

# CALVARYNEWS

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Church Leaders'  
Installation 2019

The Church is Christ  
in the World

Stressing on Your  
Mind



# THE CHURCH IS CHRIST IN THE WORLD

BY SENIOR PASTOR PRINCE GUNERATNAM

**T**he Bible describes the church as the body of Christ (1 Corinthians 12:27). Therefore, it is vital that we understand the significance of every believer in Christ, who is a member of the church, for they represent Christ in the world.

Jesus said, *“Now I say to you that you are Peter, and upon this Rock I will build my church, and all the powers of hell will not conquer it”* (Matthew 16:18). The Rock that Jesus was referring to was the confession Peter made, *“You are the Christ, the Son of the living God”* (Matthew 16:16 NKJV).

## a) “The Rock”

The Apostle Paul declared, *“For no one can lay any foundation other than the one we already have – Jesus Christ”* (1 Corinthians 3:11) and *“For they drank the spiritual rock that travelled with them, and that rock was Christ”* (1 Corinthians 10:4). Jesus Christ is the Rock, the head of the church and we are the body of Christ. The Apostle Peter declared, *“And you are living stones that*

*God is building into his spiritual temple. What's more, you are his holy priests. Through the mediation of Jesus Christ, you offer spiritual sacrifices that please God*" (1 Peter 2:5). As the body of Christ, we are partakers of His divine nature (2 Peter 1:4). We are to be witnesses of God's saving grace, living transformed lives for the world to see, know, and believe that Christ is the way, the truth, and the life. The way the world is going to know Jesus Christ is through the church. The church must be the living proof of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

**b) "I will build my church"**

The church is the will of God. Therefore, no power in hell or on earth can defeat the church. The church does not depend upon human effort to defend or protect the church. The church is predestined to be victorious.

**c) "The powers of hell" or "the gates of Hades"**

The Bible refers to the gates of Hell (Hades) as a place where Satan and his demons reside. It is where Satan's throne is established and wicked schemes are planned. However, we can be confident the church will be victorious, and Satan and his demons can never destroy the church of Jesus Christ. In history, powerful political men and governments were never able to crush or defeat the church. In fact, the churches grew in number and are stronger, even today, and will be till Christ returns.

**1. THE CHURCH NEEDS TO HAVE THE RIGHT PERSPECTIVE OF HERSELF**

The church is to be holy. The Bible says, "*You must be holy because I am holy*" (1 Peter 1:16). The church belongs to God and exists to worship God. The church is to be apostolic. The church is sent by God to the world in order that the world might know Him. If the church fails to understand its purpose, then it exists in vain. Archbishop

William Temple said, "The church is the only cooperative society in the world which exists for the benefit of its non-members." The church has a Great Commission and that is, "*Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptising 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).

Everything that pertains to the kingdom of God is contrary to the kingdom of this world. We are the body of Christ, called to live the life that the world will see Christ in us. The church is not just an organisation. It is an organism. The church has the life of Christ that is pulsating in us that needs to be seen by the world that is desperately in need of God's saving grace. Jesus said to His disciples before He ascended into heaven, "*Do not leave Jerusalem until the Father sends you the gift he promised, as I told you before*" (Acts 1:4). He also said, "*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*" (Acts 1:8). This is the responsibility and calling of the church, to be holy and apostolic.

**2. EVERY BELIEVER IN CHRIST IS GIFTED**

The Bible says, "*The human body has many parts, but the many parts make up one whole body. So it is with the body of Christ. All of you together are Christ's body, and each of you in a part of it. Here are some of the parts God has appointed for the church: first are apostles, second are prophets, third are teachers, then those who do miracles, those who have the gift of healing, those who can help others, those who have the gift of leadership, those who speak in*

*unknown languages. Are we all apostles? Are we all prophets? Are we all teachers? Do we all have the power to do miracles? Do we all have the gift of healing? Do we all have the ability to speak in unknown languages? Do we all have the ability to interpret unknown languages? Of course not! So you should earnestly desire the most helpful gifts”* (1 Corinthians 12:12, 27-31). Every one of us has a gift to minister. When we fulfil our ministry giftings, the church becomes the salt and light of the earth.

There is a difference between spiritual gifts (1 Corinthians 12:1-11) and the gifts God gives to the church (Ephesians 4:11-12). The gifts of the Spirit are for all believers for the benefit of the church and not for a selected few. The Bible says, *“There are different kinds of spiritual gifts, but the same Spirit is the source of them all. There are different kinds of service, but we serve the same Lord.*

*God works in different ways, but it is the same God who does the work in all of us. A spiritual gift is given to each of us so we can help each other”* (1 Corinthians 12:4-7). On the other hand, God has placed individuals with gifts for the church to prepare God’s people for works of service to build the body of Christ. The Bible says, *“Now these are the gifts Christ gave to the church: the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, and the pastors and teachers. Their responsibility is to equip God’s people to do his work and build up the church, the body of Christ”* (Ephesians 4:11-12).

