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# SALTSHAKER



TRINITY  
Methodist Church

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## Our Candlesticks



Les Miserables (or The Miserable Ones) is a novel by Victor Hugo. In the musical and screenplay, the story starts in 1815 at the port of Toulon in France. Jean Valjean has been serving a 20-year jail term for stealing a loaf of bread for a hungry child. On his release, he faces rejection from society. Breaking his parole, he however manages to become the mayor of Montreuil-sur-Mer by 1823 under a fictitious name. But he is haunted by Inspector Javert who spends his life hunting down Valjean. There is of course a historical background to the story but for the purposes of this article, it suffices to say that the French revolution had come and gone with Napoleon having been defeated. France is ruled by a king again but the revolutionaries plan to overthrow him.

GREEN SPOT  
PG 6

WILL YOU WALK ON  
WATER WITH ME?  
PG 8

ANSWERED PRAYERS  
PG 10



## Shaking Salt

# Our Candlesticks



by Tricia Tong



# Les Misérables

MY LOVE affair with musicals began in secondary school. Innocent joy was huddling in a circle of friends and singing from shared copies of the libretti (meaning the text of the musical). Once upon a time, I might have announced that “*the Phantom of the Opera is here deep down below*”, or taken the part of Miss Saigon.

With Les Misérables hitting the big screen in Singapore, I procrastinated watching it. I had first seen the musical on a London stage. Its legendary sets and effects made Javert’s watery death look so real without spilling a drop of liquid. The effects put computer-generated imagery to shame. Could such manner of art really be reproduced on the big screen? The London matinee viewing back then had cost £11, a princely sum for an undergraduate working on a budget of £30 a week. Lido was charging S\$8.50 so I decided to watch it just for old times’ sake.

At my first encounter with Les Misérables at age 19, I clearly missed some important themes in the story. Now, in this season of Lent, these themes became clear to me: I thought the most significant Christian themes that were brought out by the story were those of grace, love for one’s neighbour, and hospitality.

Hard-pressed from every side, Valjean cannot find work or accommodation upon his release from jail. He even tries to get the prison to take him back. He carries the brand of an ex-convict because yellow identification papers identify him to be so.

When he collapses in a doorway, he is found by a bishop, who feeds Valjean and gives him a bed.

“Come in, sir, for you are weary / And the night is cold out here. / Though our lives are very humble / What we have we have to share.”

The hospitality afforded by the Bishop to Valjean illustrates Matt 25:37-40 “...the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?’ The King will reply, ‘Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.’”

Here in the Bishop was surely a true man after God’s heart.

But Valjean, bitter with his lot, responds to the Bishop’s act of kindness by stealing his silver and escaping into the night. The police bring him in cuffs before the Bishop the next day. Instead of condemning Valjean to another prison term, the Bishop confirms Valjean’s version of events – that Valjean had forgotten to take two silver candlesticks along with all the other silver that the Bishop had “given” to Valjean.

For me, this is the most poignant act of grace in the story. It is also the turning point for Valjean.

The Bishop sings: “*But remember this, my brother - See in this some higher plan. You must use this precious silver to become an honest man. By the witness of the martyrs, by the passion and the blood, God has raised you out of darkness.*”

In a soliloquy, Valjean asks: “*Yet why did I allow this man to touch my soul and teach me love? He treated me like any other. He gave me his trust. He called me brother. My life he claims for God above ... Can such things be?*”

As unmerited favour, grace is amazing. Perhaps we need not try so hard to comprehend it, but merely accept it. In this Lenten season, it is precisely this grace that we recall - that “*God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.*” (Jn 3:16)

Because of Jesus, Christians are not The Miserable Ones. Christians are a people who rejoice because we have the hope of glory.

I believe that the Bishop’s act of love catalysed a series of actions in Valjean’s life. Valjean works himself into a new life as mayor. He gives work to the poor. He visits insalubrious places to give money to beggars. He rushes to help a worker pinned under a heavy cart at risk to his own life and limb. He takes to hospital Fantine, his ex-employee, who forced into prostitution, is ravaged by sickness. He takes into his care and singlehandedly raises Fantine’s child, Cosette, a child who had been unwillingly left to the wiles of greedy guardians. He piggybacks Marius, Cosette’s lover, to safety through the sewers of Paris, and defies the armed Javert in doing so (the amount of sewage in the movie really shows Valjean’s sacrifice).

None of these persons whom Valjean showed love to were his bosom friends or blood relations. Yet his actions testify that his faith in God was real. From the time that he is shown grace at the Bishop’s abode, Valjean’s actions embody God’s command to “*Love your neighbor as yourself.*”

Valjean’s biography should prompt us to think about whether and how we have changed as beneficiaries of God’s grace. Do we show compassion to ex-offenders and prostitutes, or are our first instincts to shun and judge them? Are our eyes opened to children in distress? Will we go the extra mile for a neighbour in distress? There are needy people in our midst at TMC. Our Outreach & Social Concerns ministry tries to do much but the labourers are few. We must not be indifferent nor deliberately blind ourselves to these needs.

“*Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world.*” (Jas 1:27)

There are opportunities to practise grace toward our fellowmen in everyday situations. There is always a place for Christians – especially TMCers - to be salt of the earth – to shake salt as this column seeks to remind.

There is someone in the story who doesn’t understand or accept “grace”.

The story invites us to draw a parallel between Javert and the “teachers of the law” in the Bible. Javert has no time for the low-life of society. In a brawl that starts because Bamatabois tries to force himself upon Fantine, Javert immediately assumes the altercation to be Fantine’s fault.

“*In this nest of whores and vipers, let one speak who saw it all. Who laid hands on this good man here? ... Save your breath and save your tears.*”

He refuses to see how ill Fantine is, or to hear her protestations. It is Valjean, the ex-convict, who shows mercy and carries Fantine to a hospital.

In response to Valjean’s plea for mercy to be allowed to save Cosette, Javert utters: “*Men like you can never change - A man such as you! My duty is to the law.*”

He cruelly reminds Valjean that “*Once a thief, forever a thief.*” Whereas Christ had set Valjean free, in Javert’s book, Valjean is on parole for the rest of his life and this belief makes Javert fanatically hunt Valjean down.

Javert so rigidly applies the law that when he is captured by revolutionists and freed by Valjean, he cries out: “*Damned if I live in the debt of a thief! Damned if I yield at the end of the chase!... I am the law and the law is not mocked!*”

Ironically, Javert, an enforcer of the law, did not understand this:

“*For the entire law is fulfilled in keeping this one command: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’*” (Gal 5:14)

Even though Javert is a free man, he is shackled by his devotion to the law and ends up being - truly - one of The Miserable Ones. He cannot reconcile that Valjean, the ex-convict, is the more grace-full person. In Javert’s dying words: “*The law is inside out. The world is upside down.*”

But the Bible is rich with paradox. “*God chose the foolish things of the world to shame the wise; God chose the weak things of the world to shame the strong.*” (1 Cor 1:27)

The silver candlesticks remain an essential prop. They are seen when Valjean has to decide to save an innocent man from the gallows at risk to himself. They are also in view next to the crucifix as Valjean nears the end of his natural life and asks God to bring him home.

