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STANDING IN THE GAP

BY SENIOR PASTOR PRINCE GUNERATNAM

A gap is an opening that breaches safety or protection or a break in a line of defence. It is crucial to have no gaps for survival. The Prophet Ezekiel speaks of a gap that God could not find a suitable person to teach and direct the people in righteousness, back to God.

The Prophet said, *“Even common people oppress the poor, rob the needy, and deprive foreigners of justice. I looked for someone who might rebuild the wall of righteousness that guards the land. I searched for someone to stand in the gap in the wall so I wouldn’t have to destroy the land, but I found no one”* (Ezekiel 22:29-30). There are consequences to unrighteous living. The Bible says, *“So now I will pour out my fury on them, consuming them with the fire of my anger. I will heap on their heads the full penalty for all their sins. I, the Sovereign Lord, have spoken!”*

(Ezekiel 22:31). Man is born a sinner and the sinful nature of man enslaves him to live a sinful lifestyle. The Apostle Paul said, *“And I know that nothing good lives in me, that is, in my sinful nature. I want to do what is right, but I can’t. I want to do what is good, but I don’t. I don’t want to do what is wrong, but I do it anyway”* (Romans 7:18-19). Therefore, man’s greatest need is redemption. Paul declares, *“Oh, what a miserable person I am! Who will free me from this life that is dominated by sin and death? Thank God! The answer is in Jesus Christ our Lord”* (Romans 7:24-25). Jesus Christ paid the price for sin. Paul said, *“For the wages of sin is death”* (Romans 6:23). The Bible says, *“For this is how God loved the world: He gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life”* (John 3:16). The Church exists to proclaim this glorious gospel to all who have sinned. We are Christ’s witnesses. God looks to us to stand in the gap. God’s method for the gospel to be proclaimed is by us.

The Prophet Jeremiah stood in the gap as an intercessor. He cried, *“The harvest is finished, and the summer is gone, the people cry, “yet we are not saved!” I hurt with the hurt of my people. I mourn and am overcome with grief. Is there no*

medicine in Gilead? Is there no physician there? Why is there no healing for the wounds of my people? If only my head were a pool of water and my eyes a fountain of tears, I would weep day and night for all my people who have been slaughtered” (Jeremiah 8:20 – 9:1). In this account, Jeremiah sought God on behalf of the people’s suffering. We have been given this wonderful privilege to proclaim the truth of redemption and hope that there is salvation in the name of Jesus Christ!

Jesus said, *“Go into all the world and preach the Good News to everyone”* (Mark 16:15) and *“you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. And you will be my witnesses, telling people about me everywhere—in Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth”* (Acts 1:8). Paul declares, *“But how can they call on him to save them unless they believe in him? And how can they believe in him if they have never heard about him? And how can they hear about him unless someone tells them? And how will anyone go and tell them without being sent? That is why the Scriptures say, “How beautiful are the feet of messengers who bring good news!””* (Romans 10:14-15). Today, God is looking for people who will stand in the gap to tell sinful men that there is salvation in Jesus Christ. The Bible tells of chosen individuals of God who stood in the gap to take the message of deliverance and to stand in the gap to bring peace and hope to those in need.

1. MOSES

Moses stood in the gap when the children of Israel were enslaved in Egypt. God said to Moses, *“I have certainly seen the oppression of my people in Egypt. I have heard their cries of distress because of their harsh slave drivers. Yes, I am aware of their suffering. So I*

have come down to rescue them from the power of the Egyptians and lead them out of Egypt into their own fertile and spacious land. It is a land flowing with milk and honey—the land where the Canaanites, Hittites, Amorites, Perizzites, Hivites, and Jebusites now live. Look! The cry of the people of Israel has reached me, and I have seen how harshly the Egyptians abuse them. Now go, for I am sending you to Pharaoh. You must lead my people Israel out of Egypt” (Exodus 3:7-10).

2. DAVID

David stood in the gap when the giant, Goliath, threatened the destiny of the nation of Israel. The Bible says, *“Goliath stood and shouted to the ranks of Israel, “Why do you come out and line up for battle? Am I not a Philistine, and are you not the servants of Saul? Choose a man and have him come down to me. If he is able to fight and kill me, we will become your subjects; but if I overcome him and kill him, you will become our subjects and serve us.” Then the Philistine said, “This day I defy the armies of Israel! Give me a man and let us fight each other.” On hearing the Philistine’s words, Saul and all the Israelites were dismayed and terrified. David said to the Philistine, “You come against me with sword and spear and javelin, but I come against you in the name of the Lord Almighty, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied””* (1 Samuel 17:8-11, 45).

3. NEHEMIAH

Nehemiah, the cup bearer to the king of Persia, stood in the gap to bring dignity back to Israel. When he came to know that the walls of Jerusalem had been torn down, he prayed, *“O Lord, God of heaven, the great and awesome*

God who keeps his covenant of unfailing love with those who love him and obey his commands, listen to my prayer! Look down and see me praying night and day for your people Israel. I confess that we have sinned against you. Yes, even my own family and I have sinned! We have sinned terribly by not obeying the commands, decrees, and regulations that you gave us through your servant Moses” (Nehemiah 1:5-7).

