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HOW TO RECEIVE FROM GOD

**“And the Lord said to Joshua: “See I have given Jericho into your hands, its king and the mighty man of valour.”
Joshua 6:9**

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HOW TO RECEIVE FROM GOD

BY SENIOR PASTOR PRINCE GUNERATNAM

GOD IS A GIVER, BUT MANY BELIEVERS DO NOT KNOW HOW TO RECEIVE.

God's method of giving is not like man's. Man's method of giving is to first fulfill all the conditions before they can receive. Again, some have to work in order to receive. If you don't work, you don't receive. Another, is through competition. You have to be trained and work hard, to be a winner to receive rewards, like in sports.

In God's kingdom, the Biblical principle to receive is to give (Luke 6:38). It is God's law of sowing and reaping (Galatians 6:7). The worldly system to prosper is to buy and sell. But the Bible says, "It is God who gives us true wealth" (Deuteronomy 8:18). The Bible clearly teaches we cannot serve two masters, God and mammon (material wealth). We will love the one and hate the other (Luke 16:13). Many believers have struggles with giving because mammon is their master. But when God is their master, then giving becomes a way of life.

FOUR THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW TO RECEIVE FROM GOD

1. GOD GIVES BY WAY OF PROMISE.

When God decides to give, it is done even though we have yet to receive it. Everything we receive from God is by promise. It takes faith to receive it and faith without works is dead (James 2:17).

Let's look at some examples.

• The city of Jericho

The Bible says, "And the Lord said to Joshua: **"See! I have given Jericho into your hand, its king, and the mighty men of valour"** (Joshua 6:2). But the Israelites were still outside the walls of the city of Jericho, though God said, "I have given." As far as God was concerned, He had already given Jericho to the Israelites. They need not ask for Jericho. But Joshua and the people of Israel had not received it yet! This is where believers need to understand how to receive from God. You must know how to take what God has already given. It takes faith with works to possess your blessings.

• The Prophet Elijah at a time of drought that brought famine

The Bible says, "Then the word of the Lord came to him, saying, 'Arise, go to Zarephath, which belongs to Sidon, and dwell there. See, I have commanded a widow there to provide for you'" (1 Kings 17:8-9). It takes faith with works to receive your provision.

Another illustration that God gives you in promise form before you actualize it, is His salvation. Salvation is a gift from God. It is a done deal. Over two thousand years ago Jesus died on the cross and rose from the dead for our salvation. The price was already paid. God's gift of salvation is available, it is yours to accept Christ as Saviour. It is up to you to receive it. The

basis for you to receive is to confess your sins with your mouth, believe in your heart the Lord Jesus Christ as your Saviour and you shall be saved. Faith and obedience is required to receive your salvation.

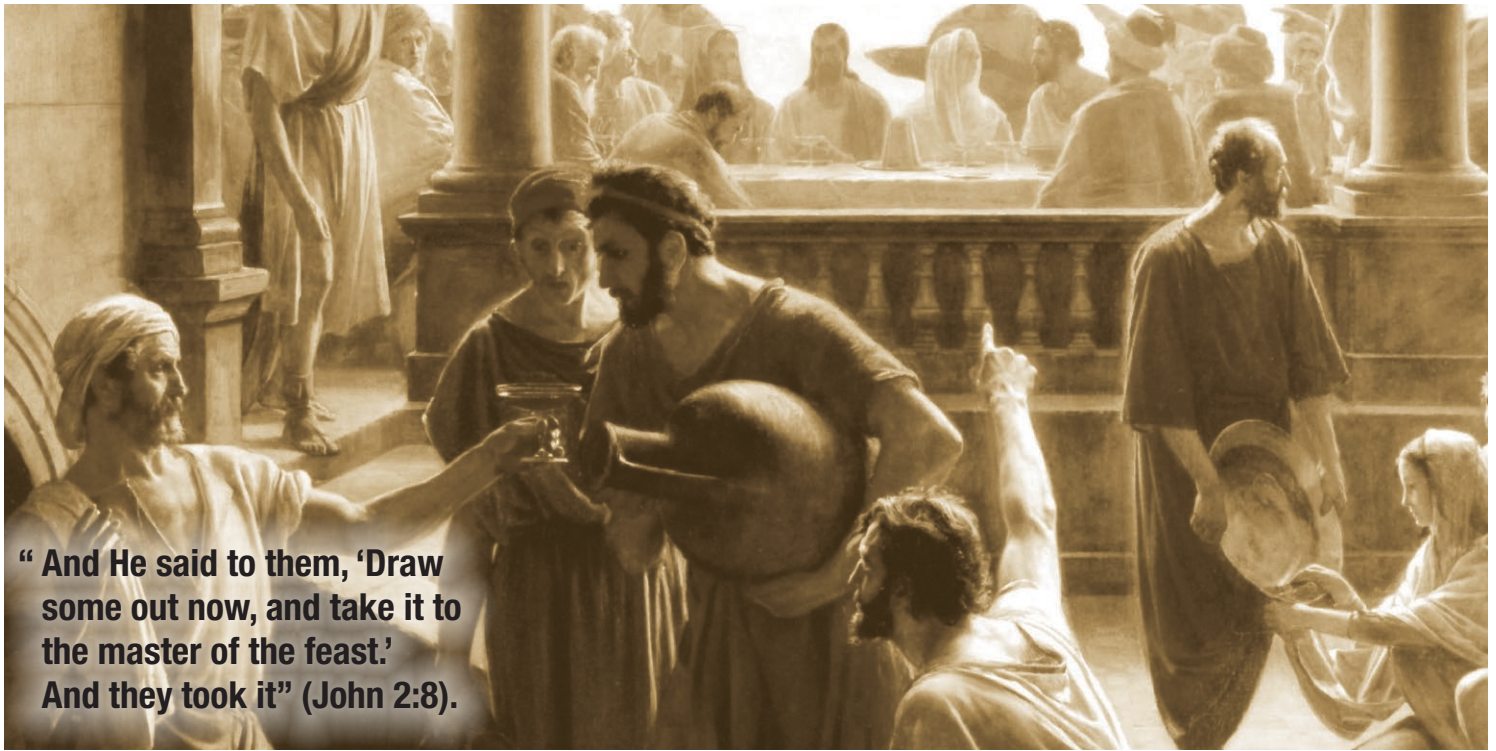
2. GOD HAS A PLAN WHEN HE MAKES A PROMISE TO GIVE OR BLESS YOU.

