

apr Official Publication of 2005 Cebu Gospel Church

vol.

主编:教會文字組 發行:宿務基督教會

Published bi-annually by the CGC Literature Committee

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Days Without My Beloved Mother \sim Helen Tían

When my beloved mother wenthome to be with the Lord Cast January 2, 2004; I felt abandoned. It took me sometime to get hold of myself. The pain inside me was so intense. Something inside me still hoped to find my mom lying on her bed every time I returned home. I couldn't accept the fact that mom is gone and that I will not see her anymore. I have never known how it feels to lose someone you love dearly until mama died. For the first time in my life, I felt very lonely without her by my side. The first two months after she passed away were perhaps the most difficult time for me. I spent fitful nights distracted by my thoughts and rebellious heart. I even had to take sleeping pills to help me rest at night. Time is a great healer. By the time I was feeling better, I said to myself that life must go on. I have decided to strengthen my ties with friends. I thank my heavenly Father for

precious friends whose friendship can last for a life time. After all, friends are connected heart to heart.

The loss of my mom taught me to trust. God and let Him carry me through. This is the only way to cope with life's grief and tragedies. God said, "Never will I leave you nor forsake you. (Leuteronomy 31:5) Since then, I fully understood His promise. My mom may have left me on this earthly life, but God promised The will never do so and that is a promise

I can count on. He is the God who sees, who hears, and who knows all things from the beginning to the end.

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GOSPEL LIGHT

'ROWING IN CHRIST

Rev. Albert Ong

Holy

Bible

Growing up is a process that everybody goes through in life. Our background. our environment and how our parents train us are vital factors to the kind of person we are today. I looked back to my own life and saw important factors that made me what I am today. For example, my mother. She was an epitome of patience to me. There are seven children in our family and each with different personality and expectation. That is not an easy job especially without a helper to lend a hand. I watched my mother

cooked (this is where I learned to cook even at a young age). washed our clothes and cleaned our house. She really was a beautiful model of a good and faithful housewife. Because we grew up without any house helpers in our home to clean up our mess. we learned to make our beds. cleaned our rooms and took turns in cleaning common areas in our house. Now. I can only thank God for all the preparatory work He did in my life.

In the spiritual realm, growing in our relationship with Christ is also a process. After knowing and accepting Jesus Christ as our personal Savior and Cord, we are born to the Spirit. From then on. we go on our journey to maturity. As we need food and shelter to grow in our physical life. so do we need God's Word and the Church to grow in our spiritual life.

I Peter 2:1-3, "THEREFORE. RID yourself of all malice and all deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and slander of every kind. Cike new born babies. crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation. now that you have tasted that the Cord is good." Growth in this passage is to be achieved by putting away all forms of evil. fostering the desire for spiritual milk. and keeping in mind the goal of full and final salvation as the end for which the new life is given. The Old Testament and other rabbinical writings often refer to the Word of God as spiritual sustenance. A person who has life in Christ and has tasted the goodness of the Cord will crave for the Word of God. For a baby to crave for milk is natural and normal. When a baby does not cry for food or milk.something is wrong.Christians, when we

> stop craving for God's Word. something is wrong with our relationship with Christ. In the spiritual level. we don't gain fats but "spiritual muscles" to fight against all forms of evil in this agc.

> > So unless we are grounded in God's Word. it is almost impossible to put away the evil that is surrounding and waiting to get a foothold of us. Psalm 1:2-3. "But his delight is in the law of the Cord and on His law he meditates day and night. He is like a tree planted by streams of water. which vields its fruit in

season and whose leaf does not wither. Whatever he does, prospers." As we grow "old" in our study and meditation of God's Word, our spiritual roots grow deeper into the streams of God's living water that never runs dry.

I do not deny that there are times in my life that I fail to crave for God's Word. Those were the times when I was spiritually sick. Honestly. those were miserable times in my life. Oh. how good it is to be well again and hunger for God's Word.



前幾天看到一本書名叫「工人的 成長」,這書名深深的吸引了我. 使我 聯想到不但 神的工人需要成長, 就是 平信徒, 或者是說每個基督徒屬靈方面 都該長進, 不能永遠做 "屬靈的嬰 孩"

想起我的一對兒女從出自母胎一 直到現在,雖一切的食、衣、住、行都 還得依賴我跟外子的供應.但是他們並 非只停頓在嬰孩的階段.每餐都得餵給 他們吃,幫他們洗澡更衣,抱他們或牽他 們的手走路,凡事都幫他們做決定.而 是看著他們一天天的成長,得以自己 吃、洗澡更衣、走路,甚至於能開車, 有自己的思想意志,能解決自己的問題.

"嬰孩"雖惹人愛,但永遠停在嬰孩這 個階段絕非是每個父母對孩子基本的要 求.我們在天上的父也是一樣,希望每 個兒女都能在靈裡面成長.

當我們因信稱義, 立志跟從基督, 成為 神的兒女之時, 因著"信"我們 得著許多的恩典. 我們就該更進一步的 學習 神的話語, 學習 神的仁愛, 聖潔 與公義, 在生活和言語上顯出美好的見 證, 領人歸主, 流露出基督的香氣.

當我們立志跟隨主之時,我們該:

 夕. 多與主交通-保持一個愛禱告 的心,如同與情人談心一樣, 無所不談.爲自己求,也爲別 人代求.

- 欠. 多讀 神的話-讀 神的話就 如讀家書或情書一樣的喜愛, 從中得知 神的旨意與敎訓.
- □. 宣揚主的道-不爲別的,仍爲 報答上主宏恩,把 神的愛與 他人分享,使別人也因此成爲 神的兒女.

耶穌基督在世的時候,親身給了我 們一個好榜樣. 祂多多的與父交通, 順 服父的旨意一直到死在十字架上. 當一 個基督徒能真的在屬靈方面有所長進之 時,他必定能把"愛上帝"這件事居首 位,遵從馬可福音12:30-31所説的: 「你要盡心、盡性、盡意、盡力, 愛主 你的神. 其次就是要愛人如已…」. 我



3

民心至 陳淑瓇瓊姊妹

我如何述説主之恩愛呢? 實在是筆難形容! 現在我已經五十六歲, 回憶過去的經歷, 可以説 是主在千萬人中揀選了我. 我能得到白白的救恩, 做祂的女兒, 是我人生最幸運的事. 真正有了主 都互相效力, 叫愛主的人得到益處, 使我更認識 都互相效力, 叫愛主的人得到益處, 使我更認識 而倚靠主. 我要拿甚麼來報答主恩呢? 我要拿起 救恩之杯, 宣揚主名, 使主能得到榮耀, 求主給 我有像祂的慈愛心, 關懷失喪的靈魂, 帶人歸主 我有像祂的慈愛心, 關懷失喪的靈魂, 帶人歸主 名下, 那我就心意滿足. 因主之心意, 祂犧牲放 棄生命, 就是爲著搶救我們從黑暗到祂的國度, 生命能使主喜悦, 一切遇到的艱難比不上未來所 要得生命的冠冕!

主安排我人生的道路. 雖然出生在佛教家 庭, 但我能在建基中學讀書是神初步的安排. 因 家父在州府做生意, 我住在叔叔家裡. 當時的鄰 居<u>王爱仁姊妹</u>, 每星期都有家庭禮拜, 他們唱的 詩歌吸引了我. 另一方面因爲有校車, 所以父母 親允許我讀基督教學校. 讀到小學四年, 家父發 現我不吃拜偶像之祭物, 寧願吃工人的菜, 父親 現我就不准我參加主日學. 所以星期日, 我有 時找藉口去同學家溫習功課. 偷偷參加. 我每天 早晨在樓上靈修, 必須把聖經挾在課本裡. 晚上 我是在 | 一點左右蓋在被毯中用手電筒偷讀聖經,

> 如被發現聖經會被燒掉.平常時, 我不准與弟弟、堂弟妹在一起談 天,怕我會講聖經故事.但主的話 有能力.每天當我們去上學 搭汽車時就講聖經 故事, 故事, 叔叔的 女兒接 受主. 爲著這樣, 我不但要搬往 別親戚家住,父