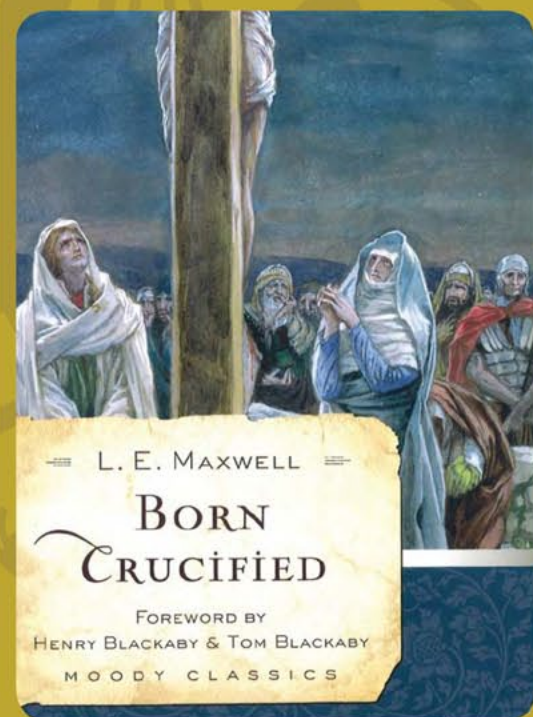
I believe we all have our own candlesticks. They remind us of God’s grace toward us whilst we were yet sinners. It is timely this Lenten season to remember that a candlestick is meant to hold a candle which gives off light. Those who love the Lord are to be lights to the world.

My tears were flowing unabashedly by the time a dying Valjean whispers (how does one sing a whisper!): “*Forgive me all my trespasses and take me to your glory!*”

I ask myself (and you, reader) if we can say each night when we part with the world and go to sleep that we have shown grace and been the salt of the earth and light of the world? May we be able to say: “I have”.



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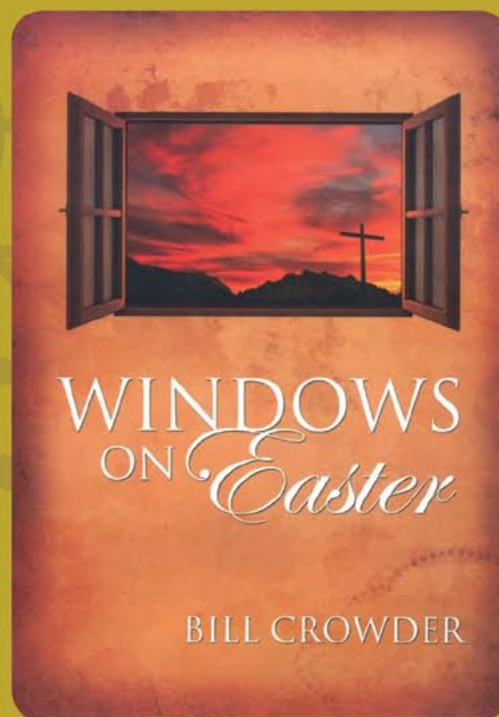


**BORN CRUCIFIED**  
Author: L. E. Maxwell

For Professor L. E. Maxwell, the cross was everything, which was why he wrote this book to help readers understand the role of the cross in the life of every believer.

By relating the cross as essential to the life of the believer, he shows us how an understanding of our identification with Christ in His death and resurrection can lead to us living our own life as it was meant to be lived. It is only by living with a cross-centered perspective that we can have both victory over sin and power to serve God well.

Maxwell's heart and vision for training up young people with the truth of God's Word and the necessity of evangelism shines forth in this little book.



**WINDOWS ON EASTER**  
Author: Bill Crowder

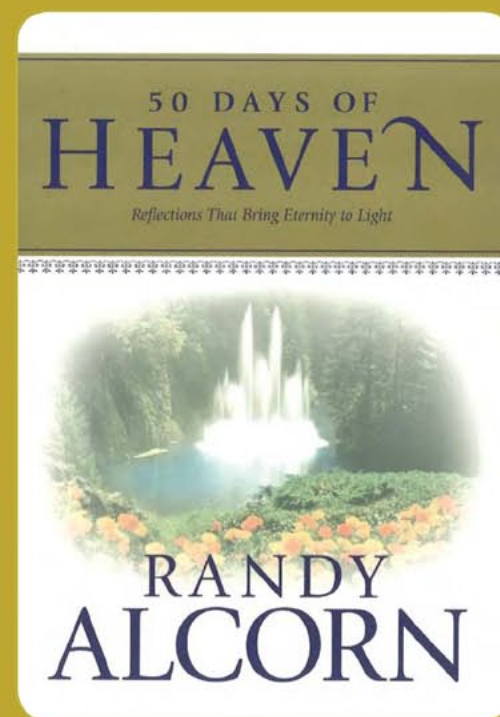
Have you tried to see the death and resurrection of Christ through the eyes of those who were there?

A different perspective can revolutionise our appreciation of the familiar.

This is what Bill Crowder does as he examines the familiar Easter story.

By looking through the windows provided by some of the people who were there such as Malchus, the Centurion, Joseph of Arimathea, Mary Magdalene and the disciples on the road to Emmaus, we are able to understand what they saw and felt while learning from their responses.

As we enter into the events that altered the world forever, we get what we need most, a fresh perspective.



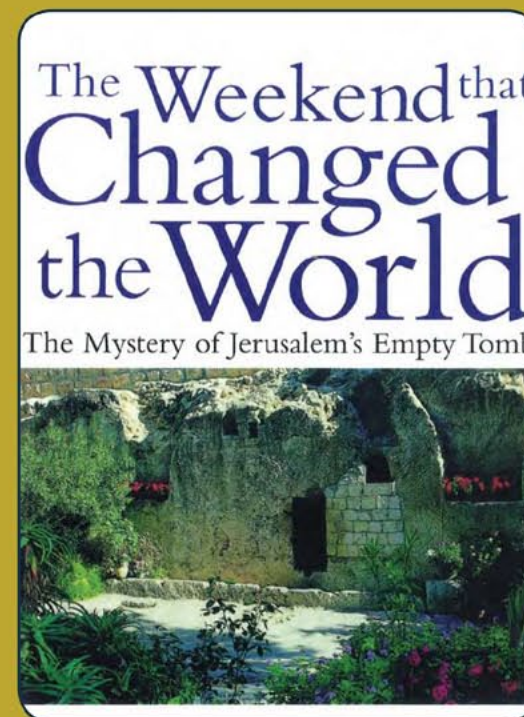
**50 DAYS OF HEAVEN**  
Author: Randy Alcorn

For Christians, eternity is an exciting promise but many do not know the details of what life will be like in heaven and throughout eternity.