When God promises, it will not just fall into your lap. God has a plan when He makes a promise and that plan involves faith and obedience.

• God had a plan for Joshua to take Jericho God said, "You shall march around the city, all you men of war; you shall go all around the city once. This you shall do six days. And seven priests shall bear seven trumpets of rams' horns before the ark. But the seventh day you shall march around the city seven times, and the priests shall blow the trumpets. It shall come to pass, when they make a long blast with the ram's horn, and when you hear the sound of the trumpet, that all the people shall shout with a great shout; then the wall of the city will fall down flat. And the people shall go up every man straight before him" (Joshua 6:3-5). You cannot receive if you do not obey in faith.

3. GOD'S PLAN IS RIDICULOUS TO MAN.

God's plan is never according to human wisdom. Do not miss out on God's



“ And He said to them, ‘Draw some out now, and take it to the master of the feast.’ And they took it” (John 2:8).

blessings because you find His plan ridiculous.

• **Taking the city of Jericho by walking around its wall is ridiculous.**

Put yourself in Joshua’s shoes, a powerful man who understood military warfare. God told him that he was to tell his people to take Jericho without the normal warfare. Israel, probably could have questioned the wisdom of Joshua. No wonder, Joshua told the people not to speak when they walk around the walls of Jericho for seven days and seven times on the seventh day. This kept them from murmuring and complaining as the plan was ridiculous. Therefore, believing they obeyed and received the victory.

• **Elijah and the widow in Zarephath**

It would make more sense if God had commanded one of the wealthiest woman in the city of Zarephath to provide for Elijah. But, that’s not the way God provided for Elijah. He had to believe that a widow by way of a miracle would provide for him.

• **Jesus at the wedding in Cana**

When the wine ran out at the wedding at Cana, the Bible says, “He told the servants to pour water into the empty jars. They did as told and then Jesus told them

to serve the guests who were expecting wine.” God’s plan for us to receive is ridiculous, that is why we need faith and obedience to receive what God gives.

Two reasons why God’s plans are ridiculous:

a. God is glorified.

The Bible says, **“For you see your calling, brethren, that not many are wise according to the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called. But God has chosen the foolish things of the world to put to shame the wise, and God has chosen the weak things of the world to put to shame the things which are mighty; and the base things of the world and the things which are despised God has chosen, and the things which are not, to bring to nothing the things that are, that no flesh should glory in His presence. But of Him you are in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God—and righteousness and sanctification”** (I Corinthians 1:26-30).

God wants you to know that it is He who gives the victory and success, wealth and every good thing. When the children of Israel walked around the walls and they fell, they knew without a shadow of doubt, that it was not them, but God had done it. So it was, with Elijah and at the wedding at Cana.

b. God’s ways are higher than our ways.

The Bible says, **“For My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways My ways,”** says the Lord. **“For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways, and My thoughts than your thoughts”** (Isaiah 55:8-9). God is supreme. He is creator God. We are His creation and finite. He is infinite.

4. FAITH AND OBEDIENCE NEEDED TO RECEIVE FROM GOD.

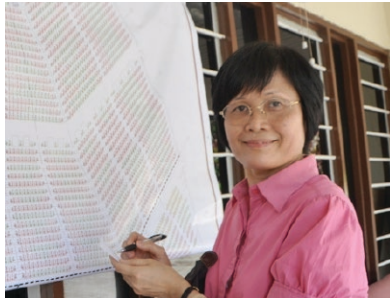
God has a plan for you to take what He has promised you. His plan may seem ridiculous to you. Obeying the ridiculous plan of God takes faith. The Bible says, **“Faith is the substance of things hope for, the evidence of things not seen”** (Hebrews 11:1). The Bible teaches also we are to live by faith. **“For we walk by faith, not by sight”** (2 Corinthians 5:7). God will do mighty things in and through you when you trust and obey. Obey the biblical principle of giving and receiving. God will give you wonderful opportunities so you can receive and be a testimony for Him.

Begin to walk in faith. Trust God as your provider and you will experience His blessings. He is a giver and He keeps His promises. The Bible says, **“If you are willing and obedient, you shall eat the good of the land”** (Isaiah 1:19). +

“Everything we receive from God is by promise. It takes faith to receive it and faith without works is dead.”

Top Row From Left:
Satisfied after making her choice of seats | Sponsors queuing up to register their seats |

Middle And Bottom Rows: Calvarite sponsors of different ages and backgrounds



CCC SEATS SELECTION – Most sponsors have taken their pick

THERE WAS AN ENCOURAGING TURNOUT ON THE CALVARY CONVENTION CENTRE (CCC) SEAT SELECTION DAY ORGANISED BY THE FACILITIES SPONSORSHIP COMMITTEE (FSC) ON 2 FEBRUARY AT THE CALVARY REFRESHMENT CENTRE AT DAMANSARA HEIGHTS. Some enthusiastic sponsors even arrived an hour before the scheduled time to choose the seats of their choice!

Praise God that todate, the Sponsor a Seat programme has raised more than RM1million. However there are still 4,000 seats up for grabs. The Church would like to encourage you to consider taking this step and also invite your friends to do so.

- There are three categories of sponsorship:
- “Sponsored by...”** – for Individuals, organisation or group to sponsor on behalf of themselves or anybody else.
 - “In Honour of...”** – for those who wish



Senior Pastor viewing the CCC seating plan

- to honour a love one whether still here or departed.
- “Blessed by...”** – for those who wish to remain anonymous.

