

calvary NEWS

a publication of calvary church

2015 NOV

Issue 176

PP5911/11/2012(041323)

THE WORTH OF A SOUL



"No One Cares For My Soul" (Psalm 142:4)

THE WORTH OF

"No One Cares For My Soul" (Psalm 142:4)

Jesus said, **"And what do you benefit if you gain the whole world but lose your own soul?"** (Mark 8:36)NLT. Our human mind finds difficulty understanding the full impact/implication of the worth of the soul. The value of the soul is taught by Jesus in one of the many parables He told. Parables are stories with spiritual applications and they teach about the Kingdom of God.

THE PARABLE OF THE MERCHANT AND THE PEARL OF GREAT PRICE AS TOLD BY JESUS.

This parable reveals the value of the soul. Jesus said, **"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant seeking beautiful pearls, who, when he had found one pearl of great price, went and sold all that he had and bought it"** (Matthew 13:45-46).

The analogy of the parable.

The merchant is Jesus and the pearl is the soul.

The parable relates to the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ. It begins with the merchant seeking for pearls which speak of Jesus seeking for the souls of men. Our soul is eternal and will never die.

Our body will die and will return to the earth from which it came from. But our souls belong to God and will go back to God or be separated from God for eternity (Ezekiel 18:4). If the soul is separated from God it will be sent to hell, a place of eternal torment meant for Satan and his demons (Matthew 25:41). We are to decide, while we are on earth, as to where we want to spend eternity. How foolish we are to spend our time, money, talent and energy for the needs and the things the body wants, which is temporal, and neglect the salvation of our soul through Jesus Christ who gives eternal life with God in heaven.

GOD HAS A PLAN FOR THE SALVATION OF THE SOUL

1. The Merchant is Jesus, who came to seek for souls.

We are created trichotomous, spirit, soul and body and are capable to have fellowship with God for all eternity (1 Thessalonians 5:23). The Bible clearly says, **"God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life"** (John 3:16) and **"The Son of Man has come to seek and to save that**

which was lost" (Luke 19:10). You may think you found Jesus! But the truth is, He found you. It is in God's mercy and grace, we are saved. Paul testified, **"This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am chief"** (1 Timothy 1:15). Only Jesus can save (Acts 4:12). We have been commissioned to be His witnesses, **"Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you. And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age"** (Matthew 28:19-20)NLT.

2. Jesus, the Merchant "sold" all He had.

The merchant found the pearl, and sold everything he had. The word "sold" is not to be taken literally. It simply means he was willing to give up what he had. What Jesus had was not insignificant. The Bible says He, **"Who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bond-servant, and coming in the likeness of men. And being found in appearance as a man,**

A SOUL

By Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam

He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross” (Ephesians 2:6-8). Jesus was willing to relinquish all His position, authority and power that you and I can return to our original position and have perfect relationship with our heavenly Father (Genesis 3:8).

THE MAKING OF THE PEARL

The Oyster Births The Pearl Out Of Pain And Suffering.

An oyster is a living organism. When a speck of sand or any foreign object gets inside the oyster, it causes pain and suffering. To protect itself, the oyster secretes a substance called mother-of-pearl, or nacre, to surround the intruder. It is the secretion that gradually forms the pearl. Thus, the pearl is born out of much pain and torment. Life is not a bed of roses.

3. Jesus, the Merchant “bought” – paid the ultimate price.

The merchant sold what he had and bought the pearl. The word “bought” is to redeem. He is a redeeming merchant. The Bible says, **“But when the fullness of the time had come, God sent**

forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, that we might receive the adoption as sons” (Galatians 4:4-5). Our souls can be redeemed. The Bible says, **“For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God’s”** (1 Corinthians 6:20) and **“Knowing that you were not redeemed with corruptible things, like silver or gold, from your aimless conduct received by tradition from your fathers, but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot”** (1 Peter 1:18-19). This is the value of our soul. Jesus paid the ultimate price. The challenge is to do what Jesus says, **“Do you not say, ‘There are still four months and then comes the harvest’? Behold, I say to you, lift up your eyes and look at the fields, for they are already white for harvest!”** (John 4:35).

When Jesus redeems you, His grace and mercy surrounds you, and empowers you to live a victorious and successful Christian life. You are that pearl that Jesus died for and He can make you more than a conqueror for the glory of God!

