

**What's
Inside?**

Introducing
Hidden Treasure

Church Summit 2017
"Immeasurably More Than Able"

2017 Church
Leaders' Installation

THE CHRISTIAN AS AN ATHLETE



CALVARYNEWS

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THE CHRISTIAN AS

By Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam

Wrestling is a sport in which one contestant competes with another, using various holds and techniques in order to force his opponent to fall to win the match.

Exhibition wrestling for entertainment is popular in United Kingdom. In Japan they have sumo wrestling. A sumo wrestler leads a highly regimented way of life.

The Sumo Association prescribes the behaviour of its wrestlers in some detail. For example in the wake of serious car accidents involving sumo wrestlers, due to the fact that some sumo wrestlers were too big to fit behind a steering wheel, the association banned wrestlers from driving their own cars. Breaking the rules can result in fines and/or suspension, not only for the offending wrestler, but also for his stablemaster. To be sumo wrestlers, they are expected to grow their hair long to form a topknot, or chonmage, similar to the samurai hairstyles of the Edo period.

Matches consist solely of a single round and often last only a few seconds, or occasionally last for several minutes. Traditionally, sumo wrestlers are renowned for their great girth and body mass, which is often a winning factor in sumo. However, with superior technique, smaller wrestlers can control and defeat much larger opponents. The winner of a sumo bout is either, the first wrestler to force his opponent

to step out of the ring or force his opponent to touch the ground with any part of his body other than the bottom of his feet.

The Apostle Paul describes the believer as an athlete, using different analogies. The first analogy, the believer as a runner. “.. let us strip off every weight that slows us down, especially the sin that so easily trips us up. And let us run

with endurance the race God has set before us. We do this by keeping our eyes on Jesus, the champion who initiates and perfects our faith...” (Hebrews 12:1-2). We are to live for Jesus Christ as one who runs in a race.

The second analogy, the believer is a boxer. “.. I am not just shadow-boxing. I discipline my body like an athlete, training it to do what it should...” (1 Corinthians 9:26-27). As a boxer we are not shadow boxing. We must know who is our opponent and defeat him.

The third analogy, the believer is a wrestler. “For we are not fighting against flesh-and-blood enemies, but against evil rulers and authorities of the unseen world, against mighty powers in this dark world, and against evil spirits in the heavenly places” (Ephesians 6:12). We are not fighting against flesh and blood but in a spiritual warfare. They may be human but demonic in activity.

The three analogies of the believer as an athlete helps us to understand how to live a victorious Christian life.



AN ATHLETE

FIRST, WE WRESTLE WITH OURSELVES – “THE WRESTLE TO LIVE FOR CHRIST”.

Our greatest enemy is not the devil, because Jesus has defeated him. We are our greatest enemy. Paul understood this. He says “I discipline my body like an athlete, training it to do what it should. Otherwise, I fear that after preaching to others I myself might be disqualified” (1 Corinthians 9:27). Paul says, “I don’t give in to the appetite and cravings of the life of the flesh and he tells us why, “... I know that nothing good lives in me, that is, in my sinful nature. ... I have discovered this principle of life—that when I want to do what is right, I inevitably do what is wrong. I love God’s law with all my heart. But there is another power within me that is at war with my mind. This power makes me a slave to the sin that is still within me. 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 ...” (Romans 7:18; 21-25). Sin has the power to make us obey our sinful nature. Our struggle is not only the devil (who sometimes get blamed for what we do wrong). It is our sin nature and our carnal mind that has to be renewed in Christ Jesus. This is the discipline that Paul is talking about that will enable us to live the Christian life.

We are not able to overcome the power of sin in our life. Paul says, “... Who will free me from this life that is dominated by sin and death? Thank God! The answer is in Jesus Christ our Lord. So you see how it is: In my mind I really want to obey God’s law, but because of my sinful nature I am a slave to sin” (Romans 7:24-25).

Jesus came to give us victory over our sinful lifestyle. It is not our education, status or wealth that will give us victory over sin. Thank God for Jesus Christ! In Christ, we are not under the control of our sinful nature. Paul tells us, “Therefore, dear brothers and sisters, you have no obligation to do what your sinful nature urges you to do. For if you live by its dictates, you will die. But if through the power of the Spirit you put to death the deeds of your sinful nature, you will live. For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God” (Romans 8:12-14).

Do not depend on your own strength, but let the Holy Spirit work in you by submitting yourself to the Lordship of Jesus Christ. This is why your fellowship through prayer and feeding on God’s Word helps you to live a life more than a conqueror in Christ Jesus.

SECOND, WE WRESTLE WITH SATAN AND HIS KINGDOM.

God’s Word tells us that He has prepared for us an armour to wear. Paul says, “Therefore take up the whole armour of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand” (Ephesians 6:13, NKJV) and “We do not wrestle with flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against rulers of darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places” (Ephesians 6:12, NKJV).

We Need To Put On Seven Pieces Of The Armour Of God (Ephesians 6:14-18).



1. GIRD YOUR WAIST WITH TRUTH

- Accept Jesus Christ into your life. He is the Truth and the Life (John 14:6).

2. PUT ON THE BREASTPLATE OF RIGHTEOUSNESS

- Only the blood of Jesus can make us righteous and staying under the blood of Jesus can protect us from the attacks of Satan.

3. SHOD YOUR FEET WITH THE GOSPEL OF PEACE

- Be the salt and light of the world. Be an anointed witness. Be prepared and committed to share the Gospel, notwithstanding the difficulties and dangers that may come your way.

4. TAKE THE SHIELD OF FAITH

- Faith is the shield with which we use to quench the fiery darts (temptations) of the devil. Faith cometh by hearing the preaching of the Word and obeying the Word.

5. TAKE THE HELMET OF SALVATION

- The helmet protects the head. Renew your mind with the

Word of God and be anchored in the hope of salvation. God's Word defeats the tempter.

