

TMC NEWSLETTER

September — October 1987

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TRINITY METHODIST CHURCH 34 SERANGOON GARDEN WAY(1955)

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Pastoral Epistle INVESTMENT

As I am writing this on 30 October, there is tremendous concern in the air. Of course, it comes from great uncertainty in the world, especially in the arenas of investment and economic growth. At the beginning of the stock market crash world leaders were saying that it would not affect the world economy; now they are not so sure.

I wonder if you are interested in growth. I am sure that almost everyone is interested in some kind of growth or other. Some want their money to grow. Others would like their plants or crops to grow. Some are interested in the growth of companies, or military, or even knowledge. Personally I am particularly interested in the growth of our children.

What kind of growth are you interested in? What kind of growth would you invest in? We see that financial investment is so volatile. What about our **life investment**? Is it in something of eternal value?

I think if we listen to the voice of the Lord in the Scriptures, it would lead us to conclude that the only really safe and lasting investments are made in scriptural and eternal things. Investment and growth go together. It is my suggestion that one of these worthwhile life investments is **CHURCH GROWTH**.

You see, Churches do not grow by magic or on automatic. Surely it is the work of the Spirit for Jesus said "I will build MY CHURCH". However, He builds His Church on lives, lives invested into the great cause of God's kingdom. Does He have the investment of **YOUR LIFE** to work with?

An expert on Church Growth once said, "Church Growth is **hard work**". This is true. This is the human aspect of Church Growth. This is the human investment of lives which Jesus uses through the Spirit to build His Church.

But it requires our investment of life. Peter Wagner, another Church Growth proponent has written a book called "Your Spiritual gifts Can Help Your Church Grow". This sets all spiritual gifts in their correct perspective. They are for the growth of the Body of Christ. We want to grow qualitatively and quantitatively. But how we grow also depends on your **INVESTMENT OF LIFE**.

The emphasis of our Church continues to be the building up of the Body of Christ through service with spiritual gifts so that all of us might mature in Christ together. In the next issue of the Newsletter I will probably write on our new Theme for 1988. But our thinking in this article is in the same spirit.

All of us would really like the Church to grow. What we need to realise is that much depends on us as well. God continues to need lives to work on and work with. My prayer is that He will have yours. Invest **YOUR** life in Church growth and the benefits reaped will be of eternal value.



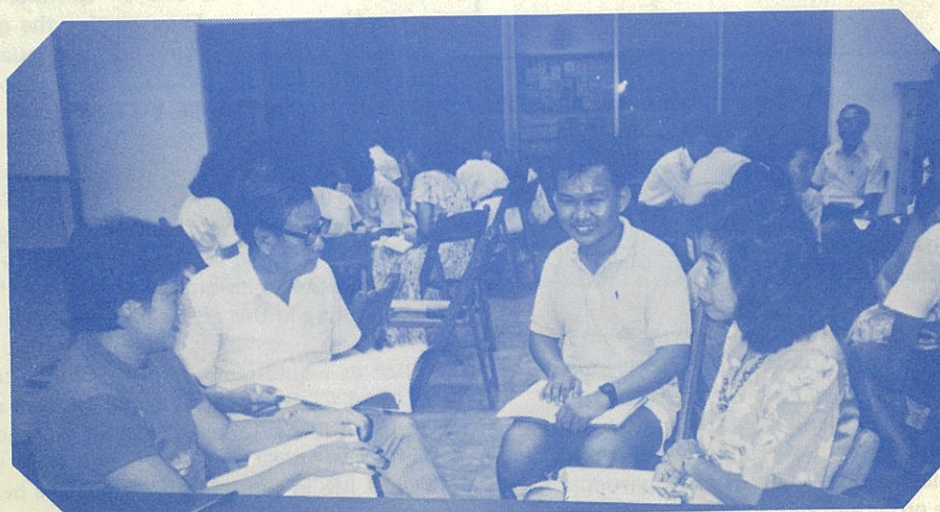
*A section of the participants during a training session.
The Course was conducted by Mr. Chan Chong Hiok and Rev. Melvin Huang.*

Small Group Training Course

One of the major emphases for 1987 in TMC is the formation of small groups. Small group fellowships help members to:

- 1) facilitate growth
- 2) provide nurture
- 3) evangelise
- 4) serve in the ministry

In September 1987, about thirty people participated in a well-run and enjoyable 6-week course on small group training. Initially, two small groups will be formed from these participants. Please help to pray for this ministry to be effective in the community of God.