親還要我放棄主或 者不能讀大學.我 告訴父親、現在我 知道只有主能給我們

永生之盼望及人生之意義, 没有別的道路, 我不 能否認主, 經過許多晚上的禱告, 最後主感動家 父心,使我繼續讀大學,感謝主! 讀完祕書系三 年, 半工半讀在阿姨的布店幫忙, 但星期天早晨 不能参加崇拜會、因需把一星期的帳目算清. 我 真欣慕別人能每星期参加聚會、特別是夏令營、 我從來未能參加過. 但主安排我能參加下午青年 團契, 使我靈性得到操練, 我時常搭車去邀同學, 替他們做工课,然後請他們參加. 有幾位女同學 接受主,也有一位男同學現在是牧師了! 所以我 們不要小看年幼、只要我們肯為主用,聖靈會結 出果子. 我在阿姨家只住一年, 因家父生病, 所 以回州府營理生意, 經過四、五年沒有參加崇拜 會,因星期日的生意最好,所以只請菲牧師在家 裡查經, 再經過兩年(1975), 家父要我結婚, 他 的條件是夫婿必須住在我家幫忙生意. 因家父有 心病,我只好順服他的心意,結婚一年後家父便 去世, 那時我才離開本家去新那岸做生意, 我有 雨個弟弟,我分家產給他們,生意與地產他們各 分一半. 我告訴他們要好好經營, 如果發達我就 衷心愉快. 我知道靠上帝, 祂會祝福我. 我雖沒本 錢,但許多親戚在利保洛信任我,過了十年,我 建造房屋及倉庫,首先,外子對牧師不好感,他 常説做牧師很舒爽、只需要講道就有錢、不需要 流汗,他們都靠生意人來度生活,當時只有我這 中國人信徒、我們主内菲人兄姊多數是捕魚、耕 田,老師、入息眞有限,感謝主,我們能建造禮拜 堂,首先是宿務主内兄弟姊妹之幫助。1983年收 到捐款五萬九千元,靠信心開始建造禮拜堂,到 現在我們永不忘記主内兄姊的幫忙, 至今已辦學 校,不但這樣,還有四、五間的小禮拜堂.本地 的主内弟兄,奉獻生命處理. 外子在1992年心臟 病發作, 再過四年中風, 在馬尼拉St. Luke 醫院 治療. 記得我告訴他, 如果醫生准許, 我願意將 我的心臟移植給他,因我已有永生的寄托,準備 見主之面, 他受了感動, 當我們回家後, 他去找 牧師、給他米、錢與買禮拜堂需要的東西,牧師 每天跟他交談,最後他接受主受洗,1996年我母 親、弟弟、丈夫一同受洗.我替家母禱告廿年,父 親59歲早離世, 記得有一次我向主説:「如果禰 不救我母親,那我就不要再擔心別人的靈魂.」 ... 請看第10頁

Peace in Turbulent Times

Rev. Anna Chang Wright

In December. I was asked to write something on Deace and shortly after, the Isunami disaster struck. I would like to address the dilemma of keeping a peaceful heart in the midst of turbulent news

There seems to be three basic responses to disastrons news. The first is to see the disaster as a punishment or warning from God. This has some root in ancient beliefs. Because of their scant formulation of the Afterlife, the Israelites believed that the present situation of a person reflected his status before God. A person who was prosperous was someone who must have lived rightly and found favour with God. And vice versa. Even today. there are still people who believe in natural disasters as a punishment or warning from God. The book of Job passage tells us otherwise. Bad things can happen, and do happen. to good people "In all this, Job did not sin or charge God with wrongdoing (Job 1:22)

The second response is to think that bad things happen to people so they may be "strengthened in their faith and trust in God" In other words. God lests people. There is a fine line between testing as a narrow perception of "divine verification" and testing as an "opportunity of going into deeper reflection and deeper faith through our painful experiences.

I don't believe that God is so manipulative as to manoeuvre us into terrible situations in order to verify the depth of our faith. If bad things happen, it is because of the way the world has been created. There is the human free will that enables people to inflict harm on each other; there is also the freedom of the physical universe to mutate. to expand, to contract, to evolve once God brought it out of nothingness. Suffering is normally manmade or natural.

A natural disaster arises from the free, semi-chaotic interplay of physical laws, and not because God had long since decreed that something calamitous would happen in a particular place, at a particular time, to a particular person or people.

The third response is to believe in the ultimate goodness and restoration desired by God for us in the face of all suffering. God's love and compassion is unerringly portrayed in Christ's ministry of healing. Jesus was tireless in helping and curing people Jesus himself was pained by the illnesses he encountered. But he used these imperfect conditions to reveal God's healing power. Out of suffering, Jesus drew something good and edifying.

Uel disasters and sufferings do not always necessarily lead to goodness and generosity. After the tsunami, opportunistic thieves looted the few precious belongings of missing or dead people while charitable organizations are concerned that predatory merchants might move in to claim orphans for exploitation. The testing of a disaster lies in our response to it. Do we respond to it with compassion or with callousness? Disasters and trials often reveal more about ourselves than about God. Regardless of whether disasters lead to the furtherance

> of human goodness or evil, we can be assured that God desires the world's ultimate heating and restoration. This is evidenced in Jesus' resurrection. We may never know why our physical world was created this way, why we have drought, earthquakes, tidal waves. There is a point where we, as created beings, can only be silent and accept the timits of our power, the darkness of our ignorance.

As Job declares failhfully: "The Lord giveth and the Lord lakelh away Blessed be the name of the Lord (Job 1:21) Christ's resurrection enables us to be bolder than Job. We can proclaim God's promise "Behold I make all things new" (Rev 21:5) This singular vision of a new heaven and a new earth shall necessarily onliveigh all the suffering that humanity has to endure during its time on earth. This vision compets us to excise all present manner of self-indulgence and put on the sackcloth of deep prayer and sacrificial giving. (For those who can afford it, I dare suggest this giving should be above and beyond the normal tilhing.) This is one way we can embrace our stricken siblings' grief and losses. This is proof of our hope This is the fountainhead of our peace With St Laul. we can resist the suffocating pall of innumerable wanton deaths "Death is swallowed up in victory O death. where is thy victory? O death, where is thy sting ?"

Praise be the name of the risen Lord and the God of peace



在這複雜彎曲的社會裡,許多時候人爲了 避免發生衝突,爲了保持感情,爲了討人的歡心, 爲了追求個人的利益往往就很容易被影響走上了 妥協的途境。

古人有一句話説:「人各有心,心各有 見」.爲了家庭背景的差異,教育程度的高低, 生活環境的優劣就產生了人有不同的心思意念. 對於每一項事情的觀念分別不一樣.要怎樣有勇 氣及決心來站在正確的立場上而不受任何權勢而 感化是我們每一位信徒應該學習的.

聖經中的摩西是一個很好的比喻,當上帝 差遣摩西面對法老王,要叫以色列人去到曠野事 奉祂時,法老王採取甚麼的行動?而摩西怎樣應 付呢?

(一) 在埃及地祭祀(出8:25)

「摩西和亞倫去見法老王說耶和華以色列 的神這樣說,容我的百姓去,在曠野向我守節」 (出5:1).法老王不但不允許而且虐待以色列人, 把更重的工作加在那些人的身上.後來摩西就照 耶和華所吩咐的行,神降下水變血之災,蛙災 戰蠅災.這時「法老王才召了摩西亞倫來說你們 去在這地祭祀你們的神罷」(出8:25).當時摩西 就回答説「這樣行本不相宜.因爲我們要把埃及 所厭惡的祭祀耶和華我們的神,若把埃及人所 厭惡的在他們眼前獻爲祭,他們豈不拿石頭打死 我們?我們要往曠野去走三天的路程,照著耶和 華我們神所要吩咐我們的祭祀他」(出8:26-27). (二) 可以去曠野只是不要走得很遠(出8:28)

這時法老王用欺騙的方法,以便摩西求神 將成群的蒼蠅離開,但他仍然硬著心,不容百姓 去(出8:32).

(三) 這壯年人去事奉耶和華罷(出10:11)

耶和華的手加在埃及田間的牲畜.所有埃及人的牲畜得了畜疫全都死了.但凡屬以色列人的牲畜得了畜疫全都死了.但凡屬以色列人的一樣都不死,繼後神又降瘡災,雹災,這時法老又召摩西亞倫來,問他們要誰去.「摩西説: 我們要和我們老的少的,兒子,女兒同去,且把羊群牛群一同帶去.因爲我們務要向耶和華守節」(出10:9).法老王回答説:「不可都去,你 們這壯年人去事奉耶和華罷」(出10:11). (四) 只是你們的羊群牛群要留下(出10:24)

當時神降下蝗災及黑暗之災,法老又召摩 西來說:「你們去事奉耶和華,只是你們的羊群 牛群要留下,你們的婦人,孩子可以和你們同 去」(出10:24).摩西說:「你總要把祭物和燔祭 牲交給我們,使我們可以祭祀耶和華我們的神. 我們的牲畜也要帶去連一蹄也不留下.因爲我們 要從其中取出來事奉耶和華我們的神,我們未到 那裡還不知道用甚麼事奉耶和華」(出10:25-26).

