

BLOOM WHERE YOU ARE PLANTED

BY SENIOR ASSOCIATE PASTOR PETRINA GUNERATNAM

God's plan for us is to be fruitful in every good work in all seasons and in every circumstance. We can be fruitful regardless of our age. We can bloom and be fruitful where we are planted, whether in the best or worst of times. Adverse circumstances are opportunities to grow in faith and experience the grace of God. The Bible says, "And God is able to make all grace abound toward you, that you, always having all sufficiency in all things, may have an abundance for every good work" (2 Corinthians 9:8). In being a blessing, we in turn will be blessed abundantly. This is God's law of sowing and reaping.

In the Old Testament, there was a notable woman who lived in Shunem. She was an ordinary housewife in an everyday setting and like most housewives, was taking care of the household chores. The Bible says, "Now it happened one day that Elisha went to Shunem, where there was a

'notable woman' and she persuaded him to eat some food. So it was, as often as he passed by, he would turn in there to eat some food" (2 Kings 4:8). Inviting a traveller who may be a stranger to one's home for a meal was not uncommon in Bible times. Reaching out to the tired and weary stranger is an act of hospitality, but this kind act of hospitality was the springboard to a life of miracles for the notable woman. When we are willing to allow God to use us and we respond to needs around us, we become fruitful in every good work. It can change our lives as we experience God in ways we have never known.

SHE WAS NOTABLE BECAUSE OF HER KINDNESS.

Kindness is an attitude of the heart and a fruit of the Spirit. It was her kindness and compassion for people that distinguished her from her neighbours. A meal seemed to be a very small, insignificant act for the woman but for Elisha, this was his immediate need. In the same way, love is the accurate estimate and the adequate supply of one's need. God Himself demonstrated this meaning of love. John says, "For 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).

SHE WAS NOTABLE BECAUSE OF HER GENEROSITY.

It was not just once that the woman gave a meal. The Scripture records that, "...as often as he passed by, he would turn in there to eat some food" (2 Kings 4:8b). It ended up with Elisha having many meals at the woman's home.

The spirit of generosity that comes from the heart of love for God grows. Paul says, "So let's not get tired of doing what is good. At just the right time we will reap a harvest of blessing if we don't give up" (Galatians 6:9). The only way we can keep serving, giving and loving is by God's grace and not through our own ability and self righteousness. When we give as unto the Lord, we can never out give God. The

Bible says, "He who refreshes others will himself be refreshed" (Proverbs 11:25). This is a spiritual law.

SHE WAS NOTABLE BECAUSE OF HER SPIRITUALITY.

She had spiritual perception. "And she said to her husband, "Look now, I know that this is a holy man of God, who passes by us regularly" (2 Kings 4:9). Elisha did not introduce himself as a prophet to the woman when she invited him for a meal. As far as she was concerned, Elisha was just one of the ordinary traveller on a journey who might enjoy a meal. However, there was something within her that caused her to recognise Elisha as a spiritual man of God. Both of them had a common spirit of love for God.

Her spirituality was also seen in her spiritual functioning of her role as a wife. She recognised headship in the home when she desired to build a room for the holy man of God, Elisha. However, she consulted her husband because she recognised him as the head of her home. She included her husband in her desire to serve God and be a blessing in saying, "Please, let us make a small upper room on the wall; and let us put a bed for him there, and a table and a chair and a lampstand; so it will be, whenever he comes to us, he can turn in there" (2 Kings 4:10). This communicated oneness in her marriage relationship. True spirituality is a balanced-type spirituality. It results in a right relationship with God and a right relationship with man.

She had spiritual attitudes:

I. Contentment

"Elisha requested his servant to, "Tell her, 'You

have gone to all this trouble for us. Now what can be done for you? Can we speak on your behalf to the king or the commander of the army?" She replied, "I have a home among my own people" (2 Kings 4:13-14). The woman gave and served without ulterior motives, though she had a great need, as she was childless and wanted to have a son. She was not looking for recognition or a pay back in her service nor a reward. The Bible says, "Godliness with contentment is great gain" (1 Timothy 6:6).

II. Faith

Later on she was blessed with a son, who died in her lap. She exemplified faith and confidence in God. The Bible says, "For to be carnally minded is death, but to be spiritually minded is life and peace" (Romans 8:6). She expressed her faith, when Elisha's servant asked, "Is it well with you?", she responded, "Everything is all right" (2 Kings 4:26) when she actually had a dead son. Faith looks beyond the present crisis and sees God's help. Faith looks at trouble and sees triumphant victory.

Her balanced spiritual life of giving and serving caused her to be blessed when there was a need for a miracle.

1. SHE EXPERIENCED A MIRACLE (2 Kings 8:14-17)

Her first miracle was to have a son, when it wasn't possible before she met the prophet Elisha. Her second miracle was when her son





died and was raised to life. God desires to prosper us and perform miracles when we need one. We must live a balanced spiritual life, being fruitful where we are planted.

2. SHE WAS A TESTIMONY OF GOD'S MIRACLE (2 Kings 8:18-20)

Born again believers are not exempted from sickness, problems and challenges. We can experience God's grace and miracles during difficult times. The woman from Shunem witnessed the healing power of God as she saw her son being raised from the dead when the prophet prayed for the dead boy.

