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This is My Story

The Promise Keeper

The Privilege of
Being a Mother



THE PROMISE KEEPER

BY SENIOR ASSOCIATE PASTOR PETRINA GUNERATNAM

Last words from a loved one are of great significance. In the last chapter of the Book of Revelation, Jesus promised His return after His resurrection and before His ascension three times.

“Behold, I am coming quickly. Blessed is he who keeps the words of the prophecy of this book” (Revelation 22:7 WEB).

“Behold, I am coming quickly and my reward is with me, to give everyone according to his work” (Revelation 22:12 KJV).

“Surely, I am coming quickly. Amen. Even so come Lord Jesus!” (Revelation 22:20).

The glorious hope and expectation of Jesus’ return gives the Church her purpose on earth. The anticipation of Christ’s soon return should cause us to live in the light of eternity. We have an eternal home in Heaven. Therefore, we must live with a fervent passion for Christ and be mission-minded in proclaiming the Gospel till He comes.

Every day counts for the Kingdom of God and every emphasis in the Scripture of Jesus’ soon return is designed to inspire hope and purity in our lives as born-again believers (1 John 3:3).

i) The signs prophesied of Christ’s return should not cause us to lose heart. The Bible says, *“Now when these things begin to happen, look up and lift up your heads, because your redemption draws near”* (Luke 21:28). We are to lift up our heads with faith, for God is a promise keeper.

- ii) Let us not allow fear, the voice of doubt, and unbelief discourage us. Jesus said, *“Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God; believe also in me. My Father’s house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am”* (John 14:1-3 NIV).
- iii) Let us be fervent in doing the will of God, no matter what the challenges are. Paul said, *“And let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart”* (Galatians 6:9).
- iv) Let us be motivated to be faithful witnesses and proclaim the full Gospel of salvation.

The certainty of Jesus’ return should challenge us in three areas of our daily life:

1. WE PROCLAIM THE GOSPEL THROUGH RIGHTEOUS LIVING.

Our lifestyle must be consistent with our proclamation of the Gospel. Jesus concluded His sermon on the mount with some very stern warnings to His disciples. Jesus said, *“Not everyone who says to Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven. Many will say to Me in that day, ‘Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?’ And then I will declare to them, ‘I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!’”* (Matthew 7:21-23). Jesus was preaching to people who knew Him and called Him Lord, but remained careless in their lifestyle. Jesus rejects careless believers, for they focus on doing God’s will, rather than being in His will. They prioritise charisma instead of character.

Jesus is after our character (Galatians 5:22-23). The fruit of the Spirit characterises us as believers who are living the Christ life. The Bible says, *“For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men, teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in the present age, looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Saviour Jesus Christ”* (Titus 2:11-13). If we are certain of Christ’s soon return, we will live righteous lives, purifying ourselves and rejecting fleshly passions. The Bible says, *“Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is. And everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure”* (1 John 3:2-3). We proclaim the Gospel through our righteous living.

2. WE RISK GREATLY FOR THE KINGDOM TO PROCLAIM THE GOSPEL.

Our faith in God, which is rooted in His Word, encourages us to take risks in order to see the Gospel proclaimed. Unless the Gospel of salvation is preached to all the world, Jesus’ soon return will be judgment to those who do not believe in Him (Hebrews 9:27). As born-again believers, we have a responsibility to give an account of our life (Romans 14:12).

Jesus told the parable of the talents (Matthew 25:14-30). He described the careless servant who was given one talent but chose to do nothing with it. He was called a wicked and lazy servant (Matthew 25:26). In the same way, let us not neglect the things that will matter for eternity. The Bible says, *“Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labour is not in vain in the Lord”* (1 Corinthians 15:58).

3. WE RESOLVE TO ENDURE TO THE END.

The knowledge and conviction of Jesus' soon return should place a tenacity in our lives to proclaim the Gospel till He comes. Although weariness and disappointments might blur our vision, we should not lose heart, but be fervent in doing the will of God, for we believe that Jesus is coming soon. We need to keep our eyes on Jesus for He is the promise keeper. The Bible says, *"the eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that you may know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, and what is the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the working of His mighty power"* (Ephesians 1:18-19). James also encourages believers to, *"Be patient, brethren, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, waiting patiently for it until it receives the early and latter rain. You also be patient. Establish your hearts, for the*

coming of the Lord is at hand. Do not grumble against one another, brethren, lest you be condemned. Behold, the Judge is standing at the door!" (James 5:7-9). Therefore, we should never give up or consider quitting in doing God's will, for Paul said, *"For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us"* (Romans 8:18).

We were created for eternity. The challenge for every believer today is to live righteously, risk greatly, and to resolve endurance in this life. Jesus said, *"And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also"* (John 14:3). Let us all be faithful and obedient in proclaiming the Gospel, because God is a promise keeper.

All Bible quotations are from the New King James Version, unless otherwise stated.





THE PRIVILEGE OF BEING A MOTHER

“She is clothed with strength and dignity; she can laugh at the days to come. She speaks with wisdom, and faithful instruction is on her tongue” (Proverbs 31:25-26 NIV).

Mothers are precious gifts from God. Their gentle spirit belies the grit, tenacity, and perseverance that motherhood demands. Five mothers share about what has been most rewarding, how God has helped them overcome challenges in fulfilling their role, and what legacy they would like to leave for their children and grandchildren.

SANDY GOH

My journey into motherhood was a challenging wilderness experience. After 12 years of disappointments and heartaches, my husband and I accepted the diagnosis of irreversible infertility. After the emotional stigma of childlessness, physical pain of multiple miscarriages, financial loss from unfruitful in-vitro fertilisation treatments, and unsuccessful adoption, we sought comfort in the loving arms of God and decided to obey the Lord in being water baptised.

