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Letter from the Editor

As we move towards a century of existence, the literature committee sees a need to do some "make-over' in our church's publication, the Gospel Light. This endeavour can be achieved only with your cooperation and participation. How? In this issue, the vibrant colours of our covers and centerfolds are just the beginning of 'change' we hope to make in the succeeding issues. Do take time to answer the survey form enclosed herein and submit it. Your honest opinions and suggestions will be warmly taken. Do join the workshops we hope to conduct in the near future. There must be a lot of untapped artists and budding writers who can be a part of this great commission. Do become a contributor, be it your own composition or articles with religious interests. While we cannot guarantee that every article that comes our way will be published, we will try our very best to publish Gospel Light issues that are interesting and informative based on the input of our readership.

編輯之函

當教會邁向百年的建立,文字組感到需要重新整理教會出版 之務光.希望大家同心參予,力圖完成.開始在這期之活潑彩 色封面與插圖的出版後,將繼續於下期漸漸改善內容.敬請 諸位填寫務光檢討單後交回,您們的意見與建議定受重視. 且鼓勵大家參加籌備中研習會,相信有許多新作者能發芽開 花成全大使命.期得各位投稿,寫出屬靈心得.雖未能出版全 部稿件,但定盡力使務光能以廣見聞引起讀者的興趣.



教會消息 Church News

- 正月一日 舉行新春感恩聚會,今年度主題為「往下扎根,向上結果」
- 正月八日 教會舉行「與主親密」講座, 由黃運福牧師 與吳張絲蓮師母主講
- 正月廿六日 林永建牧師主持「菲華青年文化」研討會
- 正月廿七日 舉行會友大會及嬰孩奉獻禮, 嬰孩芳名為 葉光輝, Mikayla Louise Yap. 崇拜會後愛筵共餐
- 二月七日 教會會友組於Guba, Talamban, 主持"長輩郊 遊日"
- 二月廿三日 王建熙博士主持「培養新的一代」講座
- 三月一日 建基中學舉行立校60週年暨校友歸校慶典
- 三月十六日 教會舉行第92週年慶典, 特請陳貽強博士 為講員
- 三月廿三日 舉行第八十四屆聖洗, 浸禮之兄姊為傅雷 力, 吳明達, 林瑛媺, 李愛敏, 李如玲, 黃美蓮
- 四月八至十一日 主日學部主持兒童聖經班, 主題為 「無限的財寶」
- 四月廿六日 特會由林永建牧師主講「教會更新」
- 四月三十日 岷市Covenant Singers主持音樂會,題目: 「信心的詩歌」

- Jan 1 New Year's Thanksgiving Service. Church theme for this year is "Take Root Downward, Bear Fruit Upward"
- Jan 8 "A Close Encounter with God" seminar by Rev. Wee Un Hock and Pastor Aida Yu
- Jan 26 "Filipino Chinese Youth Culture" seminar by Rev. Danny Reyes
- Jan 27 Congregational Sunday & Child Dedication Sunday. The following children were dedicated to the Lord: Percival Andrei Yap, Mikayla Louise Yap. Love feast was served after joint CGC & MGC service.
- Feb 7 "Senior Citizens' Outing" at Guba, Talamban sponsored by Membership Committee
- Feb 23 "Raising a New Generation" special seminar by Dr. Paul Wang
- Mar 1 Kian Kee 60th Founder's Day Grand Alumni Homecoming
- Mar 16 Church's 92nd anniversary celebration with Rev. David Cheung as special speaker
- Mar 23 84th Baptismal Ceremony: Dereik Micah Po, Nathaniel Isaac Yu, Catherine Mae Chua, Charmaine De Leon, Loralee Gayle Ong, Joanah Uy
- Apr 8-11 Daily Vacation Bible School with the theme "Treasures Unlimited"
- Apr 26 Special seminar on "Church Renewal" by Rev. Danny Reyes
- Apr 30–Special musical concert entitled "Songs of Faith" by the CovenantSingers

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結果子的步驟

基督徒要往下扎根,向上結果 子.我們如何結果子呢?請看約 15:1-8.從這段經文中,我們可以 看出結果子的步驟.

(一)我們要與主耶穌有生命的關係(15:1)

主耶穌說:「我是真葡 萄樹…」既「我是原本的, 其他是抄本的」.現代世界 上有許多東西是假的.如果 你到百貨公司去,看到一瓶 花朵,很難分辨到底那些花 朵真的,還是假的.但是主 耶穌是真的葡萄樹.

一棵樹要結果子,它必 須有生命.同樣的,基督徒要 結果子,他必須要有主的生 命在他裡面,他才能結果子.

吴文欽牧師

看這些可愛的花朵和枝葉, 牠們並不趨向地下, 卻是背 地向上生長,趨向天空的 阿!』父親不禁微笑,對孩子 說:『地心吸力的定律之外, 原來還有一條更大的定律, 就是生命的定律. 生命的定 律具有比地心吸力更大的力 量,能使生命的物體勝過地 心吸力,反向上長.你試看這 花, 牠活著就向上長. 但若把 花折了, 脫離花莖, 斷絕原有 生命的來源, 牠就失却向上 生長的能力,反受地心吸力 的控制, 立刻掉在地上了. 』 基督是我們的生命,常住在 祂裡面,就能勝過一切,不致 墮落, 並叫我們向上生 長.

一個沒有生命的枝子是 死的,而且要剪去.一個枝子 若沒有結果子,很明顯是死 的,它是無用,而且扔在火裡 燒了.

(二)我們要降服予天父的修剪
(15:2-3)
"…凡結果子的,祂就

修理乾淨,使枝子結果子更 多."(約15:26)

一個基督徒有了主的生命,他就會結果子.但是為著 使他結更多的果子,主必把 他修理乾淨.

一個主人在他園中栽了

一枝竹, 培植, 澆灌, 修理, 愛牠無微不至. 竹既長大, 美 麗可愛, 十分感激主人栽培 之恩, 時思報答. 一天, 主人 對牠說:『我所愛的竹阿, 現 在我想用你, 不知道你願意 不願意?』竹子頂快的點頭答 應. 主人說:『在我用你之先, 必須把你砍下.』牠急忙求 道:『主人,這太難了. 你把 我砍下,我就再也没有出頭 的日子了. 別事都可答應,惟 有這事不行.』主人說: 如如 果我不把你砍下,我就不能 用你. 請你記得, 栽培你的目 的是為甚麼.』竹子為要報答 主人之恩, 只好忍痛答應. 主 人就將牠砍下.次日,主人又 對牠說:『現在我要把你所有 的葉子剪去, 不知道你願意 不願意?』 牠聽了發急的 說:『主人,這未免太苛刻了. 我已被你砍倒在地, 現在只 有這些葉子, 放過我罷!』主 人搖頭說:『你的葉子若不 剪去,我就不能用你.』牠無 可奈何, 含淚首肯. 主人就剪 下所有的葉子. 再過一天, 主 人又來向牠說:『現在我要把 你身上所有枝子消去.』竹子 哀聲說道:『葉子已經剪了, 若是再把枝子消掉,我便一 無所有了.這樣未免太不講



理了.』主人說:『若不這樣, 我就不能用你.』牠因感於主 人的恩典, 只得順服. 主人就 把所有枝子消掉. 第四天, 主 人又來對牠說:『現在我要鑿 通你的裡面.』竹嚎啕大哭, 說道:『我的根已砍斷; 葉已 剪掉;枝已消去;你還要把我 裡面的節鑿通,這未免太殘 忍罷!』主人答說:『我愛上 了你, 揀選你作合用的器皿. 竹阿, 必須把你的節鑿通, 纔 能用你. 否则, 我只好把你永 遠擱在地上了.』牠和主人談 判再三, 別無通融辦法, 也就 逐了主人的心願. 於是主人 把牠每節鑿通,成為中空的 管子,一頭接在水源,一頭通 到田中,灌溉田地.

信徒阿!你願意作神流 通活水的管子麼?如果你願 意為主結更多的果子,就要 降服於天父的修剪.

(三)我們要常在神的兒子裡面 (15:4-5) "你們西蒙女公裡五

"你們要常在我裡面, 我也常在你們裡面…這人就 多結果子…"

「在主裡面」(Abide)此 字在使徒約翰的神學中是一 個關鍵的話.在本章中出現 十一次;在全部福音書出現 四十次,在使徒約翰所有的 書信中出現廿七次.

