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God's Love

IS THE REASON FOR CHRISTMAS



God's Love

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“For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved” (John 3:16-17).

God's love is the reason for Christmas and the purpose is for the salvation of mankind. Salvation that offers forgiveness of sin and eternal life. Christmas is the celebration of God sending His Son to be the Saviour of the world.

The Bible says, faith without works is dead. Likewise, love without action is meaningless. Do not be like the man who expressed his love to his girlfriend on the phone, how much he loves her and that he will climb the highest mountain, swim across the ocean and sacrifice everything for her. Then he concludes his conversation by saying, if it rains that night he would not be able to see her at her home.

The Bible says **“For God so loved”**. He is the greatest lover. He loved **“the world”**, the greatest object. **“He gave His Son”**, the greatest gift. **“That whosoever”**, the greatest invitation. **“Should not perish, but have everlasting life”**, the greatest result (John 3:16). God loved that He gave His only begotten son, Jesus. Likewise, faith without works is dead.

Man is a sinner and the penalty of sin is death. A death that separates

man from God in eternity. Jesus, God's only begotten Son came to redeem us from sin and give us eternal life. Eternal life is more than quantity of life, but quality of life. Man's life is riddled with sicknesses and diseases and is short-lived. But God's gift of eternal life reverses death to life. Instead of perishing we have everlasting, abundant life (John 10:10).

There is a beautiful Biblical illustration of our salvation.

In the Old Testament, God gives a plan for His people to receive the forgiveness of sin. They needed to bring two lambs to the priest who would slay one of the lambs and the blood of the slain lamb became the sacrifice for the sins of the people. It is the shedding of blood that offers remission for sins (Hebrews 9:22). But if the people were not rich and could not afford lambs, they were to bring two young birds, either doves or pigeons instead. Again, the priest would slay one of the birds for the sin offering, take the blood of the slain bird and sprinkle it on the other bird and then the bird was set free. Likewise, it was so with the lamb (Leviticus 14).

The Bible refers to us as sheep who have gone astray. The slain lamb or the slain bird typifies Christ dying on the cross for our sins. Jesus is our sin offering. We are the lamb or bird sprinkled with blood, set free to live a life pleasing to God. This is the real purpose of celebrating Christmas.

The little Baby born in a manger, whom we sing and talk about, is Jesus our Saviour. He gave His life, to redeem us from the punishment of our sin, so we will not perish but have everlasting life with God. If we will accept God's greatest gift, we will have eternal life.

Who can receive this gift?

The Good News is that the gift of eternal life is for “whosoever”. It is received by faith and not purchased with money or any other means. Eternal life is possible because of “Christ's death”, a necessity for the redemption from sin, that Jesus paid for us. It is vital that believers understand the Christmas message. It is God's love giving us His Son so that our sins can be washed away. This wonderful gift of salvation through God's Son Jesus Christ is not bought by silver and gold but through the precious blood of Jesus that was shed.

We can be saved by grace through faith and live a victorious lifestyle full of joy, peace and fulfilment. Jesus came that you may have abundant life.

SOME WONDERFUL ASSURANCES OF GOD'S WORD

We should be grateful for the assurance from God's Word of our salvation.

- **“and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler over the kings of the earth. To Him who loved us and washed**

By Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam

us from our sins in His own blood” (Revelation 1:5).

- **“Come now, let us reason together, says the Lord. Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall be as wool” (Isaiah 1:18).**
- **“As far as the east is from the west, so far has He removed our transgressions from us” (Psalm 103:12).**
- **“I have blotted out, like a thick cloud, your transgressions, and like a cloud, your sins. Return to Me, for I have redeemed you” (Isaiah 44:22).**
- **“Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water” (Hebrews 10:22).**

Christ as their Lord and Saviour will be forgiven of their sins and have eternal life. The Bible says, **“But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His Name” (John 1:12); “Therefore, if the Son makes you free, you shall be free indeed” (John 8:36) and “There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit” (Romans 8:1).**

This Christmas, as we remember the birth of Jesus Christ, reach out to your family, friends and neighbours who have yet to believe in Jesus Christ. Let Christ be the reason, we celebrate Christmas!

Recognise this Christmas that we have been redeemed from sin to live a victorious life. It is because of Christmas that we have this hope, that our sins have been blotted out through the blood of Jesus Christ shed on the cross. The cross is a message of “salvation”. Paul says, **“For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek” (Romans 1:16).** May we reach out and proclaim this glorious message.

God’s promises to all who will believe, confess and accept Jesus



19 CALVARITES PUBLICLY DECLARED THEY HAVE ACCEPTED JESUS AS SAVIOUR AND LORD OF THEIR LIVES

“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and behold, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” (Matthew 28:19-20).



Water Baptised on 10 October 2015

Left to right

- Front row : Justin Ooi Jen Wei, Isaac Chong Jia Jian,
Bryan Yap Qing Hao
- 2nd row : Kylie Koh Khai Lye, Mary Johann Baguhin,
Myca Jonel V. Baguhin, Catherine Chan Swee Mei
- 3rd row : David Onimisi Moses, Voon Keen Choong,
Voon Keen Yee, Patricia Mok Swee Yong
- 4th row : Jonas Low Yuu Keem, Peter Yap Shong Pao,
Leong Su See, Wannaporn Ratten,
Venantius Chin Chee Nyen
- Back row : Onyechere Ugochukwu Franklin,
Manuel F. Presnilla, Victor Wan Wun Pow

WATER BAPTISM TESTIMONIES

GOD SAVES, BLESSES AND DELIVERS

In 2008 when I was applying for my son's birth certificate, the JPN official asked me if I am a Christian. As I have given my son the name, Bryan, I answered yes. The official told me he will change the detail under religion in my Identity Card to that effect, that I am a Christian.

But it was not until six years later, that I personally asked Jesus to come into my heart in September 2014 at a Sunday Service at CCC.