Within a month after baptism, God miraculously healed me: I conceived and gave birth to a beautiful baby girl after a physically and emotionally challenging pregnancy. All glory to God! Being a grateful first-time mother, I devoted myself completely to raising Jessie and was totally consumed by the responsibility of being a full-time mother. Though we still attended church regularly, I began to neglect my relationship with God, and my marriage suffered too.

When Jessie was five, I was diagnosed with breast cancer. It was a wake-up call for me to return to God. I repented, surrendered my life to Him, and as I prayed for His will to be done, God in His mercy healed me completely. Since then, my husband and I knew that God had a divine plan and purpose for us.



Sandy (right) with her daughter, Jessie

We are to testify and proclaim the amazing miracles God has done in and through our lives.

While in remission, I refused to let health deter me from serving the Lord. I purposed to serve Him out of a grateful heart, and my health improved with time. God has given me the strength to be all He wants me to be – a mother, wife, Missionettes Sponsor, Life Group (LG) host with my husband as the LG leader, and caregiver to my wheelchair-bound mother who suffers from dementia.

Praise God for taking care of and providing for my family. My prayer is that Jessie will follow after our Lord Jesus and grow in the knowledge of His love for her.

MOLLY YONG

I have had the privilege of caring for and seeing my three children grow up. After accepting Christ, I became more aware of the importance of their salvation and the need for them to have a personal relationship with God. My greatest joy being a mother is to see all my children and their spouses loving and serving the Lord. I am so thankful to God for helping me see His greatness and love in my children and grandchildren's lives.

Throughout these 45 years of being a mother, my life has been enriched by my children and grandchildren. Telling my grandchildren Bible stories and teaching them how to pray has brought me great joy. When my grandchildren laid hands and prayed for me while I was unwell, my heart was touched. I also had the privilege of witnessing two of my grandchildren being water baptised, and that felt so rewarding.

Of course, there were many challenges, disappointments, and times when I felt helpless. But I thank my Almighty God because when I was sad, He filled me with joy; when I was disappointed, He gave me hope; and when challenges I could not handle came my way, He carried me through. I truly say that I serve a risen and amazing God! He filled the void within me when my husband went to be with the Lord eight years ago. By His grace, He enabled me to step out in faith, and gave me the strength to serve Him through the Chinese ministry these past many years.

My prayer for my children and grandchildren is that they will love the Lord, serve Him faithfully, hold fast to Him, and not give up regardless of whatever challenges they may go through in life.



Molly (seated down, at the most right) with her family

SHARMILA RAJ

Being a mother is a miracle, and one of the biggest blessings. My children are extraordinarily special; Jesus handpicked and gave them to me. Both my children are adopted, and I love them so much — this is what I tell them all the time. A decision made with no regrets, and I know without a shadow of a doubt that God has great plans for them.



Sharmila (middle) with her children, Trishanu (left) and Tristan

Juggling my role as a wife and mother to two teenagers, managing my time at work and my involvement in church ministries, and caring for my elderly parents can be tough. In the beginning, I got so worked up and stressed. There's always the challenge of striking a healthy balance between putting family first and doing a good job at work. To be there right when and where I am needed, and to know that I have made the best decisions with regards to my children, work, and family – that is an awesome responsibility.

I am learning to depend on the Lord instead of my own strength to work things out. Every challenge makes me stronger and wiser. The Lord is by my side, I know He will see me through. He gave me these roles and responsibilities, and He will make sure I do well so that His name will be glorified, and His plans and purpose for my family will be fulfilled according to His will.

I want my children and family to know and remember this Scripture that has been a great encouragement: "My soul finds rest in God alone; my salvation comes from Him. He is my rock and salvation; He is my fortress; I will never be shaken" (Psalms 62:1-2 NIV).



Dissa with her children, Mark (top left), Matthew (bottom left), Mathea, Michelle, baby Micaella, and Margaret (top right)

DISSA ENOS NKONE

I bless the Lord for the gift of being a mother. The opportunity to know the Lord personally is most rewarding; I cannot lead my six lovely kids if I myself do not know the Way (John 14:16). I devote myself to seeking the face of God, and that has helped me be a better leader to my children.

Being a mother is a most challenging area because I need to walk the talk, which is not easy, and be a good example to my children, because I cannot reap what I did not sow. Through prayer, fasting,

and standing on His Word, the Lord has helped me overcome the challenges in fulfilling my role as a mother. The Word is my only mirror, where I can see myself and fight my inner enemies. Jesus teaches us in Mark 7:20-23 that “what comes out of a person is what defiles them”, therefore I commit to fill my inner being with good treasure so I can give to my children and my church as the Lord strengthens me. I can’t give what I don’t have. That is why we set aside time as a family to fast and pray once a week.

God is very faithful answering our prayers. By divine miracle, He extended our stay in Malaysia from four to 12 years, and that has greatly blessed the children’s education. Four of my children were born here, and we are glad to make Calvary Church home. We have found our places of ministry, and are grateful for the opportunity to serve the Lord.

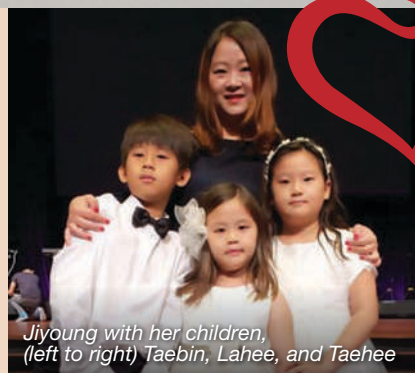
The legacy I would like to leave behind is for my children to make God their best Friend, always seeking first His Kingdom because everything else will pass away. Only God is eternal; they will lack nothing trusting in Him.