一位鄉下人,一向生長 在窮鄉僻壤, 生性戆直, 倒也 勤勞.有一年,為了謀生,從 鄉下搬進城市,租了一小房, 既沒有電燈,也沒有自來水. 他看見鄰居牆上按有一個自 來水龍頭, 一扭開, 水就嘩啦 啦直淌出來. 心裡想, 我家若 有這個東西,那就太方便了. 他就去問鄰居:『這個東西要 多少錢, 在那個舖子纔能買 到?』打聽以後,他就上街買 了一個回來;在牆上鑿了一 個窟窿,把自來水龍頭裝上, 很高興的接上一個大水盆, 坐在那裡等水,可是等了好 久, 滴水不見. 他以為這個自 來水龍頭有毛病, 就去掉換 一個裝上. 等了大半天, 還是 一滴水也滴不出來. 他有些 生氣,就去責問老闆說:『喂! 為什麼賣給我的自來水龍頭, 個個都是壞的呢?』老闆接過 來看了一看, 沒有毛病, 就問 他:『老鄉!你是裝在甚麼地 方.』『我是依照鄰居的樣子, 裝在牆上.』『牆上有自來水 管沒有?』『我沒有看見水管 子.』老闆聽見了,不覺哈哈 大笑說:『既沒有水管子,既 使有自來水龍頭、也滴不出 水來.』『哦….』這時他纔 明白, 自來水龍頭, 必須裝在 自來水管子上, 纔能有水. 基 督徒們!請問你與基督的關 係是正常的呢? 還是脫節的 呢?我們若不在交通中碰著

主的生命, 那麼, 人生就會變成枯燥, 乏味. 也就談不到為 主發光, 為主工作了.

「在主裡面」何意呢? 「在主裡面」的意思是「與 主有親密的關係.常常親近 主,尋求祂,經歷祂.

藉著與主交通,常常禱告,讀經,與主親密.有些人認為讀經,禱告是一件困難的事.但是如果我們有紀律的天天實行出來,養成習慣,就不是一件難做的事.

鄉間勞苦婦女,無暇梳 頭,每年只梳一次,一梳就覺 病每年只梳一次,一梳就覺 女年天梳頭,心中竊思,城中 婦女何以天天梳頭,不畏 若果常.到了城中,看見婦 好不不,一, 不是 知天天梳頭,成為習 情, 天天蒙光明, 天天蒙光明, 天天, 武為習慣,便覺容易.

「在主裡面有何益處 呢?」第一,主就會常在我們 裡面(約15:5).第二,我們就 會多結果子(約15:5).第三, 我們就會得著所祈求的(約 15:7).

我們若多結果子,上帝 就因此得著榮耀.這也表示 我們是主耶穌的門徒了.



上期「分享詩篇第110篇」末段之"我們若能堅持"應為"我們若能堅忍"

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Take Root Downward

Our church theme for year 2008, is: "Take Root Downward, and Bear Fruit Upward." As one cannot bear fruit without taking root first, allow me to share with you my thoughts on how a Christian can become deeply rooted in Christ, our Lord and Savior.

Oak trees are often used to depict spiritual growth. Why oak trees in particular and not other thousands of living things? After all, every living thing grows. Perhaps time is of essence here. God takes time to make a great oak tree. Similarly, there are no shortcuts to spiritual maturity. It takes a long time and a lot of care to become a spiritual giant. To be deeply rooted in Christ, I have and will continue to follow three basic principles.

Firstly, one needs the right and good seed to sow with. Whatever a man sows, that he will also reap

Mona Li

(Galatians 6:7). Mango seeds bear mango fruits and cannot bear other fruits. Similarly, we need to study the Bible, to plant God's words into our hearts. Reading the Bible regularly helps us see how God works in living human history. Discerning the real nature of God encapsulated by the forgiving father in Jesus' parable of the Prodigal Son – helps us know the Father whose ways we should root ourselves upon. It is only when we are rooted with the true seed that we bear the fruits of Spirit - love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control (Galatians 5:22). Secondly, one needs to cultivate the soil to allow the roots to extend deep into the ground. Similarly, we need to prepare our hearts to receive God's words. How? life as well as in critical times. These processes may be painful but help break up the hardened soils of our souls. They teach us patience and total dependence on God. Most of all, they teach us to pray. Prayer enables us to find God's underground streams where His love and grace constantly run. It comforts me to know that God loves us so much that He will not subject any of us to needless pain. In his deepest hour of need, among the olive trees in the garden of Gethsemane, our own Lord Jesus prayed to the Father as he embraced his suffering and his Cross.

Thirdly, one needs to constantly tend the plant **and** its surroundings so that the weeds won't spring up and overrun it. When left alone, weeds spread quickly. Similarly in our spiritual

Through pruning, purging and paring. We experience these processes in the trials of everyday



growth, we need to weed out sinful attitudes for they can creep into and crowd the soils of our faith. We need to worship and fellowship with others to stave off the nettles of indifference. misunderstanding or lukewarm love that choke our spiritual growth. When Jesus sent out his disciples, he did not send them on their own. He sent them out 'twoby-two.' The blessing of fellowship and community is that when we ourselves are low-spirited, then our fellow pilgrims can help us, inspire us and restore us.

Trees go through cycle of seasons. There is a season of fresh new start in spring, lush growth in summer, falling out in autumn and barrenness in winter. Similarly, in our spiritual growth, we too go through seasonal change. There are seasons of abundance and times of spiritual dryness. Praise God for He is the perfect husbandman. In plenty or in want, He showers us with His blessings and radiates the sunshine of His love.

Shallow rooted plants sprout and

wither quickly. Here today and gone tomorrow. We do not mind uprooting them for they are easily replaced. On the other hand, deeply rooted trees are cherished. First signs of decay prompt us to devote more time in pruning and tending them back to fruitfulness. It's been 40 years since God's words were planted into my heart. How deeply rooted am I in Him? My honest answer will always be: Never deep enough. After all, God's underground resources are bottomless. I can only try to go as deep as I can. I can only cling to God's promise of never being uprooted from His abundant garden, from that miraculous moment when I first accepted Christ as my Lord and Savior.

Dear friends, we can attain spiritual maturity by planting God's words in our hearts, cultivating the soil of our faith through prayer, and warmly embracing God's grace and mercy endowed through our community. Remember, there is no shortcut to spiritual growth. It takes a lifetime to become a spiritual giant. Not that I have already attained, or am already perfected; but I press on (Philippians 3:12). To God be the glory. Amen and amen.

ALPHADUKO Are you fun of playing Sudoku? Try. this Alphaduko using the letters from a word that describes Christians in Christ. Can you guessthat word?

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Sunday School

Ptr. Jeanne Caramoan M.D.

Sunday school is an important fellowship in the church. It is where we learn what the Bible is all about. It is God's words that teach us the true doctrines (teachings) of God (the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit), who we are as men and sinners; heaven, Satan, hell, angels and our relationships with God. It is also where we learn how to discern right from wrong and to live as wise men by obeying God's commands so that we can live a righteous life pleasing Him as well as to live in harmony with our fellow men. In this way, we come to believe in God, have a relationship with Him, be transformed into a new person and grow maturely in our spiritual life - being perfected by God until He takes us away into the next life in heaven.

Like the other fellowships we have in the church, we don't only learn more about God and us, but we also enjoy singing praise songs to God, meeting with friends, having snacks and prizes from either memorizing Bible verses or other things.

Sunday school is very important because even children as young as six years old can already understand the gospel of Christ. It is for all ages. I remember my mom brought me to the Sunday school in our church, Caloocan Christian Baptist Church. I was only six years old then when Pastor Yu (who is presently the pastor of MCBC) shared the gospel to us that Sunday morning. There, I came to realize that I was a sinner who had committed sin against God and needed a Savior to save me from my sins. I followed the prayer that Pastor Yu led us and asked the Lord to be the Savior and ruler of my life. As days went by, I wasn't aware that the Lord was already transforming me into His likeness (sanctification), making me a believer while I was growing up physically. I would not have known that if my parents didn't mention the change they noticed in me, that from being a rebellious child to an obedient one. As He is still continuing to mold me to become perfect like His Son, Jesus Christ, I'm thankful to God that He used my mom to be His instrument for me to come to know Him. It is indeed the work of God to bring forth salvation to those whom He had chosen to be His children.

Whether we are teaching Sunday school or not, we are commanded by God to preach the gospel to every one. There's no exception to that Great Commission given by our Lord Jesus Christ to us, believers. When we preach the gospel, we should not just stop when they come to believe in God. Rather, we should continue this ministry through "discipleship" as

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Christ told us in Matthew 28:19-20. We have to baptize and teach them the word of God and make sure that they obey all His commands. This can only be done through "Bible Study". It is in "Bible Study" that we can dig deeper into the word of God and bear fruit which is the theme of the Church this year. By being grounded or rooted with the correct interpretation of the Bible, we will be able to discern what false teachings are. If not, we will be easily driven away from the truth and turn ourselves into believing the false teachings or go to the extreme which is beyond the Lord's teachings in the Bible. Just like our physical health, eating too little is bad and eating too much is bad, too. The same with our spiritual health, we should not be lacking in the study of the Bible for it will be bad for our spirit and we should not go beyond in the study of its meaning or this will be bad for our spirit as well.