4. ESTHER

When Israel was threatened to be destroyed from the face of the earth, God found Queen Esther to stand in the gap for His people. The Bible says, *“Then Esther went again before the king, falling down at his feet and begging him with tears to stop the evil plot devised by Haman the Agagite against the Jews. Again the king held out the gold scepter to Esther. So she rose and stood before him. Esther said, “If it pleases the king, and if I have found favor with him, and if he thinks it is right, and if I am pleasing to him, let there be a decree that reverses the orders of Haman son of Hammedatha the Agagite, who ordered that Jews throughout all the king’s provinces should be destroyed. For how can I endure to see my people and my family slaughtered and destroyed?”” (Esther 8:3-6).*

Similar to the people of God in the Scriptures, we have the opportunity to be witnesses and testimonies of the good news that Jesus cares and saves.

Isaiah the Prophet had a vision and heard God say, *“Listen, O heavens! Pay attention, earth! This is what the Lord says: “The children I raised and cared for have rebelled against me. Even an ox knows its owner, and a donkey recognizes its master’s care – but Israel doesn’t know its master. My people don’t recognize my care for them”” (Isaiah 1:2-3).* As born-again believers in Jesus Christ, it is our responsibility to share the love of Christ with the lost. As a church, let us respond to God’s call the way Isaiah did. When the Lord said, *“Whom should I send as a messenger to this people? Who will go for us?”*, Isaiah responded, *“Here I am. Send me” (Isaiah 6:8).* Like Isaiah, we need to be people willing to stand in the gap, proclaiming the glorious gospel to a world that needs hope, and peace with God through the forgiveness of our sins by Jesus Christ.

All Bible quotations are from the New Living Translation, unless otherwise stated.



Responding to accept Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour



Maliswaran Subramaniam 'Raju' sharing how Christ has changed him after he was led to Christ by his boss, Chow Sang Hoe and his wife, Jessyca Chow

CELEBRATING CHRISTMAS IN TAMIL

BY ASSOCIATE PASTOR YONG CHEE WENG

On Sunday, 16 December 2018, the Tamil Ministry conducted its first Christmas Evangelistic Meeting. We thank God for 119 attendees, double the number of people in our average monthly fellowships. In particular, we are grateful for the 30 new comers and eight salvations.

The Tamil Ministry members had been excited for a month in preparing for the Christmas Evangelistic Meeting. Sixteen went door to door tracting at flats nearby Calvary Convention Centre over two Saturdays prior to the meeting, resulting in the 30 new comers who came and heard the Gospel. The

Tamil choir, dressed beautifully in traditional Indian clothing, did well in presenting an opening number. The worship team then led in joyful praise and worship. Associate Pastor Yong Chee Weng shared the Christmas message, emphasizing that “Jesus Knows Your Suffering” by virtue of His birth, life and death. This helped the attendees to appreciate that God understands them and wants to help them. Many responded for prayers for personal needs. We thank God for those who accepted Him.

After the service, we continued our Christmas celebration over lunch. We thank God for the many who volunteered to cook and bring food for the pot bless. And thank the Lord for multiplying the food – we had prepared for 90 people but had just enough for all 119! The choir presented some Tamil Christmas songs during the lunch, adding to the joyous occasion. Praise God for blessing our efforts in evangelism!

Join the Tamil Ministry Fellowship on Sunday, 24 February 2019 at 11.30am at Theatrette 2, Calvary Convention Centre. For more information, call 03-8999 5532 ext 403.



The Tamil choir presenting the opening number



Delicious and spicy pot bless lunch



Pastor Lee Siu sharing encouraging personal life stories



The crowd enjoying Pastor Lee Siu's sharing

A YOUTHFUL CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION

BY GORDON YONG

On Sunday, 16 December 2018, Calvary Youth held a Christmas celebration at the Plaza of Calvary Convention Centre. It was a time and opportunity given to the youths to share the joy of Christmas with their friends.

The celebration kicked off with fun and laughter as we began with an icebreaker called the “human wrap”. Divided into groups, the task was to dress one member as creatively and tidily as possible with newspapers. Following the icebreaker was a time of fellowship over a scrumptious Christmas feast and live performances of Christmas Carols.

Later during the celebration, we were blessed as Pastor Quek Lee Siu shared the Word with us, highlighting that each of us are wonderfully and beautifully made by God. It was an encouragement to the young people hearing her testimony of how God moved in her life.

After that, we proceeded with gift exchange and recognizing the winners of the “Most Creatively Dressed” competition. The celebration concluded with the Christmas carol, “Feliz Navidad”. We thank God for answering our prayers for good weather and a successful celebration with 25 newcomers!



Human wrapping challenge



Top three most creatively dressed youths



Warm fellowship



Youths spending time in worship



Festively-dressed worship leaders



The crowd enjoying grub from food trucks



The plaza filled to the brim



The youth ensemble creating a merry atmosphere



Young Adults treating the crowd to a medley of Christmas carols



Food and fellowship



Fun and bubbly!



