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Faith in Jesus and
His Shed Blood

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FAITH IN JESUS AND HIS SHED BLOOD

BY SENIOR PASTOR PRINCE GUNERATNAM

Faith in Jesus and in His shed blood justifies us as believers. The Apostle Paul said, *“Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom also we have access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God”* (Romans 5:1-2). The blood of Jesus provides the forgiveness of sins, access to fellowship with God, and the grace of God to meet every need and challenge we may face. Let us have faith in Jesus and His shed blood in doing the will of God by going to the cross. He is our Saviour and Lord.

We can plead the blood of Jesus Christ. Let us understand what it means to plead.

i) To plead is not to beg, but to sincerely ask or contend

We ask through our prayers, for the blood of Jesus to protect, to keep, and to have authority over the devil and his demonic attacks against us. The Bible says, *“And as you go, preach, saying, ‘The kingdom of heaven is at hand.’ Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out demons. Freely you have received, freely give”* (Matthew 10:7-8). The Bible shows us that to plead is to contend. It is used as a legal term. David was a man who constantly pleaded with God. When being pursued by his enemies, the Psalmist said, *“Vindicate me, O God, and plead my cause against an ungodly nation; Oh, deliver me from the deceitful and unjust man!”* (Psalm 43:1).

ii) To plead is to claim our rights as a believer in Jesus Christ

Our enemy is a deceiver and a robber. His desire is to rob us of what is rightfully ours. The Bible says, *“The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may*

have life, and that they may have it more abundantly” (John 10:10). Therefore, we plead for the blood of Jesus, to claim our rights of protection, deliverance, and God as our refuge. David said, *“You are my hiding place; You shall preserve me from trouble; You shall surround me with songs of deliverance. I will say of the Lord, ‘He is my refuge and my fortress; my God, in Him will I trust”* (Psalm 32:7, Psalm 91:2).

iii) To plead is to intercede

The Prophet Elijah interceded for his life. The Bible says, *“God has not cast away His people whom He foreknew. Or do you not know what the Scripture says of Elijah, how he pleads with God against Israel, saying, ‘Lord, they have killed Your prophets and torn down Your altars, and I alone am left, and they seek my life’?”* (Romans 11:2-3). Another example is Abraham, who interceded for Sodom (Genesis 18:20-33).

A courtroom scene with its characters, the Judge, the Prosecutor, the Advocate who is the Defence Attorney, and the Witnesses, present an interesting analogy in explaining the effectiveness of pleading the blood.

1. GOD IS OUR JUDGE

God presides over the court case. The Bible says, *“to the general assembly and church of the firstborn who are registered in heaven, to God the Judge of all, to the spirits of just men made perfect”* (Hebrews 12:23).

2. SATAN IS THE PROSECUTOR WHO ACCUSES

The Bible says, *“Then I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, ‘Now salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of His Christ have come, for the accuser of our brethren, who accused them before our God day and night, has been cast down’ ”* (Revelation 12:10).

3. JESUS CHRIST, OUR ADVOCATE, THE DEFENCE ATTORNEY

The Bible says, *“My little children, these things I write to you, so that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. And He Himself is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the whole world”* (1 John 2:1-2).

4. THE WITNESSES

The Bible says, *“For there are three that bear witness in heaven: the Father, the Word, and the Holy Spirit; and these three are one. And there are three that bear witness on earth: the Spirit, the water, and the blood; and these three agree as one. If we receive the witness of men, the witness of God is greater; for this is the witness of God which He has testified of His Son”* (1 John 5:7-9). When Satan accuses us of sin, Jesus Christ, our Attorney, affirms that the accusations are true, but the penalty has been paid. Judgment has been made and sin has been atoned for by the blood of Jesus Christ. Therefore, Paul declares, *“giving thanks to the Father who has qualified us to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in the light. He has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed us into the kingdom of*

the Son of His love, in whom we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins” (Colossians 1:12-14).

5. THE CASE IS REDEMPTION

The Bible says, *“For without the shedding of blood, there is no forgiveness”* (Hebrews 9:22b, NLT). Therefore, *“If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness”* (1 John 1:9). As believers who have faith in the blood of Jesus Christ, we have been forgiven of our sins, we have been redeemed from the curse of the law, the curse of poverty and sickness, and the curse of spiritual death. The blood of Jesus has restored our relationship and fellowship with God. The Gospel declares, *“He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God”* (John 3:18).

