

CALVARY NEWS

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Heaven's Open Windows

By Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam

“Bring all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be food in My house, and try Me now in this,” says the Lord of hosts, “If I will not open for you the windows of heaven and pour out for you such blessing that there will not be room enough to receive it.”

MALACHI 3:10

IT IS A PRIVILEGE TO GIVE TO GOD who is the Creator of all things. Malachi says that you are to bring your tithes to the storehouse which is the house of God where you are spiritually fed. The reason given is that the supply in God's house will not run out. God gives a challenge to prove Him or to test Him to see if He will not open the windows of heaven and pour out His blessing upon you. God delights to respond with gracious provision to His children who faithfully tithe to Him. Your giving will not be in vain.

The tithe (one tenth), however, is not the only thing that belongs to God. The tithe is that portion you give to mean that everything you have belongs to God. The Bible says, “Do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own? For you were bought with a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's” (1 [Corinthians 6:19-20](#)).

Abraham believed that everything he possessed belonged to God. Therefore Abraham believed in tithing. When God asked him to give his only son, Isaac, to be

sacrificed on the altar, Abraham had no problem obeying God. When we fail to tithe, we will face difficulty in obeying God. That is why tithing is a wonderful practice in the life of a believer to help him to walk in continued obedience to God. The principle of “Give and it shall be given to you” was evident in Abraham's life. He experienced the “opened windows of heaven”. He was blessed because he was living in obedience to God. The Bible in [Genesis 24:1](#) says: “Now Abraham was old, well advanced in age; and the Lord had blessed Abraham in all things” which means he was blessed materially, physically and spiritually.

In the New Testament, Jesus said, “Give, and it will be given to you: good measure, pressed down shaken together, and running over will be put into your bosom. For with the same measure that you use, it will be measured back to you” ([Luke 6:38](#)). God uses your giving as the means to measure the blessings He wants to give you.


Let us consider the story of the rich young ruler, found in [Mark 10:17-22](#). As Jesus was going out on the road, the young ruler came running and knelt before Him and asked Him, “What shall I do that I may inherit eternal life?” We can

Continued on page seventeen...

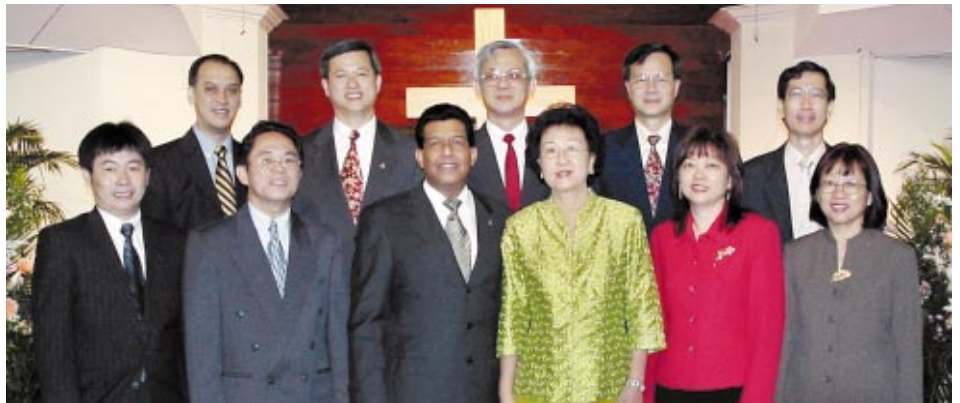
Introducing our 2004 Deacons and Auditors

On the Stewardship Day on 19 March 2004, the members of the Church confirmed the ministry of Katherine Lee Lin Choo, Lawrence Mak Siew Hong, Lum Siew Heng and Stephen Liu Sow Yin as Deaconess and Deacons respectively, of the Church for a two-year term. Lee Tuck Heng and Clarence Ng were confirmed as Auditors for 2004.

On Sunday, 28 March 2004, Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam installed the four newly elected Deacons together with the remaining three, Han Joke Kwang, Patrick Wong Sing Fah and Bernadette Foo Fong Lian who are serving the second year of their term and the two Auditors. The congregations of the Satellite Churches and the 5pm Worship Service witnessed the installation via video.

Senior Pastor exhorted them to be faithful with the gifts and responsibilities that they have been entrusted with and to do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ (Romans 12:6-8; 1 Corinthians 4:1-2 and Colossians 3:15-17). 

Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam leading in prayer for the Deacons and Auditors



L to R Front Row: Clarence Ng, Han Joke Kwang, Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam, Senior Associate Pastor Petrina Guneratnam, Katherine Lee, Bernadette Tay
Back Row: Lee Tuck Heng, Stephen Liu, Patrick Wong, Lawrence Mak, Lum Siew Heng


Stewardship Day

Members show their support of the building project



The members of the Church standing up to indicate their support of the Calvary Convention Centre

The sense of God's presence and excitement that filled the sanctuary on Stewardship Day on 19 March 2004 was almost tangible. Firstly, the Church "business" was completed in record time! Then with the aid of advanced technology, the majority of us saw visuals of the proposed Calvary Convention Centre from various angles, for the very first time. By no means final, these visuals took our breath away!

Slightly over a year ago, at the Extraordinary General Meeting held on 24 January 2003, an overwhelming majority of members resolved to give the approval to purchase a choice plot of land at Bukit Jalil. Since then, the land has been purchased and the architect chosen. Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam gave us the opportunity to indicate our commitment to support the building of the Calvary Convention Centre. Once again there was an overwhelming response by the members who stood up as an expression of their support and commitment. 

Please turn to page eleven for more information on the Calvary Convention Centre

A family is 'discipled' at a Life Group



Taman Pertama Life Group, Cheras

“Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

Matthew 28:19-20 (NIV)

The Great Commission in the Bible exhorts us to make disciples. In our Easter Presentation 2003, we saw many come into the saving knowledge of Jesus Christ. Moses Elizha and his family were 'discipled' at the Taman Pertama Life Group. The following is his testimony:

“ My family and I came to know about Calvary Church's Easter Musical in April 2003 through a banner in Bukit Jalil.

Being curious about the musical, and knowing it was free, the next day, we went for the presentation. The presentation really touched my heart because I realised that Jesus Christ sacrificed His life for our sins.

My wife and I immediately responded to the altar where we

rededicated our lives to the Lord. God touched us in a powerful way and we felt His presence real in our lives.

A few weeks later, upon the Church's invitation, we attended a high-tea for those who responded during the Easter presentation. We felt at home with the encouragement and guidance given by the Pastors and the brothers and sisters in Christ.

Without hesitation, we attended the Cheras Satellite

Church. We were then introduced to a Life Group, led by Ong Keng Hock and his wife, Agnes, and attended the Life Group regularly. We found the Life Group a great blessing, where the prayers, fellowship and Word of God taught helped us in our faith.

A few months later, upon the constant encouragement of the LG, my whole family took a step of faith by taking water baptism. In December, my children went to the Youth Camp, where my daughter

received the baptism in the Holy Spirit.

God has blessed us tremendously in the past year. So, during Easter this year, we were thrilled that we were given the opportunity to serve as ushers. Our desire is that many others will come to know Him and experience His blessings like we did.

All glory and honour to God ! ” 🙏



Moses Elizha



His wife, Sarah



Their children, Joseph...



and Naomi

If you do not belong to a LG, join one today.

**For more information,
please call Pastoral Care Department at 03-7720 8302.**



Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam and the leaders stretching their hands in prayer for the Church

Ministering With Compassion By Audrey Kum

1 February 2004

What makes a person successful? Our Leadership Conference speaker, Rev. Bob Houlihan got the attention of his audience as it was something everyone wants to know. He zeroed in on the habits that we Christians can form in our lives to make us successful. "Our thoughts reap an action and an action reaps a habit. A habit reaps character and character reaps a destiny," he said. Habits—unconscious patterns that we develop in our lives can shape our future, whether for our good or not.

At the first session of the Conference which was held in conjunction with our 5pm Worship Service at Damansara Heights, Rev Houlihan gave us ten spiritual habits of effective leaders. The leader seeks the presence of God. There must be a constant thirst and hunger for God's presence. The leader lives life as an adventure with God, seizing every opportunity to live joyfully with God. The leader endeavours to reproduce himself, always looking for others to train to become better. The leader keeps his eye on the horizon, always on the look out for what God is going to do. The leader sees beyond the boundaries, beyond limitations and "thinks out of the box". The leader is



Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam

restless with status quo, seeking always to avoid fixations and looks for the new thing that God wants to do. The leader knows when to release goals and how to hold things loosely. The leader does not take himself too seriously! He must have a great sense of humour. The leader has a bent for the miraculous, forever looking for God-given, non-human solutions. The leader develops an abundance mentality, believing that God is able to do all things as nothing is impossible with Him.