Let's love the Lord our God by staying faithful in the study of His word, the Bible, everyday. They are treasures which money can't buy and precious to us for they refresh our soul and spirit. This is why Sunday school is very important as a way of leading various generations in this world to the will of God.



Poster Making Contest

Judge Jocelyn Uy-Po

March 16, 2008 was our church's 92nd anniversary. In line with this, the Sunday School Department of both MGC and CGC had a poster making contest using this year's church theme of "Take Root Downward, Bear Fruit Upward". Sunday School students in all levels were very creative and artistic. It was so difficult to pick the winning entries as all posters turned out to be winners.





In 2Kings, the bible uses the tree as an example of Christian renewal and revival, growth and maturity. The tree comes from the small seed. When the seed is planted, it must take root downward first before it can sprout. The root serves as the foundation and source of nutrients for the tree in order to grow and to bear fruits.

In like manner, the Word of God serves as our foundation for truth and faith. He is the True Vine and we should all abide in His Word. He will nourish, guide and encourage us towards Christian maturity. Because of a firm foundation and with the guidance of the Holy Spirit, we can begin to bear much fruit. Jesus said that if we abide in Him, we shall bear much fruit. Then, our Father in Heaven will be glorified. This fruit is love. And love is obedience to the commandments of God.

Oftentimes, when we talk about the law or commandment of God, what comes to the mind of many people is that the law or commandment is a burden for us to follow. It seems like a yoke that we do not want to bear. But the commandments can be summarized



Philip Uy

into the following: 1. Thou shall love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, with all thy soul and with all thy mind. 2. Thou shall love thy neighbor as thyself. Truly, the commandment of GOD is a commandment of LOVE. For the commandment of **GOD IS LOVE**.

STUDENTS' TESTIMONIES

Growing up with a father who is a Catholic/Buddhist believer and a mother of Jehovah's Witness simply complicates the process for a person in becoming a believer. Different beliefs kept on pounding my mind but I have always known that I should have a religion of my own. Complicated as it may seem, somehow my parents allowed me to be part of the Christian community.

By God's grace, when I studied here in Cebu, I met a Christian friend

and went with her to Sunday school. I was able to find myself a place to worship.

Week after week, I went along with my friend to church and from there, we met a group of friends whom I was able to share the joy of learning more about the words of God: My parents were both supportive about it but some of my relatives were against it. Nevertheless, I still continued and even brought my sister to church. Days went by until the whole calendar was all flipped up. Having learned so much from our Sunday school teachers and pastors, and knowing that my mom in the states has also become a Christian, I was able to have the strong will to be finally baptized.

So many things amazingly changed in my day to day life and my faith really grew more and more each day. One thing I am most thankful about is when my father found out about my baptism, he was totally okay about it. At first, I was really worried because he was hesitant about it before. He was okay about me going to church but to be baptized,

for him, was a different story. Indeed, the Lord works through our lives in ways we least expect to happen.

-Michelle Tio

I once thought that attending Sunday school classes is only for little kids who need to be taught about who Jesus is. But when I started attending Sunday school, I began to ask myself, "How come I don't know these things?" I realized that during my childhood days, I refused to listen to God's word. I didn't take heart in understanding deeply on how I should respond to the things that I've been taught. As a little kid, I was just looking for fun, not knowing what I've been missing all the days of my life.

But things changed from then on... Now I'm thankful and completely filled with happiness that at this point of my life, I am, with God's grace, able to build a passion in learning the word of God and living a life that I once thought I would never have.

- Harvey Ching

On the first day of Sunday school, I felt a bit awkward going to Sunday school because I've always thought that Sunday schools are for kids. But after attending it for a couple of Sundays, I realized that just like the kids learning bible characters, parables, songs and prayers in Sunday school, we, the college students not only learn those things but also some important teachings like decision making, forgiveness, integrity, honesty, and etc. Those have been through many times in my high school but I admit that I didn't really take them seriously. I have been through more problems and struggles in college than in high school but I have learned to accept my faults and reflect on the things I have learned in Sunday school. One very significant thing about Sunday school is that the teachers or the VOLUNTEERS OF GOD are really passionate in sharing what they know about God and His words. Every Sunday, they must wake up a couple of hours earlier than others to prepare for Sunday school. I believe only sincere Christians can do such a job and I also made up my mind to become a Sunday school teacher one day if I get the chance. Thank you Ahia Gabriel (my 1st year college teacher) and Ahia Philip (my 2nd year college teacher) for being such kind teachers.

Your teachings and efforts will be the foundation of my Christian faith throughout my life. Thank you!

- Hyun Yoo

I was amazed of having heard about how the bible came about. I can hardly imagine how authors from different places all around the world could come up with one thought, the word of God, without even meeting each other. From then on, the importance of the Bible in my life greatly elevated. Knowing that all of the written words in the different books are interrelated, the more I gained interest in finding out the whole message of the Lord.

Now, I passionately do my daily devotion and act out what I learn so as to show people that changes in my life are not my own but of the Holy spirit who is taking residence in my life.

- Sarah Tio



Last April 8-11, 2008 was our church DVBS. The theme was Treasures Unlimited. About 120 students attended with twelve teachers and staff busy preparing the lessons and songs. More than thirty young people had fun helping out with the arts, crafts, snacks and doing other errands. The church was buzzling with little feet for four days. It was a success despite the constrain of time, manpower and materials. God is always in control.

Cost was very minimal since old materials were recycled. There was no need to buy work books as the teachers made their own Bible exercises and crafts. Many children came just for vacation but attending DVBS brought them to the saving knowledge of Jesus. Therefore, we need to always be prepared whether in season and out of season. For all of you who prayed and supported this ministry, may God richly bless you!!! As the Lord had promised in Zecchariah 3:9 NOT BY MIGHT NOR BY POWER BUT BY MY SPIRIT SAITH THE LORD.

WHO DESPISES LITTLE THINGS? The Lord will always bless little intentions, little sacrifices and little faith because He sees everything even the little things we do for HIM. Amen!!

TOGETHER WE CAN DO IT!!!

ONE BIG FAMILY OF CEBU GOSPEL CHURCH

Judge Jocelyn Uv-Po

BS 2008

ASSISTANT TEACHERS PICTURE WITH OUR DVBS DIRECTOR SINGSPIRATIONAL SNAP SHOTS



ly Beloved Mother and

It has been four years now since my beloved mother went home to be with the Lord on January 2, 2004. Indeed, how the years fly for it seems only yesterday that I was with Mom.

My mom was a very patient, courageous, kind-hearted, lovely and a devoted Christian. Her life was full of joy. I know there are many loving mothers, but it's difficult to find one like my mom. She had faith and by devotion, was able to bring my brother Robert, my two sisters May, Ronie and myself to the Lord. I thank the Lord for giving me such a great, loving mother.

My most memorable experience was in April, 1985 when my beloved mom and I went to Europe for a one month tour. The Lord said, "I will keep watch over you as you come and go, both now and forever." (Psalm 121:8) Mom and I had so many thrilling experiences during this wonderful tour. I remember we were also given free time to give us the chance to go around and see the different sites such Helen Tian

as the Trevi Fountain in Rome, the Leaning Tower of Pisa, feeding the pigeons at St. Mark Square, Venice and the Windmill in Amsterdam. Mom and I enjoyed eating the Frankfurt Sausage in Germany. We also visited the beautiful and splendid mountain in Austria where the Sound of Music was filmed, the Alps in Switzerland,.... Barcelona, Spain with many lovely seňoritas and of course, the fantastic Eiffel Tower in Paris. We went to Monaco where the late Grace Kelly lived.... Our last stop was London but Mom and I didn't like the place because it was foggy everyday.

I miss my Mom's laughter especially when the Europeans mistook my Mom as my elder sister. Mom was really beautiful. I feel fulfilled every time I looked at the experiences my Mom and I shared. Thank you Lord for giving my Mom the best even under great pressure. I will always remember the times I spent with my mom for we both enjoyed every moments of it. The times I spent with her were the sweetest I can recall. God is so good! Amen.

BIBLE WORDSEARCH

"Animals in the Bible"

Look for the words in the list below reading forward, backward, up, down, diagonally, always in a straight line.

_												
J	Q	D	в	I	U	D	₽	F	М	\mathbf{Z}	s	I
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с	s	J	х	J	I	М	s	М	М	0	L	K
I	F	\mathbf{z}	Ρ	F	L	0	W	U	Е	к	х	J
Е	F	С	J	R	к	W	F	U	М	N	Т	Ε
Q	L	в	W	v	N	М	J	N	Y	0	С	P

Bear	Horse	Mouse
Camel	Ibex	Nighthawk
Donkey	Jackal	Ostrích
Gazelle	Leopard	Sheep
Goat	Lion	Unicorn
Hart	Mole	Wolf



A Page From A Kian Keenian's Life

Josephine Limchesing Ching

I stood beneath the huge mango tree and closed my eyes -

Fragments in bits and pieces came swirling around me and I captured them as swiftly as I could;

Doors and windows in my mind are opening and I hear the sounds of children running and laughing -

a door on the left opens and I hear the older children talking, some loudly and some softly; a door on the right opens and I hear teenagers giggling and sounding excited.