Therefore, let the redeemed of the Lord testify of Jesus and His blood that was shed on the cross, doing the will of God for our salvation. We have been set free from the power of sin and made worthy to stand before God. Be assured that Satan, our accuser, has been defeated. Let us live as overcomers by faith in Jesus and His shed blood!

May I express my deep appreciation to each one of you for the way you have carried on in facing this Covid-19 challenge, the Movement Control Order, and staying safe. Its effects may still linger, but do not lose hope. Claim your rights as a believer, and contend for the faith we have in Jesus Christ. Jesus never fails. I close with the words of Jude, who said, *“Beloved, while I was very diligent to write to you concerning our common salvation, I found it necessary to write to you exhorting you to contend earnestly for the faith which was once for all delivered to the saints”* (Jude 1:3).

All Scripture references are taken from the New King James Version (NKJV), except where indicated.





Sophia Abraham (second from left) with fellow 3Sixteen hosts (L-R) Adrian Ng, Annie Low, and Lucas Chiu at the 3Sixteen Cycle Two training



Fellowshipping over food with guests at one of the 3Sixteen sessions before the MCO

GOD IS STILL AT WORK!

BY ANNABEL LILY

With the implementation of the Movement Control Order (MCO) by the Malaysian government to fight the spread of Covid-19, all of us rakyat have to, for a period of time, adjust to a new way of living. The great thing about God is that He has ingrained in man the ability to be adaptive and creative. Although nothing can replace face to face interaction or human touch, we acknowledge we are living in a world that is extremely integrated and connected, virtually and digitally. The 3Sixteen working team took advantage of this, as staying connected and maintaining fellowship is an integral part of 3Sixteen culture.

Obviously, it is impossible for us to physically catch up with the 3Sixteen hosts who completed their training just before the MCO. So over a weekend, we organised a video conference meeting with the hosts, enquired on how they were coping, and more importantly, we prayed for and with them.

We then encouraged the 3Sixteen groups to organise similar virtual gatherings with their guests, as we did not want them to miss out on demonstrating love and care and bring hope to a world that is hurting and experiencing despair. One group led by Sophia Abraham and her fellow 3Sixteen hosts sprang into action, and this is what she had to say.

"After the MCO announcement, the physical 3Sixteen sessions were put on hold. The 3Sixteen working team reached out to us virtually to check in on us and pray for our needs at this time. After the session, my fellow hosts and I were motivated to do the same with our guests.

We organised a virtual meeting for our guests (individuals of different faiths, a free-thinker, and a believer who needs encouragement) recently and caught up with them to show them that they were very much in our thoughts and prayers. After sharing individually, they had one simple prayer request, that the Covid-19 situation will soon diminish. So we said a simple prayer of protection over them and we told them that they are never alone. The Lord Jesus Christ is always there for them. They were so appreciative that we showed care and made the effort to keep in touch. In fact, one of the guests remarked that she looked forward to meeting physically once the situation turns around.

Truly I can see just how real and amazing our God is through this journey, and I cannot wait for our physical 3Sixteen sessions to resume!"

We have the opportunity to be the light and the salt to a world that is broken and in desperate need of the Saviour. This is a good time to reach out to our loved ones and friends.

All we need is some courage, conduct a 3Sixteen session, physically or virtually, with like-minded people, love our guests, and trust God to move on our behalf. And we will be amazed at what God can and will do for our guests and us!



If you do not know where to start, we welcome you to join us to participate in the 3Sixteen training. Please seek assistance from your Life Group leader. Alternatively, email Associate Pastor David Seah at dseah@calvary.org.my or Michael Loon at michaelloon@calvary.org.my



Easter choir



EASTER

Senior Pastor sharing the Easter message during the online church service

EASTER AT HOME

BY LISA TOH

On Friday, 10 April 2020, Calvarites from all over tuned in from home to our Good Friday service online. Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam shared a meditation on 1 Corinthians 13:13, wherein Paul speaks of how faith, hope, and love last forever. God's love is the greatest, we know that He loves us, and that is how we know we can put our trust in Him.


Calvarites were encouraged to prepare for communion at home, and it was a time to remember the significance of Good Friday for all Christians.

The Easter choir put together a wonderful video collage of them performing "He Arose, Hallelujah! With Christ Arose" on Sunday, 12 April 2020. Senior Pastor shared a meditation on the five stones that David picked up in preparation to defeat Goliath in our

Easter Sunday service online. David was prepared, not just to face Goliath, but Goliath's brothers too, if they had decided to fight. In the same way, as we face the challenges Satan puts in our path, we ought to be prepared with five things:

1. **Remembrance** - we are to remember God's goodness.
2. **Going on our knees** - pray over our challenges.
3. **Exalt God** - make God a big part of our lives.
4. **Remember God keeps His covenant** - get ahead of the enemy.
5. **Be persistent** - keep at it, because God will not fail us.