### 3. THE MISSION OF THE CHURCH

The lame man in the scripture mentioned in Acts 3:1-10 represents humanity: lost, without hope, and in need of God’s salvation. The mission of the church is to restore hope by proclaiming the Gospel. Paul said, *“How beautiful are the feet of messengers who bring good news”* (Romans 10:15).

The world needs to be touched by the various giftings God has given to us as members of the body of Christ. The Bible says, *“Let your good deeds shine out for all to see, so that everyone will praise your heavenly Father”* (Matthew 5:16). When the world sees God’s love shared through our witness and lifestyle, God can touch them and meet their desperate need for salvation. Let us avail ourselves to be Christ in the world, bringing the message of hope and peace, and being powerful witnesses of the Gospel.

All Bible quotations are from the New Living Translation





*Justin Yap sharing his insights on mental health*



*Discussing on issues faced by young adults today*



*Michael Loon introducing the speaker*

# STRESSING ON YOUR MIND

BY NG XUE JEN

**S**tress. A simple, six-letter word that plagues us intermittently. Justin Yap, a HELP University College counselling psychologist, was invited to the Young Adults Fellowship on Saturday, 2 March 2019, to share on what constitutes mental fitness. He defined it as one's mental health and wellbeing that affects the soul, body, and spirit.

The fellowship saw 105 young adults, split into groups by age, discussing on challenges they face in maintaining

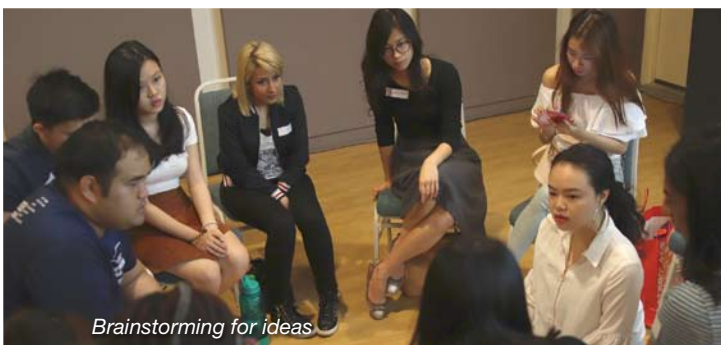
their mental fitness, as well as delving into their daily routines to identify which activities cause stress.

According to Justin, statistics show that two in every five people living in Kuala Lumpur have depression, and he showed us how to spot the signs. He reminded us of the importance of caring for our mental health as much as we care for our physical health. After all, we are called as stewards of Christ, to be transformed by the renewing of our minds (Romans 12:2) and to think good thoughts (Phillipians 4:8).

We also learned that if we ever need help, we should seek a counsellor, clinical psychologist, psychiatrist, or our very own Calvary Life Ministries. The young adults were given an opportunity to respond to the peace of God amidst their current circumstances. The session ended with a time of fellowship over food and drinks, where some caught up with each other while others were meeting for the very first time.

We left being a little more aware of how to deal with and how to help people with depression, acknowledging that the Lord's thoughts are always higher than our thoughts.

Join us for the next YA Fellowship on Saturday, 22 June 2019, at 10.00am at Calvary Convention Centre! For more information, call us at 03-8999 5532 ext. 442.



*Brainstorming for ideas*



*Fellowshipping over food*

*Associate Pastor David Seah concluding the session*





Attendees responding to the altar call



Susanna Moy co-worship leading

# BLESSED TO BE A BLESSING!

BY MARK THOMAS

**B**ahasa Malaysia (BM) is our national language, spoken among 69% of the population. BM is widely accepted and commonly used even amongst visitors to Malaysia. Moreover, a significant number of Malaysian churches speak BM, or have BM-speaking congregations.

Using a common language helps all Malaysians, in particular the Malaysian Christians, to foster greater friendship, further promote respect among the ethnic groups, and strengthen national unity.

In recognising this, Calvary Church through its BM Ministry makes available a variety of avenues to help our congregation use BM, experience spiritual growth, and to be a blessing, namely, through the

1. Simultaneous interpretation during our Sunday Worship Services.
2. Weekly Life Group.
3. Monthly translated article in CalvaryNews.
4. Quarterly BM Fellowships.

Come and join us for the upcoming BM Fellowship on 14 April 2019, at 11.30am in Theatrette 1, Calvary Convention Centre. Associate Pastor David Seah will be speaking on “Blessed to Be a Blessing!”.