If you missed the selection on 2 February, or would like to be a sponsor, you may do so by contacting the CCC Secretariat at 20959659 or email calcc@calvary.org.my ✚

If you are still not sure whether to sponsor a seat or not, take a cue from the sponsors below:

“We are glad to be able to do something for God’s Kingdom. We pray that the CCC will draw more people to the Lord.”

– **Wendy & Michael Hong**

“It is an honour to be a part of the church and in view of what the Lord has done for us, this is just a very small thing for me to do in return for His goodness.”

– **Johnny Nathan**

“I sponsored to honour my late parents and also to help in a small way in raising funds.” – **Kanesan**

“My hope in sponsoring the seats: I am exercising faith that would spur my next generation in their walk with God.”

– **Chan Siew Eng**

SERVING GOD THROUGH OUR AVAILABILITY INSTEAD OF OUR ABILITY!

BY STEVEN SHE



GOD IS FAITHFUL. HE HAS NEVER FAILED ME EVER SINCE I ACCEPTED CHRIST IN 1973 DURING MY SCHOOL DAYS.

I want to thank God for giving me the opportunity to serve Him in whatever little ways that I can.

Last year, on 1 May, Calvary Church held an open day for Calvarites to view the progress of the near completion of the Calvary Convention Centre (CCC). Having missed out on all the previous opportunities, I decided that I should not miss out on this golden opportunity to see God's faithfulness in providing for and seeing through the completion of CCC.

Little did I know that God had something else in mind for me to do, besides viewing the CCC.

Upon reaching the CCC site, I was met by Datuk Han Joke Kwang who was our group tour leader in showing us the facilities. After the site visit ended, he introduced me to the CCC project manager, Mark Thomas. After seeing God's wonderful faithfulness in bringing the building of CCC to near completion, I was very excited and enquired when the issuance of the Certificate of Fitness would be issued for CCC. It was then that Mark and Han told me about the impending cost of 1% capital contribution fees to be levied for the

connection of our sewerage system. This would work out to about at least RM 1.5 million which Calvary Church would have to pay before our sewerage lines could be connected and commissioned.

Knowing that I had worked for over 30 years as a Civil Engineer, they asked if I knew of anyone in the authorities who could help us get a waiver in settling this sewerage issue. I promised them that I would find out more.

I prayed to God that He would direct me and open the door for us to settle this issue without having to pay the 1% contribution fees. Sure enough, a week later, God told me to send an sms to someone I knew in the Ministry concerned.

God granted us the favour and opened the door for an appointment. After the visit we were well advised in our application and three weeks after our submission of the application, we were granted a waiver to pay a nominal fee of RM100. This saved us RM1.5 million. God in His own way had intervened and shown us His wisdom and faithfulness!

Sometimes, it is not in how much we have that God can use us! Rather, when we are willing to avail ourselves to God and trust Him, He can use us in a greater way, more than what we can ever imagine! I may not have the capability to earn RM1.5

million in my entire life to give to the CCC, but because I was willing to obey and trust Him, He has provided for the CCC a savings of RM1.5 million, the cost that would have been levied on any building built on Institutional land.

I am reminded of the incident of the little boy in John 6:9-14. Because he availed his 5 loaves and 2 fishes to Jesus, God was able to feed the five thousand people in the multitude! So it is with us Calvarites if we are willing to avail ourselves to Him. God will see to it that the CCC is completed to seat a multitude of 5000 people with whatever little resources that we may have!

Indeed, God has been very kind and faithful to provide for my family as well. Less than 2 years ago, my wife was diagnosed with breast cancer, which had started to spread to the bones. As we sought the Lord for His deliverance and healing, He was faithful to halt the progress of the cancer and have since restored her health. Truly, we serve a great and living God who answers our prayers!

In closing, may I once again testify to His greatness. Just 3 months ago, God honoured and answered my prayers by granting me the job promotion which I had been praying for after being bypassed for the last few years! Hallelujah! ✚



Clockwise From Top Left:
A team discussing at the car park | Sizing up what needs to be inspected | Briskly going through their duties | Senior Pastor sharing his finding | Summarising their feedback | Inspecting windows |



CALVARITES PARTICIPATE IN CCC BUILDING FINISHING INSPECTION

Getting CCC ready for our moving in

ON 24 JANUARY, EXECUTIVE PASTOR PETER ONG IN BRIEFING A GROUP OF 30 CALVARITES INVITED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE CCC BUILDING FINISHING INSPECTION SAID, "THE OBJECTIVE IS TO HAVE A FIRST HAND LOOK AT THE FINISHED BUILDING FROM THE CHURCH PERSPECTIVE. On behalf of our Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam and the church, a big thank you for your immediate positive response to the invitation". This team of Calvarites ranged from engineers, construction industry managers to other varied backgrounds like, banking, teaching, administration and so on.

After the briefing by Mark Thomas, our CCC Project Manager, the respective team leaders and members set off with great enthusiasm. They meticulously checked from top to bottom, every nook



Getting a handle of their team's scope of work

and cranny of the building complex, from the auditorium to the institutional block, from the Prayer Tower to the rehearsal rooms, from the Multipurpose Hall to the theatrettes, classrooms and lecture rooms and 3 levels of car parks.

The enthusiasm and commitment of the 30 Calvarites who responded to the invitation is commendable. The team



Counting the seats in the auditorium

took all morning to inspect the building and provided valuable feedback. It was time well spent as these Calvarites also made new acquaintances as they worked together. Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam and Associate Pastors Steven Kum, Chris Lee and Raymond Yong were present as an encouragement.