A few familiar faces . . . (from left) Nancy, Hong Kia, Andy and Violet.

TMC's Youth Fellowship

On September 20 1987, the Executive Committee of the TMC Youth Fellowship (MYF) was installed in Church. The aim of the MYF is to build itself up in one body in Christ. The theme of this group for 1987 is "UNITY THROUGH LOVE"; and Ephesians 3 : 17-19 are the theme verses.

The MYF exists:

- * to help spiritual development of members
- * to cultivate Godliness and holiness
- * to cultivate an environment of love
- * to have outreach programmes
- * to make disciples.

MYF is **more than** just an assembly of Christian youth during the weekends. It is a group where lives can be transformed and geared for the Lord. Prayerfully, youth in church will grow spiritually through the MYF community.

If you need more information about this group or would like to join them, Christopher Ow (President) or his committee members will be more than pleased to help and get to know you.



MYF members presenting a song item on MYF Sunday.

MYF PROGRAMMES

on every Saturday at 3.30 p.m.

SUB-THEME: INTRODUCTION TO DISCIPLESHIP

- | | |
|-------------|--|
| 7 November | "Discipleship in Christian Living"
Speaker: Mr Ivan Tan |
| 14 November | Inter-cell groups Games Day |
| 21 November | Bible Study "The Urgency of Time and Person God Uses" |
| 28 November | Evangelism outreach programme |

CAROLLING MYFers will be carolling to a few charitable homes on 24 December. Could church members and friends of TMC participate by giving provisions as Christmas gifts.

Book Review

RESTORING YOUR SPIRITUAL PASSION

by Gordon MacDonald

The first thing that caught my attention when I glanced at the title was the word "PASSION". Hmm. . . this seems like a rare quality! One that we should be gripped with — throughout our walk with Jesus.

The author seeks to address the causes for loss of spiritual passion: weariness, frustration and boredom.

What is the answer? Gordon MacDonald says that there are no gimmicks, no short cuts and no easy way to cultivate an intimacy with God and so attain the passion that should carry one through life's journey.

Would you like to know what a spiritually passionate person looks like? I recommend this book for your reading.

JOYCE CHEW

*This book is available at Trinity Resource Centre.

CHRISTIAN QUOTATIONS

RICHES

Riches are not forbidden, but the pride of them is.

St John Chrysostom

SERVICE

Service that counts is the service that costs.

Howard Hendricks

TRUTH

Truth that is merely told is quick to be forgotten;
Truth which is discovered lasts a lifetime.

William Barclay

UNDERSTANDING

Understanding is the reward of faith.
Therefore seek not to understand that you may believe,
but believe that you may understand.

St Augustine of Hippo



TMC NURSERY

TMC NURSERY invites application for the post of **Nursery/Kindergarten Teacher** to teach mainly Chinese as a second language.

QUALIFICATIONS

- * GCE "O" Level
- * Has completed IE Kindergarten Basic Course or equivalent

Interested applicants, please come for a walk-in interview or write in with contact phone number to:

Nursery Supervisor
Trinity Methodist Church
34 Serangoon Garden Way
Singapore 1555