Are you needing to be blessed? If yes, come! If you are already blessed, all the more you need to come! Admission is free! For more information, call 03 8999 5532 ext. 414.

**Sertailah Kebaktian BM kami pada 14 April 2019, 11.30 pagi, di Theatrette 1, Calvary Convention Centre.**



BM Congregation



Praying for one another in BM



# PROCLAIMING THE GOSPEL TO FAMILY

BY ANGELINE HEE



Angie Tung with Laura Lim (right)

## SHARING CHRIST WITH OTHERS

BY LAURA LIM

I had the privilege of accompanying my mother-in-law to visit her only brother in Lilin, Huìzhōu (惠州), China.

My husband, Stephen Liu, and I had been praying for open doors to share the Gospel, and that the Holy Spirit will go before us, preparing the soil of our relatives' hearts for the Word.

During a conversation with a cousin, to my delight, she said she accepted Jesus when she migrated to America. She sent her two children to a Christian homeschooling programme, and it was there that she came to hear of Christ. Eventually, she gave her heart to Jesus, was baptised, and is currently involved in ministry. She shared how the joy of the Lord has always been her strength, and this is well-reflected in her joyous countenance.

I also had the exciting opportunity to share God's miraculous healing power in my mother's life with another cousin. She had never heard such a testimony before, and asked if she could experience the same. This was indeed the Holy Spirit – stirring hungry hearts to respond to Jesus. I can't speak Mandarin well, but led her through the sinner's prayer, in three simple sentences. I saw the joy on her face after that prayer. I am confident that even as God has begun a good work in her, He will carry it on to completion (Philippians 1:6). All glory to Him.

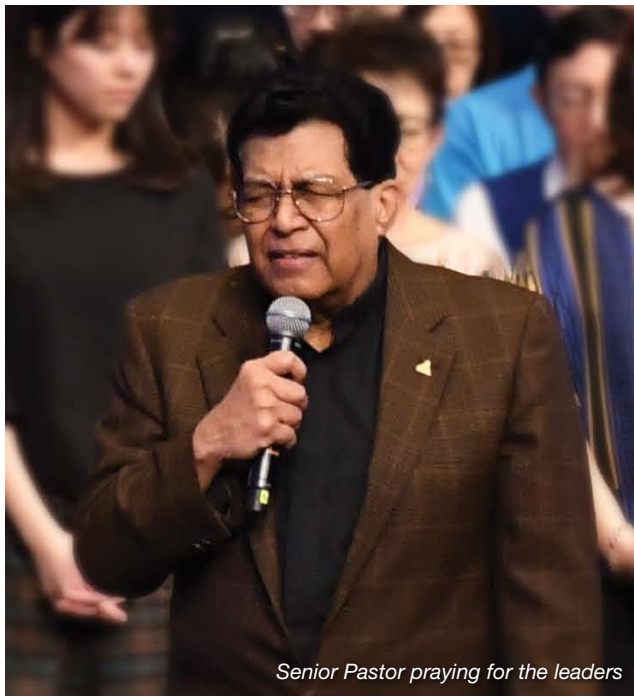
On 27 January 2019, I met Angie Tung for the first time through the Discipleship Ministry, of which I am a team member. We spoke on various subjects, including faith in Jesus Christ, and establishing a personal relationship with Him. When asked, Angie readily expressed her desire to follow Jesus, and to accept Him as her Lord and Saviour. I thank God for the privilege to lead Angie in committing her life to Jesus. Just as we are delighted and rejoice on earth, all the heavens rejoice with us when a soul is brought into the kingdom of God.

Praise God for the work of the Holy Spirit in ministering to Angie through the preaching of God's Word during the Sunday Worship Services, and for the comfort of the Holy Spirit in facing challenges and moments of self-doubt. She has been worshipping in Calvary Church for the past one year, and is growing in faith in the Lord. Glory to God in all He has done, is doing, and is going to do. Praise Him!

**Do drop by the Calvary Convention Centre Information Counter after Sunday Worship Service, or call us at 03-8999 5532 ext. 427 for more information.**

# CHURCH LEADERS' INSTALLATION 2019

BY LISA TOH



*Senior Pastor praying for the leaders*

During the Sunday Worship Service on 10 March 2019, Church leaders were installed. This was to affirm their leadership and to stand in prayer with them as they serve in their respective ministries. Those who are involved in the various ministries, services, and projects of the Church were also recognised for their service unto the Lord.

“There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. There are different kinds of working, but in all of them and everyone it is the same God at work” (1 Corinthians 12:5-6 NIV).