All glory to God! +

CHURCH SERVICE SCHEDULES WITH EFFECT FROM APRIL 2013

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES AT THE CALVARY CONVENTION CENTRE

(All our services at Damansara Heights, Damansara Perdana and Cheras will be combined at CCC)

Sunday – 9.00AM

Sunday Worship Services
Carpenter's Workshop (CW)
Calvary Nursery Care (CNC)

Sunday – 11.30AM

School of Christian Growth (SCG)
Missionettes
Royal Rangers

Other Services (from Tuesdays to Saturdays) at Calvary Church Damansara Heights

Tuesday

10.00 am – Dimensions Ladies Worship

Wednesday

7.00 am – Morning Watch

Friday

7.30 pm – Prayer Meeting

Saturday

3.00 pm – Youth & College Life Group

5.00 pm – Evening Worship Service *

* NOTE:

The Saturday Evening Worship Service is for:

- The purpose Calvary Church was built at Damansara Heights; to reach and serve the community there, to maintain the Christian presence and to keep the recognition of the church there by the authorities.
- Providing a Worship Service for those serving in CW and CNC on Sundays during the Worship Service at the CCC.
- An alternative for those who miss the Sunday Worship Service at CCC due to travel or other commitment.



From Top:

Cascading fountain at CCC prayer tower | A water feature at the CCC entrance | CCC cornerstone (dedicated on 2 October 2011) at CCC main foyer | Carpeted floor of a CW classroom | All levels of CCC accessible by escalators | View of an entrance to car park from CCC foyer | View of CCC entrance from the observation lift at the CCC entrance | Brightly lit and clear labelling of basement 2 car park

THE BIG MOVE – WE ARE ON TARGET

All preparations are going smoothly.

MOVING TO THE CALVARY CONVENTION CENTRE (CCC) IS SOON GOING TO BE A REALITY! The Church has been planning for it for a long time. Praise God that we are on target to occupy the CCC in March 2013. We will be having our Easter evangelistic presentations and Easter Sunday Service at the CCC auditorium from 29–31 March. Following this inaugural week-end we will be having our worship services at the CCC every Sunday, thereafter.

We thank God for the visionary leadership of our Senior Pastors Prince and Petrina Guneratnam. It is important that every Calvarite in preparing to move to the CCC, recognise that the CCC is not an end in itself. The church is not the building. The CCC is a means that the Lord provided for us to further fulfil His plans and purposes

for Calvary Church. The CCC is an important ministry tool for us as a church.

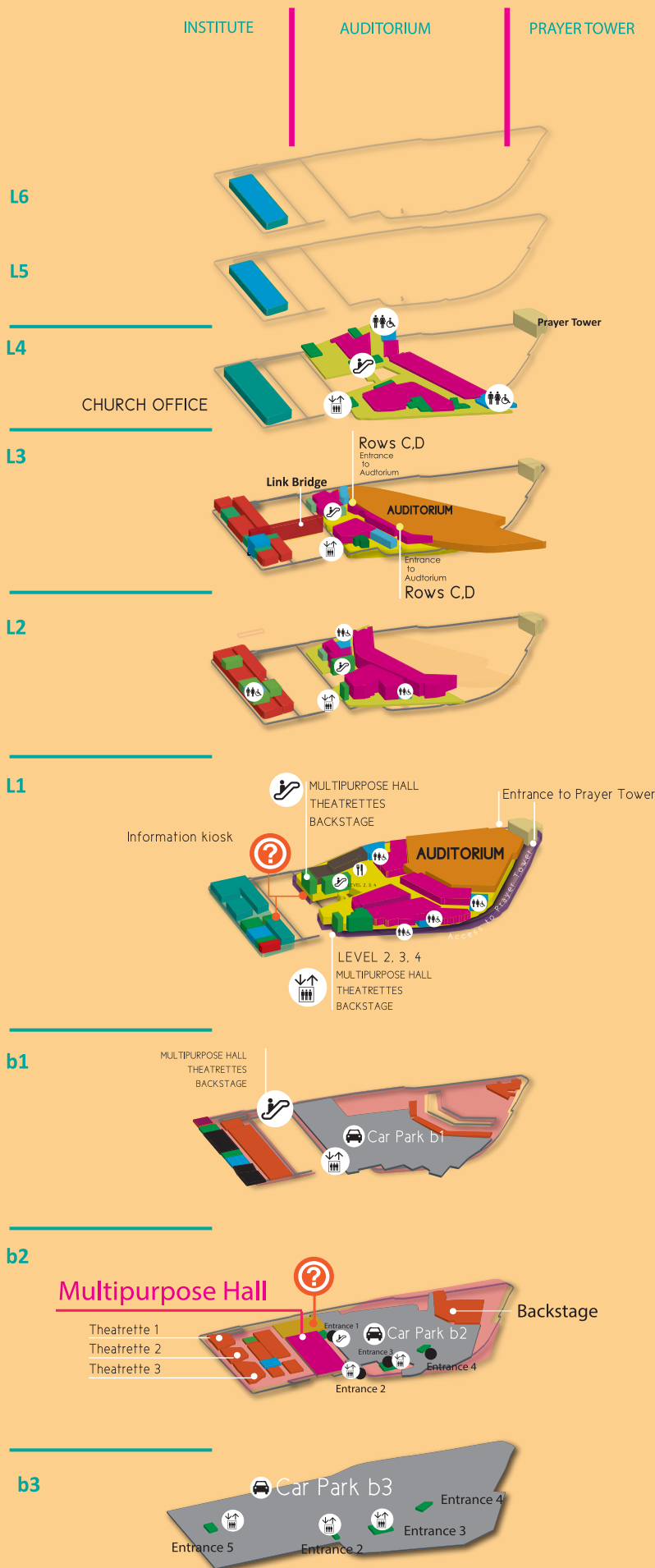
For one thing, we have much more space at the CCC, compared to DH or our satellite churches at Damansara Perdana and Cheras. The CCC accelerates our fulfillment of the Great Commission. We will reach circles of people not yet reached. And God's method is always a man. That means every Calvarite can contribute towards fulfilling the vision God has for Calvary Church, as a fountainhead church to impact nations and transform lives.

