

CALVARY NEWS

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God's Word Gives Hope

By Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam

“For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places” (Ephesians 6:12).

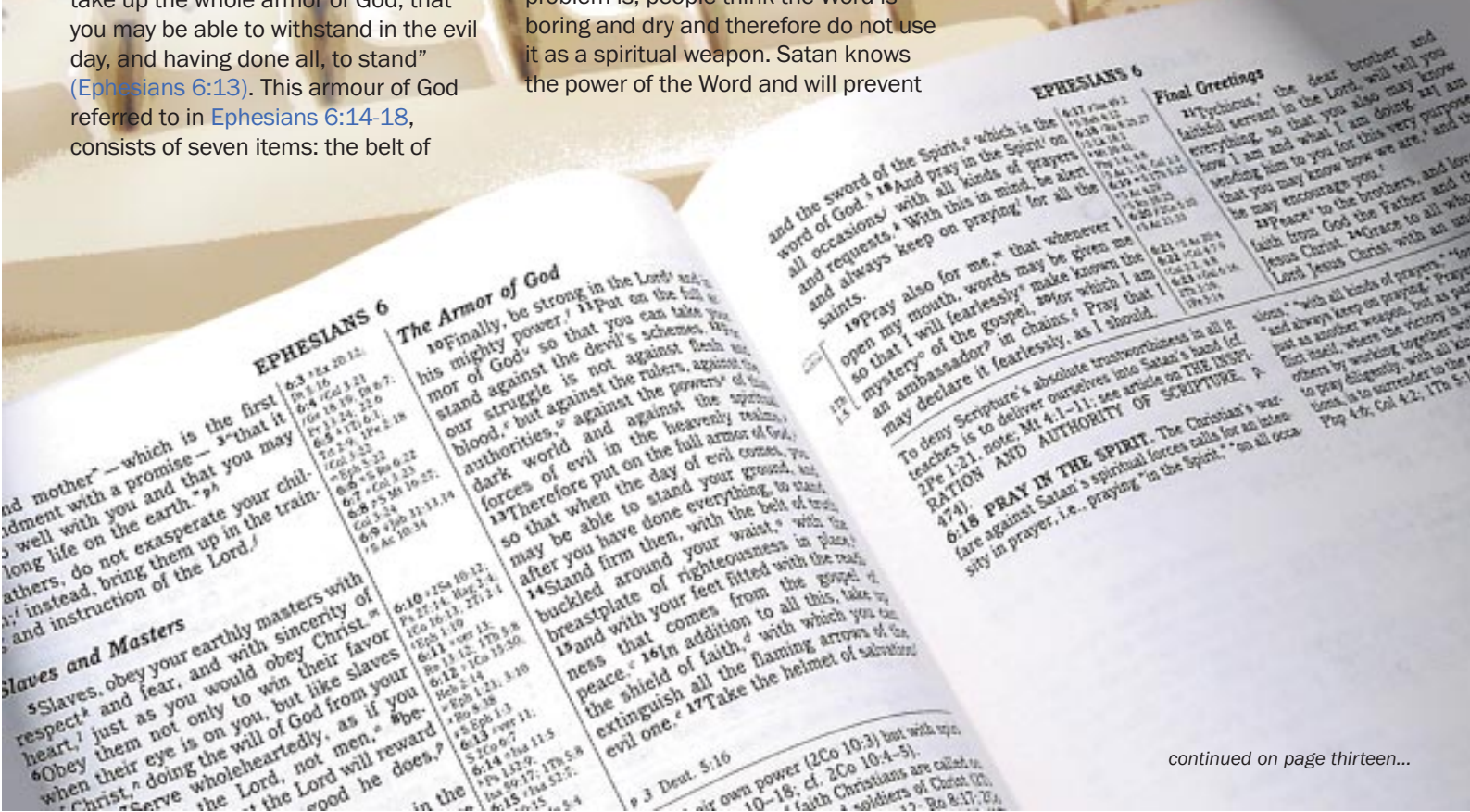
Paul declared that a believer is in spiritual warfare. Your real enemy is not flesh and blood—human opponents, but Satan, God’s archenemy. God has given you the ability to combat Satan. He has provided you with powerful spiritual weapons to help you fight this battle. “For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds” (2 Corinthians 10:4). You can launch some of these spiritual weapons with your mouth by using the Name of Jesus, pleading the blood of Jesus and by praising and worshipping Jesus. They are powerful ways to tear down Satan’s strongholds in your life. Paul encouraged the use of other weapons in Ephesians 6:13: “Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand” (Ephesians 6:13). This armour of God referred to in Ephesians 6:14-18, consists of seven items: the belt of

truth, feet fitted with the gospel of peace, the breastplate of righteousness, the shield of faith, the helmet of salvation, the sword of the Spirit and praying always.