Associate Pastor Peter Ong addressed the leaders, exhorting them with Romans 12:6-10; to take the responsibility of leadership seriously, love truly, hate what is wrong, hold tightly to what is good, and delight in honouring one another. Pastor Peter also reminded the leaders that they support God’s people to do His work and build up the Church.

Pastor Peter encouraged the members of the congregation to be involved in a ministry, quoting from scripture, “Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God’s grace in its various forms” (1 Peter 4:10 NIV).

Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam concluded the installation with a word of prayer for God’s anointing to be upon all the leaders and ministry servers. He also prayed for the congregation to respond to serve in ministries the Lord will show them.





## INTRODUCING THE MINISTRIES AND LEADERS

1. **Life Group (LG) Ministry and Bahasa Malaysia (BM) Ministry**, led by Associate Pastor David Seah, with Amy Tan, Chan Siew Eng, Helen Read, Yeoh Saw Eng, Yong Poh Yoke, Veronica See, Peggy Low, Molly Yong, Puan Chen Keck, Philip Tan, and Michael Loon, the LG Sectional leaders; and the LG leaders; and the BM team leaders.
2. **Calvary Kids (Calvary Nursery Care (CNC) and Carpenter's Workshop (CW))**, led by Pastor Quek Lee Siu, and commencing May 2019, Associate Pastor Richard Yun, with Grace Yap, CNC Coordinator; Christine Tang and Angie Ng, CW Coordinators; and the Calvary Kids teachers.
3. **School of Christian Growth (SCG), Missionettes, and Dimensions**, led by Associate Pastor Chan Lee Peng, with the SCG teachers; Katherine Lee, Missionettes Coordinator; Cindy Sin, Assistant Coordinator; and the Missionettes Sponsors.
4. **Royal Rangers (RR)**, led by Jim Guneratnam, with Eddy Law, RR Council Chairman; Chin Yoke Yee, RR Senior Commander; and the RR Commanders.
5. **Evangelism Ministry and Altar Workers' Ministry**, led by Associate Pastor Richard Yun, with Gan Tion Chew, Evangelism Coordinator; and Marcus Solomon, Altar Workers Coordinator.
6. **Discipleship Ministry and Information Counter**, led by Pastor Susan Tan, with Helen Read and Stephen Liu, Coordinators.
7. **Music & Creative Arts (M&CA) Ministry**, led by Associate Pastor Christopher Lee, with Nicole Ong, One Voice Director; and the M&CA team leaders.
8. **Youth Ministry**, led by Timothy Yee and the Youth team.
9. **Young Adults (YA) Ministry**, led by Michael Loon and the YA team.
10. **Chinese Ministry**, led by Associate Pastors Timothy Ong and Peter Ong, with Lim Chune Sin, Molly Yong, and Thong Oi Shiang, Chinese Ministry Coordinators; and the team.
11. **Prayer Ministry**, led by Associate Pastor Timothy Ong, with Han Joke Kwang, Prayer Ministry Coordinator; and the team.
12. **Tamil Ministry**, led by Associate Pastor Yong Chee Weng, and commencing May 2019, Associate Pastor Peter Ong.
13. **Hospitality Ministry**, led by Associate Pastor Raymond Yong, with Lai Wing Fai, Richard Siew, Robert Hue, Michael Ong, Karen Yong, and Grace Lim, Hospitality team leaders.
14. **Missions Ministry**, led by Associate Pastors Steven Kum and Yong Chee Weng, with Jason Tan, Edmund Read, David Peter, and Veronica See, Missions committee.

*The Ministry Heads and Leaders at the installation with those involved in various ministries*



# GEREJA ADALAH KRISTUS DI DUNIA

OLEH PENDITA KANAN PRINCE GUNERATNAM

**A**lkitab menggambarkan gereja sebagai tubuh Kristus (1 Korintus 12:27). Oleh itu, adalah penting untuk kita memahami pentingnya setiap orang percaya dalam Kristus, yang merupakan anggota gereja, kerana mereka mewakili Kristus di dunia.

Yesus berkata, “Maka jawab Simon Petrus: “Engkau adalah Mesias, Anak Tuhan yang hidup!”” (Matius 16:18). Batu karang yang Yesus rujuk adalah pengakuan Petrus yang dibuat, “Kamu adalah Kristus, Anak Tuhan yang hidup” (Matius 16:16).

