

Jurong Christian Church

The Vine



For Internal Circulation Only



WHY PENTECOST

by John Lee



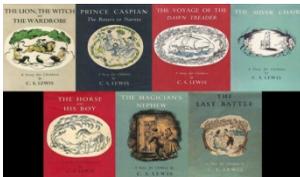
THINK ABOUT GOD

by Alicia Wong



TO GOD BE THE GLORY

By Roger Tan



FAMILY DEVOTIONS

by Saw Peh Ern



The Vine This Month

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HOM Editorial

Already half a year has passed and soon June 2019 will pass too. "Life is

like a box of chocolates" as someone once said. In my working life, there were many times I don't know what I was going to get. But looking back over the years, God must have been orchestrating every step. Three times I was transferred to another department, including this last time at the last year of my working life. Is there a plan that I cannot see because most of my colleagues and bosses from the previous departments have already left but I still remain? Is there a mission which I have to fulfil before leaving or it is just simply God's provision of an income source? If without income, how could I afford to attend 5 weddings (4 in JCC and also Joo See' nephew's) already this year.

Indeed time seems to fly as I just celebrated my 66th year in this world. Some of these young couples were in Sunday School when I first joined JCC.

Sealed with a kiss! May God watch over their marriage and help them through all the ups and downs of the happy ever after life.

In the recent Church Retreat, Rev Philip Tan talked about money quite a number of times, reminding us that it is better to give than to receive (Acts 20:25). He told a story of a bank where the money deposited became the property of the bank and the depositor does not own the money anymore. He likens the bank to people who receive God's monetary blessings and possess it denying God's ownership of it.

It reminds me that God has provided me with 1 last year of income and I must not sow sparingly. (2 Corinthians 9:6)



Martin Cheah

Recommended Reading from the Pastor

Church Members, Here Are 10 Ways to KILL Your Church

By [Tejado Hanchell](#) -

I have the awesome privilege of serving a church that has been around for over 80 years. In those 80 years, the church has only had four senior pastors. While our congregation has had its share of struggles over the years, we are pleased that we have survived!

Considering the staggering statistics on [church mortality](#) in America, we are grateful to God for still standing strong. Some researchers suggest that between 3,500-4,500 churches close their doors (or die) each year. That means that in the time since our congregation was founded over 80 years ago, over 300,000 churches have died!

I suspect that most church “deaths” occur for a few simple (and oftentimes avoidable) reasons.

Recently, one of the senior members of our congregation—who has been there for all 80 plus years—handed me a church newsletter that was written in 1959. As I delicately flipped through the tattered pages of this precious document, one article in the newsletter pricked my attention. The title, which I have borrowed for this blog post, was simply “10 Ways to Kill a Church.”

The thing that interested me the most is how this list of “church killers” written in 1959 looks so much like the usual suspects in many church deaths today.

Here is my slightly paraphrased version of the 1959 list of “10 Ways to Kill a Church”:

1. Don't come.

One of the biggest church killers is [waning attendance](#). Many people simply can't find the time to spend an hour or two in the Lord's house. We find excuse after excuse as to why we can't come to church.

I wonder what our lives would look like if God only showed up at our house as often as we showed up at His. The Bible is clear about the importance of assembling or coming together ([Hebrews 10:25](#)).

I believe in the importance of going to church, which is why I do a weekly Twitter hashtag called #Go2Church. If we don't go to church, we just might be playing a part in killing the church.

2. If you do come, make sure it's late.

So many of today's worshipers (and apparently those of 1959) have a lackadaisical attitude toward worship. We have an "I'll get there when I get there" attitude when it comes to church attendance.

I wonder, however, if we showed up to our job the way we show up to our church...how many of us would still be employed?

We say that God is an "on time" God, but can He say the same about us? A lack of punctuality when it comes to worship is a microcosm of our overall view of God. It says that whatever else we are doing is more important, and God can just wait until we get there. This type of attitude is a major church killer.

3. Only show up when the weather is good.

Ever been to church in a driving rainstorm? Neither have most of the other people in your church! Some people only go to church when the sun is out and there are no clouds in the sky.