Thank God for my sister, Ivy who had always invited me to Church on Sundays at CCC. I did not come until one weekend when I realised my son was always using his iPad to watch YouTube and play video games while my daughter over sleeps, getting up at midday only. I was concerned about their bad habits and decided to bring them to Sunday Church services at CCC. My son started to attend the children church (Carpenter's Workshop) in August 2014.

We have been attending Church Sunday service faithfully and I learnt to pray to God. Thank God for answers to prayers for good health for myself and family. I planned to quit smoking on my birthday. Praise and thank the Lord that I succeeded without any suffering or struggling. I had been smoking for almost 20 years, but each time I think of having a cigarette, I think of Jesus, and it will change my mind about smoking.

The Lord also blessed my business. It is running well and I have expanded from being a normal buyer to be a sole

distributor due to higher customer demand for my product in Malaysia.

I chose to be water baptised on 10 October, because it is my birthday and also my 17th wedding anniversary. What a meaningful day it is for me! - **Peter Yap**

JESUS HEALS AND DELIVERS

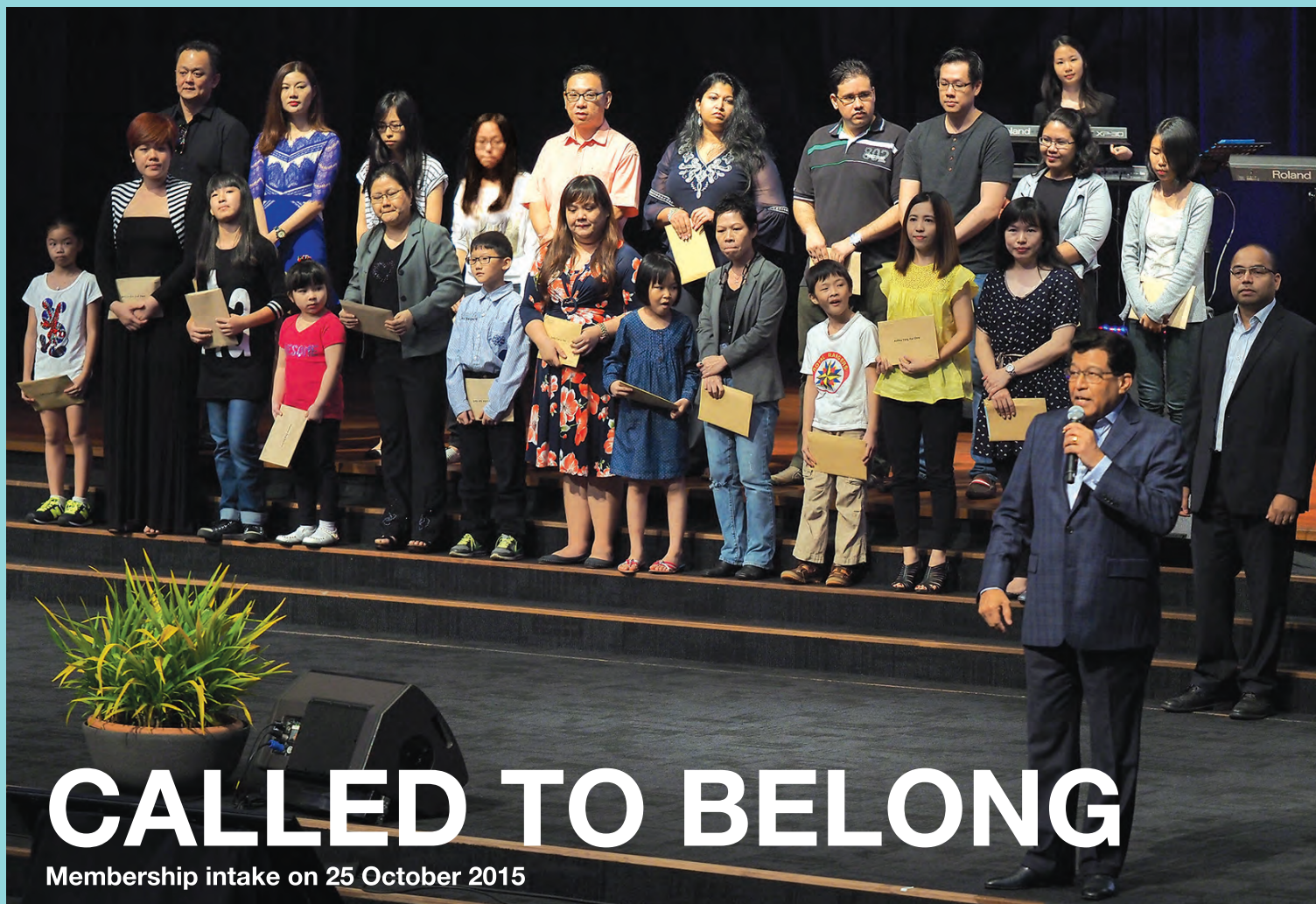
Before I came to know the Lord, I prioritised making money. I worshipped all kinds of idols and even ventured into the wrong side of the law to make more money. Being the eldest I am the breadwinner of my family, including my mother. I never felt happy.

My husband witnessed to me and told me that Jesus Christ can make me happy and protect my children and parents from curses. I believed that Jesus is the God I am looking for and received Him as my Lord and Saviour in 2005 at Subang FCC.

After my salvation, I have joy in living. I started reading the Bible every day and know God more and more daily. The Lord performed many miracles in my life. I was set free and delivered of all bondages and evil spirits. I also experienced healing. My irregular menstruation became regular and the pain in my abdomen and migraine have gone.

I will trust my Lord and Saviour Jesus and put Him first in my life everyday. - **Wannaporn Ratttan**

If you have believed in Jesus and want to be baptised in water to declare your faith, call the Church at 603 89995532 Ex 434 to sign up for our next Water Baptism Service.



CALLED TO BELONG

Membership intake on 25 October 2015

A total of 22 Calvarites were received as members (including 9 junior members) at the Sunday Worship Service at Calvary Convention Centre (CCC) on 25 October 2015.

Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam commended them for their willingness to be part of the local body of Christ at Calvary Church and prayed for them together being with the congregation.

Privilege And Responsibility of Membership

To be a member of Calvary Church means more than adding your name to the Church membership list. Membership is a special covenant members make between God and them to enjoy the privileges and carry out the responsibilities that comes with being a part of God's family.

JESUS CARES AND WATCHES OVER ME

Although not a Christian, I wear a necklace with a cross because I like it very much. I was often asked if I am a Christian and got many invitations to go to Church, but I was not open.

In September 2014, my husband started attending Sunday Worship at CCC and invited me to join him. I did and during my first visit, I felt much peace and my work pressures were lifted.

I accepted Jesus during one of the Worship services and started to pray, talking to Jesus about all my problems and fears. After praying, I found it easier to manage my work and staff and my income improved. My husband too is blessed in his business and his temper is improving since he accepted Jesus.

I am so grateful to the Lord for my salvation. He knows all about me, cares and watches over me. Thank God too for the salvation of my family. I will obey Him all of my life. - **Leong Su See**

JESUS IS THE WAY TO HEAVEN

Before I came to know Jesus I was a devout follower of another religion which teaches that one has to undergo many layers of cleansing in order to reach heaven. I despaired if I can reach heaven. Thank God for Sister Meon Ho, a Calvarite who introduced Jesus to me and brought me to CCC.

I found that the only way to heaven is through faith in Jesus Christ. In one of the Sunday services in October 2014, I gave my heart to Jesus as I know I am a sinner and I need His forgiveness. I know that Jesus has forgiven me as I felt His peace and joy. Since then I have been attending CCC.

Everyday I read the Bible and memorise Scriptures. I choose to follow Jesus, my Saviour and I love Him. - **Catherine Chan**

JESUS' INCREDIBLE TIME-PROVEN STRATEGY FOR SUCCESSFUL NETWORKING

By Lucas Chiu

“**N**etworking for Success” with Dr Joseph Castleberry on 17 October 2015 at Calvary Convention Centre (CCC) organised by Calvary Men's Interest Group started off with a delicious breakfast and warm fellowshiping across the table.

A year after Dr Castleberry became President of Northwest University (NWU), he realised the only way to lead a university is to have many relationships. He had to network with the students, faculty, network of churches, business community, the local, state and national officials. His decision to spend the bulk of his time networking had paid off. The

reputation of NWU exploded and it is well regarded. Hence, networking is the subject of his latest book, “The Kingdom Net” which has received excellent reviews.

He studied the networking techniques of Jesus, the greatest networker, whose network today, stands at 2 billion members. The Kingdom of God is like a net cast into the world to draw the people into His Kingdom (Matthew 13:47-49). The disciples whom Jesus first chose to be his disciples were not remarkable in any way. But they were fishermen, good in marketing and distributing fish, which is perishable. Jesus chose them, because they were, in today's term, expert networkers!

Some Networking Strategies:

1. Prioritising Service

Jesus taught His disciples to serve (Matt 10:43-45). Serving people and meeting their needs create bonds of relationship and friendship and is thus vital for business to grow. Business people understand the value of networking. Relationship is created through networking. It is important to be filled with the Holy Spirit to minister to people with needs and help them flourish.

2. Surround yourself with people not like yourself.

Jesus' early disciples were people with diverse talents and personalities. And they were people of action





and ready to do something new. Similarly, choose people with talents different from yours. Thus you bring other talents to your business and every member brings additional value.

The Q&A session was enlightening. Some highlights:

Q: What is the difference between secular activities and the kingdom of God?

A: The Holy Spirit cares about everything that makes your business flourish. Do not make idols of our institutions which are temporary. If your business is honest and contributes towards human flourishing, God smiles on that business. The bottom line is to

please God. The Bible says, "I therefore urge you brothers, in view of God's mercies, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices that are holy and pleasing to God, for this is the reasonable way for you to worship" (Romans 12:1).

Q: What is the impact of networking face to face or electronically?

A: Social network is real. So whether you are networking physically or online, there is a soul behind the name. There is no difference between the person in person or online.

God to use you as a conduit of God's grace to others.

Associate Pastor Richard Yun's closing exhortation and prayer was to thank God for friendships and networking and for God to empower us to go beyond our professional networking and draw people towards God. We all need to be God's networkers for the expansion of His Kingdom.

In conclusion Dr Castleberry shared that you can serve best by allowing

1. Dr Joseph Castleberry sharing on "Networking For Success"
2. Role play between Dr Castleberry and a participant
3. Pastor Richard praying for participants
4. Warm fellowshiping over breakfast
- 5a-d. Asking questions during the Q&A



A POWERFUL PRAYER CONFERENCE

Stirred To Pray And Fast



A At the onset of the Prayer Conference on 9-10 October at Calvary Convention Centre, Rev Bob Rodgers stressed and continually reinforced that the Church is to be called a house of prayer and the best day praying in your own home cannot equal praying in the house of prayer. This boosted our faith to pray in unity with others each time we gathered to pray with others in the Church. We were stirred to pray by the many inspiring testimonies of answers to prayers which Pastor Rodgers shared to illustrate the principles he imparted. We also prayed in many different ways, for ourselves individually, in small groups and corporately.

Some highlights of the conference:

CORPORATE PRAYERS

We prayed in unity, facing north, south, east and west as we stood at the Multipurpose Banquet Hall (MPBH), symbolising our prayer for all in the community in the CCC vicinity.

WILL YOU TARRY ONE HOUR

The first session was a solid hour of praying corporately for ourselves, revival, healings, our Church and nation.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

The root of every need is addressed in the Lord's Prayer and every aspect of the Lord's Prayer is asking our Father in heaven. One can pray the Lord's Prayer in less than 1 minute but when you use it as a model for prayer, you can pray through each segment of it for as long as you need to. If you are interrupted, you can pick up where you last stopped.