6. TAKE THE SWORD OF THE SPIRIT - Walk in the light of God's Promises. God's Word is sharper than a two-edged sword. Christ himself resisted Satan's temptations with, "It is written" (Matthew 4:4; 6;7; 10).

7. PRAYING ALWAYS IN THE SPIRIT - Live in fellowship with God, praying always. Let prayer be like your breathing, let prayer become your lifestyle. Prayer is part of praising, worshipping God, thanking Him, giving Him glory and blessing His Holy Name.

Having put on the whole armour of God, we can be more than conquerors in Christ Jesus.

THIRD, WE WRESTLE WITH GOD HIMSELF – "THE WRESTLE FOR GOD'S BLESSINGS".

It seems strange to wrestle with God, for how can we win? Wrestling with God is not to fight Him, but to stay focused and persevere in God's will, until He blesses with what He has promised.

In other words, God wants to know for sure you really desire His will and believe His promises. This is a wrestle! The Bible says, "A double minded man is unstable in all his ways" (James 1:8, NKJV). When God sees your resolve and commitment, He will bless you and open the windows of heaven.

This was the message the Lord gave me when we were facing challenges with the original CCC contractors. Satan did not like what we were doing and tried to stop CCC from happening! God was not using the Church just to build a

building, but through the process of building, God was building us to be a people of God. In wrestling with God, He was strengthening our faith and teaching us to trust and obey. Rather than questioning, "How could this happen, if this is of God?", our wrestling with God was to express our desire to do the will of God.

A Beautiful Example Is Jacob And His Wrestle With God.

Jacob wrestled with an angel sent by God. He said, "'I will not let You go unless You bless me!' And He said, 'Your name shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel; for you have struggled with God and with men, and have prevailed.' ... And He blessed him there" (Genesis 32: 24-29, NKJV). If we are serious about God's will or purpose in our life or claiming His promises, we may have to wrestle with God.

Paul's final teaching on wrestling is to "Stand" (Ephesians 6:13).

Three Fundamental Principles to "Stand".

1. Humble yourself. The Bible says, "Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and He will lift you up" (James 4:10, NKJV).

2. Trust in the Lord. The Bible says, "Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths" (Proverbs 3:5-6, NKJV).

3. Obey God – know His will and do it. The Bible says, "Now it shall come to pass, if you diligently obey the voice of the Lord your God, to observe carefully all His commandments which I command you today, that the Lord your God will set you high above all nations of the earth. And all these blessings shall come upon you and overtake you, because you obey the voice of the Lord your God" (Deuteronomy 28:1-2, NKJV).

Do not take the armour of God for granted. Take heed and seriously put on the whole armour of God. Note that there is no armour to protect our back. If we retreat, our back is exposed and we can be defeated. Each piece of the armour of God is given for the purpose of offensive and defensive. We have the authority to withstand our enemy and the fiery darts of the evil one. We are not to retreat.

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



INTRODUCING CHURCH MINISTRY HIDDEN TREASURE

By Pastor Shereen Wong

Hidden Treasure came into being through the vision of Senior Associate Pastor Petrina Guneratnam (fondly known as Sister Petrina to Calvarites) of having an avenue where pre-loved items are made available at attractive prices. As the Lord has blessed the people, we shall bless others through this channel, thus the tagline: "Blessed ... To Be A Blessing." This ministry was birthed on Sunday, 1 November 2015, to coincide with the celebration of Sister Petrina's 50 years of faithful ministry unto the Lord.

Its mission is to cultivate a spirit of giving and sharing through capitalizing the skills of men and women in generating funds for charity and needful causes. Funds generated have been channeled to assist in the education of children in Calvaryland and Yayasan Sunbeams, towards projects for Refugee children as well as Calvary Convention Centre (CCC) Debt Free project.

It facilitates a ministry of performing good deeds through volunteering e.g. giving of time to impart skills, man the shop, sort out goods, source or make items for sale, etc.

Testimonies of people who serve in this ministry:

- *Vivian Ho – "It has given me an opportunity to minister to others."*
- *Beatrix Yeap – "Hidden Treasure is full of God's blessing. I am encouraged by the caring and sharing spirit among the team. I am blessed to serve and have the opportunity to share church events with visitors."*

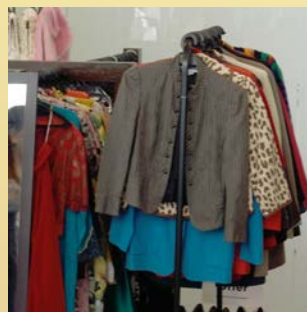
Testimonies of people who have been blessed through this ministry:

- *Suresh Raman – "I am glad to find affordable Christian literature and little things here. Truly, there are a lot of hidden treasures here."*
- *Maria Lourdes – "The concept of recycling clothes and pre-loved belongings to bless others is environmentally friendly and cost saving. Praise God for Hidden Treasure."*



It is a treasure trove of pre-loved items, new or used, available at rock-bottom prices. Up for grabs are fashion apparel for men, women and children, jewellery, household ware, electrical items, books, toys, gift packs and much more.

Hidden Treasure is open on Saturdays and Sundays from 11.00am to 2.00pm as well as on special church events. For further information, please come by to Hidden Treasure at the above times and contact Jeannie Friis or Vivian Ho.



CHURCH SUMMIT 2017

“IMMEASURABLY

Senior Pastor sharing a powerful message



By Pastor Carol Weller

“Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.” (Ephesians 3:20-21 NIV)

Three hundred and sixty church leaders and ministry servers milled into the Multipurpose & Banquet Hall in Calvary Convention Centre after braving a heavy downpour on the evening of Friday, 24 February 2017. Exuberant worship filled the air led by three women, Victoria Choi, Annabelle Wong and Debbie Hong.