2 February 2004

The session with Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam is one that the leaders listen to with a great sense of expectation. What is God going to say to the Church through Senior Pastor? What is His direction for our Church? The message came clearly

and emphatically to all of us gathered at the sanctuary of Pusat Aktiviti Calvary in Damansara Perdana : "We are to walk the walk of faith." As Senior Pastor said, "God's message is simple. It is man who complicates it. Our responsibility is to listen to Him and obey Him!"

Referring to Psalms 1 and Joshua 1:6-8, Senior Pastor stressed the importance of the Word of God. Faith and the Word cannot be separated. We must know His Word, meditate on it, believe it and act upon it. Then we will see God accomplish things for His honour and His glory. We must be strong and courageous and a people of faith.

The walk of faith is spiritual. God's ways and His wisdom are higher than ours (Isaiah 55:8, 1 Corinthians 23-25). Confusion results when we mix the spiritual with the natural mind. How important then it is for us to have the mind of Christ. The walk of faith is one that does not compromise. A price has to be paid. Our Master, Jesus Christ paid with His life. Are we prepared to do the same?

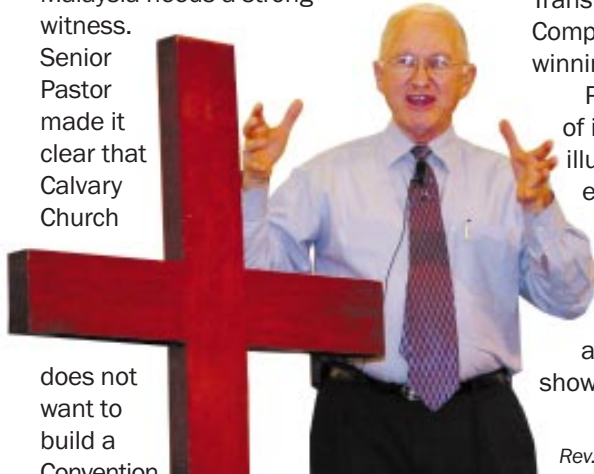
The walk of faith is a journey. Each



step is a step of faith. Bible faith is not blind. It has substance—His promises, visions, dreams and revelations. Senior Pastor brought out a very interesting point. God shows us the finished product, the end result, but never “in-betweens”. He told Moses to go to Egypt to tell His people of the land that He would bring them to. This was clearly described in Deuteronomy 8:7-10. But God never mentioned the wilderness! He gave Joseph dreams indicating that others will bow down to him but did not show him the pit and the prison. The key is to continue walking in faith till we experience the fulfilment of His promise. The journey is not always easy. We may be called to make sacrifices. Will we be ready?

The Lord has given Calvary Church a vision to reach Kuala Lumpur for Him. Malaysia needs a strong witness.

Senior Pastor made it clear that Calvary Church



does not want to build a Convention

Centre for the sake of having a monument to be proud of but we want it to be completely filled with committed believers who will be evangelistic and willing to give to build God’s kingdom. It is amazing what God is doing through our Church. Even while we are preparing to build the Convention Centre that will seat 5,000, which will cost a lot of money, our Faith Promise Budget has not been cut back and our Faith

Promise giving has increased greatly! God is going to use the Church to give to His work. “You cannot give and not get blessed!” Senior Pastor said emphatically.

Before closing his session by leading us to praise our Almighty God and praying for the Church, we were challenged to continue to walk together, the walk of faith and to do what God would have us do as His Church.

2-3 February 2004

Rev. Bob Houlihan, in the next four sessions that stretched over Monday and Tuesday, covered the following topics: “The Source of Compassion—The Power of Vision”, “Motivated By Compassion—Developing the Heart of Jesus”, Transforming Through Compassion—Being Agents of Transformation and “The Fruit of Compassion—A Spirit Empowered, Soul-winning Church”.

Punctuating his sessions with lots of interesting and humorous illustrations garnered from his many experiences over the years in the mission field, Rev Houlihan skilfully covered the above areas.

We learnt that compassion involves hearing, seeing, feeling, action and touch. In our quest to show compassion, our Lord will be with

Rev. Bob Houlihan

us. He will not fail us and He pledges never to forsake us. We were given “homework”. Each one was asked to put on paper our vision/mission statement which would help us stay focused as we lived to fulfil His vision for us.

He challenged us to live by the beatitudes found in Matthew 5 and not by the system of the world. He highlighted the central key to Jesus’ teaching—humility. While showing compassion, we often think of it as merely a transaction but Rev. Houlihan helped us to see that we must seek God for a transformation in the lives of those whom we help. We are to give without asking for anything in return. We are to show compassion just because we love people and because Jesus loves them.

