersemangat adalah satu lagi cara untuk berkata, “Saya sanggup.” Kamu tidak benar-benar memberi sekiranya pemberian kamu tidak dibuat dengan rela hati. Pemberian yang tidak rela tidak akan mendapat rahmat Tuhan. Dalam Alkitab memberi adalah dibuat dengan bersemangat dan dengan hati yang rela. Ayat firman Tuhan berkembar ini terdapat juga dalam Perjanjian Baru ialah, **“Hendaklah masing-masing memberikan menurut kerelaan hatinya, jangan dengan sedih hati atau kerana paksaan, sebab Tuhan mengasihi orang yang memberi dengan sukacita (dengan rela hati dan penuh semangat)”** (2 Korintus 9:7-8).

Tuhan sedang mencari pemberi yang bersukacita. Perhatikan bagaimana anak-anak Israel telah memberikan dengan semangat untuk pembangunan Kemah Suci. Alkitab mengatakan, **“Berkatalah Musa kepada segenap jemaah Israel: Inilah firman yang diperintahkan TUHAN, bunyinya: Ambillah bagi TUHAN persembahan khusus dari barang kepunyaanmu; setiap orang**

yang terdorong hatinya harus membawanya sebagai persembahan khusus kepada TUHAN: emas, perak, tembaga...”(Keluaran 35:4-5). **“Lalu pergilah segenap jemaah Israel dari depan Musa. Sesudah itu datanglah setiap orang yang tergerak hatinya, setiap orang yang terdorong jiwanya, membawa persembahan khusus kepada TUHAN untuk pekerjaan melengkapkan Kemah Pertemuan dan untuk segala ibadah di dalamnya dan untuk pakaian kudus itu”** (Keluaran 35:20-21).

Alkitab mengatakan, semua orang, yang hatinya sanggup datang untuk memberi. Meliputi semua orang termasuk, lelaki dan wanita, pemerintah dan kanak-kanak. Selain daripada memberi persembahan dan kebendaan, mereka yang mempunyai kemahiran, bakat dan kebolehan memberi diri mereka sendiri (Keluaran 35:30-36:2). Mereka memberi dengan semangat. Bersemangat bermula dengan ketaatan yang rela.

3 MELAYANI DENGAN SEMANGAT

Pemazmur berkata, **“Beribadahkan kepada TUHAN dengan sukacita, datanglah ke hadapan-Nya dengan sorak-sorai!”** (Mazmur 100:2). Layanilah Tuhan dengan semangat, sungguh-sungguh dan berkobar-kobar dan kamu akan makan hasil baik dari negeri. Berjaga-jagalah dengan dua cabaran. Yang pertama, jangan membenarkan mukjizat yang pernah berlaku dalam kehidupan kamu menjadi tugu, hanya suatu kenangan sahaja. Hal ini dapat terjadi dengan keselamatan, perkahwinan dan kehidupan itu sendiri. Jangan biarkan roh bersyukur atas apa yang Tuhan telah lakukan, hilang. Yang kedua, jangan ambil sambil lewa setiap kesempatan yang Tuhan telah berikan. Misalnya, teruskanlah bersemangat untuk pelayanan gereja, pertemuan kelompok sel dan pelayanan.

Pilihlah untuk mentaatinya dengan rela, memberi dan melayaninya dengan sepenuh hati. Biarlah Tuhan menjadi Gembalamu dan kamu tidak akan kekurangan apa-apa pun. Percayailah Dia untuk memulihkan, memimpin dan menjadi pembekal kamu. Hiduplah dengan bersemangat sebagai orang yang diilhamkan Tuhan. ✚

Semua petikan Alkitab adalah dari Versi Terjemahan Baru.

EMPOWERED TO TRANSFORM AT THE CALVARY LIFE GROUP CONFERENCE 2012

BY ESTHER WONG



Rev. Ong Sek Leang praying for needs at the altar



Up close and personal with Senior Pastor



Practical and powerful preaching by Rev. Ong



Sister Petrina's closing prayer for all participants

If the Life Group is a family, consider the Calvary Life Group Conference (CLGC) held on 7-8 September 2012, as one large Christ-centred family get-together!