I see my beloved teachers, in their light blue and olive green uniforms

I see myself in my nursery classroom, kindergarten 1 classroom which adjoins the kindergarten 2 classroom, and the chapel hall.

I picture myself in every classroom that I have sat in - the white wooden windows, the view outside, the huge staircase which leads to the library, I can still smell the volumes of books on the shelves, which I visited almost everyday of my high school life.

I see myself with my best friends walking down the pathway, do we turn left to the restrooms for a last minute look in the mirror or do we turn right around the corner then 2 steps down and we are on the way out to the gate of the school. Memories just come rushing and engulfing me and I must quickly catch my breath -

Then the door at the end of the hallway opens and we are in our maroon togas and caps, teary-eyed and feeling lost and almost grown up all at the same time; it's our high school graduation day;

A time to bid a farewell to our teachers and classmates, and the question hangs in the air, "Must this be a final farewell?"

I opened my eyes and the only thing that looked familiar was the huge mango tree, in exactly the same spot as it had been 60 years ago!

Today, I am here to fetch my children home from school.

Yesterday, I was the child waiting to be fetched home.

Philippine Christian Gospel School, Cebu Christian School, Kian Kee High School, or simply KIAN KEE turns 60 years old this year. On the day of March 1, 2008, all roads led to PCGS as she celebrates her majestic 60 years of being.

What a day it was when three or four generations of families converge as one on this day, sharing one common factor, that we are one family in PCGS.

As the tune of "jian ji lu pang she" filled the air, every alumnus in the gym must remember oneself singing this beloved anthem every Monday in the old chapel. We hold hands and come together as one with Kian Kee in our hearts.

PCGS stands proudly in the heart of the city of Cebu, a beacon of inspiration to each and every graduate or student who has journeyed through life with her.

As an educational institution, she has educated and nurtured up to the third and even fourth generations of families since 1948. She has traveled the road less traveled indeed...

And quoting from Dr. Wanda Po, Directress of PCGS, "... we have changed in physical appearance, but in heart and spirit—Kian Kee has remained God-centered, focused on character building, emphasizing not only the academics but also the curricular disciplines, aiming to educate both right and left brain students. It is our desire to lift the banner of Jesus higher and higher, to pursue higher goals of excellence, to make Christ known to as many people as possible. We aspire to grow stronger in our impact to society by producing responsible and globally competitive graduates—who will excel in the world and walk unfalteringly in His ways."



Rejoicing in the Grace of God

Wanda Po Liam Giok

Philippine Christian Gospel School turned 60 this year (1948-2008). Reflecting, I believe that the school is sustained only by the grace of God. Grace defined as gift is precisely what the school is. PCGS is a gift. Who is the giver? PCGS is a gift from God the Father who used members of Cebu Gospel Church to establish a school. PCGS is the product of the vision of our founders and their obedience to God's voice. In its inception, the founders envisioned a school that will share the love of Christ with the Chinese community. It was an intentional effort to evangelize the Chinese in Cebu through the offering of the Chinese curriculum. But as the world shrunk and our Christian faith matures, our vision also expanded. Today, PCGS is a Filipino-Chinese school providing quality Christian education to all for the development of the whole person

to benefit not only society but also the world for the glory of God. We are to be a beacon of light in this dark world, leading every soul to the right. As recipients of this vision, PCGS has and will always remain true to this task. Our curriculum to this day remains rich in the word of God; school programs are focused in glorifying God; salvation in Christ alone is faithfully shared to all students, regardless of race, creed or social status.

How did we celebrate our 60th year? We were ambitious; we had wanted to put up a grand musical production – Hey Joe. We thought this would be a fitting thanksgiving offering to God for His 60 years of grace and mercies. But we met obstacles and struggles. Finally, we decided to have a modest celebration to highlight the graces of God among teachers, students and alumni. A week-long celebration was scheduled. We started with a PCGS Sunday on February 24 at the Cebu Gospel Church. We thought it would be meaningful to start the celebration of our 60th year with our founding church. We desired God to be the focus of our celebration; hence, the teachers sang their hearts out,

"Amazing love, how can it be that Thou my God shouldst die for me We rejoice in the grace of God, poured upon our lives; Loving-kindness has come to us because of Jesus Christ. We rejoice in the grace of God, our hearts overflow ..."

We rejoice in the grace of God – we see this in the lives of our students. Students are more desiring of God and His word than ever before.



Chapel time is the most "look forward to" program in the week's schedule. Students have learned to be more and more concerned with the physical and spiritual needs of others, especially the less fortunate. Our Saturday OUTREACH programs are usually participated and led by student leaders. On one occasion, I went with the Science Club members to Barili. There, I saw how the students were so enthusiastic and fired up in sharing Christ, leading games and telling stories to children. They were learning how to serve God with their time and talents.

In line with our emphasis to develop our students holistically and give them equal opportunities to excel, we conducted the search for Mr. & Miss PCGS which was opened to all high school students. Every applicant was tested in the following aspects - spiritual, intelligence, emotional, adversity, and talent. From 37 applicants, it was trimmed down to 14 finalists. February 27, the coronation night of the Search for Mr. & Miss PCGS 2008 was an evening to be remembered. A lump welled up in my throat as I listened to one finalist after another during the casual interview portion – their responses were indicative of their walk with God – they were conscious of God in their lives, they were putting God first, desiring to honor God and giving God all the glory.

March 1 was the Grand Alumni Homecoming. A thanksgiving service was scheduled two hours before the homecoming dinner. This service was very encouraging and uplifting. The instrumentalists and worship leaders, all PCGS alumni, brought the assembly to a mood of worship and praise. And as one alumna after another shared her testimony, it was just aweinspiring to acknowledge how God has been faithful in keeping and bringing to completion the good work He's begun in their lives. Truly, God's grace is poured upon our lives through Jesus Christ. His grace is overflowing in our hearts and in our school.

Finally, one more instance to highlight God's grace and His work

in the lives of our students. During this year's Founder's Day celebration, some students put up fun and food booths for profit as part of their Entrepreneurial Project. One such booth was the Pizza Parlor put up by some second year students. During our recognition day in March, a second year high school student approached me and handed me an envelope. He said that it was the group's tithe offering from the profits they made with the Pizza Parlor. I stood speechless for a while overwhelmed by such magnanimity of heart. But more importantly, I was humbled because these students have learned to apply God's word into their lives and into their small business. It is a demonstration of how God's word is effecting in these young lives. They were serious with God and with following God's teachings on tithe giving. God is working in these young lives. Our students are indeed growing in the grace and knowledge of God! We will forever rejoice in the grace of God!

Rejoicing in the Grace of God

PCGS Sunday

Thanksgiving Service



We rejoice in the grace of God!

PCGS ###il

Search for Mr. & Ms. PCGS 2008





High School



Preschool



Grand Alumni Homecoming

Thanksgiving Service









"The Prayer" by Notasha Cang & Jim Baloran



The Officers of CK



Selected staff & teachers



Marnelli ann Sorongon





Gospel Light



Faith in Business

A lot of businessmen have to believe first before being spurred to action. But there are some who are led to action by Faith. Faith is often mistaken for gut or instinct, it is neither. Faith is defined in the Bible in Hebrews 11:1 as "being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see." Let me recount to you this simple story.

A famous acrobat once performed before a small crowd on the roof deck of a tall building. He strung a tightrope from the edge of the building to the opposite edge of the next building. He asked the people present, "Do you believe that I can balance across the tightrope to reach the other side?" "No!" The audience chanted in unison. The acrobat then crossed over to the other side and came back. The audience cheered.

The acrobat then asked, "Do you believe that I can balance across the tightrope to the other side and back blindfolded?" "No!" The audience chanted excitedly and in unison. The acrobat blindfolded himself then crossed over to the other side and came back. The audience cheered.

The acrobat then asked, "Do you believe that I can balance myself pushing a wheelbarrow across the tightrope to the other side and back blindfolded?" "No!"

Christopher Tio

The audience screamed in disbelief. The acrobat blindfolded himself then pushed the wheelbarrow across and back. The audience erupted in cheers.

The acrobat the asked again, "Do you believe that I can balance myself pushing a wheelbarrow across the tightrope to the other side and back blindfolded?" "YES!" The audience cheered. "Do you have faith that I can do it?" "YES!" The audience erupted. "Good, I need a volunteer to sit on the wheelbarrow." The acrobat responded. Suddenly there was silence. Nobody said anything and all eyes stared at the ground. That is the difference between believing and having Faith.

Having Faith means trusting everything to God. In Isaiah 41:10, the Bible says, "So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

What are the characteristics of people who rely on faith in business?