The first session entitled “Expanding Your Leadership Capacity” began. It was a video inspirational session introduced by Associate Pastor Chan Lee Peng. Craig Groeshel, the speaker in the video challenged us with the thought that our natural minds cannot fathom what God is capable of doing through us. He suggested five Cs that can lead us to ‘expand our capacity’ which are to build our confidence, expand our connections, improve our competence, strengthen our character and increase our commitment.



Participants worshipping the Lord

In wrapping up this first session, Associate Pastor Chan Lee Peng asked participants to share an area they had experienced growth and to pick one they were going to work on, from the five Cs. The session concluded with prayer by Senior Associate Pastor Petrina Guneratnam.

On the next day at 8am, participants enjoyed a breakfast fellowship and were blessed to hear from Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam on “Breakthrough Priorities”. He reiterated that persistence was a key factor in getting breakthroughs in ministry and in life. Citing examples of people who faced many setbacks before experiencing success e.g. Abraham Lincoln, Beethoven and Walt Disney, he asked participants – “What will it take Calvary Church to become a Fountainhead Church?”



Group discussions around the tables



MORE THAN ABLE™



He reaffirmed the Church's mission statement to be "a Jesus Generation, an Equipping Institution, and an Evangelistic and Sending Church". He then gave four principles that will lead us to experience breakthroughs – Seek God first (Matthew 6:33); Obey, then sacrifice (Hebrews 5:7-9); Have faith that works (James 2:17-20); be spirit-filled and led (Ephesians 5:15-19).

often perform better than experienced people who tend to make assumptions and thus miss out on important details. Participants then shared with each other an area they were excited about in their ministry and some ideas they may want to try out to keep on the learning curve.

This summit reaffirms the new work that the Holy Spirit is wanting to do in Calvary Church in 2017.

Senior Associate Pastor Petrina Guneratnam praying for participants



After a tea break, Pastor Carol Weller introduced the final session. It was a thought provoking video session by Liz Wiseman entitled "Rookie Smarts: Why Learning Beats Knowing" where Wiseman, one of the current top ten leadership trainers in the world, presented her research findings that people who take on new ventures and are inexperienced,



Fellowshipping over yummy food

2017 CHURCH LEADERS'

By Jason Sia

Calvary Church follows the New Testament practice of appointing Spirit-filled believers into leadership responsibilities to serve the church and the Kingdom of God.

On Sunday, 5 March 2017, we were inspired and challenged at the 2017 Leaders' Installation at Calvary Convention Centre. 1 Peter 4:10 (NLT) says, "God has given each of you a gift from his great variety of spiritual gifts. Use them well to serve one another". The Church is designed to grow by the united effort of believers who would trust and obey the Lord to use their gifts and talents to serve together in the local church for His glory.

Associate Pastor Steven Kum led the charge to the leaders, empowering them to lead our congregation to fulfil God's purpose for Calvary Church in 2017.

Charge to the Leaders

The leaders are charged with the following Scriptures that they may wholeheartedly commit and dedicate themselves to trust and obey them.

"Obey me, and I will be your God, and you will be my people. Do everything as I say, and all will be well." (Jeremiah 7:23 NLT)

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding. Seek His will in all you do, and He will show you which path to take." (Proverbs 3:5-6 NLT)

"So be careful how you live. Don't live like fools, but like those who are wise. Make the most of every opportunity in these evil days. Don't act thoughtlessly, but understand what the Lord want you to do. Instead, be filled with the Holy Spirit. And give thanks for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ." (Ephesians 5:15-20 NLT)

Charge to the Congregation

Pastor Steven also charged the congregation with this responsibility, "All the believers were united in heart and mind. And they felt that what they owned was not their own, so they shared everything they had. The apostles testified powerfully to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and God's great blessing was upon them all." (Acts 4:32-33 NLT)

Promise to the Leaders and Congregation

We were reminded to fear God, trust and obey knowing He will empower us to do His will. Acts 1:8 (NLT) says, "But 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."

Senior Pastors Prince and Petrina Guneratnam prayed for God's anointing upon the leaders as we serve Him together.



Senior Pastors praying for the leaders and congregation



Ministries' Heads and Leaders at the altar for their installation

INSTALLATION



Congregation stands for supporting the leaders in prayer

Church Ministries' Heads and Leaders

1. The Life Group (LG) and Bahasa Malaysia (BM) Ministries led by Associate Pastor David Seah together with the LG Leaders and BM Ministry Leaders
2. The Carpenters, Workshop (CW) and Calvary Nursery Care (CNC) Ministries led by Pastor Quek Lee Siu together with the CW and CNC Teachers and Workers
3. The Chinese Ministry led by Chua Ken Tee together with the Chinese Ministry Leaders
4. The School of Christian Growth (SCG) and Missionettes Ministries led by Associate Pastor Chan Lee Peng together with SCG Teachers and Missionettes Sponsors. She also heads the Dimensions Ministry (Ladies)
5. The Hospitality and Social Concern Ministries led by Associate Pastor Raymond Yong together with their Team Leaders
6. The Membership Committee led by Elder Patrick Wong and the together with the Committee Members
7. The Missions Ministry led by Associate Pastor Yong Chee Weng together with the Missions Committee Members
8. The Music and Creative Arts Ministry led by Associate Pastor Chris Lee together with the Music and Creative Arts Ministry Team Leaders
9. The Prayer Ministry led by Associate Pastor Timothy Ong together with the Leaders of the Prayer Ministry
10. The Royal Rangers (RR) Ministry led by Jim Guneratnam (Overseer), Eddy Law (Council Chairman), Jason Tan (Senior Commander) together with the RR Commanders
11. The Young Adults Ministry led by Pastor Tabitha Ong together with the Young Adult Leaders
12. The Youth Ministry led by Timothy Yee together with the Youth Leaders
13. The Altar Worker Ministry coordinated by Marcus Solomon
14. The Evangelism Ministry headed by Gan Tiong Chew
15. The Discipleship Ministry led by Pastor Susan Tan
16. The Hidden Treasure Coordinator, Jeannie Friis
17. The Olive Café Coordinator, Pastor Carol Weller



WATER BAPTISM

Water baptism is a public declaration of a believer's faith and commitment in Jesus Christ. It is the next step after one has received salvation from Christ through faith and repentance and is an important foundation for the Christian life. Baptism by immersion symbolically identifies us with Jesus' death on the cross, His burial, and His resurrection from the dead.