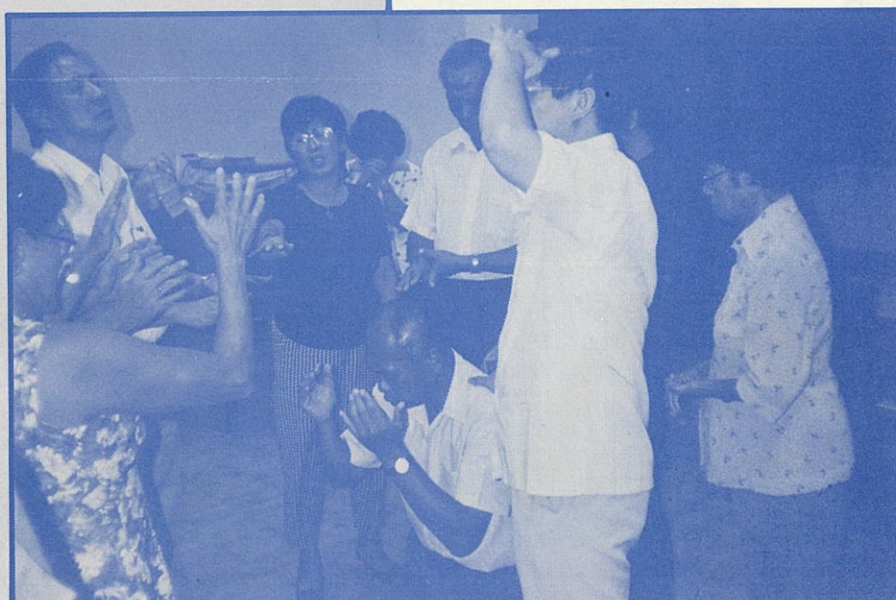
OF PROPHECIES AND MIRACLES

**A Small Group Of Friends Meet
Every Friday evening at the TEC
(8 pm — 10 pm)**

All who have been attending this prayer group have been blessed in one way or another by the Lord. Especially so for some who have also experienced miracles in their lives. For instance, one group member who has been suffering from sinus problem for a long time was completely healed in February 1987, and on the exact date prophesied!

More recently, a church member was admitted to the hospital for a minor operation. Whilst in the hospital, the Lord revealed to a group leader that He would heal this church member without the need for an operation. And Praise the Lord, this prophecy came true!!

Yet more miracles have been prophesied to happen. The Lord's abundant blessing and healings are meant for all his children. **You too** can experience His divine touch during this time of sweet sweet fellowship and prayer.



Group members seen here praying for the Lord's blessings on Brother Yan (kneeling).

CHURCH PLANNING RETREAT

21 October 1987

The recent Deepavali holiday was a day set aside for the annual church planning retreat. Everyone present experienced a blessed time discussing the suggested directions for 1988. Especially so when our GREAT GOD was there to provide His wisdom, love and guidance.

We thank you LORD!

Social Concerns Discussion Group.



A time for Group Prayers to commit the plans to God.

In A Lighter Vein

THE 23RD CHANNEL

The TV is my shepherd; my spiritual growth shall want. It maketh me to sit down and do nothing for his name's sake, because it requireth all my leisure time. It keepeth me from doing my duty as a Christian because it presenteth so many good shows that I must see.

It restoreth my knowledge of the things of the world, and keepeth me from the study of God's Word. It leadeth me in the paths of failing to attend church and doing nothing in the kingdom of God.

Yea, though I live to be a hundred, I shall keep viewing my TV as long as it will work, for it is my closest companion. Its sounds and pictures, they comfort me.

It presenteth entertainment before me and keepeth me from doing important things with my family. It fills my head with ideas which differ from those in the Word of God.

Surely, no good thing will come of my life because of so many wasted hours, and I shall dwell in my remorse and bitter memories forever.

Every true Christian can boast
of having three degrees;
B.A. — Born Again
M.A. — Mightily Altered
D.D. — Divinely Destined.



WE'RE TRYIN' FOR PERFECT ATTENDANCE IN OUR
SUNDAY SCHOOL....IF YOU MISS NEXT SUNDAY, I'LL
PUNCH YOU IN TH' NOSE.

Family News

CONGRATULATIONS to Kwan Yue and Linda on the birth of their son Gary Kwan Yuan on 27 September 1987.

CONDOLENCES to Mrs Winnie Tan and family on the death of her mother, the late Mrs Chia Chye Koon on the 4th of September 1987.

CONDOLENCES to the family of the late Dr Tan Beng Guan who passed away on Friday 2 October 1987.

CONDOLENCES to Miss Jane Yoon on the death of her father who passed away on Wednesday 7 October 1987.

Jason Kwan is now studying in Boston and he is residing at 273 Babcock Street, Box 0508, Boston, MA 02215, U.S.A.

PRAYER AND PRAISE SERVICE

Every Sunday at 5.00 p.m.

Date	Speaker	Testimony
MONTH OF NOVEMBER		
8.11.87	Pastor Gerard Jacob Church of Singapore	Mrs Iris Khoo Paya Lebar Methodist Church
15.11.87	Rev Louis Tay St Andrew's Cathedral	Mr Marcus Yuen Chapel of the Resurrection
22.11.87	Rev Henry Khoo Changi Prison Ministry	Miss Chai Ai Kim Paya Lebar Methodist Church
29.11.87	Rev Abel Thomas AOG Missionary and Evangelist	Mr Thomas Lee Full Gospel Assembly

ALL ARE WELCOME to the TEACHING SERIES on "THE KINGDOM OF GOD"

by Dr Benjamin Chew at 5.00pm

Sunday 6 DECEMBER 1987
Sunday 13 DECEMBER 1987
Sunday 20 DECEMBER 1987
Sunday 27 DECEMBER 1987

The Gospel of the Kingdom
The Government of the Kingdom
The Grace of the Kingdom
The Glory of the Kingdom