50 Days of Heaven allows the reader to stop wondering about heaven by teaching the biblical facts regarding what's so wonderful about Heaven.

The devotional provides an easy-to-follow, 50-day programme that brings together biblical information on what a Christian's life will be like in heaven.

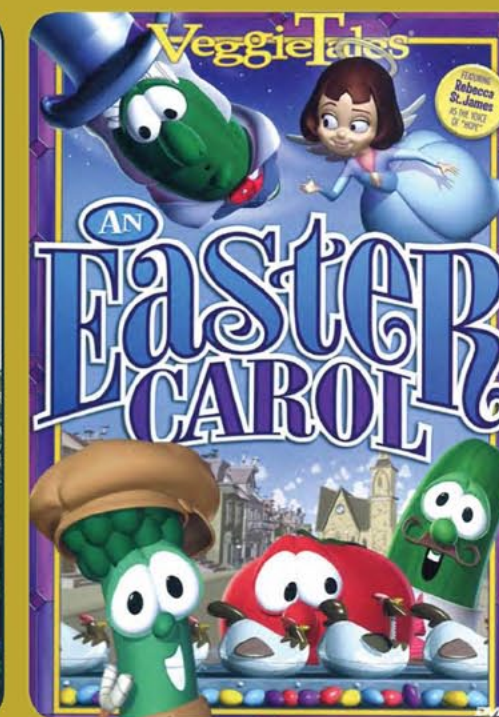
Throughout this journey, the reader will learn and meditate upon the promises, rewards, and expectations that a believer in Christ will enjoy for eternity.



**THE WEEKEND THAT CHANGED THE WORLD**  
Author: Peter Walker

In this powerful, spellbinding book, Peter Walker takes the reader on a guided tour through the backstreets and alleyways of Jerusalem as he documents the dramatic events of the last days of Jesus' life.

Through the extensive use of maps, drawings and colour photographs, Peter Walker constructs a myriad of evocative detail that gives a compelling defence of the biblical account of the crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus.

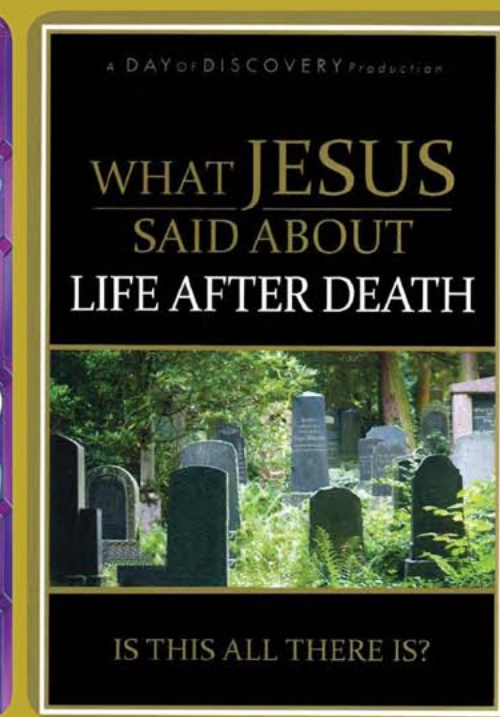


**AN EASTER CAROL**  
VeggieTales (DVD)

It's back to 1880s London as this VeggieTales video takes a closer look at the significance of Easter.

In the tradition of a great Dickens classic, the greedy Ebenezer Nezzar, a Scrooge equivalent and manufacturer of such Easter products as plastic eggs and mechanical chickens, goes on a wild tour of his past, present and future in the company of Hope, a little Angel with a loving heart.

Follow Ebenezer as he is reminded that Easter is not about commercial campaigns and reaping huge profits but is meant to serve as a reminder about the real meaning behind the death and resurrection of Christ.



**WHAT JESUS SAID ABOUT LIFE AFTER DEATH**  
A Day Of Discovery Productions (DVD)

How do you know if Jesus' claim about eternal life is true or if it is simply wishful thinking?

In this DVD presentation you'll travel to Jerusalem with host, Mart DeHaan, and hear from a variety of authorities. Join the discussion as they explore questions about life beyond the grave and examine the words of Jesus.

Discover answers to your deepest questions about eternity and find reasons why you can believe what Jesus said.

**SKS BOOKS WAREHOUSE**  
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SKS WILL BE SELLING THESE BOOKS AND MORE AT TMC ON 17 MARCH IN THE PLAZA





by Koh Shuwen

THE IDEA for this new column started over a Christmas gathering with the Communications team.

I recently started “green-ing” my life. I am motivated, in part, to declutter and simplify my life, and also to generate less waste so that I can be a better steward of our earth.

You might be familiar with the three ‘Rs’ that is the mantra of the environmentally-conscious. Most people think of ‘Recycle’ first but a huge amount of energy still goes into melting down glass and metal for recycling. ‘Reduce’ and ‘Reuse’ actually have a far greater impact on decreasing our carbon footprint.

I am excited about sharing suggestions that we can incorporate into our daily lives. Some of my ideas may require a little more effort but could be a fun project for those of us who want to be more conscious about our environment.

For Easter, if you’re planning to be baking hot cross buns or having some fun with your little ones painting eggs, here are some interesting ways you can maximise their use!

1. Calcium boost for plants: Eggshells are rich in calcium and other minerals that help your garden thrive. Let the water you have used to boil your eggs cool, then use it to water your plants.

2. Leather cleaner and conditioner: The thick and sticky base of egg whites easily removes dirt from your leather goods (always test on a small inconspicuous area first!). Gently scrub the whites into your dirty leather, and wipe off with a damp cloth. The egg white will also protect your leather and give it shine!

3. Clean and sharpen blender blades: Just add some water and whizz frozen eggshells in your blender with some water.

4. Pan Scrubber: Crushed eggshells make a wonderful (and non-toxic!) abrasive for scrubbing pans that have food stuck in them. Yes they will break up, but they still do the job!

5. Stain remover and cleaner for containers: To remove stains from a teapot, thermos or water bottle, fill it with a mixture of crushed egg shells and a little bit of water, shake vigorously and let sit overnight.



A yummy extra in this issue... “The ‘Science’ of Ramen Eggs”

1. Add room temperature egg to boiling water. Ensure that there is sufficient water to cover the egg. Turn off the flame 5 minutes after adding the eggs. For a large batch of eggs (more than 3), increase cooking time to 10 minutes.

Why: The idea is to ‘flash’ cook the egg whites so that they are just firm enough to be peeled but not so cooked that they are hard-boiled. This is an energy-efficient cooking cycle. There are a couple of other variations. Adding cold eggs (from the fridge) or bringing the water to a boil with the eggs may result in overcooked whites and/or raw yolks. Also, letting the eggs warm up to room temperature before cooking wastes less heat on the stove.

Remember, slightly less fresh (5-7 days) eggs are easier to peel. To aid in peeling the eggshells off cleanly, some add salt and/or vinegar to the water but so far the jury is divided on the results.