On the first night, close to 600 Calvarites were pleasantly surprised by a 'Smart Mob' that "jumped" out of their seats all over the Sanctuary in a synchronized formation. 60 enthusiastic volunteers from age 6-60 danced to 'Supernatural' by Hillsong Kids as they moved down the aisles and poured out onto the sanctuary front. The worship team joined in and everyone sprang to their feet to sing a medley of multi-lingual songs in English, Tagalog, Mandarin and Setswana! What a harmonious multi-lingual worship that was!

Inspiring testimonies were later shared. Among them was Yoong Sin Chuan who spoke of how much she has learned to care for others since she joined her LG. She herself has received much support from her LG as she speedily recovered from a rare



Left: New Assistant Leaders responding to Associate Pastor David Seah's charge

Bottom: LG action plans jotted on 'fuel cards'



Top: Combined LG Choir and mob dance participants in praise and worship | **Left:** Participants giving praise and thanks to the Lord

disease, praise God!

In an effort to promote and create awareness for their LGs, nine new LGs introduced themselves by holding placards with their unique taglines such as "Bended Knees, Transformed Lives!", "Real Men Love Jesus!" and "Eyes Grow Dimmer but Learning Grows Brighter!"

Upon installing 12 new assistant leaders, Associate Pastor David Seah stressed on the importance of being vibrant and filled with the Holy Spirit while staying Christ-centered. Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam then prayed for these newly appointed leaders to be protected and be anointed by the Spirit.

Rev. Ong Sek Leang, the General Superintendent of the Assemblies of God Malaysia, encouraged us to conquer as soldiers for Christ. Rev. Ong emphasized, "God does not only save us from slavery, He saves us to be soldiers!" Rev. Ong also made it clear that we have to live Christ-

centered lives and seek the Holy Spirit fervently in our daily walk. Many of us left the conference with deeper understanding of what it takes to be better Spirit-filled leaders.

The next morning, some 241 LG leaders, hosts and potential leaders were blessed by Rev. Ong's apt message on "Sophistication versus Spiritual Power". Being sophisticated does not equate to having spiritual power. Sophistication cannot change lives. Lives are changed by the power of the living God! Many responded to the altar, seeking for a fresh touch of God's power.

The session that everyone looked forward to, 'Up Close & Personal' with Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam was thought-provoking, interesting and insightful. Senior Pastor gave good counsel with humorous anecdotes and shared on his powerful encounter with God when he was 12 years old, involving a vision

and temporary blindness in both eyes. We learnt that the experiences given by the Holy Spirit are always a stepping stone. How useful it is for us to always yearn for Spirit-directed experiences.

The final session was the 'Pit Stop', an interactive group activity on the progress of the respective LGs towards their goals. We shared our LG success stories and jotted down action plans on a 'fuel card'. We then dropped the cards into the 'LG Sports Car', believing for the Lord's power to propel the LG to finish the race well and strong.

In closing, Senior Associate Pastor Petrina Guneratnam prayed for all, to be continually empowered by the Holy Spirit, and that every plan expressed in the 'Pit Stop' be fruitful.

Praise God for the wonderful teaching and encouragement at the LG conference! The LGs have indeed received a fresh impetus to further God's Kingdom as they have been empowered to transform! ✚

SERVING THE LORD

AT CALVARY CHURCH – Part 2



Clockwise

From Left:

Karl Edwards
Gan Chew
Marcus Solomon
Adeline Cheah
Gan Hua May

May: Do not see involvement as a sacrifice but an opportunity to serve. Avail yourself, take one day at a time and you will see God at work.

Karl: Involvement for its own sake does not require a heart of service, but true service requires involvement.

Gan: It is important to spend time with God, pray and read the Bible.

Adeline: The Music Ministry is not a platform to draw attention to ourselves. Rather it is an opportunity to express our love and gratitude to our Sovereign God.

CN: Are you looking forward to the Church moving to CCC & why?

May: I am anticipating the move to CCC with joy as the CCC is a testament of God's miracles coming to pass, as we put our faith in Him.

Karl: Yes, because the opportunities for growth and the huge challenge that lies ahead means that we need to rely on God! When we do so, He will expand our ministries.

Adeline: Yes! God has great plans for Calvarites through the CCC. I am glad to be able to be part of the building of CCC. I believe the Music Ministry will play a vital part in CCC. I am gearing myself up spiritually in preparation.