Sparking creativity at the sand art booth



A thrilling puppet show for the kids

CHRISTMAS FELLOWSHIP AND FUN

BY LIM AI LEEN

As the Christmas Worship Service on Sunday, 23 December 2018 wrapped up, the Plaza at Calvary Convention Centre was abuzz with variety of food and beverages, and joyful performers all ready and waiting for the congregation to join them at Christmas Fest!

We kicked off at 11.00am with a slew of activities from food vendors and food trucks doling out delectable dishes, festive carolers, games and puppet shows for the kids, and a mystery gift stall.

The day drew to a close capping off a meaningful weekend of Christmas celebrations.



The Calvary family worshipping the Lord



Senior Pastor sharing the Word of God



(From left) Victoria Choi, Jonathan Lim and Kimberly Woo narrating "The Arrival" story

THE ARRIVAL: A CHRISTMAS

BY LIM AI LEEN

This Christmas season, the significant truth of why we celebrate this day rings loud and fills with hope.

The Christmas Worship Services took place at Calvary Damansara Heights on Saturday, 22 December 2018, and at Calvary Convention Centre on Sunday, 23 December 2018. As we took our seats, songs of praise and worship, and Christmas carols filled the sanctuaries with merriment.

On Saturday, Associate Pastor Timothy Ong shared a message entitled "God's Eternal Plan". God's plan was accomplished through



The ever-wondrous nativity scene



The festively decked-out choir




The talented cast

CELEBRATION

Jesus Christ when He was born into this world to save those who are lost. At the Sunday Worship Service, Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam shared a timely reminder on “The Price and Cost of Christmas”. Christmas is about Jesus Christ and how He has paid a price for us. Therefore, we ought to share God’s love to the world.

The Christmas Worship Services were made all the more special with an extended worship experience named “The Arrival”, presented by the talented Music and Creative Arts team. The presentation included poignant monologues, inspiring dances, and music by the dedicated members of the worship ensembles, choir and musicians.

Truly, it was a wonderful time of celebration and remembrance of the birth of Jesus!

 Watch the full version of the Christmas Worship Service on Sunday and Senior Pastor’s message on our YouTube channel [@calvaryone](#)



Natasha Tan (left) and Victoria Grace stunning the congregation during their solos



Pastor Timothy preaching on God’s Eternal Plan



Many stepping out in response to the altar call



Performing at Calvary Damansara Heights



A special number performed by Associate Pastor Chris Lee (on grand piano) and the choir



Pastor David sharing a powerful message on God's will

GIVING THANKS FOR A BLESSED 2018!

BY IVAN TEN

On Sunday, 30 December 2018, the Calvary family celebrated and gave thanks to God for the many blessings we were bestowed with in 2018. It was a joyous combined celebration held at Calvary Convention Centre which began with a breakfast fellowship at the Plaza. We were then ushered into the presence of God by the worship leaders as we began singing songs of thanksgiving and praise.

Associate Pastor David Seah shared a message entitled "Giving Thanks is God's Will". We were reminded that thanksgiving puts into proper perspective our big God versus our small problems but will be rejected when we are



The orchestra ensemble accompanying the worship team beautifully



Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam praying for respondents at the altar

disobedient. It was also heartening to hear that in tough situations, giving thanks to God precedes miracles in our lives.

Then, the Church acknowledged three full-time staff and five lay leaders who have served for more than ten years. They received their faithful service awards from Senior Pastors Prince and Petrina Guneratnam.

As part of the Year End Thanksgiving Service, time was allocated for fellow Calvarites to share their testimonies of God's blessings showered upon them. It was heartwarming to hear of how the Lord miraculously healed and touched so many lives.

All in all, we praise God with gratefulness for what He has done in 2018 and look forward to what He will do in 2019!

 Watch Pastor David's full message on our YouTube channel @calvaryone

Sharing thanksgiving testimonies

Andrew Tan thanking God for guidance in his work



Peter Khor thanking God for guidance upon his son in passing exams



Eddy Law sharing on God's blessings upon the Royal Rangers Ministry



Tracy Chan thanking God for protection upon her house from serious flood



Carin Phua thanking God for the baptism of Holy Spirit



Samantha Sam thanking God for seeing her through her struggles



Thanking God for healing...

Tan Sri Dr. Ng Lai Swee



Melody Tan



David Tan



Lawrence Mak



Chin Li Sha



Dr. Padmani



Temitope Oluwayomi



Adeline Cheah thanking God for healing and strengthening her during the loss of her brother



FAITHFUL SERVICE AWARDS

Congratulations to the following Church staff and lay leaders whose faithfulness in service were recognised at the Year End Thanksgiving Service on Sunday, 30 December 2018 at Calvary Convention Centre.

CHURCH STAFF



Prince Guneratnam Jr (Jim Guneratnam) *(served 25 years)*
Executive Administrator
Director of Calvary Communication Ministry
Royal Rangers Ministry Head



Yip Wai Leng *(served 25 years)*
Missions Accounts Executive



Pastor Christopher Lee Yew Meng *(served 25 years)*
Associate Pastor
Music & Creative Arts Ministry Head

LAY LEADERS



Angeline Hee Ah Lan *(served 29 years)*
School of Christian Growth



Katherine Lee Lin Choo *(served 29 years)*
Missionettes



Irene Heng Peng Hee *(served 25 years)*
Children's Ministry



Sharon Chan Sau Lai
(served 10 years)
Children's Ministry



Tam Kok Meng
(served 10 years)
School of Christian Growth



Sister Petrina leading in prayer for all pastors and staff

PRAYING INTO THE NEW YEAR

BY MELISSA SAMUEL

On Monday, 31 December 2018, the pews of Calvary Damansara Heights were filled with 546 Calvarites, as the Church gathered to seek God in the Combined Prayer Meeting.