PARK JIYOUNG

I never imagined myself a mother of three children. But when my eldest, Taebin, was born, I came to realise what true joy and love meant as I grew to understand more about God’s love for us. Of course, there are many challenges, but they make me draw closer to God. I am truly enjoying motherhood with thanksgiving.

My husband’s work requires a fair bit of travel. As a family, we have moved from Seoul to Boston, Paris, Manila, then to Kuala Lumpur. This nomadic life is not new to me; my own family moved around very much. In a sense, it prepared me. One of the most challenging moments was our five years in Boston, when I had to look after three small children, and my husband was studying full-time. Physically and psychologically, it was very taxing, but I learnt to rely more on the Lord. I am reminded of the courage of Jochebed, who had to let go of her baby Moses in the Nile River. It must have been a nightmare, but she hung on tightly to God. Likewise, as mothers, we can have faith that He will take care of our children.

While in Boston, I applied to the prestigious Berklee College of Music for jazz music studies, and by God’s grace was accepted. I was very excited to pursue my career in music, but God had a different plan and sent us to Malaysia. Having to let go of the opportunity was not easy, but God taught me two things. Firstly, He is not looking for the fancy skills that I might pick up at Berklee, but my heart for Him. Secondly, committing myself to raise the wonderful children He has gifted my husband and I should be my utmost priority. Today, I am so thankful to God for the opportunity to serve in the music ministry at Calvary, together with my children who are all in the One Voice choir.



Jiyoung with her children, (left to right) Taebin, Lahee, and Taehee



Serenading all at the Plaza with songs of praise



Learning to synchronise their rhythm

INAUGURAL CHORAL MUSIC CAMP

BY YUEN TZE SVENN

From 27-30 March 2019, the One Voice Choir organised their first-ever Choral Music Camp. A total of 40 children aged nine to 15 years attended the four-day camp.

We enjoyed the fun-filled training, which included sight singing, rhythm - body percussion, conducting skills, repertoire, and singing games.

On a personal note, I praise and thank the Lord as I was truly blessed with the opportunity to join this enriching camp. I have been reminded how precious it is worshipping God through song. I used to be shy and did not have any musical background. Through this camp, I learned about the correct way of singing, vocals, conducting, leadership, and many more. My faith has grown, and I have developed new and

beautiful friendships. Most importantly, I have deepened my personal relationship with God.

Associate Pastor Chris Lee shared, "Whenever you sing in worship, there is One divine audience that we are all exclusively singing for, and that is our God."

All in all, we have now taken another step forward, not only in our singing, but also in our spiritual life. We are well and truly blessed.

"I will give praise unto the Lord every single day of my life; I will sing praises to my God as long as I breathe and live" (Psalms 146:2).

For more information on the One Voice Choir, call 03-8999 5532 ext. 422.



Practising their singing



Group games with One Voice coordinator Nicole Ong



Listening to devotion



An energetic presentation

A SEASON OF HOPE

BY MELISSA SAMUEL

Calvarites congregated for worship at Calvary Convention Centre in celebration and commemoration of Jesus' resurrection on Easter Sunday, 21 April 2019. We were also blessed with presentations by the Music & Creative Arts team and the One Voice Choir.

Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam then unveiled to us Jesus' persistent mission to send His grace, peace, and love to the hopeless and the lost, that we may have a rich and satisfying life (John 10:10).

Expounding from John 4:4-34, Senior Pastor clarified that Jesus went to Samaria not because it was a route He had to take to get to Galilee. Rather, He had to go to Samaria to fulfill His mission. How astounding and heart-warming it is to hear that God did not reveal His true identity to royalty or to religious leaders, but to a lowly Samaritan woman who had gone through five divorces and was not married to the man she was currently living with, that He was the Messiah. Jesus came to her in gentleness, offering hope and a satisfying life.

Senior Pastor exhorted us to exemplify the Samaritan woman's response in that she left her precious water pot at the well and ran to tell everyone in her city all she had learned. How reassuring it is that with God, no matter what our past may be, there is hope. We can be His witnesses by accepting Jesus as our Lord and Saviour, living a satisfying life.

 Watch Senior Pastor's full message on our YouTube channel [@calvaryone](#)



Senior Pastor sharing his Easter morning sermon



The One Voice Choir singing "Celebrate the Empty Tomb"



Jesus is alive!

Altar response





The worship team leading in song and praise

THIS IS MY STORY


BY MELISSA SAMUEL

Flashing lights. Powerful experiences recounted. Impactful, superb choreography. God's wonderful presence reverberating throughout Calvary Convention Centre.

These are only some of the many highlights of "This is My Story", Calvary's Easter presentation from Friday to Sunday, 19-21 April 2019. It was a production appealing to an audience of all ages, particularly relatable because the core of the message was four real-life experiences shared by our very own church members - Jerry Loon, Ervin Loh, Faith Tay, and Chow Sang Hoe.

The presentations began with the four sharing the suffering, misery, and unfillable void in their lives before Jesus' powerful touch. This was followed by a vibrant reenactment of the timeless Easter story, ending with concluding testimonies from the four Calvarites. Heartfelt rejoicing was all around when each spoke of how their lives were magnificently transformed by Jesus.

We praise and thank God for the privilege of sharing the saving grace of Jesus Christ with the city of Kuala Lumpur. A total of 6,488 people attended across all three nights, and sixty-seven people accepted the Lord for the first time. Forty-four rededicated their lives! There were also instances of healing, deliverance from fear, and newfound peace. We celebrate with the angels for the souls saved and restored!