We have had to celebrate this year's Easter weekend in a rather unusual way, but may we be rest assured that God is always with us, wherever we are.

 The Good Friday and Easter Sunday services are on our YouTube channel @calvaryone



The emblems prepared for communion



Partaking of communion at home





The Calvary Nursery Care children completing their crafts



The Calvary Nursery Care children all smiles with their handiwork

HE HAS RISEN!

BY LISA TOH

On Easter Sunday, 12 April 2020, the Calvary Kids celebrated Christ's resurrection while at home with an online programme that the teachers and helpers put into a video.

Starting off with songs of praise and worship, the Easter story is then told through a short animation, and this transitioned the children into a time of craft. The children had much fun, and some parents shared pictures of their children with the Calvary Kids teachers and helpers.

Associate Pastor Richard Yun exhorted the children at home to remember their memory verse, taken from Matthew 28:6, that Christ is no longer in the grave, but is risen. The session was then closed with prayer, and Pastor Richard encouraged the children, assuring them of God's continual love and protection through this season and beyond.

Truly God is good, and we are thankful for technology that allows the Calvary Kids teachers and helpers to stay connected with the children virtually even as we stay physically distant.



The Carpenter's Workshop children with their completed craft



Pastor Richard with a message for the Calvary Kids

THOUGHTS ON *Mother's Day*

BY SENIOR ASSOCIATE PASTOR PETRINA GUNERATNAM

One of the blessings of the Movement Control Order (MCO) is that families are “forced” to be home 24/7 for at least six weeks, and likely more.

For too long, members of most families young and old have had overloaded schedules, be it children with their school activities, or parents with their workload. The MCO is a very rare opportunity for families to be home together with time on our hands, doing things that have been neglected, like cooking, cleaning, gardening, helping each other, the list goes on.

Family relationships are strengthened, family altars are restored, and even Sunday worship is taking place in the home. Social distancing with people has enabled us to draw closer to family members, and definitely closer to God. More prayers are offered to God than ever before. While many may emerge “poorer” in the material and physical, most of us will emerge “richer” in the spiritual, in relationships, and in things God values most.

This Mother's Day will definitely be most memorable. The yearly Calvary Church celebration will most likely be in your home. Our honoured guest speaker, Reverend Margaret Seaward, whom we all know so well, who is my spiritual mother and mentor, will share with us on Mother's Day. She is 89 years old, a mother, a grandmother, a great-grandmother, and spiritual mother to thousands around the world. We invited her in December 2019, and Covid-19 will not stop her from preaching to us. Our 2020 theme, “Overcomers by the blood of the Lamb and the word of our testimony”, is in action.

This Mother's Day, I would like to address my thoughts, especially to the young and older adult children. What I am sharing would be areas you already know, but perhaps need just a reminder. I will be brief and give you some pointers on how best to love your mother.

Love Your Mother Unconditionally

Along life's journey, she may have hurt you, done things you may not be proud of, or have habits you are ashamed of. Love her nonetheless. She is your mother. She loved you unconditionally when you were growing up, in spite of your many failures. She is always proud of you.

Love Your Mother Affectionally

The little things you do encourages her. Most mothers are not wanting big gifts, just little thoughtful things, like a text message, a phone call, et cetera.

Love Your Mother Sympathetically

Mothers (women) go through changes in life. They may not be as strong or active as in times past as you remembered her. Be patient, and try to understand what she is going through. Stop complaining or getting irritated because she repeats herself.

Love Your Mother Attentively

Give your mother your undivided attention. Listen to her when she talks to you, though she may repeat herself, or goes round and round the bush. She listened attentively to you when you were learning to talk; she listened with happiness as you formed your words.

Love Your Mother by Cheerfully Helping Her

Mothers (women) have the gift of help. Generally, mothers try not to trouble people or their children if they can help it. So, when your mother asks for help, respond cheerfully. Never let her feel that she is a nuisance. She has helped you cheerfully all your young days.

Love Your Mother Gratefully and Generously

Include her in your celebrations and outings. Give her cash, as she did when you were too young to earn, so that she can do as she likes. Do not put conditions or control on the cash you give to her. Let her enjoy giving it away if that makes her happy.