"For we died and were buried with Christ by baptism. And just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glorious power of the Father, now we also may live new lives." (Romans 6:4 NLT)

Water baptism is an act of faith and obedience to the command of Christ our Lord.

"Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you. And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age." (Matthew 28:19-20 NLT)

We follow Jesus' example. Jesus himself was baptised. He was not a sinner, yet he humbled himself in obedience to identify with us and provide an example to follow.

"One day Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee, and John baptized him in the Jordan River." (Mark 1:9 NLT)

Baptism connects us to the 'body of Christ', the local church, not just participating in an individual act on our own spiritual journey.

"But we have all been baptized into one body by one Spirit, and we all share the same Spirit." (1 Corinthians 12:13b NLT)

For more information on water baptism, you can call the church office at 03-89995532 ext. 434. Refer to back page for our next water baptism service.



Front Row (L-R): Sum Siew Hui, Susie Sam Siew Fong, Steffi Yip May Yenn, Christi Cheong Cheok Lai, Sakvinderjit Kaur a/p Kartar Singh, Obasi Onyinyechi Godspeace

Back Row (L-R): Courtney Yip May Synn, Liau Chu Tee, Jasielle Ng Jye Shi, Ng Jie Lun, Jason Ng Jie Sheng, Yeow Sook Ching, Steven A/L Tanivill, Onyelonu Kelvin Chinonso

Congratulations to 14 Calvarites who followed the Lord in water baptism on 18 February 2017 at the Saturday Worship Service at Calvary Damansara Heights. May you continue to grow from faith to faith in your journey with the Lord.

MEMBERSHIP INTAKE



Congratulations to 40 Calvarites who were received as members on at the Sunday Worship Service at Calvary Convention Centre (CCC) on 19 February 2017.

John Wesley said, "There is no such thing as a solitary Christian". The Christians in the early church discovered an intensely personal relationship with Jesus. This led to a corporate life in the Christian family which was demonstrated in regular attendance in fellowship (Acts 2:46).

Church membership helps the believer grow in the Christian faith as well as provides avenues for the believer to be involved in serving the Lord in various ministries.

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 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 a believer makes between God and his/her fellow members to enjoy the privileges and carry out the responsibilities that come with being a part of God's family.

For more information on membership, you can call the church office at 03-89995532 ext. 434.

KRISTIAN SEBAGAI SEORANG ATLIT

Oleh Pendita Kanan Prince Guneratnam

Gusti adalah sukan yang mana seorang pelawan menandingi yang lain, menggunakan pelbagai pegangan dan teknik supaya lawannya dijatuhkan untuk memenangi pertandingan tersebut. Gusti pameran untuk hiburan amat terkenal di United Kingdom. Di Jepun, mereka mempunyai gusti sumo. Seorang penggusti sumo mengamalkan cara hidup yang tinggi disiplinnya. Persatuan Sumo memberi penetapan perlakuan penggustinya dengan agak terperinci. Sebagai contoh, ekoran kemalangan kereta yang sangat serius melibatkan seorang penggusti dan hakikat bahawa ada penggusti yang sukar memandu kereta biasa kerana saiz badan terlalu besar, persatuan mengharamkan penggusti daripada memandu kereta sendiri. Mengingkari peraturan boleh mengakibatkan didenda dan/atau digantung, bukan hanya penggusti yang melakukan kesalahan, bahkan tuan pengajarnya. Dalam menceburi sumo, mereka dijangka menyimpan rambut panjang untuk dijadikan tocang, atau chonmage, menyerupai stail rambut samurai zaman Edo.

Pertandingannya mempunyai hanya satu pusingan dan kerap kali menjangkau beberapa saat sahaja, atau adakala menjangkau beberapa minit. Secara tradisi, penggusti sumo terkenal dengan lilitan dan jisim tubuh, kerap kali menjadi faktor penentu dalam sumo. Walaupun begitu, dengan kelebihan teknik, penggusti kecil dapat mengawal dan mengalahkan pihak lawan yang lebih besar. Pemenang pertandingan sumo dikira sama ada, penggusti yang berjaya menolak lawannya keluar bulatan atau menjatuhkan lawannya ke tanah dengan mana-mana bahagian badan kecuali bawah kakinya.

Rasul Paulus menggambarkan umat sebagai seorang atlit, mempunyai pelbagai analogi. Analogi pertama, umat sebagai seorang pelari. “.. marilah kita menanggalkan semua beban dan dosa yang begitu merintanginya, dan berlomba dengan tekun dalam perlombaan yang diwajibkan bagi kita. Marilah kita melakukannya dengan mata yang tertuju kepada Yesus yang memimpin kita dalam iman...” (Ibrani 12:1-2). Kita harus hidup dalam Yesus Kristus bagaikan seorang yang berlari dalam satu perlumbaan.

Analogi kedua, setiap umat adalah seorang petinju. “.. aku bukan petinju yang sembarangan saja memukul. Tetapi aku melatih tubuhku dan menguasainya seluruhnya...” (1 Korintus 9:26-27). Sebagai seorang petinju kita bukan melakukan tumbukan bayangan. Kita mesti ketahui siapa pihak lawan dan mengalahkan dia.

