

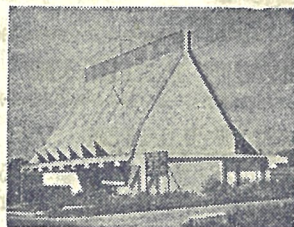
Newsletter

from

Trinity Methodist Church

34 SERANGOON GARDEN WAY

SINGAPORE-19



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PARSONAGE:

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MC (P) 313/75

PASTOR'S MESSAGE

JUNE 1975

IS THERE A CHRISTIAN LIFE-STYLE?

When you discover the scriptures insisting that we are all called to be saints, it becomes important that we discover also what 'holiness' means. What does it - what can it - mean for an ordinary Christian in city life today? (It is really so very difficulty to keep the halo from slipping, and the fixed plaster smile undimmed, in the rush and decisions of the daily office!)

The danger is that as soon as a man realises that he 'ought to be holy' he tries to play it that way. He begins to slip on a religious mask, intended to show himself to others as a genuine saintly type, but shaped and coloured by his self-conscious sanctity. He begins to end his letters with 'Yours in Christ', to insist on praying with his visitors (who often start staying away more frequently than they come), to have plastic text-stickers in the rear window of his car, and to walk about with a I-must-be-loving-at-all-costs look on his face (apart from the occasional, so disastrous slip). We tend to make up for the true spirituality we know to be missing by 'laying it on' a bit. I suspect that holiness has no recognisable, visible indications - or if it has, I expect it will be easier to see it in other people than to see it in my dressing-table mirror!

The 19th Century Danish theologian Kierkegaard describes his search for 'the knight of faith'. Other men, he says, travel the world looking for rivers and mountains, new stars, birds of gay plumage, strange fishes or ridiculous races of men - but the knight of faith, "this is the miracle which occupies my thoughts exclusively." He imagines what it would be like to meet him. "Here he is. I make his acquaintance. I am introduced to him. And the moment I lay eyes on him, I push him away and leap back suddenly ... 'Good God! Is this

TRINITY FAMILY NEWS

INFANT BAPTISM On Sunday 11th May, Gillian Mui Hiang, born 14th May 1974, infant daughter of Mr & Mrs PANG Kia Seng.

LOVING SYMPATHY is expressed to Miss Ho Lek Cheng, whose father, the late Mr Hoe Boon Leong, passed away on 21st May at the age of 84 years.

Also to Mr James Tay Thian Hock, whose mother, Madam Sim Chee Chew, died on 16th May.

OUR KNOWN SICK include Mr Ong Kim Siong, still in Ward 24 at Outram Road G.H., but recovering well and hoping to be allowed home soon after almost six weeks in hospital.

Also Mr Ong Seng Geok, who has just returned home after a month in Toa Payoh G.H. where he recently underwent surgery.

Dr Khor Tong Hong was also hospitalized for a few days in the early part of May.

Let a pray for continued good progress for all of these friends.

FOR TRAINING OVERSEAS for their new work with Campus Crusade for Christ, Chong Hiok and Margaret Chan left Singapore recently for Manila where they will be for the next six months.

Both have played a very active part in the life of our congregation, where Chong Hiok has been Superintendent of the Senior Department of the Sunday School and Chairman of Christian Education Committee, and always a very dedicated evangelist. Chong Hiok was deeply influenced by attending EXPO '74 in Seoul last August. Before it, he felt that although he had been a Christian for six years he had never been able to lead anyone to Christ personally. Within three weeks of his return, he told how he had had the privilege of leading thirteen people to the Lord. He said, "I know this was entirely not my own effort. Previously, many Christian friends thought I knew

how to witness, and I assumed I did, too. Page 3
Now, this training has really equipped me and given
me a vision. I want to share Christ with everyone
I meet."

Chong Hick resigned his commission in the S.A.F. in
order to share in the work of 'The Great Commission'
We pray for God to bless and uphold these mission-
aries from Trinity Methodist Church.