As agents of transformation, we must live with the end in view. We are to complement one another and not compete with each other. We must have a biblical worldview and see with grace-filled eyes. As we “hold back those stumbling to the slaughter” (Proverbs 24:11) we are to remember that the battle is the Lord’s.

Staying tuned to the Holy Spirit, we can be givers of hope, an irresistible influence and a bridge-building people serving all and not just the body of Christ.



Break times for light refreshments at Pusat Aktiviti Calvary classrooms and lunch at two restaurants nearby were great times to fellowship



All geared and ready to put into practice what we had learnt the past few days, we were given one last but important bit of insight into ministering with compassion when we were praying at the altar at the conclusion of the Conference. Senior Pastor exhorted us to let our compassion be an overflow of our passion for Christ otherwise it would be no different from the good works done by others who do not even know Christ. 🙏

Better safe than sorry!

By Shereen Wong

The Church organised the "Better Safe Than Sorry" City Survival Training for Ladies on Saturday, 14 February 2004. More than 500 ladies attended the four-hour session and went away thoroughly enriched and blessed.

Below are some of the feedback received:

"I learnt a lot about self-protection. I am grateful to the Church for the practical expression of care for the women."

"A morning well spent. Should repeat the session for others."

"So blessed. I wish I had brought all my friends."

"This is a genuine 'Valentine's gift'—love and compassion in action."

"The presenter is so interesting and hilarious. The four hours passed so fast."

"I am so glad I brought my daughters."

"Good for Calvary Church—doing things to meet real needs."



Captain K. Balasupramaniam, Director of Training of MVFRA Fire & Rescue Academy giving helpful and practical tips to the ladies



The "care and love" were also expressed by more than 20 women who came out early at 7am to pack the refreshment for the large crowd. The numerous requests for the presenter to do the session at the offices of some of the attendees further indicated the great benefit which resulted from the session. 🙏

L.I.G.H.T. and Young Professionals

Christians urged to be responsible Malaysian citizens

By Thean Lee Cheng



Speakers Rev. Wong Kim Kong (far left), Teng Luen Foong (third from left), Associate Pastor Richard Yun (fourth from left), Associate Pastor Timothy Ong and Assistant Pastor David Seah (sixth and seventh from left) with the participants supporting the Government's call to vote in the general election!

On Saturday, 13 March 2004, a week before Malaysia's 11th general election, 90 participants attended the Hi-Tea Talk, "The Responsible Malaysian Citizen", organised by the L.I.G.H.T. (Singles) and Young Professionals Ministries at Pusat Aktiviti Calvary.

This event was held to instil a greater awareness concerning responsible citizenship and active Christian involvement in political issues pertaining to the nation. The following are some important reminders given by the speakers:

"The government is ordained by God and its role is to rule and direct the affairs of the state through the enforcement of law and order." — Rev. Wong Kim Kong

"Whether one is in politics, or out of politics, trust and obey God, be humble in all that you do and love your neighbour as yourself." — Her Excellency, Rosy Senanayake, Sri Lankan High Commissioner, via a video interview

"Our role, as Christians, is to work hard and contribute to the well-being of the country, participate in the political process, get involved in social action and promote peace and harmony." — Teng Luen Foong

Associate Pastor Richard Yun closed with a devotion encouraging the participants to seek God for His purpose and will for every aspect of their life, in order that they would be responsible citizens and be an effective Christian testimony. Based on the feedback received, the majority of the participants indicated that they understood well what was shared and were able to apply the principles in their lives. This talk had indeed encouraged the participants to fulfil their God-given roles as Christian citizens of Malaysia! 🙏



Praying together at Damansara Heights before going out to tract



Distributing car stickers, posters, buntings, leaflets and selling t-shirts (another form of publicity!)...Ministry briefings after the Dedication Service at Putra Stadium



Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam praying the prayer of dedication at the Dedication Service on 7 April 2004



Jesus is alive in POWER!

By Audrey Kum

“He’s alive!!!” This was the resounding declaration of this year’s Easter presentation. The Gospel was told by a storyteller played by Corina Tan from the perspective of Nicodemus and Joseph of Arimathea, members of the Sanhedrin, played by Kenny Cheah and Chris Rajan respectively. All three did excellently!

Since Calvary Church began producing Easter presentations in 1997, a Singing Cross has almost always been featured. However, this year saw a change. The 100 Choir members found themselves becoming actors as well. Together with the 65-member Creative Arts Team and the 45-member Children’s Choir, they succeeded beautifully in communicating the immense love of Jesus who died on the cross for the sins of mankind.