FRIDAY PRAYER RALLY

At the combined Friday Prayer meeting at MPBH on 10 October, we were inspired to maintain an "Unbroken Prayer Life". When we are saved, we are a new creation in Christ and the fire of God is inside us. We must be careful and not let the fire die out. Prayer keeps the fire burning.



1. Rev Bob Rodgers imparting his life message, prayer and fasting
2. Pastor Timothy leading in corporate prayer for revival
3. Participants reaching out to the Lord in unity
- 4a-h. Participants praying fervently
- 5a-c. Waiting their turn and being prayed for as they walk through the prayer tunnel

How to have an unbroken prayer life

Pray at same time everyday to build up your prayer life. Pastor Rodgers shared that he started praying for an hour a day, for 7 days continuously, then 14 days, without missing a day, then 30 days and so on. When he had prayed for 100 days, an hour a day, it was a breakthrough. God rewarded him by opening the door for him to have a Christian TV and Radio station in Nicaragua. He had the privilege to be the first one to do it. God wants to release great anointing to pray. Keep your appointment with God to pray.

The highlight of the Prayer Rally was the body ministry where everyone had the opportunity to pray for others and to be prayed for by others, through forming part of the prayer channel and walking through the prayer channel. Many experienced the Lord's touch and were warmed by the love of God.

THE POWER OF FASTING

On Saturday, we learnt that when you pray one hour a day, in one year, you have prayed for 365 hours. When you fast, it is continuous prayer. When you fast for 21 days, this is equivalent to praying for 504 hours. With this teaching, many determined to embrace fasting as a lifestyle!

PRAYING FOR MONEY

When you think like God thinks, you open yourself to great potential of financial blessings. When you read and meditate on God's Word, you realise God is there to meet your needs. When God told Pastor Rodgers that he will own a TV station, he had no money to buy even a hamburger! He started a TV station with US\$63 and today, it is worth US\$800,000. And he has eight TV stations today!

Praise and thank God for an impactful prayer conference. We committed ourselves to pray and fast. God wants to release a great anointing as you pray. Keep your appointment with Him.

50 YEARS OF FAITHFUL MINISTRY OF SENIOR ASSOCIATE PASTOR PETRINA GUNERATNAM



The Calvary Church Family paid tribute to Senior Associate Pastor Petrina Guneratnam, by honouring her for accomplishing 50 years of faithful and dedicated ministry, which has blessed Calvary Church and beyond at a special service at Calvary Convention Centre (CCC) on 1 November.

The service started with a wonderful time of praise and worship and the congregation magnified the Lord with great joy and thanksgiving.

The special guest speaker, Rev Margaret Seaward, Missionary from USA to Singapore, came with her husband, Rev Fred Seaward. Pastor Margaret played a significant role in nurturing Sister Petrina, being a spiritual mother to her when she was

a young believer in her teens who had to leave home, being the first believer in her family who were not open to Christ then.

Sister Petrina was born again at age 15 and answered the call of God to go fulltime at 18. When Pastor Margaret first heard of her going fulltime, she was not sure if Sister Petrina could make it, being a fun-loving girl and popular among her friends. God who began a good work in her has been faithful (Phil 1:6). Today, Sister Petrina has achieved this rare milestone, having completed 50 years of faithful and dedicated pastoral ministry.

Pastor Margaret shared on “Thanksgiving and Praise For His Faithfulness”. God is faithful. He has called you and has a plan for you. Just as He called Sister Petrina and worked through her life, He wants to bless

and use you too. When you love Him, there is no telling what He can do through you. The Bible says, “But as it is written, eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him.” (1 Cor 2:19).

God initiates and begins the work in us. Our response is to obey and follow Him, depend totally on Him and represent Him on earth. God is faithful, He who called you, will do it (1 Thess 5:24). Until He comes again, He is still working in Sister Petrina’s life, even having served faithfully for 50 years! We are to continue pressing on for the Lord.

Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam prayed for the congregation that we would make a fresh commitment to the Lord, having been encouraged by



Inscription on the Church's gift reads:

A Tribute To Senior Associate Pastor Petrina Giaw Guneratnam
 - We continually remember before our God and Father, your work produced by faith, your labour prompted by love, and your endurance inspired by hope in our Lord Jesus Christ.

We Honour You
 Your 50 years of dedicated, faithful, & visionary leadership ministry has touched many lives. May God's continued favour and anointing be upon your life and ministry.

Fond Appreciation
 Calvary Family



the tremendous testimony and example of Sister Petrina. May our lives speak of God's grace, love and power.

Then came the special video which presented a synopsis of Sister Petrina's pastoral ministry. Upon graduation from the Bible Institute in 1965, she pioneered Glad Tidings Assembly Klang, (now a thriving church), and married Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam a year later. In 1972, together, they answered the call to be the first national pastors of Calvary Church, Damansara Heights and they led Calvary Church as a leading light in the region. The video ended with Rev. Bob Rodgers' prophecy over Sister Petrina on 11 October, that the Lord is putting a new mantle upon her to impact even more women and others in her latter days.

Pastor Margaret prayed a prayer of blessing for Sister Petrina supported by her family, Deacons, Elder and Pastors. Deaconess Helen Read presented a love offering and gift (a crystal bowl) on behalf of the Church to Sister Petrina.

The November missions offering taken by Associate Pastor Steven Kum was for an Education Fund set up by Sister Petrina to honour and commemorate her reaching this milestone. This Education Fund will assist children of needy pastors and full time workers to pursue their education in college or university to fulfil their God given dreams and potential.

Sister Petrina thanked and appreciated the congregation for the love shown her. She also thanked her mentor Pastor Margaret and presented the Seawards with an appreciation

love gift on behalf of the Church. She also launched, "Glimpses of Glory" a book describing her response to God's call as a young girl and her early days as a pioneer pastor in Klang. The book was made available at the counter after service. Contributions towards the book will go towards the Education Fund.