The Word of God, which Paul calls the sword of the Spirit, is to be used to launch an offensive against the enemy. Too often, people do not think of the Christian as one who attacks but one who hides and shields himself. Satan is always on the prowl, looking for whom he can devour. Paul explained that you can use the Word of God not just for protection but to come against the enemy. Instead of backing off, use it to change your position and take the offensive against the enemy. But the problem is, people think the Word is boring and dry and therefore do not use it as a spiritual weapon. Satan knows the power of the Word and will prevent

you from reading it by bringing a spirit of laziness. When you realise that God’s Word is explosive and powerful and you use it effectively to attack the enemy, you can become successful, victorious and profitable to the Kingdom of God.

Jesus taught that God’s Word is Spirit and gives life. “It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh profits nothing. The words that I speak to you are spirit, and they are life” (John 6:63). He also taught that God’s Word is like a seed with the potential of life within it. God’s Word is not like man’s word. Man may give his word and then realise that he cannot fulfil his promise. He gives guarantees but may end up in court because of his inability to perform. However, God has the ability to work within you what He



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Calvary Church celebrates



On 17 June 2001, Father's Day, Calvary Church presented the 602 fathers who attended the various Services at Damansara Heights and the Satellite Churches with a gift each.

Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam prayed for them and the Carpenter's Workshop children shared testimonies about their dads and presented a special song to honour them.

Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam praying the prayer of blessing upon his wife, Senior Associate Pastor Petrina Guneratnam



Carpenter's Workshop children presenting a special song to honour their fathers



Royal Rangers bond

Fathers and sons trying to display the food in the most creative way possible!



Precious jewels

Father's Day, 17 June 2001, was the perfect day for the dedication of four babies to the Lord. The parents took the opportunity to formally express their desire to bring up their children in the ways of the heavenly Father. Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam dedicated the babies to the Lord at the 10am Worship Service at Calvary Damansara Heights and prayed for them and the parents.

NICOLE KUMAR
Parents: Drs. S.G. & Mary Kumar



Father's Day

By Audrey Kum

Senior Pastor Guneratnam preached a powerful message. From the Bible, he showed us that there is power in our spoken words. Using the text from Numbers 6:22-27, where God told Moses to tell Aaron and his sons to bless Israel, he said that it is God's desire that we bless others, especially our families. As kings and priests in Christ Jesus, we can impart God's goodness into another's life by blessing them. "Blessings", he said, "will overcome evil." It is God's way of healing, bringing salvation and deliverance.

We can do this if we abide by Romans 12:1-2. We are to

The husbands praying for the Lord's blessings upon their wives and their family members

present ourselves as a living sacrifice and not be conformed to this world but be transformed by the renewing of our minds.

Being Father's Day, he invited all the fathers to come to the altar, first to pray for cleansing and forgiveness before praying for blessings upon their spouses and families. It was an awesome sight to see the men blessing their wives and to see them together, blessing their families. It was clear that something powerful was happening in the lives of these who came out! Others who wanted a blessing were also given the opportunity to seek the Lord at the altar later. 🙏



with their dads

By Derek Lim

On 17 June 2001, 213 Royal Rangers and their fathers celebrated Father's Day at the Calvary Refreshment Centre.

The celebration began at 5pm with praise and worship followed by a testimony by Trailblazer Thomas Tan and devotion by parent, Paul Yem.

Next was a fun food decoration competition that saw father and son teams working together to produce the most creative and innovative ways to display the food provided. They came up with 'cars', 'aeroplanes', animal shapes, a 'campfire' and even the 'Petronas Twin Towers'! Prizes were awarded to the top three winners before the programme proceeded with refreshments and fellowship. The programme ended with a strengthened bond between the fathers and sons that were present. 🙏

◀ Paul Yem sharing the devotion



LEE SHU XIAN

Parents: Nehemiah & Jeanie Lee

DANIEL TEH WEI CHIAN

Parents: Sunny & Rossana Teh

LISHA GAN YENNEE

Parents: Gan Tion Chew & Lai Kuin



CW Children's Day

The **Carpenter's Workshop (CW)** chose to celebrate "Children's Day" at all the classes on 15 July 2001.