We thank God for those who played a part in our Easter evangelistic thrust: those in production, those who invited friends, prayed, displayed car stickers, posters and buntings at their work and business premises, gave out tracts, sent e-mails and picture message invitations via their mobile telephones, those who served as Altar Workers, First-Aid, Grounds and Security personnel, those involved in publicity, the sponsors and the parents

who ferried their children for practices. As a result of the commitment, hard work and sacrifice of all who participated, the Lord blessed us with over 13,000 people who came over the three nights and over 500 responses at the altar.

Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam preached the Word nightly. He explained that Jesus died on the cross but is alive in power so that we can be delivered from the

curse of sin, death and poverty. Jesus, as our sin-bearer, offers forgiveness, healing and deliverance from our sinful nature. Jesus has broken the power of death. He gives new life and prospers those who obey Him.

Indeed we serve a powerful and risen Saviour!



More overleaf

Senior Pastor sharing the Word. Praise God for the many who came to receive Jesus Christ as their Lord and Saviour nightly

Praise God for the many who came to the presentation





alive in POWER

at 8pm on 9-11 April 2004 at Putra Stadium, Bukit Jalil

The storyteller



Nicodemus and Joseph of Arimathea in Jerusalem

Jesus is baptised by John the Baptist



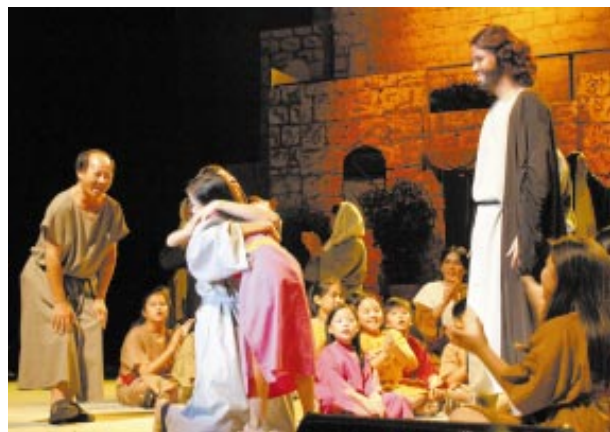
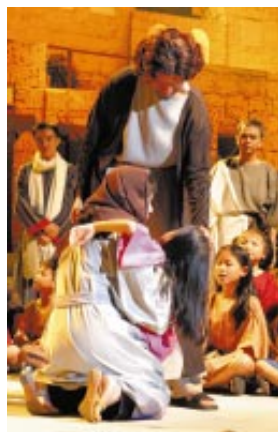
Blessed is the King of Israel



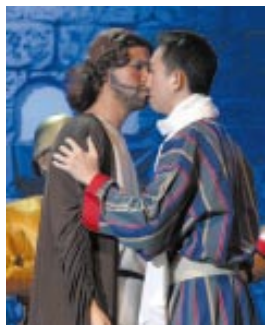
The Sanhedrin (on far right) watch the popular Jesus suspiciously



Jesus said, "Let the children come to Me. Don't stop them."



Judas betrays Jesus



Jesus heals Malchus before being arrested



Jesus at Gethsemane before he was arrested

Photographs by Onny Maathai, Audrey Kum and Bonnie Bautista



alive in POWER

Jesus died on the cross but rose again on the third day

Mary learns to forgive as Jesus cried, "Father forgive them..."



He's alive!



Easter Sunday Worship Service

Calvary Convention Centre Building Fund is launched

Impacting nations... Transforming lives



Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam



Artist's impression of the Calvary Convention Centre

Easter Sunday, 11 April 2004 was a historical day for Calvary Church. Deacon Stephen Liu, when introducing the launch, brought home the reality of what we, as a Church, were embarking on. He said, "God willing, three years from now, we will be gathering in what we will call the Calvary Convention Centre to worship the Lord and give Him glory."



L to R: Deacons Stephen Liu, Bernadette Tay and Han Joke Kwang

Deaconess Bernadette Tay reminded us that the Convention Centre is birthed out of Calvary Church's 21st century evangelistic vision to reach the world for Christ. This vision was confirmed by prophecies at the turn of the year 2000 by men and women of God from around the world. Conceived with a desire to provide a holistic ministry, it will have a 5,000 seat auditorium, an educational institute and an administrative centre. The Centre will spur Christian growth and raise a

generation of new believers for the furtherance of God's kingdom. She then read the Mission Statement found in the special booklet given to all who attended the combined Easter Sunday Worship Service at Putra Stadium, Bukit Jalil that morning. In a nutshell, the Church seeks to impact nations and transform lives for the glory of God.