We have produced a culture of "fair-weather" Christians, who only attend church when everything is going right in their lives. The moment a storm hits their life, they get mad at God, the pastor and the church.

There are some people who you can tell exactly what's going on in their lives based upon their church attendance. When things are great and they have a little money in their pockets, they're on the front row singing "Amazing Grace," but as soon as they get laid off or deal with some sort of difficulty, they're ready to "curse God and die" ([Job 2:9](#)). The only thing that dies with that kind of attitude is the church.

4. Find fault with everything (and/or everyone).

Most homicide investigations begin by researching those who had something negative to say about the victim. Similarly, when a church dies, you can be sure that [the fault finders are prime suspects](#). These are the folks who sit "in the seat of the scornful" ([Psalm 1:1](#)).

Fault finders can always SPOT a problem, but they never SOLVE a problem. They are definitely church killers.

5. Never accept a leadership role or responsibility.

Many people have a "renters" mentality when it comes to church; they take no ownership.

When you rent an apartment, if something breaks, you call the landlord to fix it. Since you don't own it, you have no obligation to fix it. There are too many people renting pews (and some pulpits).

It's far easier to criticize than to mobilize. As Seth Godin says, "No one has ever built a statue to a critic." If we want to make a difference, we have to accept the responsibility to lead—whether formally or informally.

Leadership is not about position; it's about productivity. A congregation full of followers is on life support and is getting ready to die.

6. Get mad if you're not appointed to a leadership position.

So many people in church are focused on titles. They want to be directors, deacons and dignitaries, and when they are not appointed to a position, they begin to stir up trouble.

This is a manifestation of deep-seated pride, and pride is one of the most dangerous killers of all.

7. Never give your opinion in a meeting...wait until AFTER the meeting.

A surefire sign of a church that is on its deathbed is one that has major "meetings-after-the-meeting." You know, where no one voices their honest opinion or offers useful insight during the official meeting, but are quick to huddle in a corner or the church parking lot after the meeting to harp on how "it ought to be done."

There are chalk lines all over church parking lots outlining exactly where the murder took place.

8. Do nothing more than absolutely necessary.

Show up, go home, but don't be an active, engaged member of the church.

It's hard to reach "the least of these" when we're only doing the least we can do.

The sad reality, however, is that most people who only want to do the least, love to criticize those who are doing the most! They howl about how the church is being run by a clique, when they never offered or took initiative to get any work done.

They just stand on the sideline and watch the church die. At the very least, they are an accessory to the murder.

9. Hold back on your giving to the Lord.

It takes money to do ministry—especially to do mercy ministry for the underserved in our communities. Tim Keller says that “mercy ministry is expensive.” When we hold back on our giving to the Lord and His work, we are limiting the work that can be done through the local church.

Additionally, since there are operational costs associated with a church or ministry, a lack of giving can lead to the church being foreclosed, laying off staff and other adverse results.

Some people say, “Well, all the church wants is money.” The same can be said of Walmart, yet they keep taking their money there! While I do not discount that there have been those who have abused and misused the church for financial gain, there are thousands of churches serving in their communities who are dying because of a lack of finances. When we stop giving, we are killing those churches...and the countless lives they touch each day.

10. Don't reach out to the unchurched.

The primary purpose of the church is to introduce people to Jesus. The people in the pews must take ownership of that responsibility and become “minichurches” that reach out to the unchurched every day of the week and bring them to the house of the Lord to be discipled.

Churches need regular and consistent “transfusions.”

When new people are brought into the church, they bring new life and vibrancy. They ensure that the church doesn't get stuck in the old way of doing things. They bring fresh perspective, and they help keep the church alive. Don't kill your church! Go and bring in some new people today.

These are 10 ways to kill a church.

Can you think of any others? Do you agree or disagree with any on this list? Let me know in the comments section.

Why Pentecost?