 View more photos at our Facebook page [@calvarykl](#)



Jonathan Lim narrating the presentation



Soloists (L-R) Kimberly Woo, Joanna Bux, and Faith Chin



Testimonies being shared by (L-R) Jerry Loon, Ervin Loh, Faith Tay, and Chow Sang Hoe



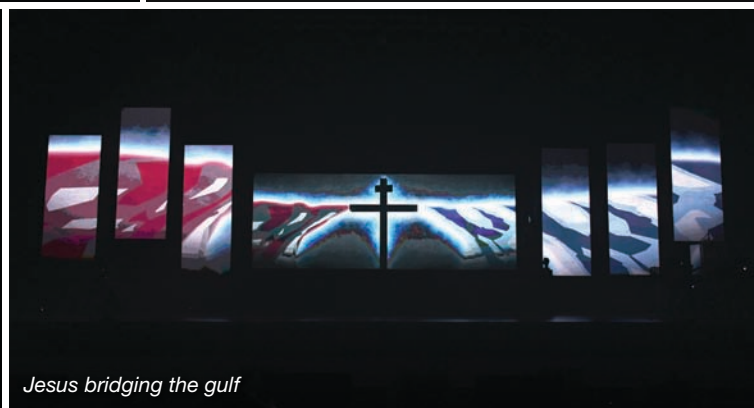
Creation



The fall of man



Crucifixion of Jesus



Jesus bridging the gulf



The resurrection of Jesus



The finale

EASTER EVANGELISTIC MEETINGS



The Music & Creative Arts team going all out for the Easter presentation





Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam concluding with altar call



Altar workers assisting those who responded

Photographs by
David Tan, Henry Tai,
Ler Me Yee, Wong Yet
Kang, Andre Chan,
Andrew Tan, Patrick
Seow, Kimberly Yip

The production cast and crew with Senior Pastors Prince and Petrina Guneratnam



PEMELIHARA JANJI

OLEH PENDITA KANAN PETRINA GUNERATNAM

Kata-kata terakhir dari orang yang dicintai sangat penting. Dalam bab terakhir dari Kitab Wahyu, Yesus menjanjikan kedatanganNya setelah kebangkitanNya dan sebelum kenaikanNya tiga kali.

“Sesungguhnya Aku datang segera. Berbahagialah orang yang menuruti perkataan-perkataan nubuat kitab ini!” (Wahyu 22:7).

“Sesungguhnya Aku datang segera dan Aku membawa upah-Ku untuk membalaskan kepada setiap orang menurut perbuatannya” (Wahyu 22:12).

“Ya, Aku datang segera!” Amin, datanglah, Tuhan Yesus!” (Wahyu 22:20).

Harapan mulia akan kedatangan Yesus memberi Gereja tujuannya di bumi. Penantian kembalinya Kristus tidak lama lagi akan menyebabkan kita hidup dalam terang kekekalan. Kita memiliki rumah abadi di Surga. Kerana itu, kita harus hidup dengan hasrat yang kuat untuk Kristus dan berfikir misi dalam memberitakan Injil sampai Ia datang.

Setiap hari penting bagi Kerajaan Tuhan dan setiap penekanan dalam Alkitab tentang kedatangan Yesus tidak lama lagi adalah direncana untuk mengobarkan harapan dan kekudusan dalam hidup kita sebagai orang percaya yang dilahirkan kembali (1 Yohanes 3:3).

i) Tanda-tanda yang dinubuatkan tentang kedatangan Kristus tidak seharusnya membuat kita tawar hati. Alkitab berkata, “Apabila semuanya itu mulai terjadi, bangkitlah dan angkatlah mukamu, sebab penyelamatanmu sudah dekat” (Lukas 21:28). Kita harus mengangkat kepala kita dengan iman, karena Tuhan adalah pemelihara janji.

ii) Janganlah kita membiarkan rasa takut, suara keraguan, dan ketidakpercayaan membuat kita putus asa. Yesus berkata, “Janganlah gelisah hatimu; percayalah kepada Tuhan, percayalah juga kepada-Ku. Di rumah Bapa-Ku banyak tempat tinggal. Jika tidak demikian, tentu Aku mengatakannya kepadamu. Sebab Aku pergi ke situ untuk menyediakan tempat bagimu. Dan apabila Aku telah pergi ke situ dan telah menyediakan tempat bagimu, Aku akan datang kembali dan membawa kamu ke tempat-Ku, supaya di tempat di mana Aku berada, kamupun berada” (Yohanes 14:1-3).

iii) Mari kita giat melakukan kehendak Tuhan, apa pun cabarannya. Paulus berkata, “Janganlah kita jemu-jemu berbuat baik, karena apabila sudah datang waktunya, kita akan menuai, jika kita tidak menjadi lemah” (Galatia 6:9).

iv) Marilah kita terdorong untuk menjadi saksi yang setia dan memberitakan Injil keselamatan sepenuhnya.

Kepastian akan kembalinya Yesus harus mencabar kita dalam tiga aspek kehidupan seharian kita:

1. KITA MEMBERITAKAN INJIL MELALUI HIDUP YANG BENAR.

Gaya hidup kita harus konsisten dengan pemberitaan Injil kita. Yesus mengakhiri khotbahNya di atas gunung dengan beberapa peringatan keras kepada para muridNya. Yesus berkata, “Bukan setiap orang yang berseru kepada-Ku: Tuhan, Tuhan! akan masuk ke dalam Kerajaan Sorga, melainkan dia yang melakukan kehendak Bapa-Ku yang di sorga. Pada hari terakhir banyak orang akan berseru kepada-Ku: Tuhan, Tuhan, bukankah kami bernubuat demi nama-Mu, dan mengusir setan demi nama-Mu, dan mengadakan banyak mujizat demi nama-Mu juga? Pada waktu itulah Aku akan berterus terang kepada mereka dan berkata: Aku tidak pernah mengenal kamu! Enyahlah dari pada-Ku, kamu sekalian pembuat kejahatan!” (Matius 7:21-23). Yesus berkhotbah kepada orang-orang yang mengenalNya



dan memanggilNya Tuhan, tetapi tetap tidak peduli dalam gaya hidup mereka. Yesus menolak orang-orang percaya yang tidak peduli, kerana mereka memusatkan melakukan kehendak Tuhan, daripada berada dalam kehendakNya. Mereka mengutamakan karisma daripada karakter.