There is a soul in every human being. Eventually we will die, but

the soul is eternal and needs to be redeemed. Satan will shortchange you with his temptations but you are worth more than the world and what Satan can offer. Don’t sell yourself short.

The Cry Of Those Who Have Yet To Be Redeemed.

The Bible says, **“Look on my right hand and see, For there is no one who acknowledges me; Refuge has failed me; No one cares for my soul”** (Psalms 142:4). The cry is no man cares for my soul. Open your spiritual ears and hear their cry. They could be right in your home, your loved ones, your neighbours, your colleagues or friends. They are crying for someone to care and pray for them. Therefore, how can we not be His witnesses and testify of His saving grace. Have faith to believe, to pray and to act in obedience. Testify of God’s goodness, and bring them into the saving knowledge of Jesus Christ.

All Bible quotations are in the New King James version, unless otherwise indicated.

LEARNING THE FUN WAY ON CHILDREN'S DAY

Kids to be like Jesus, to go, grow and glow By Patrina Chan



Children's Day on 27 September at Calvary Convention Centre (CCC) saw the Carpenters' Workshop (CW) classrooms all decked with bright green and gold coloured balloons and colourful flag posters with pictures of trees in the same colours. Kids too were all dressed up in similar colours, adding to the bright, festive and joyful atmosphere.

The CW kids were all excited. Many had invited their friends for this special day. Praise and thank God for 36 first time visitors and 55 returning visitors! A total of 361 kids were in attendance.

Some highlights of the day:

- Senior Associate Pastor Petrina Guneratnam and Pastor Susan Tan greeted each CW kid warmly and Executive Pastor Peter Ong prayed a prayer of blessing for all the children, at CW and CNC.
- With the theme, Go, Grow, Glow, the lessons were based on Luke 2:52. Each kid learnt they are to be like Jesus and grow in wisdom, stature and in favour with

God and man. The respective class teachers gave them practical tips how they can "go", "grow" and "glow" or shine for Jesus. Gan Chew and Quek Lee Siu taught the 5-6 year old kids. Jonathan Ngeow and Chang Foong Jui taught the 7-11 year old kids with some help from Gembi, a hand puppet. Pastor Susan further encouraged the kids and prayed for them.

- The kids enjoyed the games and winning teams received prizes.
- During refreshments time, the kids had finger food specially prepared by parents and some parents helped serve the food too.
- Praise and thank God for the effort of parents to dress their kids according to the theme and prizes were awarded to the most creatively dressed kids.
- Each kid received a stationery holder with sweet treats and a special message card from their parents as gifts to remember the event.



3



5



6



7

1. Captivating lesson for kids
2. Teacher Evancia surrounded by kids at play
3. Senior Associate Pastor Petrina & Pastor Susan encouraging the kids
4. A mother registering her kids
5. Teacher Sophia sharing the lesson
6. CNC kids being prayed for by Pastor Peter
7. Kids listening to lesson on 'To Be Like Jesus'

A special thank-you to parents for their contributions, preparing and serving the food, the planning committee and the Children Ministry Team for their love and dedication.

The CCC facilities were a blessing for the event. Besides the regular CW classrooms, the games and refreshments for the older kids were held at the Multipurpose and Banquet Hall.

Praise and thank God for touching and impacting each kid with His love and Word through the various planned activities. Thirty kids responded for salvation and all kids responded to follow Jesus and grow to be like Him. What a special and meaningful Children's Day!

A WONDERFUL CHILDREN'S DAY AT CNC

By Hannah Chiu

The Calvary Nursery (CNC) kids age 4 and below, also had a great time and were much blessed on Children's Day on 27 September.

Executive Pastor prayed and blessed the kids as soon as they settled in. After they enjoyed their special DIY snack, it was Praise and Worship and Story Telling by Teacher Sophia Chan, who shared on 'To Be Like Jesus' (Luke 2:52).

The parents did an amazing job dressing their kids according to the theme colours, green and gold and prizes were awarded for the creative outfits.

At the conclusion, the kids received their party packs and helium filled balloons which comes with encouraging notes written by their parents.

Praise and thank God for the good turn-out and for blessing the kids. Thanks to all CNC teachers, helpers and parents who contributed to the success of this wonderful day.