Analogi ketiga, umat adalah seorang penggusti. “karena perjuangan kita bukanlah melawan darah dan daging, tetapi melawan pemerintah-pemerintah, melawan penguasa-penguasa, melawan penghulu-penghulu dunia yang gelap ini, melawan roh-roh jahat di udara” (Efesus 6:12). Kita bukan melawan darah dan daging tetapi kita berada dalam peperangan rohani. Mereka mungkin manusia tetapi aktiviti mereka kesyaitanan.

Ketiga-tiga analogi tentang umat sebagai seorang atlit membantu kita memahami bagaimana menjalani kehidupan Kristen yang berjaya.

PERTAMA, KITA BERGELUT DENGAN DIRI SENDIRI – “PERGELUTAN MAHU HIDUP UNTUK KRISTUS”.

Musuh utama kita bukannya iblis, sebab Yesus telah menewaskan dia. Diri kita adalah musuh utama kita. Paulus memahami ini. Dia berkata “Tetapi aku melatih tubuhku dan menguasainya seluruhnya, supaya sesudah memberitakan Injil kepada orang lain, jangan aku sendiri ditolak” (1 Korintus 9:27). Paulus berkata. “Aku tidak menang kepada nafsu dan kemahuan hidup dalam daging dan dia memberitahu kita kenapa, “...Sebab aku tahu, bahwa di dalam aku, yaitu di dalam aku sebagai manusia, tidak ada sesuatu yang baik... Demikianlah aku dapati hukum ini: jika aku menghendaki berbuat apa yang baik, yang jahat itu ada padaku. Sebab di dalam batinku aku suka akan hukum Tuhan. Tetapi di dalam anggota-anggota tubuhku aku

melihat hukum lain yang berjuang melawan hukum akal budiku dan membuat aku menjadi tawanan hukum dosa yang ada di dalam anggota-anggota tubuhku. Aku, manusia celaka! Siapakah yang akan melepaskan aku dari tubuh maut ini? Syukur kepada Tuhan! oleh Yesus Kristus, Tuhan kita... (Roma 7:18; 21-25). Dosa mempunyai kuasa untuk memaksa kita mentaati sifat dosa kita. Pergelutan kita bukan sahaja iblis (yang kadangkala dipersalahkan atas kesalahan kita). Ianya sifat dosa dan minda insaniah yang perlu diperbaharui dalam Yesus Kristus. Inilah disiplin yang Paulus nyatakan yang mengupayakan kita hidup kehidupan seorang Kristen.

Kita tidak dapat mengatasi kuasa dosa dalam kehidupan kita. Paulus berkata, “...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 datang untuk memberi kita kemenangan mengatasi gaya hidup yang berdosa. Ianya bukan pendidikan kita, status atau kekayaan yang dapat memberi kita kemenangan mengatasi dosa. Bersyukur kepada Yesus Kristus! Dalam Kristus, kita tidak dikuasai oleh sifat dosa kita. Paulus memberitahu kita, “Jadi, saudara-saudara, kita adalah orang berhutang, tetapi bukan kepada daging, supaya hidup menurut



daging. Sebab, jika kamu hidup menurut daging, kamu akan mati; tetapi jika oleh Roh kamu memhatikan perbuatan-perbuatan tubuhmu, kamu akan hidup. Semua orang, yang dipimpin Roh Tuhan adalah anak Tuhan” (Roma 8:12-14).

Jangan bergantung kepada kekuatan diri sendiri, tetapi benarkan Roh Kudus bekerja dalam kamu dengan merelakan dirimu dikuasai Yesus Kristus. Ini sebabnya persekutuanmu dalam doa dan menatapi firman Tuhan membantu kamu menjalani kehidupan sebagai pemenang dalam Yesus Kristus.

KEDUA, KITA BERGELUT DENGAN SYAITAN DAN KERAJAANNYA

Firman Tuhan memberitahu kita bahawa Dia telah menyediakan perisai untuk kita pakai. Paulus berkata, “Sebab itu ambillah seluruh perlengkapan senjata Tuhan, supaya kamu dapat mengadakan perlawanan pada hari yang jahat itu dan tetap berdiri, sesudah kamu menyelesaikan segala sesuatu (Efesus 6:13) dan “karena perjuangan kita bukanlah melawan darah dan daging, tetapi melawan pemerintah-pemerintah, melawan penguasa-penguasa, melawan penghulu-penghulu dunia yang gelap ini, melawan roh-roh jahat di udara” (Efesus 6:12).

Kita Perlu Memasang Tujuh Bahagian Perlengkapan Tuhan (Efesus 6:14-18).

1. BERIKATPINGGANGKAN KEBENARAN – pamerkan Yesus yang merupakan kebenaran.

2. BERBAJUZHIRAHKAN KEADILAN – Hanya darah Yesus boleh menjadikan kita benar dan penetapan dalam perlindungan darah Yesus boleh melindungi kita daripada serangan syaitan.

3. KAKIMU BERKASUTKAN PENGINJILAN KEDAMAIAN – Jadilah garam dan cahaya dunia. Jadi saksi yang diurapi. Bersedia dan komited untuk berkongsi Injil, tanpa mengendahkan kesukaran dan bahaya yang mungkin mendatang jalanmu.

4. PERGUNAKANLAH PERISAI IMAN – Iman adalah perisai yang kita gunakan untuk memadamkan segala panah api (cobaan) daripada iblis. Iman datangnya daripada mendengar khutbah Firman Tuhan dan mentaati FirmanNya.

5. PAKAIKANLAH KETOPONG KESELAMATAN – Topi melindungi bahagian kepala. Perbaharui minda dengan

Firman Tuhan dan dipasak dengan harapan keselamatan. Firman Tuhan mengalahkan penggoda.

6. AMBIL PEDANG ROH – Berjalan dalam terang Janji-Janji Tuhan. Firman Tuhan lebih tajam dari pedang dua serampang. Kristus sendiri menolak cobaan syaitan dengan, “Ada tertulis” (Matius 4:4; 6:7; 10).