上帝給摩西的命令非常的簡單就是:「容 我的百姓去,好在曠野事奉我」,從這命令中, 其條件就是:

- (一) 百姓 包括所有的以色列人,就是老的,少的,男的,女的,並兒童在内.
- (二) 地點-曠野(必須三天的路程)
- (三) 目的 要事奉守節祭祀(包括所有的 羊群牛群)

摩西很清楚神要他做的事.所以每次法老 王有保留任何的條件時,摩西總是不應許.他沒 有絲毫的遷就,沒有容允妥協的餘地,而是堅持 到底.雖然面對著威脅、權勢、壓力和危險,他 總不肯讓步,而是絕對的聽從主的吩咐.結果神 總有祂的辦法,差遣天使把所有埃及的長子殺了. 法老王終於屈服了.他召了摩西亞倫來說:「起 來,你們帶以色列人從我民中出去.依你們所説 的去事奉耶和華罷,也依你們所説的連羊群牛群 帶著走罷. 並要爲我祝福 : (出12:31-32).

在我們的人生過程中, 魔鬼常以多方的詭 詐引誘我們不能完全順服主, 而以部份的妥協使 我們離開眞道. 我們要常常做醒禱告, 無論處在 任何的環境中, 主要我們在崗位上完全的順服.

願我們學習摩西的樣式, 堅定信心、持守 主道、遵從主命, 在眞道上獲得勝利. 主必為我 們開路,使我們完成祂在我們身上所要委負的事. 主說: 「你要剛強壯膽, 不要懼怕, 也不要驚惶, 因爲你無論往那裡去, 耶和華你的神必與你同 在」(約書亞1:9).



A



彌迦書6:8是舊約聖經中一句很重要的話, 也是常爲人記念遵行的一句話.這節經文記載了 上帝要求祂的子民要怎樣做才能和祂有正確和美 好的關係.

确迦書是十二本小先知書中的一本.所謂 小先知,不是說這個先知不重要或他的預言不重 要,只不過是說他所說的預言簡短而已.事實上, 彌5:2-3記載了先知彌迦預言到伯利恆是主耶穌 基督降生的地方,是別的先知書所沒有提到的. 先知彌迦大概在主前750-686年作先知.他是摩 利沙人、摩利沙是猶大南部的一個小鎮.

彌迦書]:1,「當猶大王約坦、亞哈斯、 希西家在位時,摩利沙人彌迦得耶和華的默示、 論撒瑪利亞和耶路撒冷.」在1:6他預言到以色列 國首都撒瑪利亞的淪陷(主前722-721); 3:12又 預言到猶大國的首都耶路撒冷的淪陷(主前586). 他的預言證明他對當時社會不公平弊病的敏感.

彌迦書6:8, 「世人哪! 耶和華已指示你們 何爲善; 祂向你所要的是甚麼呢? 只要你們行公 義, 好憐憫, 存謙卑的心, 與你的上帝同行.」在這 節經文先知彌迦告訴以色列人說世人哪, 意思是 以色列的每一個人, 上帝已經告訴你們甚麼是好 和上帝所要的是甚麼. 上帝不願意以色列和祂的 關係只是在外表儀式上而已. 上帝要他們在内心 與祂有美好的關係. 要順服遵行祂的旨意就是: 一. 行公義, 二. 好憐憫, 三. 存謙卑的心與上帝 同行.

一. 行公義

義者宜也,就是作事應合宜合理. 簡單地 說行公義就是對待他人要公平. 在彌6:10-12我 們看到當時以色列社會的不公平:

- 他們要得非義之財,用小升斗,不公平的 天秤,用詭詐的法碼.
- 2. 富户靠財力行強暴, 就是靠錢財來欺壓人.
- 3. 居民説謊,舌頭詭詐就是顛倒是非,黑白

不清. 記得我讀書的時候, 家居 洛 San Juan社 Val enzuela St.,我們的鄰居是大理院的 法官Justice Pastor Endencia. 當我和我 的四兄開夜車溫習功課的時候,常看到他 深夜仍在工作,而且常聽到他咳嗽的聲. 翌日家父問他爲何到深夜仍不停地工作, 他回答:「每當有重要判決的時候,特別是 死刑,我要一再,再而三地仔細思想,愼思 明辨以冤害了無辜的人」. 他不願意被新 聞媒介政治壓力影響,是一位廉正的好法 官. 他又說:「我要研究被告和原告的供詞 和證據,不要只聽片面之詞.」

在約7:45-51記載了尼哥底母的仗義直 言、「就是從前去見耶穌的對他們說,不先聽本 人的口供,不知道祂所作的事,難道我們的律法 還定祂的罪麼?」當時祭司長和法利賽人叫差役 去捉拿主耶穌,但他們卻空手而回.因爲差役說, 「從來沒有像祂這樣說話的.法利賽人說,你們 也受了迷惑麼?官長或是法利賽人,豈有信祂的 呢?」這裡假冒僞善的法利賽人指出領袖們沒有 相信耶穌的,但尼哥底母是公會的成員,卻指出 他們在主耶穌的事上不理律法的要求.這對當時 的宗教領袖是很大的諷刺啊! 甚麼是行公義呢? 就是做合理的事,對待他人要公平.

二. 好憐憫

好憐憫在NIV 是love mercy直譯是愛憐憫, 就是對他人的需要有憐憫的心、有同情的心、有 眞正的關心、要幫助他們解決困難而有實際的行 動.這也是忠心的愛, 無論對人對上帝都是這樣.

何6:6說,「我喜愛良善憐恤,不喜愛祭祀, 喜愛認識上帝勝於燔祭.」在彌6:6-7上帝責備以 色列人,他們以爲獻祭可蒙上帝悦納,但他們卻 不肯遵行上帝的要求.他們沒有行公義,好憐憫, 因此就是將自己所生的長子獻上爲祭也不會蒙主 悦納.獻子爲祭是外邦人的習俗.在利18:21上 帝禁誡以色列人,「不可使你的兒女經火歸與摩 洛.」(參利 20:2-5)

在新約雅各書2:15-16有很好的勸勉,叫人 加 在好憐憫的事上要有實際的行動. 「若弟兄或

> 姊妹赤身露體,又缺了日用的飲食. 你們中間有人對他們說,平平安安 的去罷,願你們穿的暖吃得飽,卻 ...請看第12頁

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GOD'S GRACE

As I was driving to work one morning and listening to DYFR on the radio, Grace, the DJ, was talking about reflecting on the amount of time we give to working in a week. And then how much time we devote to our family. As I was listening to her talk about this, I felt the need to reflect. I wondered if indeed I was spending enough time with my wife or my son. At the corner of my mind, I thought about the amount of time I spent with my friends, too. This equation alone already made me feel guilty. Then Grace's last statement hit me like a thunderbolt. What about quiet time with God?

I became pensive. I realized that not only did I not spend enough time with my family vis-à-vis working or with friends; I spent even less time with God. It is funny how we spend so much time on the phone or on the internet but can not even spend 5-10 minutes of our time to read the Bible and do our devotion. I should know. I am evidence of it.

As I got to the office, I looked for my new Bible which I gave myself as a Christmas gift, telling myself that I would start spending time reading. It's a beautiful Bible, a leather clothed silver jubilee edition. I felt guilty. A friend who once saw it commented, "What is the point of a beautiful Bible if the pages are never opened?"

I pulled it out and the verses in Philippians 2:1-4 leaped out at me. "Your life in Jesus Christ makes you strong, and his love comforts you. You have fellowship with the Spirit, and you have kindness and compassion for one another. I urge you, then, to make me completely happy by having the same thoughts, sharing the same love, and being one in soul and in mind. Don't do anything from selfish ambition or from a cheap desire to boast, but be humble towards one another, always considering others as better than yourselves. And always look out for one another's interests, not just your own."

And then I said a prayer.

"Lord, thank You for making me strong. For all my strength is from You. All that I have is Yours. Teach me to show others that You are the mover in my life. That all that I am, all that I have is Yours."

As I wrote this, I felt an inner peace inside, a strong kinship with the Lord. I have been invited to write several times, but always held back. I felt that my life has not been a good enough example for me to be given the right to write. But then, I realized that our lives never are good enough as only Jesus Christ can achieve utmost perfection. It is precisely for this reason He made the ultimate sacrifice for our sins. It is the supreme answer to the question, "Can we do enough?" In Ephesians 2:8-9, "For it is by God's grace that you have been saved through faith, it is not the result of your own efforts, but God's gift, so that no one can boast about it." God's grace. God has a sense of

> humor, too. This morning, He used His Grace to move me, and this time, He

> > Used a real one. IS ANYONE OUT THERE LISTENING?