We started with worshipping and adoring God in songs before spending time in confessing our negligence in seeking Him and making a renewed commitment of our lives to live right for the Lord. Different ones read the corresponding Scriptures claiming the promises of God for our lives as we responded with praise and prayer.

Associate Pastor Chan Lee Peng then led in prayer for breakthroughs for the Church Ministries. Then Associate Pastor Peter Ong prayed for breakthrough for the Church as an Apostolic Church, that we will pioneer new ministries and break new grounds in reaching out to see souls saved and discipled.

Church Deacon, Puan Chen Keck, led a corporate prayer for the Holy Spirit's anointing to rest upon all the Pastors and Ministry Heads, and for further growth in the Church. Associate Pastor Richard Yun then prayed over the congregation. In obedience to the call of Jesus to intercede for salvation of souls, we wrote and prayed for names of our loved ones and friends in the commitment for salvation of souls slips. Finally, we stood in unity to intercede for our Nation.

We ended with Senior Associate Pastor Petrina Guneratnam leading in prayer with the congregation agreeing together for all the Pastors and staff of Calvary Church, followed by Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam concluding in prayer for all and Calvary Church at large.

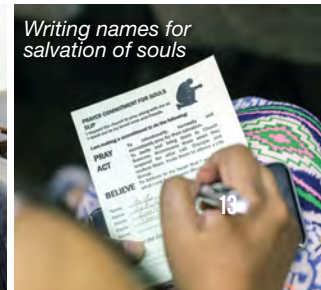
Let us welcome 2019, armed and blessed, with God's divine power and strength to rain down as we anticipate all the wondrous things God will continue to do in us and through us.



Calvarites worshipping and seeking the Lord



Calvarites praying in groups



Writing names for salvation of souls

BERDIRI DI JURANG (BERDOA SYAFAAT)

OLEH PENDITA KANAN PRINCE GUNERATNAM

Jurang adalah celah yang menerobos keselamatan atau perlindungan atau satu retakan dalam garis pertahanan. Sangat penting untuk tidak ada jurang untuk bertahan hidup. Nabi Yehezkiel berbicara tentang satu jurang bahawa Tuhan tidak dapat mencari orang yang sesuai untuk mengajar dan membimbing orang-orang dalam kebenaran, kembali kepada Tuhan.

Nabi itu berkata, “Penduduk negeri melakukan pemerasan dan perampasan, menindas orang sengsara dan miskin dan mereka melakukan pemerasan terhadap orang asing bertentangan dengan hukum. Aku mencari di tengah-tengah mereka seorang yang hendak mendirikan tembok atau yang mempertahankan negeri itu di hadapan-Ku, supaya jangan Kumusnahkan, tetapi Aku tidak menemuinya” (Yehezkiel 22:29-30). Ada akibatnya untuk hidup yang tidak benar. Alkitab berkata, “Maka Aku mencurahkan geram-Ku atas mereka dan membinasakan mereka dengan api kemurkaan-Ku; kelakian mereka Kutimpakan atas kepala mereka, demikianlah firman Tuhan” (Yehezkiel 22:31). Manusia dilahirkan sebagai orang berdosa dan sifat manusia yang berdosa menjadikannya hamba untuk menjalani gaya hidup yang berdosa.

Rasul Paulus berkata, “Sebab aku tahu, bahwa di dalam aku, yaitu di dalam aku sebagai manusia, tidak ada sesuatu yang baik. Sebab kehendak memang ada di dalam aku, tetapi bukan hal berbuat apa yang baik. Sebab bukan apa yang aku kehendaki, yaitu yang baik, yang aku perbuat, melainkan apa yang tidak aku kehendaki, yaitu yang jahat, yang aku perbuat” (Roma 7:18-19). Oleh itu, keperluan terbesar manusia adalah penebusan. Paulus menyatakan, “Aku, manusia celaka! Siapakah yang akan melepaskan aku dari tubuh maut ini? Syukur kepada Tuhan! oleh Yesus Kristus, Tuhan kita. Jadi dengan akal budiku aku melayani hukum Tuhan, tetapi dengan tubuh insaniku aku melayani hukum dosa” (Roma 7:24-25). Yesus Kristus membayar harga untuk dosa.

Paulus berkata, “Sebab upah dosa ialah maut; tetapi karunia Tuhan ialah hidup yang kekal dalam Kristus Yesus, Tuhan kita” (Roma 6:23). Alkitab berkata, “Karena begitu besar kasih Tuhan akan dunia ini, sehingga Ia telah mengaruniakan Anak-Nya yang tunggal, supaya setiap orang yang percaya kepada-Nya tidak binasa, melainkan beroleh hidup yang kekal” (Yohanes 3:16). Gereja wujud untuk memberitakan Injil yang mulia ini kepada semua orang yang berdosa. Kita adalah saksi Kristus. Tuhan menantikan kita untuk berdiri di jurang untuk berdoa syafaat. Cara Tuhan untuk memberitakan Injil adalah melalui kita.