2. Drain the hot water and replace with enough cold (room temperature) tap water to cover the eggs.

Why: The eggs continue to cook if left in the hot water. The yolks also develop the unpleasant grey-green tinge common in hard-boiled eggs due to a chemical reaction between the iron in the yolk and hydrogen sulphide in the white. The reaction forms ferrous sulphide which is harmless and completely edible. It just does not look as pretty and appetizing!

3. Peel eggs once they have cooled down and are comfortable to the touch. Voila! Ramen-worthy eggs with just-firm whites and runny yolks!

In future issues of the Saltshaker, look out for my yoghurt-making adventures, unusual uses for coffee grounds and tea leaves as well as other handy (and just slightly nerdy) tips for Reduce, Reuse and Recycle!



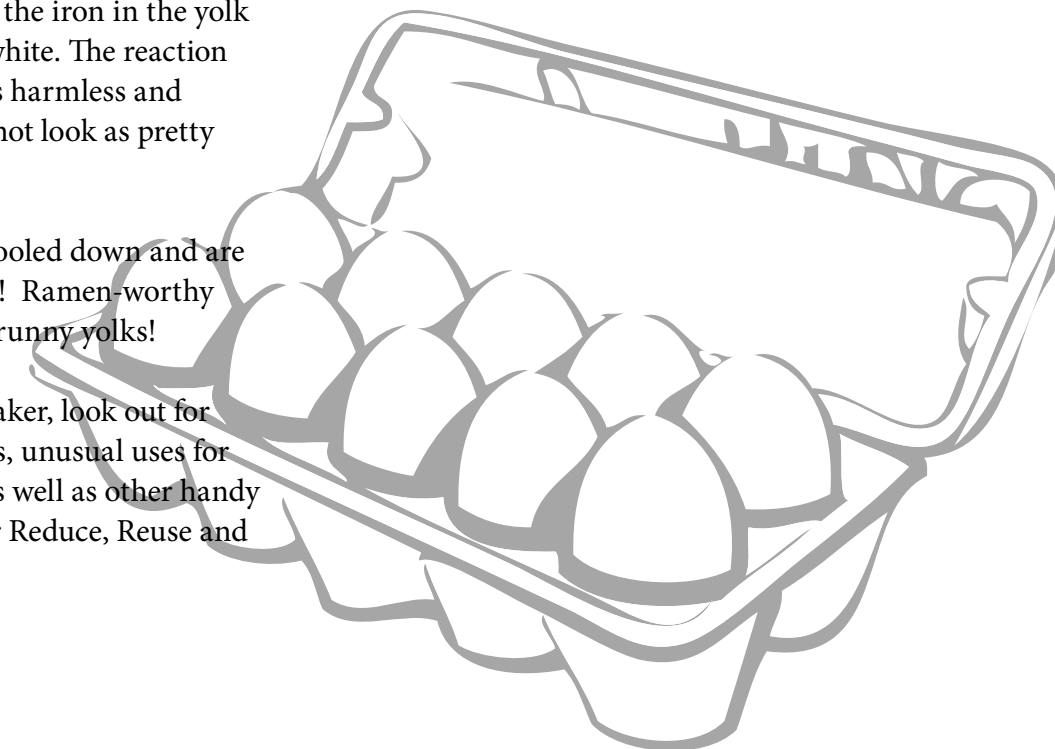
*Do also check out these links for more tips and original references.*

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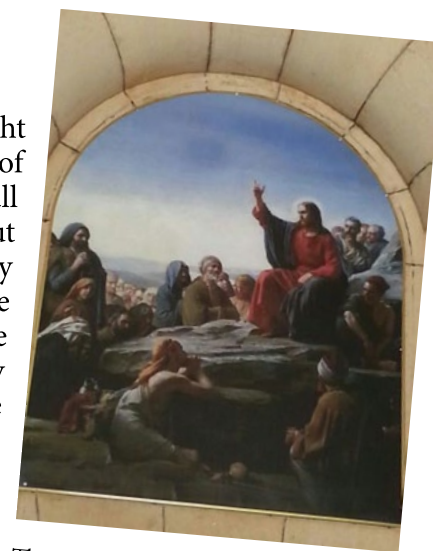
### Ordained by God

I BELIEVE that this trip was truly God-ordained, that the 84 of us were sent by God to have a personal experience with Him there in Israel because not everyone who wanted to go or had signed and paid up could go in the end. Before I went, many of my friends and colleagues who had been to Israel before had all encouraged me to go. But I was very *gong* (Hokkien for clueless). I thought that our trip was just a tour. I didn't know it was supposed to be a pilgrimage.

I was still very 'gong' even when I was there. But every day, through the morning devotions by Pastor Peter, God revealed Himself to me moment by moment. I had felt very reluctant to wake up so early to attend the devotions at 6.30am almost every morning but it was only when I attended them that I realised the sessions were very good and I came to love every minute of it.

### "Will You...?"

I always thought that the Sea of Galilee was a small lake. I found out how deep it really is when we were there. It was there that God really touched me. We were sitting in the boat and singing when I heard God ask me: "Will you walk on the water with me?" Immediately, I said: "Yes, God, I will." It's not about being gung-ho, but I believed at that moment that even if I stepped onto the water and started to sink, I would still be able to walk on the water with Jesus. It was a precious moment between God and me. This was when I learnt that faith is about trusting Him fully.



The painting of Jesus preaching the Sermon on the Mount that Stephanie saw.

At the church which is located on the site where the Sermon on the Mount was believed to have taken place, there was a painting of Jesus preaching to the crowd. In the painting, there was a small empty space between Jesus and the crowd of people who had gathered to listen to him. As I looked at the picture, I saw myself walking and holding Jesus' feet and kissing them. Then, I heard Jesus asking me: "If my feet are stained with mud will you still kiss them?" I said: "Lord, yes I will." Next, I heard Jesus ask: "How about if my feet are stained with cow dung?" I said that yes, I still would.

These two incidents remain very close to my heart and even now I don't want to lose this closeness with God. When I was there, I didn't feel it so much but when I came back to Singapore, I felt so close to God. I also thank God that I have made a lot of friends on that trip.

### Back at the Office

When I went back to office after the trip, everyone I met said they missed me and asked where I had been. I told them I had visited Israel and as I shared my experiences with them, most of my pre-believer colleagues - more than 20 of them - listened attentively to me. God later revealed to me that He had used me to evangelise to them about Jesus and that those were very good opportunities to share with my colleagues about the reality of God. I thank God for those opportunities.



The entire Israel tour group from TMC at the Mount of the Beatitudes.

### "God, You're Very Unfair!"

Before I went to Israel, people would tell me that I would experience special emotions at the Garden Tomb in Jerusalem. They said: "It's a very serene, peaceful and emotional place. Everyone will cry. You will cry." But God told me that this is not true. He's a personal God who will touch you in a personal way. When I was there, I looked around me during our communion service and everyone was in tears as they were touched by God. But not me. I told God: "God, you're very unfair to me! Everybody has got something. I have nothing. I don't believe it. I must have something before I go home."