People view Thanksgiving Day as an annual reminder to recall and to acknowledge God's goodness. While many of us are thankful for the blessings that have come our way, only some of us can truly be thankful for the trials and sufferings that we have gone through. Even less are those who can be thankful for losses. Trials and sufferings are processes that may only last for a time and that time can either be painfully slow or unexpectedly quick but it will always lead to an end, good or bad. Losses are an end and they are permanent. They are forever gone and you can't get them back in a real sense. Financial and material losses could somehow be recovered or replaced but they are never the same like having your first house burned down and replaced with a bigger or better one; or years of struggling financial savings only to

be lost due to indebtedness and then somehow recover them through a series of good fortunes. However, the loss of relationships and people dear to us takes on a different dimension that cannot be quantified. God doesn't want us to focus on the losses but rather on the lessons and character building He wants us to have I am thankful every time I get to see these "blessings"



The passing of both grandparents allowed me to look back through the years like flipping through pages and chapters of a book marked by questions. Only after their passing did I fully understand how God designed their roles for me. When you're traversing on God's road of life, the least you can see is that patch of road you're standing on and the most you can foresee are the bends and decision-making crossroads looming in the horizon.

a oligger of detter one; grandpa and on weeker

Where it takes you is both a mystery and a certainty. That is the beautiful mystery of God's plan and the unshakeable certainty of His will. You will go through that pass and you will make that crossing

Both grandparents provided me with a unique opportunity to live in two worlds simultaneously. My grandmother was from the affluent part of society so I enjoyed all the pampering and perks that came with that stature. My grandfather was from the striving middle class so we did most things pretty much by ourselves. On weekdays, I lived with my grandpa and on weekends within the sphere of my grandma

> Coming from separated parents made this arrangement possible. While my parents struggled to put their broken lives back on track, my grandparents served as my pillars. Living in both worlds at the same time placed a lot of confusion in my young mind and made defining the word contentment quite difficult. This situation did not end well with my older brother and younger sister. As for me, I struggled endlessly with

spiritual values and worldly practicality. I needed to develop a single person in me and learn to balance hard work that leads to contentment, wealth and privilege that leads to accountability. The Bible proved to be my anchor.

My grandparents never wavered in emphasizing the importance of the Bible and it was ever present around them. The key to its use is our willingness to follow what it says

My grandpa lived a simple life. Yet the beauty of this simple life is that it allowed me to focus on everyday things that we take for granted. Things that turned out to be more essential for my daily Christian walk. Things that matter. Things like family relationship and time with the Lord. Both grandparents were always clear in emphasizing that Christ should be in my life. They showed this fact in different ways and I am thankfui that together, I

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was given a well-rounded approach. I thank the Lord for giving me the opportunity to intimately attend to each of them at their most difficult time of need. Seeing their pain and struggles showed me in real life-threatening terms how much their talk matched their walk. It is there I realized that no amount of human endurance would ever replace a broken spirit. It is there that I come to understand that healing the spirit is the key to finding peace, assurance and purpose not just at the threshold of death but in our life's journey. In the weeks that led up to each of their passing, saw the stark contrast through the attitudes and actions their children and relatives showed during that difficult time. Wealth isn't the glue that binds the family. It just helps pay for the mountain of medical expenses with nary a pinch on one's side. In contrast, to the one in financial need, my spirit of thanks grew higher and higher as I saw many relatives and friends giving from their hearts. Some of you have given not just generously but even repeatedly. Thank you for heeding to the Spirit's leading.

Seeing people reach their apex and then be called heavenward is understandable, but a fourteen-year-old? This is one painful example that time shouldn't be measured in man's terms or even by age. Time should be measured according to God's will

for each of us, whether it happens to a one-year-old or hundred year old I thank the Lord for giving our two daughters the opportunity to experience first hand the fragility of life. I thank the Lord that in those thirty minutes or so, our daughters made lara smile and feel like a regular teenager again by talking about friends, school, hobbies, likes and dislikes. During that time, Tara didn't have to struggle with the many questions she's been asking God and her mom regarding her circumstance. It didn't mean her faith wavered though. As a father, I could feel the deep frustrations and helplessness Tara's mom was going through But no one could fathom the depth of a mothers' pain except another mother. In the minutes that led down to Tara's final call, Glenda clutched Tara in her arms, whispered into Tara's ear her undying love and painfully but committedly allowed her to rest in the arms of our Savior. And like a scene choreographed in heaven, Tara slowly closed her eyes, gave her last breath and died in Glenda's arms.

I thank the Lord for the gift of eternal life for in these three losses, I have seen how much more precious that gift of salvation is. I thank the Lord that these losses have deepened my resolve to broaden my understanding and responsibility of my fatherly role and to help the youth for they are the future. We only get one trip around this journey called life. Let's arrive at the right destination.

...continued from page 4 (主啊,願我忠心到底)

但主赦免我,聽我懇求,母親 七十五歲接受主,她將偶像 交給牧師,而且自動參加崇拜會. 因爲這樣, 使我對失喪的靈魂更有 負擔. 每星期家裡舉行工人查經, 有幾位接受 主,我的小叔夫婦幫我經營生意,他們全家與我們住 了雨年,感谢主,他也接受主,現在是家鄉的執事, 全家參加聚會了,但是魔鬼不高興,丈夫信主了雨年 就参加政治,興壞朋友交往,去拈花惹草,離開家庭. 經過半年,錢花完了,我赦免收留他. 但過了一年, 又老病發作,我的兒子不贊成我與丈夫復合,但希望 他會改變. 在這第二次, 孩子恨他的父親, 預備手槍 要解決他. 親戚勸我來<u>宿務</u>, 因他們怕我會受不了打 撃. 有幾次我失了信心,想走自般之路. 當時實在很 後悔,而痛心爲甚麼我會遇到這種情形,我做了甚麼 錯得罪上帝呢? 感覺活著沒有意義了! 因心靈創傷, 影響身體的健康,糖尿病、血壓高、神經衰弱,差不 多每星期要找醫生,但感謝主,祂的恩典實在夠我 用,得著許多主内姊妹對我的愛護與關懷,記得 2002年我入醫院時, 黃運福牧師與九位姊妹來探訪, 不但安慰我, 替我禱告, 也給我錢買醫藥, 使我很受 感動, 爲著這樣使我體驗主之愛. 我有寫信赦免丈夫,

使我重性渐恢復, 記得起初與阿那麗結朋友, 她告訴 我因家翁姑生病,花了很多錢,經濟發生了問題,而 且她要喂養八個小孩,沒有人幫忙她,所以想要去自 殺,我時常在電話跟她交談,最後我告訴她我的情况, 不但經濟失敗,身體衰弱,暫時與丈夫分離. 雖然我 已在宿務,主的工作還會繼續,且有FlorSy姊妹不斷 支持. 爲著這樣, 當我離開<u>吉牙鄢來宿務</u>時, 我求主 给我對身體欠安的人有負擔, 特別是我的親戚朋友. 求主給我勇氣,記得兩年前我向阿嬸見證母親怎樣 得救,而得到身體的醫治,她很不高興,説只有危急 症的人需要福音,我窝信請她原谅我,因我並沒有惡 意,我告訴她如果我不説,我良心不安,因我自小在 她們家住,我怎能違背上帝的命令呢? 所以雖然受了 誤會, 但我必須要順服主, 我弟弟勸我不要再向親戚 做見證,因只會得辱罵,但如果我不關心自己的親戚, 誰能關心他們呢? 所以我需要主内姊妹代禱.

現每星期一有假日,我便與主内姊妹去探訪, 有時與菲牧師去替生病未信主的朋友禱告.看到有 接受主的,那我就眞快慰.我們要趁白日,出力去尋 找失喪的靈魂.雖我們能力有限,但如果肯爲主用, 主會感動人,我們必得到收成.因爲主勞力是不徒然 的. 願榮耀歸於主!

Thanksgiving Testimony 2004 of Leona Ong

Jane Jane Ong

Last July, Mom had shingles or medically known as herpes zoster. It is described as a blistered skin eruption over an area of skin supplied by a particular nerve and is viral in nature. This is caused by the chicken pox virus which lies dormant in the nerve cells. In Mom's case, it started from the armpit and spread all the way to half of her upper back. The area covered was quite estensive. At first, we didn't know it was shingles so it took us four days before we started treating it with Chinese medicines. However, she wasn't responding to the medication and her condition worsened.