Nabi Yeremia berdiri di jurang sebagai pendoa syafaat. Dia menangis, “Sudah lewat musim menuai, sudah berakhir musim kemarau, tetapi kita belum diselamatkan juga! Karena luka puteri bangsaku hatiku luka; aku berkabung, kedahsyatan telah menyergap aku. Tidak adakah balsam di Gilead? Tidak adakah tabib di sana? Mengapakah belum datang juga kesembuhan luka puteri bangsaku? Sekiranya kepalaku penuh air, dan mataku jadi pancuran air mata, maka siang malam aku akan menangisi orang-orang puteri bangsaku yang terbunuh!” (Yeremia 8:20 - 9:1). Dalam kisah ini, Yeremia mewakili umatnya yang menderita, mencari Tuhan. Kita telah diberi hak istimewa yang luarbiasa ini untuk memberitakan kebenaran tentang penebusan dan berharap bahwa ada keselamatan dalam nama Yesus Kristus!

Yesus berkata, “Lalu Ia berkata kepada mereka: “Pergilah ke seluruh dunia, beritakanlah Injil kepada segala makhluk” (Markus 16:15) dan “Tetapi kamu akan menerima kuasa, kalau Roh Kudus turun ke atas kamu, dan kamu akan menjadi saksi-Ku di Yerusalem dan di seluruh Yudea dan Samaria dan sampai ke ujung bumi” (Kisah Para Rasul 1:8). Paulus menyatakan, “Tetapi bagaimana mereka dapat berseru kepada-Nya, jika mereka tidak percaya kepada Dia? Bagaimana mereka dapat percaya kepada Dia, jika mereka tidak mendengar tentang Dia. Bagaimana mereka mendengar tentang Dia, jika tidak ada yang memberitakan-Nya? Dan bagaimana mereka dapat memberitakan-Nya, jika mereka tidak diutus? Seperti ada tertulis: “Betapa indahnyanya kedatangan mereka yang membawa kabar baik!” (Roma 10:14-15). Hari ini, Tuhan sedang mencari orang-orang yang akan berdiri di jurang untuk memberitahu orang-orang berdosa bahawa ada keselamatan di dalam Yesus Kristus. Alkitab menceritakan tentang orang-orang pilihan Tuhan yang berdiri di jurang untuk membawa berita pembebasan dan untuk berdiri di jurang untuk membawa kedamaian dan harapan bagi mereka yang memerlukan.



1. MUSA

Musa berdiri di jurang ketika anak-anak Israel diperbudak di Mesir. Tuhan berkata kepada Musa, “Dan TUHAN berfirman: “Aku telah memperhatikan dengan sungguh kesengsaraan umat-Ku di tanah Mesir, dan Aku telah mendengar seruan mereka yang disebabkan oleh pengerah-pengerah mereka, ya, Aku mengetahui penderitaan mereka. Sebab itu Aku telah turun untuk melepaskan mereka dari tangan orang Mesir dan menuntun mereka keluar dari negeri itu ke suatu negeri yang baik dan luas, suatu negeri yang berlimpah-limpah susu dan madunya, ke tempat orang Kanaan, orang Het, orang Amori, orang Feris, orang Hewi dan orang Yebus. Sekarang seruan orang Israel telah sampai kepada-Ku; juga telah Kulihat, betapa kerasnya orang Mesir menindas mereka. Jadi sekarang, pergilah, Aku mengutus engkau kepada Firaun untuk membawa umat-Ku, orang Israel, keluar dari Mesir” (Keluaran 3:7-10).

2. DAUD

Daud berdiri di jurang ketika gergasi itu, Goliat mengancam nasib bangsa Israel. Alkitab berkata, “Ia berdiri dan berseru kepada barisan Israel, katanya kepada mereka: “Mengapa kamu keluar untuk mengatur barisan perangmu? Bukankah aku seorang Filistin dan kamu adalah hamba Saul? Pilihlah bagimu seorang, dan biarlah ia turun mendapatkan daku. Jika ia dapat berperang melawan aku dan mengalahkan aku, maka kami akan menjadi hambamu; tetapi jika aku dapat mengungguli dia dan mengalahkannya, maka kamu akan menjadi hamba kami dan takluk kepada kami.” Pula kata orang Filistin itu: “Aku menantang hari ini

barisan Israel; berikanlah kepadaku seorang, supaya kami berperang seorang lawan seorang.” Ketika Saul dan segenap orang Israel mendengar perkataan orang Filistin itu, maka cemaslah hati mereka dan sangat ketakutan. Tetapi Daud berkata kepada orang Filistin itu: “Engkau mendatangi aku dengan pedang dan tombak dan lembing, tetapi aku mendatangi engkau dengan nama TUHAN semesta alam, Tuhan segala barisan Israel yang kau tantang itu” (1 Samuel 17:8-11, 45).