On this special day, the children were encouraged to invite new friends to join them in their classes. There was a party atmosphere. Some classes had streamers and balloons and all had lots of food and games which the kids enjoyed. At Damansara Heights as well as all the Satellite Churches, groups of parents sportingly presented skits and songs to the children.

Senior Associate Pastor Petrina Guneratnam greeted and prayed for the children at Damansara Heights and Associate Pastor Richard Yun did the same for the CW kids at Ampang. At Cheras and Bandar Utama, Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam prayed for the parents and the children at the altar. Praise God for the 11 new visitors and nine who accepted Christ into their hearts!

Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam praying for the parents and children at the altars...



...at Bandar Utama



▲ ...at Cheras



▲ Parents and teachers praying for the kids at Cheras



▲ A parent doing a skit at Cheras



▲ Parents singing a song at Ampang

▼ Parents greeting the kids at Damansara Heights



▲ Associate Pastor Petrina Guneratnam greeting the children at Damansara Heights

Celebrating Filipino style!

By Kay Lim

On Sunday, 10 June 2001, the **Filipino Life Groups** had a combined celebration at Calvary Church Ampang. This was held in conjunction with the celebrations of the 103rd Philippine Independence Day on 12 June by the Filipino nationals in Malaysia.

More than 60 Filipino nationals attended the Sunday Worship Service where Associate Pastor Timothy Ong preached a powerful message entitled "Why Did David Need Five Stones?" He exhorted the congregation to step forward in faith and trust God no matter what circumstances, hardships or uncertainties they face.

The Ampang Life Group presented a mime to the song "He Will Carry You"

that tied in with the message while the Filipino Choir rendered a Tagalog song, "Bayang Pinagpala" meaning "Blessed Nation" (of the Philippines).

It was a moment to remember for all our Filipino friends when Associate Pastor Richard Yun called them to come forward to the altar and led the congregation to pray for them and the nation of the Philippines.

The second part of the celebration continued after a Filipino lunch. Two groups presented their testimonies in song—"Soldiers For Christ" and "Ayaw Kong Magkulang Mo" ("I Can't Do Without You").

We give praise and thanks to God for this opportunity to celebrate with our Filipino brothers and sisters their nation's Independence Day.

Council of Achievement

By Derek Lim

The Royal Ranger Council of Achievement, held on 4 August 2001, was attended by 280 parents, Rangers and friends. Besides the usual formalities of the event, this year's had some special highlights. For the first time, an all-Ranger team wholly co-ordinated the worship. On top of that, the event recognised our first GMA (Gold Medal of Achievement) holder, Kester Low and the members of the Gunung Tahan Expedition received their certificates of achievement. The event was spiced up with presentations by several Outposts which were appreciated by cheers. Several testimonies and reports were given. A total of 88 Rangers received Certificates of Achievement from Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam.

Senior Commander Jim thanking Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam

Commander Gan Tion Chew guiding the Buckaroos and Straight Arrows during their presentation

The Trailblazers presenting their skit



Senior Commander Jim Guneratnam thanking Associate Pastor Richard Yun who shared the devotion



The Straight Arrows saying their pledge



The Pioneers presenting their skit



The Buckaroos and Straight Arrows doing a great job co-ordinating their actions!

Press Forward!



The BM Choir singing from their hearts, "Hatiku, rinduku, semua bangsa sujud menyembah..." ("My heart and my desire is to see the nations worship [Jesus]...")

By David Seah

The song "Hatiku" was heard from the Elim bungalow on 24 June 2001 at 2pm. The BM Choir sang the song as an opening number for the Bahasa Malaysia Evangelistic Meeting.

Rev. Joshua Low, the guest speaker spoke about the need to be committed to God before we can press forward in our Christian life. A total of 17 people responded at the altar, two of whom received salvation and two others rededicated their lives to Jesus. "Puji Tuhan!" Praise God!



Rev. Joshua Low



Responding at the altar

Missions Emphasis—Rejoicing...Bring them in

Church Challenge

By Andrew Peter

The Church met at 7pm on Friday, 29 June 2001 expecting to hear from the Lord.