Marcus: Very much. The Church persevered and tasted God's favour and faithfulness in the trying times over the last few years. He who began a good work in us will be faithful to complete it. ✚

God gave us a heart and spirit of service so that we could glorify Him in whatever we do. In this issue, we continue to bring you more testimonies of Calvarites who have discovered the joy and satisfaction that serving a loving God brings. Be encouraged as you read, and just like them, boldly take the step of faith and start serving our great and gracious Lord!

Adeline Cheah is a life planner. She is involved in the ensembles, worship team and choir.

Gan Hua May is a lawyer. She has been helping out at the Calvary Nursery Care for over six years.

Marcus Solomon runs his own logistics business. He is a Life Group leader and Altar Worker Coordinator.

Gan Chew is a businessman. He is our Evangelism Coordinator.

Karl Edwards is a mechanical engineer. He is a church musician and plays the keyboard. He also leads a small team of musicians whose focus is identifying and implementing initiatives to develop and grow the ministry effectively.

CN: What motivates you to serve? Or what you enjoy most about serving in your ministry?

Karl: Serving God gives me the joy of putting my talent and love for music to use,

and seeing people responding in worship fulfills that joy.

May: I enjoy the opportunity to share God's love with the young children and lead them into a growing relationship with God.

Gan: Seeing people getting saved and being transformed by God is awesome.

Adeline: I was attracted to worship before I became a Christian. I also have peace in my heart when I sing or hear Christian songs, especially Christmas carols. So I began my ministry in carolling during Christmas and singing in the choir, and now I am in the worship team and ensembles. I enjoy my ministry because the songs I learn will minister to me first.

Marcus: Years ago, I was encouraged by the LG and Altar Ministry. Today, it is my joy to lead a LG and serve as an Altar Worker, praying for and ministering to people who respond during the altar call each Sunday.

CN: What is your advice to someone who would like to get involved in your ministry or ministry in general.

Marcus: We should serve the Lord with a cheerful heart and do everything for His sake. We should use our gifts and talents to glorify God in all things.



MORE TO GIVE

BY JANA PONNUDURAI

The Calvary Church's recent blood donation drive proved to be a huge success, with 80 donating to save lives and make a difference. This year's theme was *"Make a Difference... in Someone's Life"*.

This blood donation drive was organized in collaboration with the National Blood Centre (Pusat Darah Negara).

The day started off early at 9am as the first few donors started arriving. As the day progressed more Calvarites started coming in, regular donors, brave second timers as well as some first timers! There were some non-Calvarites as well as walk-ins.

A donor, Tan Wan Ling said, "I'm excited because this is my first time donating blood. I am led to donate this time because this is the festive season and there may be somebody who is in need of blood."

Another donor, Ong Poh Seng said that he had always wanted to donate blood for a long time, but somehow he didn't. "This time, when I heard the announcement in Church, I quickly registered, and made it a point to come," he said.

Our youths, twins, David and Jonathan Ngeow, said they were glad they decided to donate as it can save lives.



It starts with giving a drop of blood

Associate Pastor Raymond Yong, Calvary Social Concern Ministry coordinator says, "We have been organizing this programme regularly as part of our social concern ministry to create a greater awareness of the importance of blood donation and also as an avenue to help meet the needs of the community."

The doctor from Pusat Darah Negara expressed her appreciation to Calvary Church for organizing the blood donation drive and was very pleased that they were able to collect 80 pints of blood. As their tag line says... "One pint of blood can save 3 lives."

All Glory to God! ✚



Senior Pastor encouraging two blood donors

以火热的心生活

文：古纳南主任牧师

殷勤，不可懒惰；要心里火热，常常服事主。”（罗12：11）

“热心”这个词是来自两个希腊字，“en theos”，意思是“被神激励”。

你是被圣经中的神或者这个世界的神所激励？如果你只热衷于这个世界上的东西，那么那就是这世界的神。作为重生的信徒，我们必须被耶和華，又真又活的神所激励，他的慈爱，怜悯和良善会赐给我们恩典来过作得胜者，而不是受害者的生活。我们要有目的的生活，而不是仅仅存在。然而，生活上的压力会侵蚀我们生活的热心，工作热情，婚姻，社会的关注和对神的信仰。我们需要作出决定，让他每天以他的平安，爱和喜乐来充满我们。圣经上说：“**殷勤，不可懒惰；要心里火热，常常服事主**”（罗12:11）。