AN EXHILARATING AND ENRICHING CHILDREN'S DAY

Photographs by Andre Chan, Lim Tow Yen & Tracy Chang



- 1a-1e. Exciting Children's Day - kids at play, in prayer, awarded for creative dressing and in worship, respectively
- 2. Pastor Peter praying for the CW kids
- 3. Kids praising the Lord
- 4-5. Kids enjoying the games
- 6. Kids captivated by the lesson
- 7. Chang Foong Jeu teaching lesson based on theme
- 8. Kids enjoying a lesson involving action
- 9. Gan Chew teaching younger kids on to Go, Grow & Glow
- 10. Kids attentive & soaking in the lesson
- 11-12. Time for refreshments at CNC & Multipurpose Banquet Hall, respectively



AN INSPIRING LG CONFERENCE 2015



PHOTOGRAPHS BY HENRY TAI & LER MEI YEE



1. Senior Pastor sharing why we started LGs with all participants
- 2a-c. Speakers, Christine Caine, Harvey Carey & Catherine by video
- 3a-c. LG Leaders, Jeffrey Teow, Yeh Kar Yen & Susan Leong sharing testimonies
- 4a-e. Sharing their discussion feedback
- 5a-e. Group discussion around the tables
- 6a-b. Praying in small groups

Participants Empowered and Emboldened To Get Into Action



1



5a



5b



5c



5d



5e



6a



6b



AN INSPIRING LG CONFERENCE 2015

Empowered and Emboldened To Get Into Action

By Chang Foong Jau

Life Group (LG) Leaders, hosts and potential leaders were empowered and emboldened by the LG Conference, themed “BE BOLD”, held in Calvary Convention Centre for the very first time on 23-24 September.

The night open session started with a vibrant song medley sung by the Multi-lingual LG Choir, in English, BM, Mandarin, Tagalog, African and Portuguese. All participants joined in and we worshipped our Lord in joy and unity in the Multipurpose Banquet Hall (MPBH).

The great momentum at the start of the conference flowed throughout the LG Conference. The choice of speakers and topics all relentlessly built on the theme, “BE BOLD”.

Three testimonies by LG Leaders encouraged us how we can be bold and impact our community. Jeffrey Teow overcame initial fears and self-doubts to become a LG Leader and lead a new LG, bringing light and hope to a new community. Women LG members led by Yeoh Kar Yen overcame their timidity and stepped out of their comfort zone to share the Gospel with the needy. Susan Leong’s LG befriends neighbourhood families with children and invites them to Children Church on Sundays.

The first video message, “Leading on the Edge of Hope” by Christine Caine drove home the urgency of the Church’s responsibility to rise up at a time like this and bring hope to those hurting around the world. A cofounder of A21 Campaign, an organisation that combats human trafficking globally, Christine herself is a living testimony

of the hope we have in Jesus. She was adopted and suffered abuse in childhood. Truly God offers hope and He can use anyone, irrespective of their past and background.

At the close of the first night, Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam encouraged us to kneel and seek the Lord in prayer. We sought the Lord humbly yet fervently. God brought healing and took away our fears and granted us boldness.

The next morning, the cosy ambience in the MPBH was enhanced with the round table setting, which afforded participants good opportunities to fellowship over breakfast.

Senior Pastor shared on the fundamentals of LG ministry and the purpose of the five-fold Ministry (Eph 4:11-14; Exodus 18:14-27) is to



2



3



4



6a



6b



5

1. Vibrant Multi-lingual LG Choir presenting songs
2. Senior Pastor emphasises 'Ministry is a warfare'
3. Pastor David exhorts all to go & make disciples
4. Senior Pastor prays for all participants at the open session
5. Participants praying
- 6a-b. Participants seeking God fervently

equip God's people to do ministry. Each LG is a church in their community, reaching their neighbours for Christ. If all LGs follow this biblical pattern, there will be growth, and CCC will be too small for Calvary Church! We were told that ministry is warfare, and we are God's soldiers. If we are to fear anything, we should fear God! We need to be serious about our ministry and be disciplined.

There were two video messages.

First, Harvey Carey, a black pastor, planted a growing multi-racial Church against all odds. He exhorted us to avoid "analysis paralysis" and to get out of our "holy huddles" and do real ministries. He advocates equipping and empowering the Church to take ownership of God's work. The Church is empowered to do unbelievable things!