Deacon Han Joke Kwang, the Church Treasurer, told the congregation that we were believing and trusting God to sow 10% of the building cost which is RM 5 million. In the months ahead, the Committee will be unveiling a "Raising Friends and Funds" programme and "Bite Size Commitments" in which all can be involved. The key word is "participation". With the faith of a mustard seed, we can move forward, hands joined together, to fulfil God's vision for Calvary Church.

The congregation supporting the launch in prayer



In his Easter message, Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam referred to an account of a sinful woman who received deliverance and forgiveness from Jesus (Matthew 26:6-13). She was changed and became a spiritual and godly woman. In her gratitude, she broke her alabaster box of perfume and anointed Jesus with it in preparation for His burial.

Judas was unhappy with what the woman did as he felt the money could be given to the poor. But Jesus pointed out that the poor would always be with them but He would not be with them for long. There will always be some people



Senior Pastor leading in prayer for the people who sowed the seed of faith

who think like Judas. This time, when we give, it will not be to prepare for His burial but His soon return. Harvestime is only for a season and we are to work while it is still day (John 9:4). The fields are ready for harvest (John 4:35).

Senior Pastor also referred to Exodus 35:4-6, 20 to 36:6 where God told Moses what to do for the building of the Tabernacle. He commanded Moses to take an offering from those with a willing heart. God was at work. He gave the people the skills they needed. We cannot build unless God works and we depend on Him.

At the end of his message, Senior Pastor held an "alabaster jar" in his hand. He then took out a hammer and broke the jar. In it was the pledge he made towards the launch of the Building Fund. He urged us to emulate the woman's example—to break our "alabaster box" and sow a seed faith for the construction of our Calvary Convention Centre.

With grateful and willing hearts, we made our pledges and sowed our seeds of faith towards the Building Fund. 🙏

Royal Rangers minister in Bintulu

By Jonathan Lim

On Saturday, 13 March 2004, a team of six Royal Rangers departed for Calvary Church Bintulu, Sarawak for a mission trip. This mission trip was a follow-up to our trip last year when we trained their leaders to start the programme in the outreach. This time we ministered at the outreach, promoted the Royal Rangers and assisted them in their first Royal Rangers camp.



L to R: Commander Jim Guneratnam sharing the Word during the Sunday Service; Lam Kah Meng and Samuel Soong sharing testimonies; Jonathan Lim and Samuel Yee doing a skit The sixteen Rangers trying out their newly acquired skills through a game at their camp

Senior Commander Jim Guneratnam led the team which consisted of Outpost Commander Eddy Law and Expedition Rangers Lam Kah Meng, Jonathan Lim, Samuel Yee and Samuel Soong. On our arrival, we ministered during the youth service, presented a skit, testimony and devotion to the youth from the parable of the treasure in the field, encouraging each one of them that they were precious in God's sight. The youth there were very enthusiastic about our visit as well as the upcoming camp.

Dinner that night was together with Pastor Francis Sim, the lay-pastor there, and we are truly grateful for the hospitality that he extended to us throughout our stay.

The next morning, we

arose early to minister at the Sunday services.

Commander Jim shared the Word to the Iban and English congregations who were very receptive and the team took turns to give testimonies on how God touched them through the Royal Rangers.

That afternoon, we left for the camp in Similajau National Park that is located by the beach. The campsite was beautiful and it did not take the sixteen Rangers who attended the camp very long to set it up and settle down.

The opening rally was started off with prayer and then a time of worship. We felt God's presence through the songs that they sang, and it was something new to us as they were mostly in Bahasa Malaysia. To me, this really reaffirmed the fact that

God is a God for all, not just a certain race or a certain language-group, but One who is worthy of all praise in all languages. It really touched me to see them in heartfelt worship.

The next day, we taught them various skills such as tool craft, fire craft and rope craft. For lunch, we taught them how to make a simple meal using aluminium foil and it was interesting to see how well they acquired these new skills. In the afternoon, we enjoyed a time of fun and games, interacting with them and pitting our skills against each other.

During the council-of-fire that night, we lit a big fire, praised and worshipped God, listened to various testimonies from them and responded to a devotion

shared by Commander Jim. Then we saw the skits and song presentations and we were truly blessed to see how they integrated their faith in the skits they performed. The council-of-fire that night ended with some campfire songs and games.

