

**The Vine Committee**

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Unveiling the Plaque  
during Thanksgiving  
Service 25/2/17



**Brother  
Martin  
Writes**

On 5<sup>th</sup> February 2017, we went out to the neighbourhood to distribute the flyers to invite the people to come for the Open House on 4<sup>th</sup> March 2017. To many it may seem like a simple task but to me and my CG, we were under great spiritual attack.

Suddenly, I had an intense gout attack two days earlier and I wasn't even sure I could make the distribution. Many of my CG members were also having physical ailments and could not come to help. Even those who were willing to help faced attacks in one way or another which prevented them from carrying out the mission. In the end, only five of us managed to go door to door. However, God did



intervene and provided us Rev Martin Yee and Betsy to help out.

As I pondered over this issue, I wondered why the devil would even bother to hinder us from going door to door if the people were not going to come. If God had helped us to build new JCC, would He not also help us to grow JCC? Yes the people will be coming, we must pray that they will find the presence of our Lord in JCC. How can they feel God's presence but through us, His people, His ambassadors. I pray that indeed we will not be hindered from being there to welcome the neighbours with the Great Commandment – to love our neighbour.



I also cannot understand why on 13<sup>th</sup> February 2017 sister Janet Cher from our Chinese Section was seriously injured by a falling tree. She was actively involved in the Thanksgiving Service event on the 25<sup>th</sup> February. She is still in the hospital. JCC held a synchronized prayer for her healing. I believe this tragedy was a unifying factor for JCC, when the Chinese and English, Youth and Adults and even some LCS congregations came together to pray as one people to the Lord. It may sound cliché but we are not changing God, He is changing us, making us a united people. "All for one, and one for all."

I was in Cambodia on a mission trip with Yew Moi from 1-3 February. While there, I managed to ask the 2 pastors of LCC Krus how they came to Christ and the answer was simply, they came to church.

Pastor Mose said that a friend brought him to church. He attended a few times and eventually it dawned on him that he was a sinner and he accepted Christ.



Pastor Sopheoun came to church when she heard there was a Sunday School and she joined the children although she was much older. When she heard the story of creation, she came to accept Christ.

Their testimonies reveal something - that all we need to do is to invite our friends to church and let God do the rest. Of course we need to have some evangelistic sermons once a while. What better opportunity than now when the church building is new and people are curious about what is inside and we are having an Open House.

Let me conclude with a side story. A few Sundays ago, I asked Wong Mui why our Sanctuary had such odd looking walls and ceilings. He explained to me that the wavy forms of the walls and ceilings were specifically designed to enhance the acoustics of the hall. So if you were to talk in the Sanctuary, the sound will be increased and carried further by the design of the hall. So a careless whisper may be heard by everyone. Isn't it interesting, well it is good to know.



I picked up a section of the papers on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> February and the caption was "Envisioning the Future". As I turn the pages, it was all about what the future holds for us until I came to the Obituaries pages nearing the end. Indeed this is our ultimate future. It is sad for those who do not have the long term plan but only all the short term plans.

*Martin Cheah*