BACK TO STUDY

In their newsletter recently, Hng Hang and Ivy Goh,
who have been Staff Workers of C.C.C., tell of the
opportunity which has arisen for both of them to
continue their studies in the University of Singapore.
Ivy will be taking the Honours Course in Sociology
and Victor the Honours course in Biochemistry. They
will be on two years study leave from C.C.C.

SMITHS LEAVE!

The Pastor and Mrs Smith will leave for the United
Kingdom, with David, Richard and Catherine, on Thurs-
day 3rd July by S.I.A. Flight No.SQ 745 leaving at
9.00 p.m.

After more than twenty years in Singapore, Mr Smith
will be taking up an appointment under the British
Conference at Wallington, in the Sutton Circuit, on
the southern outskirts of London, from 1st September.
After that date, their address will be:

Parkwood,
Hall Road,

Wallington, Surrey Tel:01-647-1550

Singapore visitors will always be as warmly welcomed
as the British weather will allow!

LAY VISITATION

has been one of the aims of the combined Membership
& Evangelism, Outreach and Christian Education Comm-
ittees, but apart from a very faithful "very few",
it has hardly begun to be implemented. With the
Chans and the Gohs now otherwise engaged, the present
Saturday afternoon programme appears doomed to
collapse, unless there are new volunteers willing to
take their place.

No members of Trinity attended the recent Training
Course on Church Extension Centres in New Housing
Estates.

If you are interested in reaching out in a personal
way with the gospel, please contact the pastor, Dr.
Khor Tong Hong (Outreach) or Lee Park Ming (M&E).

 ** CHURCH CALENDAR FOR JUNE **

- 1 SUN. 8.45 A.M. SUNDAY SCHOOL & MEMBERSHIP CLASS
 10.00 A.M. HOLY COMMUNION SERVICE - The Pastor
 11.15 A.M. CHOIR PRACTICE
 1.00 P.M. M.Y.F. SEMI-RETREAT - Creativity
 3.30 P.M. M.Y.F. SEMI-RETREAT - Discovery
 5.30 P.M. HOLY COMMUNION SERVICE - The Pastor
 7.00 P.M. M.Y.F. CAMP-FIRE & BARBECUE in church grounds
- 2 Mon. 8.30 A.M. M.Y.F. SEMI-RETREAT (Final Day)
- 4 Wed. 7.45 P.M. BIBLE STUDY FELLOWSHIP at the Manse
- 6 Fri. 8.00 P.M. COFFEE HOUSE TEAM MEETING in church basement
- 7 Sat. 8.00 P.M. 'THE OPEN DOOR' COFFEE HOUSE till 10.30 p.m.
- 8 SUN. 8.45 A.M. SUNDAY SCHOOL & MEMBERSHIP CLASS
 10.00 A.M. SERVICE OF WORSHIP - The Pastor
 11.15 A.M. CHOIR PRACTICE
 JOY STALL of food in the church basement
 12.00 NOON Worship Service at Woodbridge Hospital
 M.Y.F. OUTING to the beach (Contact June)
 5.30 P.M. SERVICE OF WORSHIP - The Pastor
- 11 Wed. 7.45 P.M. BIBLE STUDY FELLOWSHIP at the Manse
- 14 Sat. 4.30 P.M. MONTHLY PARISH MEETING at the home of Miss
 Khoo Koh Hee, 33 Kensington Park Road (19)
 8.00 P.M. ('THE OPEN DOOR' COFFEE HOUSE till 10.30 p.m.)
- 15 SUN. 8.45 A.M. SUNDAY SCHOOL & MEMBERSHIP CLASS
 10.00 A.M. SERVICE OF WORSHIP - The Pastor
 11.15 A.M. CHOIR PRACTICE & L.C.E.C. MEETING
 3.30 P.M. M.Y.F. MEETING
 5.30 P.M. SERVICE OF WORSHIP - The Pastor
- 18 Wed. 7.45 P.M. BIBLE STUDY FELLOWSHIP at the Manse
- 19 Thu. 8.00 P.M. WEDDING REHEARSAL in the church
- 20 Fri. 7.30 P.M. CHURCH DINNER & FAREWELL to Rev & Mrs Smith
- 21 Sat. 3.00 P.M. WEDDING of Lee Cheong Seng/Tay Boon Siew
 8.00 P.M. 'THE OPEN DOOR' COFFEE HOUSE till 10.30 p.m.
- 23 SUN. 8.45 A.M. SUNDAY SCHOOL & MEMBERSHIP CLASS
 10.00 A.M. SERVICE OF WORSHIP - Pastor & Young People