The Garden Tomb or the Garden of Gethsemane



photo below: seated second from right, clad in black by Stephanie Lee,

The group from TMC on a first-century style fishing boat like what Peter and the other disciples would have been on when they saw Jesus on the Sea of Galilee.

SHE went to Israel with a group of fellow TMC members on 30 Oct last year thinking it was just like any other tour. When Stephanie Lee realised that the 10-day trip was meant to be a pilgrimage, and as her group members shared their encounters with God, she longed for a special experience of her own too. Frustration crept in when that didn't happen quickly enough. But she soon learned that God speaks differently and in different ways to different people. And hear from God she surely did. Read her testimony to find out how...



# Answered Prayers

## God's Perfect Timing and Goodness

Duncan Ho

ON 7 Dec 12, I was given a new lease of life through God's grace.

Since 2009, it has almost become an annual pilgrimage for my sister, Doreen, her husband Seng, and me to go to Phnom Penh, usually for about five days to help wherever we could.

While Seng would teach the Cambodians basic motorbike repair and safety, Doreen and I would provide moral support, teach English or spend time with the staff of Harvest Inn and/or Jacob Cheng (TMC's missionary in Phnom Penh) and his family.

We had already made our annual visit to the Cambodian capital in February last year. However, through God's design, I was able to visit Phnom Penh again, for about a month, from 21 Nov until 20 Dec. Or so I thought.

From 21 Nov to 4 Dec, God allowed me to spend time with Pastor Chamneb of Glory Trinity Methodist Church, his wife and two other sisters. I taught them English using MS Word and Powerpoint and even through worship songs played on the television. I shared ideas and suggestions with Chanthol, who works at Harvest Inn, on housekeeping, operational and safety issues, and we planned to continue exploring solutions, fine-tune, reinforce and implement the ideas and suggestions.

The first time I experienced breathlessness was on Saturday, 1 Dec. I was then in Sihanoukville (a five-hour drive from Phnom Penh) with Jacob and his son, Coen, and we were walking up a slight incline on the way to dinner. However, the breathlessness subsided and I was able to enjoy a good dinner with them.

The next few days passed without incident, and I forgot about the breathlessness I had experienced



01

even as I left Phnom Penh for Bangkok on Wednesday, 8 Dec.

I was in Bangkok (reluctantly!) to join my wife Dorothy, and our two daughters, on their shopping trip. On the afternoon of that first day in Bangkok, I felt breathless after walking a short distance, but didn't think anything of it. On Thursday, we went shopping again and had a good dinner. Again, I felt breathless, and again, I brushed it aside.

On Friday morning, I woke up feeling as if I had gone for a run. A short while later, I felt not only breathless but also nauseous. I was perspiring slightly.

As the breathlessness, nausea and tightening in my chest persisted and worsened, Dorothy took me to the emergency department of Bumrungrad Hospital.

After checks by the doctor, I was admitted to their Cardiac Critical Unit (CCU). Upon further tests being carried out, the cardiologist found that one of the veins supplying blood to my heart was one hundred per cent blocked and a stent was inserted.

All this happened on the same day.

I was discharged on Sunday, 9 Dec and flew back to Singapore the next day.

God's timing is perfect. And He is good.

I had originally planned to go to Phnom Penh at the end of October 2012, but had postponed the trip to 21 Nov. Had I gone in October, my wife and daughters would not have been by my side as Hannah, my younger daughter, would have been taking her examinations. If my heart attack had occurred earlier - between 21 and 31 Nov - my work in Phnom Penh would have been disrupted.

I had been reluctant to go to Bangkok. But for no apparent reason, I changed my mind. Had I suffered the attack in Phnom Penh, it was unlikely that I would have received such excellent quality of medical care in Phnom Penh as I did in Bangkok. We were blessed to stay near the Bumrungrad Hospital, one of the best hospitals in Bangkok. The doctor at its emergency department was a Sikh gentleman, who spoke English that I could understand without difficulty. The cardiologist, Dr Chaianan, who performed the procedure, also spoke English. All this removed any possible stress and delay from having to deal with an attending doctor with whom we might have communication problems. To top it off, I was fully insured for this overseas treatment of about S\$17,000, which would otherwise have cost me more in Singapore.

On our journey home, God again took care of us. Dorothy and I were chauffeured in limousines from the Bangkok hotel to the Bangkok airport, and then from Changi airport to the emergency department of a public hospital here. We also flew business class



02

from Bangkok to Singapore.

This incident reminds me that God works in mysterious ways. He is Jehovah Jireh and will provide for His people.

When I availed myself to help out in Phnom Penh, I knew that I was not the best qualified person to do so. Yet, God gave me the opportunity to help out where necessary, and I received His great blessings instead.

I give glory and thanks to God for His perfect timing and goodness! I thank God for His grace and the new lease on life He has given me.

I also thank Dorothy, my wife, for being with me during my time of need. Thank you also to members of my small group, Footprints, Park Ming, Pastor Dianna, and TMC's Prayer Net for their prayers and support; Jacob and Wai Cheng for their prayers; Kelvin, Kim and members of the Children Ministry who were in Phnom Penh for bringing my luggage back from Phnom Penh; and Kelvin, Dr Ang and Natalie for bringing my luggage to my home in Yishun.

01 Duncan (facing camera) teaching at Harvest Inn

02 Duncan (in black t-shirt) serving in Phnom Penh



## No More Pain!

Richard Chew

GOD healed me miraculously of cervical spondylosis.

Cervical Spondylosis is a medical condition where there is abnormal wear and tear on the bones and cartilage in the neck.

After flying to Europe for work, I developed a pain in my neck. The pain refused to go away. It persisted even though I sought treatment from various eastern and western medical practitioners.

Finally, after going for a scan, the doctor recommended that I undergo an operation which would cost \$30,000. There was a five per cent risk of paralysis.

I was very scared at that time and confused too as other specialists that I had consulted told me not to go for the operation.

I felt totally lost at that time and asked God: "Why me?"



The pain got so bad that, at one point, I couldn't even sit down for five minutes. I was worried about my family's future if I could not work because of my medical condition.

I prayed to God and asked Him to heal me. My small group also prayed for me.

One of my small group members then gave me the contact of a Christian physiotherapist. At first, I did not see the point of making an appointment. After all, by that time, I had seen so many medical practitioners. However, the pain continued to persist and a week after I was given the recommendation, I decided that I had nothing to lose by going.

I went for the physiotherapy. Initially, there was still pain, but my condition improved. God progressively healed me over three physiotherapy sessions, after which the physiotherapist told me that no further treatment was needed.

This whole episode enabled me to realise that life is about living for God. I praise God for healing me so that I can pursue what He wants me to do for Him.