A week later, we saw that she was acting strangely. Her whole body became restless. She had difficulty lying down, sitting, or standing up. ... no position was comfortable for her since the virus was attacking her nerve endings. Then for no reason at all, she'd start hitting herself

and crying. At around 2 a.m. that night, she woke the whole family, asking all of us to pray for her. She was sobbing. However, one thing weird was that when we were all gathered around her, she told all of us to cry for her because she didn't have any tears left to cry. Somehow, she wasn't making any sense at all. She repeatedly told us that demons were tormenting her and that she felt she was not herself anymore. It seemed that the shingles were affecting her worse than it

did to other people. We were worried. I can still remember looking it up inth e medical encyclopedia to know more about this illness. It says that in the worst case, the virus can cause encephalitis or inflammation of the brain.

Seeing her condition, we decided to bring her to the hospital the next day and seek the help of a neurologist. Our fear was confirmed; she had encephalitis. She was immediately given antiviral, anti-seizure medicines and other depressants to calm her down. At this point in time, her speech was slurring and we had difficulty understanding what she wanted to express. Her condition didn't seem to improve. That night, she woke us up again around the same time at 2 a.m. She told us that she could see demons coming for her and she could see flashes of light. However, she could also hear people by her side praying. We spent the next few hours praying, confessing our sins and asking Jesus to protect us and cover us with His precious blood. Mom kept crying out to the Bord in desperation, "Dor the first time in my

Let us give thanks.

life, I witnessed what it means to cry out from the heart and how it is to pray in the Spirit as described to us in Romans 8:26, which says, "We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with grouns that words cannot express." That night, only our youngest sister and I stayed with Mom in the hospital. Thround 4 a.m., she was asking for the other members of the family. To be honest with you, at that moment I really thought that Mom was going to leave us for why would she want us all to be by her bedside? I found myself asking the Lord, "Lord, so this is it? After all the years of battling cancer, of surviving a heart attack and even when she seems to be doing well with her dialysis for the past two years, she will die of shingles – one illness seemingly easy to cure?" So in the middle of the night, I started calling up close friends and pastors to come and pray for Mom. I can

> vividly recall one conversation I had with a close family friend telling me to make sure all papers were in order and asking me if Mom ever mentioned anything about seeing Jesus or loved ones who have already departed because that is usually what happens when a person is near death. Looking back, we can now laugh over ourselves, recalling those times when Mom would mumble and we would listen attentively if she'd mention names of people who have already departed

or Jesus. Since we didn't hear her mentioned these names, we reassured ourselves that maybe it wasn't Mom's time to go yet. After much prayers and intercession, we started to see the healing and restoration of Mom gradually taking place.

Mom's experience with shingles was quite scary. It left her completely helpless. She didn't have the strength to stand up or walk or to sit up; she couldn't even open her mouth to eat. Each time we spoon fed her was like feeding a baby. A catheter was inserted so she didn't have to go to the comfort room. But more than the physical illness was the emotional and spiritual struggle not only she but the whole family had to go through. T've seen Mom battled her way through cancer and heart attack two years ago. She has always been a fighter. But this time, she didn't have the same fighting spirit. She'd go into depressions and would start to cry. When she talked, she would keep on repeating herself or if not, would be asking the same question over and over again. Seeing her at those times made us feel so helpless. We were preparing for the worse thinking the encephalitis had caused

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permanent damage to her brain. De continually encouraged her, read her the Bible, prayed with her and played Christian music to soothe her spirit but deep

inside, it left us so emotionally drained knowing that we could only do so much. Only God in His infinite mercy and grace would be able to restore her to good health.

I thank the Lord that even when things didn't look good from our human perspective, He was able to turn things around and gave Mom another lease in life We consider it her third actually; the first being her bout with cancer and the second her heart attack two years ago. Some friends of Mom later told her that when they saw her condition in the hospital, they thought she wasn't going to make it. But indeed, Sod is good Looking at her now, who would have thought that she had gone through the ordeal that Thad just recounted.

7 also thank Sod because worse things that could have happened clidn't. Tweek after Mom was discharged from the hospital, we went to see her neurologist for a check-up. He finally revealed to us his fear and said that Mom could have been paralyzed half body or in coma as result of the encephalitis had it not been arrested early by the medications. Praise Sod for sparing Mom from that and for giving the doctor the wisdom on which medications to prescribe to her. We thank Sod, too, for the perfect timing. Had we gone to the hospital later; complications as mentioned by the doctor could have set in.

Because of what we went through, the whole family became closer and our faith in the Gord became stronger as once again we see Him work His miracles in the life of Mom As a result of the illness, something more important happened. Broken relationships were healed. We had to renounce past hurts and release them to the Gord. Our family learned to forgive one another and forgive others just as Christ himself forgave us our sins

De, Chinese, have a saying that goes like this, "人生是苦 海" Life is like a sea of troubling waves. Our lifetime on earth is filled with waves upon waves of problems. At times, Mom would reflect and say that she has more than her fair share of waves in life. But one thing we learned is that for every wave that comes into our lives, we can stand strong because Sod's grace sustains us and sees us through; and He allows it to come our way for a reason. Sometimes God uses a situation to bring about change in our lives that could have never taken place unless we face a danger or challenge. De just thank the Lord that we can continue to hang on to His word in Romans 8.28, "And we know that in all things, God works for the good of those who love Him, who have been called according to His purpose"

...continued from page 7(甚麼是好)

沒有給他們身體所需要的, 這有甚麼益處呢?」這是說 信心要有實際的行動,和約翰一 書3:17-18所說的愛心要有實際的 行動是互相輝映的眞理.

Fiorello La Guardia 在 1934-1945年作紐約市的 市長,是一位有名的好市長.他退休後任市法官,有一 天警察帶了一個老市民來,因為他偷了一條麵 包. La Guardia說按照市律應該罰十元美金, 說完他就 拿出美金十元來還罰金. 然後他拿他的大帽 (Sombrelo)對在庭的人說,我們紐約市很慚愧,使一個 老人連一條麵包都沒辦法買;現在按你們所樂意的放 錢在這帽子裡, 一共收了四十多元的美金, 全部送給這 老人. La Guardia法官是一位行公義又好憐憫的人.

三. 存謙卑的心與上帝同行

創5:21-24,「以諾到六十五歲,生了瑪土撒 拉.以諾生瑪土撒拉之後,與上帝同行三百年,並且生 兒養女.以諾活了三百六十五歲.以諾與上帝同行,上 帝將他取去,他就不在世了.」聖經中最有名最長久與 上帝同行的人就是以諾.他沒有經過死亡,就被上帝提 去了.還有一個沒有經過死亡的人是先知以利亞.以利 亞被上帝用火車火馬將他與他的門徒以利沙隔開,然 後以利亞就乘旋風昇天去了.(王下2:11-12) 要與上帝同行應存謙卑的心,我們應認清我們 是被造者,不過是塵土.沒甚麼了不起,應存一種謙虛 的心態,而不是自以爲義、自高自大.彼得前書 5:5b-6所説的,「就是你們眾人,也都要以謙卑束腰,彼 此順服;因爲上帝阻擋驕傲的人,賜恩給謙卑的人.所 以你們要自卑,服在上帝大能的手下.到了時候,祂必 叫你們升高.」因此,我們應日日與上帝相交、讀經、 祈禱,遵守祂的話語與他的旨意,也就是與上帝同行 了

有一位基督教學院的院長為人謙卑.學院雖經 濟不好,但校風很好且程度又高.有一天,一個富有的 人來學院參觀,看到有一個漆匠在漆牆壁.他就問 道:「你們的院長在那裡?」那漆匠回答道:「他在那 邊的房屋,中午十二點的時候他在那裡.」富人在午正 到那房屋去一看,原來那漆匠就是院長本身.過幾天, 院長接到一封信,内夾五萬元美金的捐獻作學院的費 用.我們看到這院長是一個謙卑勤勞的人.

最後,彌6:8雖是上帝對祂的選民以色列人的要 求,也很適合于我們基督徒行事爲人的標準.讓我們 大家來一行公義;二好憐憫;三存謙卑的心與我們的 上帝同行.就一定會榮神益人,作主耶穌基督的好見 證人.