F-Fearless - They are capable of making big decisions. They are courageous and exercise decisive action. "Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men..." Colossians 3:23 A-Active – They believe in the power of preparation. They work hard to ensure that they are ready for all eventualities arising from their decisions. "Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you." Matthew 7:7

I- Inspired – They believe in the power of prayer. They make it a point to develop the habit of prayer before making decisions. "..whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours." Mark 11:24

T-Trusting – They trust God with everything. They are honest in their assessments of themselves and seek to trust and develop a good network of family, friends, co workers that can give true feedback. "With man this is impossible, but not with God; all things are possible with God." Mark 10:27

H-Humble – They have humbled themselves before God and acknowledged that all that they have is His and His alone, and that they are only caretakers of God's wealth and business. "I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing." John 15:5

To start a business, we must believe in ourselves and in our ideas. But in order for the business to grow, we must have faith in ourselves and in our ideas. It is the intensity of our faith that attracts potential partners, employees, customers to believe in us. But it is only our Faith in God that will give us the true meaning of success.



讀經: 雅歌二章十四-十五節

「雅歌」是所羅門的傑作,是他靈性 達到高峰時,被聖靈感動寫成的.所 羅門是一位富有情操的王.所以,在 門是書的中心點,可以發現一個熟悉 的字.那就是「愛」.他所描繪的愛, 是有關基督與新約教會的「愛」. 社讀的挽回祭.同樣地新約教會也興 起許多門徒情願為基督而殉道.這正 是所謂「彼此相愛」.

雅歌二章十四節裡,雖然是描寫新郎 對新婦的話,但也可以表明是基督對 新約的信徒說:「我的鴿子阿…」. 這個稱呼聽起來, 似乎感觸到奇特, 且很別緻. 但我們以屬靈的感悟, 即 領會到主耶穌對新約信徒的期望. 祂 期望信徒們能像鴿子一樣有遠大的眼 光,能看透屬靈的福份.有一副純 厚、馴良、聖潔的品格,隱約於他內 在之生命裡面.隨後說:「……你在磐 石穴中, 在徒巖的隱密處. 」主耶穌就 是我們的磐石. 只要信徒能虔虚順服 住在祂裡面, 祂才會住在我們裡面. 那是何等的安全啊!「…在徒巖的隱 密處.」那是更加安全了. 只要信徒在 屬靈的征途上, 沒有才華的驕傲, 沒 有财富的炫耀, 沒有權貴的爭執, 唯 有降服在 神的旨意中,才能享受心 靈上的平安!

大衛在詩篇九十一篇裡說:「住在至 高者隱密處的,必住在全能者的蔭 下…神說,因為他專心愛我,我要搭 平信徒

救他,因為他知道我的名,我要把他 安置在高處. 他若求告我, 我就應許 他,他在急難中,我要與他同在.我 要搭救他, 使他尊貴. 我要使他足享 長壽,將我的救恩顯明給他.」這是 神給我們最可靠的應許. 同樣, 主的 「求你容我得見你的面貌…你 期望: 的面貌秀美.」因為面貌是品性的表 徵. 主要在信徒的面貌上, 觀賞是否 有屬靈的喜樂. 使徒保羅說:「你們要 靠主常常喜樂…當叫眾人知道你們謙 讓的心.」(腓四:4-5). 這是保羅帶著 提醒的語氣告訴我們:「當叫眾人知 道你們謙讓的心」.「謙讓」是主耶 穌基督之美德. 謙讓就是在靈裡謙卑 温柔. 感謝主. 當我們重生得救那時 刻,基督謙讓的心也同時進到我們裡 面. 可是有些信徒失去喜樂的原因, 是因為驕傲沒有謙讓的心. 驕傲處身 傲慢、自命不凡,不肯謙卑退讓,所 以我們要維持喜樂的靈, 必須要有謙 讓的心,讓主天天與我們同在,一同 過著喜樂的生活,使我們日復一日愈 加領受新恩,逐漸地塑成基督的形像, 而主便能觀賞我們面貌的秀美了.

 我們能追求安靜、正直、潔淨的心, 首當「勒住舌頭」為秘訣.所以我們 應該如同使徒保羅說:「當用各樣的 智慧,把基督的道理,豐豐富富的存 在心裡.用詩章、頌詞、靈歌,彼此 教導、互相勸戒、心被恩感、歌頌上 帝.」(西三:16).使主能夠聽到柔和 的聲音.

「謙卑」與「柔和」,可說是一對攣 生子,他們有許多相同的地方;謙讓 不曉得怨恨,柔和也不曉得怨恨;謙 喪碍凡事服在 神大能手下,柔和 也曉得凡事服在 神大能的手下.這 的確是信徒效法主耶穌「柔和謙卑」 的佐證.

然而怨恨是惡者-魔鬼工作的場地, 牠畜意在 神的工場上,以迷惑、引 誘投其羅網,藉以破壞 神的工作, 奪去信徒心靈裡的平安.故此,我們 當向主說:「要給我們擒拿狐狸,就是 毀壞葡萄園的小狐狸…」(雅二:15). 是的,信徒若陷在惡者的羅網裡,沒 有能力去擒拿小狐狸,要求主代為捕 暇.

- 一.尼希米記四章三節:「…他們所修 造的石牆,就是狐狸上去也必跳 倒.」這裡的狐狸,專做毀壞工作 的.
- 二. 以西結書十三章三至六節:「…愚 頑的先知…好像荒場中的狐狸… 這些人所見的是虛假,是謊詐



的…其實耶和華沒有差遣他 們…」這裡的狐狸比作假先知, 他說謊,欺騙人,誘惑人.

三.路加福音十三章卅一至卅二節: 「…幾個法利賽人來對耶穌說: 離開這裡去罷,因為<u>希律</u>想要殺 你.耶穌說,你們去告訴那個狐 狸…」這裡的狐狸比作殺害.

葡萄園是比作有形的教會, 園中的葡萄樹已經開花, 正在結果. 然而小狐 狸出現, 牠要做毀壞, 誘惑, 殺害的 工作. 使葡萄樹不能結出果子. 小狐 狸可比小罪,小試探.多數信徒大罪 不敢去犯,但對小罪竟然毫不在意犯 上了.因而在生活上不能結出果子來. 所謂小罪. 例如自私、不顧別人、專 顧自己、自尊自貴、總以為自己比別 人強,在言語上、行為上、態度上, 處處顯出傲慢來;自誇、顯炫自己的 特點、自鳴得意、妒嫉、惱恨, 背後 毀謗人、喜歡沽名釣譽…這些雖然都 是小罪,但在 神的眼中卻不是小罪. 曾有一位 神的忠心使女,在她臨 終的時候說:「我以往不以為罪的事, 如今想起來都是罪,應該向天父坦誠 認罪. 」這正如使徒保羅說:「我們原 曉得律法屬乎靈的,但我是屬乎肉體 的,是賣給罪了.因為我所作的,我 自己不明白,我所願意的,我並不作. 我所恨惡的,我倒去作…」. (羅 七:14-15). 所以, 我們應該經常反省 我們的行徑,以免得罪人,更得罪了 神!

英國有位著名作家,他出身極其窮苦. 因為他的百折不回,堅苦卓絕,奮發 有為,得到功成名就.那時各書局都 爭先恐後徵求他的佳作,作為預約發 行,真是風行一時.同時他的酬金也 就豐富起來了.經他歷年的積蓄,竟 然築一座精潔房舍.前有花園,後有 草地,佈置得整潔而美觀.真可謂能 享晚年之福了.但好景不長,他老人 家竟病起來了,且藥石無功.這消息 不時傳開,各報的記者,訪員們分紛 東錄有何遺訓遺囑,可在報 章發表.這班青年們都排列在病床邊, 異口局舉向他徵求道:「老先生,你是 從惡劣環境裡奮鬥而成就的,你那種 行新不回,克苦自勵的精神,深得我 個欽佩,對我們這般尊敬、景仰你的 青年後生,有何教誨,我們洗耳恭聽 先生成就的秘訣.」

那位老先生聽了這番誠態的請求, 微 微的睜開他昏花的老眼, 向他們掃瞄, 似乎在探索這些人是否真心追求, 卻 是一言不答. 他們逐又向他請求道: 老先生, 恕我們唠唠叨叨地在你病 中煩擾你,實覺不合情理,不過我們 都是報館的訪員,新聞雜誌的記者, 我們極其渴望聽老先生的教誨, 不但 我們可以得益,同時我們將你的經歷, 發表在書報上之後,將會造福於幾千 萬的青年讀者,故此務請老先生不吝 賜教,晚輩謹候恭聽.」「成功嗎? 秘 訣嗎? 有! 請查看馬太福音十六章 + 六節. 」老先生以虚弱的聲音說了上 面幾句話, 作為答覆他們的請求. 便 合了眼睛,與世長辭了.他們迅速地 記錄在紙上,忙打開聖經查看,見 是:「人若賺得全世界, 賠上了自己的 生命,有甚麼益處呢?人還能拿甚麼 換生命呢?」.