Let us be bold and courageous and do what it takes to see our church grow as we move to the bustling Bukit Jalil area and reach out to the local community and beyond. ✚

HOW TO GET TO THE CALVARY CONVENTION CENTRE (CCC)



FACILITIES AT THE CALVARY CONVENTION CENTRE



L4

SCHOOL OF CHRISTIAN GROWTH

L3

ENTRANCE TO UPPER SECTION OF AUDITORIUM

L2

CARPENTER'S WORKSHOP
ROYAL RANGERS
MISSIONETTES

L1

AUDITORIUM
CALVARY NURSERY CARE
WORSHIP NURSERY
VISITORS LOUNGE
CAFETERIA
BOOK STORE

b1 CAR PARK

b2 CAR PARK

MULTIPURPOSE HALL
THEATRETTES

b3 CAR PARK

BEHIND THE SCENES

AT THE REHEARSALS OF EASTER PRESENTATION – IN PICTURES



PREPARATIONS ARE IN FULL SWING BY THE MUSIC AND CREATIVE ART'S (M&CA) MINISTRY FOR CALVARY'S UPCOMING MUSICAL PRESENTATION "HEAVEN & EARTH REJOICE".

Associate Pastor Chris Lee, the ministry head for M&CA shares that many participants have seized the privilege to be part of this historic presentation, the very first to be performed at the Calvary Convention Centre (CCC) from 29 -31 March 2013.

Calvary News goes behind the

scenes to watch the rehearsals for this production. We marvel at the dedication and commitment of every person involved in the entire production. A special mention of those involved in stage-management, costumes, props and set design who are also busy at work in the background.. We also salute the parents who bring their kids for the rehearsals faithfully, ongoing since beginning of January.

We pray it will be as enjoyable and powerful for all who come for the presentations at the CCC, as it has been for us watching the rehearsals. +

Clockwise From Bottom Left:
 Graceful leaps |
 Trainer briefing dancers |
 Dancers practising |
 Coordinated moves is key |
 Combined choir (ladies) |
 Tenors rehearsing |
 Combined choir (men) |
 Altos rehearsing |
 Sopranos rehearsing |
 Kids choir with their trainer |
 Drama team rehearsing



BAGAIMANA MENERIMA DARIPADA TUHAN

OLEH PENDITA KANAN PRINCE GUNERATNAM

TUHAN ADALAH PEMBERI, TETAPI RAMAI ORANG TIDAK TAHU BAGAIMANA UNTUK MENERIMA. Kaedah Tuhan untuk memberi tidak seperti manusia. Kaedah manusia adalah dengan memenuhi syarat-syarat terlebih dahulu. Ada lagi yang terpaksa berusaha untuk menerima. Jika kamu tidak berusaha, kamu tidak akan menerima. Yang lain, adalah melalui persaingan. Kamu perlu berlatih dan bekerja keras, untuk menjadi pemenang untuk menerima ganjaran, seperti dalam sukan.

Dalam kerajaan Tuhan, prinsip alkitabiah untuk menerima adalah dalam pemberian (Lukas 6:38). Ia adalah hukum Tuhan untuk menyemai dan menuai (Galatia 6:7). Sistem duniawi untuk berjaya adalah untuk membeli dan menjual. Tetapi Alkitab mengatakan, “sebab Dialah yang memberikan kepadamu kekuatan untuk memperoleh kekayaan” (Ulangan 8:18). Alkitab dengan jelas mengajar kita tidak boleh melayani dua tuan, Tuhan dan dewa kekayaan. Kita akan mengasihi yang satu dan membenci yang satu lagi (Lukas 16:13). Ramai orang percaya mempunyai pergumulan dengan hal memberi kerana dewa kekayaan adalah tuan mereka. Tetapi apabila Tuhan adalah tuan mereka, memberi menjadi satu cara hidup.

EMPAT PERKARA KAMU PERLU TAHU UNTUK MENERIMA DARI-PADA TUHAN

1. TUHAN MEMBERI MELALUI PERJANJIAN

Apabila Tuhan memutuskan untuk memberi, ia telah dilakukan walaupun kita

masih belum menerimanya. Semua yang kita terima daripada Tuhan adalah melalui janji. Ia memerlukan iman untuk menerima dan iman tanpa perbuatan adalah mati (Yakobus 2:17).

Mari kita melihat beberapa contoh.

• Bandar Yerikho

Alkitab mengatakan, “**Berfirmanlah TUHAN kepada Yosua: “Ketahuilah, Aku serahkan ke tanganmu Yerikho ini beserta rajanya dan pahlawan-pahlawannya yang gagah perkasa”** (Yosua 6:2). Tetapi orang-orang Israel masih berada di luar tembok kota Yerikho, walaupun Tuhan telah berkata, “Aku telah memberikan”. Selagi berkaitan dengan Tuhan, Dia telah menyerahkan Yerikho kepada orang-orang Israel. Mereka tidak perlu meminta Yerikho lagi. Tetapi Yosua dan orang-orang Israel belum menerimanya lagi! Inilah bagaimana orang percaya perlu memahami bagaimana untuk menerima dari Tuhan. Kamu mesti tahu bagaimana untuk mengambil apa yang Tuhan telah berikan. Ia memerlukan iman dengan perbuatan untuk memiliki berkat kamu.

• Nabi Elia pada masa kemarau yang membawa kebuluran

Alkitab mengatakan, “**Maka datanglah firman TUHAN kepada Elia: “Bersiaplah, pergi ke Sarfat yang termasuk wilayah Sidon, dan diamlah di sana. Ketahuilah, Aku telah memerintahkan seorang janda untuk memberi engkau makan”** (1 Raja-raja 17:8-9). Ia memerlukan iman dengan perbuatan untuk menerima perbekalanmu.