3. SHE RECEIVED GOD'S PROTECTION DURING NATIONAL CRISIS

The Bible says, "Then Elisha spoke to the woman whose son he had restored to life, saying, "Arise and go, you and your household, and stay wherever you can; for the Lord has called for a famine, and furthermore, it will come upon the land for seven years" (2 Kings 8:1). Elisha remembered this woman who ministered to him in his time of need and consequently, warned her of the famine, so she could go and live where she would not starve to death.

The difference between the believer and the non-believer is being in God's favour and God has a way of sustaining the believer, just as He did for the Shunemmite woman.

4. SHE RETURNED AFTER THE FAMINE AND HER LOSS WAS RESTORED

"It came to pass, at the end of seven years, that the woman returned from the hand of the Philistines; and she went to make an appeal to the king for her house and for her land. Then the king talked with Gehazi, the servant of the man of God, saying, "Tell me, please, all the great things Elisha has done." Now it happened, as he was telling the king how he had restored the dead to life, that here was the woman whose son he had restored to life, appealing to the king for her house and for her land. And Gehazi said, "My lord, O king, this is the woman, and this is her son whom Elisha restored to life." And when the king asked the woman, she told him. So the king appointed a certain officer for her, saying, "Restore all that was hers, and all the proceeds of the field from the day that she left the land until now" (2 Kings 3:3-6). The woman received seven years back pay and was restored all that she had lost during the famine. Only God is capable of working out such a deal. His timing was and is always perfect.

In the same way, God will protect everything that belongs to His children if we are willing to recognise they all belong to Him in the first place. The Bible says, "If God is for us, who can be against us?" (Romans 8:31). All of us can bloom where we are planted in spite of our circumstances or seasons in life.

We may not be in a perfect position or have the right time to serve. It is our responsibility to bloom where we are planted. Our contribution to God's Kingdom may seem ordinary and insignificant, but a small deed can lead to miracles. Let us live, love and serve Him "for God is not unjust. He will not forget how hard you have worked for him and how you have shown your love to him by caring for other believers, as you still do" (Hebrews 6:10).

All Bible quotations are from the New King James Version.



INTRODUCING **2018 BOARD OF DEACONS**

BY JASON SIA

Our Stewardship Day was held on Friday, 22 April 2018 at Calvary Damansara Heights to affirm God's continual blessings upon Calvary Church in a marvellous way as the members have faithfully supported the vision and leadership of the Church, through their prayers, giving and ministry involvements. There was joyful acceptance and appreciation for every report shared testifying of God's faithfulness and blessings.

Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam shared a meaningful devotion on God's gifts to the Church. The purpose of these gifts is to build the Church that is apostolic in nature, so that we can live, love and serve, being witnesses to our nation and beyond.

On Sunday, 22 April 2018 at Calvary Convention Centre, the deacons were installed to the office and charged with biblical principles of leadership from Romans 12:6-8, 1 Corinthians 4:1-2 and Colossians 3:15-17. We thank God for faithful and committed men and woman who love Him and avail themselves to serve Him with their gifts and talents.



PORTFOLIOS OF THE BOARD OF DEACONS

David Dev Peter Chow Sang Hoe Ngeow Zoo Gin

- Church Secretary

- Church Treasurer

- Church Human Resources

Puan Chen Keck Helen Elizabeth Leong - Church Business

- Church Hospitality & **Special Functions**

Christopher Lim Hwa Seong - Church Projects Tam Kok Meng

- Deacon At Large





A JOYOUS EASTER SUNDAY!

BY MELISSA SAMUEL

It was a happy Easter morning on Sunday, 1 April 2018. Redeemed and rejoicing, Calvarites gathered at Calvary Convention Centre to worship the Lord with songs of praise, celebrating victory over sin and death through Christ.

Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam challenged us from Philippians 3:10 (NLT), "I want to know Christ and experience the mighty power that raised him from the dead. I want to suffer with him, sharing in his death." We are to adopt the mindset of Paul, who was not interested merely in religion, but he suffered as Christ suffered to truly know Him. Sometimes we are placed to experience what Christ endured on the Cross, so we can encounter the same power that brought Him back to life, to raise and release us from our circumstances!

It was truly a time of reflecting on what Christ has done for us individually and collectively as a Church. We left joyful, knowing we serve a Living Saviour, who is "the Alpha and the Omega — the beginning and the end. The one who is, who always was, and who is still to come — the Almighty One." (Revelation 1:8 NLT)



Watch Senior Pastor's full message on YouTube channel @calvarykl

















MISSIONETTES AWARDS CELEBRATION

BY ANJULI PHANO

On 8 April 2018, the Missionettes commemorated their 37th Awards Celebration attended by 305 parents, pastors, families and friends. This year's theme "Redeemed" was a great reminder to all that Jesus has redeemed us so that we may be His very own people, zealous for good works (Titus 2:14).

The celebration began with an opening number "God is Good", followed by worship and an encouraging devotional thought by Commander Jim Guneratnam in line with the theme. The Honour Girls presented a delightful black light puppet dance "Every Praise."

Honour awards were presented to twenty-eight girls and one boy who achieved the maximum number of badges for their respective club levels. Three girls graduated from the Missionettes programme with Medal of Honours. They each shared a testimony about how Missionettes had impacted their lives, and conveyed some encouraging words to their fellow Missionettes.