務光

THave Heard and Now I SeeJob 42:5 Mona Li

Attending the 44th Canada Chinese Christian created the tree of knowledge in the garden of Eden when He Winter Conference in Kelowna from December 27-31, 2004 with my sister Lydia and two darling gremlins (Lala and Kitty) was perhaps the best thing I had done for myself in a long time. As I had never seen snow in all four winters I spent in British Columbia, I went to this conference primarily to see snow, and I was not disappointed! Amazingly, more than seeing snowfall for the first time, I would like to borrow Job's eyes have seen you."

As we were preparing and packing for the conference, our eyes were glued to the television for the tsunami disaster had just struck Southeast Asia. The initial count of fatalities reached 10,000. My heart ached with compassion and sadness. I could not help imagining how sad the new year would be for those left behind.

Okanagan Hotel in time for registration. Going through the booklets handed to us upon arrival, I saw that the timetable of activities was very full and hectic. The day would start with morning devotion at 7:00 a.m. and end with bedside fellowship at 10:30 p.m. In between, there were prayer moments were available during mealtimes and free time.

As requested, all four of us plus Whitney, a young friend of Kitty, stayed in one room. To ensure that everybody had enough time to do their morning rituals, I turned on the T.V. at exactly 6:00 in the morning, our wake-up call. Naturally, the news was all about the tsunami. As the number of fatalities grew in magnitude, I sank deeper into depression. Since the theme of the conference centered on seeing God in different places and situations, I struggled to relate all that I heard with the images of the disaster that haunted me throughout the day. As always, God reached out to me in His own perfect time. On the third day of the conference, I suddenly saw a glimpse of GOD through the grow in the grace help of my bedside fellowship sisters, the long distance call I made to my sister, Rev. Anna Chang Wright in England, and our Lord and the talk of Dr. Vernon Steiner, "Seeing God in Life's Pits".

Ever since I accepted God as the Almighty Father Christ (2 Peter 3:18) and Christ as my Savior some 35 years ago, I have been To God be the glory! searching for the answer why God, who is Omnipotent,

knew Adam and Eve would fall from His grace because of it. Similarly, in my arrogance, I questioned why tsunami disaster had to happen and claimed over 160,000 lives when God said He loved us so. No answer was ever good enough for me until that beautiful day in the conference. Suddenly, as if blinders were lifted away from my eyes, I could take a simple 'I don't know' as a good answer, especially when it came out words and declare: "My ears had heard of you, but now my from the mouths of reverends, pastors and learned men of God. It made me realized that my questions were petty and my arguments trivial. Loving God and obeying Him are more important than having all my questions answered. Rather than focusing on the fates of those who had perished in the disaster, my sister Anna guided my sight towards God's undying love for mankind, His abundant grace and tender mercies. It gave me great comfort to know that God is After 5 hours of bus ride, we reached the Grand Supreme and that He will judge all of us with mercy and love. During the rest of the conference, I was able to see God everywhere: in life's pits, on life's peaks and perplexities, in one another, and most clearly in His beloved Son, Christ Jesus.

Three years ago, I suffered a long eye ailment and as a meetings, talks, workshops and symposiums. Lighter result, I couldn't read as much as I wanted to. In fact, the only thing I would read was the newspaper. I made a new year's resolution when the conference ended, and that was to read the Bible everyday and to improve my prayer life. Thank God I have been doing both activities religiously. Our church theme for this year is: Growing in Christ. So, how can we grow in our relationship with Christ? Remember the Sunday school song we all love to sing with action? It goes like this... "Read your Bible, pray everyday (3x). Read your Bible, pray

everyday, and you'll grow, grow, grow... How about it, dear brothers and sisters in Christ? Shall we read our Bibles and pray everyday? In doing so, we will no doubt

and knowledge of Savior Jesus

GOSPEL LIGH

鴿兒

我們在世上爲人,總不能離群獨居.但在群居的 生活裡,人的志趣和意向,都各不相同.有的人專心關 注兒女的生活教育,有的人力求財富和物質上的享受, 有的人則在社會上爭取名譽與地位.

社會是以謀公益爲重,凡是任何屬於社會的人員,必須有高尚風格的涵養.與人交接時,不可嫌貧趨富,且絕不可有驕矜的表態,祇要有和蔼可親風度,才能 竭誠肩負職守.說話要誠信,辦事要忠實,志在以服務 群眾爲宗旨.

此外,一個健全而完善的組織,必須擁有良好的 德性.這良好的德性,對社會的益處是無可衡量的.一 個社會裡的份子,不講求道德而能維持久遠實是罕事. 曾有不少存歪曲動機的份子,搬弄是非及爭權奪利,竟 掀風作浪,致使滿城風雨.這正是宋朝抗元民族英雄-文天祥,在他的「滿江紅」詞裡的表白:「世態便如翻 覆手,妾身元是分明月」.是窝照當時奸臣操縱朝政, 致使宋朝面臨敗亡.但是如果我們懷著正確動機,是正 直無私、善良而清白的,而有令人俯伏的品格,能作為 百姓的表率.正如一位賢哲所言:「做一個善良的人, 是一個人對社會所做最好的事」

宋朝有位學識、品格、政績俱優的名臣-范仲 淹,他雖然官職大,而且有聲望,但對自己日常生活,依 然不浮華,並且很關心民間的疾苦.

有一年,安徽和江蘇一帶發生旱災,又有蝗災, 人民死亡累累.他便呈請政府派人勘察救濟.不料等

待許久,還不見下令救災,他便請 求政府裡所有官員節食賑災. 於是感動當時政府,便派他去 巡視安徽、江蘇一帶.他 到達災區,便按著災情輕 重,開放各地的倉庫, 販濟災民.這一來, 救活了無數奄奄待斃 的災民.

又一年,江南地帶又遭遇 水災.他的吳縣故鄉等數縣人民, 都無家可歸,有田無法耕耘.他知 曉故鄉的洪水氾濫,便從事開深 水道,計建五條大河道,把太湖裡 的水導入大海.從此江蘇一帶 就無水災. 當他回想到自己幼年喪父,曾經歷盡孤兒無依 無靠的生涯,對於鄰里窮乏的人,便產生惻隱憐恤宗族 的慈祥愛心,於是他購買幾千畝良田,設立一個「義 莊」,選出年長賢能的族人擔任管理.不論婚嫁喪葬. 以及孤苦老弱的人,都訂定規條而照例瞻給.至於鄉里 親戚和朋友們遇有急難,他總是盡力給予資助.因此, 沒有不稱讚他厚人薄己的表率.

范仲淹不但是一個博施濟眾的善士,也是一個 安撫内政,抵禦外敵的武將.他先後曾管領陕西、甘肅 等邊境.因爲調度有方,對訓練素有相識,竟使西羌人 不敢犯境.大家都說:「小范老的肚子裡有幾萬甲兵呢, 眞厲害!不要去侵犯他,以免自討沒趣啊!」.他極不願 消耗兵力,避免戰爭不息,致使勞民傷財.主張人不犯 我,我不犯人.因此外敵都懼怕他善行的聲望.不敢輕 易犯境.由此夷族和中國均相安無事,軍民皆安樂.

「先天下之憂而憂,後天下之樂而樂.」這句話 是他在言談中或文字中經常提起的.我們可以從這二 句話裡,察出他濟世的苦心.我們從他的事功上也察出 他的言行如一.

我們的主耶穌, 祂本是神的兒子, 祂本有神的形像, 不以自己與神同等為強奪的, 反倒虛己, 取了奴僕的形像, 成為人的樣式. 祂憐恤我們如失喪的羊. 祂不但能醫治我們心靈的疾病, 連肉體的疾病, 如癱子、大痳瘋、血漏、瞎眼、瘸子等都能醫治.

主耶穌是神的羔羊,奉神差遣降世,爲世人的罪 孽死在「字架上,叫一切信祂的,罪都得赦免而得永 生.詩篇103:9說:「祂不長久責備,也不永遠懷怒」.由 於祂對我們的愛和義,激勵了我們,叫那些活著的人, 不再爲自己而活,乃是爲替我們這些負罪的人們死而 復活的主而活.

所以當主耶穌將要踏上各各他道路之前對十二 門徒說:「你們知道外邦人有君王為主治理他們,有大 臣操權管束他們.只是在你們中間不可這樣.你們中間 誰願爲大的,就必作你們佣人,誰願爲首,就必作你們 的僕人.正如人子來,不是要受人服事,乃是要服事人, 並且要捨命,作多人的贖價.」太20:25-27

如此看來,主耶穌對世人的愛,使無論在天上與 地上的人都不能與祂比擬.所以,我們這些蒙恩被救贖 的人們,應該效法主耶穌的行徑.我們必須謹記主耶穌 的訓誨:....請看第16頁

Our FOUNDER is Amazing

Daisy Johanna Uy (PCGS High IV Student)

Founder's Day was a gift from God. To students this year. like me, it was a break from classes, and a chance to It was finish pending projects. To the teachers, it was a break r e ally from lessons and a different routine.