Love Your Mother by Reminding Her How Much She is Needed

As mothers (women) grow old, they often feel useless, that they are not needed anymore. Their views may be outdated. Love her by letting her know how much she is needed. Share with her your struggles, ask how something is done. Spend time with her – this will definitely lift her sense of self-worth.

In conclusion, always remember how Jesus loved His earthly mother. At the foot of the cross, in His dying moments, with excruciating pain, He turned to John the beloved disciple and said, “Behold Your Mother” and to Mary, “Behold, Your Son”.

Be sure to catch Rev. Margaret Seaward's message at our Mother's Day Worship Service online on Sunday, 10 May 2020, on our YouTube channel @calvaryone! You will be blessed.

THE JOURNEY OF MOTHERHOOD

Mothers hold a special place in our hearts. “Her children stand and bless her. Her husband praises her: ‘There are many virtuous and capable women in the world, but you surpass them all!’ Charm is deceptive, and beauty does not last; but a woman who fears the Lord will be greatly praised” (Proverbs 31:28-30 NLT).

We ask two mothers how motherhood has transformed them, what it has taught them, and how they have been drawn closer to God. They also share a cherished moment that they have had with their children.



Anita (right) with her daughters Aleesah (left) and Azriela

Anita Mammen

I have realised that the world does not revolve around me. I am not the most important person in any situation, and need to surrender my desires, my hopes, everything I have, to God.

Motherhood has taught me that there is no such thing as a super mom, only a super God. God holds everything together according to His will and His time.

Through motherhood, God has shown me the importance of being still and drawing on His strength even when I am dealing with things that were due two weeks ago. Prayer is a priority over everything in this world...even children!

A cherished moment would be a road trip to Sungai Lembing with just the three of us girls. We did things and stayed in places that were out of our comfort zone. I doubt we will be able to do it again, but that trip will forever be remembered.



Yen Li with her daughters, Elizabeth (left) and Samantha

Chon Yen Li

Before I entered motherhood, I was spending most of my time with children. I had the opportunity to work with children and youth before I became a mother. However, I have to say, raising and nurturing my children is a totally different thing. As a mother, it is more than being an educator, motivator, and source of encouragement; it is all of that, with much more love, 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Transformation began when I had to ensure that my children’s physical, emotional, and spatial needs are looked into every day.

“Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it” (Proverbs 22:6 NIV). This Bible verse has to be practised every day.

Motherhood has taught me that I need God each day in raising my children. There are times of difficulty, but I am always reminded that “I can do all things through him who gives me strength” (Philippians 4:13).

I have drawn closer to God through the many times I cried out to Him when I did not know how to handle my children. I go before the Lord and surrender their lives to Him. As a mother, it is so easy to want to take control, forgetting that God has wonderful plans for them.

Spending time reading and meditating on His Word also draws me closer to God. His Word is truly a light to our path. I find that as I read and put the Word into practice, it has truly helped me in raising the children. Our daily Bible reading and praying sessions as a family has been a time of drawing closer to God. As we talk about the portion of scriptures that we read, I see how God is working in their lives.

Memorable moments with my children are when we are able to serve the Lord together. My prayer and desire is for my children to know, love, and serve the Lord.

IMAN DALAM YESUS DAN DARAHNYA YANG TERCURAH

OLEH PENDITA KANAN PRINCE GUNERATNAM

Iman dalam Yesus dan darahnya yang tercurah membenarkan kita sebagai orang percaya. Rasul Paulus berkata, “Sebab itu, kita yang dibenarkan karena iman, kita hidup dalam damai sejahtera dengan Tuhan oleh karena Tuhan kita, Yesus Kristus. Oleh Dia kita juga beroleh jalan masuk oleh iman kepada kasih karunia ini. Di dalam kasih karunia ini kita berdiri dan kita bermegah dalam pengharapan akan menerima kemuliaan Tuhan” (Roma 5:1-2). Darah Yesus memberikan pengampunan dosa, jalan masuk ke dalam persekutuan dengan Tuhan, dan kasih karunia Tuhan untuk memenuhi setiap keperluan dan cabaran yang mungkin kita hadapi. Marilah kita memiliki iman dalam Yesus dan darahnya yang tercurah dalam melakukan kehendak Tuhan dengan pergi ke salib. Dia adalah Juruselamat dan Tuhan kita.