Calvarites left the service, encouraged and challenged, to commit their lives totally to Him.

1. Pastor Margaret prays a prayer of blessing for Sister Petrina, supported by her family, Deacons, Elder & Pastors
2. Deaconess Helen Read presents the gift on behalf of the Church to Sister Petrina
3. Pastor Margaret sharing on "Thankfulness And Praise For His Faithfulness"
4. Sister Petrina launches her book, "Glimpses Of His Glory"
5. Worshipping at CCC

Congratulations from **The Assemblies of God of Malaysia**

30th October 2015

Dear Dr Petrina Guneratnam,

It gives me great pleasure to salute and congratulate you on behalf of the Assemblies of God of Malaysia as you Celebrate 50 years of faithful and effective fulltime ministry. We are indeed privilege and bless to have such an outstanding minister as part of our Fellowship.

You have contributed so much and so many ways to the growth of the church in Malaysia and many parts of the world

God have used you powerfully as a church planter, evangelist, pastor, teacher and leader in many different capacities and forums, both locally and internationally

Through the years, many have looked to you for counsel, inspiration, example and mentoring in ways they could approach ministry, finding wisdom, grace and strength and integrating the home and effective ministry. The example you have set for ministry and leadership has inspired many of our pastors, leaders and churches.

Your faithful and effective partnership with Dr Prince Guneratnam in his ministry and leadership through the many years and season of life and growth have been exemplary and inspiration to many in the ministry

We rejoice with you today and look forward to hearing and seeing God use you in many more marvelous ways in the days to come

May God bless you, your family, the desires of your heart and the works of your hands

Together for the Harvest,



Rev Ong Sek Leang
General Superintendent
Assemblies of God of Malaysia



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CALVARITES TESTIFY HOW THEY ARE IMPACTED

Glimpses Of How God Uses Sister Petrina To Touch Lives

A Godly Woman

I am so blessed by her example as a godly woman. – [Alma Sendico](#)

Approachable and Warm

She is so approachable, gentle and warm, drawing us to her. – [Cornelia Mak](#)

A Spiritual Mother

She is my spiritual mother. She is perfect and wonderfully made by God.
I am a generation younger and we learn a lot from her. – [Grace Yap](#)

Impactful Mom And Wife

She inspires me as a mother and wife. My desire is to be impactful as Sister does.
– [Angie Ng](#)

Funny and Inspiring

My first memory of Sister Petrina was of her dedicating me as a baby through the picture my parents kept. I always enjoyed her messages, she is very funny and I learned a lot from them. She is a faithful servant of God and she has inspired me to do the same. – [Andrew Yem](#)

Passionate and Dedicated

I read Sister Petrina's book in one hour, the Sunday I got it. I was very moved by her passion and dedication. Her love for God is mind-blowing. As a young person, I am inspired by her to go into ministry full-time. – [Victoria Choi](#)

Prayerful Counsellor

"I have always turned to Sister for prayer whenever I felt "lost". Sister (I have always called her that since I came to Calvary Church in 1975) has encouraged me, time and time again, at the turning points in my life. I appreciate Sister for her role in my spiritual journey and last but not least, thanks to her, I am serving the Lord full time." – [Tan Choon King](#)

Wise And Anointed Messages

"Through God's anointing, Sister Petrina's messages of encouragement and wisdom has calmed, helped and guided us through the many years we have worshipped at Calvary Church." - [Daniel Teng](#)

You Are A Gift From God

"We women at Dimensions (previously Tuesday Ladies Worship) are so privileged to have you as our teacher, pastor and dear friend. You preach and teach with such enthusiasm, leading us to higher spiritual heights. I thank God for you are a gift from God and a joy to us all." - [Tammy Tam](#)

Impacted For Life

"Sister, you are my pastor, counsellor and friend! Thank you for always being there for me, from when I first came to church as a young mother, and now I am a grandma. Praise God how you have impacted me." – [Jeannie Friis](#)

Pioneer Pastor Petrina Giaw Guneratnam Returns To Minister At Glad Tidings Klang's 50th Anniversary



1a



1b



2



3



4

By Bernadette Tay

On 15 November, Senior Associate Pastor Petrina Guneratnam was the guest of honour and speaker at Glad Tidings (GT) Klang 50th Anniversary Celebration Service. It was a homecoming for her as she was the cofounder and pioneer pastor of the Church when she was 21, a fresh graduate of the Bible Institute Malaya (BIM) now Bible College of Malaysia. Sister Petrina started the church in 1965.

She was accompanied by Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam (cofounder of GT Klang) and family (Pam Guneratnam, Associate Pastor Christopher Lee, Azalea and Matthew and Executive Administrator Jim Guneratnam, Amelia, Jamie and James), three Deacons and their spouses (Helen and Edmund Read, Bernadette and Dominic Tay, David Peter and Sunita) and Associate Pastor Raymond Yong and wife, Pui Ling.

There was such an air of excitement and joy at GT Klang that morning. The

Church prepared a Jubilee video that featured its humble beginnings, from a single storey terrace house that Sister Petrina rented. Today, the Church has grown into a thriving Church, with their very own building that has a seating capacity of about 700. Other presentations included a medley of songs sung by a group of pioneer church members who called themselves, "Young Once". The Church Tadika children, namely "Young Ones" gave a dance performance.

Sister Petrina preached a very personal and pastoral message. The message was very well received, evidenced by the regular clap of hands and laughter. Senior Pastor concluded the message with an altar call and many responded for prayer.

After the 50th Anniversary cake cutting, the Senior Pastor of GT Klang, Pastor Lau Moong Som presented an appreciation gift and a bouquet of flowers to Sister Petrina. After the service, the invited guests,

the Pastors and Deacons of GT Klang were hosted to a luncheon.

What a joy and unique milestone for Sister Petrina that the commemoration of 50 years of her faithful dedicated ministry coincided with the 50th Anniversary of the Church she pioneered! God's promise to Sister Petrina, "If you are willing and obedient, You shall eat the good of the land" (Isaiah 1:19), has been fulfilled over and over again.