**There is a song that goes like this, "Prayer changes things. No matter how heavy the burden you bear, if you cast it on Jesus He'll carry your care."**

**The church prays together every 2nd and 4th Sunday at 7.30am in the Prayer Chapel. All are welcome to join in this conversation with God.**

**There is also a network of prayer warriors on the Prayer Net. To be a praying disciple, or to request prayer, visit [www.tmc.org.sg/prayer.html](http://www.tmc.org.sg/prayer.html)**



## A Second Brush With Dengue

Linda Kwan

*15 Jan 2013, Tuesday: Visited the GP for my cough and fever. Temperature showed 39.6 degrees. Very high, but was given medication which quickly brought the fever down.*

*16 Jan, Wednesday: Back to the GP as the fever still persisted. Blood test taken: blood platelets were at 112. (Normal range is 150 – 400). Was told it was a little low but nothing to worry about. "Wait two days and we'll see."*

*18 Jan, Friday: Second blood test done. Platelet level dropped to 11. Was told by the GP to "Go immediately to A&E. Your blood platelets have dropped to alarming levels! Be careful not to fall. It is dangerous in your condition!"*

That was the start of my "medical adventure"...

It is often said that we get to know God better when we face adversities in our lives.

It is also said that our inadequacy is complemented by God's sufficiency.

Is God always there for us? Does He listen and answer prayers? When our extended family of brothers and sisters-in-Christ come together in prayer, are these combined prayers effective? He revealed these lessons and answers to me, and proved that these two statements were true, over the next few days.



18 Jan, Friday

I needed to get admitted quickly to hospital. My husband was away on a business trip and my children were working. But God rallied my family around me. I believe He sent my niece, who just happened to be in the neighbourhood, to fetch me. My sister accompanied me to the hospital where I was promptly attended to in A&E. I was amazed, as I know that the normal wait at A&E can often take many hours. Just before leaving for the hospital, I told some of my sisters-in-Christ to pray for me, and that set God's angels into action!

My daughter was planning to admit me to the Communicable Disease Centre, just across the road from Tan Tock Seng Hospital (TTSH), as she was told there was no available bed in TTSH. My admitting doctor came by to intervene. She advised that it would be best if I stayed in TTSH where I would get more immediate attention should any emergency arise. Shortly after, they found a bed for me in a C class ward in TTSH.

Lo and behold, even then, God was looking out for me. When they wheeled me to the C class ward, it turned out that TTSH was using a B class ward to hold the C class patients! God had provided me with the luxury of an air-conditioned four-bedder ward.

19 Jan, Saturday

My platelet level fell to 7, a dangerously low level. My blood pressure was falling by the hour and my potassium level was also below the average. Doctors were testing me for everything they could think of, but did not confirm it was dengue. I was getting desperate.

Meanwhile, a sister-in-Christ who was praying for me felt that more prayer support was needed. At that point, she received an SMS from me to ask for help via the TMC prayer net. What wonderful "coincidences" when we have God on our side!

Another sister-in-Christ had also called out to God. She then had the revelation that God was going to heal me. Praise the Lord! Soon after all these prayers were sent up to God, the doctor came along with the confirmed diagnosis that I had dengue fever.

20 Jan, Sunday: My platelet count started reversing and went up to 11.

21 Jan, Monday: My platelet count went up again to 27

22 Jan, Tuesday: I was deemed fit to be discharged, at a platelet count of 60.

29 Jan, Tuesday: I was back to the normal platelet

count of 300 plus.

Physically, the body is still a little frail.

Mentally and spiritually, I am at an all time high!

Why? Why did God allow me to experience dengue fever for the second time around?

As I looked back and reflected on my little medical adventure, I realised a few things:

1. This journey revealed to me that God is very near to us when we are in trouble. He is always alongside us. It is up to us to reach out and let Him hold our hands and walk alongside Him. I was physically almost at a critical level and yet at all times God was with me and I felt happy, alert and at peace. On the contrary, a sister-in-Christ lost two days' sleep praying for me!

2. He allows us to experience a little suffering. For how else can we understand those we walk alongside (if that is our calling) if we have no sense of empathy with another?

I now know what it is like to have totally no appetite, to lose three kg in five days, to have a horrid painful intravenous drip (which I could not have endured if I was not in constant prayer for God to help me withstand the pain) and finally, what it feels like to be totally dependent on others for your basic needs.

3. I learnt that we never have to suffer alone, for not only is God always there for us, He also has sent His angels in the form of our extended family in Christ, always there and ready to provide help for us. As others have helped me, I too know that as part of God's family, I will always be ready and willing to reach out to others too.

4. I have and was given time to count my blessings. I am indeed blessed to have a wonderful family and blessed by many, many brothers and sisters-in-Christ.

5. Finally, I reconfirm that when we are at our lowest and most inadequate, God is there for us, taking up the slack. He covers for us. He is there for us. There is something good that He has planned for us while we are going through our "bad" stage. What is it? Why? Sometimes we cannot understand how He works. But one thing I have learnt is that He has the bigger picture. He is in control. His ways are not ours, but HE knows best. To God be the Glory!





# Hurry Not The Word of God



by Samuel Wong

## It's in the works, but God's Masterworks is to be savoured slowly like fine wine.

"It took Moses 40 years to complete Exodus, and I took six months to complete Exodus!" exclaimed Pastor Peter Goh.

THESE words ring true for all the participants of the monthly God's Masterworks course conducted in TMC's Upper Room every first Wednesday of the month. What began in March 2012 with less than 20 members has doubled in size and there is a keen sense of fellowship among the regulars.

They are a faithful bunch eager to learn more and to embrace the Old Testament (OT). With a focus on understanding the OT, the original intention was to spend perhaps a year and a little more on the 39 OT books. But after one year, the study is only touching on Leviticus, the third book of the OT.

"We are not in a hurry to complete the OT books. In fact, we hardly preach from the OT. The course covers not just Word-based teaching but, to enhance the experience, there are powerpoint slides, visuals and great educational videos," said Pastor Peter.

He said that bearing in mind the number of chapters in Genesis and Exodus and that the group meets only once a month, the pace is just right. "More importantly, there are a lot of takeaways and life applications," said Pastor Peter.

He said that there is no defined end to the course and no fixed curriculum as studying the Bible is a lifelong preoccupation. He is also less concerned about the attendance figures than the transformation of the participants.

Pastor Peter said that it is important to understand the OT as it will help us to understand and interpret the New Testament. For example, studying Leviticus helps the participants to understand God's holiness, the sacrificial system and the need for high priests.

Regular attendees Helen Lim and Linda Wee find the pace acceptable as it allows Pastor Peter to explain the verses in greater detail, helping them to understand God's words better.

"Often, there is a discussion and we get to hear the opinions of the other participants whenever Pastor asks questions, which adds to the enjoyment of the lesson. The fellowship and sharing each time is also precious," said Helen.

Linda said she is enjoying the course as the word of God "has to be savoured slowly".

She added that as former Bible Study Fellowship (BSF) participant, she now looks forward to going through what she covered before during BSF, "only now with more mature and spiritual insight".