3. NEHEMIA

Nehemia, juru minuman kepada raja Persia, berdiri di jurang untuk mengembalikan martabat kepada Israel. Ketika dia mengetahui bahawa tembok-tembok Yerusalem telah dirobuhkan, dia berdoa, “katak: “Ya, TUHAN, Tuhan semesta langit, Tuhan yang maha besar dan dahsyat, yang berpegang pada perjanjian dan kasih setia-Nya terhadap orang yang kasih kepada-Nya dan tetap mengikuti perintah-perintah-Nya, berilah telinga-Mu dan bukalah mata-Mu dan dengarkanlah doa hamba-Mu yang sekarang kupanjatkan ke hadirat-Mu siang dan malam bagi orang Israel, hamba-hamba-Mu itu, dengan mengaku segala dosa yang kami orang Israel telah lakukan terhadap-Mu. Juga aku dan kaum keluargaku telah berbuat dosa” (Nehemia 1:5-7).

4. ESTER

Ketika Israel diancam akan dimusnahkan dari muka bumi, Tuhan menemukan Ratu Ester berdiri di jurang untuk umat-Nya. Alkitab berkata, “Kemudian Ester berkata lagi kepada raja sambil sujud pada kakinya dan menangis memohon karuniannya, supaya dibatalkannya maksud jahat Haman, orang Agag itu, serta rancangan yang sudah dibuatnya terhadap orang Yahudi. Maka raja mengulurkan tongkat emas kepada Ester, lalu bangkitlah Ester dan berdiri di hadapan raja, serta sembahnya: “Jikalau baik pada pemandangan raja dan jikalau hamba mendapat kasih raja, dan hal ini kiranya dipandang benar oleh raja dan raja berkenan kepada hamba, maka hendaklah dikeluarkan surat titah untuk menarik kembali surat-surat yang berisi rancangan Haman bin Hamedata, orang Agag itu, yang ditulisnya untuk membinasakan orang Yahudi di dalam semua daerah kerajaan. Karena bagaimana hamba dapat melihat malapetaka yang menimpa bangsa hamba dan bagaimana hamba dapat melihat kebinasaan sanak saudara hamba?” (Ester 8:3-6).

Mirip dengan umat Tuhan dalam Alkitab, kita memiliki kesempatan untuk menjadi saksi dan kesaksian demi berita baik bahwa Yesus menajagakan dan menyelamatkan.

Nabi Yesaya memiliki visi dan mendengar Tuhan berkata, “Dengarlah, hai langit, dan perhatikanlah, hai bumi, sebab TUHAN berfirman: “Aku membesarkan anak-anak dan mengasuhnya, tetapi mereka memberontak terhadap Aku. Lembu mengenal pemiliknya, tetapi Israel tidak; keledai mengenal palungan yang disediakan tuannya, tetapi umat-Ku tidak memahaminya” (Yesaya 1:2-3). Sebagai orang percaya yang dilahirkan kembali di dalam Yesus Kristus, adalah tanggung jawab kita untuk mengkongisikan kasih Kristus kepada yang sesat. Sebagai sebuah gereja, mari kita merespon kepada panggilan Tuhan seperti yang dilakukan Yesaya. Ketika Tuhan berkata, “Lalu aku mendengar suara Tuhan berkata: “Siapakah yang akan Kuutus, dan siapakah yang mau pergi untuk Aku?” Maka sahutku: “Ini aku, utuslah aku” (Yesaya 6:8). Seperti Yesaya, kita harus menjadi orang yang bersedia untuk berdiri di jurang itu, memberitakan Injil yang mulia kepada dunia yang memerlukan pengharapan, damai dengan Tuhan melalui pengampunan dosa-dosa kita oleh Yesus Kristus.

Semua petikan Alkitab berasal dari Alkitab Bahasa Indonesia, melainkan jika dinyatakan.

站在破口中

文:古纳南主任牧师

破口是指破坏安全、保护或防线的缺口。没有破口对生存是至关重要。先知以西结提到一个破口，就是神找不到一个合适的人来教导和引导百姓追求公义，使他们回转向神。

先知说道：「这地的百姓惯行欺压抢夺之事，亏负困苦和贫穷的人，欺压寄居者，没有公平。我在他们中间寻找一人重修城墙，在我面前为这地站在缺口上，使我不致灭绝它，却连一个也找不着」(结22:29-30)。不义的生活是有其后果。圣经上说：「所以我把愤怒倾倒在他们身上，用烈怒之火消灭他们，照他们所做的报应在他们头上。这是主耶和華说的」(结22:31)。人一出生就是罪人，人的罪性奴役他，叫他过犯罪的生活方式。使徒保罗说道：「我也知道，住在我里面的，就是我肉体之中，没有善。因为立志为善由得我，只是行出来由不得我。我所愿意的善，我不去做；我所不愿意的恶，我反而去做」(罗7:18-19)。因此，人最大的需要是救赎。保罗宣称：「我真苦啊！谁能救我脱离这必死的身体呢？感谢神，靠着我们的主耶稣基督就能！这样看来，一方面，我内心顺服神的律，另一方面，肉体却顺服罪的律了」(罗7:24-25)。耶稣基督为罪付出了代价。保罗说：「因为罪的工价乃是死；惟有神的恩赐，在我们的主基督耶稣里，乃是永生」(罗6:23)。圣经上说：「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)。教会的存在是为了向有罪的人传扬这荣耀的福音。我们是基督的见证人。神期待我们站在破口中。神传扬福音的方法乃是透过我们。