"Growing up as a teenager, I struggled with an identity crisis. I had doubts and insecurities about myself. Thankfully, the lessons shared by the Sponsors helped me through this stage." - Zoey Tan

"The most precious thing I've gained besides learning God's Word throughout all these 15 years in Missionettes (which is not a short time) is the friendships I have forged." - Olivia Yong

"Missionettes has taught me many biblical principles that helped me in making choices. One thing I have learnt that will be very helpful to me in the next stage of my life is the importance of accountability to God and others." - **Mok Zhuang Sui**







A COMPELLING STORY OF LOVE

BY LIM AI LEE

"The Story of Love" opened with a thunderous sound depicting the devastating scene at Golgotha where Jesus was hung on the cross to die. The heartbreak of Mary, the mother of Jesus, resonated through the auditorium as the audience, in consternation, watched the mourners pleading with God to "speak the word, and set Him free". As stunning as the opening act was, the story swiftly moved back in time to a happier season to tell the life of Jesus as seen from Mary's perspective.

Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam concluded with a message that expounded from John 3:16 which stated the fact that God is love – the reason Jesus gave His life, that in conquering death we might have eternal life in Him. This year, the Easter Evangelistic Meetings, staged over three evenings on 30 March to 1 April 2018, drew a crowd of over 7,000 people, with 65 salvations and 95 rededications.

We thank God for 146 faithful participants who gave of their talents in acting, singing, dancing, narrating, stage and set design, audio-visual and stage management. As God has blessed us, let us go out and complete the works He has begun in us.

- Watch the full musical and Senior Pastor's message at our YouTube channel @calvaryone
- View more photos at our Facebook page @calvarykl

































Photographed by David Tan, Henry Tai, Ler Me Yee, Wong Yet Kang, Kimberly Yip





Here are some wonderful testimonies from the respondents:

- The diplomat's wife and friend rededicated their lives in the Easter Evangelistic Meetings and attended Church on Sunday. They have both signed-up for the SCG Term 2 classes.
- A mother of Tadika Calvary's kids attended our Church's Worship Service once and subsequently attended Easter Evangelistic Meetings and rededicated her life to Jesus. She is attending Church on Sunday and is keen to attend a Life Group.
- A believer who was very touched by the wonderful presence of God in the Easter Evangelistic Meetings has rededicated her life to Jesus and wants to walk closer with Him.
- A Church member brought four friends and her maid to the Easter Evangelistic Meetings and all five accepted Jesus. Some have started attending a Life Group.
- A respondent rededicated her life after being away from the Lord. She attended Church at Damansara Heights on Saturday with the follow-up of the Discipleship team member.



MEKARLAH DIMANA KAMU DITANAM

OLEH PENDITA KANAN BERSEKUTU PETRINA GUNERATNAN

Rencana Tuhan adalah untuk kita berhasil dalam segala kerja baik dalam setiap musim dan dalam setiap situasi. Kita boleh berhasil tidak kira apa usia kita. Kita boleh mekar dan berhasil dimana kita di tanam, sama ada dalam masa yang terbaik atau terburuk. Situasi yang buruk adalah kesempatan untuk bertumbuh dalam iman dan mengalami kasih karunia Tuhan. Alkitab berkata, "Dan Tuhan sanggup melimpahkan segala kasih karunia kepada kamu, supaya kamu senantiasa berkecukupan di dalam segala sesuatu dan malah berkelebihan di dalam pelbagai kebajikan" (2 Korintus 9:8). Dalam menjadi suatu berkat. kita sendiri diberkati secara berkelimpahan. Ini adalah hukum Tuhan dalam menabur dan menuai.

Dalam Perjanjian Lama, ada seorang wanita yang terkemuka yang tinggal di Sunem. Dia merupakan seorang suri rumahtangga yang biasa dalam rumah dan seperti sebarang suri rumahtangga yang menguruskan hal ehwal di rumah. Alkitab berkata, "Pada suatu hari Elisa pergi ke Sunem. Di sana tinggal seorang perempuan kaya yang mengundang dia makan. Dan seberapa kali ia dalam

perjalanan, singgahlah ia ke sana untuk makan" (2 Raja-Raja 4:8). Mengajak seorang pengembara yang merupakan seorang yang tidak dikenali ke rumah untuk makan bukannya sesuatu yang ganjil di waktu dahulu. Menjangkau orang asing yang letih lesu adalah satu tindakan keramahan, tetapi jenis tindakan keramahan ini merupakan satu batu loncatan ke dalam kehidupan mukjizat untuk wanita yang terkemuka itu. Apabila kita rela mengizinkan Tuhan untuk memakai kita dan kita respon kepada keperluan di sekeliling kita, kita menjadi berhasil dalam setiap kerja baik. lanya boleh mengubah hidup kita sambil kita mengalami Tuhan dalam cara-cara yang tidak pernah kita ketahui.

DIA TERKEMUKA KERANA KEBAIKANNYA.

Kebaikan adalah satu sikap hati dan buah Roh. Kebaikan dan belas kasihan pada oranglah yang menjadikannya berbeza daripada orang lain. Satu jamuan merupakan sesuatu yang kecil bagi wanita itu tetapi bagi Elisa, itulah keperluannya yang genting. Dalam cara yang sama, kasih adalah anggaran yang tepat dan bekalan yang mencukupi untuk keperluan seseorang. Tuhan sendiri mendemonstrasikan makna kasih ini. Yohanes berkata, "Karena begitu besar kasih Tuhan akan dunia ini, sehingga la telah mengaruniakan Anak-Nya yang tunggal, supaya setiap orang yang percaya kepada-Nya tidak binasa, melainkan beroleh hidup yang kekal" (Yohanes 3:16).

DIA TERKEMUKA KERANA KEMURAHAN HATINYA.