After worship led by Associate Pastor Steven Kum, six African students who attend our College Students' Ministry meetings taught the congregation to sing a song entitled "Wonder Why" complete with hand actions—like buttering a huge slice of bread and stirring a large cup of tea! They then sang "Asante", a lively song in Swahili, which means "Thank You".

Janey Lim, currently a student at the Bible College of Malaysia, who is pastoring the work in Serendah and pioneering the Taman Desa Outreach, shared some encouraging testimonies of God's healing, salvation and provision. The Lord not only provided new premises for them in Serendah. He also saved the landlady who subsequently gave away her talisman and burnt the altar at her home! Chew Siew Keng, the Supervisor of Calvary Sunshine Home also encouraged the congregation with how God has blessed their ministry with the elderly folk at the Home. Since it was set up, the Lord has saved some and taken some home to be with Him. She praised God that even the family members of the residents have been blessed because of the love of Jesus shown to those in their care.

Associate Pastor Peter Ong then introduced Rev. Benny Ferguson, who has served as the National Light for the Lost Coordinator for the Assemblies of God, USA, since 1992. From the start, it was clear that his heart was all out for missions. He shared that the driving force in his life was to reach the world for Jesus Christ. He encouraged the congregation to step out in faith like Janey and Siew Keng to do something for the kingdom of God. He urged them to pray and ask the Holy Spirit to show them where God would have them serve and how He would have them give in their Faith Promise commitment. When someone gives, someone is blessed! He said, "If we don't go or we don't give, who will reach the six billion people in the world for Jesus?"

The meeting concluded with the gathering of Life Group leaders around the altar to represent the various Outreaches, local and abroad, of Calvary Church. The Life Groups then committed to upholding specific Outreaches in prayer for the next six months.



Rev. Benny Ferguson

Chew Siew Keng



Janey Lim



Seeking the Lord at the altar



Making a commitment to pray for our Outreaches for the next six months



The African students teaching the song "Wonder Why"



Youth Challenge—Missions at our doorstep

By Soon Yuen Ling

The 143 young people who gathered at the sanctuary on Saturday, 30 June 2001, were challenged to reach out to foreign students and workers in Malaysia.

We had six of our African friends who are studying here to perform a dance and to show how songs are sung the "African way". Carol, a student from Kenya, shared how she rededicated her life to Jesus in Kuala Lumpur. We had a meaningful time praying for China, Philippines, Indonesia and Africa. Many of the foreign students and workers in Malaysia are from these nations.

Rev. Benny Ferguson based his message on Matthew 9:36-38. He challenged the Youth to believe that God could use them to reach their generation. Anyone can make an impact where they are if only they would allow God to use them. A total of eight responded to the call for full-time ministry (five for the first time) and many others responded for prayer.

A missions offering was collected to support the boring of wells in Nairobi, Kenya, for the street children that Calvary Church is supporting.



Young people responding to the Lord at the altar

Faith Promise Challenge

By Andrew Peter

On Faith Promise Sunday, 1 July 2001, Rev Benny Ferguson preached from Proverbs 10:1-5. He led us to focus on what God wants us to do for the harvest. He said, "Where there is a large sacrifice, there is a large return. Where there is a small sacrifice, there will be a small return." He urged us to let God speak to us about our finances because we can touch lives by our giving. He left a question for us to ponder over: "How many will not be in heaven because we do not give today?"

We thank God for the 2,832 who made Faith Promise Pledges. Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam led the congregation to pray for all who stepped out in faith to give so that others may know the Lord Jesus Christ as their Lord and Saviour.

Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam leading in prayer for the Faith Promise partners



The children also make Faith Promise pledges! The younger children give through a coin-box collection and the older children make pledges like the adults, on Faith Promise pledge cards that are specially printed for them. We praise God for the 626 children who pledged to believe the Lord to help them give that others may know Jesus too.

Do you play a musical instrument?

Would you like to serve God with your talents?

Would you like to be part of an exciting and fulfilling ministry?

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50 golden years!



Senior Pastor Prince and Senior Associate Pastor Petrina Guneratnam praying for Ebenezer and Violet Kandiah

On 12 August 2001 at the 10am Worship Service at Damansara Heights, Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam specially acknowledged Ebenezer and Violet Kandiah as the first couple at Calvary Church to celebrate 50 years of marriage! What a great example for us all at a time when many marriages do not last.