Kita dapat memohon darah Yesus Kristus. Mari kita memahami apa artinya untuk memohon.

i. Memohon bukanlah mengemis, tetapi dengan jujur meminta atau berjuang

Kita meminta melalui doa-doa kita, agar darah Yesus melindungi, memelihara, dan memiliki wibawa atas iblis dan serangannya terhadap kita. Alkitab berkata, “Pergilah dan beritakanlah: Kerajaan Sorga sudah dekat. Sembuhkanlah orang sakit; bangkitkanlah orang mati; tahirkanlah orang kusta; usirlah Iblis-Iblis. Kamu telah memperolehnya dengan cuma-cuma, karena itu berikanlah pula dengan cuma-cuma” (Matius 10:7-8). Alkitab menunjukkan kepada kita bahawa memohon adalah memperjuang. Ini digunakan sebagai istilah undang-undang. Daud adalah seorang lelaki yang terus-menerus memohon kepada Tuhan. Ketika dikejar oleh musuh-musuhnya, Pemazmur berkata, “Berilah keadilan kepadaku, ya Tuhan, dan perjuangkanlah perkaraku terhadap kaum yang tidak saleh! Luputkanlah aku dari orang penipu dan orang curang!” (Mazmur 43:1).

ii. Memohon bererti menuntut hak-hak kita sebagai umat yang percaya kepada Yesus Kristus.

Musuh kita adalah penipu dan pencuri. Keinginannya adalah untuk mencuri apa yang menjadi hak kita. Alkitab berkata, “Pencuri datang hanya untuk mencuri dan membunuh dan membinasakan; Aku datang, supaya

mereka mempunyai hidup, dan mempunyainya dalam segala kelimpahan” (Yohanes 10:10). Oleh kerana itu, kita memohon darah Yesus, untuk menuntut hak kita untuk perlindungan, pembebasan, dan Tuhan sebagai perlindungan kita. Daud berkata, “Engkaulah persembunyian bagiku, terhadap kesesakan Engkau menjaga aku, Engkau mengelilingi aku, sehingga aku luput dan bersorak. Aku akan berkata kepada TUHAN: “Tempat perlindunganku dan kubu pertahananku, Tuhanku, yang kupercayai” (Mazmur 32:7, Mazmur 91:2).

iii. Memohon bererti bersyafaat

Nabi Elia berdoa syafaat untuk hidupnya. Alkitab berkata, “Tuhan tidak membuang umat-Nya yang telah Ia kenali sebelumnya. Atau apakah Anda tidak tahu apa yang dikatakan Alkitab tentang Elia, bagaimana ia memohon kepada Tuhan untuk melawan Israel, dengan mengatakan, “Tuhan tidak menolak umat-Nya yang dipilih-Nya. Ataupun kamu tidak tahu, apa yang dikatakan Kitab Suci tentang Elia, waktu ia mengadakan Israel kepada Tuhan: “Tuhan, nabi-nabi-Mu telah mereka bunuh, mezbah-mezbah-Mu telah mereka runtuhkan; hanya aku seorang dirilah yang masih hidup dan mereka ingin mencabut nyawaku” (Roma 11:2-3). Contoh lain adalah Abraham, yang menjadi perantara Sodom (Kejadian 18:20-33).

Keadaan di ruang mahkamah dengan watak-wataknya, Hakim, Pendakwa Raya, Pembela yang merupakan Peguam Bela, dan Saksi-Saksi, memberikan satu perbandingan yang menarik dalam menjelaskan keberkesanan dalam memohon darah.

1. TUHAN ADALAH HAKIM KITA

Tuhan memimpin kes mahkamah.. Alkitab berkata, “dan kepada jemaat anak-anak sulung, yang namanya terdaftar di sorga, dan kepada Tuhan, yang menghakimi semua orang, dan kepada roh-roh orang-orang benar yang telah menjadi sempurna” (Ibrani 12:23).

2. IBLIS ADALAH PENDAKWA RAYA YANG MENUDUH

Alkitab berkata, “Dan aku mendengar suara yang nyaring di sorga berkata: “Sekarang telah tiba keselamatan dan kuasa dan pemerintahan Tuhan kita, dan kekuasaan Dia yang diurapi-Nya, karena telah dilemparkan ke bawah pendakwa saudara-saudara kita, yang mendakwa mereka siang dan malam di hadapan Tuhan kita” (Wahyu 12:10).



3. YESUS KRISTUS, PENGANTARA KITA, IAITU PEGUAM BELA KITA

Alkitab berkata, “Anak-anakku, hal-hal ini kutuliskan kepada kamu, supaya kamu jangan berbuat dosa, namun jika seorang berbuat dosa, kita mempunyai seorang pengantara pada Bapa, yaitu Yesus Kristus, yang adil. Dan Ia adalah pendamaian untuk segala dosa kita, dan bukan untuk dosa kita saja, tetapi juga untuk dosa seluruh dunia” (1 Yohanes 2:1-2).