Second, lay leader Catherine Rohr, a former successful Wall Street analyst stirred us with her "Risk Taking, Barrier Breaking, Bold Leadership" style. She trains ex-prisoners to be entrepreneurs and is successful in rehabilitating them, no mean feat as an alarming high number of ex-prisoners return to crime.

The group discussions questions were practical and participants took time for reflection and then shared with one another. The sharing by the groups with the floor gave a good indication how the Conference sessions had left their mark. Many shared how they plan to move forward to reach their respective LG communities, and to overcome their areas of lack. It was an enriching time learning from one another.

The closing challenge by Associate Pastor David Seah was "Discipleship is

not an option" and every believer is a disciple-maker. God has given us all authority in heaven and on earth to go and make disciples. We were challenged to reach out to five people and disciple another five more. We are to arise and fulfil the Great Commission.

These next few months will see the action of LGs to be a Vibrant, Christ-centred and Life Transforming Community in their respective neighbourhoods.

The best is yet to come!

NILAI JIWA

"Tidak ada seorangpun yang mencari aku" (Mazmur 142:4)

Yesus berkata, "**Apa gunanya seorang memperoleh seluruh dunia, tetapi ia kehilangan nyawanya?**" (Markus 8:36).

Adalah sukar untuk minda manusia memahami implikasi tentang kehilangan hidup yang sejati. Nilai jiwa diajar oleh Tuhan Yesus melalui salah satu perumpamaanNya. Perumpamaan merupakan cerita-cerita yang membawa aplikasi rohani dan mengajar tentang Kerajaan Tuhan.

PERUMPAMAAN TENTANG MUTIARA YANG SANGAT BERTHARGA

Perumpamaan ini senang difahami dan menyerlahkan nilai jiwa seseorang. Tuhan Yesus berkata, "**Demikian pula hal Kerajaan Sorga itu seumpama seorang pedagang yang mencari mutiara yang indah. Setelah ditemukannya mutiara yang sangat berharga, ia pun pergi menjual seluruh miliknya lalu membeli mutiara itu**" (Matius 13:45-46).

Ada dua perkara yang perlu diperhatikan. Pedagang dalam perumpamaan itu adalah Tuhan Yesus dan mutiara merupakan nilai jiwa seseorang itu.

Perumpamaan berkaitan dengan Injil Tuhan Yesus. Ia bermula dengan seorang pedagang mencari mutiara-mutiara yang beribarat jiwa-jiwa orang yang beriman. Jiwa kita adalah kekal dan tidak akan mati. Tubuh kita akan mati dan kembali kepada tanah bumi di mana tubuh kita berasal. Walau bagaimanapun, jiwa kita dimiliki oleh Tuhan dan akan kembali kepada Tuhan untuk selamanya atau ia akan ditinggalkan

Tuhan dariNya, yang merupakan kematian terakhir (Yehezkiel 18:4). Jika jiwa itu telah terpisah dari Tuhan, maka jiwa itu akan dihantar ke satu tempat penyeksaan yang berkekalan bertujuan untuk syaitan dan iblis-iblisnya. Kita mesti membuat keputusan semasa kita masih ada di dunia tentang di mana kita mahu menetap dalam keabadian. Betapa bodohnya kita membelanjakan masa, wang, bakat dan tenaga kita untuk keperluan jasad kita yang sementara atau duniawi dan mengabaikan perhubungan rohani dan menjaga jiwa kita untuk Tuhan dan KerajaanNya yang berkekalan.

TUHAN MEMPUNYAI RENCANA UNTUK KESELAMATAN JIWA-JIWA

1. Pedagang itu merupakan Tuhan Yesus yang datang mencari jiwa.

Alkitab berkata dengan jelas "**Sebab Anak Manusia datang untuk mencari dan menyelamatkan yang hilang**" (Lukas 19:10). Tuhan Yesus mengetahui kita mempunyai tiga bahagian, iaitu roh, jiwa dan tubuh dan ada upaya mempunyai perhubungan dengan Tuhan untuk selama-lamanya (1 Tes 5:23). Alkitab berkata "**Karena begitu besar kasih TUHAN akan dunia ini, sehingga Ia telah mengaruniakan Anak-Nya yang tunggal, supaya setiap orang yang percaya kepadaNya tidak binasa, melainkan beroleh hidup yang kekal**" (Yohanes 3:16). Kamu mungkin menganggap kamu telah menjumpai Yesus tetapi sebenarnya Yesus yang menjumpai kamu. Kamu