- 23 SUN. 11.15 A.M. CHOIR PRACTICE
 12.00 NOON Worship Service at Woodbridge Hospital
 3.30 P.M. M.Y.F. MEETING
 5.30 P.M. SERVICE OF WORSHIP - The Pastor
- 25 Wed. NO Bible Study Fellowship
- 26 Thu. 6.00 P.M. WEDDING REHEARSAL in the church
- 28 Sat. 3.00 P.M. WEDDING of Tan Gean Hong/Kathleen Gan
 8.00 P.M. 'THE OPEN DOOR' COFFEE HOUSE till 10.30 p.m.
- 29 SUN. 8.45 A.M. SUNDAY SCHOOL & MEMBERSHIP CLASS
 10.00 A.M. SERVICE OF WORSHIP with Reception of New Church Members - The Pastor
 11.15 A.M. CHOIR PRACTICE
 3.30 P.M. M.Y.F. MEETING
 5.30 P.M. SERVICE OF WORSHIP - Mr Lam Yet Seng

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more emphasis on discovery than on text-book learning and to redeem E.C.A. so that they become extra-curricular activities (instead of, as now, extra curricular-activities!). In short, to find the courage, as Christian parents, to struggle for an education that is learning for living rather than programming for production.

You will think of other marks of "holiness today", and you may disagree with the ones I have suggested. I have chosen them because they stress spiritual values, the centrality of persons and the need for growth. But there are many other aspects to the total challenge of being Christian men and women in today's world.

One thing is sure: we are called to a new life in Jesus Christ, and in Him, a new life is offered to us. Each of us needs to go on wrestling ('agonising' is the Biblical word) over the task of finding what are our expressions of what the Bible calls 'holiness' (that is, a dedicated life) in our city today.

THE SCRIPTURE UNION is organising a Course on the theme:-

'HOW TO CONDUCT EFFECTIVE BIBLE STUDY GROUPS'

at The Bible House from 7.45 p.m. to 9.30 p.m.

either Mondays 23 June-21 July or Thursdays 26 June-24 July

at a cost of \$8 (working adults) or \$4 (non-working adults).

Please register before 19th June, with the Scripture Union.

WE GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGE

Pledges received during May totalled \$ 1,477.00

Church Extension Fund

Tony Chan Chong Khai	85.00	Mr & Mrs V. Harris &	
Madam Yap Teck Yin	20.00	Miss Florence Seah	100.00
S. Gdns Sec. Tech. Sch.	20.00	Mr Yeo Kim Kiat	5.00
Mr & Mrs Khoo Oon Hoe	125.00	Mrs Susie Lee	40.00
Mr Samuel Henry	4.00	Mr Tan Hoay Djin	20.00
Mr E. Samuel	5.00	Mr Koh Ting Tat in	
Dr & Mrs Alan Tay	20.00	memory of the late Mr	25.00
Mr C. W. Ng	70.00	Koh Seck Geok	

We are grateful for the regular, dedicated giving which makes the maintenance of the work of the church possible.

Please remember that we need another \$ 30,000 to complete the modified extension plans we are undertaking. Go on giving generously so that this first phase of development may be financed in full.

ANNOUNCING !

THE INSTITUTE FOR CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

June 16 - 21 at The Bible House, Armenian Street, Singapore

A pastor and lay institute for evangelism, to which all Christian leaders and laymen, church workers and pastors are invited.

Guest Speakers are Mr & Mrs W. B. Newbold from the staff of Campus Crusade for Christ.

Organised by the District Commission on Evangelism.

Monday-Friday 7.30 p.m. Saturday 2.30 - 6.00 p.m.