Bukan sahaja sekali wanita itu memberikan makanan. Alkitab merekodkan bahawa, "...Dan seberapa kali ia dalam perjalanan, singgahlah ia ke sana untuk makan" (2 Raja-Raja 4:8b). lanya berakhir dengan Elisa makan banyak kali dirumahnya.

Roh kemurahan hati yang datang dari hati yang penuh dengan kasih untuk Tuhan akan bertumbuh. Paulus berkata, "Janganlah kita jemu-jemu berbuat baik, karena apabila sudah datang waktunya, kita akan menuai, jika kita tidak menjadi lemah" (Galatia 6:9). Satu-satunya cara kita boleh terus melayani, memberi dan mengasihi adalah melalui kasih karunia Tuhan dan bukannya menurut keupayaan dan kebenaran diri sendiri. Apabila kita memberi kepada Tuhan, kita tidak boleh membatasi Tuhan. Alkitab berkata, "Siapa banyak memberi berkat, diberi kelimpahan, siapa memberi minum, ia sendiri akan diberi minum" (Amsal 11:25). Ini adalah satu hukum rohani.

DIA TERKEMUKA KERANA KEROHANIANNYA

Dia mempunyai persepsi kerohanian. "Berkatalah perempuan itu kepada suaminya: "Sesungguhnya aku sudah tahu bahwa orang yang selalu datang kepada kita itu adalah hamba Tuhan yang kudus" (2 Raja-Raja 4:9). Elisa tidak memperkenalkan dirinya sebagai seorang nabi apabila wanita itu mengundangnya untuk menjamu selera. Bagi wanita itu, Elisa merupakan hanya salah seorang



pengembara yang memerlukan makanan. Namun, sesuatu dalam dirinya yang membuat dia mengenal Elisa sebagai seorang manusia rohani Tuhan. Kedua-dua daripada mereka memiliki roh kasih yang sama untuk Tuhan.

Kerohaniannya juga dilihat dalam peranan fungsi rohani sebagai seorang isteri. Dia mengenal pasti kepimpinan di rumah apabila dia ingin membina sebuah bilik untuk hamba kudus Tuhan itu, Elisa. Walau bagaimanapun, dia berunding dengan suaminya kerana dia mengenali beliau sebagai ketua rumahnya. Dia memasukkan suaminya dalam keinginannya untuk melayani Tuhan dan menjadi berkat dalam mengatakan, "Baiklah kita membuat sebuah kamar atas yang kecil yang berdinding batu, dan baiklah kita menaruh di sana baginya sebuah tempat tidur, sebuah meja, sebuah kursi dan sebuah kandil, maka apabila ia datang kepada kita, ia boleh masuk ke sana" (2 Raja-Raja 4:10). Ini berkomunikasikan kesatuan dalam hubungan pernikahannya. Kerohanian sejati adalah kerohanian seimbang. Ini menghasilkan hubungan yang benar dengan Tuhan dan hubungan yang benar dengan manusia.

Dia mempunyai sikap rohani:

I. Kepuasan

"Elisa telah berkata kepada Gehazi: "Cobalah katakan kepadanya: Sesungguhnya engkau telah sangat bersusah-susah seperti ini untuk kami. Apakah yang dapat kuperbuat bagimu? Adakah yang dapat kubicarakan tentang engkau kepada raja atau kepala tentara?" Jawab perempuan itu: "Aku ini tinggal di tengah-tengah kaumku!" Kemudian berkatalah Elisa: "Apakah yang dapat kuperbuat baginya?" Jawab Gehazi: "Ah. ia tidak mempunyai anak, dan suaminya sudah tua."" (2 Raja-Raja 4:13-14). Wanita itu memberi dan melayani tanpa motif tersembunyi, meskipun ia memiliki keperluan yang besar, karena ia tidak memiliki anak dan ingin memiliki seorang anak. Dia tidak mencari pengiktirafan atau meminta bayaran dalam pelayanannya atau ganjaran. Alkitab berkata, "Memang ibadah itu kalau disertai rasa cukup, memberi keuntungan besar." (1 Timotius 6:6).

II. Iman

Kemudian dia dikaruniai seorang anak lelaki, yang meninggal di pangkuannya. Dia menunjukkan iman dan keyakinan kepada Tuhan. Alkitab berkata, "Karena keinginan daging adalah maut, tetapi keinginan Roh adalah hidup dan damai sejahtera" (Roma 8:6). Dia mengungkapkan imannya, ketika pelayan Elisa bertanya, "Selamatkah engkau,?", dia menjawab, "Selamat!" (2 Raja-Raja 4:26) walaupun anaknya sudah meninggal. Iman melihat melampaui krisis saat ini dan melihat pertolongan Tuhan. Iman melihat masalah dan melihat kejayaan kemenangan.

Kehidupan rohaninya yang seimbang dalam memberi dan melayani menyebabkannya diberkati ketika ada keperluan untuk mukjizat.

1. DIA MENGALAMI SATU MUKIZAT (2 Raja-Raja 8:14-17)

Mukjizat pertamanya adalah memiliki seorang anak lelaki, ketika itu tidak mungkin sebelum dia bertemu dengan Nabi Elisa. Keajaiban yang kedua adalah ketika anaknya meninggal dan dibangkitkan untuk hidup. Tuhan berkeinginan untuk memakmurkan kita dan melakukan mukjizat ketika kita memerlukannya. Kita harus menjalani kehidupan rohani yang seimbang, menjadi berbuah di mana kita ditanam.