What GT Klang is today, testifies of how a life of obedience, commitment and faithfulness to the Lord results in blessings that endures.

- 1a-b. Sister Petrina who pioneered GT Klang in 1965, preaching at its 50th Anniversary
2. Sister receives an appreciation gift and a bouquet from GT Klang
3. Senior Pastor & Sister Petrina joins the Pastors and Deacons of GT Klang for the 50th Anniversary Cake Cutting
4. Senior Pastor concluded the service with an altar call

神的爱

是圣诞节的理由

(文: 古纳南主任牧师)

「神爱世人，甚至将他的独生子赐给他们，叫一切信他的，不致灭亡，反得永生。因为神差他的儿子降世，不是要定世人的罪，乃是要叫世人因他得救」(约3: 16-17)

神的爱是圣诞节的理由和目的是为了人类的救恩。这救恩提供了罪的赦免和永生。圣诞节是庆祝神差遣他的儿子成为人类的救主。

圣经上说道，没有行为的信心是死的。同样，没有行动的爱是没有意义的。不要像那个人，他在电话里表达了他对女友的爱，表示他是多么爱她，还说他会爬上最高的山，游过海洋和为她牺牲一切。然后在他结束他的谈话时说道如果那天晚上下雨，他便不能去她家看她。

圣经说道：「神爱」。他是最伟大的爱人。他爱「世人」，最大的对象。「他将他的爱子赐给」，最大的礼物。「所有」的人，最大的邀请。「不至灭亡，反得永生」，最大的成果(约3:16)。神如此的爱，甚至赐下他的独生子耶稣。

人是罪人和罪的刑罚就是死。死亡把人和神在永恒里隔绝。耶稣，神的独生子来是要救赎我们脱离罪恶，并赐给我们永生。永生不只是生命的数量，而是生命的质量。人的生命是充满了疾病和病症，并寿命短暂。但神的永生的礼物叫人出生入死。我们有永恒，丰盛的生命，而不是灭亡(约10: 10)。

关于我们的救恩圣经里有一个很好的例证。

在旧约中，神给他的百姓一个使罪得到赦免的计划。他们需要带两只羊羔给祭司，祭司要宰杀其中一只羊羔，被杀的羊羔的血为百姓的罪作了祭。因所流的血，罪就得赦免了(来9: 22)。但如果人民并不富有，买不起羊羔，他们就要把两只年幼的鸟，无论是鸽子或白鸽作为祭物。再次，祭司会杀了其中之一只鸟作赎罪祭，把被杀之鸟的血，把它洒在另一只鸟儿身上，然后这只鸟被释放。同样，对羊羔也是一样(利14章)。

这是一个我们救恩的图象。圣经指我们是迷途的羊。被杀的羊羔或被杀的鸟象征着基督为我们的罪死在十字架上。耶稣是我们的赎罪祭，被杀使我们从罪里得了释放，过一个不是照我们旧的自私方式，而是讨神的喜悦的生活。我们是那被血洒的羊或鸟，被释放。这是庆祝圣诞节的真正目的。降生在马槽里的婴孩，我们歌唱和谈论的婴孩，是我们的救主。耶稣为我们舍命，要救赎我们脱离罪的刑罚，所以我们不至灭亡，反得永生与神一起。我们藉由相信耶稣基督接受神美妙救恩的礼物，我们至于死的罪得了赦免。圣诞节是欢庆我们的救恩的原因。我们的生活是为欢庆神的救恩和他的儿子耶稣基督这份美妙的礼物。

谁能接受这份礼物?

好消息是永生的恩赐是给「所有」的人。这是靠信心接受，而不是用金钱购买或任何其他方式。永生成为可能是因为「基督的死」，为罪的救赎是必要的，耶稣为我们付出。信徒必须领会圣诞节的信息。这是神的爱赐给我们他的儿子，使我们的罪能被洗净。这份藉由神的儿子耶稣基督而来的美妙救恩礼物不是用金银买的，而是藉著耶稣所流的宝血。我们要得到它为我们的罪作挽回祭的唯一方法是靠信心。

我们是靠神的恩典凭信心而得救和我们可以得生命和过一个尊荣他和讨他喜悦的生活。欢庆你得永恒的生命和在这个地上时，你可以过一个得胜的生活方式，充满喜乐，平安和满足。耶稣来是要使你得丰盛的生命。

一些神话语美好的确据

我们怎能不感激耶稣的死使我们的罪被洗净。

- 「并那诚实作见证的、从死里首先复活、为世上君王元首的耶稣基督，有恩惠、平安归与你们！他爱我们，用自己的血使我们脱离罪恶」(启1: 5)
- 「耶和華说：你们来，我们彼此辩论。你们的罪虽像朱红，必变成雪白；虽红如丹颜，必白如羊毛」(赛1: 18)。
- 「东离西有多远，他叫我们的过犯离我们也有多远！」(诗103: 12)
- 「我涂抹了你的过犯，像厚云消散；我涂抹了你的罪恶，如薄云灭没。你当归向我，因我救赎了你。」(赛44: 22)
- 「并我们心中天良的亏欠已经洒去，身体用清水洗净了，就当存着诚心和充足的信心来到神面前；」(来10: 22)

这个圣诞节让我们意识到我们已从罪中被救赎出来要过一个得胜的生活。这是因为圣诞节使我们有此盼望，藉著耶稣基督在十字架上所流的宝血，我们的罪已被涂抹掉了。十字架是「救恩」的信息。保罗说道：「我不以福音为耻；这福音本是神的大能，要救一切相信的，先是犹太人，后是希利尼人」(罗1: 16)。愿我们可以去并传扬这个荣耀的消息。