Yesus mahu melihat karakter kita (Galatia 5:22-23). Buah Roh mencirikan kita sebagai orang percaya yang hidup dalam kehidupan Kristus. Alkitab berkata, “Karena kasih karunia Tuhan yang menyelamatkan semua manusia sudah nyata. Ia mendidik kita supaya kita meninggalkan kefasikan dan keinginan-keinginan duniawi dan supaya kita hidup bijaksana, adil dan beribadah di dalam dunia sekarang ini dengan menantikan penggenapan pengharapan kita yang penuh bahagia dan penyataan kemuliaan Tuhan yang Mahabesar dan Juruselamat kita Yesus Kristus” (Titus 2:11-13). Jika kita yakin akan kedatangan Kristus tidak lama lagi, kita akan menjalani kehidupan yang benar, menyucikan diri sendiri dan menolak keinginan daging. Alkitab berkata, “Saudara-saudaraku yang kekasih, sekarang kita adalah anak-anak Tuhan; dan belum terungkap siapa kita nantinya, tetapi kita tahu

bahwa ketika Dia dinyatakan, kita akan menjadi seperti Dia, kerana kita akan melihat Dia sebagaimana Dia adanya. Dan setiap orang yang memiliki harapan ini di dalam Dia menyucikan dirinya, sama seperti Dia murni” (1 Yohanes 3:2-3). Kita memberitakan Injil melalui kehidupan kita yang saleh.

2. KITA MENGAMBIL RISIKO BESAR BAGI KERAJAAN UNTUK MEMBERITAKAN INJIL.

Iman kita kepada Tuhan, yang berakar pada FirmanNya, mendorong kita untuk mengambil risiko agar Injil diberitakan. Kecuali jika Injil keselamatan diberitakan ke seluruh dunia, kembalinya Yesus segera akan menjadi penghakiman bagi mereka yang tidak percaya kepadaNya (Ibrani 9:27). Sebagai orang percaya yang dilahirkan kembali, kita memiliki tanggung jawab untuk memberikan pertanggungjawaban tentang kehidupan kita (Roma 14:12).

Yesus menceritakan perumpamaan tentang talenta (Matius 25:14-30). Dia menggambarkan pelayan yang tidak peduli yang diberi satu talenta tetapi memilih untuk tidak melakukan apa-apa dengan itu. Ia disebut hamba yang jahat dan malas (Matius 25:26). Dengan cara yang sama, janganlah kita mengabaikan hal-hal yang penting bagi kekekalan. Alkitab berkata, “Karena itu, saudara-saudaraku yang kekasih, berdirilah teguh, jangan goyah, dan giatlah selalu dalam pekerjaan Tuhan! Sebab kamu tahu, bahwa dalam persekutuan dengan Tuhan jerih payahmu tidak sia-sia” (1 Korintus 15:58).

3. KITA BERTEKAD UNTUK BERTAHAN SEHINGGA KE AKHIR.

Pengetahuan dan keyakinan akan kedatangan Yesus tidak lama lagi harus menempatkan kegigihan dalam hidup kita untuk memberitakan Injil sampai Ia datang. Meskipun keletihan dan kekecewaan mungkin mengaburkan visi kita, kita tidak patut tawar hati, tetapi bersemangat dalam melakukan kehendak Tuhan, kerana kita percaya bahwa Yesus akan segera datang. Kita perlu berpusat pada Yesus

kerana Dia adalah pemelihara janji. Alkitab berkata, “mata hatimu terang, agar kamu mengerti pengharapan apakah yang terkandung dalam panggilan-Nya: betapa kayanya kemuliaan bagian yang ditentukan-Nya bagi orang-orang kudus, dan betapa hebat kuasa-Nya bagi kita yang percaya, sesuai dengan kekuatan kuasa-Nya,” (Efesus 1:18-19). Yakobus juga mendorong orang-orang percaya untuk, “saudara-saudara, bersabarlah sampai kepada kedatangan Tuhan! Sesungguhnya petani menantikan hasil yang berharga dari tanahnya dan ia sabar sampai telah turun hujan musim gugur dan hujan musim semi. Kamu juga harus bersabar dan harus meneguhkan hatimu, karena kedatangan Tuhan sudah dekat! Saudara-saudara, janganlah kamu bersungut-sungut dan saling mempersalahkan, supaya kamu jangan dihukum. Sesungguhnya Hakim telah berdiri di ambang pintu” (Yakobus 5:7-9). Kerana itu, kita tidak boleh menyerah atau mempertimbangkan untuk berhenti melakukan kehendak Tuhan, karena Paulus berkata, “Sebab aku yakin, bahwa penderitaan zaman sekarang ini tidak dapat dibandingkan dengan kemuliaan yang akan dinyatakan kepada kita” (Roma 8:18).

Kita diciptakan untuk selamanya. Cabaran bagi setiap orang percaya hari ini adalah hidup dengan benar, risiko besar, dan untuk bertekad bertekun dalam kehidupan ini. Yesus berkata, “Dan apabila Aku telah pergi ke situ dan telah menyediakan tempat bagimu, Aku akan datang kembali dan membawa kamu ke tempat-Ku, supaya di tempat di mana Aku berada, kamupun berada” (Yohanes 14:3). Marilah kita semua setia dan taat dalam memberitakan Injil, karena Tuhan adalah pemelihara janji.