Satu lagi contoh bahawa Tuhan memberikan kamu dalam bentuk janji sebelum kamu merealisasinya, iaitu keselamatan-Nya. Keselamatan adalah pemberian daripada Tuhan. Ia adalah satu perjanjian yang sudah dilakukan. Lebih daripada dua ribu tahun dahulu Yesus mati di atas salib dan bangkit daripada maut untuk keselamatan kita. Harga telah dibayar. Anugerah keselamatan tersedia, itu adalah milik kamu untuk menerima Kristus sebagai Juruselamat. Terpujanglah kepada kamu untuk menerimanya. Dasar bagi kamu untuk menerima adalah untuk mengaku segala dosamu dengan mengakui dari mulutmu, percaya dalam hatimu bahawa Tuhan Yesus Kristus sebagai Juruselamat dan kamu akan diselamatkan. Iman dan ketaatan diperlukan untuk menerima keselamatanmu.

2. TUHAN MEMPUNYAI RENCANA UNTUK KAMU TAATI APABILA DIA MAHU MEMBERI ATAU MEMBERKATI KAMU.

Apabila Tuhan berjanji, ia tidak akan jatuh ke riba kamu. Tuhan mempunyai rencana untuk kamu taati dan rencana yang melibatkan iman dan ketaatan.

• Tuhan mempunyai rencana untuk Yosua mengambil Yerikho

Tuhan berkata, “**Haruslah kamu mengelilingi kota itu, yakni semua prajurit harus mengedari kota itu sekali saja; demikianlah harus engkau berbuat enam hari lamanya, dan tujuh orang imam harus membawa tujuh sangkakala tanduk domba di depan tabut. Tetapi pada hari yang ketujuh, tujuh kali kamu**

harus mengelilingi kota itu sedang para imam meniup sangkakala. Apabila sangkakala tanduk domba itu panjang bunyinya dan kamu mendengar bunyi sangkakala itu, maka haruslah seluruh bangsa bersorak dengan sorak yang nyaring, maka tembok kota itu akan runtuh, lalu bangsa itu harus memanjatinya, masing-masing langsung ke depan” (Yosua 6:3-5). Kamu tidak boleh menerima jika kamu tidak mentaati dalam iman.

3. RENCANA TUHAN TIDAK MASUK AKAL BAGI MANUSIA.

Rencana Tuhan tidak pernah mengikuti kebijaksanaan manusia. Jangan berkecanggungan rahmat Tuhan kerana kamu mendapati ia tidak masuk akal.

• Menakluki kota Yerikho dengan berjalan mengelilingi tembok adalah tidak masuk akal.

Letakkan diri kamu dalam keadaan Yosua, seorang lelaki berkuasa yang memahami ketenteraan peperangan. Tuhan memberitahunya bahawa dia dikehendaki memberitahu orang-orangnya untuk menakluki Yerikho tanpa peperangan kebiasaan. Israel, mungkin mempersoalkan kebijaksanaan Yosua. Tidak hairanlah, Yosua memberitahu orang-orangnya agar tidak bercakap apabila mereka berjalan mengelilingi tembok Yerikho selama tujuh hari dan tujuh kali pada hari ketujuh. Ini menghalang mereka daripada merungut dan mengadu disebabkan rancangan itu tidak masuk akal. Oleh itu, mereka percaya dan taat dan menerima kemenangan.

• Elia dan janda di Sarfat

la lebih masuk akal jika Tuhan memerintahkan salah satu daripada wanita terkaya di bandar Sarfat untuk mengadakan perbekalan bagi Elia. Tetapi, itulah cara Tuhan menyediakan untuk Elia, dengan iman dan ketaatan beliau.

• Yesus di pesta pernikahan di Kana

Apabila air anggur berkurangan di pesta pernikahan di Kana, Alkitab mengatakan, “Dia memberitahu pelayan-pelayan mengisikan tempayan-tempayan kosong dengan air. Mereka melakukan seperti



yang disuruhkan dan kemudian Yesus menyuruh mereka menghidangkan tetamu-tetamu yang mengharap air anggur”. Rencana Tuhan untuk kita menerima mukjizat adalah tidak masuk akal, itulah sebabnya kita memerlukan iman dan ketaatan untuk menerima apa yang Tuhan berikan.

Dua sebab mengapa rancangan Tuhan tidak masuk akal:

a. Tuhan dimuliakan.

Alkitab mengatakan, “Ingat saja, saudara-saudara, bagaimana keadaan kamu, ketika kamu dipanggil: menurut ukuran manusia tidak banyak orang yang bijak, tidak banyak orang yang berpengaruh, tidak banyak orang yang terpandang. Tetapi apa yang bodoh bagi dunia, dipilih Tuhan untuk memalukan orang-orang yang berhikmat, dan apa yang lemah bagi dunia, dipilih Tuhan untuk memalukan apa yang kuat, dan apa yang tidak

“Semua yang kita terima daripada Tuhan adalah melalui janji. Ia memerlukan iman untuk menerima dan iman tanpa perbuatan adalah mati.”

terpandang dan yang hina bagi dunia, dipilih Tuhan, bahkan apa yang tidak berarti, dipilih Tuhan untuk meniadakan apa yang berarti, supaya jangan ada seorang manusiapun yang memegahkan diri di hadapan Tuhan. Tetapi oleh Dia kamu berada dalam Kristus Yesus, yang oleh Tuhan telah menjadi hikmat bagi kita. Ia membenarkan dan menguduskan dan menebus kita” (1 Korintus 1:26-30).

Tuhan mahu kamu mengetahui bahawa Dialah yang memberikan kemenangan dan kejayaan, kekayaan dan setiap perkara yang baik. Apabila anak-anak Israel berjalan mengelilingi tembok dan tembok terjatuh, mereka tahu tanpa keraguan, bahawa ia bukan mereka, tetapi Tuhan yang telah melakukannya. Demikian juga, dengan Elia dan di pesta pernikahan di Kana.

b. Jalan Tuhan adalah lebih tinggi daripada cara-cara kita.