热心必须要有一个焦点

没有人可以什么也不热心。当神是你的焦点和你活着是为遵行他的旨意时，他会激励你使你对生命的美善和虔诚的人生价值有热心和兴奋。

热心是与你的意志有关

你必须作出决定来操练你的意志，来遵行神的旨意。例如，大卫说：“**耶和華是我的牧者**”（诗23:1）。这是一个决定。他接着说：“**我必不致缺乏**”（诗23:2）。他作出决定，耶和華是他的牧者，他没有别的需要。耶和華是大卫的渴望，目的和生活的理由——他所有的一切！

生活的压力可以使你失去热心。但是，如果你让耶和華成为你的牧者，你可以宣告大卫所说的：“**他使我的灵魂苏醒，为自己的名引导我走义路...在我敌人面前，你为我摆设筵席...**”（诗23:3-5）。在逆境中和生活的压力下，你可以恢复有饱满的热情和胜利，因他说：“**我一生一世必有恩惠慈爱随着我**”（诗23:6）。

你永远不会找到一个人热心做任何事情，如果他所做的是违背自己的意愿！当有愿意的心时，我们就有热心。信徒要有热心服事主，有三个紧要的地方他必须愿意。

1 热心的顺服—一个愿意的心

圣经上说，“**你们若甘心听从，必吃地上的美物**”（赛1:19）。当你知道神要的是什么时，并愿意顺服，你会有热心和获得成功。你不会懂得如何顺服人的权柄，直到你学会顺服神的权柄。如果你顺服人的权柄是因为你别无选择，它不是甘心的。它是强迫性的顺服，和你对所做的事情没有热心。你会一直在等待一个机会退出。如果你是顺服神，你会顺服人的权柄，那么顺服就变成了喜乐，无论是顺服你的父母，教会或政府。你以热心这样做，因为你的激励是来自于神。

大卫和歌利亚的故事说明了这一点。“大卫的父亲，要他去探望他的兄长的近况，因为他们是在以色列军队与非利士人打仗。大卫去到军营里听到非利士人的将军歌利亚的挑战。他呼叫说：“**你们出来摆列队伍做什么呢？我不是非利士人吗？你们不是扫罗的仆人吗？可以从你们中间拣选一人，使他下到我这里来。他若能与我战斗，将我杀死，我们就作你们的仆人；我若胜了他，将他杀死，你们就作我们的仆人，服事我们**”（撒下17:8-9）。但是，以色列很害怕。虽然以色列人谈及一位伟大和有能力的的神，但在受到挑战时，他们表示害怕和胆怯（撒下17:24）。但是，大卫，却大胆地说话，并提出要与歌利亚作战。大卫的哥哥，以利押谴责他的自夸和傲慢！（撒下17:28-30）。但是大卫完全不理睬以利押，不停地述说着他的神的伟大。消息传送到扫罗王，当他知道大卫只不过是一个青年时，他感到很震惊（撒下17:33）。大卫对王说：“**你仆人曾打死狮子和熊，这未受割礼的非利士人向永生神的军队骂阵，也必像狮子和熊一般。‘大卫又说：‘耶和華救我脱离狮子和熊的爪，也必救我脱离这非利士人的手。’扫罗对大卫说：‘你可以去吧！耶和華必与你同在’**”（撒下17:36-37）。



沮丧产生的挑战是多方面的。例如，当你自己的兄弟或领袖看不起你，当你的敌人嘲笑你时，这是很容易使你气馁，失去你的热心。但大卫并没有失去他的热心，因为他的焦点是在永生神他的牧者身上，并且他愿意去与歌利亚作战。大卫对歌利亚说：“**你来攻击我，是靠着刀枪和铜戟；我来攻击你，是靠着万军之耶和華的名...**”（撒下17:45）。其余的事，大家都知道！只要愿意顺服神，你会有热心去遵行神的旨意。

2 热心的奉献—甘心乐意的灵

奉献是一个重生的信徒的生活方式。神对摩西说：“**你告诉以色列人当为我送礼物来；凡甘心乐意（热心）的，你们就可以收下归我**”（出25:1-2）。热心是另一种方式说，“我愿意”。当你的奉献不是出于一个愿意的心，你没有真的奉献。勉强的奉献，不会带来神的祝福。在圣经中的奉献是以热心和甘心乐意的心奉献。在新约中这对经文是，“**各人要随本心所酌定的，不要作难，不要勉强，因为捐得乐意（甘心乐意，热心）的人是神所喜爱的**”（林后9:7-8）。