This mission trip has been a great blessing to each one of us differently. I hope that we have been a blessing to them as much as they have been a blessing to us. We have seen their lifestyles, most of which are not what we would be willing to go through and yet they burn with a desire to serve and love God. As we returned home, we were glad to have seen and learnt new things. We are now filled with a desire to serve God even more. 🙏

Calvary Nursery Care (CNC)

Nursery Ministry holds fellowship

By Reuben Kee

The Calvary Nursery Care (CNC) Workers' Fellowship held on 20 March 2004 was an enjoyable one. We had opportunity to move around to chat with each other from the different Satellite Churches.

We had a good time hearing from God about putting our lives right with Him through a video by Joyce Meyer entitled, "The Hidden Man". That message dealt with practical issues. The inner man is very different from the outer man. It is not worth hiding anything from God as He sees it anyway. This is particularly important for us to know as teachers of the future leaders of the Church. We came expecting and were well fed by the Word of God.



We then adjourned to a mouthwatering pot bless meal prepared by the capable hands of the teachers and helpers. While eating, some valuable input was gathered on how to improve and see further growth in the CNC Ministry and also how we can encourage one another. 🙏

Missionettes

Missionettes receive awards

By Sam Shin San

Fifteen minutes before the “much awaited” annual Missionettes Award Celebration began, some girls from the Stars Clubs were seen giving out programme sheets to parents and guests. At 5pm sharp, Catherine Lim, our Missionettes Coordinator introduced our two emcees for the evening—Sponsors Low Mei Leong and Anna Cheah. They led the congregation in a time of worship together with the musicians from the Girls Only Club.

A video was shown to give a little insight into what the Missionettes Ministry has to offer. The awards ceremony started with the presentation of badges and certificates by Jim Guneratnam to the girls (and

Jim Guneratnam pinning an award on a Daisy with Missionettes Coordinator Catherine Lim looking on



The Rainbows, Daisies and Prims presenting a song entitled “God Is Big”



Senior Associate Pastor Petrina Guneratnam crowning an Honour Star

some boys) from the Rainbows Club all the way up to the Girls Only Club. This year, two Daisies, one Prim, 11 Stars and one Girls Only received the Honour Award.

The Rainbows, Daisies and Prims presented a song entitled “God Is Big”. Then, Sharolyn Jeyanthi, Honour girl from the Girls Only Club, shared her testimony after her commissioning exercise by Senior Associate Pastor Petrina Guneratnam and having been charged by Coordinator Catherine Lim.

The Girls Only and the Friends Clubs presented a very meaningful skit and

song entitled “I Will Stand” to remind us that we should always stand firm for God through all circumstances and always be a living testimony for Him wherever we are. Then came the time everybody was waiting for—the crowning ceremony. One by one, 11 Honour Stars were escorted up to the stage by their parents who presented them with a gold bracelet and Bible pin each. Senior Associate Pastor Petrina Guneratnam crowned them and Coordinator Catherine Lim charged and challenged them to continually walk closely to

the Lord. Senior Associate Pastor Petrina then prayed for all the Honour recipients. Later, the Honour Stars presented a beautiful song and dance entitled “Thank You”.

The programme ended with the girls singing the Missionettes song. Specially wrapped cookies were given to everyone who attended the event. Much effort and practice finally paid off when the ceremony went on smoothly. Indeed it was an event worth remembering... especially for the Honour Girls. 🙏

CW Commission Sunday

Children commissioned



Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam praying for the children

The song presented by the children was accompanied by a dance

On 7 March 2004, 56 Carpenter’s Workshop children who are now 14 years old, were commissioned to join the adult congregation. Associate Pastor Richard Yun presented them to the congregation. They pledged their commitment to the Lord to join the adult Worship Service, participate in worship, prayer, communion, giving and evangelism and to live their lives as a testimony for God. After the congregation responded by welcoming them and pledging to pray and believe God with them to keep their commitments, Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam prayed for them. That morning, the children presented a song and dance with live music accompaniment they provided and Teo Lyn Li shared her testimony. 🙏

observe several things from this account.

The young man had the right approach and posture. He knelt down before Jesus. He went to the right person to ask his question—Jesus, the Good Teacher, who could give him the right answer. He asked a good question. He wanted to know what he must do so that he could live with His Maker forever. He was religious. He knew the commandments and told Jesus that he kept them from his youth. Jesus knew that it takes more than religiosity to get to heaven. With love and compassion, Jesus said, “One thing you lack: Go your way, sell what you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, take up the cross and follow Me” (v21). He had a problem with what Jesus asked of him because he was a wealthy man. Sorrowfully, he went away, unable to obey Jesus. The Bible says, “But he was sad at this word, and went away sorrowful, for he had great possessions” (v22). Evidently, he must not have been a tither.