## a) “Batu Karang”

Rasul Paulus mengisytiharkan, “Karena tidak ada seorangpun yang dapat meletakkan dasar lain dari pada dasar yang telah diletakkan, yaitu Yesus Kristus” (1 Korintus 3:11) dan “mereka semua minum minuman rohani yang sama, sebab mereka minum dari batu karang rohani yang mengikuti mereka, dan batu karang itu ialah Kristus” (1 Korintus 10:4). Yesus Kristus adalah Batu Karang, kepala gereja dan kita adalah tubuh Kristus. Rasul Petrus menyatakan, “Dan biarlah kamu juga dipergunakan sebagai batu hidup untuk pembangunan suatu rumah rohani, bagi suatu imamat kudus, untuk mempersembahkan persembahan rohani yang karena Yesus Kristus berkenan kepada Tuhan” (1 Petrus 2:5). Sebagai tubuh Kristus, kita adalah penyembah sifat ilahinya (2 Petrus 1:4). Kita harus menjadi saksi kasih karunia Tuhan yang menyelamatkan, hidup yang mengubah kehidupan untuk melihat, mengetahui, dan percaya bahawa Kristus adalah jalan, kebenaran, dan kehidupan. Cara dunia untuk mengenali Yesus

Kristus adalah melalui gereja. Gereja mesti menjadi bukti hidup Injil Yesus Kristus.

## b) “Aku akan membina gerejaku”

Gereja adalah kehendak Tuhan. Oleh itu, tiada kuasa di neraka atau di bumi dapat mengalahkan gereja. Gereja tidak bergantung kepada usaha manusia untuk mempertahankan atau melindungi gereja. Gereja telah ditentukan untuk menang.

## c) “Kuasa neraka” atau “gerbang neraka”

Alkitab merujuk kepada gerbang neraka (Hades) sebagai tempat di mana Setan dan iblisnya tinggal. Di sinilah takhta Setan ditubuhkan dan skema jahat dirancang. Walau bagaimanapun, kita boleh yakin gereja akan menang, dan Setan dan iblisnya tidak dapat memusnahkan gereja Yesus Kristus. Dalam sejarah, orang lelaki dan kerajaan politik yang kuat tidak pernah dapat menghancurkan atau mengalahkan gereja. Malah, jemaat-jemaat semakin bertambah dan semakin kuat, bahkan hari ini, dan akan, sehingga Kristus kembali.

## 1. GEREJA HARUS MEMILIKI PERSPEKTIF YANG BETUL TENTANG DIRINYA

Gereja harus menjadi kudus. Alkitab berkata, “Kuduslah kamu, sebab Aku kudus” (1 Petrus 1:16). Gereja itu milik Tuhan dan wujud untuk menyembah Tuhan. Gereja itu harus mempunyai sifat kerasulan. Gereja itu diutus oleh Tuhan ke dunia agar dunia dapat mengenal Dia. Sekiranya gereja gagal memahami tujuannya, maka ia menjadi sia-sia. Uskup Agung Uskup William Temple berkata, “Gereja adalah satu-satunya masyarakat yang berkerja sama di dunia yang wujud demi kebaikan untuk bukan ahli-ahlinya”. Gereja itu mempunyai Amanat Agung dan itu adalah “Karena itu pergilah, jadikanlah semua bangsa murid-Ku dan baptislah mereka dalam nama Bapa dan Anak dan Roh Kudus, dan ajarlah mereka melakukan segala sesuatu yang telah



Kuperintahkan kepadamu. Dan ketahuilah, Aku menyertai kamu senantiasa sampai kepada akhir zaman” (Matius 28:19-20).

Semua yang berkaitan dengan kerajaan Tuhan bertentangan dengan kerajaan dunia ini. Kita adalah tubuh Kristus, dipanggil untuk menjalani kehidupan yang dunia akan melihat Kristus di dalam kita. Gereja bukan sekadar organisasi. Ia adalah organisma. Gereja mempunyai kehidupan Kristus yang berdenyut di dalam kita yang perlu dilihat oleh dunia yang sangat memerlukan kasih karunia Tuhan yang menyelamatkan. Yesus berkata kepada murid-murid-Nya sebelum Ia naik ke surga, “Pada suatu hari ketika Ia makan bersama-sama dengan mereka, Ia melarang mereka meninggalkan Yerusalem, dan menyuruh mereka tinggal di situ menantikan janji Bapa, yang--demikian kata-Nya--telah kamu dengar dari pada-Ku” (Kisah Para Rasul 1:4). Dia juga berkata, “Tetapi kamu akan menerima kuasa, kalau Roh Kudus turun ke atas kamu, dan kamu akan menjadi saksi-Ku di Yerusalem dan di seluruh Yudea dan

Samaria dan sampai ke ujung bumi” (Kisah Para Rasul 1:8). Ini adalah tanggungjawab dan panggilan gereja, untuk menjadi kudus dan kerasulan.