Semua petikan ayat Alkitab diambil daripada Alkitab Terjemahan Baru.

信守应许的神

文: PETRINA GUNERATNAM 副主任牧师

所 爱的人的遗言都具有十分重要的意义。在启示录的最后一章，耶稣在复活后和升天前曾三次应许他会再来。

「看哪，我必快来！凡遵守这书上预言的有福了。」(启22:7)

「看哪，我必快来！赏罚在我，要照每个人所行的报应他。」(启22:12)

「是的，我必快来！阿们！主耶稣啊，我愿你来！」(启22:20)

耶稣再来的荣耀盼望和期待赋予教会在地上存在的目的。对基督即将再来的期待应该使我们活在永恒的亮光中。我们在天堂有一个永恒的家。所以我们当以火热的心为基督而活，并存著使命感传福音直到他再来。

每一天对于神的国度都很重要，圣经中每一处关于耶稣即将再来的强调都是为了激发我们作为重生的信徒生活有盼望和纯洁 (约一3:3)。

- i) 基督再来的预兆不应该使我们丧胆。圣经上说：「一有这些事，你们就当挺身昂首，因为你们得救赎的日子近了」(路21:28)。我们当凭着信心挺身昂首，因神是信守应许者。
- ii) 不要让恐惧、疑惑和不信的声音使我们气馁。耶稣说道：「你们心里不要忧愁；你们信神，也当信我。在我父的家里有许多住处；若是没有，我就早已告诉你们了。我去原是为你们预备地方去。我若去为你们预备了地方，就必再来接你们到我那里去，我在哪里，叫你们也在哪里」(约14:1-3)。
- iii) 无论遇到什么困难，我们都要热心遵行神的旨意。保罗说道：「我们行善不可丧志，因为若不灰心，到了适当的时候就有收成」(加6:9)。
- iv) 让我们被激励作忠心的见证人，传扬救恩的全备福音。



耶稣必会再来，这对我们的日常生活有三方面的挑战：

1. 我们藉著公义的生活传讲福音

我们的生活方式必须与我们所传讲的福音一致。耶稣在登山宝训结束时，对门徒提出了一些非常严厉的警告。耶稣说道：「不是每一个称呼我‘主啊，主啊’的人都能进天国；惟有遵行我天父旨意的人才能进去。在那日必有许多人对我说：‘主啊，主啊，我们不是奉你的名传道，奉你的名赶鬼，奉你的名行许多异能吗？’我要向他们宣告：‘我从来不认识你们，你们这些作恶的人，给我走开！’」（太7:21-23）。耶稣对认识他和称他为主的人讲道，但是他们仍然没有过分别为圣的生活。耶稣拒绝掉以轻心的信徒，因为他们专注于行神的旨意，而不是成为合神心意的人。他们优先考虑的是魅力，而不是品格。

耶稣要的是我们的品格(加5:22-23)。圣灵的果子使我们成为活出基督生命的信徒。圣经上说：「因为，神救众人的恩典已经显明出来，训练我们除去不敬虔的心和世俗的情欲，在今世过克己、正直、敬虔的生活，等候福乐的盼望，并等候至大的神和我们的救主耶稣基督的荣耀显现」（多2:11-13）。如果我们确信基督快来，就必行事公义，洁净自己，弃绝肉体的情欲。圣经上说：「亲爱的，我们现在是神的儿女，将来如何还未显明。我们所知道的是：基督显现的时候，我们会像他，因为我们将见到他的本相。凡对他有这指望的，就洁净自己，像他是洁净的一样」（约一3:2-3）。我们藉著公义的生活传扬福音。

2. 我们冒着大风险为神国传扬福音

我们对神的信心是扎根于他的话语，它鼓励我们为传扬福音而冒险。除非救恩的福音被传遍天下，耶稣的快来会对那些不信他的人作出审判（来9:27）。作为重生的信徒，我们有责任把自己的事在神面前交代（罗14:12）。

耶稣讲了按才受托的比喻（太25:14-30）。他描述了一个掉以轻心的仆人，他被托付了一千银子，但却什么也不做。他被称为又恶又懒的仆人（太25:26）。同样，让我们也不要忽视那些永恒重要的事。圣经上说：「所以，我亲爱的弟兄们，你们务要坚固，不可动摇，常常竭力多做主工，因为你们知道，你们在主里的劳苦不是徒然的」（林前15:58）。

3. 我们坚决忍耐到底

耶稣快来的知识和确信应该使我们在生活中有一颗坚韧的心去传扬福音直到他再来。虽然疲惫和失望可能会模糊我们的视野，我们不应该灰心，而要有火热的心遵行神的旨意，因为我们相信耶稣就快来了。我们需要仰望耶稣，因为他是信守应许者。圣经上说：「照亮你们心中的眼睛，使你们知道他呼召你们来得的指望是什么，他在圣徒中所得荣耀的基业是何等丰盛，并知道他向我们这些信的人所显的能力是何等浩大，这是照他的大能大力运行的」（弗1:18-19）。雅各也鼓励信徒「所以弟兄们，你们要忍耐，直到主来。看哪，农夫等候着地里宝贵的出产，耐心地等到它得了秋霖春雨。你们也要忍耐，坚固你们的心，因为主来的日子近了。弟兄们，你们不要彼此埋怨，免得受审判。看哪，审判的主站在门口了」（雅5:7-9）。因此，我们不应该放弃或考虑退出遵行神的旨意，因保罗说道：「我认为，现在的苦楚，若比起将来要显示给我们的荣耀，是不足介意的」（罗8:18）。

我们是为永恒而被造的。今天每个信徒所面临的挑战是公义地生活，冒大风险，并坚决在今生忍耐。耶稣说道：「我若去为你们预备了地方，就必再来接你们到我那里去，我在哪里，叫你们也在哪里」（约14:3）。让我们都当忠信顺服地传扬福音，因为神是信守应许的神。

以上经文是采用中文圣经和合本修订版。



One for the album!