當我們思考,處身在這變幻莫測的世 路上,我們很難推斷人性與神恩作為 的區別,因為二者的動向雖然極其相 反,但他們的謀略卻是非常精巧奧妙. 若沒有聖靈的光照,很難于以辨別的. 大體經常以溫文風雅,喜氣迎人.在 言掩飾其劣性,而展現出一派君子的人. 在長,作為贏取眾人一唱百和地擁戴 替,受其騙的人,實在不勝杖舉. 這 響,受其騙的人,實在不勝杖舉. 這 響,受其騙的人,實在不勝杖舉. 這 響,受其騙的人,實在不勝杖舉. 這 響,受其騙的人,實在不勝杖舉. 這 響,受其騙的人,實在不勝杖舉. 這 響,是狐狸作崇的機巧.因此,我們 為要繪恩二者. 作為我們的座右銘:

- 一.人性是狡猾的,為要達到自己的 目的,施行誘惑,欺騙眾人;但是 神恩卻是純樸的,絕無絲毫罪惡 的傾向,亦無半點虛偽.他作事 乃是為 神的緣故而作.
- 二.人性喜愛榮譽,喜歡受人崇拜; 神恩卻忠實地將一切榮耀都歸於 神.
- 三.人性懼怕羞辱和藐視;神恩喜歡為耶穌的名受凌辱.
- 四. 人性看重塵世的事物, 獲利則喜, 損失則憂, 不肯含忍一點輕微的 冤曲; 神恩仰望永恆的事物, 不 受俗物之累, 不因損失而憂. 因 為積財寶與喜樂在天上, 絕無損 失之慮.
- 五.人性貪得無饜,樂受不好施,喜 佔外物為己有;神恩仁慈良善, 樂於助人,不務私得,且易於知 足,又深知施比受更為有福.
- 六.人性樂得外來的安慰,圖感官上的逸樂;神恩只求 神的安慰, 喜悅至善過於萬物.
- 七. 人性喜歡親友滿堂, 誇耀高貴的 地位, 和高貴的身份, 諂媚權貴, 逢迎富豪, 稱讀與己同類者; 神 恩愛仇敵, 不誇多友高貴的身份. 神恩愛貧嫌富, 厭惡權貴, 喜歡 誠實人, 疏遠詭詐者.
- 八.人性喜愛出人頭地,喜愛受人認識,喜作人家讚羨的事;神恩教人禁制感官,遠離自滿,虛誇.謙 卑地隱匿值得稱羨一切的事和一切的知識,追求結好果子,稱頌 歸於神.
- 九. 神恩是超然的光,是 神特別的 恩賜,是被選召的印記. 它超拔 人脫離塵世,專愛天上的事物, 脫離肉體,變成屬靈的人.

所以,當藉著主耶穌的寶血潔淨,人 性才愈受克服,神恩就愈加充滿.這 樣,內心每日領受新恩,漸漸的成為 基督形像的新人了. "Remain in me, and I will remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me."

John 15:4

The Best Fruit

Rev. Un Hock Wee

In order for us to become effective and productive Christians, we should continue to depend and stay upon Him. We must completely put our trust in Christ alone to be fruitful. The more we depend on Him, the more our lives will grow and be able to influence others. There is no way our Christian lives can grow without holding firmly on Christ.

Here are some of the best fruits we can offer to the Lord:

1. The fruit of bringing people to know the Lord

Winning others for Christ and helping them grow spiritually is a form of spiritual fruit. Bringing people to know the Lord is the best fruit we can give to the Lord, the best gift we can give to the people whom we love, and the most joyous thing that ever happen to one's life. Let us be diligent in winning more souls for the Lord. Romans 10:15 – <u>"....How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!"</u>

2. The fruit of helping people grow in the Lord

Aside from bringing them to know the Lord, it is also every Christian's duty to nurture the people whom we bring to know Christ. In order for Christians to be fruitful, we must continue to nurture them, so that they too will become valuable and effective Christians. As a pastor, helping people grow in the Lord gives me great joy. Hebrews 6:1 – <u>"Therefore let us leave the</u> <u>elementary teachings about Christ and go</u> <u>on to maturity, not laying again the</u> <u>foundation of repentance from acts that</u> <u>lead to death, and of faith in God."</u>

3. The fruit of sharing God's blessings

Whatever gifts we have, use it for the glory of God. What if all the Christians offer their gifts to the Lord, the work of God will surely grow tremendously and shake the world.

Paul received an offering from the Gentiles for the Jews who were in need. He referred to that offering as fruit: "So after I have completed this task and have made sure that they have received this fruit, I will go to Spain and visit you on the way." (Romans 15:28) When I take my finances and invest them through my tithes and offerings, it will result in fruit to my account (Philippians 4:17). So whatever material blessings we receive from the Lord, share it generously and make a difference in the lives of people. God bless us so that we can be blessings to others. What great joy it is to share our blessings and bless one another.

4. The fruit of praising and thanking God

When we lift our voices in praise to God and when we praise God from our innermost beings, we are affirming God's greatness. Our spirit will also be lifted up. In praising God, we are declaring God's awesomeness. Let us learn to offer praises for what He is doing in our lives and lift up the name of Christ in our lives. The Bible tells us, <u>"Through Jesus, therefore, let us</u> <u>continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise</u> <u>– the fruit of lips that confess his name."</u> (Hebrews 13:15)

5. The fruit of developing our conduct and character

Galatians 5:22-23 tells us, "<u>But the</u> <u>fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace,</u> <u>patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,</u> <u>gentleness and self-control..."</u> We should keep on changing to become more like Christ. Whatever you do, do it for the glory of God. If we live, we live for Christ; and if we talk, we should talk and act like Christ. Let us depend and trust Him completely in order to see changes in our lives and become more like Christ.

The only way for us to keep on growing and bearing fruit for the Lord is to abide in Christ and stay there. We then see what Christ can do to our lives.

An Unforgettable Outreach

Young Professionals Fellowship

TRUE LOVE is a splendid host. There is love whose measure is that of an umbrella. There is love whose inclusiveness is that of a great marquee. And there is love whose comprehension is that of the immeasurable sky. The aim of the New Testament is the conversion of the umbrella into a tent and the merging of the tent into the glorious canopy of the all-enfolding heavens ... Push back the walls of family love until they include the neighbor; again push back the walls until they include the stranger; again push the walls until they comprehend the foe. - John Henry Jowett

Knowing that February is a love month, sixteen young professionals of Cebu Gospel Church together with eleven young professionals of Bethany Church went to House of Hope in Lapu-Lapu City last February 14, 2008 to show their love on this Valentines Day. The group gave their precious time on this special occasion with the hope to fulfill the wishes of the residents in the House of Hope. What is House of Hope anyway? It is a place that is managed by some Singaporean Missionaries, a place of refuge for those who are seeking help to change and get guidance from their addiction to drug and to be loved. It is a rehabilitation center. Many residents here found Christ or have returned to Christ. Some became pastors, counselors and others became active in churches or fellowships when they left.

The reason for this outreach was since the residents can't come out and spend time with their loved ones on this occasion and haven't been with them for so long, the young professionals went to the place and decorated it to exude a warm and cozy ambience. The residents invited their families and loved ones: the married invited their wives and children; the unmarried, either their special friends or parents. The young professionals served as waiters on that event. Residents even had menu to choose from. We started our dinner around 6:30pm. All of the young pros have their own assigned jobs; the girls were in charged of the food plating, decorations and prizes while the boys acted as waiters and organized some games and picture taking.

After dinner, our game masters

Loyd and Derwin took charge of the ice breaker. They asked seven couples to sit behind each other and asked them some questions to see if their answers match. Then we have our evangelistic meeting – Lydale gave his testimony and shared the parable of the prodigal son. The message was very uplifting and we hoped it touched the lives of those residents and their families. We also showed them movie clip from the passion of Christ entitled "Awesome God" which was used to end the message that night.

An invitation to accept Christ was extended and a number of people stood up and came to know and believe in Christ. We hope that through this event, those who stood up will have a close relationship with Christ and will bear fruit for Him. This was one of the most memorable projects the young professionals of Cebu Gospel and Bethany church had made. We hope that we can continue to work hand in hand in this kind of ministry and that we can also work together with the other churches in the future. God bless yah all!!!







Biblical Principles Learned in the Past 80 Years

 Put God first in your life in everything (Matthew 6:33). This is a major key to lifetime success and blessing. God will be no man's debtor BUT He expects to be first – always. He will not share His glory with anyone else. Remember: He IS God. At best, we are His children.