Ebenezer Kandiah, a Church Deacon for many years testified: "It is by God's grace and mercy that my wife, Violet and I have arrived at this glorious moment of our Golden Wedding Anniversary. It was the Lord who protected and kept us together through these 50 years. For a Christian, marriage should be made up of three people—husband, wife and Jesus Christ. According to God's Word in Ecclesiastes 4:12, a three-fold cord is not easily broken. Therefore the foundation of Christian marriage needs to be a commitment to love and honour the Lord. Christ then must be put first for a marriage to last. It also takes discipline, work, patience and prayer on our part for our marriage to continue. With Christ's help, the two of us should love, honour, cherish, communicate, forgive, respect and guard our relationship.

We have seen many ups and downs during these 50 years together. It was our Lord Jesus Christ who helped us balance our relationships and brought us out of all our differences. The secret that kept us together was our "hanging on" and not "hanging-up" in spite of disagreements and not letting the sun go down upon our wrath."

We congratulate the Kandiahs and pray that they will have many more healthy and happy years together!

Change of Ministry



We welcome Paul Yem to the new post of Church Manager

“ Calvary Church is certainly not new to Paul Yem Kai Peng. He has been the longest serving Church Deacon—28 years—until he did not stand for election at the Stewardship Day in March 2001 due to what he called “an imminent ministry involvement”. We asked him to tell us his story.

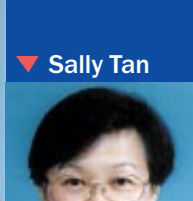
It has been a number of years since the Lord put a desire in my heart to serve Him full-time. On various occasions, Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam spoke to me about the possibility of my working in the Church. However, due to various reasons, I did not consider the matter seriously.

At the beginning of last year, while I was searching my soul before the Lord and evaluating my life as a Christian, the Holy Spirit began to deal with the different areas of my commitment to the Lord. I knew something had to be done about it immediately in view of my age and the soon return of the Lord. Full-time Christian work seemed to be the direction that the Lord was leading me.

For more than a year, I prayed and pondered over the matter. I struggled with the decision because there were many things to consider. I needed to be sure if it is the will of God for my life. I sought the counsel of Senior Pastor Guneratnam and Senior Associate Pastor Petrina Guneratnam and friends prayed along with me and my family. The Lord, through various Scriptures and circumstances began to show and affirm to me and my wife, Patricia, His direction for us. The sense of restlessness and stirring in my spirit continued until March this year when I finally made the decision to obey. ”



Yee Yuet Hoh ▲



▼ Sally Tan

We welcome Yee Yuet Hoh who is now Confidential Secretary to the Missions Department.

Sally Tan, who previously held that post, is now Secretary to the Administrative Office

Showing faith by deeds!

On Saturday, 28 July 2001, 72 men and women from the Church decided to be a blessing to the community by donating their blood to the National Blood Bank!



This was one way to show their faith by their deeds as taught in the book of James. The blood donation exercise was organised by the Calvary Caring Ministry. Don't miss the opportunity to be a blessing when the next Blood Donation exercise is announced!



Believing, Rejoice

Life Groups In Action!

This is the theme for our LG Promotion Month which falls in September this year. For the next few weeks, you will see different Life Groups (LG) in action on Fridays and Saturdays.

They will be involved in worship leading and be in the Worship Team during the Friday Prayer Meetings. On Sundays, they will be helping to collect toys and children's books that will be channelled to children's homes and hospitals. There will also be a collection of old newspapers that will be sold and the proceeds will go to HOPE Ministry to help other people emerge from their difficult circumstances.

We wish to create an awareness in the Church that the LGs are actively being a blessing to many whom they come into contact with. The following are testimonies showing how the LG Ministry has been a great assistance and blessing on different occasions.

AT A WEDDING

Bernard Lim, USJ Subang Jaya LG

At our wedding on 19 May this year, our LG members presented two songs for us and also helped us out with the ushering. My parents' LG, led by Edward and Rosalind Lee, helped us with the food preparation for the receptions. Yvonne and I are so blessed, encouraged and thankful to God for the LG Ministry. They have helped us to grow as a young Christian couple and encouraged us by their prayers, support and friendship.

* Bernard and Yvonne themselves are actively and faithfully serving as ushers on Sunday.



Even the LG leaders themselves were blessed by the LG Ministry. Two of them testify:

AT A FUNERAL

Angeline Goh, LG leader of Taman Bunga Raya LG

I was very touched when two of the LG members who are handicapped, came to pay their respect to my late father during his funeral service. They made great effort to come just to encourage me. Different individuals from the Church and the LG Ministry came and helped in worship leading and the music during the funeral service. I am grateful to God for the love and concern shown to me and my family by the Pastoral Care Department.