先知耶利米站在破口中作一个代祷者。他呼求说：「秋收已过，夏季已完，我们还未得救！」因我百姓的损伤，我也受了损伤。我哀恸，惊惶将我抓住。在基列岂没有乳香呢？在那里岂没有医生呢？我百姓为何得不着医治呢？但愿我的头为水，我的眼为泪水的泉源，我好为我百姓中被杀的人昼夜哭泣」(耶8:20-9:1)。在此记载中，耶利米代表人民的苦难寻求神。我们被赐予这奇妙的特权去传扬救赎的真理，并盼望人因耶稣基督的名得救！

耶稣说道：「你们往普天下去，传福音给万民听」(可16:15)和「但圣灵降临在你们身上，你们就必得着能力，并要在耶路撒冷、犹太全地和撒玛利亚，直到地



斗吧。”扫罗和以色列众人听见非利士人这些话就惊惶，非常害怕。大卫对非利士人说：“你来攻击我，是靠着刀枪和铜矛，但我来攻击你，是靠着万军之耶和華的名，就是你所辱骂、带领以色列军队的神」（撒上17:8-11，45）。

3. 尼希米

尼希米是波斯王的酒政，他站在破口之中恢复以色列的尊严。当他知道耶路撒冷的城墙拆毁了，他就祷告说：「唉，耶和華 - 天上大而可畏的神，向爱你、守你诫命的人守约施慈爱的神啊，愿你睁眼看，侧耳听你仆人今日昼夜在你面前，为你众仆人以色列人的祈祷，承认我们以色列人向你所犯的罪；我与我父家都犯了罪。我们向你所行的非常败坏，没有遵守你吩咐你仆人摩西的诫命、律例、典章」（尼1:5-7）。

4. 以斯帖

当以色列人险遭灭族的厄运时，神寻得王后以斯帖为他的子民站在破口之中。圣经上说：「以斯帖又在王面前求情，俯伏在他脚前，流泪哀求他阻止亚甲人哈曼害犹太人的恶谋。王向以斯帖伸出金杖，以斯帖就起来，站在王面前，说：“王若以为好，我若在王面前蒙恩，王若认为合宜，我若在王眼前得喜悦，请王下谕旨，废除亚甲人哈米大他的儿子哈曼设谋，要杀灭王各省的犹太人所颁的诏书。我何忍见我本族的人受害？何忍见我同宗的人被灭呢？”」（斯8:3-6）。

与圣经中神的子民一样，我们有机会为耶稣拯救的福音作见证人和有生活的见证。

先知以赛亚看见一个异象，并听见神说：「天哪，要听！地啊，侧耳而听！因为耶和華说：“我养育儿女，将他们养大，他们竟悖逆我。牛认识主人，驴认识主人的槽；以色列却不认识，我的民却不明白」（赛1:2-3）。作为在耶稣基督里重生的信徒，我们有责任与丧失的人分享基督的爱。作为一个教会，让我们像以赛亚那样回应神的呼召。当耶和華说：「我可以差遣谁呢？谁肯为我们去呢？」，以赛亚回应说：「我在这里，请差遣我！」（赛6:8）。就像以赛亚一样，我们需要成为愿意站在破口之中的人，向一个需要盼望的世界传扬这荣耀的福音，藉著耶稣基督我们的罪得着赦免，我们得与神和好。

以上经文是采用中文圣经和合本修订版。

极，作我的见证」（徒1:8）。保罗说：「然而，人未曾信他，怎能求告他呢？未曾听见他，怎能信他呢？没有传道的，怎能听见呢？若没有奉差遣，怎能传道呢？如经上所记：“报福音、传喜信的人，他们的脚踪何等佳美！”」（罗10:14-15）。今天，神正在寻找那些愿站在破口中的人，去告诉有罪的人在耶稣基督里有救恩。圣经告诉我们，神拣选人站在破口中接受拯救的信息，并站在破口中为那些有需要的人带来和平与盼望。

1. 摩西

当以色列人在埃及作奴仆的时候，摩西站在破口之中。神对摩西说：「我确实看见了我百姓在埃及所受的困苦，我也听见了他们因受监工苦待所发的哀声；我确实知道他们的痛苦。我下来是要救他们脱离埃及人的手，领他们从那地上来，到美好与宽阔之地，到流奶与蜜之地，就是迦南人、赫人、亚摩利人、比利洗人、希未人、耶布斯人之地。现在，看哪，以色列人的哀声达到我这里，我也看见埃及人怎样欺压他们。现在，你去，我要差派你到法老那里，把我的百姓以色列人从埃及领出来」（出3:7-10）。

2. 大卫

当巨人歌利亚威胁以色列民族的命定时，大卫站在破口之中。圣经上说：「歌利亚站着，对以色列的军队喊叫，对他们说：“你们出来摆阵作战是为了什么呢？我不是非利士人吗？你们不是扫罗的仆人吗？你们选一个人出来，叫他下来到我这里吧。他若能与我决斗，把我杀死，我们就作你们的奴隶；我若胜了他，把他杀死，你们就作我们的奴隶，服事我们。”那非利士人又说：“我今日向以色列的军队骂阵。你们叫一个人出来，跟我决