The Holy Spirit with us

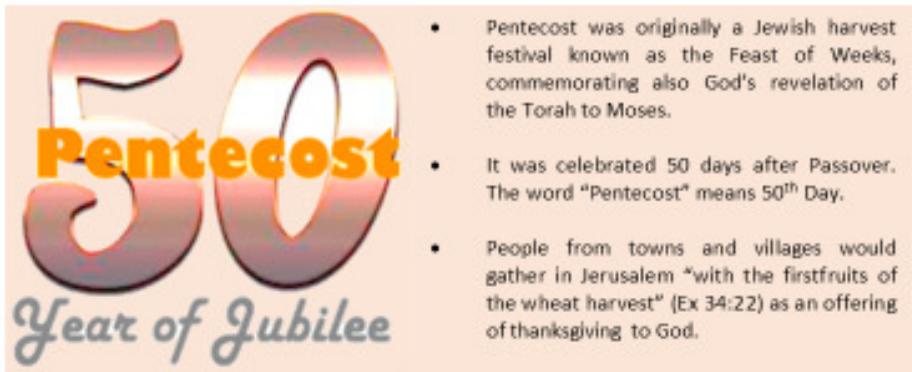
This year, Pentecost Sunday falls on June 9. On the Day of Pentecost, Christians tend to focus on it as the day when the Holy Spirit descended on the disciples of Christ after the Lord's death and resurrection (Acts 2:1-11):

"When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them. Now there were staying in Jerusalem God-fearing Jews from every nation under heaven. When they heard this sound, a crowd came together in bewilderment, because each one heard their own language being spoken. Utterly amazed, they asked: "Aren't all these who are speaking Galileans? Then how is it that each of us hears them in our native language? 9 Parthians, Medes and Elamites; residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya near Cyrene; visitors from Rome (both Jews and converts to Judaism); Cretans and Arabs—we hear them declaring the wonders of God in our own tongues!"

Below are two ways of looking at Pentecost:

(1) Pentecost in the Jewish calendar

Firstly, apart from the miraculous happening (the disciples speaking in tongues) on that particular day referred to in Acts 2, the annual Day of Pentecost was already a special day in the Jewish calendar when the Israelites would celebrate the Festival of Weeks mentioned in Deut 16:9–12, Lev 23:15–22, Ex 34:22 and Nu 28:26–31. The name “Pentecost” derived from the number 50 (Lev 23:16) in the counting of days to the time that the Israelites would celebrate “by giving a **freewill offering** in proportion to the blessings” they had received from God. (Deut 16:10)



So, Pentecost was an important day for thanksgiving and offering even before the incident of “speaking in tongues”.

(2) Pentecost 50 Days After Easter

It happened as promised!

Jesus promised the He would send the Holy Spirit to be with His disciples forever. (John 14:26). When the Holy Spirit descended on the disciples on the Day of Pentecost, it was a powerful testimony of Jesus being always present with them according to His promise (Matt. 28:20). And on this day, when the disciples were gathered together, the Holy Spirit filled each of them, empowering them to speak in tongues. The tongues, being **foreign languages unknown to the speakers but**

**WHEN THE SPIRIT OF TRUTH COMES,
HE WILL GUIDE YOU INTO ALL THE TRUTH**



*for he will not speak on his own authority,
but whatever he hears he will speak,
and he will declare to you the things that are to come*

Pentecost

- 50 days after the Resurrection, the Holy Spirit descended upon the Apostles and other followers of Jesus Christ.
- The Holy Spirit enabled them to speak in other tongues; i.e., native languages of people in the crowd. (Acts 2:6, 8)
- Pentecost marks the beginning of the Christian Church and the Church's mission to the world.

known to the listeners, enabled the disciples to preach the gospel beyond their own language capabilities to those who were with them there and then. The miraculous aspect of the experience also had the empowering effect on the disciples, enhancing their strength of faith in Christ and their boldness to go forth thereafter to preach the gospel far and wide.

Read Acts 1.

Among the number of significant things Jesus did and taught His chosen disciples, He instructed them: “Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about. For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.”

He said to them: “It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”

While they were looking intently into the sky when Jesus was taken up before their eyes, two men dressed in white stood beside them. “Men of Galilee,” they said, “why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven.”