Alkitab mengatakan, “Sebab rancangan-Ku bukanlah rancanganmu, dan jalanmu bukanlah jalan-Ku, demikianlah firman TUHAN. Seperti tingginya langit dari bumi, demikianlah tingginya jalan-Ku dari jalanmu dan rancangan-Ku dari rancanganmu” (Yesaya 55:8-9). Tuhan adalah yang tertinggi. Dia adalah Tuhan Pencipta. Kita adalah ciptaan-Nya dan terbatas. Dialah Tuhan tidak terbatas.

4. IMAN DAN KETAATAN DIPERLUKAN UNTUK MENERIMA DARIPADA TUHAN.

Tuhan mempunyai rencana untuk kamu mengambil apa yang Dia telah janjikan kepadamu. Rencana-Nya mungkin kelihatan tidak masuk akal bagimu. Mentaati rencana Tuhan yang tidak masuk akal memerlukan keimanan. Alkitab berkata, “Iman adalah dasar dari segala sesuatu yang kita harapkan dan bukti dari segala sesuatu yang tidak kita lihat” (Ibrani 11:1). Alkitab juga mengajar kita supaya hidup dengan beriman. “...sebab hidup kami ini adalah hidup karena percaya, bukan karena melihat...” (2 Korintus 5:7). Tuhan akan melakukan perkara-perkara yang besar di dalam dan melalui kamu apabila kamu percaya dan mentaati. Taatilah prinsip alkitabiah tentang memberi dan menerima. Tuhan akan memberikan kesempatan yang baik supaya kamu boleh menerima dan menjadi kesaksian bagi-Nya.

Mulalah berjalan dalam iman. Percayalah Tuhan sebagai pembekalmu dan kamu akan mengalami berkatNya. Dia adalah pemberi dan Dia menepati janji-janjinya. Alkitab mengatakan, “Jika kamu menurut dan mau mendengar, maka kamu akan memakan hasil baik dari negeri itu” (Yesaya 1:19). ✚

Semua petikan Alkitab adalah dari Alkitab Terjemahan Baru.



文：古纳南主任牧师

神是一位施予者，但是许多信徒不知道该如何领受。神的施予方法，不似人的方法。人的施予方法是先要满足所有的条件，然后他们才可以领受。同样地，有一些人必须工作，为了可以领受。如果你不工作，你就不能领受。另一种方法是通过竞争。如在体育运动，你必须经过训练和不断地努力，才能成为一位胜利者而领取奖赏。

在神的国度里，领受的圣经原则是要施予(路6:38)。这是神种和收的律(加6:7)。世俗的兴盛系统是买入和卖出。但是圣经上说，“因为得货财的力量是神给你的”(申8:18)。圣经清楚地教导我们不能事奉两个主，不能又事奉神，又事奉玛门(物质财富)。我们一定会爱这个和恶那个(路16:13)。许多信徒在施予方面挣扎因为玛门是他们的主体。但是，当神是他们的主时，那么施予便成为一种生活的方式。

要从神领受你需要知道四件事

1. 神以应许的方式施予

当神决定施予时，即使我们还没有领受到它，它已被成就了。我们从神领受的一切都是通过应许。它需要信心来领受，信心若没有行为就是死的(雅2:17)。

让我们来看看一些例子。

• 耶利哥城

圣经上说：「耶和華曉諭約書亞說：『看哪，我已經把耶利哥和耶利哥的王，并大能的勇士，都交在你手中。』」(书6:2)。但以以色列人仍在耶利哥城的城墙之外，虽然神说：「我已经给了」。对神来说，祂已经把耶利哥交给以色列人。他们不必要求耶利哥。但是约书亚和以色列人尚未得到它！这是信徒需要了解如何从神领受之处。你必须知道如何获取神已经施予的。要拥有你的祝福是需要信心和行为。

• 先知以利亚在旱灾饥荒的时期

圣经上说：「耶和華的話臨到他說：『你起身往西頓的撒勒法去，住在那里；我已吩咐那里的一个寡妇供养你。』」(王上17:8-9)。要领受你的供应是需要信心和行为。

另一个关于在你未实现它之前，神以应许的形式施予你的例证是祂的救恩。救恩是神赐予的礼物。它是已经完成了。在两千多年前，耶稣为我们的救恩被钉死在十字架上，并从死里复活。赎价已经被交付。神救恩的礼物已经预备好了，只要你接受基督为救

主，它就是你的。要领受它是由你来决定。你领受它的根据是以你的口承认你的罪，在你的心里相信主耶稣基督作你的救主，你就必得救。要领受你的救恩是需要信心和顺服。

2. 当神想施予或祝福你时，祂有一个计划要你服从。

当神作出应许时，你不会不劳而获。神有一个计划要你去服从，而该计划涉及信心和顺服。

• 神有一个计划给约书亚去取得耶利哥

神说：「你们的一切兵丁要围绕这城，一日围绕一次，六日都要这样行。七个祭司要拿七个羊角走在约柜前。到第七日，你们要绕城七次，祭司也要吹角。他们吹的角声拖长，你们听见角声，众百姓要大声呼喊，城墙就必坍塌，各人都要往前直上」(书6:3-5)。如果你不以信心服从，你是不能领受。

3. 神的计划对人来说是荒谬的。

神的计划是从不根据人的智慧。不要因为你觉得它荒谬而错过了神的祝福。

• 以围绕耶利哥城的城墙步行来取得耶利哥城是荒谬的。

你设身处地为约书亚，一个了解军事战略和有权力的人想想。神告诉他，要他去告诉众百姓以非正规的作战方式去取得耶利哥。以色列民可能会质疑约书亚的智慧。这也难怪，当约书亚告诉以色列民围绕耶利哥城的城墙步行七日，第七日七次的时候，要他们不说话。这阻止他们不能说怨言和抱怨，因为这计划是荒谬的。因此，他们相信和服从，并取得了胜利。