2. DIA MERUPAKAN SATU KESAKSIAN MUKJIZAT TUHAN (2 Raja-Raja 8:18-20)

Orang percaya yang dilahirkan semula tidak terkecuali dari penyakit, masalah dan cabaran. Kita dapat mengalami anugerah dan mukjizat Tuhan semasa waktu sulit. Wanita dari Sunem menyaksikan kuasa penyembuhan Tuhan ketika dia melihat anaknya dibangkitkan dari kematian ketika nabi berdoa untuk anak lelaki yang mati itu.

3. DIA MENERIMA PERLINDUNGAN TUHAN SEWAKTU KRISIS NASIONAL

Alkitab berkata, "Elisa telah berbicara kepada perempuan yang anaknya dihidupkannya kembali, katanya: "Berkemaslah dan pergilah bersamasama dengan keluargamu, dan tinggallah di mana saja engkau dapat menetap sebagai pendatang, sebab TUHAN telah mendatangkan kelaparan, yang pasti menimpa negeri ini tujuh tahun lamanya" (2 Raja-Raja 8:1). Elisa teringat wanita yang melayani dia di saat dia ada keperluan dan akibatnya, memberinya amaran tentang kebuluran, sehingga dia dapat pergi dan tinggal di mana dia tidak akan mati kelaparan.

Perbezaan antara orang percaya dan orang yang tidak percaya adalah berada dalam berkat kasih Tuhan dan Tuhan memiliki cara untuk mengekalkan orang percaya, seperti yang dia lakukan untuk wanita Sunem itu.

4. DIA KEMBALI SELEPAS MUSIM KELAPARAN DAN KERUGIANNYA DIPULIHKAN

"Dan setelah lewat ketujuh tahun itu, pulanglah perempuan itu dari negeri orang Filistin. Kemudian ia pergi mengadukan perihal rumahnya dan ladangnya kepada raja. Raja sedang berbicara kepada Gehazi, bujang abdi Tuhan itu, katanya: "Cobalah ceritakan kepadaku tentang segala perbuatan besar yang dilakukan Elisa." Sedang ia menceritakan kepada raja tentang Elisa menghidupkan anak yang sudah mati itu, tampaklah perempuan yang anaknya dihidupkan itu datang mengadukan perihal rumahnya dan ladangnya kepada raja. Lalu berkatalah Gehazi: "Ya tuanku raja! Inilah perempuan itu dan inilah anaknya yang dihidupkan Elisa." Lalu raja bertanya-tanya, dan perempuan itu menceritakan semuanya kepadanya. Kemudian raja menugaskan seorang pegawai istana menyertai perempuan itu dengan pesan: "Pulangkanlah segala miliknya dan segala hasil ladang itu sejak ia meninggalkan negeri ini sampai sekarang" (2 Raja-Raja 8:3-6). Wanita itu menerima pembayaran kembali tujuh tahun dan dipulihkan semua yang hilang selama kelaparan. Hanya Tuhan yang mampu melakukan urusan seperti itu. Waktunya selalu sempurna.

Dengan cara yang sama, Tuhan akan melindungi semua yang menjadi milik anak-anak-Nya jika kita mau mengakui terlebih dahulu bahwa mereka semua adalah milik-Nya. Alkitab berkata, "Sebab itu apakah yang akan kita katakan tentang semuanya itu? Jika Tuhan di pihak kita, siapakah yang akan melawan kita?" (Roma 8:31). Kita semua dapat mekar di mana kita ditanam tidak kira apa keadaan atau musim kita dalam kehidupan.

Kami mungkin tidak dalam keadaan yang sempurna atau memiliki waktu yang tepat untuk melayani. Adalah satu tanggung jawab kita untuk bermekar di tempat kita ditanam. Sumbangan kita kepada Kerajaan Tuhan mungkin nampak biasa dan tidak penting, tetapi suatu perbuatan kecil dapat menyebabkan mukjizat. Marilah kita hidup, mengasihi dan melayaniNya "Sebab Tuhan bukan tidak adil, sehingga la lupa akan pekerjaanmu dan kasihmu yang kamu tunjukkan terhadap nama-Nya oleh pelayanan kamu kepada orang-orang kudus, yang masih kamu lakukan sampai sekarang" (Ibrani 6:10).

Semua petikan Alkitab adalah dari Alkitab Bahasa Indonesia.

在你被栽 植之处绽放

文: PETRINA GUNERATNAM 副主任牧师

神的计划是要我们在任何季节里和任何环境下都能多做各样善事。不管我们的年龄多大,我们都可以多结果子。无论是在最好的还是最坏的情况下,我们可以在被栽植的地方开花结果。逆境是信心成长并体验神恩典的机会。圣经上说:「神能将各样的恩惠多多加给你们,使你们凡事常常充足,能多做各样善事」(林后9:8)。作为他人的祝福,我们将会得到丰盛的祝福。这是神的播种和收割的律

在旧约中,有一位住在书念富有的妇人。她是日常生活中的一位平凡家庭主妇,像大多数家庭主妇一样,在照顾家务。圣经上说:「一日,以利沙经过书念,在那里有一个富有的妇人强留他吃饭。此后,以利沙每次经过就转到那里去吃饭」(王下4:8)。在圣经时代,邀请一个可能是陌生人的客旅回家吃饭是很平常的事。向疲惫劳累的陌生人伸出援手是一种好客的行为,但这种慇勤接待的行为为这位富有的妇人提供了一个经历神迹生活的机会。当我们愿意让神使用我们,并且我们对身边的需求做出回应时,我们就能多做各样善事。当我们以我们从未见过的方式体验神时,它能改变我们的生活。