diselamatkan kerana rahmat dan kasih karunia Tuhan. Paulus membuat kesaksian dan berkata, "**Perkataan ini benar dan patut diterima sepenuhnya: "Kristus Yesus datang ke dunia untuk menyelamatkan orang berdosa, dan di antara mereka akulah yang paling berdosa"** (1 Timotius 1:15). Hanya Yesus dapat menyelamatkan (Kisah Rasul-Rasul 4:12). Kita telah diberi kuasa menjadi saksi-saksiNya. "**Karena itu pergilah, jadikanlah semua bangsa muridKu dan baptislah mereka dalam nama Bapa dan Anak dan Roh Kudus, dan ajarlah mereka melakukan segala sesuatu yang telah Kuperintahkan kepadamu. Dan ketahuilah, Aku menyertai kamu senantiasa sampai kepada akhir zaman**" (Matius 28:19-20).

2. Yesus, pedagang yang menjual semua hartanya untuk membeli mutiara itu

Pedagang itu menjumpai mutiara itu dan menjual semua hartanya. Perkataan "jual" di sini membawa maksud bahawa dia dengan secara sudi memberi semua yang dia ada. Apa yang Yesus memiliki tidak penting. Alkitab berkata bahawa Yesus "**melainkan telah mengosongkan diriNya sendiri, dan mengambil rupa seorang hamba, dan menjadi sama dengan manusia. Dan dalam keadaan sebagai manusia, Ia telah merendahkan diriNya dan taat sampai mati, bahkan sampai mati di kayu salib**" (Filipi 2:7-8). Yesus rela melepaskan kesemua kedudukan, autoritas dan kuasanya supaya anda dan saya boleh kembali ke kedudukan asal dan kepada perhubungan kita dengan Bapa kita di syurga (Kejadian 3:8).

SESEORANG

Oleh Pendita Kanan Prince Guneratnam

3. Yesus, pedagang yang membeli - Dia membayar dengan harga yang muktamad.

Pedagang itu menjual apa yang dia ada untuk membeli mutiara itu. Perkataan "membeli" itu ialah "menebus". Dia merupakan seorang pedagang yang menebus. Alkitab berkata, "**Tetapi setelah genap waktunya, maka TUHAN mengutus Anak-Nya, yang lahir dari seorang perempuan dan takluk kepada hukum Taurat. Ia diutus untuk menebus mereka, yang takluk kepada hukum Taurat, supaya kita diterima menjadi anak**" (Galatia 4:4-5). Jiwa kita boleh ditebus. Alkitab berkata, "**Sebab kamu telah dibeli dan harganya telah lunas dibayar: Karena itu muliakanlah TUHAN dengan tubuhmu!**" (1 Korintus 6:20). Alkitab berkata, harga yang dibayar oleh Yesus bukan perak dan emas tetapi dengan darahNya yang paling berharga. Ini adalah nilai jiwa. Yesus telah membayar dengan harga yang muktamad. Oleh itu, kenapakah kita tidak boleh menjadi saksi-saksiNya dan memenangi jiwa-jiwa untukNya? Cabaran yang kita hadapi ialah pergi jadikan semua bangsa pengikut-pengikutNya.

PENGHASILAN MUTIARA ITU

Tiram melahirkan mutiara dengan kesusahan dan penderitaan. Tiram adalah organisma hidup. Apabila pasir yang halus atau sebarang bahan-bahan asing memasuki tiram itu, ia akan menyakiti dan mengganggu tiram itu. Untuk menjaga dirinya, tiram itu mengeluarkan

sejenis bahan yang bernama mutiara ibu atau "nacre" untuk mengelilingi bahan penceroboh itu. Bahan pengeluaran inilah yang beransur-ansur membentuk mutiara itu. Dengan itu, mutiara itu dilahirkan melalui banyak kesakitan dan kesengsaraan.