Acts 2:1 tells us that on the Day of Pentecost, the disciples were all gathered in one place. **Do you think it was by chance that they were together?** Their purpose of gathering had one expected outcome – meeting the Holy Spirit, and thereby receiving the power to be Christ’s witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth. (Acts 1:8)

On the Day of Pentecost, the disciples were gathered together:

- with unity of heart loving Jesus;
- with oneness of spirit in worship and prayer;
- with singular anticipation for the Holy Spirit to come.

The Holy Spirit did come upon them as Jesus had promised. Their faith was strengthened; their life, renewed. They felt powerfully charged to go forth to be Christ’s witnesses “in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth” as per God’s will and the Lord’s instruction prior to His resurrection.

It happened according to divine plan!

Why do Christians celebrate Pentecost?

Celebrating Pentecost is celebrating the birth of the Christian church, the flourishing of the body of Christ. Jesus is alive! He is with us in the Person of the Advocate; i.e., the Holy Spirit; whom the Father sent to help us and be with us forever. (John 14:16)

The Day of Pentecost is to us an important day for commemoration and reflection; for our right posture of worship, thanksgiving, offering and uplifted resolve to preach the gospel to the world.



On this Pentecost Sunday, we remind ourselves of the purpose of thanks-

giving and joy before the living God, with attention to the Church's mission to the world.

John Lee

Did I think about God today?

For those who do not know my lifestyle, it is actually pretty dry. My days are filled with dance, conditioning classes and dance practices. Add to the fact that I juggle all these in between my work. I do not have the time for stuff that average people do other than the occasional date nights my hubby and I set aside for a movie in the theater. There are times I worry that my passion in dance consume me so much so that it will become an idol in place of God. That day, I felt a need to touch base with Him so I went to read up on my devotion for the day. However, I was so exhausted physically that looking at the printed words made my head spin.



Giving up, I plugged into my ear pods and closed my eyes to focus on the music in the playlist. Strangely, images of movements formed behind my eyelids and my body moved to the swell of the music. The feeling I felt at that moment was so beautiful that I asked God if this is Him. Yes, it is Him. This is Him in another form, multiple forms. God showed me He is not limited in ways of showing Himself. This is Him answering a question I have been pondering over the past few days when I saw a Christian artiste shared in a video about feeling God in his music (he specializes in contemporary songs). I was wondering how the experience would be like for a dancer like me. Now I do.

I am sure many of us lead lives just as busy, whether with work, caring for your children or with other commitments. Sometimes, we may not even remember if we had prayed or even consciously gave God a thought during those busy days.

Does the bible say anything about thinking of God?

Let's check out **1 Chronicles 13:2-3**

2 He then said to the whole assembly of Israel, "If it seems good to you and if it is the will of the Lord our God, let us send word far and wide to the rest of our people throughout the territories of Israel, and also to the priests and Levites who are with them in their towns and pasturelands, to come and join us. 3 Let us bring the ark of our God back to us, for we did not inquire of it during the reign of Saul."



After David assumed the throne of Israel, he recognised that the people had been remiss in thinking about God. Their leader, King Saul, had been unfaithful to God and had not sought His guidance for some time. David's first royal act was to bring the

ark of the covenant to Jerusalem, back to its place at the center of worship among the people of God as a **physical reminder** of God's presence, sovereignty and faithfulness.



Ever wonder why many of the great cathedrals of Europe were built in the center of towns, the hub of people's business and worship life? Physical reminders of God

help us take time to talk and listen to Him. In Singapore, we are fortunate to have churches within a few kilometers of our living quarters. Our churches today are also physical reminders of God. When we step into our church building, we are reminded to meet God there. When we attend care groups gatherings, we are reminded of Him through God's people. We can also place reminders around our homes or office to help trigger thoughts of God. Don't let a day go by after which we wonder, *Did I think about God today?* Always let God be the center of our lives. Remember to ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives; the one who seeks finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened. (Matthew 7:7-8)

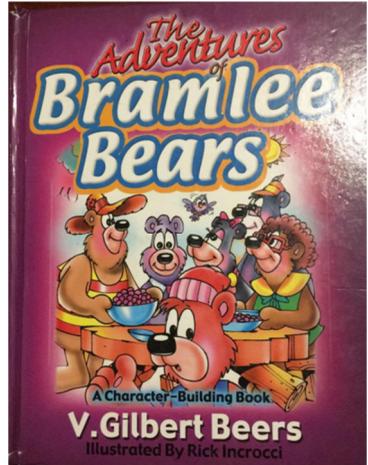
If we develop eyes to see, God will give us glimpses of Himself through people, the beauty of nature or in other forms. When that moment happens, take time to whisper a prayer of adoration, love and thanksgiving. Thank Him for encircling you with loving friends and family.