"The Word now has a broader and better defined context in which to operate and develop. A particular highlight is the anticipation of finding how an old lesson can become a new epiphany, something transformed. For example, I especially enjoyed relearning Genesis 3, re-examining what makes it the pivotal chapter and receiving several 'ah ha's' along the way!"

Dr Fu Dunyi said he learnt that many of the old Jewish laws and ritual practices in Leviticus foreshadow the entire ministry of Jesus Christ in

the NT and that this was explained in great detail one Wednesday.

"It makes you read some chapters in the OT and NT in advance to understand the connection. Through this, I've come to understand and appreciate the relevance of the OT vis-a-vis the NT," he said.

He added that the recent tour to Israel gave him the opportunity to visit some of the OT and NT sites, supporting his understanding and appreciation of the Bible in a very tangible and meaningful way.

As for Pastor Peter, the most enjoyable aspect of the course for him is when he "digs in and learns."

"God must first speak to me through His words before I can pass on His message to others. That is the wonder and the mystery of reading the Bible, both the OT and NT - God's revelations from new perspectives as He lays His message upon our hearts," he said.

"Revelation from the Word of God is not about knowledge but life transformation."

The next session of God's Masterworks: A Concerto in 39 Movements is scheduled for Wed 20 March 2013, 10am – 12pm, and thereafter every first Wednesday of each month. You can register through the church office or... just show up.





by Rose Tan

## New Kid on the Block

HAVE you met Pastor Kang Ho Soon?

He has a quiet reassuring air about him. Perhaps that is the criteria for a man of God.

Pastor Ho Soon's previous posting was at Kampong Kapor Methodist Church where he served for 17 years as the Pastor-in-Charge. He is married to Yeok Lung, who has recently retired from the education service.

Yeok Lung is warm and friendly and made it a point to make eye contact quickly to find out my name when we chanced to meet in the corridor. Together, Pastor Ho Soon and Yeok Lung have three grown up children; sons, Kejia and Keyue and daughter Keshi.

Pastor Kang smiles with pride when he mentions Keshi, the youngest who is building a career at EDB in business development. Kejia, lives up to his name, 'adding joy' as the middle child. He works in Corporate Communication at the Changi Airport Group. Keyue, the eldest, is a lawyer by profession. Keyue and his wife, Shirley, contribute to this three-generation family with their four delightful children.

Time management is of the essence for Pastor Ho Soon. He makes it a point to drive Kejia to work, once a week and to have breakfast with him. Thereafter, he also spends time with his other children and family members. It is just the way he efficiently juggles work and family.



Seated (left to right): Yeok Lung, Jonathan, Yeok Lung's mother, Joash, Pastor Ho Soon  
Standing (middle row, left to right): Keshi, Kejia piggy-backing Joel  
Standing (back row, left to right): Keyue, Shirley, Joy

At Kampong Kapor Methodist Church, he worked with his team to support 26 mission projects in India, Thailand, Vietnam, Cambodia, Indonesia, China and Africa.

How does this compare to the landscape at Trinity Methodist Church? What is his first impression of TMC? Pastor Ho Soon is quick to point out that TMC is a family church, warm and friendly where everyone knows everyone. He also gives us a generous spiritual health report card. He notes that the leaders are committed and show a desire to grow. He is clear that he is here in a supporting role to Dianna Khoo, the Pastor-in-charge.

Pastor Ho Soon was only in his 13th day at TMC, when I spoke to him. He told me that he was still in 'observe' mode. As the TMC family welcomes him as our pastor, 1 Samuel 12: 24 sums up my sentiments: 'But be sure to fear the Lord and serve him faithfully with all your heart; consider what great things he has done for you.'

SG Connect

## FAMILY ASPIRATIONS

To  
"Family Aspirations",  
commitment is more  
than just talk.



Family Aspirations

Today, this group of families consists of 17 members. In addition, there are also six provisional members who come regularly, but have yet to sign the covenant. These brothers and sisters in Christ are under no immediate pressure to join although they are encouraged to do so as soon as they are ready. Just as God gives us freedom to choose Him and His way, it is an individual decision that each provisional member will make, according to God's perfect timing.

Becoming true disciples of Christ is a journey that involves understanding God's Word and living it out. The group meets fortnightly at members' homes for bible study. Service springs naturally from this group as well, in keeping with their aim to be obedient to God's calling. Family Aspirations has organised a church camp, raised funds for the church rebuilding effort, gone on two mission trips to Cambodia, and most recently helmed the mooncake festival celebrations with guest speaker Li Nanxing.

Being always on the move for God and His church allows the group to overcome challenges such as spiritual stagnation. It was out of concern that members may become so comfortable with life, family and distractions of work that the idea of a group covenant was born. Drafted by the members themselves, it was the most visible way for them to make the conscious effort to "walk right", no matter life's situation. May the Lord grant them their desire to become spiritually mature disciples of Christ.

Three years ago, they decided to formalise the idea of a covenant for their small group, leading to each member to commit to observe a code of conduct that would guide their daily walk with God.

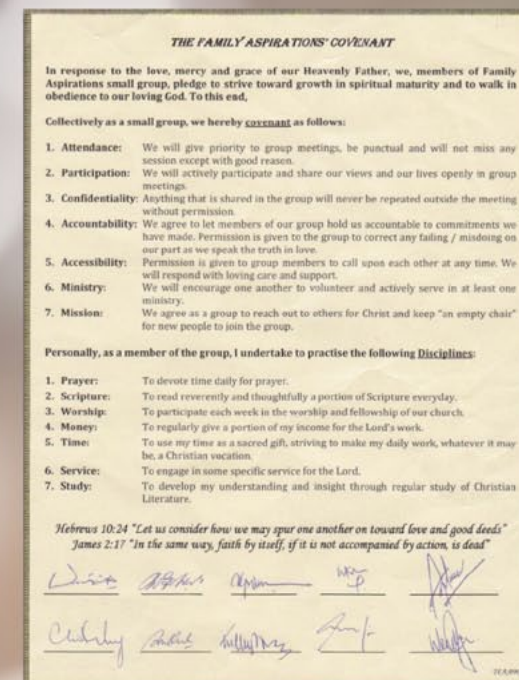
A piece of paper signed by each member seals a personal agreement: "In response to the love, mercy and grace of our Holy Father, we pledge to strive toward growth in spiritual maturity and to walk in obedience to our loving God. To this end."

Yet, it is also a collective agreement, signed as a group, to keep each other accountable to the contents of that covenant.

The group has its roots back in their varsity days at NUS, where a band of seven young Christian brothers, mentored by Ivan Tan, met regularly to share their faith, experiences and struggles. This gradually formalised into a small group, however, still without a name. As the passage of time brought about marriage, wives started to join from 1990 onwards, and then, Family Aspirations formed.



by Lim Sue Yien



The covenant

More about small groups at TMC can be found at  
[www.tmc.org.sg/smallgroup.html](http://www.tmc.org.sg/smallgroup.html).  
You may also contact Park Ming at [parkming@tmc.org.sg](mailto:parkming@tmc.org.sg)  
or through the church office to find out more.