Actually, it all began the day before Founder's studied in Day, February 9, which happened to be a school m a n y holiday - Chinese New Year. The Supreme Student schools, Government showed up to bedeck the school with but I have streamers and booths. Some students also arrived for never seen anything like it. Students, batch after batch, their praise cheer practices, while a few others willingly danced to Christian music, changed formations, and came to practice intermission numbers for the event. In performed yells about Christ. It was amazing! other words, a lot of students were in school on that holiday.



to mark the opening of

ministry team, all in white shirts, led everyone in a time of the campus clean during these three eventful days. praise and worship to the Lord. Rev. Albert Ong then shared God's words; this was followed by an audiovisual presentation of PCGS and its history, eliciting more competitions were held as main events. Selected appreciation for our dear beloved school. students - my sister included - declaimed, gave



After the Praise Cheer Competition, the fun and food booths were opened. One of the more popular The BIG day began with a flag raising ceremony booths was the Music Request Booth, something that I and the saw only in PCGS. Strains of Hillsongs and other releasing of popular Christian songs went on air through the school's the balloons PAsystem for three days.

The different fun booths entertained the the Founder's students. The challenge booth featured Guinness-style Day. But the tasks, some of which I have never heard of. The food main event booths had perpetual customers. There was also a book was in the booth set up by the OMF. Some students enjoyed being chapel - the Thanksgiving Service. Students in their chased by the Boy Scouts, guardians of the jail booth, colorful batch t-shirts started to come in. The music who arrested anyone caught littering. This sure kept

On the second day, various literary and musical speeches, and told stories. They all assumed varied The annual Cheer Dance became Praise Cheer roles, from the Big Bad Wolf and Delilah to a college girl

and Satan. The best performers received awards; the others (who during the also did really well) felt relief that it Founder's Day was over.

The singing contest was also a success. I learned the gift to play that the contestants were pre-screened by Mrs. the violin, I was Elizabeth Oh and Miss Villarin. Students from different busy practicing sections belted out their songs of choice on stage, f making us admire them for their guts and their talents. thanks giving



hearts, minds and spirits. It was a very moving experience as some students shared testimonies about that our school's celebration is in fact Founder's Day, Christ and as the whole high school student body just not Founders' Day. For we have one Founder, and, yes, it praised and worshiped the Lord for about two hours.

Honestly, I did not see much of the happenings

Celebration. Blessed with 0 r



ceremony, intermission numbers, and the Praise Rally. But the best part came on the final day - the But the fact that I was able to serve the Lord in school Praise was a great thing, a privilege that I probably will not have when I go to college.

> It amazes me how different our school is. It was felt as amazes me to see people reading the Bible in class soon as Mr. without others teasing them about it. It amazes me to Lorenzo find musicians who prefer playing Christian songs as Castro intermission numbers during programs. It amazes me to spoke to see Godinschool.

> > Mr. Stephen Si, our school chaplain, mentioned truly was HIS day!

...continued from page 14(愛的表徴)

-.彼此切實相愛-嫌窮愛富, 以貌取人,心懷嫉忌的,不 能彼此相愛,若不能彼此相愛,就 會彼此勾心鬥角.我們若能彼此 相爱,如經上說:「愛弟兄的就是住在光明中, 在他並沒有絆跌的緣由」.所以我們大家應該 互相體諒、互相勉勵、互相扶持,而爲主發光 做鹽,使我們的神得榮耀.

- 二, 要互相服侍-互相服侍是基督徒應盡的職責. 人生作爲當以為謙「服務眾人」爲已責,所以 要彼此服侍,你關心別人,別人就關心你,你肯 幫助別人,別人也肯幫助你,這就是彼此服侍, 能誠心服侍人,必能得到賞賜.
- 三, 要儆醒禱告- 我們肉體是脆弱的, 如使徒保羅

說:「我也知道在我裡頭,就是肉體之中,沒有 良善,因爲立志爲善由得我,只是行出來由不得 我,故此,我願意的善,我反不作,我所不願意的 惡,我倒去作.若我去作不願意作的,就不是我 作的, 乃是住在我裡頭的罪作的...., 羅7: 18-25

所以使徒保羅説要「靠聖靈行事」,靠自己不 能行,只有靠聖靈的能力,讓聖靈在我們心中作主,才 能行出神的旨意.故此,我們時時儆醒,時時依靠聖靈 幫助,正如保羅説:「不住的禱告,凡事謝恩」,要不停 地藉著禱告,與神相交, 聖靈的能力一定能在我們心 中彰顯和運行.

但願我們在基督耶穌的愛中互相勉勵,共同携 手走至眞、至善、至美的屬靈道路,阿們!



小星光

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一般人,尤其是中國人,一聽見「死亡」 會像「談虎色變」很忌憚,認為是不祥的兆頭. 廣東同胞會緊答「大吉利是」來沖煞解邪,化災 納福.本地的<u>菲律賓</u>人同樣也會以「Simbako」來 化解咒咀.死是真的可畏嗎?人生的步律自出母 胎就開始朝向「死亡」最終歷程邁進.不論步 行、跑走,慢慢隨著牆鍾一分一刻被推向前進. 在不知不覺中,壽數就蠶食了一歲或一段落.因 此,生辰如果值得慶祝,死就不該悲傷.

鲍受風俗、習慣、宗教、信仰、哲學、論 理的「董陶」,對死亡就持不同的感受與觀念. 有的、貪生怕死、極其懼怕、有的視死如歸、心中 沒有怯懦, 岳飛與秦檜同是宋朝的高官、大臣, 前者忠貞愛國雖受害,千古留香給世人尊敬緬懷, 後者官居宰相, 一人之下, 萬人之上, 卻通金辱國, 世代遭人臭罵. 孫中山和汪精衛同是民國的革命 家、後者曾被清廷抓去遊街示眾、準備斬首、若 不是他的才華及英俊、使清太后惜才、屍首才倖 存没有「搬家」. 後來他又爲臨終的國父寫「總 理遺囑」, 可惜, 抗戰末期變節, 做起了日本的 傀儡. 死後也怪悽楚. 光復後, 他的陵墓被炸毁, 而屍體受撒棄在山野. 死無葬身之地又遺臭萬年. 俗語説「豹死留皮,人死留名」,然而世上有千百 億人民,要每個人都轟轟烈烈的死後留名是無可 能的, 但主要的, 是使生命活得有價值, 不是能活 得多久多老,也非長命百歲才算是天大的福氣, 而是善用生命的活力,造福人群社會或國家,這 非只有高官、權貴或富豪才能辦得到、庶民、凡 夫也能做到, 一樣能啓發愛心, 野地的花卉雖比 不上用來點綴亭院的盆景幽雅清香與悦目、但具 備著許多葯療的功效, 上帝創造 0 萬物,都有祂美好的旨意,有善惡的,也 有美醜的互相陪襯, 如果沒有陰森的雨天, 人就不會賞識炎陽的溫暖與可愛. Q

情的流露與愛的播施是人生命最高 深層的表現, 爲造福他人的社會或國家及 解困他們的問題, 有的人甚至樂意捨已犧 牲. 即諺語所説的「殺身成仁, 捨生取義」.

> 有兩個故事棳拾如下: 一. 摩頂放踵: 當<u>滿清</u>入主 <u>中國</u>, 在一連串的東征西 討的鞏固版圖行動中, <u>吳福</u> 受派管理<u>台灣</u>, 他官高四品, 是一位清 **④**

白官吏. 有魄力、善良、爱民如子, 頗 博得人民愛戴, 台民連半開化的部落都 很馴服, 美中不足的, 有一個大部落始 終不放棄每年獻一活人頭祭的習俗, 因 這是部落薪傳. 爲打破僵局<u>吴</u>長官和酋 長各退一步, 取得下列協議:

- (一)這是最後一次的獻祭,
- (二)獻祭獵物由<u>吳</u>首長遴選再通知何 處何時獵取,
- (三)獵物要用箭射殺,要射得準、狼和快,以免遭反撲.要一箭穿心 才不錯失機會

過了三天, 酋長受通知, 那夜二 更半將有一穿紅袍蒙面的騎士取道山 麓可當獻祭的獵物. 於是土人就在晦 暝黑夜嚴密佈防與埋伏. 在那段時間 中, 正有一名騎士途經該地, 被射手發 箭打下馬. 當他的面紗被揭開要上祭 擅時, 大家都愕然、驚慌失色, 而且痛 哭和内疚, 因爲他們所殺的騎士, 是他 們最崇敬愛慕的<u>吴福</u>父母官. 獻活祭 風俗就此廢除. 一人之死救了千百人 無辜的生命.