神正在寻找甘心乐意的人。请注意以色列人如何对建造会幕热心的奉献。圣经上说，“摩西对以色列全会众说：耶和華所吩咐的是这样：**‘你们中间要拿礼物献给耶和華，凡乐意献的可以拿耶和華的礼物来，就是**

ROYAL RANGERS JOB DAY

BY SAMUEL NGEOW



Left: Many hands make light work in the garden

Bottom: Window cleaning



In conjunction with the 30th Anniversary celebration of Royal Rangers (RR) in Calvary Church, the RR ministry organized a community service project known as Job Day over four Saturdays in June 2012.

Upon the invitation of gracious hosts who participated in this project, the Rangers and leaders went out in teams to help out with odd jobs and chores such as gardening, car-washing, spring cleaning, house painting and even pet-washing!

Each Saturday morning, the Rangers rose early and set out to the homes of their hosts. After a hearty welcome and job instructions, the Rangers were quickly put to work on their assigned tasks. Rangers

of all ages, including the Commander in charge worked hard to do a good job.

Upon completing their tasks, they were treated to delicious snacks and even home cooked meals by the hosts. Thank God for the time of fellowship and prayer for the hosts.

Through this project, our Rangers have learned the value of service even in the little things. Though many of us went home after a long day all sweaty, with dirt on our hands and fatigued, we all had smiles on our faces.

A big "Thank You" to all who joined hands with us and made this a fruitful project. +



RR Commander prays for host family

金、银、铜，... ‘ ” (出35:4-5)。“以色列全会众从摩西面前退去。凡心里受感和甘心乐意的都拿耶和华的礼物来，用以做会幕和其中一切的使用，又用以做圣衣” (出35:20-21)。

圣经上说，每个人，他们的心都是甘心乐意的来奉献。每个人包括男女，官长和儿童。除了献上奉献和物质上的东西，那些有技能，才干和能力的人也奉献他们自己 (出35:30-36:2)。他们热心的奉献。热心是从愿意顺服开始。

3 热心的事奉

诗人说：“你们当乐意事奉耶和华，当来向他歌唱！” (诗100:2)。当事奉神时，要

有热诚，热切，和火热的心，那么你必吃地上的美物。要注意两方面的挑战。首先，不要让过去在你生命里的神迹奇事成为一座纪念碑，仅仅一个记忆。这可以是你的救恩，婚姻和生活本身。不要对神为你所成就的事失去感激神的心。其次，不要以为神所赐给你的机会是理所当然的。例如，要保持你对教会聚会，生命小组聚会和事奉的热心。

选择甘心乐意地顺服，奉献和全心全意地服事他。让神成为你的牧者，你必不致缺乏。信靠他能恢复，引导和成为你的供应者。以火热的心生活作为神所激励的子民。+

以上经文是采用中文圣经和合本。

十月份 中文聚会

主题：感恩欢庆

讲员：翁有富牧师

日期：28-10-12 (日)

时间：下午五点

地点：伯特利楼

5 20
0 12

SUNDAY SERVICE SCHEDULE

Damansara Heights

SUNDAY
8.00 AM/
10.30 AM

Damansara Heights

SUNDAY
5.00 PM

Cheras

SUNDAY
9.00 AM

Damansara Perdana

SUNDAY
10.30 AM

07

Holy Communion



Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam

Associate Pastor David Seah



Dr. Delmer Guynes

Dr. Delmer Guynes

14

Dr. Delmer Guynes

Associate Pastor David Seah

Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam

Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam

21



Rev. Howard Cummings

Associate Pastor Steven Kum

Associate Pastor Richard Yun

Associate Pastor Richard Yun

28

Associate Pastor Peter Ong

Associate Pastor Steven Kum

Dr. Delmer Guynes

Dr. Delmer Guynes

PRAYER EMPHASIS WEEK 21–27 OCT 2012

**Theme: Magnify God,
Declare His Salvation**

You will receive a prayer booklet to guide you through 21 days of prayer.