她因她的仁慈而知名

仁慈是一种内心的态度和圣灵的果子。她的仁慈和慈心使她有别于她的邻居。对这个妇人来说,一顿饭似乎是一个小小的,微不足道的行为,但对于以利沙来说,这是他的迫切需求。同样,爱是准确的估计和充足的供应一个人的需求。神亲自显明了爱的意义。约翰说道:「神爱世人,甚至将他独一的儿子赐给他们,叫一切信他的人不致灭亡,反得永生」(约3:16)。

她因她的慷慨而知名

这妇人不仅仅是一次接待人用饭。圣经上记载:「····以利沙每次经过就转到那里去吃饭」(王下4:8b)。此后,以利沙在这个妇人家里吃饭。

这来自爱神的慷慨之心不断成长。保罗说道:「我们行善不可丧志,因为若不灰心,到了适当的时候就有收成」(加6:9)。我们能够继续事奉,奉献和有爱心的唯一方法是靠神的恩典,而不是靠自己的能力和自我为义。当我们奉献给主时,我们永远不会超过神给予我们的。

圣经上说:「慷慨待人,必然丰裕;滋润人的,连自己也得滋润」(箴11:25)。这是一个属灵的律。

她因她的灵性而知名

她有属灵的理解力。「妇人对丈夫说:"看哪,我知道那常从我们这里经过的是神圣的神人」(王下4:9)。 当这妇人邀请以利沙吃饭时,他并没有向她介绍自己为先知。就她而言,以利沙只是旅途中可能需要享用美食的普通客旅之一。然而,她内心有某种知觉让她认出以利沙是属灵的神人。他们两人有共同爱神的心。

她的灵性也体现在她作为妻子的属灵角色中。当她想要为神的圣人以利沙盖一个房间时,她认识家中作领导者的位分。她向丈夫寻求建议,因为她承认他是她一家之主。在她渴望事奉神,并成为他人的祝福之中,她也包括她的丈夫在内,她说:「我们可以为他盖一间有墙的小阁楼,里面安放床榻、桌子、椅子、灯台。每当他来到我们这里,就可以住在那里」(王下4:10)。这表达了她合一的婚姻关系。真正的灵性是一种平衡型的灵性。它导致了与神有正确的关系和与人有正确的关系。

她的属灵态度:

一. 知足

「以利沙吩咐仆人说:"你对她说:'看哪,你为我们费了许多心思,我可以为你做什么呢?我可以为你向王或元帅求什么呢?'"她说:"我已住在自己百姓之中。"」(王下4:13-14)。尽管她有迫切的需要,因为她没有生育,希望有一个儿子,这妇人的施舍和事奉是没有未明的动机。她不是在寻找认可,或对她的服事的报答,也不求奖赏。圣经上说:「其实,敬虔加上知足就是大利」"(提前6:6)。

二. 信心

后来,她得到祝福生了一个儿子,有一天他的儿子坐在她的膝上死了。她体现了对神的信心和信靠。圣经上说:「体贴肉体就是死;体贴圣灵就是生命和平安」(罗8:6)。当以利沙的仆人问道:「你平安吗?」她回答说:「平安」(王下4:26),实际上她的儿子已死去。信心是超越了当前的危机,看到神的帮助。信心面向困难,而看到得胜的胜利。

在需要一个神迹时,她施舍和事奉的平衡属灵生活使她得到祝福。

1. 她经历了神迹(王下4:14-17)

她的第一个神迹是生了一个儿子,当她遇到先知以利沙之前,这是不可能的。她的第二个神迹是当她的儿子死后并从死里复活。神渴望使我们兴旺,当我们需要神迹时他会行神迹奇事。 我们必须过平衡的属灵生活,在我们被栽植的地方多结果子。

2. 她是神行神迹的见证(王下4:18-37)

重生的信徒不能免于疾病,问题和挑战。我们可以 在艰难时期经历神的恩典和神迹。书念的妇人见证 了神的医治能力,因为她看到先知在为死去的孩子 祈祷时,她的儿子从死里复活。



3. 她在国家危机期间得到神的保护

圣经上说:「以利沙曾对他救活的孩子的母亲说:"你和你的全家要起身,往你可住的地方去住,因为耶和华已令饥荒降在这地七年"」(王下8:1)。以利沙记得这位在他有需要的时候服事了他的妇人,并因此警告她饥荒的来临,以便她可以去别的地方生活而不会饿死。

信徒和非信徒之间的区别在于神的恩惠,神有一种维持信徒生活的方法,正如他为书念妇人所做的一样。

4. 她在饥荒之后回来,得回她失去的一切

「过了七年,那妇人从非利士人的地回来,就出去为自己的房屋田地哀求王。那时王正与神人的仆人基哈西谈话,说:"你把以利沙所做的一切大事告诉我。"基哈西告诉王以利沙如何使死人复活,看哪,以利沙所救活的孩子的母亲正为自己的房屋田地来哀求王。基哈西说:"我主我王,这就是那妇人,这是她的儿子,就是以利沙所救活的。"王问那妇人,她就把事情告诉王。于是王为她派一个官员,说:"凡属这妇人的都还给她,自从她离开本地直到今日,她田地的出产也都还给她"」(王下8:3-6)。这日妇人得到没有归给她的七年田地的出产,并得回了她在饥荒期间失去的一切。只有神才有能力成就这大事。他所定的时间是美好,而且永远是完美的。