Hidup itu bukan senang. Tetapi apabila Tuhan Yesus memasuki hidup kamu dan menebuskan kamu, rahmat dan kasih karuniaNya mengelilingi kamu dan memberi kekuatan kepada kamu supaya kamu berjaya dan menang dalam hidup sebagai seorang Kristian. Kamu adalah mutiara itu yang Tuhan Yesus telah mati untuk dan Dia telah menjadikan kamu lebih daripada seorang penakluk untuk kemuliaan Tuhan!

Mutiara itu tertanam di dalam tubuh yang hidup tetapi telah dikotori. Akhirnya tiram itu akan mati tetapi mutiara itu adalah berharga dan akan hidup berterusan. Kita tidak sempurna tetapi telah diampunkan. Kita masih berada di dalam tubuh ini sehingga kita sedia berjumpa denganNya. Sebagai mutiara janganlah kita ditipu dan dipergunakan. Iblis akan menggoda kamu seperti dia menggoda Tuhan Yesus tetapi kamu lebih berharga daripada duniawi ini dan daripada apa yang Iblis boleh tawarkan. Janganlah merendahkan nilai jiwa kamu.

Tangisan mereka yang menunggu untuk ditebus.

Alkitab berkata, "**Pandanglah ke kanan dan lihatlah, tidak ada seorangpun yang menghiraukan aku; tempat pelarian bagiku telah hilang, tidak ada seorangpun yang mencari aku. Aku berseru-seru**

kepada-Mu, ya TUHAN, kataku: "Engkaulah tempat perlindunganku, bagianku di negeri orang-orang hidup!" (Mazmur 142:4-5). Tangisan itu adalah kerana tiada seorang pun mempedulikan jiwa saya. Bukalah telinga rohani kamu dan dengarlah tangisan mereka. Mereka mungkin berada di dalam rumah anda, orang kesayangan anda, jiran anda, kawan sekerja kamu atau kawan-kawan di kalangan kamu. Mereka menangis mengharap-kan seseorang itu mempedulikan mereka dan berdoa untuk mereka. Kamu telah dipanggil supaya menjadi terang dan garam dunia ini. Percaya, berdoa dan bertindak dengan ketaatan. Beri kesaksian tentang kebaikan Tuhan dan bawa mereka ke kesedaran tentang pengetahuan keselamatan Yesus Kristus.

Semua petikan Alkitab adalah dari versi Bahasa Indonesia, melainkan dinyatakan.

KELAS PEMBAPTISAN AIR DAN KEAHLIAN

1.30PM 12 Disember Sabtu
Damansara Heights, Worship Nursery

KEBAKTIAN PEMBAPTISAN AIR

5.00PM 12 Disember Sabtu
Damansara Heights Sanctuary

KEBAKTIAN KESYUKURAN BM

11.30AM 29 November Ahad

Pengkhotbah: Pastor David Seah
Topik : Kuasa Kesyukuran
Lokasi : b1.03 Paras B1, CCC

Untuk maklumat selanjutnya,
hubungi 8999 5532 sambungan 414

一个灵魂的价值

「没有人眷顾我的灵魂」(诗142: 4)

(文: 古纳南主任牧师)

耶稣说道:「人就是赚得全世界,赔上自己的生命,有什么益处呢?」(可8: 36)我们人类的心智无法了解灵魂的价值的全方面影响和其含义。耶稣讲过许多比喻,他在其中的一个比喻教导关于灵魂的价值。比喻是有属灵的应用的故事,它们教导关于神的国。

耶稣讲述有关商人和重价珠子的比喻。这个比喻启示了灵魂的价值。耶稣说道:「天国又好像买卖人寻找好珠子,遇见一颗重价的珠子,就去变卖他一切所有的,买了这颗珠子」(太13: 45-46)。

这个比喻的类比 商人是耶稣和珠子是灵魂。

这比喻是与主耶稣基督的福音相关。它是由一个商人寻找好珠子开始,那是描述耶稣寻找世人的灵魂。我们的灵魂是永恒的和永远不会死。我们的身体会死,并将归回它来自的尘土。但是我们的灵魂是属于神和将归回神或与永远与神隔离(结18:4)。如果灵魂是与神隔离,它将下到地狱,一个为撒旦和他的鬼魔所预备,永远受痛苦的地方(太25: 41)。当我们在世上活着的时候,我们要选择在永恒里我们要在哪里。倘若我们为短暂的事物,即身体的需求和想要的东西,而花费我们的时间、金钱、才干和精力,却忽略了我们灵魂的救恩,即藉耶稣基督得与神在天堂的永生,这是何等的愚蠢。