Water Baptism and Membership Class

8 December, 2012
Saturday, 1.30pm

Water Baptism Service

9 December, 2012
Sunday, 10.30am

CLOSING DATE
28 OCTOBER
2012

Bahasa Malaysia Fellowship

28 OCT,
SUNDAY,
12.30PM

Theme:

Ciptaan Baru Di Dalam Kristus
(A New Creation in Christ)

Speaker:

Associate Pastor David Seah

Venue: Bethel Bungalow

Chinese Fellowship

28 OCT,
SUNDAY,
5PM

Theme:

Thanksgiving Celebration

Speaker:

Rev Timothy Ong

Venue: Bethel Bungalow

CONNECT WHERE IT MATTERS

BY JEANNIE LOW

The Empathy Skills workshop organised by CLM Counselling and Care (CLM), under its Community Wellness Programme on 25 August 2012 was helpful in guiding participants on how to improve their communication and relational skills. Earnest Tan, a registered guidance counsellor from the Philippines, conducted the full-day workshop entitled, “Connect Where It Matters”.

Earnest’s honest and often humorous sharing of real life stories, made the workshop easier to understand. We can also apply the practical empathy skills taught in our own relationships. It was truly a time-well-spent Saturday!

I am reminded again how needful it is, of just being “present” with a person who is going through a painful and difficult time. Words may not be able to make the person feel any better, but our loving and caring presence can bring comfort... And sometimes that’s really enough.

Having fun with role play



Here are testimonies of some participants who attended the workshop:

Lyndon D’Oliveiro — Earnest taught us concrete skills in active listening. Instead of quickly giving advice, teaching, preaching and sending the person on their way, we learnt how to paraphrase, reflect feelings and meaning from what the other party says. It helps me to be a more authentic Christian.

Sam Kurian — It was a practical workshop where we got to practice, share and have fun together. We learnt skills to build better relationships through empathy. Empathy is to offer understanding, that is, to see, hear, feel what the other is going through.

We understood the meaning of “roadblocks” and common patterns of

communication we fall into. We discovered the difference between sympathy, antipathy and apathy.

Paul Selvam — The whole workshop helped me to deal with people effectively. I learned how to listen and empathise. I also learnt to draw boundaries and allow the other person to solve his own issues.

Edmund Chung — I learnt that “Friendliness does not equal to closeness”, and empathy helps us to bridge gaps in relationships.

This workshop has helped me to communicate better with my kids. I have also learnt to relate better through my daily interactions with people, especially difficult people. But most importantly, I am improving in relating effectively to the people whom I care most in my life. +

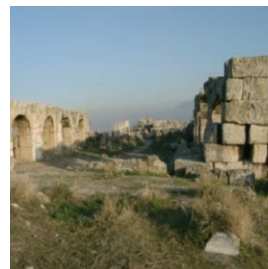


Top: Giving full attention to assigned tasks

Left: Workshop in session

QUEST FOR THE SEVEN CHURCHES

26 NOV
- 5 DEC
2012



Last November, 120 Calvarites who visited the Holy Land came back spiritually refreshed and renewed after having personally seen places they had only previously read about in the Bible.

Come 26 November to 5 December 2012, 32 Calvarites will be making a trip to Turkey. The tour will cover the seven Churches that the apostle John wrote letters to in the book of Revelation and more.

Participants of this trip will visit the sites where Ephesus, Smyrna, Pergamum, Thyatira, Sardis, Philadelphia and Laodicea once stood and will definitely be impacted spiritually by this experience. +

Clockwise from top left: Ephesus, Smyrna, Pergamum, Laodicea, Philadelphia, Sardis and Thyatira

18 BAPTISED IN WATER

Praise the Lord for the 18 individuals who followed the Lord in water baptism on 8 September 2011 at the 10.30am and 5pm Worship Services at Damansara Heights. +



1st Row (Left to right)
Abbiegail Lee Mei Shu,
Sara Yu Chew, Chloe
Choo Xin Zci, Hong Jin
Eu, Tishan Prakash

2nd Row (left to right)
Lee Shiao Choon,
Yvonne Liew Siew
Kuan, Ngeow Hon
Thean, Ong Ewe Kam
(Membership), Irene
Woon Fai Cheng

3rd Row (Left to right)
Janice Teoh Pei Qi,
Hong Jin Liang,
Kevin Tay Chee Han,
Deborah Wensy Kan
(Membership)

4th Row (Left to right)
Vincent Uchenna
Anyanwu, Ling Zing
Onn, Chang Phang
Wei, Chang Phang Juin,
Nicholas Tan Sze Yuen,
Nathaniel Tan Sze Yang



CALVARY CHURCH (Assemblies of God)

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