神应许所有相信，认罪悔改并接受耶稣基督为他们的救主的人，他们的罪将被赦免

和得永生。圣经上说道：「凡接待他的，就是信他名的人，他就赐他们权柄，作神的儿女」(约1: 12)。「所以天父的儿子若叫你们自由，你们就真自由了」(约8: 36)。及「所以，如今那些在基督耶稣里不随从肉体，只随从圣灵行事的就不定罪了。」(罗8: 1)。

今年圣诞节，当我们纪念耶稣基督的降生，去向你的家人，朋友和邻居，那些还没有相信耶稣基督者传福音。让基督成为我们庆祝圣诞节的理由！

以上经文是采用中文圣经和合本。

申请浸礼及会籍 浸礼及会籍课程

日期: 12-12-15 (六)
时间: 下午一点半
地点: 加略山教会

浸礼聚会

日期: 12-12-15 (六)
时间: 下午五点
地点: 加略山教会(大堂)

下一次浸礼及会籍课程
日期: 20-2-16 (六)
时间: 下午一点半
地点: 加略山教会



Kasih Adalah Sebab Adanya Krismas

Oleh Pendita Kanan Prince Guneratnam

“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. Sebab Tuhan mengutus Anak-Nya ke dalam dunia bukan untuk menghakimi dunia, melainkan untuk menyelamatkannya oleh Dia.” (Yohanes 3: 16-17).

Kasih Tuhan adalah sebab adanya Krismas dan tujuannya adalah untuk keselamatan manusia. Keselamatan yang menawarkan pengampunan dosa dan kehidupan yang abadi. Krismas adalah untuk merayakan Tuhan mengutus AnakNya sebagai Juruselamat umat manusia.

Alkitab mengatakan, iman tanpa perbuatan adalah mati. Begitu juga, kasih tanpa aksi adalah tidak bermakna. Janganlah kamu seperti orang yang meluahkan cintanya kepada teman wanitanya di telefon, betapa banyak dia mencintai kekasihnya dan berkata bahawa dia akan mendaki gunung tertinggi, merentasi lautan dan mengorbankan segala-galanya untuknya. Kemudian dia mengakhiri perbualannya dengan berkata, jikalau ada hujan pada malam itu, dia tidak rela menemui kekasihnya di rumah.

Alkitab mengatakan **"Karena begitu besar kasih Tuhan"**. Dia adalah kekasih yang terbaik. Dia mengasihi **"dunia ini"**, objek yang terbesar. **"Ia telah mengaruniakan Anak-Nya"**, anugerah yang paling besar. **"Setiap orang"**, jemputan yang terbaik. **"Tidak binasa, melainkan beroleh hidup yang kekal"**, hasilnya yang terbesar (Yohanes 3:16). Tuhan begitu mengasihi sehinggakan Dia

mengurniakan Anak Tunggal-Nya, Yesus.

Manusia adalah pendosa dan hukuman dosa adalah maut. Kematian yang memisahkan manusia daripada Tuhan di akhirat. Yesus, Anak Tunggal Tuhan datang untuk menebus kita daripada dosa dan memberikan kita hidup yang abadi. Kehidupan yang abadi menjangkau tahun dan kualiti hidup. Kehidupan manusia dipenuhi dengan penyakit-penyakit dan memendekkan nyawa. Tetapi anugerah hidup abadi dari Tuhan menterbalikkan kematian kepada kehidupan. Daripada binasa kita mempunyai kehidupan kekal yang berkelimpahan (Yohanes 10:10).

Terdapat ilustrasi Alkitab yang indah mengenai keselamatan kita.

Dalam Perjanjian Lama, Tuhan memberikan rancangan untuk umatNya untuk menerima pengampunan dosa. Mereka perlu membawa dua ekor domba kepada imam yang akan menyembelih salah seekor daripada anak domba dan darah anak domba yang disembelih menjadikan korban bagi dosa seluruh bangsa. Ia adalah penumpahan darah yang menawarkan pengampunan untuk dosa-dosa (Ibrani 9:22). Tetapi jika rakyat miskin dan tidak mampu mendapatkan anak-anak domba, mereka boleh membawa dua ekor burung, iaitu burung merpati atau sebaliknya. Sekali lagi, imam akan membunuh salah seekor daripada burung-burung itu untuk pengorbanan dosa, mengambil darah burung yang dibunuh dan memercikkannya ke atas burung seekor lagi dan kemudian membebaskan burung itu. Ini juga dilakukan kepada domba (Imamat 14).

Ini adalah gambar keselamatan kita. Alkitab merujuk kepada kita

sebagai domba yang sesat. Anak domba disembelih atau burung yang disembelih melambangkan Kristus mati di atas salib untuk dosa-dosa kita. Yesus adalah korban dosa kita, disalibkan supaya kita dibebaskan daripada dosa untuk menjalani kehidupan bukan mengikut cara lama yang mementingkan diri sendiri, tetapi yang berkenan kepada Tuhan. Kita adalah anak domba atau burung merpati yang disemburkan dengan darah, untuk dibebaskan. Ini adalah tujuan sebenar kita menyambut Hari Krismas. Bayi kecil yang dilahirkan di dalam palungan, yang kita menyanyi dan menyebut, adalah Juruselamat kita. Yesus memberikan hidupNya untuk kita, untuk menebus kita daripada hukuman dosa, supaya kita tidak binasa, melainkan beroleh kehidupan yang kekal dengan Tuhan. Kita yang menerima anugerah keselamatan yang indah daripada Tuhan melalui iman dalam Yesus Kristus, sudah diampuni dosa-dosa kita yang membawa maut. Krismas adalah meraikan sebab keselamatan kita. Kita mesti hidup kehidupan yang meraikan anugerah keselamatan Tuhan yang indah dan meraikan AnakNya Yesus Kristus.

Siapa yang boleh menerima anugerah ini?