神有一个灵魂得救的计划

1. 商人是耶稣,他来是要寻找灵魂。

我们被造划分为灵、魂、体三元素,能够在永恒里与神相交(帖前5: 23)。圣经上清楚地说道:「神爱世人,甚至将他的独生子赐给他们,叫一切信他的,不致灭亡,反得永生」(约3: 16)和「人子来,为要寻找,拯救丧失的人」(路19: 10)。你可能认为你找到了耶稣!但是事实是,他找到你。这是神的怜悯与恩典,我们被拯救。保罗作证:「基督耶稣降世,为要拯救罪人。这话是可信的,是十分可佩服的。在罪人中我是个罪魁」(提前1: 15)。唯有耶稣可以拯救(徒4: 12)。我们已经受任命为他作见证,

「所以,你们要去,使万民作我的门徒,奉父、子、圣灵的名给他们施洗。凡我所吩咐你们的,都教训他们遵守,我就常与你们同在,直到世界的末了」(太28: 19-20)。

2. 商人耶稣,“变卖”他一切所有的

商人遇见好珠子,就去变卖他一切所有的。“变卖”这个词不能按照字面意思去理解。它仅仅意味着他愿意放弃他所拥有的。耶稣所拥有的不是无价值的。圣经上说道:「他本有神形像,不以自己与神同等为强夺的;反倒虚己,取了奴仆的形像,成为人的样式;既有人的样子,就自己卑微,存心顺服,以至于死,且死在十字架上」(腓2: 6-8)。耶稣愿意舍弃他一切的地位,权柄和权力,以致你和我可以恢复我们原来的地位,并与我们的天父有完美的关系(创3:8)。

珍珠的形成

牡蛎从痛苦和苦难中生产珍珠。

牡蛎是一个有生命的有机体。当一粒沙子或任何外来物进入牡蛎内,它会导致疼痛和痛苦。为了保护自己,牡蛎分泌一种物质称为珠母层或真珠质,围绕着入侵者。这分泌物逐渐地形成了一颗珍珠。因此,珍珠是从痛苦和折磨中生产的。人生并非总是称心如意的。

3. 商人耶稣,“买了”——他付出最高的代价

商人变卖他一切所有的和买了这颗珠子。“买了”这个词是赎回。他是一个救赎的商人。圣经上说道:「及至时候满足,神就差遣他的儿子,为女子所生,且生在律法以下,要把律法以下的人赎出来,叫我们得着儿子的名分」(加4: 4-5)。我们的灵魂可以被赎回。圣经上说道:「因为你们是重价买来的。所以,要在你们的身子上荣耀神」(林前6: 20)和「知道你们得赎,脱去你们祖宗所传流虚妄的行为,不是凭着能坏的金银等物,乃是凭着基督的宝血,如同无瑕疵、无玷污的羔羊之血」(彼前1: 18-19)。这是我们灵魂的价值。耶稣付出了最高的代价。挑战是在于去做耶稣所说的:「你们岂不说到收割的时候还有四个月吗?我告诉你们,举目向田观看,庄稼已经熟了,可以收割了。」(约4: 35)

当耶稣救赎了你,他的恩典和怜悯围绕着你,并赋予你权力过一个胜利和成功的基督徒的生活。你是那颗珍珠,耶稣替你舍命而死和他能让你得胜有余来荣耀神!

每一个人都有灵魂。我们最终都会死,但灵魂是永恒的,需要被救赎。撒旦会以他的试探来欺骗你,但你比这世界更有价值和超过撒旦所能给予的。不要看轻自己。

尚未得救赎的人的呼求

圣经上说道:「求你向我右边观看,因为没有人认识我;我无处避难,也没有人眷顾我」(诗142: 4)。呼求是因没有人关心我的灵魂。打开你的属灵耳朵,听他们的呼求。他们可能是在你家里,你的亲人、你的邻居、你的同事或朋友。他们呼求要有人关心和为他们祈祷。所以,我们怎能不为他作见证人,见证他的救赎恩典。要有信心相信,祈祷和以行动顺服。见证神的良善,并带领他们认识耶稣基督的救恩。

以上经文是采用中文圣经和合本。

中文团契 十一月份感恩聚会

日期: 29-11-15 (日)
时间: 早上十一点半
讲员: 王福海牧师
主题: 感恩的事奉
地点: CCC影剧院1, B2

欢迎大家参加。请携带亲友一起出席!