4. SAKSI-SAKSI

Alkitab berkata, “Sebab ada tiga yang memberi kesaksian (di dalam sorga: Bapa, Firman dan Roh Kudus; dan ketiganya adalah satu. Dan ada tiga yang memberi kesaksian di bumi): Roh dan air dan darah dan ketiganya adalah satu. Kita menerima kesaksian manusia, tetapi kesaksian Tuhan lebih kuat. Sebab demikianlah kesaksian yang diberikan Tuhan tentang Anak-Nya” (1 Yohanes 5:7-9). Apabila Iblis menuduh kita melakukan dosa, Yesus Kristus, Pembela kita, menegaskan bahwa tuduhan itu benar, tetapi hukumannya telah dibayar. Pengadilan telah dibuat dan dosa telah ditebus oleh darah Yesus Kristus. Kerana itu, Paulus menyatakan, “dan mengucap syukur dengan sukacita kepada Bapa, yang melayakkan kamu untuk mendapat bagian dalam apa yang ditentukan untuk orang-orang kudus di dalam kerajaan terang. Ia telah melepaskan kita dari kuasa kegelapan dan

memindahkan kita ke dalam Kerajaan Anak-Nya yang kekasih; di dalam Dia kita memiliki penebusan kita, yaitu pengampunan dosa” (Kolose 1:12-14).

5. KES ADALAH PENEBUSAN

Alkitab berkata, “Dan tanpa penumpahan darah tidak ada pengampunan” (Ibrani 9:22b). Jadi, “Jika kita mengaku dosa kita, maka Ia adalah setia dan adil, sehingga Ia akan mengampuni segala dosa kita dan menyucikan kita dari segala kejahatan” (1 Yohanes 1:9). Sebagai orang percaya yang memiliki iman dalam darah Yesus Kristus, kita telah diampuni dosa, kita telah ditebus dari kutukan hukum, kutukan kemiskinan dan penyakit, dan kutukan kematian rohani. Darah Yesus telah memulihkan perhubungan dan persekutuan kita dengan Tuhan. Injil menyatakan, “Barangsiapa percaya kepada-Nya, ia tidak akan dihukum; barangsiapa tidak percaya, ia telah berada di bawah hukuman, sebab ia tidak percaya dalam nama Anak Tunggal Tuhan” (Yohanes 3:18).

Kerana itu, biarlah orang yang ditebus Tuhan bersaksi tentang Yesus dan darahNya yang dicurahkan di kayu salib, melakukan kehendak Tuhan untuk keselamatan kita. Kita telah dibebaskan dari kuasa dosa dan dilayakkan untuk berdiri di hadapan Tuhan. Yakinlah bahwa Iblis, penuduh kita, telah ditewaskan. Marilah kita hidup sebagai pemenang dengan iman kepada Yesus dan darahNya yang tercurah!

Izinkan saya menyampaikan penghargaan saya yang mendalam kepada kamu masing-masing atas cara yang telah kamu lakukan dalam menghadapi cabaran Covid-19 ini, Perintah Kawalan Pergerakan dan kekal selamat. Kesannya mungkin masih berlangsung, tetapi jangan hilang harapan. Tuntut hak-hak kamu sebagai orang percaya, dan berjuang untuk iman yang kita miliki dalam Yesus Kristus. Yesus tidak pernah gagal. Saya menutup dengan kata-kata Yudas, yang berkata, “Saudara-saudaraku yang kekasih, sementara aku bersungguh-sungguh berusaha menulis kepada kamu tentang keselamatan kita bersama, aku merasa terdorong untuk menulis ini kepada kamu dan menasihati kamu, supaya kamu tetap berjuang untuk mempertahankan iman yang telah disampaikan kepada orang-orang kudus” (Yudas 1:3).

Semua rujukan Alkitab adalah dari Alkitab Bahasa Indonesia.