7. BERDOA SELALU DALAM ROH – Hidup dalam persekutuan dengan Tuhan, berdoa selalu. Jadikan doa seperti pernafasan kamu, jadikan doa gaya hidup kamu. Doa adalah sebahagian daripada pujian, menyembah Tuhan, bersyukur kepadaNya, memberi Dia kemuliaan dan memberkati NamaNya yang Suci.

Dengan memasang seluruh perisai Tuhan, kita adalah atlit Kristian, lebih daripada penakluk dalam Yesus Kristus.

KETIGA, KITA BERGELUT DENGAN TUHAN SENDIRI – “PERGELUTAN UNTUK BERKAT TUHAN”.

lanya agak pelik bergelut dengan Tuhan, sebab bagaimana boleh kita menang? Bergelut dengan Tuhan bukan berlawan dengan Dia, tetapi mengekalkan fokus dan bertahan dalam kehendakNya, sehingga Dia memberkati dengan apa yang telah dijanjikanNya.

Dalam erti lain, Tuhan mahu mengetahui dengan sepenuhnya kemahuan kamu akan kehendakNya dan mempercayai janjiNya. Inilah pergelutan! Alkitab menyatakan, “Sebab orang yang mendua hati tidak akan tenang dalam hidupnya” (Yakobus 1:8). Apabila Tuhan melihat kesungguhan dan komitmen kamu, Dia akan memberkati dan membuka tingkap-tingkap di syurga.

Inilah mesej yang Tuhan berikan kepada aku semasa kita menghadapi cabaran dengan kontraktor CCC yang asal. Syaitan tidak gemar apa yang kita lakukan dan cuba menghalang CCC menjadi realiti! Tuhan bukan sahaja menggunakan gereja hanya untuk membina sebuah bangunan, tetapi melalui proses pembinaan, Tuhan membentuk kita menjadi umat Tuhan. Dalam pergelutan dengan Tuhan, dia mengukuhkan iman kita dan mengajar kita untuk percaya dan taat. Sebalik menyoal, “Bagaimana ini boleh berlaku, pergelutan kita dengan Tuhan adalah untuk menyatakan keinginan kita mahu melakukan kehendak Tuhan.

Satu Contoh Yang Indah ialah Yakub Dan Pergelutannya Dengan Tuhan.

Yakub bergelut dengan malaikat yang dihantar Tuhan. Dia berkata, “Aku tidak akan membiarkan engkau pergi, jika engkau tidak memberkati aku!”. Lalu Dia berkata, ‘Namamu tidak akan disebutkan lagi Yakub, tetapi Israel sebab engkau telah bergumul melawan Tuhan dan manusia, dan engkau menang.’ ... Lalu diberkatinyalah Yakub di situ” (Kejadian 32:24-29). Jikalau kita serius tentang kehendak Tuhan atau tujuannya dalam hidup kita atau menuntut janji-janjiNya, kita mungkin perlu bergelut dengan Tuhan.

Pengajaran terakhir Paulus tentang pergelutan adalah untuk “Berdiri” (Efesus 6:13)

Tiga Prinsip Asas untuk “Berdiri”.

1. Rendahkan dirimu. Alkitab menyatakan, “Rendahkanlah dirimu di hadapan Tuhan, dan Ia akan meninggikan kamu” (Yakobus 4:10).

2. Percaya kepada Tuhan. Alkitab menyatakan, “Percayalah kepada TUHAN dengan segenap hatimu, dan janganlah bersandar kepada pengertianmu sendiri. Akulah Dia dalam segala lakumu, maka Ia akan meluruskan jalanmu” (Mazmur 3:5-6).

3. Patuhi Tuhan – ketahui kehendakNya dan lakukannya. Alkitab menyatakan, “Jika engkau baik-baik mendenyarkan suara TUHAN, Tuhanmu, dan melakukan dengan setia segala perintah-Nya yang kusampaikan kepadamu pada hari ini, maka TUHAN, Tuhanmu, akan mengangkat engkau di atas segala bangsa di bumi. Segala berkat ini akan datang kepadamu dan menjadi bagianmu, jika engkau mendengarkan suara TUHAN, Tuhanmu” (Ulangan 28:1-2).

Jangan ambil ringan perisai Tuhan. Beri perhatian dan dengan serius pasangkan seluruh perisai Tuhan. Sedari bahawa tidak ada perisai melindungi belakang kita. Kalau kita mengalah, belakang kita luas terbuka dan kita boleh dikalahkan. Setiap bahagian perisai Tuhan diberi untuk tujuan menyerang dan menahan. Kita mempunyai autoriti menahan serangan musuh kita dan panah api kejahatan mereka.

Semua petikan Alkitab adalah dari Alkitab Indonesia melainkan dinyatakan.

基督徒如同一名运动员

文：古纳南主任牧师

摔跤是一种体育运动，两人徒手相搏，使用各种技巧和技术，要摔倒对手而赢得比赛。摔角娱乐项目在英国颇受欢迎。在日本他们有相扑。相扑力士皆过着一种受到严格管制的生活方式。相扑协会很详细规定其力士的行为。例如，在涉及到力士的严重车祸时，因一些力士体格太大而不适合坐在方向盘后面，该协会禁止力士驾驶自己的车子。违反规则可能导致罚款和/或停止出赛，不仅对于犯规的力士，而且部屋の掌门人也一样受处罚。在加入相扑练习的时候，他们就要留长发来结顶髻，或丁髻，类似于江户时代的武士发型。

比赛只有一个回合，通常只持续几秒钟，或偶尔持续几分钟。传统上，相扑力士以其腰身和身体质量而闻名，这通常是相扑中的获胜因素。然而，以出色的技术，身体较小的力士可以控制和击败比他个子大的对手。相扑的获胜力士是那先推他的对手踏出圆圈者或用身体任何部分除了他的脚底部，压制他的对手著地者。