Alicia Wong

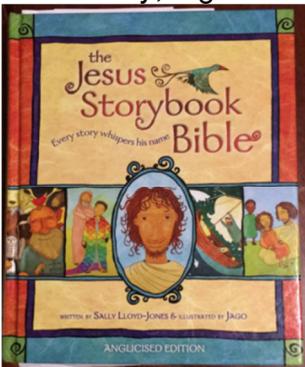
The interesting journey leading to family devotions

Dear friends,

I remember much of the early years of being a parent, when Joseph and I started reading stories to my son during bedtime. We graduated from children stories to stories with good values, like the Adventures of Bramlee Bears series, which was second hand and gifted to me. Then we moved on to simple Bible stories which were thrifted (from thrift stores) when he was about 3 to 4 years old. In those early years, my spiritual life was rather dry as most of the time I was consumed with caring for my son's needs. By the end of each day, I would need a good night's sleep in order to prepare and cope with the demands of a full-time home maker for the next day. Even church on Sundays provided little spiritual input because I was too distracted trying to engage and keep an active child quiet during the worship service.

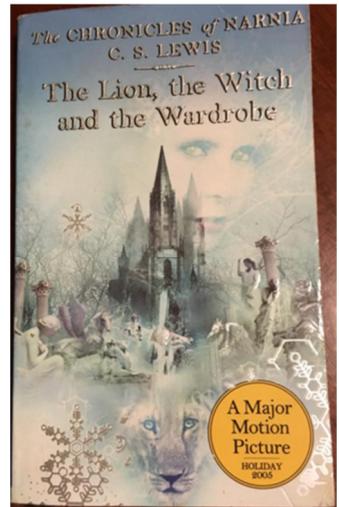


Thankfully, it got a little easier when he got a little older. Easier in the sense that I had a little more time for myself to rest and do more soul care when he went to preschool during those 3 to 4 hours. However, there were other challenges that came in with regards to discipline and the imparting of values. It was through the reading of Bible stories at bedtime that interestingly gave me the spiritual input that I was lacking. The stories were simple but the basic truths



were there to remind me. One children's Bible called 'The Jesus Storybook Bible' was particularly impactful because the author wrote it in such a way that each Bible story from the Old Testament to the New Testament pointed to Jesus as the central theme. I got to know about that particular children's Bible from a Facebook post of a friend and it prompted me to buy it. Looking back, it was a good investment not just for my son but myself as well.

I found that it was helpful to have a few versions of the children bible when the stories became too familiar for him and he needed the variety to keep him interested. Then when I felt he was old enough, we graduated to a children's Bible that was without pictures. In order to keep him motivated to listen to the Bible readings, I had to intersperse with the reading of 'The Chronicles of Narnia'. Children still like listening to stories and it was helpful to be able to hear the story of Jesus' sacrifice written in another story form. Now I'm beginning to understand why the Bible have so many stories!



Recently Rev Fredric introduced us to this family devotion called 'Growing Faith at home'. The good thing about it is that the Bible readings follow the lectionary readings and the church calendar seasons for the year. There is also a creative element that helps us to remember and practice some of the Bible teachings. However, some of the readings require more explanation and I was caught off guard by some of the questions that my son asked about the readings. Well, now that we are in the internet age, this can be helpful because there are resources out there to help us but we need to make sure we go to reliable sources. I

also realised that I had to do a little more preparation to make these readings more relevant to him. It is also better to read from the Bible translated for children to make it easier for them to understand. Reason being is that young children take the readings literally and imagine how you would explain to a child when you read the passage that says, "If any one comes to me and does not hate his own father and mother and wife and children and brothers and sisters, yes, and even his own life, he cannot be my disciple." (LOL, note for parents, choose Bible passages that are age appropriate for your children.)