信靠耶稣和他的宝血

文：古纳南主任牧师

信靠耶稣和他所流的宝血使我们称义成为基督徒。使徒保罗说：“所以，我们既然因信称义，就借着我们的主耶稣基督与神和好；我们也凭着信，借着他可以进入现在所站的这恩典中，并且以盼望得享神的荣耀为荣”（罗马书5:1-2）。耶稣的宝血使我们的罪得赦免，与神建立关系。我们靠着神的恩典，得着每日所需，面对生活挑战。让我们把信心建立在耶稣身上，那位按着神的旨意被钉十字架，流下宝血的耶稣。他是我们的救主和生命的主。

我们恳求耶稣基督的宝血。恳求的含义：

i. 恳求不是乞怜，而是恳切地请求或申辩

我们祷告呼求耶稣宝血保护、看顾我们，叫我们有权利胜过撒旦和它邪恶的攻击。圣经上说：“你们要一边走一边宣扬说：‘天国近了。要医治有病的，叫死人复活，洁净患麻风的，赶出污鬼。你们白白地得来，也应当白白地给人’”（马太福音10:7-8）。圣经向我们展示了，恳求就是申辩。那是一个法律用语。大卫是一个时刻恳求神的人，当他被敌人追赶时，这位诗人说：“神啊！求你为我伸冤，为我的案件向不敬虔的国申辩；求你救我脱离诡诈和不义的人”（诗篇43:1）。

ii. 恳求是行使我们作为基督徒的权利

我们的敌人是骗子和盗贼。他极想夺走本就属于我

们的一切。圣经上说：“贼来了，不过是要偷窃、杀害、毁坏；我来了，是要使羊得生命，并且得的更丰盛”（约翰福音10:10）。让我们恳求耶稣的宝血，行使我们受保护、得拯救的权利，宣告神是我们的避难所。大卫说：“你是我藏身之处，你必保护我脱离患难，以得救的欢呼四面环绕我。”“我要对耶和華说：‘你是我的避难所，我的保障，你是我的神，我所倚靠的’”（诗篇32:7，91:2）。

iii. 恳求是代求

先知以利亚为自己的性命祈求。圣经上说：“神并没有丢弃他预先知道的子民。难道你们不知道在经上以利亚的话是怎样说的吗？他向神控诉以色列人：“主啊，他们杀了你的众先知，拆毁了你的祭坛，只剩下我一个人，他们还在寻索我的性命”（罗马书11:2-3）。另一个例子是亚伯拉罕为所多玛代求（创世记18:20-33）。

我们以法庭上的场景和人物——法官、检察官、辩护律师和证人的类比来解释如何借着宝血有效地恳求。

1. 神是我们的法官

神主持庭审诉讼。圣经上说：“有名字登记在天上众长子的教会，有审判众人的神，有被成全的义人的灵魂”（希伯来书12:23）。

2. 撒旦是指控我们的检察官

圣经上说：“我又听见天上有大声音说：“我们神的救恩、能力、国度和他所立的基督的权柄，现在都已经来到了！因为那昼夜在我们神面前控告我们弟兄的控告者，已经被摔下来了！”（启示录12:10）

3. 耶稣基督，我们的维护者，是辩护律师

圣经上说：“我的孩子们，我写这些给你们，是要你们不犯罪。如果有人犯了罪，在父的面前我们有一位维护者，就是那义者耶稣基督”（约翰一书2:1-2）。

4. 证人

圣经上说：“原来作见证的有三样，就是圣灵、水和血，这三样是一致的。我们若接受人的见证，神的见证就更强而有力了，因为这是神为他的儿子作的见证”（约翰一书5:7-9）。当撒但指控我们有罪时，我们的辩护律师耶稣基督确认该指控属实，并缴交了罚款。宣判后，耶稣基督以他的宝血替我们赎罪。因此，保罗说：“并且感谢父，他使你们有资格分享圣徒在光明中的基业。他救我们脱离了黑暗的权势，把我们迁入他爱子的国里。我们在爱子里蒙了救赎，罪得赦免”（歌罗西书1:12-14）。

5. 罪犯得赦

圣经上说：“如果没有流血，就没有赦免”（希伯来书9:22b）。因此，“我们若承认自己的罪，神是信实的、公义的，必定赦免我们的罪，洁净我们脱离一切不义”（约翰一书1:9）。耶稣基督的宝血使信他的人罪得赦免，把我们从律法、贫穷、疾病和灵性死亡的诅咒中救赎出来。耶稣的宝血重新修复了我们与神的关系，使我们能与他相互交往。福音宣告：“信他的，不被定罪；不信的，罪已经定了，因为他不信神独生子的名”（约翰福音3:18）。

因此，作为重生得救的基督徒，我们要为主耶稣基督和他在十字架上所流的宝血作见证，他遵行神的旨意叫我们得救。我们已经从罪恶的辖制中得释放，可以站立在神的面前。请放心，控诉我们的撒旦已经被打败。让我们凭信心借着耶稣和他的宝血在生活上作得胜者！