IN HOSPITAL

Violet Kandiah, LG Leader of Kuchai Brempark LG

I thank God for caring LG members who advised me to go for a check-up when I was reluctant to do so initially. A growth was found in my body and was subsequently removed. Two of my LG members made the effort and took time to stay overnight with me in the hospital for three consecutive nights. When I was ready to be discharged, the Church responded immediately to my need by providing transport to take me home. Their kindness and thoughtfulness really touched my heart.

DOING CHRISTMAS DECORATION (2000)

Douglas Foo, Men's LG Leader

Through the LG Ministry, the men were given the opportunity to come together to decorate one of the premises of our Church. It was evidently by God's grace and help that we managed to gather various men with different skills and talents and heavy family and work commitments to be involved in this project. The time spent together has strengthened our fellowship with one another. We give God the glory for successfully completing our decoration project.



These are just a few testimonies that reflect the life of the LG Ministry. The LG Ministry is the life of the Church. Every LG member will be able to testify of the blessing of belonging to a LG.

We would like to help you and your family find a suitable LG. Whether you are single, a young working adult, married, a single parent or a retired person, we have a LG just for you! 🌱

**Get more information at the
LG counter on the Sundays
throughout September or call the
Pastoral Care Department at
03-255 2620 ext.134.**

God's Word Gives Hope

says in His Word. “For this reason we also thank God without ceasing, because when you received the word of God, which you heard from us, you welcomed it not as the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God, which also effectively works in you who believe” (1 Thessalonians 2:13).

How does the Word of God benefit you?

Firstly, it produces faith.

“So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God” (Romans 10:17). Faith comes by hearing God’s Word and not gossip. That is why it is so vital that you do personal devotions and attend church services. Faith develops from hearing the Word of God. Matthew 9:20-21 tells us: “... a woman who had a flow of blood for twelve years came from behind and touched the hem of His [Jesus]’ garment. For she said to herself, ‘If only I may touch His garment, I shall be made well.’” Her faith was honoured and she was healed. There is nothing wrong with speaking to yourself as that woman did. Tell your inner man to rise up and put your faith and trust in Jesus. Often, what you say to yourself is related to what you hear. When you hear what God says, you have hope and answers instead of despair.

At a crusade in Singapore, where I preached the message of salvation, God’s healing and deliverance, a lady in a wheelchair arose and walked at the close of the meeting. Nobody touched her as we were praying with people around the altar. After the service, I asked her to tell me what had happened. She said, “As I was hearing God’s Word, I said to myself, ‘I will get up and walk because I believe God can heal me.’” Then she just got up and walked! Nobody laid hands on her. The hearing of God’s Word produced faith in her heart for her healing.

Secondly, God’s Word provides health and strength.

“He sent His word and healed

them, and delivered them from their destructions” (Psalm 107:20). God does not always send an ambassador. Sometimes He sends His Word. When there is a need, turn to the Word, read and meditate on it. Why? Because Jesus said that it is life and it is Spirit. Matthew 8:5-13 records how a Roman centurion asked Jesus for the healing of his sick servant. Jesus offered to go and pray for the servant but the centurion responded, “Lord, I am not worthy that You should come under my roof. But only speak a word, and my servant will be healed. For I also am a man under authority, having soldiers under me. And I say to this one, ‘Go,’ and he goes; and to another, ‘Come,’ and he comes; and to my servant, ‘Do this,’ and he does it.” The centurion recognised the authority of the spoken word. When Jesus spoke the Word, the Centurion’s servant was healed. You have been given a powerful weapon—God’s Word. If you allow the Holy Spirit to quicken that Word in your heart, you will rise up in great strength, power and have tremendous victory in Jesus Christ.

There are four wonderful steps for God’s Word to be health and strength:

“My son, give attention to my words; incline your ear to my sayings. Do not let them depart from your eyes; keep them in the midst of your heart; for they are life to those who find them, and health to all their flesh” (Proverbs 4:20-22).