My hope in sharing this is that we are encouraged to begin this journey and to press on for those who have already embarked on it. This is not only for our children, but for ourselves as well. The journey was not always easy but I think it was well worth it. Often it is our children who become our teachers in their simple faith and honesty towards God's basic truths that make us reflect on our own journey with God. Be Blessed!

Yours Sincerely,
Your fellow sojourner,

Saw Peh Ern

JCC RETREAT 2019

20 – 22 June 2019

ARISE AND SHINE (Isaiah 60:1-3) – LIVING AN IMPACTFUL LIFE



Wow! More than 100 pax from JCC descended on The Katerina Hotel in Batu Pahat for the retreat. In the hotel room, I found the sign that posed the questions: HUNGRY? THIRSTY?

The 100+ plus among us must surely be hungry and thirsty. By the end of the retreat, they would be well-fed on the bread of life and never be thirsty. (Jn 6:35)

Take a moment to think: What is the real meaning of the Church retreat when we have the Sunday School, Care

Groups, Pulpit preaching, Bible classes, etc. throughout the year for those who are hungry and thirsty to be filled? (Mt 5:6)

Sunday School, CGs, pulpit preaching and Bible classes don't replace one another. Similarly, a retreat is a worthwhile complement to our other church activities. Going to a retreat, we temporarily withdraw from the busyness and distractions engulfing us in our life. In a peaceful atmosphere, we reflect on our spiritual life and listen to God's Word. We then return to our normal surroundings to be salt with its flavour restored and the lamp that is boldly put out on a stand to shine before men so that they may see our good works and glorify our Father who is in heaven. (Mt 5:13-16)

Indeed, to **ARISE AND SHINE** (Isa 60:1-3) was the call we received at the retreat, in connection with the retreat theme of **LIVING AN IMPACTFUL LIFE**:

- 1. Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord rises upon you.*

2. *See, darkness covers the earth and thick darkness is over the peoples, but the Lord rises upon you and his glory appears over you.*
3. *Nations will come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn.*

Our spiritual state can at times become like our mobile phone running out of power. When the power becomes low, we may notice it and go for a recharge. Sometimes, however, we miss noticing it and then what happens? The consequence of having a phone without power is understandable. How about a life in a spiritual state that is running down and out?

It is consequential when spiritual complacency sets in. The retreat speaker (Rev. Dr. Philip Tan) urged all to arise from a complacent state. He shared inspiring messages about being impacted by God's glory, restoration of a despondent life and becoming a light bearer for Christ.



I identified a common thread that runs through the messages; i.e., it is never by our own effort that we can reflect God's glory. To be light of the world, our light essentially derives from God. Just like the moon reflecting light, the light that we shine into the darkness does not originate from us but from Christ. The glory that we reflect is consequently God's glory:

- "For from him and through him and for him are all things. To him be the glory forever! Amen." – Rom 11:36
- "For the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord as the waters cover the sea." – Habakkuk 2:14

What is God's glory? Rev. Dr. Philip Tan had us understand the three-fold manifestations of God's glory:

- His manifested presence (Jn 1:14)
- His manifested power (2 Chron 5:14)
- His manifested goodness (Ex 33:18-19)

The speaker cited examples of the Holy Spirit ministering personally, a person recovering from serious physical condition and a person released from bondage to bad habit. He also shared about how God's goodness extends to blessing His people in financial aspects, such as the miraculous provision of the huge finance we needed in the church rebuilding project despite the meagre sum we had in the bank at the start of the project.



"Life is like a box of chocolates. You never know what you're gonna get." – Forrest Gump

Is our life like a box of chocolates as we experience the rat race, the heavy burden on our shoulders and the series of hardship? Is the thief stealing the goodness of our life? (Jn 10:10) Money not enough?

If your life falls into the doldrums, God can restore it not just to its original condition but to many times better. (Job 42:12-15)

There was just so much of inspiring nourishment to satisfy our hunger and thirst that, unfortunately, it is not possible for me to replicate them in writing. The messages on repairing the broken altar (by Rev. Dr. Philip Tan) and repairing the broken wall (by Rev. Anthony) were among the food for our digestion.