我要谢谢你们，积极面对新冠病毒挑战，配合行动管制，居家防疫。病毒可能会持续影响我们的生活，但是不要气馁。行使你作为基督徒的权利，维护我们在耶稣基督里的信心。神的应许在耶稣基督里永不落空。最后，我以犹大的话结尾：“亲爱的，我曾经迫切地想写信给你们，论到我们共享的救恩；现在我更觉得必须写信劝勉你们，要竭力维护从前一次就全交给了圣徒的信仰”（犹大书1:3）。

经文摘自新译本圣经。



TESTIMONIES IN EVERY HOME

During the past few weeks of the Movement Control Order (MCO), there have been many testimonies shared with the Prayer Tower, and here are just a few:

“I have been quite busy with school work, learning new things like Google Classroom, teaching online, and preparing homework with the aid of Google Forms and Google Docs. These are all quite challenging for me, but I am happy to learn new things, and God has provided me with many mentors around me to help me.” - **Thong Oi Shiang**

“During this MCO, I have been coping well. I gave a large print Chinese language Bible to my neighbour, an uncle, as a gift. He had been following me to church a few times upon my invitation, and just a week before the MCO, I had the urge to give him a Bible. I have been following up with him to read the book of Proverbs, and he has been reading. Praise God.” - **Esther Wong**

“I am learning to live at home seven days a week. In the beginning, I found life restricted because I used to be busy with work from Monday to Friday. During this MCO period, I discovered I lack good listening skills, discipline in my diet, and exercise.

Turning my challenges to God, I asked Him to show me His ways. As I took time to think over how to deal with my challenges, I started to see improvements, practicing patience in listening and control in terms of food intake.

This period of time has allowed me to discover more about myself and my loved ones as I spend seven days a week at home.

I am also learning to align my decisions and hopes with the will of God. Praise God.” - **Phan**

“My family and I are doing well during this time. We have a daily schedule for housework and the kids’ homework. One of the greatest impacts the MCO has had on me is working from home, but we are adjusting to this as a family.

I praise God that we spend daily devotional time, and my future personal direction is to spend quality time with my family having biblical discussions.” - **Malcom Leong**

“During this period of time at home, it has taught my wife and I to be tolerant, and to develop good family bonding.

It is also a time to share Christ with others. I have been sharing Christ with a brilliant scientist who does not believe in God. Whenever I mention God, he cuts me off. Praise the Lord, during Easter, he sent me this picture:



*Just asking God to
cover the homes
of my Friends
with the Blood of
Christ
That no plague or
virus may reach us
in Jesus name,
Amen*

It was a great surprise to me, as he never utters anything about God. I have been praying that one day, God will soften his heart, and he will turn his eyes on Jesus and accept Him as his personal Saviour and Lord.

I thank the Lord for His providence and love for all of us.” - **Carter Ong**

If you have a prayer request or a testimony to share, do get in contact with us at www.calptower.org and we will gladly assist you.

KEEPING TOGETHER DURING THE MOVEMENT CONTROL ORDER

As services and other activities at both Damansara Heights and Calvary Convention Centre remained suspended, the Calvary family met together online for our worship services, streamed on Calvary's YouTube channel at 9.00am on Sundays. Good Friday and Resurrection Sunday services were likewise streamed, and the Calvary family partook of communion while at home for Good Friday. Continue to build and strengthen your family altar.

The children have been learning Bible lessons at home, with parents using materials and activity guides the teachers have prepared. The Carpenter's Workshop (CW) teachers have kept connected with the children, and have made use of technology to hold meetings for CW planning, as well as to pray with and for one another.

The Calvary Young Adults (YA) have kept connected through social media, and have made a video to share on how they have been. Catch that video on the YA Facebook page!


The Life Groups (LG) have been meeting online, and it is encouraging to have an avenue to continue fellowshiping with and encouraging one another while learning more about God's Word. If you desire to join a LG, find out more at calvary.my/life-groups and get in touch!

Each week, prayer items and material for reflection are made available on the church website at calvary.my/church-online for Calvarites to continue to keep Wednesday mornings and Friday evenings to pray as a family. If you have a prayer request or a testimony to share, get in touch at calptower.org and you will be assisted.

You may continue to bring your offerings and fulfill your tithes and Faith Promises, giving online via the church website at calvary.my/online-giving


Calvary is now on the Touch 'n Go eWallet cashless platform to further ease online giving. Please note that giving through the Touch 'n Go eWallet platform is not eligible for tax exemption.

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