- Learn to give God a tithe and an offering of everything you earn (Malachi 3:8-12). Ann and I started practicing this in 1955 when we had a salary of \$15 weekly. God has proved through 55 years that He is no man's debtor. We have never had an unpaid bill and always had enough.
- 3. Practice a daily devotional time together as husband and wife. The greatest binding quality in our marriage has been the time we spend together daily reading God's Word, praying and thanking God for each other. You cannot pray with someone if you do not love them. We mutually uplift one another before God and thank Him for giving us each other.

Rev. Russell H. Voight

- 4. Give your mate to God. At marriage, I told Ann she could never be number one but she always would be number two. God had to be first in my life. I told her I could never be number one in her life but I wanted to be number two. We have practiced that for over 55 years. It works!
- 5. God has given the Christian three powerful supernatural tools – the Word of God which is our spiritual food, the power of intercessory prayer which can move mountains, and the indwelling Holy Spirit, Who is God himself living in me. I am His Temple. He indwells my life always. It makes a difference how much I exercise these three powers or gifts from God. It determines whether I am usable to God and experience His constant blessings and have His power at work in me.
- 6. Practice telling your mate every day that you love her, that you believe she is a gift from God to you. Let her know that she is the most important human in your life. Respect her, ask for her opinions, let her be your equal, be her spiritual support, keep your marriage vows intact. They

were promises made in the presence of God and several witnesses.

- 7. Learn to be totally honest. Lies always come back to haunt you. Your mate knows you better than anyone else. She can read you like an open book. If you violate your mate's trust, you may never totally get it back no matter how hard you try. Suspicion is insidious in marriage.
- 8. Learn to take a humble position in life. That will cure the ego problem. If we are a nothing, the only way is up. Accept yourself as God made you – your looks, abilities, talents, position and spiritual gifts - are all gifts from God. He made you the way He wanted you to be, He can easily change you if He wants you to be different. Remember: God created you for Himself.
- Learn to be content wherever you live, whatever kind of job you have in life, how much income you have, the kind of house you live in, where you work, the circumstances that you find yourself in that you can't do

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anything about. The Apostle Paul's philosophy is found in Philippians 4:11, "I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, to be content." When he wrote those words, he was in prison in a cold, dirty, vermin infested and lonely atmosphere, chained to a guard 24 hours a day. He did not allow his situation or circumstance to destroy his "Joy" in the Lord. He knew God could deliver him IF that was God's plan. He can do the same for us if He chooses.

- 10. Learn to have the heart of a servant. When we become a child of God, we become bond slaves of Jesus Christ. That means we are here on this planet to serve Him and others. They are our brothers and sisters. One of the greatest joys is doing something for someone else. It is a joy to look at their faces and see how they react when we serve them. Serve people with a smile. You may brighten their day. Adopt the motto: "I am here on this planet to serve others every day."
- 11. Keep your temple clean. Don't allow tobacco, alcohol, illicit drugs, gambling, foul language, immorality and pornography to rob you of healthy, vibrant and blessed life. Early in my 20's while I was in the US Navy, I yielded all of those ugly things to the Lord. I knew I could not be a good witness for Christ if I allowed

those things to clutter up my life. Was it always easy? No! But God gave me the privilege to be an example, encourager, friend and leader to scores of others. The world needs models to follow. I saw Navy buddies choose to follow Christ.

- 12. Remember people's birthday, anniversaries and special days. You can purchase greeting cards at the Dollar Store for 50 cents. Or you can jot a short note or send an Email. Especially honor your parents, grandparents, spouse, children, and people close to you. They will remember you for your thoughtfulness and caring heart. You really are a teacher in this way. Be a model!
- 13. Make friends with quality people. It is a maxim: you become like the people you spend time with or associate with. People will either build you or tear you down, depending on the kind of people you spend your time with. I have always tried to help people to be better than they were because they associate with, recreated with or worked with me. Many have come to me through the years and thanked me for the influence I had on their lives. These include children, youth and adults. This is one of the joys of older age - to read letters and hear how we have helped.
- 14. Learn to be industrious. As a pastor for 55 years, I could have been lazy because no one was standing and looking over my shoulder to see what

I was doing. I had to learn to be selfmotivated. I don't think people who have known me would consider me as being indolent or lazy. I tried to give the churches I served my best effort every day. I think the record bears that out.

- 15. Learn to be thankful and appreciative for what people give you or do for you. My dad gave me that sage advice when I was a young pastor in my mid 20's. He said, "If people give you things, be thankful. If you can't use them, pass them along to others who can use them." A word of thanks to people for their thoughtfulness and generosity goes a long way. "Thank you" ought to constantly be in your vocabulary. It is catching! If you use it, others will pick it up.
- 16. Become an avid Bible reader. Make it a practice to read through the Bible yearly, 15 minutes daily will take you through the whole Bible in a year. If you haven't ever done that, you are in for an enlightening experience. God will reveal Himself to you from the pages of Holy Writ. Someone wrote, "Either the Bible will keep you from sin or sin will keep you from the Bible." That is true! Golden nuggets can be mined out from the pages of God's Word by reading it.

(Rev. Russell H. Voight would like to hear from you. He can be reached at 805 Petunia Way, Auburndale FL 33823-5860)



滴水的響往

人生是充满渴望與期待. 無論是老幼、男女,自出生後, 在生活中各領域有各異樣的渴望 和祈求.嬰兒仰慕母親的哺養, 投靈喜歡期待新年, 學童喜逢年假.青年人急要嘗味 愛情.農夫期望收穫季節,考生 深望發榜,有志者翅首事業成功. 人生充滿期待.期待充實人生. 雖然人生的許多期待是合情合理, 卻是常常落空成為一場春夢.

世界億萬的人民孕育的期 待,然而能達到成功彼岸,如願以 償的有多少?人生變幻不可捉摸, 世事也弔詭,埋沒了許多雄志,而 使人氣餒與消沈.有的人寧盼望 為點滴水,保持冰淨,不拐彎抹角, 能清高脫俗.

且勿小看僅是一小滴水,如 果它滿伸了脖子,就會變成江河, 擴了胸腔就變成海,再做幾上俯 臥撐,波濤就澎湃洶象了.一滴水 站直了身子,就是噴泉.在不同周 遭下,一滴水可襯托出不同的魅 力.停留在草尖上叫露,掛在額頭 上叫汗.一滴水有很強的可塑性, 給它加藍色就是一個最小的海, 小星光

給它加上黑,就是墨汁....可寫 求愛的信,也可寫絕交信的墨汁. 對一個人來說,最早接觸的一滴 水是慈母的乳汁.身體孱弱的嬰 兒,小嘴吮吸著母親的乳頭一滴 水,這一滴水到底哺育了多少哺 瞒待哺的生靈?

一滴水,在源頭的時候,從 高原的冰嶺雪峰中,抽出身子,沿 河道順流而下,經過光潔的卵石, 緣樹環抱的兩岸,再經過生滿苔 蘚的山澗沿途. 它小小的身子, 把 天拍藍,把風擦亮,把鳥鳴洗得更 清脆.按常規這滴水應該順順當 當地撲進大海的懷抱,但是在進 行的過程中,卻有流失黃土渾濁 它,腐爛的樹葉漚浸它.好如一個 人,在成長的過程中,被不斷傷害, 於是這一滴水就憤怒了, 它在河 道狂躁地跑來跑去對著堤呀岸呀 甚麼的,一個勁地咆哮.有如一個 喜歡造惡作劇的孩子,與礁石合 謀使船擱淺,與風攜手使岸堤潰 決.人類這時才發覺,一滴忍無可 忍的水足以淹没他們錦繡的家園.

雖然有時經不起風暴的襲擊,會起波濤的激昂.但滴水心腸 柔和溫順,它利萬物而不爭.流向 低處有礙時,繞行無阻直下,寬容 清理萬物而滌除污洉,且在流經 百步後自淨化.水隨和,入方就方, 彌合無間;入圓就圓,一體渾然. 水有恆,千回百轉,不改歸海之志, 寒凝熱蒸.水情意潺緩,以和為貴, 以諧為美.不舍點滴而有川歸海, 吐納萬泉以負戴千帆.水流百態 綜綜神韻,入地為泉,升天為雲, 而上下隨機應變.總在宇宙自然 懷抱中,依偎旋轉,形影不離.水 謙卑,不求反哺於人,永向低處 流.

滴水晶瑩, 恬淡無欲易與 相處,然而卻潛伏不可惹氣,挑 鷽, 侵犯的本性. 在那情形下滴 水會尋求瀛海「伯叔」打不平. 大氣中, 雲層中「姨姐們」揚眉 吐氣,洒下滂沱大雨,江河「兄 弟」堵塞, 阻遏不通. 可是一滴 水如被種子攀上親戚的好關係, 瀚海乾地也可能變成綠洲. 滴水 會勸動諸多水源族親, 按季節、 時令澆灌大地甘霖. 散發細雨, 好叫大氣陰涼,花草樹木受滋潤, 草源保持青翠, 五穀蔬菜也長得 蓬勃豐盈. 聖經啟示:這樣五穀, 蔬菜及果子是全部要用來供應人 作食物;青草是要惠及飛鳥,地 上爬蟲類餵食. 從一滴水的品性, 學習彼此互相尊敬,凡事謙恭禮 讓,是至好的勸勉.