He trusted his wealth more than the cross, the cross that was foolishness to the Greek (those outside the kingdom of God) and a stumbling block to the Jews (those who depend on religion) but salvation to those who will believe. The cross meant he had to give up trusting in himself. It meant a crucified life with Christ and the belief that God is the source of true wealth and life.

The rich young ruler had been confronted with the principle found in [Luke 16:13](#): “No servant can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon.” What was wrong with this young ruler? His faith and his trust were not in God but in his riches. His riches were his lord and not God. Every time you stand at the crossroads and have to

choose between God and another, whom will you choose and whom will you trust more? The principle applies not only to money but also your relationships. Who you choose will determine whether or not you



will be conformed to the image of the Lord Jesus Christ. You cannot serve two masters.

The Bible in [1 Timothy 6:9-10](#) warns against the dangers of the desire to be rich and of the love of money: “But those who desire to be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and harmful lusts which drown men in destruction and perdition. For the love of money is the root of all kinds of evil, for which some have strayed from the faith in their greediness, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.”

The Bible also teaches that, if you diligently obey the commandments of the Lord, He will bring blessings upon you. “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 2:1-2](#)). To those who make Christ Lord and who obey Him and bring their tithes, gifts, offerings and whatever God has blessed them with, to Him, God will open the windows of heaven and will bless them.

When God pours out His blessings, how do you handle them? Be faithful with what He has given

you, whether it is little or much. God wants to bless you and increase your boundaries but He will not do so if you are not faithful with what you already have. Jesus said in [Luke 16:10-12](#): “He who is faithful in

what is least is faithful also in much; and he who is unjust in what is least is unjust also in much. Therefore if you have not been faithful in the unrighteous mammon, who will commit to your trust the true riches? And if you have not been faithful in what is another man's, who will give you what is

your own?” David is a good example of this principle. He was faithful in little, looking after sheep and protecting them from the bears and lions. When God needed a king, He chose David because he was faithful in little. God promoted him from shepherd boy to king over the nation of Israel because he was faithful with the blessings of God.

Do you want God to open the windows of heaven and pour out His blessings upon you? Bring your tithes into His storehouse. Recognise that everything you have belongs to Him. Be willing to take up the cross and follow Jesus as Lord of your life. Obey His commandments and be faithful with what He has already blessed you with and be ready to receive His blessings—good measure, pressed down shaken together and running over... The tithe and offerings are God's method of meeting all the needs of the church and yours. If you have not, it is because you give not. God loves a cheerful giver. “For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also” ([Matthew 6:21](#)). 🙏

All Bible quotations are from the New King James Version.

Golden Eagles

Golden Eagles explore Pulau Ketam

By Richard Lee

Ninety Golden Eagles, with much excitement, enjoyed their morning coffee and herbal tea at the Church foyer before being fed with the Word of God by Associate Pastor Timothy Ong during the devotion. Pastor Timothy prayed for God's protection and strength for the two bus loads of Golden Eagles and their non-Christian friends whom they invited along with them on the trip.



The journey on the ferry was very lively as the tour guide delighted us with Gospel songs in Hokkien via the loudspeaker. In between, she pointed out various villages that we passed. The fishing village that we went to was inhabited by the Hokkien, Hainanese and the *Orang Asli*.

At the fish farm, many of us came out from the ferry to watch how they rear fish in the open sea. The long house by the seaside, called the "Natural Kelong fishing pond" is a good spot for fishing enthusiasts who can stay overnight for a fee.

At noon, we had our lunch of fresh crabs, prawns, fish and other dishes. We ate to our hearts' content. Some tried the popular "hor chien" (fried oysters with eggs). Next, it was time to go shopping for dried prawns, sotong, ikan bilis and fresh seafood to take home with us.

Praise the Lord for strength to enjoy this adventurous and memorable trip on 20 March 2004. Many thanks to Pastor Timothy and all the helpers who took good care of the Golden Eagles! 🙏

Lunch-Hour Fellowship

Praise and worship in the heart of the city

By Lily Wee

While other office staff chose to work in their offices or to go shopping in nearby malls such as KLCC, 74 people chose to attend the Praise Concert held on Friday, 12 March 2004 during the Lunch Hour Fellowship in our Ampang Satellite Church.

The Worship Team led in worship before Associate Pastor Steven Kum shared an inspiring exhortation on God's love. Ten responded for prayer and six rededicated their lives to the Lord. The Team then led in worship again before the fellowship over food. It was a great way to spend the lunch hour! 🙏



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