使徒保罗用不同的比喻描述信徒如同运动员。第一个比喻，信徒作为赛跑者。「…我们就该卸下各样重担和紧紧缠累的罪，以坚忍的心奔那摆在我们前路的路程，仰望我们信心的创始成终者耶稣，…」(来12:1-2)。我们要为耶稣而活，有如赛跑者。

第二个比喻，信徒是一个拳击手。「…我斗拳，不像打空气的。我克制己身，使它完全顺服，免得我传福音给别人，自己反而被淘汰了」(林前9:26-27)。作为一个拳击手，我们不像打影子的。我们必须知道谁是我们的对手和打败他。

第三个比喻，信徒是一个摔跤手。「因为我们的争战并不是对抗有血有肉的人，而是对抗那些执政的、掌权的、管辖这幽暗世界的，以及天空灵界的恶魔」(弗6:12)。我们不是对抗有血有肉的人，而是在属灵争战中。他们可能是人，却是恶魔在活动。

把信徒比作运动员的三个比喻能帮助我们了解如何过得胜的基督徒生活。

首先，我们是与自己摔跤—“摔跤是为基督而活”。

我们最大的敌人不是魔鬼，因为耶稣已经击败了他。我们最大的敌人是我们自己。保罗明白这一点。他说：「我克制己身，使它完全顺服，免得我传福音给别人，自己反而被淘汰了」(林前9:27)。保罗说：「我不会屈服于肉体的食欲和渴望，他告诉我们为什么」，「我也知道，住在我里面的，就是我肉体之中，没有善。…我觉得有个律，就是我愿意行善的时候，就有恶缠着我。因为，按着我里面的人，我喜欢神的律，但我看出肢体中另有个律和我内心的律交战，把我掳去，使我附从那肢体中罪的律。我真苦啊！谁能救

我脱离这必死的身體呢？感谢神，靠着我们的主耶稣基督就能！…」(罗7:18, 21-25)。罪有能力使我们服从我们的罪性。我们的斗争不仅是与魔鬼(有时它为我们做错的事被指责)。这是我们的罪性和我们属肉体的思想必须在基督耶稣里被更新。这是保罗谈论的操练，它将使我们能够过基督徒的生活。

我们不能胜过在我们生命中的罪恶权势。保罗说：「…谁能救我脱离这必死的身體呢？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)。耶稣来要给我们胜利胜过我们有罪的生活方式。我们的教育，地位或财富不能使我们胜过罪。为耶稣基督感谢神！在基督里，我们不受我们的罪性的控制。保罗告诉我们：「弟兄们，这样看来，我们不是欠肉体的债去顺从肉体而活。你们若顺从肉体活着，必定会死；若靠着圣灵把身体的恶行处死，就必存活。因为凡被神的灵引导的都是神的儿子」(罗8:12-14)。

不要依靠你自己的力量，而是要让圣灵在你身上工作，藉由顺服耶稣基督的主权。这就是为什么你藉着祷告和从神的话得喂养的交通能帮助你在基督耶稣里过一个得胜有余的生活。

第二，我们是与撒旦和他的国度摔跤

神的话告诉我们，他已经为我们准备了一副军装。保罗说：「所以，要拿起神所赐的全副军装，好在邪恶的日子能抵挡仇敌，并且完成了一切后还能站立得住」(弗6:13)。「因为我们的争战并不是对抗有血有肉的人，而是对抗那些执政的、掌权的、管辖这幽暗世界的，以及天空灵界的恶魔」(弗6:12)。

我们需要穿上七件神的军装(弗6:14-18)。

- 1. 用真理当作带子束腰**—穿上耶稣，他是真理。
- 2. 用公义当作护心镜遮胸**—唯有耶稣的宝血能使我们称义，在耶稣宝血遮盖之下能保护我们免受撒但的攻击。
- 3. 又用和平的福音当作预备走路的鞋穿在脚上**—作世上的盐和光。作受膏的见证人。做好准备并致力于分享福音，尽管有可能遇到的困难和危险。
- 4. 要拿信德当作盾牌**—信心是我们用来扑灭魔鬼一切烧着的箭(试探)的盾牌。信心是从听传讲的道和遵守神的道。
- 5. 要戴上救恩的头盔**—头盔保护头部。用神的道来更新你的心思意念，并抛锚于救恩的盼望中。神的话能打败那恶者。
- 6. 拿着圣灵的宝剑**—行在神的应许光中。神的话比一把两刃的剑更锋利。基督自己以“经上记着”来抵挡撒旦的试探(太4:4, 6, 7, 10)。
- 7. 要靠着圣灵，随时多方祷告祈求**—与神相交，常常祷告。让祷告好像你的呼吸，让祷告成为你的生活方式。祷告是赞美，敬拜神，感谢他，归荣耀给他和称颂他的圣名的一部分。

穿戴上神的整副军装之后，我们是基督徒运动员，在基督耶稣里得胜有余。

第三，我们是与神摔跤—“摔跤为得著神的祝福”。

要与神摔跤这很奇怪，我们怎么能获胜呢？与神摔跤不是为了要与他作斗争，而是要保持专注和坚持在神的旨意中，直到他赐予他所应许的福分。

换句话说，神要肯定知道你确实渴望他的旨意并相信他的应许。这是一个摔跤！圣经说：「三心二意的人，在他一切所行的路上都摇摆不定」(雅1:8)。当神看到你的决心和委身时，他会祝福你并打开天上的窗户。

这是在我们面对原有的CCC承包商的挑战时主给我的信息。撒但不喜欢我们在进行的工作，并试图阻止CCC的实现！神不只是用教会来建造一座建筑物，而是通过建造的过程，神在建造我们作为神的子民。在与神的摔跤中，他正在加强我们的信心和教导我们信靠和顺服。而不是质疑，“如果这是神的工作，怎么会发生这种事？”，我们与神的摔跤是表达我们要遵行神的旨意的渴望。