申请浸礼及会籍 浸礼及会籍课程

日期: 12-12-15 (六)
时间: 下午一点半
地点: 加略山教会

浸礼聚会

日期: 12-12-15 (六)
时间: 下午五点
地点: 加略山教会(大堂)
报名截止日期: 1-11-15 (日)

NOVEMBER SERVICE SCHEDULE

Damansara Heights
Saturday 5.00pm

07 Associate Pastor
David Seah

14 Associate Pastor
Richard Yun

21 Associate Pastor
Timothy Ong

28 Associate Pastor
Steven Kum

Calvary Convention Centre
Sunday 9.00am

01 Communion
Missionary
Rev. Margaret Seaward

08 Associate Pastor
Peter Ong

15 Pastor
Yong Chee Weng

22 Associate Pastor
David Seah

29 Associate Pastor
Richard Yun

A TRIBUTE TO SENIOR ASSOCIATE PASTOR PETRINA GUNERATNAM

On 1 November 2015, the Calvary Church family will pay tribute by honouring Senior Associate Pastor Petrina Guneratnam for completing 50 years of faithful and dedicated ministry.

Her pastoral and visionary ministry has blessed Calvary Church and beyond. Our special guest speaker for the service is Rev. Margaret Seaward.

CHINESE THANKSGIVING SERVICE

29/11/15 (SUN)

Time : 11.30AM
Speaker : Pastor Peter Ong
Topic : Serving Thankfully
Venue : Theatrette 1, Level B2, CCC

BAHASA THANKSGIVING SERVICE

29/11/15 (SUN)

Time : 11.30AM
Speaker : Pastor David Seah
Topic : The Power of Gratitude
Venue : Room b1.03, Level B1, CCC

For more information, call 8999 5532 extension 414

WATER BAPTISM & MEMBERSHIP CLASS

12/12/2015 (SAT)

Time : 1.30PM
Venue : Damansara Heights
Worship Nursery

WATER BAPTISM SERVICE

12/12/2015 (SAT)

Time : 5.00PM
Venue : Damansara Heights
Sanctuary

**CLOSING DATE FOR
SUBMISSION OF FORMS:**
1/11/2015 (Sun)

Forms available from
Hospitality Counter,
Level I, CCC Foyer

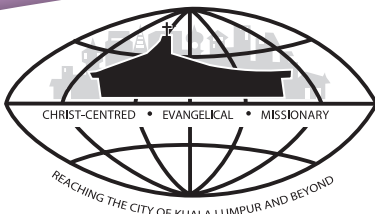
Ordination Of Pastoral And Ministerial Staff

Congratulations

to Associate Pastor Raymond Yong and Sister Lee Foong Ling on their ordination by the Assemblies Of God of Malaysia on 6 September 2015 at Glad Tidings Assembly of God, Petaling Jaya. As ordained ministers of AG Malaysia they are acknowledged as Reverend (Rev.)



- 1-2. Pastor Raymond Yong & Lee Foong Ling receiving their ordination credentials from AG General Superintendent, Rev. Ong Sek Leang together with their spouses, Raymond Yong & Pui Ling and Foong Ling & Michael, respectively
3. Calvarites & ex-Calvarites rejoicing together at the Ordination Service -Ex-Calvarites serving on AG M'sia Exco: Rev. Ronnie Chin (2nd Rt), Rev. Isaac Chan (3rd Rt), Rev. Ng Kok Kee (6th Rt-back), Rev Lawrence Yap (7th Rt-back), & others, Rev. Florence Tong, Rev. Lydia Cheong (5th & 4th Rt respectively)



CALVARY CHURCH (Assemblies of God)
CHRIST-CENTRED • EVANGELICAL • MISSIONARY
2 Jalan Damansara Endah, Damansara Heights, 50490 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

CALVARY CONVENTION CENTRE
1, Jalan Jalil Perkasa 1, Bukit Jalil, 57100 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
Tel: 03 8999 5532 Website: <http://www.calvary.org.my> Email : email@calvary.org.my

Senior Pastor Rev. Tan Sri Datuk Dr. Prince Guneratnam