同样,神会保护属于他儿女的一切产业,若我们愿意承认这一切本来都属于他。圣经上说:「神若帮助我们,谁能抵挡我们呢?」(罗8:31)。不管我们的环境变成怎样或在生命中的那个季节,我们所有人都可以在我们被栽植的地方绽放。

我们或许不是处于一个理想的状况,或者没有合适的时间来事奉。我们有责任在我们被栽植的地方绽放。我们对神国度的贡献可能看起来很平凡和微不足道,但一个小小的行为可以导致神迹的发生。让我们生活,爱和事奉他,「因为神并非不公义,竟忘记你们的工作和你们为他的名所显的爱心,就是你们过去和现在伺候圣徒的爱心」(来6:10)。

以上经文是采用中文圣经和合本修订版。

CALVARY CHURCH celebrates 50 YEARS

2018 MARKS THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF CALVARY CHURCH.

IN CONJUNCTION WITH THIS SIGNIFICANT MILESTONE, CALVARYNEWS WILL BE FEATURING 50 TESTIMONIES OF CALVARITES THROUGHOUT 2018.

BE BLESSED BY THESE TESTIMONIES...

THE HOME CHURCH IN A FOREIGN COUNTRY

We came from Tanzania to Malaysia in August 2007 and joined Calvary Church in September 2007. What a joy; the same day, we joined a Life Group and found several friends.

When we were transferred to Malaysia, we were very happy and grateful to God for such a blessing but we had many questions regarding our spiritual walk. We were told that, Malaysia is a Muslim country and it was not easy to find a place to worship. God gave us Calvary Church where we were molded, built, fortified and we have seen gradual growth of our faith and knowledge of God's Word. The love shown by the Pastors and Calvarites make us feel like we belong.

We thank God for blessing our family from four to eight people and seeing our children grow in the love of God through the Church's children ministries. Our family is blessed to be part of the various ministries in Calvary Church and being able to share Christ with our friends and African students in Malaysia.



Also we thank God for being part of the Calvary Convention Centre (CCC) project, and seeing its initial stages to its completion and are believing that we will witness CCC debt free. We encourage our fellow foreigners to take part in church ministries and serve God wholeheartedly. In the past ten years we can say that we are one nation in Jesus Christ through His blood.

Amani and Dissa Mayage

MY JOURNEY IN THE CHRISTIAN FAITH

I thank God for His providence in leading me in my life's journey with Calvary Church as well as those whom God has used to help me grow in the faith.



My family and I began regularly worshipping at Calvary since 2005. Over the years, God has sovereignly and uniquely strengthened me in the faith through our pastors and fellow God-fearing Calvarites. Their faithfulness to God challenged me to stay strong in my faith.

Senior Pastor's faithfulness has made a great impact on me. His leadership, humility and simplicity helped me grow spiritually. God's vision for him to build Calvary Convention Centre was indeed a mammoth task, turbulent at times and seemingly impossible. Yet, its completion has been a great testimony of not doubting the Lord's faithfulness to fulfill His promises that He has made to us. For we walk by faith and not by sight (2 Corinthians 5:7).

Our pastors have always encouraged involvement in ministries. In my early years, I was given the privilege to serve in the Visitors' Lounge. The experience received through interactions with fellow believers and non-believers alike has helped me grow more in Christ. More importantly, the opportunity to lead many non-believers to salvation through this ministry is immensely gratifying.

Finally, I am inspired and challenged by my pastors and leaders to serve and follow Christ. God is blessing my family and me by their words and work at Calvary. My journey over the past decade at Calvary, sees me desiring to be more obedient and devoted to the Lord, living a holy life of gratitude to His undeserved grace to me and my family.

To God be the glory!

Augustine Yew

GROWING UP AND SERVING IN CALVARY

I've been a part of Calvary Church all my life. When people ask me 'How long have you been in Calvary Church?', I almost always respond the same 'Ever since I was in my mother's womb!'.



Growing up in Calvary Church was really fun for me, participating in Vacation Bible School, Missionettes and being a part of the Christ's Ambassadors. There were many avenues for me to learn the Word of God and I would like to thank God that I have had the privilege to know Him from young.

My parents have always encouraged me to serve the Lord. One fine day, my parents signed my brother, my sister and I up for our very first participation in a Calvary Christmas musical. The year was 2001, and the theme was "Jesus.... Rejoice and Worship". I was only 10 years old and I was extremely excited and proud to be part of the dancing angels together with all the other older dancing angels. The older dancing angels had wings, and I remember thinking to myself, 'Wow, those older dancers danced so well with the wings, one day I would like to wear the wings and dance like them!'. I eventually got my angel robe and wings, years later.

I am 26 years old now and I must say that that same joy in serving the Lord is still there, through dancing and singing. I have been blessed through my continuous participation in the Music and Creative Arts Ministry and I urge you to serve the Lord too, you will be blessed.

Joyce Bux

CALVARY, THE CHURCH THAT ENCOURAGES

I got married in year 2013 and relocated to Bukit Jalil with my husband, Ebuka, the same year. Life became a bit tougher when I had my first child in year 2014. I was facing a lot of challenges being a first time mother and working at the same time. Going to church every Sunday wasn't an easy option for me and my spiritual life got stranded slowly.

Thank God for my husband. He kept encouraging me to attend church every Sunday and we finally found Calvary Church in year 2015 and started to attend the Sunday Services consistently. I was not comfortable with the big church setting in the beginning but my husband never gave up and he even encouraged me to fill up the Response Card to get to know the church in a deeper manner.