一个美好的例子是雅各与神的摔跤。

雅各与神差遣的天使摔跤。他说：「你不给我祝福，我就不让你走」。…和那人说：“你的名字不要再叫雅各，要叫以色列，因为你与神和人较力，都得了胜”…于是他在那里为雅各祝福」(创32:24-29)。如果我们认真看待神在我们生命中的旨意或目的，或支取他的应许，我们可能必须与神摔跤。

保罗对摔跤的最后教训是要「站立」(弗6:13)。

要「站立」的三个基本原则。

- 1. 谦卑自己。**圣经说道：「要在主面前谦卑，他就使你们高升」(雅4:10)。
- 2. 仰赖耶和華。**圣经说道：「你要专心仰赖耶和華，不可倚靠自己的聪明，6在你一切所行的路上都要认定他，他必使你的道路平直」(箴3:5-6)。
- 3. 顺服神**—知道他的旨意和遵行它。圣经说道：「你若留心听从耶和華—你神的话，谨守遵行他的一切诫命，就是我今日所吩咐你的，他必使你超乎地上的万国之上。你若听从耶和華—你神的话，这一切的福气必临到你身上，追随你」(申28:1-2)。

不要把神的军装当作理所当然。注意和认真地穿上神的整副军装。注意，没有护甲保护我们的背部。如果我们退缩，我们的背部是暴露的，而我们可以被打败。神赐给的每一件军装都是为了攻击和防御的目的。我们有权柄抵挡我们的敌人和恶者的火箭。

以上经文是采用中文圣经和合本修订版。



The CALL

From regret to significance... An inspiring true story

EASTER EVANGELISTIC AND REVIVAL MEETINGS

Regrets scar and haunt us. Can they be healed so that we can move on to live a life of significance? Peter, was all too familiar with personal failures. But he did not stay that way. For today, globally, millions have been impacted by Peter's legacy.

How can it be? A life of significance is not about who we are but Who calls us. Do you hear The Call?

For further information, visit www.facebook.com/calvarykl

Friday, 14 April 2017, 8pm

Saturday, 15 April 2017, 5pm

Sunday, 16 April 2017, 5pm

Calvary Convention Centre

Bahasa Malaysia (BM) Fellowship

BM is the mother tongue of 60% of the 31 million population in Malaysia, especially among the Orang Asli, East Malaysians and the Peranakan.

In addition, the foreign workers such as the Indonesians also converse in BM.

There are many BM speaking people in our midst which could include your loved ones, friends, neighbours and acquaintances.

As witnesses, perhaps you sometimes wonder how you can best help them to know Christ and discover life's purpose.

With this in mind, the BM Fellowship seeks to provide an avenue to help you reach out, disciple and meet the needs of these precious BM speaking people.

Come join us and bring your BM speaking friends to our quarterly BM Fellowship, on Sunday, 2 April 2017, at 11.30am, at Theatre 1, Level B2, Calvary Convention Centre.

Pastor David Seah will be bringing forth a message of encouragement on "The Victorious Life" (Hidup Berkemangan).

For enquiries, please call 03-89995532 ext 414.



AGM STEWARDSHIP DAY

21 APRIL 2017
FRIDAY | 7.30PM
CALVARY CHURCH
DAMANSARA HEIGHTS

A time for church members to take stock of the church's spiritual, physical and financial growth, as well as their own spiritual growth and development.

Mother's Day Service

Sunday, 14 May 2017 at 9am
Calvary Convention Centre

Mothers will be blessed by the message by Senior Associate Pastor Petrina Guneratnam, receive prayer, a gift and be appreciated through a special number.



WORSHIP SCHEDULE APRIL 2017

SATURDAY AT 5.00PM

Calvary Damansara Heights

- 01 Dr. George O. Wood
- 08 Associate Pastor Peter Ong
Communion
Water Baptism
- 15 Combined with Easter Sunday Service
- 22 Associate Pastor Timothy Ong
- 29 Associate Pastor David Seah

SUNDAY AT 9.00AM

Calvary Convention Centre

- 02 Dr. George O. Wood
- 09 Senior Associate Pastor Petrina Guneratnam
Communion
- 16 Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam
Easter Sunday Service
- 23 Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam
Deacons' Installation
- 30 Associate Pastor Timothy Ong

THIS MONTH'S GUEST SPEAKER



Dr. George O. Wood serves as the General Superintendent of the General Council of the Assemblies of God, USA. He is a member of the denomination's Executive Leadership Team and Executive Presbytery.

The church has over 12,900 congregations in the United States with over three million members and adherents.

Dr. Wood also serves as Chairman of the World Assemblies of God Fellowship as well as the global co-chair for Empowered21.

He previously served as its general secretary of the AG for 14 years. He pastored Newport-Mesa Christian Center in Costa Mesa, California, for 17 years.

Water Baptism

Date: Saturday, 8 April 2017
Time: 5.00pm
Venue: Calvary Damansara Heights

Youth Fellowship (CY Nights)

Dates: Saturdays, 8 & 22 April 2017
Time: 7:30pm
Venue: Calvary Damansara Heights

Chinese Fellowship

Date: Sunday, 30 April 2017
Time: 11.30am
Venue: Theatrette 1, Level B2,
Calvary Convention Centre
Speaker: Associate Pastor Peter Ong



CALVARY CHURCH (Assemblies of God)
CHRIST-CENTRED • EVANGELICAL • MISSIONARY
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1 Jalan Jalil Perkasa 1, Bukit Jalil, 57100 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
Tel: 03 8999 5532 Website: <http://www.calvary.org.my> Email: email@calvary.org.my

Senior Pastor Rev. Tan Sri Datuk Dr. Prince Guneratnam