A FUN NIGHT OUT

BY SUNITA MATHEW

The Royal Rangers held its largest Ranger Kids (RK) Night Out yet from 29 to 30 March 2019, with 59 boys and girls from the ages of six to eight, and 15 commanders at Calvary Convention Centre. It was an overnight stay under the watchful eyes of the commanders, packaged with a fun-filled visit to “Pusat Sains Negara” (PSN). For some of the RK, this was their very first time away from home, so the excitement was apparent, noticeable also in the parents.

On Friday evening, the event started out with a children’s prayer meeting. The next morning, praise and worship and a time for devotion took priority before the RK headed out. At PSN, the RK were met with educational and interactive science exhibits, which piqued their interest. After lunch, they happily met their parents for home.

Praise God for a beautiful time!

Our leader was blessed too:

On the journey back, God prompted me to speak with a girl new to RK. We had a conversation about her religious amulet and life at home. She expressed her desire to be a Christian, and to be able to decide on her faith when she grows up. I felt privileged to pray for her after the conversation, knowing her desire to be a child of God. - **Group Commander, Esther Ong**



Keep going!



Getting to know a reptilian friend



Having an eco-static-al experience



“Can we pick a fish for lunch, please?”



Morning praise and worship



STEWARDING GOD'S CREATION

BY ALICIA E FEN

The Expedition Rangers (ER) organised a two-day camp at Seeds Malaysia, a sustainable suburban farm where the ERs learnt about sustainable agricultural methods, soil preparation, composting, enzyme making, and greenhouse planning.

On a sunny tour of the 55-acre land, the ER were introduced to permaculture, which is the development of sustainable, self-sufficient agricultural ecosystems, observed how hot compost is made, and admired the assortment of chemical-free plants and vegetables in the edible garden.

With increased modern technology these days, it was delightful to witness the ER playing the traditional game of congkak, teaching those unfamiliar with it.

After devotion the following day, our host conducted a workshop on making food compost and soil mixing, and briefly introduced rainwater harvesting and hydroponic systems. The ER were given the opportunity to harvest and prepare fresh farm produce for their own lunch. They took charge of their own meal, with good fellowship, sharing, and lots of laughter throughout!

As a final activity, everyone had fun selecting their own easy-to-grow plants to take home. Camp ended with an emphasis on the Bible verse from Genesis 1:26-31, highlighting God's blessing and calling for all of us to be responsible over God's creation.



Learning about hot compost

Royal Rangers is for boys and girls six to 17 years old. Join us on Sundays, 11.30am at Calvary Convention Centre. For more information, call 03-8999 5532 ext. 408.



Enjoying a game of congkak



Making a food compost container



Makan time!

AN ACT OF OBEDIENCE

Congratulations to 28 Calvarites who followed Christ in water baptism on 23 March 2019 at the Saturday Worship Service at Calvary Damansara Heights. The Lord bless your obedience in your journey with Him.



(Left to Right)

- Front Row:** Angel Roshini M., Sheena Yeoh, John Jeremiah, Timothy Mooi Shien Wai, Joshua Kelvin, Shaun Andrew
2nd Row: Eunice Yong Man Lee, Kimberly Kee Mee Lee, Selene Mooi Sze Yan, Siew Wai San,
3rd Row: Elisha Nagarajan A/L Kanniah, Suguna A/P Vellapan, Grace Mbulo, Veronica Chee Siew Ling Roselynn, Jenny Lydia A/P Alvin Sesu
4th Row: Cheong Lye Kay, Shereen Ting, Vivian Lim Cheng Choo, Veronica Angelin
5th Row: Tee Kher Shin, Ng Min Shi, Eleora Leong Li Yang, Jurrien Leong Hau Xiong, Humphrey Hoh Man Lin
Back Row: Wilson Cheong Wei Shan, Navineswaren A/L Sunther, Mooi Kin Seng, Hecelyn Alpha C. Cabungan

If you would like to take the step of obedience to the Lord and be water baptised, call 03-8999 5532 ext. 434, visit calvary.my/water-baptism, or talk to any of the pastors.

MEMBERSHIP ACCEPTANCE

Congratulations to 33 Calvarites who were received as members on 17 March 2019 at the Sunday Worship Service at Calvary Convention Centre. May you continue to be faithful in this local body of Christ and be involved in serving the Lord.

For more information on church membership, call 03-8999 5532 ext. 434, or talk to any of the pastors.



PRAYING FOR MALAYSIA

BY ASSOCIATE PASTOR TIMOTHY ONG

1 Timothy 2:1-2 clearly urges us to bring our king and those in authority before the Lord. We are grouping our prayers into four weekly themes to pray for our nation during the month of May:

1-10 MAY – NATIONAL LEADERS

Prayer focus: Our current and future leadership.

- For all in the government to be people of integrity, justice, and courage; passionate in their service.
- For the three branches of government – executive, legislature, and judiciary – to be effective and efficient.
- For the Yang di-Pertuan Agong, the King of Malaysia, that he will provide sound advice to the government and people.
- For the young leaders – that they will work wisely and steer clear of all forms of greed, corruption, and injustice.