• 以利亚和撒勒法的寡妇

如果神所吩咐为以利亚提供食物的妇人是在撒勒法城最富有的妇女之一，它会更合理。但是，那是神供应以利亚的方式，靠他的信心和服从。

• 耶稣在迦拿的婚礼

在迦拿的婚礼，当酒用尽的时候，圣经上说，「祂吩咐用人把缸倒满了水。他们就倒满了，然后耶稣告诉他们把它舀出来送给期待酒的客人」。神对我们领受奇迹的计划是荒谬的，这就是为什么我们需要信心和服从来领受神的施予。

有两个原因为什么神的计划是荒谬的：

a. 神得荣耀。

圣经上说：「弟兄们哪，可见你们蒙召的，

按着肉体有智慧的不多，有能力的也不多，有尊贵的也不多。神却拣选了世上愚拙的，叫有智慧的羞愧；又拣选了世上软弱的，叫那强壮的羞愧。神也拣选了世上卑贱的，被人厌恶的，以及那无有的，为要废掉那有的，使一切有血气的，在神面前一个也不能自夸。但你们得在基督耶稣里是本乎神，神又使他成为我们的智慧、公义、圣洁、救赎」(林前1:26-30)。

神要你知道这是祂给你胜利与成功，财富和每一件美事。当以色列的百姓围绕著城墙行走，而它们倒塌时，他们毫无疑问地知道，这不是他们，而是神成就了此事。以利亚和在迦拿的婚礼的例子也正是如此。

b. 神的方法是高过我们的方法。

圣经上说：「耶和華說：『我的意念非同你们的意念；我的道路非同你们的道路。天怎样高过地，照样，我的道路高过你们的道路；我的意念高过你们的意念。』」(赛55:8-9)。神是至高无上的。祂是创造神。我们是祂所造的和有限的。祂是无限的。

4. 需要信心和服从来领受从神而来的

神有一个计划给你来得著祂所应许你的。祂的计划对你来说似乎是荒谬的。顺服神荒谬的计划需要信心。圣经上说：「信就是所望之事的实底，是未见之事的的确据」(来11:1)。圣经也教导我们要凭信心生活。「因我们行事为人是凭着信心，不是凭着眼见」(林后5:7)。当你信靠和服从时，神将会在你里面，并通过你成就大事。请遵守圣经施予和领受的原则。神将会赐奇妙的机会来施予你，以至于你就可以领受并为祂作见证。

开始凭信心生活。信靠神为你的供应者，你就会经历到祂的祝福。祂是一位施予者和祂是遵守祂所赐下的应许。圣经上说：「你们若甘心听从，必吃地上的美物」(赛1:19)。

以上经文是采用中文圣经和合本。

三月份 华人新年团契

主题：“丰盛的活在神的能力里”
(弗3:20-21)

讲员：古纳南主任牧师

日期：10-3-13 (日)

时间：上午十一点

地点：蕉赖卫星教会 (PACC)

申请浸礼及会籍

浸礼及会籍课程

日期：9-3-13 (六)

时间：下午一点

浸礼聚会

日期：10-3-13 (日)

时间：上午十点半

地点：加略山教会(大堂)

MAR 20
13**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

03

Holy Communion**Rev. Margaret Seaward**Associate Pastor
David SeahAssociate Pastor
Richard YunAssociate Pastor
Richard Yun

10

Associate Pastor
Peter OngAssociate Pastor
Chan Lee PengAssociate Pastor
Raymond YongAssociate Pastor
Raymond Yong

17

**Senior Associate Pastor Petrina Guneratnam**Associate Pastor
Raymond YongAssociate Pastor
Steven KumAssociate Pastor
Steven Kum

24

**Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam**Senior Pastor
Prince GuneratnamSenior Pastor
Prince GuneratnamSenior Pastor
Prince Guneratnam

31

**COMBINED EASTER WORSHIP SERVICE**
9 am at Calvary Convention Centre (CCC)
Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam**Bahasa Malaysia Fellowship**

The BM Fellowship will be combined with the Easter Worship Service at 9am at CCC

Water Baptism and Membership Class9 March, 2013
Saturday, 1pm**Water Baptism Service**10 March, 2013
Sunday, 10.30am

2013 华人新年 联欢午宴
Chinese New Year Fellowship

讲员：古纳南主任牧师
Speaker: Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam
主题：在上帝的能力里活得丰盛
Theme: Living abundantly in GOD's ability
地点：蕙颖卫星教会 (PACC)
Venue: Pusat Aktiviti Calvary Cheras
日期：三月十日(日) 时间：上午11点
Date: 10th March (Sun) Time: 11 am

Come with your loved ones and friends and be blessed!
To register for lunch after the service please call 7728600 ext 301

CALVARY PRESENTS A SPECTACULAR MUSICAL

HEAVEN & EARTH REJOICE!

29, 30, 31 MAR 2013 (FRI, 8PM | SAT & SUN, 5PM)

Be sure to bring your family and friends for this inaugural musical presentation. First time to be held at our new worship centre – Calvary Convention Centre (CCC) No. 1, Jalan Perkasa 1, Bukit Jalil, 57100 Kuala Lumpur

For more details contact us at 03-77286000 / 03-77273948

PRAYER EMPHASIS WEEK

10-16 MARCH 2013

“The Passion of Prayer”

Prepare yourself spiritually for Easter, remembering what our Lord went through the ‘Passion Week’.

Make this a time to draw close to the heart of Jesus.

Endeavour to attend our Church weekday services and Life Groups (LG):

- Wednesday Morning Watch @ DH sanctuary – 7.00am
 - Friday Prayer Meeting @ DH sanctuary – 7.30pm
 - LG meeting – Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Saturday
- Call 03-77286000 ext 333



CONNECT MEETING
22 MARCH 2013, 7.30pm

Damansara Heights sanctuary
Light refreshments served after meeting.

STEWARDSHIP DAY
17 MAY 2013, 7.30pm

Damansara Heights sanctuary



CALVARY CHURCH (Assemblies of God)

CHRIST-CENTRED | EVANGELICAL | MISSIONARY

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