CBDTI Christian Youth Leadership Summit

Ptr. Jeanne Caramoan M.D.

When I learned that the CBDTI conference this year would be held in Leyte Park Resort Hotel, Tacloban City, I was really excited. This is because it is the same place that my mom used to visit with her professor in BSOP. I remember how she showed me her picture of standing in San Juanico Bridge. Now, I will get the chance to visit the city myself. God is indeed good!

This year's CBDTI theme was "Be The Difference" and the theme verse was taken from Matthew 5:14 & 16, "You are the light of the world...So let your light shine for all." As it was the first CBDTI Christian Youth Leadership Summit, this made it different from the previous youth summer camp since there's a need for young people to be trained on how to be the future leaders of their respective churches in Cebu, Bacolod, Dumaguete, Tacloban and Iloilo in accordance to the will of God. A total of 24 delegates from Cebu Gospel Church joined the conference including the counselors. Thank God for a smooth journey despite the tiring 4-hour travel on our way to Tacloban via Ormoc from Cebu and vise versa.

The summit's topics focused on "the heart, the head, the hands and the habits of a leader" with different speakers for each of them. All these things were applied during the "community service" where we had the privilege of going to the different areas of the community: jail, hospital in a Barangay to do feeding program and medical mission. Later in the evening, we shared our own personal experiences from the community service we did in our own respective church. There were also practical sessions on financial management, goal setting and managing conflicts. Other than that, we also had fun enjoying each other's company during "Group Sharing Devotion and Prayer", "Team Building" and "Picture Taking". While most of the delegates went to join the "City Tour", a few of the delegates chose to stay behind and had a swim in the pool. On the last day, we had testimonies given by the young people from different churches and commitments were made by them. Later in the evening, the pastors had an evaluation meeting for the things that need to be improved for the next CBDTI summit in Bacolod City in 2010.

Praise God for His grace upon all the delegates and His continuing protection in both physical and spiritual aspect. Although there were two young people who got headaches (one almost got drowned in the pool had it not been the quick response from one young people of CGC who rescued him), everyone was fine. Glory to God!! Let's continue to pray for our young people who joined the CBDTI. May they always remember their commitment to God and fulfill them faithfully not just before men but especially, before God.

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要告訴耶穌

經文: 詩篇第五篇

這篇共有十二節,現在我們 來共同分折大衛做了甚麼事?

(一)懇求上帝垂聽禱告(v.1-3) 面臨苦難時大衛唯一的秘訣就是來到主面前,以禱告將心裡的問題讓神知道,將他的 重擔卸交救主,他是在清早沒有與任何人接觸之前,沒有做 任何事情之前,退到祂那裡去. 傾心吐意與主有密切的交談,求主聽他的言語,顧念他的心意,垂聽他呼求的聲音.(詩 55:17)我要晚上,早晨,晌午 哀聲悲歎,祂必聽我的聲音.

許郭錦繡

- (二)述說上帝聖潔公義(v.4-6) 大衛知道他所信的神是 聖潔公義的,所以祂絕對不容 允罪惡的存在,祂必定不喜歡 惡人所做的惡事,所以他相信 上帝必滅絕一切的惡人.
- (三)到主殿裡,敬拜求討(v.7-8) 大衛喜愛進入神的居所, 在殿裡向祂下拜.因為在那裡, 他身體覺得安穩,他心裡有了 平安.在那裡,他深深的經歷 到上帝的同在,所以他求上帝 引領他走正直的路,使他在敵 人面前可站得穩.
- (四)敵人邪惡,待主定罪(v.9-10) 大衛的四周都受了惡人 的包圍,這些壞人口中沒有誠 實,心裡滿有邪惡.他們的喉 嚨是敝開的墳墓,他們用舌頭 諂媚人,內心卻是惡毒.所以 大衛求主定他們的罪,並替他 伸冤.
- (五)得主保護,蒙主祝福(v.11-12) 在這最後的二節中,大 衛的情緒作了180°的轉變,從 悲痛中變為喜樂歡呼.為甚 麼呢?因為他嘗試到上帝的 大能和憐憫,他的禱告已蒙 垂聽.他就發出讚美和歡欣. 他深信凡投靠神的人必得主 的護庇.凡義人必蒙神的祝

福,因為祂的恩惠,如同盾牌 四面護衛他.

雖然這篇詩是大衛對神的 一種交談,但從這篇詩中,我們可 看到這位神是怎麼樣的主? 祂給了 我們甚麼的應許.

- (一) 慈愛的主, 傾聽幫助(v.1-3) 我們在世上是脫不了問題 的,有些人是身體有疾病,有 些人是心靈有憂傷,有的人是 經濟有缺乏. 這些壓力有人受 不了就走上了自殺的道路.他 們以為生命斷了後,問題就了 結了.真是可惜!當我們無論 遇到了甚麼不可解決的問題 時,我們屬神的兒女,可像大 衛在清早到主面前,將一切憂 慮告訴神,因祂是萬物的主宰. 在祂沒有難成之事. 祂會賜我 們智慧, 力量和勇氣來克服一 切困難. 祂也會親身來幫助我 們的.
- (二)公義的主,判滅惡人(v.4-6) 這世界充滿了許多不法, 不公平的事,甚至我們看到壞 人生意發達,名利都有,事事 亨通,實在使我們不明白.但 是我們要記得,有一位公義的 主.必定會滅絕作惡的人.雖 然不知道何時何日,因為神有



祂的時間,總有一天必定成全. 使我們得安慰的是,義人在世 雖然不如惡人得到的享受,但 是他在永世可到一個沒有罪 的地方,就是天堂,在那裡沒 有眼淚,沒有不公平的事,而 是有平安喜樂和滿足.

(三)信實的主,指引正路(v.7-8)

(四)眷顧的主,施行審判(v.9-10)

神賜給人有自由的意志, 但有自由可做我們喜歡, 但不要讓那種「自曲」 就所有自由可做我們喜歡, 但不要讓那種「自曲」 或所有的人都要在主前愛 新所以為神是一位仁愛 新所以之心的, 一個觀念. 是的人, 所以之心的, 他 是 一切隱藏的 一切隱藏的事, 無 論 是 。 一切隱藏問.

(五)全能的主,保護祝福(v.11-12)

親愛的讀者,

- 你是否遇到試煉,苦難,問 題,使你難以得到解決?你 可以到主面前告訴祂. 慈愛 的主必賜下幫助.
- 你是否看到惡人得勢, 隨心 所慾,做出不法之事而心抱 不平?不要焦急,公義的主 必定在祂安排的時間內判 滅他們.
- 你是否有許多猶疑不決之 事,必中起了掙扎?你可以 用敬畏的心到主殿裡.信實 的主,祂必指引你正路.
- 你是否被惡人欺騙壓制,岐 視?不要害怕,眷顧的主, 祂必替你伸冤,並施行審判.
- 你是否缺少平安需要護衛? 全能的主,祂會保護祝福你.

你是否願意得到以上五個 應許?如果你願意,你就要相信主 耶穌成為你的救主.祂道成肉身來 到世間,為你為我的罪釘死在十字 架上,流出寶血,為要拯救我們脫 離死亡,而得到永生,使我們成為 祂的兒女.不但現在得到祂的應許, 將來可享受天上榮耀永遠的福樂. 詩篇第五篇 耶和華啊,求你留心聽我的言語, 顧念我的心思。

我的王我的神啊,求你垂聽我呼求 的聲音,因為我向你祈禱!

- 耶和華啊,早晨你必聽我的聲音; 早晨我必向你陳明我的心意, 並要警醒。
- 因為你不是喜悅惡事的神,惡人不 能與你同居。
- 狂傲人不能站在你眼前;凡作孽的, 都是你所恨惡的。
- 說謊言的,你必滅絕;好流人血弄 詭詐的,都為耶和華所憎惡。
- 至於我,我必憑你豐盛的慈愛進入 你的居所;我必存敬畏你的心 向你聖殿下拜。
- 耶和華啊,求你因我的仇敵,憑你 的公義引領我,使你的道路在 我面前正直。
- 因為他們的口中沒有誠實;他們的 心裡滿有邪惡.他們的喉嚨是 敞開的墳墓;他們用舌頭諂媚 人。
- 神啊,求你定他們的罪.願他們因 自己的計謀跌倒;願你在他們 許多的過犯中把他們逐出,因 為他們背叛了你。
- 凡投靠你的,願他們喜樂,時常歡 呼. 因為你護庇他們,又願那 愛你名的人都靠你歡欣。
- 因為你必賜福與義人, 耶和華啊, 你必用恩惠如同盾牌四面護衛 他。