Injil itu adalah berita anugerah kehidupan abadi untuk "setiap orang". Ia diterima dengan iman dan bukan dibeli dengan wang atau apa jua cara. Kehidupan abadi dimungkinkan kerana "kematian Kristus", suatu keperluan bagi penebusan dosa, dimana Yesus telah membayar untuk kita. Ia adalah penting bagi orang yang beriman memahami mesej Krismas. Kasih Tuhanlah yang memberikan kita AnakNya supaya dosa-dosa kita boleh disucikan. Anugerah keselamatan yang indah

melalui Anak Tuhan Yesus Kristus bukan boleh dibeli dengan emas dan perak tetapi melalui tumpahan darah Yesus yang berharga. Satu-satunya cara kita boleh memperuntukkan pendamaian untuk dosa-dosa kita adalah dengan iman.

Kita diselamatkan oleh iman melalui rahmat dan kita boleh mempunyai hidup dan menjalani kehidupan yang menghormati dan menyenangkanNya. Raikanlah kerana kamu mempunyai hidup yang kekal dan sementara di muka bumi ini, kamu boleh hidup hidup yang berkemenangan penuh dengan sukacita, damai dan kepuasan. Yesus datang supaya kamu mempunyai kehidupan yang melimpah.

BEBERAPA JAMINAN YANG INDAH DARIPADA FIRMAN TUHAN

Bagaimana boleh kita tidak bersyukur Yesus mati agar dosa-dosa kita boleh disucikan.

- **“dan dari Yesus Kristus, Saksi yang setia, yang pertama bangkit dari antara orang mati dan yang berkuasa atas raja-raja bumi ini. Bagi Dia, yang mengasihi kita dan yang telah melepaskan kita dari dosa kita oleh darah-Nya”** (Wahyu 1: 5).
- **“Marilah, baiklah kita berperera! - firman TUHAN -Sekalipun dosamu merah seperti kirmizi, akan menjadi putih seperti salju; sekalipun berwarna merah seperti kain kesumba, akan menjadi putih seperti bulu domba”** (Yesaya 1:18).
- **“sejauh timur dari barat, demikian dijauhkan-Nya dari pada kita pelanggaran kita”** (Mazmur 103:12).
- **“Aku telah menghapus segala dosa pemberontakanmu seperti kabut diterbangkan angin dan segala dosamu seperti awan yang tertiup. Kembalilah kepada-Ku, sebab Aku telah menebus engkau!”** (Yesaya 44:22).

“Karena itu marilah kita menghadap Tuhan dengan hati yang tulus ikhlas dan keyakinan iman yang teguh, oleh karena hati kita telah dibersihkan dari hati nurani yang jahat dan tubuh kita telah dibasuh dengan air yang murni.” (Ibrani 10:22).

Akuilah semasa Krismas ini bahawa kita telah ditebus daripada dosa untuk menjalani kehidupan yang berkemenangan. Adalah kerana Krismaslah kita mempunyai harapan ini, bahawa dosa-dosa kita telah dihapuskan oleh darah Yesus Kristus yang dicurahkan di atas salib. Salib adalah satu mesej "keselamatan". Paulus berkata, “Sebab aku mempunyai keyakinan yang kokoh dalam Injil, karena Injil adalah kekuatan Tuhan yang menyelamatkan setiap orang yang percaya, pertama-tama orang Yahudi, tetapi juga orang Yunani.” (Roma 1:16). Semoga kita mencapai dan memberitakan kemuliaan mesej ini.

Tuhan berjanji kepada semua yang percaya

“Terima Kristus sebagai Anugerah Tuhan dan kamu akan selamat dan mempunyai hidup yang abadi.” Alkitab mengatakan, "Tetapi semua orang yang menerima-Nya diberi-Nya kuasa supaya menjadi anak-anak Tuhan, yaitu mereka yang percaya dalam nama-Nya" (Yohanes 1:12); “Jadi apabila Anak itu memerdekakan kamu, kamupun benar-benar merdeka” (Yohanes 8:36) dan “Demikianlah sekarang tidak ada penghukuman bagi mereka yang ada di dalam Kristus Yesus” (Roma 8: 1).

Krismas ini, lebih daripada meraikannya dengan upacara keagamaan dan tradisi, sedarilah berkat indah Tuhan yang disediakan untuk kita sebagaimana kita mengingati kelahiran Yesus Kristus. Biarlah kasih Tuhan mengisi hati kita dan memberi kuasa kepada kita untuk mencapai keluarga, rakan-rakan dan jiran-jiran kita. Biarlah kasih itu merupakan sebab kita meraikan Krismas!

KELAS PEMBAPTISAN AIR DAN KEAHLIAN

1.30PM 12 Disember Sabtu
Damansara Heights, Worship Nursery

KEBAKTIAN PEMBAPTISAN AIR

5.00PM 12 Disember Sabtu
Damansara Heights Sanctuary

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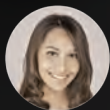
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DECEMBER SERVICE SCHEDULE

Damansara Heights
Saturday 5.00pm

05 Communion
Pastor
Yong Chee Weng

12 Water Baptism
Associate Pastor
Peter Ong

19 Service Combined With
CCC Sunday 9am Service

26 Service Combined With
Sunday Worship Service

Calvary Convention Centre
Sunday 9.00am

06 Communion
Senior Pastor
Prince Guneratham

13 Associate Pastor
Steven Kum

20 Senior Associate Pastor
Petrina Guneratnam

27 Associate Pastor
Timothy Ong

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9.00pm till 12.00 midnight
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Thanksgiving Testimonies & Praises
Christmas Devotion by Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam

Pre-service Fellowship from 7.30pm to 8.30pm

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ages 5 to 11**

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Date: 12 December 2015

Water Baptism & Membership Class
Time: 1.30PM
Venue: Worship Nursery

Water Baptism Service
Time: 5.00PM
Venue: Sanctuary

Next Water Baptism

20 February 2016

Forms available at Reception Counter
CCC Lobby

Senior Pastors Prince & Petrina Guneratnam
together with Pastors and Staff Wish All Calvarites
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Senior Pastor Rev. Tan Sri Datuk Dr. Prince Guneratnam