## 2. SETIAP UMAT PERCAYA DALAM KRISTUS ADA KARUNIA

Alkitab berkata, “Karena sama seperti tubuh itu satu dan anggota-anggotanya banyak, dan segala anggota itu, sekalipun banyak, merupakan satu tubuh, demikian pula Kristus. Kamu semua adalah tubuh Kristus dan kamu masing-masing adalah anggotanya. Dan Tuhan telah menetapkan beberapa orang dalam Jemaat: pertama sebagai rasul, kedua sebagai nabi, ketiga sebagai pengajar. Selanjutnya mereka yang mendapat karunia untuk mengadakan mujizat, untuk menyembuhkan, untuk melayani, untuk memimpin, dan untuk berkata-kata dalam bahasa roh. Adakah mereka semua rasul, atau nabi, atau pengajar? Adakah mereka semua mendapat karunia untuk mengadakan mujizat, atau untuk menyembuhkan, atau untuk berkata-kata dalam bahasa roh, atau untuk menafsirkan bahasa roh? Jadi berusaha untuk memperoleh karunia-karunia yang paling utama. Dan aku menunjukkan kepadamu jalan yang lebih utama lagi” (1 Korintus 12:12, 27-31). Setiap seorang daripada kita mempunyai karunia untuk melayani. Apabila kita memenuhi karunia pelayanan, gereja menjadi garam dan cahaya dunia.

Ada perbezaan antara karunia rohani (1 Korintus 12:1-11) dan karunia yang diberikan Tuhan kepada gereja (Efesus 4:11-12). Karunia Roh adalah untuk semua orang yang beriman untuk kepentingan gereja dan bukan untuk beberapa yang dipilih. Alkitab berkata, “Ada rupa-rupa karunia, tetapi satu Roh. Dan ada rupa-rupa pelayanan, tetapi satu Tuhan. Dan ada berbagai-bagai perbuatan ajaib, tetapi Tuhan adalah satu yang mengerjakan semuanya dalam semua orang. Tetapi kepada

tiap-tiap orang dikaruniakan pernyataan Roh untuk kepentingan bersama” (1 Korintus 12:4-7). Sebaliknya, Tuhan telah meletakkan individu dengan karuniaNya untuk gereja untuk mempersiapkan umat Tuhan untuk kerja-kerja pelayanan bagi membina tubuh Kristus. Alkitab berkata, “Dan ialah yang memberikan baik rasul-rasul maupun nabi-nabi, baik pemberita-pemberita Injil maupun gembala-gembala dan pengajar-pengajar, untuk memperlengkapi orang-orang kudus bagi pekerjaan pelayanan, bagi pembangunan tubuh Kristus” (Efesus 4:11-12).

### 3. MISI GEREJA

Orang lumpuh dalam Alkitab yang disebut dalam Kisah Para Rasul 3:1-10 mewakili kemanusiaan yang hilang, tanpa harapan, dan memerlukan keselamatan Tuhan. Misi gereja adalah untuk memulihkan harapan dengan memberitakan Injil. Paulus berkata, “Dan bagaimana mereka dapat memberitakan-Nya, jika mereka tidak diutus? Seperti ada tertulis: “Betapa indahny kedatangan mereka yang membawa kabar baik”” (Roma 10:15).

Dunia perlu dijamah oleh pelbagai karunia yang telah diberikan Tuhan kepada kita sebagai anggota tubuh Kristus. Alkitab berkata, “Biarlah perbuatanmu yang baik bersinar untuk semua orang, supaya semua orang memuji Bapa surgawi kamu” (Matius 5:16). Ketika dunia melihat kasih Tuhan yang dikongsi melalui kesaksian dan gaya hidup kita, Tuhan dapat menjamah mereka dan memenuhi kebutuhan mereka untuk keselamatan. Mari kita menyediakan diri kita menjadi Kristus di dunia, membawa berita harapan dan kedamaian, dan menjadi saksi yang berkuasa dari Injil.

Semua petikan Alkitab adalah dari Alkitab Bahasa Indonesia.

# 教会是基督 向世人展现

文: 古纳南主任牧师



经把教会描述为基督的身体(林前12:27)。因此,我们必须明白每一个在基督里的信徒的重要性,他们是教会的肢体,因为他们在上代表基督。

耶稣说:「我还告诉你,你是彼得,我要把我的教会建造在这磐石上,阴间的权柄不能胜过它」(太16:18)。耶稣所指的磐石是彼得所作的宣认:「你是基督,是永生神的儿子」(太16:16)。