Young Adults coordinator, Michael Loon, introducing the purpose of the YA Ministry



Pastor Richard and Jonathan interacting with the crowd



Pastor Richard praying for the YAs to impact their society and workplace

WORK LIFE BALANCE

BY SHARON TAN

The happy chatter of young adults filled the Room A1.06 at Calvary Convention Centre on Saturday, 8 December 2018. We praise God that 53 young adults attended the Young Adult (YA) Fellowship put together to build a Christ-centred YA community. The session kick-started with a time of prayer, upholding and interceding for our nation. Then, we delved into a safe space to discuss the “Importance of values at the workplace”.

In small groups, the YAs engaged with issues such as managing church and work commitments, managing disagreements with seniors and subordinates, and compromising Christian values for career advancements. Our YA Life Group Leader, Jonathan Lim, and Associate Pastor Richard Yun were the voices of experience in this session, sharing personal learnings and practical guidelines in response to the YAs’ questions and opinions. It was truly a session that positively equipped the YAs for the workplace.

We thank God for the new friendships fostered and warm conversations that took place. Indeed, we believe this session encouraged the YAs to be witnesses in the marketplace and in their journey with God.

Join the next YA Fellowship on Saturday, 2 March 2019 at 11.00am at Calvary Convention Centre. For more information, call 03-8999 5532 ext 442.



Young Adults in groups sharing thoughts on the topic at hand



NOW IS THE DAY OF SALVATION

BY ASSOCIATE PASTOR TIMOTHY ONG

“**W**e then, as workers together with Him also plead with you not to receive the grace of God in vain. For He says: ‘In an acceptable time I have heard you, And in the day of salvation I have helped you.’ Behold, **now is the accepted time**; behold, **now is the day of salvation.**” (2 Corinthians 6:1-2)

At the Combined Prayer Meeting on Monday, 31 December 2018, 1,580 names of loved ones and friends were written down in the commitment for salvation of souls slips. If you are one of the 262 people who have submitted the names of your loved ones and friends for prayer, let these two testimonies encourage you:

JESUS SAVES

“Nearing the Christmas season, I expressed to God that I wanted to lead someone to Christ before the end of the year. On 27 December 2018, one of my associates requested to leave work early because her brother was admitted into the hospital due to a heart problem. She asked me later that night if I could go to the hospital and I had the opportunity to pray for her brother. He was reluctant to say the sinner’s prayer at first as he did not want to cause strife at home with his wife. I shared that our Heavenly Father is even more concerned about his wife’s salvation and his family’s welfare than he was. With that assurance, he accepted Christ as his Saviour. Praise the Lord!” - **Peggy Low**

GOD’S DIVINE MOMENT

“I am the first believer in my family and the youngest of four children at home. My family worships ancestors and Chinese gods. One evening, as we were having our family dinner, I asked God to give me an opportunity to share about Him. To my surprise, they stayed around the dining table after dinner, chit-chatting. I began to share Christ with them and an endless list of transformations I have seen in my personal life after I accepted Christ. What amazed me was my parents, usually stubborn and not a fan of new information, were open to learn more about Christianity. One of my brothers who champions science over miracles expressed interest and asked questions. Indeed, the Lord hears our prayers!” - **Carmen Chong**



Pray together with us at the Prayer Tower as we pray for you and the salvation of your loved ones and friends. Write to us at calptower@gmail.com and share your story, and let’s pray with one voice calling upon the Name of the Lord of the harvest.

MEMBERSHIP ACCEPTANCE

Congratulations to 49 Calvarites who were received as members on Sunday, 30 December 2018 at the Year End Thanksgiving Service at Calvary Convention Centre. May you continue to be faithful in this local body of Christ and be involved in serving the Lord.



WORSHIP SCHEDULE FEBRUARY 2019

Saturday, 5.00pm
Calvary Damansara Heights

- 02 Dr. Arto Hamalainen
- 09 Associate Pastor Steven Kum
- 16 Associate Pastor Chan Lee Peng
- 23 Associate Pastor Peter Ong
Water Baptism

Sunday, 9.00am
Calvary Convention Centre

- 03 Dr. Arto Hamalainen
- 10 Dr. David Wells
- 17 Associate Pastor Peter Ong
- 24 Associate Pastor Timothy Ong

ACTIVITIES

16
FEB



YOUTH FELLOWSHIP
Saturday, 1.00pm
Calvary Damansara Heights
Topic: Renewal

23
FEB



WATER BAPTISM
Saturday, 5.00pm
Calvary Damansara Heights
*Closing date for submission of application:
Sunday, 10 February 2019*

24
FEB



CHINESE FELLOWSHIP
Sunday, 11.30am
Theatrette 1, Level B2,
Calvary Convention Centre
Speaker:
Associate Pastor Peter Ong

24
FEB



TAMIL MINISTRY FELLOWSHIP
Sunday, 11.30am
Theatrette 2, Level B2,
Calvary Convention Centre
Speaker:
Associate Pastor Yong Chee Weng

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