Finally it was through the Response Card, I came to know Pastor Susan Tan and Helen Read. They encouraged me a lot during my challenging times and through attending Life Group, I slowly settled down in Calvary Church. My spiritual life has become alive again after it got stranded for a while. Thank God for the people that He put around me whom never gave up on me especially my husband.

Today, I am very glad that I am able to serve God in the Life Group and Discipleship Ministry. My wish is to be able to help more people to settle down in Calvary just like how I was blessed three years ago.

Together, my family and I are truly blessed by various ministries in the church. My husband is now serving in the worship team and getting to know more and more people who can encourage him and lift up his spirit in times of trouble. We are happy to be part of this big spiritual family that God had already planned for us!

THANKFUL FOR CALVARY CHURCH

First of all, I thank the Lord who has brought me to this amazing Calvary Church.

I have attended Calvary Church for the past eight years.

On the first Sunday Service, I had experienced the transforming presence of God through our Senior Pastor's message.

I praise God for this marvelous glory and excellence that He has called me to witness.



Now, I'm serving as a greeter every Sunday morning together with my husband, Lee Soon Young, meeting and greeting people from all sorts of nationalities and backgrounds who come to Calvary Convention Centre together.

They blessed me even more than I am a blessing to them.

I am thankful that God has simply given me the opportunity to be part of His great work in this Church.

I thank God for the privilege of Holy intimacy and for His wonderful gifts which He has provided for me and my family.

I praise God for His glory.

Thank You Lord for Calvary Church!

Yang Hyun Sook

Nicole Tia

BLESSING OTHERS THROUGH YOUR PRAYERS

Paul wrote to the Christians in Philippi, "Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus." (Philippians 4:6-7)

When you enter into intercession you do the work of the Kingdom by:

- Winning the lost for Christ on your knees.
- Caring for people and helping the weak who have no strength.
- Transforming lives through the power of prayer.

The work of the intercessor is meant to serve and strengthen the Church. They support others through prayer. As they pray for others, in turn, they receive greater joy and blessings. How can you be involved and be a blessing to others as an intercessor?

Pray for one person's needs, every day, for one week

The Prayer Tower receives an average of 20 prayer requests weekly from the "My Personal Response" cards, phone calls and e-mails. Write to us at **calptower@gmail.com** or text **016-220 1057** to indicate your desire to intercede for others.

Join the Weekly Prayer Meetings at the Prayer Tower

- Tuesday, 8.00pm
- Wednesday, 7.00am
- Wednesday, 7.30pm
- Friday, 7.30pm

God will richly reward you as you serve Him in intercession ministry.

TESTIMONY

I was devastated when I received the news that I had a critical illness. I started to deepen my prayer life and joined the Prayer Tower in intercession for others. As I continued to pray for my own sickness, the Lord told me to pray for others' needs instead of myself. Since then I have realigned my prayer experience by praying for others' needs. I am trusting God to fulfil His promises just as He did in Job 42:8-10.

CALVARY PRAYER TOWER



□ calptower@gmail.com

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There is an opportunity for you to join our passionate and multi-talented team at the Building Management of Calvary Convention Centre. **We are currently looking for...**

TECHNICIAN

- SPM or equivalent with technical training and two years of hands-on experience in commercial, residential or retail buildings.
- Good communication skills both oral and written in English and Bahasa Malaysia.
- Must be a team player.
- Experience in Building Automation System (BAS) / Building Management System (BMS) is preferred.

CHARGEMAN

- Competent BO Chargeman by Suruhanjaya Tenaga with five years of working experience.
- Good communication skills both oral and written in English and Bahasa Malaysia.
- A team player, have a sense of responsibility and able to supervise.
- Experience in Building Automation System (BAS) / Building Management System (BMS) is preferred.



WORSHIP **SCHEDULE** MAY 2018

Saturday, 5.00pm **Calvary Damansara Heights**

- Associate Pastor Raymond Yong 05 Communion
- Associate Pastor Chan Lee Peng
- Associate Pastor Steven Kum
- Associate Pastor Yong Chee Weng

Sunday, 9.00am **Calvary Convention Centre**

- Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam Communion
- 13 Senior Associate Pastor Petrina Guneratnam Mother's Day
- Associate Pastor Yong Chee Weng
- Associate Pastor Timothy Ong

ACTIVITIES

CALVARY YOUTH FELLOWSHIP

Saturdays, 12 & 26 May 2018, 1.00pm Calvary Damansara Heights Topic: Faith Matters – A Book Study on Galatians

CHINESE FELLOWSHIP

Sunday, 27 May 2018, 11.30am Theatrette 1, Calvary Convention Centre Speaker: Associate Pastor Timothy Ong

MOTHER'S DAY SERVICE

Sunday, 13 May 2018 9.00am

Calvary Convention Centre Speaker: Senior Associate Pasto

Petrina Guneratnam



ASCENSION TO PENTECOST

10 Days Fast & Pray

11 - 20 May 2018 8.00pm at Prayer Tower Calvary Convention Centre

BLOOD DONATION DRIVE

Sunday, 10 June 2018 10.00am - 2.00pm **Calvary Convention Centre**



CALVARY CHURCH (Assemblies of God)

2 Jalan Damansara Endah, Damansara Heights, 50490 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Senior Pastor Rev. Tan Sri Datuk Dr. Prince Guneratnam