18-24 MAY – COMMUNICATIONS AND MULTIMEDIA

Prayer focus: On positive communication and the impact of multimedia.

- For media practitioners to be more responsible, balanced, and objective.
- For media freedom to be nurtured, and practitioners to be bold when speaking the truth.
- For the government to manage all communication forms responsibly and truthfully.
- That we will be mindful managing the fast-growing advent of all forms of communication – to protect the personal privacy of all.

11-17 MAY – EDUCATION AND YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

Prayer focus: Our education systems – to bridge, rather than divide, and to promote racial and religious unity and harmony.

- For the education system to be effective and fulfill its purpose.
- For all to have access to education, especially those in the rural areas.
- For there to be specific programmes for the development of the young people.
- That youths will be aware of the dangers of social media, where personal privacy can be easily compromised.

25-31 MAY – COMMUNITY AND SOCIAL CONCERN

Prayer focus: On the different communities in our nation.

- For the needs of the different communities, especially the poor and the marginalised.
- For wisdom and resources as we respond to the migrants and refugees in great need.
- For the indigenous people of the land – the Peninsula Orang Asli, and the Sabahan and Sarawakian Orang Asal to be lifted out of poverty, their land rights restored, and that they be empowered to play a productive, leadership role in the affairs of our nation.
- That the indigenous church will be strong, courageous, and protected.

WE HAVE A NEW PARKING SYSTEM!

We will be using Touch n Go (TnG) to provide a better parking system, enhance security, and optimise parking facilities at Calvary Convention Centre (CCC). Remember to bring your TnG card when you park at CCC.

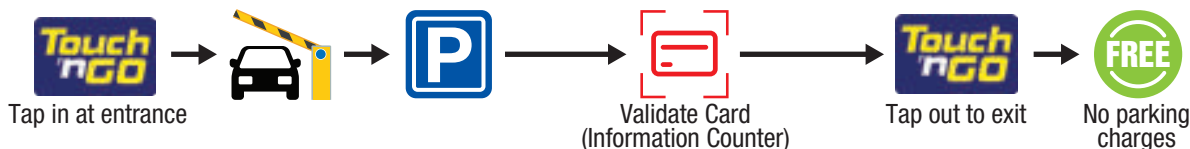
Vehicles arriving at CCC will need to tap their TnG card at the barrier to enter. To exit, when the TnG card is tapped again, a parking fee will be deducted before the barrier opens. If you are coming to CCC for a church service or event, parking is complimentary.

WEEKENDS • Sunday Service • Church Events



When arriving on Sundays before service or for church events, you will not need to tap your TnG card. However, you will need to tap your TnG card on your way out of CCC. Note that you will not be charged for parking at CCC.

WEEKENDS • Arriving after service begins



If you arrive after service begins and the barrier has been lowered, you will have to tap your TnG card at the entrance. After service, head to the information counter, and validate your TnG card at the card reader. You will not be charged for parking at CCC.

WEEKDAYS • Ministry Events • Church Activities • Prayer Meetings



On weekdays, if you are at CCC for ministry events, church activities, or prayer meetings, validate your TnG card at the card reader at the ministry event, the Church Office reception (9am-5pm, Monday to Friday only), or at the Prayer Tower.

WEEKDAYS



For activities not described above, a parking fee will be charged to your TnG card.

TnG cards will **not** be available for sale at CCC, and neither will there be a facility to top up TnG credit. Obtain a TnG card before coming. Ensure your card has sufficient value.

BLOOD DONATION DRIVE

Sunday, 5 May 2019
10.00am to 2.00pm

Calvary Convention Centre



MOTHER'S DAY SERVICE



Sunday, 12 May 2019, 9.00am

Calvary Convention Centre

Speaker: Associate Pastor Chan Lee Peng

Special performance by Calvary Kids



CALVARY *Church Camp* 2019

**Date: Monday - Thursday,
27-30 May 2019**

**Venue: Bayview Beach Resort,
Batu Ferringhi, Penang**

**Registration closes
12 May 2019**

WORSHIP SCHEDULE MAY 2019

Saturday, 5.00pm Calvary Damansara Heights

- 04 Associate Pastor Raymond Yong
Communion
- 11 Associate Pastor Chan Lee Peng
- 18 Associate Pastor Timothy Ong
- 25 Associate Pastor David Seah
Water Baptism

Sunday, 9.00am Calvary Convention Centre

- 05 Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam
Communion
Baby Dedication
- 12 Associate Pastor Chan Lee Peng
Mother's Day
- 19 Associate Pastor David Seah
- 26 Associate Pastor Steven Kum

ACTIVITIES

12
MAY



TAMIL FELLOWSHIP

Sunday, 11.30am
Theatrette 2, Level B2,
Calvary Convention Centre
Speaker: Associate Pastor
Richard Yun

25
MAY



WATER BAPTISM

Saturday, 5.00pm
Calvary Damansara Heights

*Closing date for submission of application:
Sunday, 12 May 2019*

31
MAY



CHURCH SUMMIT OPEN SESSION

Friday, 7.30pm
Calvary Damansara Heights
Theme: Follow Me as I Follow Christ
Topic: Reinvent Yourself
Speaker: Dr. Earl Creps



11 & 25 MAY 2019

YOUTH FELLOWSHIP

Saturday, 1.00pm
Calvary Damansara Heights
Topic: Discovering Jesus



27 - 30 MAY 2019

CHURCH CAMP

Monday - Thursday
Bayview Beach Resort,
Batu Ferringhi, Penang

Church Camp Briefing

Date: Sunday, 26 May 2019

Time: 11.00am

Venue: Calvary Convention Centre Auditorium



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Senior Pastor Rev. Tan Sri Datuk Dr. Prince Guneratnam

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