#### a) 「磐石」

使徒保罗宣告:「因为,那已经立好的根基就是耶稣基督,此外没有人能立别的根基」(林前3:11)和「也都喝了一样的灵水,所喝的是出于跟随着他们的灵磐石;那磐石就是基督」(林前10:4)。耶稣基督就是磐石,是教会的头,我们是基督的身体。使徒彼得宣告:「你们作为活石,要被建造成属灵的殿,成为圣洁的祭司,藉着耶稣基督献上蒙神悦纳的属灵祭物」(彼前2:5)。作为基督的身体,我们就得分享神的本性(彼后1:4)。我们要作神救恩的见证人,过那生命转化的生活,叫世人看见,知道和相信基督就是道路,真理和生命。世人认识耶稣基督的途径是通过教会。教会必须是耶稣基督福音的活见证。

#### b) 「我要建造我的教会」

教会是神的旨意。因此,没有任何阴间或地上的权势能打败教会。教会不依靠人的努力来保卫或保护教会。教会已预定获得胜利。

#### c) 「地狱的权柄或阴间的门」

圣经提到地狱(阴间)的门是指撒旦和他的恶魔居住的地方。那是撒旦建立他的宝座,和策划他的邪恶阴谋的地方。然而,我们可以有信心教会必定得胜,撒旦和他的恶魔永远不能摧毁耶稣基督的教会。



在历史上，有权势的政治人物和政府从来没有能力摧毁或打败教会。甚至到今日，教会的数目还在增长，并且越发坚强，直到基督再来。

### 1. 教会需要对自己有正确的认识

教会要成为圣洁。圣经上说：「你们要成为圣，因为我是神圣的」（彼前1:16）。教会是属于神，他的存在是为了敬拜神。教会要成为使徒性教会。教会是神差遣到世上来的，为要叫世人认识他。如果教会不能理解他的目的，那么他的存在就是徒劳的。大主教威廉·坦普尔曾说：「教会是世界上唯一为其非成员的利益而存在的合作社」。教会有一个大使命，那就是：「所以，你们要去，使万民作我的门徒，奉父、子、圣灵的名给他们施洗，凡我所吩咐你们的，都教导他们遵守。看哪，我天天与你们同在，直到世代的终结」（太28:19-20）。

凡属神国的事都是与这世界的国相反。我们是基督的身体，蒙召过一种生活叫世人能看见基督在我们里面。教会不仅仅是一个组织。他是一个有机体。教会有基督的生命在我们里面活着，这需要被迫切需要神救恩的世人看见。耶稣在升天前对门徒说：「不要离开耶路撒冷，但要等候父的应许，就是你们听见我说过的」（徒1:4）。他也说：「但圣灵降临在你们身上，你们就必得着能力，并要在耶路撒冷、犹太全地和撒玛利亚，直到地极，作我的见证」（徒1:8）。这是教会的责任和呼召，成为圣洁和使徒性。

### 2. 每个在基督里的信徒都是有恩赐的

圣经上说：「就如身体是一个，却有许多肢体，身体的肢体虽多，仍是一个身体；基督也是这样。你们是基督的身体，并且各自都是肢体。神在教会所设立的：第一是使徒；第二是先知；第三是教师；其次是行异能的；再次是医病的恩赐，帮助人的，治理事的，说方言的。难道个个都是使徒吗？难道个个都是先知吗？难道个个都是教师吗？难道个个都是行异能的吗？难道个个都是有医病的恩赐吗？难道个个都是说方言的吗？难道个个都是翻方言的吗？你们要追求那更大的恩赐」（林前12:12, 27-31）。我们每个人都有服事的恩赐。当我们运用我们的恩赐完成事奉的工作时，教会就成为地上的盐和光。

属灵的恩赐（林前12:1-11）和神赐给教会的恩赐（弗4:11-12）是有区别的。圣灵的恩赐是给所有信徒的，是为了教会的益处，而不是为少数被拣选的人。圣经上说：「恩赐有许多种，却是同一位圣灵所赐。事奉有许多种，却是事奉同一位主。工作有许多种，却是同一位神在万人中运行万事。圣灵彰显在各人身上，是要使人得益处」（林前12:4-7）。在另一方面，神已经安排了对教会职事有恩赐的个人，为要装备神的子民，做事奉的工作，建立基督的身体。圣经上说：「他所赐的有使徒，有先知，有传福音的，有牧者和教师，为要装备圣徒，做事奉的工作，建立基督的身体」（弗4:11-12）。

### 3. 教会的使命

在使徒行传3:1-10 的经文中提到的瘸腿的人，是代表失丧的人类，没有盼望而需要神的拯救。教会的使命是通过传扬福音来恢复盼望。保罗说道：「报福音、传喜信的人，他们的脚踪何等佳美！」（罗10:15）

世人需要被神赐予我们作为基督身体的肢体的各种恩赐的触摸。圣经上说：「你们的光也要这样照在人前，叫他们看见你们的好行为，把荣耀归给你们在天上的父」（太5:16）。当世人通过我们分享的见证和生活方式看到神的爱，神可以触摸他们并满足他们对救恩的迫切需要。让我们成为在世上的基督，带给世人盼望和平安的信息，并成为福音的有力见证人。