二. 償債: 生長在美國有兩個姐妹, 年齡相 距五歲. 故事發生時, 大閨秀<u>妞妮</u>芳年 計三, 生得秀麗悦目, 能幹有智慧, 是 一位成功的女企業家. 曾經有好多男 人為她的風彩與才華傾心和顛躓. 但 因她自小患有心臟衰歇, 醫生告誡要 遠離男女私情, 且不可生育. 妹妹<u>媚姬</u>, 較活潑天眞又良善, 已有家庭而且有 個爛漫、頂可愛娃兒叫<u>嘉智</u>, 小家庭建 時, <u>媚姬</u>致信給在<u>美國</u>的姐姐,邀請她 時, <u>媚姬</u>致信給在<u>美國</u>的姐姐,邀請她 來團圓並觀看鬥牛盛會. <u>妞妮</u>也非常 樂意往訪赴會. 多年不見, 重聚有不能 言盡的喜樂.

然而天有不測風雲,就在<u>妞妮</u>玩得 開心的一個下午,她開車倒行出車房, 準備上街去,不料小甥女從旁門 跑入車房,碰撞著驕車,受傷天 殞.

不亞於妹妹的悲痛哀苦,妞妮懷著一顆破



碎的心返<u>美國</u>,她憂慮 懸掛要怎樣安慰化解妹妹的愁 苦和補償她的損失?特別妹妹 也不能再生男育女,因兩年前

<u>媚姬</u>接著, 憐惜及愛撫這惹人喜愛的細崽, 並問醫生究竟是怎樣的一回事? 姐姐怎樣究有 了孩子? 醫生回答:「妳姐姐是很勇敢與仁慈的女 子, 能體恤人而且很虔誠. 約在兩年前, 她訪 多位名醫診察病情, 是否安全生育? 獲告生產 約, 產醫給的生命只有一成的保障. 最後她決 將生命置諸度外去冒險, 惟一要求是臨盆要順利, 男兄要女私情, 或為生育騙婚, 造成對方心 續的醫生保存, 是<u>婚</u>蛇早寫的信這樣說: 親愛 的時醫生保存, 是<u>婚</u>蛇早寫的信這樣說: 親愛 育 動時間不多, 存留的安分, 每秒鐘 有 情, 我的感應是特別敏鋭、歡心. 妳

林花才逸, 就有認為之何, 就是, 就是 並不傻卻是天真、純潔、良善、慈悲, 良善 得有點傻氣, 且傻得很趣緻、很可愛, 像跨 雲際間的彩虹, 五彩繽紛. 感 謝主, 給我一個有美好相處的妹 妹, 妳的品德及爲人也叫人欣賞. 然而自<u>嘉智</u>不幸事故, 那常開的笑顏就從妳的 臉部收埋無蹤, 也失掉了令 人振奮的光彩. 爲姐何嘗不 和妳一樣, 只是在妹妹的 面前極力抑制不讓淚水滲 出, 以冤加深妳的痛苦. 兩年來, 我一直尋求避免

不榮譽、不道德、違犯教規及良心,僅用潔淨 科學的方法爲妳生一個孩子.這是我最大的心願 意志,能雲散見日,重新拾掇妳失棄的青春,重享 喜樂,是姐今生最大抱負,再別無他求.財富、

權勢、地位、宴樂、奢華、上帝都給我有機會經 歷及嘗味過, 人各有志, 有的人對以上物質的擁 有非常重視, 甚至拼命追求, 但我的心平如水, 不再有高潮, 能揭開環繞妹妹心中的雲霧, 再透 射出絢麗溫燉的亮光陪襯妳的歡慰和笑顏、我的 心也會相應有同樣感受, 在這金錢的世界, 錢財 舉足輕重,許多事確實是無財難成,但也不能稱 它爲萬能、諸如愛情、時間和快樂等不是錢能操 縱.當錢買不到所想買的東西或達到要做的事, 錢就失去了它的價值和功用,現在我將生命僅存 的微温使一顆閃爍的隕星、再顯耀它的光芒、我 便心满意足,人生能有安樂的善終,比之活著内 心愁煩和痛苦的折磨還安逸與寧靜,妹妹,再見! 我得先妳走一步,將來再見時,妳照舊是我的傻 妹妹,我永遠地爱妳.有一些文件、手續在律師 處等待妳的簽署,以便可接管我全部的資產,再 會! 祝福妳、妹夫及小寶寶的幸福, 生活美满及 快樂! 妞妮上 姐

以上雨起故事都是因情之所鍾及, 愛的流露而犧牲, 而且死得轟轟烈烈. 一個是廢止民間露習, 拯救無辜的民眾被殺戮. 一個為援救妹妹生命火花的隕墜而壯烈捐軀. 當我們高度品評 本格人間愛心的發揮, 會不會思索到完面間的 主宰, 祂的宏恩和大愛也赦免人類的犯罪, 而且 提供撤虜, 無論罪孽是多大、沉重和兇惡, 而里 罪人能真正撤底認罪悔改, 主的大愛和憐聞, 而 罪人能真正撤底認罪悔改, 主的大愛和憐問, 四 十六節:「神愛世人, 甚至將祂的獨生子賜給 中, 叫一切信祂的, 不致滅亡, 反得永生. 因為 半 一, 叫一切信祂的, 不致滅亡, 反得永生. 因為 是裡快, 不是要定世人的罪, 乃是要叫 人因祂得救」. 神的提供普遍與全面簡易得, 祂 法是輕快易舉.

近年來,要伸請到某國的簽證雖然不必再 排長隊,但要付登記費,而且還要面對一些刁 難,有些人還是甘心去掽 掽運氣.卻小視了天國緣卡, 當天國門户敞開,免費飽贈給 信徒,許多人尚且躊躇沒有熱 心領受.一旦天國緣卡停止發 放,屆時會比不能 赴某國更煩燥.即使能 有錢花,也不會有任何 功用.朋友,希望你聰明 一點,不要錯失良機!

務光

教會消息

十二月十二日-教會分別頒區予黃約麗傳道表揚其 愛心功勞與忠心事主,及Dodong司機多年的事奉

十二月十九日-聖歌團舉行聖誕音樂會

十二月廿六至廿九日一小學團契於萬那威福音中心 舉行第七屆冬令會主題為「效法基督」,由陳金鐘 傳道主講

正月一日-舉行新年感恩聚會,並贈送赴會兄姊每 日讀經釋義

正月二日-2005年度教會主題為「在基督裡長進」 。下列兄姊為2005-2007年度執事:許西茂,王永 仁,陳大闕,楊永興,黃麗綿,吳李欣然,蔡莊容 麓,李蔡容容

正月三十日-舉行會友大會,並於會後便餐招待

二月六日-舉行基甸主日,由國際基甸會代表報告 事奉工作

二月十三日-舉行菲律賓聖經神學院主日,由卲晨 光博士分享信息

二月廿日-舉行建基中學主日,晚土七點半由韓國 之讚美團主持音樂崇拜佈道會

CHURCH NEWS

Dec 12 - Plaque of Recognition was given to Pstr. Alice Huang for her labor of love and faithful service to our Lord. Dodong, our driver, was also given a Plaque of Recognition for his long years of service to our church.

Dec 19 - Christmas Cantata entitled "O Night of Miracles" was presented by church choir

Dec 26-29 - Elementary CYF held its 7th Winter Camp at Mandaue Gospel Center with Pstr. George Chua speaking on the theme "Christ Copycats"

Jan 1 - New Year Thanksgiving Service was held and "Daily Devotion" books were distributed

Jan 2 - Church theme for year 2005 is "Growing in Christ". The following deacons and deaconesses for the year 2005-2007 were inducted into office: Eusebio Co, Lorenzo Ong Jr., David Johnson Tan, James Young, Livian Garcia, Lili Gothong, Rosaline Ong & Merry Lourdes Lee Yu

Jan 30 - It's Congregational Sunday and packed lunch was served after the service

Feb 6 - This day's Gideon Sunday. A representative from Gideon International rendered a report about their ministry

Feb 13 - Dr. Joseph Shao shared God's message in today's BSOP Sunday

Feb 20 - PCGS (Philippine Christian Gospel School) Sunday. The Mocyang Praise Team from Korea held a Praise & Worship Evangelistic Service at 7:30 pm.

Fr