I should not forget to give thanks to God for the outstanding Prayer Walk activity. It comprised several prayer stations set up across a few rooms in the hotel. The retreat participants would individually traverse through all the stations and each station would have instructions for them to engage their mind and emotion in-depth to allow God to speak to them through their silent prayerful postures. The following (not listed in sequence) were the meditative focus points of some of the stations:

- What can wash away my sin?
- Transformed by His grace
- Who is this God we serve?
- Impacted by His glory
- Become a light bearer
- Where is the harvest field?

I joined the retreat with much initial hesitation because I was under some stress of dealing with the messy state of HDB upgrading work in my house and was concerned about the possible clash of dates for some additional work. Nevertheless, I finally decided to go for the retreat, and the Prayer Walk was just a good opportunity for a quiet moment to seek the needed spiritual salve.

It was the first time I experienced such a Prayer Walk activity at a retreat. Apart from the essence of the spiritual activity, a lot of effort by our young and talented church members also shone through the planning and organizing of the various stations. We give thanks to God for the retreat committee, for the retreat speaker, for the physical resources God made available for our blessing and **NOT FORGETTING for our youths and young adults who ARISE AND SHINE** for the Lord in their dedicated service.

Have you missed an opportunity to attend the retreat?

Apart from the benefit of being separated from our hectic routines to engage with God, there was also the benefit of forging bonds with one another in the body life of the church. What we shared and prayed might be a blessing to our fellow brothers and sisters; and similarly, what they shared and prayed or how they interacted in the various activities might be a blessing to us. So, in the end, it was not just personal gain but a profit to the body. **We were not just blessed at the retreat. We were also a blessing at the retreat!**

If you have missed the retreat, do not despair. Our God is so good and His blessing to us is not limited to whether we participated in the retreat or not.



John Lee

TO GOD THE GLORY — A COH TESTIMONY

On 19 May 2019, Wen Wei and I brought 4 youths: Chee Hong, Chee Yang, Chee Chong and Weaver to COH. We went in early and while waiting, the boys started to play games on their phones. I had to ask them to stop when the pre event started at 7pm.



I kept looking at the responses of the boys every time a testimony ended and I kept praying that God would touch their lives, soften their hearts and let them understand.

Finally, the time came when the pastor asked people to come to the front. At this point Weaver talked to me and I thought, "Wow God you are working and he would like to go down too." But instead he told me that we leave now to avoid the crowds. I told him to wait and I believe that God would like to speak to him.

He started to use his right hand to shake my hand grabbing it tightly. It was painful at first but I believe God intervened and the pain left. Weaver said, "if I can resist going down yesterday, I can also resist today". He grabbed my hand harder and harder. I can see that he was trying to resist and I told him, "if God wants you to go down, nothing will stop Him". He let go of my hand and he started asking Chee Hong and the rest if they wanted to go down. They thought about it a while but did not move.



A little later, the Pastor asked everyone to stand. Suddenly, Weaver said, "Let's go." I thought he meant, "Let's go home." And as we walked out to the steps, he told me, "Let's go down." I was shocked and kept praying that God have mercy on us. When we were at the pitch, someone stopped us and said that there were no available counsellor around and I said I can do it. But thank God Mr. Sng came and spoke to us and shared 'the Fours' with them and when he asked if they would like to receive Christ, Chee Hong said loudly "Yes" followed by his brothers while Weaver kept thinking. After sometime he nodded. I was so touched by what God was doing.



Later we went for supper before going home. On the way home, Chee Hong asked me if he could read the Bible in school. I told him of course. And he started to read John on the train back. He read 4 chapters in that short journey back and it reminded me of how I yearn to know Him more when I first received Him.



I am thankful and amazed with what God is doing in Singapore and in our midst. Let us continue to keep praying and longing for more souls to return to God.

All Glory to God. Amen

Roger Tan

Baptisms and confirmations on 2nd June 2019 – photos by Yeo Zheng Lin



Baptisms on 9th June 2019 – photos by Isaac Yee



Transfer on 2nd June 2019



YAM Prayer Meeting – photos by Yiwen