以上经文是采用中文圣经和合本修订版。

# HOPE IN GOD DURING THE HARDEST OF TIMES

BY ASSOCIATE PASTOR TIMOTHY ONG

*“So Ruth the Moabitess said to Naomi,  
“Please let me go to the field,  
and glean heads of grain  
after him in whose sight I may find favour.”  
And she said to her, “Go, my daughter.””  
(Ruth 2:2 NKJV)*

**R**uth was a poor Moabite widow who went with her mother-in-law to live in Bethlehem, a Jewish town where the people thought of Moabites as outcasts. She didn't wallow in self-pity or moan about being a poor widow of the wrong race, and in the wrong place. She believed God would favour her and declared, "I will find favour in the field that I glean from."

In the natural way of looking at things, Ruth had everything stacked against her. No husband, no children, no possessions, and no standing, in a land foreign to her. But because she had faith and trusted in the favour of God, she became the wife of Bethlehem's richest man when Boaz married her, eventually became the great-grandmother of King David, and had her name included in the genealogy of Jesus Christ, even though she was not a Jew.

The only way this could have happened is God; Jehovah Jireh, the merciful provider, guiding Ruth in her endeavours. That was what God's supernatural favour did for Ruth, and that is the kind of blessing that God's supernatural favour can grant us. As Proverbs 16:9 NKJV says, "A man's heart plans his way, but the Lord directs his steps."

What can you trust God for today? Is there a situation, a challenge, a problem in your life that seems insurmountable? Commit it to the Father in prayer. God is as real and as powerful today as He was in Bible times. We are reminded in Matthew 7:7 NIV, "Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you." Take comfort in the fact that God is always sovereign.

Do not look at what you do not have in the natural, and see lack. Trust in the favour of God, and you will see blessings that your natural abilities cannot bring.

**"To do the unthinkable is to reap the impossible."**

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2019 easter production

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| SATURDAY | 20 | APRIL | 5PM |
| SUNDAY   | 21 | APRIL | 5PM |

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(Chinese camp speaker)

**REV. ROY SELVARATNAM**  
(Youth camp speaker)

**PASTOR MASAKO SELVARATNAM**  
(Kids' camp speaker)



# WORSHIP SCHEDULE APRIL 2019

## Saturday, 5.00pm Calvary Damansara Heights

- 06** Associate Pastor Chan Lee Peng  
Communion
- 13** Associate Pastor Yong Chee Weng
- 20** Combined with  
Easter Morning Worship Service  
at Calvary Convention Centre
- 27** Associate Pastor Peter Ong  
Water Baptism

## Sunday, 9.00am Calvary Convention Centre

- 07** Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam  
Communion
- 14** Associate Pastor Peter Ong
- 21** Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam  
Easter Morning Worship Service
- 28** Associate Pastor Timothy Ong  
Deacons' Installation

## ACTIVITIES

**14  
APR**



### BAHASA MALAYSIA FELLOWSHIP

Sunday, 11.30am  
Theatrette 1,  
Calvary Convention Centre  
Speaker: Associate Pastor David Seah  
Topic: Blessed to Be a Blessing!

**27  
APR**



### WATER BAPTISM

Saturday, 5.00pm  
Calvary Damansara Heights  
*Closing date for submission of application:  
Sunday, 14 April 2019*

**28  
APR**



### CHINESE FELLOWSHIP

Sunday, 11.30am  
Theatrette 1,  
Calvary Convention Centre  
Speaker: Pastor Quek Lee Siu

**28  
APR**



### ROYAL RANGERS GRADUATION

Sunday, 11.30am  
Theatrette 3,  
Calvary Convention Centre

**28  
APR**



### MISSIONETTES AWARDS CELEBRATION

Sunday, 1.30pm  
Multipurpose and Banquet Hall,  
Calvary Convention Centre

**26  
APR**



### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (STEWARDSHIP DAY)

Friday, 7.30pm  
Calvary Damansara Heights

**06 & 27 APR 2019**



### YOUTH FELLOWSHIP

Saturday, 1.00pm  
Calvary Damansara Heights  
Topic: Discovering Jesus



**CALVARY CHURCH** (Assemblies of God)

2 Jalan Damansara Endah, Damansara Heights,  
50490 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Senior Pastor Rev. Tan Sri Datuk Dr. Prince Guneratnam

CALVARY CONVENTION CENTRE

1 Jalan Jalil Perkasia 1, Bukit Jalil, 57100 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia



+603-8999 5532



calvary.my



email@calvary.org.my



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