Firstly, “give attention” to God’s Word. There is a difference between hearing and listening. Some people attend church faithfully and they have been hearing but they are not producing any fruits and there is no victory in their lives. Yes, they hear, but the Bible says that they have to give attention to what they hear. Jesus tells a parable about a sower who sowed seeds on various types of ground. In one situation, the birds ate up the seeds. As the seed or the Word of God is sown, Satan will try to prevent you from listening and

believing. Satan knows the power of that Word. If you fail to recognise how important it is to hear the Word and bring it to your heart, Satan will take the Word from you. Secondly, “incline your ear to my sayings”—depend on and act on it. Thirdly, “do not let them depart from your eyes”. Do not waver or doubt but hang onto the Word. It will come to pass. Fourthly, “keep them in the midst of your heart”. Meditate on the Word of God. Memorise the promises of God that you are claiming. This is the source of your victory.

Thirdly, God’s Word gives light.

“The entrance of Your words gives light; it gives understanding to the simple” (Psalm 119:130). Light reveals. When you have God’s Word, you do not stumble because it illuminates and shows you where to walk and how to live. “Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like a man who looks at his face in a mirror” (James 1:23, NIV). God’s Word is like a mirror that reveals who you really are so that you can do something about yourself where necessary. It also reveals how God sees you in Christ—as having been born again, clothed in His righteousness and as an heir with Christ.

Fourthly, God’s Word brings victory.

When Jesus was tempted in the wilderness, He used the Word against Satan (Luke 4). The Devil will not flee from the presence of the Bible but when the Word is spoken, he will. Jesus said, “It is written.” Do you know what is written in the Bible? You have with you all the great promises of God in the Bible. You can come against all temptations by the authority and power of God’s Word.

You are not warring against flesh and blood but against Satan who seeks to take advantage of you because you are still in the flesh.

Galatians 5:19-21 lists 14 problems of the flesh, namely, adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, strife, sedition, heresies, envying, murders, drunkenness and revelries. The flesh seeks and finds pleasure in these but you can be strong and have victory because God’s Word is more than adequate to meet any challenge. God has given you a powerful weapon—His Word—the sword of the Spirit. It gives us hope to live an abundant life (John 10:10). 🏹

All Bible quotations are from the New King James Version except where otherwise indicated.

Ladies singing "Keep On The Firing Line"



Senior Associate Pastor Petrina Guneratnam welcoming everyone to the meeting



The Chinese Choir presented a medley of three choruses



Judi Woodard ministered in song as well as shared the Word

He is God...even in crisis

By Bernice Narayanan

"Bad things do happen to good people," was Judi Woodard's opening statement. About 300 heads, present at the **Women's Rally** at Calvary Church Damansara Heights on 30 June 2001, nodded in quiet agreement.

Judi Woodard is a Pastor's wife and has walked with the Lord all her life, serving Him faithfully. On Halloween night, 1991, while preparing a family Hallelujah Night for the church, she was attacked mercilessly. How could God let such a horrendous thing happen to her, she had screamed in anger. The pain set in motion the feelings of bitterness and hatred. She was very angry with God. She battled with the "whys" before the Lord. The condemnation that had steadily crept in, began to take root. Not only had she to deal with her own trauma, she had deal with the pain that engulfed her family. She had to face false accusations and publicity that seemed to tear at her very belief. Yet, she knew that she had to cling tightly to the One who would see her through. And God did stand with

her—healing, delivering and restoring. But it did not happen overnight. It took time. His Word and love were the only healing balms that could reach to the depths of her pain.

Fear reared its ugly head constantly but the Word sent it hurling back where it belonged. Judi slept with her Bible, opened at the Book of Psalms, on her chest night after night. Psalm 118:6-8; Psalm 3:5 and Hebrews 13:6 were some of the many Scriptures she quoted to Satan. "Did you know," she said, "there are 365 'Fear Not's' in the Bible...one for every day of the week?" As she yielded to the Master, putting her suffering aside, Jesus showed her how all that had happened to her could be used for His glory.

2001—ten years later—Judi travels the world over, sharing with scores of hurting women. God took that 'bad thing' and turned it around to minister to others who have gone through similar experiences.

After the message, Judi and Senior Associate Pastor Petrina Guneratnam ministered to many women at the altar. Many souls left the sanctuary healed of experiences that had haunted them for years. Many also left with the knowledge that God did not promise that bad things will not happen to us but He did promise that He will always be with us through the valleys. And all left convinced that He is the God of good times and the God of bad times. He is God.



Pastor Petrina and Judi Woodard ministering at the altar



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(Assemblies of God)

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