Registration & Conference Fee \$3 for students \$5 for adults
Send full conference fee with registration to:-

Chairman, Singapore District Commission on Evangelism

Mr Benjamin Tan,

128, Jalan Chempaka Kuning,

Singapore 16

Tel. 410577

Closing date for Registration: June 9th

 WOMEN'S PAGE

by Mrs Catherine Pang

Ladies! Thank you for your contributions in making our WSCS SUNDAY a success. To Mrs Eileen Smith, our speaker, we wish to record a vote of special thanks for speaking on the theme "Christ's Call to Discipleship" at the morning service.

The Food Fare was a 'big bang' and we collected more than \$700.00 from the sale, for those who were too busy to cook were generous in their cash donations. From the above amounts raised and from the proceeds of our monthly Joy Stall, we were able to distribute our funds to the following:-

Counselling Centres in Ipoh & Penang	\$300.00
SMAC Board of Missions	300.00
Campus Crusade for Mr & Mrs Chan Ghong Hiok's	
Training in Manila	100.00
'The Open Door' Coffee House	50.00
Our Church Extension Fund	1,000.00

The above is made possible because of your support. We look forward to your help again in the future in God's work. "One gives freely, yet grows all the richer Proverbs 11: 24."

There will be no W.S.C.S. programme in June as the whole Church will be busy arranging for a farewell dinner for our dear Pastor and his family who will be leaving us very soon for England. We invite all members and friends of Trinity to book Friday, 20th June 1975, and join us in this dinner at 7.30 p.m. in the church compound as we express our thanks by giving the Smiths a memorable farewell. A concert by the young people will follow the dinner.

The Joy Stall which the W.S.C.S. normally arrange in the basement after the morning Communion service was not held on 1st June. Instead it will be open next Sunday morning, 8th June, at 11.15 a.m. and we invite you to join us then for a simple lunch-time snack. This is positively the last chance of enjoying your Sunday 'Smith-burger'!

 THE M.Y.F. held a "Semi-Retreat" on the church premises from 31
 ***** May to 2 June, including creativity and Bible Disc-
 overy sessions, experiences in Group Dynamics, fun and games - and
 a roaring camp-fire and barbecue on Sunday evening.

really he? Why, he looks like an Inspector of Taxes!' But it is really he."

David Head imagines himself taking out a big, black crayon to decorate the picture of a city gentleman on a roadside hoarding to try and turn him into a "city saint". "Shall we draw an arm holding up a Bible? (We must nail our colours to the mast.) Or change his mouth from a smiling upward curve to a frowning downward curve? (To be a saint demands much serious concentration, and there is the burden of the world to bear). Or draw in a clerical collar? (Goodness is so difficult in this modern world, that only the clergy have a chance of the right destination) Or substitute for collar and jacket an eastern robe? (Holiness belongs to another age and a country environment). Or, as those who think of a saint as one too pure to behold iniquity, strike out his eyes?"

But holiness is not in appearance at all. The Christian will not look any different from anyone else. But must we settle for the fact that so much Christian living is indistinguishable, not only in appearance but in style, from any other kind of living? We need to searching for ways in which God's call (and gift) of a holy life - all that it means to be joined to Him and to His people - can be worked out in contemporary, city terms.

I want to suggest that a Christian life-style for Singapore today (a 'holy-worldliness' for our time and place) will be marked by the following emphases, among others:-

1. A refusal to be infected by the sickness of a consumer society that lives by stimulating people's hunger for more and more unnecessary things while a majority of mankind remains below the poverty line, and experiments in a materially simpler kind of life that will embody some alternative values.

2. An insistence on the worth of each individual as a person, rather than in terms of ability, education or economic productivity, with Christians in an achievement-oriented society refusing to put a 'price-tag' on persons and engaging in a wide variety of ways to enhance human dignity and individual responsibility, where decision-making is more and more being restricted to the 'elite' few.

3. A renewed recognition of the need for children to be children before they can develop into mature adults. This would involve a determined effort - not least through Christian schools - to break free from the tyranny of examinations, to lay

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