# IN & ABOUT TMC

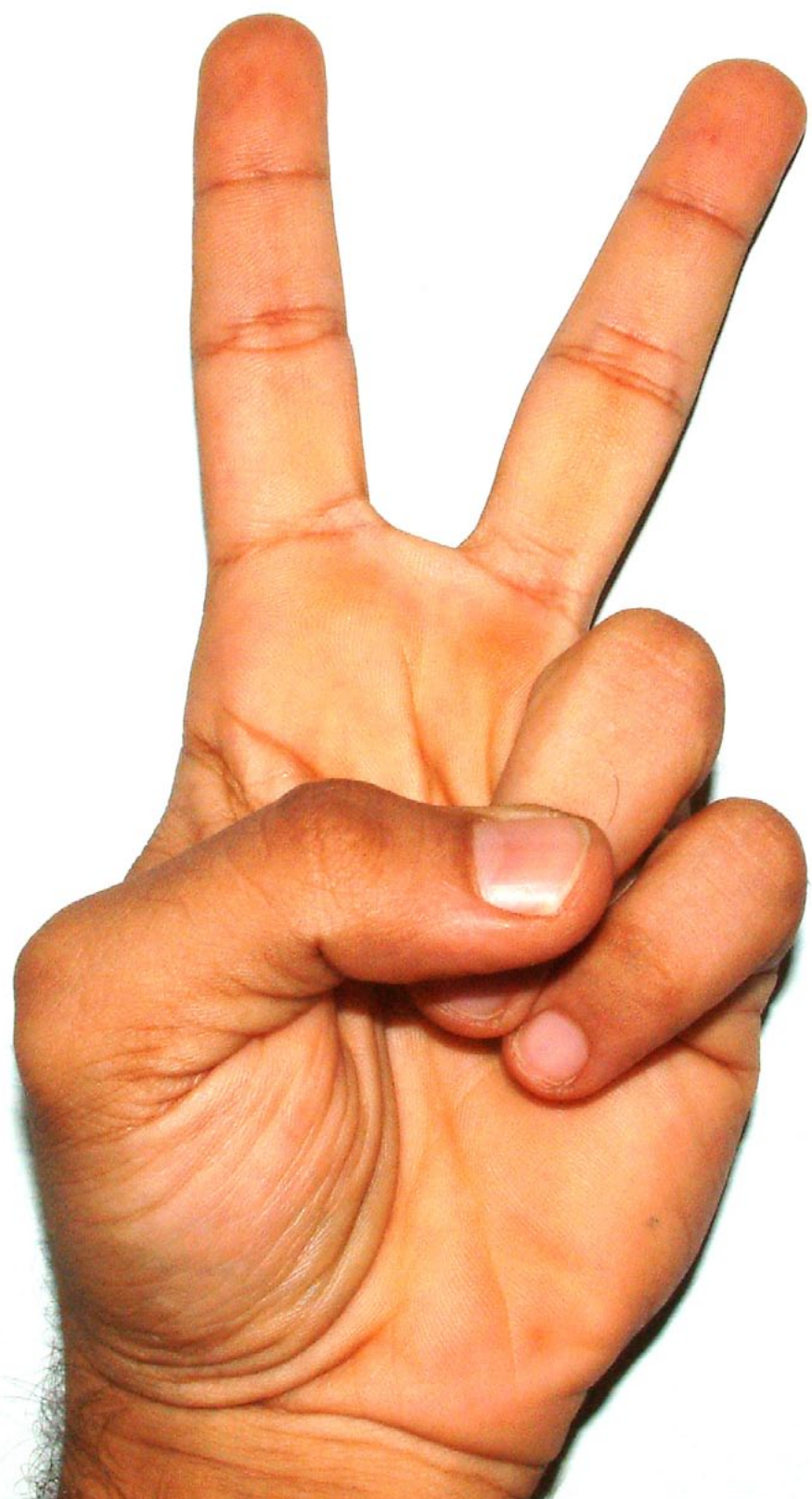
## Encounter with GOD



Connecting with One Another:  
GYM activities



# VICTORY



by Ang Hern Shung

Our biggest camp yet!

THE Youth Camp is an important aspect of any Youth Ministry.

It serves many purposes, such as building new friendships and strengthening existing relationships, and providing youths with the opportunity to listen to inspiring speakers.

TMC's youth ministry uses these camps to provide a platform for our youths to invite their friends to come and hear about the Gospel. Our year-end youth camps have always been a highlight of the youth ministry calendar, not only for our youths, but for the friends of our youths too.

We have begun seeing a significant increase of campers each year. This year, 135 campers came together for four days of fun, fellowship, games, worship and hearing of the Word. (If you ask the leaders how we managed to control that many youths under one roof, we can only testify that it was by the grace of God that we survived!)

Last year's youth camp, entitled Victory2012, was a special one, in that we had a record number of campers, as well as various speakers for each session. For the first time, we organised a gender-specific sharing session, which saw Pastor Andrew Yeo share with the boys and Christian singer-songwriter Alarice share with the girls. Many youths shared that it was one of the highlights of the camp for them!

Amid all the fun the campers had, we can testify that God moved powerfully among us all. Each night, we heard testimonies of how individuals were touched by the Holy Spirit and experienced the tangible presence of God. Some of these testimonies were from non-believers! We also give thanks and rejoice in a number of youth who made the decision to follow Christ for the first time, as well as many others who committed to working towards a closer relationship with God.

Looking back on the camp, I can only declare that God is so good and faithful to us in so many ways. And we look forward to a greater year ahead in 2013, one filled with many great God-encounters and adventures!





Tribes competed against one another to see who would come victorious in games



The Worship Hall was transformed into a makeshift Tabernacle!



The youths praying for one another



Encountering God during one of the speaker sessions

# VOICES of VICTORY



Being a tribe leader and leading a group not only allowed me to get to know more people and help them in their walk with God, but through this, I myself grew closer to God. The highlight was not so much all the games and activities, but mainly experiencing God showing Himself to me, and also learning about others' experience with Him. I was held in awe of his awesomeness.  
-Eugene Goh

One thing that I remember vividly was the 'Girls ONLY' session with Alarice. I was really inspired by the testimonies and songs she shared with us. I was definitely encouraged to step up my faith and to be a woman full of hunger for Jesus! Alarice is someone who is completely in love with Jesus, who pulls people closer to the Lord, and I know I want to learn to be like her, and better.  
-Celeste Neo

The most memorable thing I've learnt during Victory2012 was that we need to put our trust in God. There might be things in life we cannot understand or are unsure of. However, instead of taking matters in our own hands, we need to submit all our troubles to God and believe in His promises. No matter what, His plans will always turn out into something beautiful for us.  
- Kimberley Yong

Biggest highlight would have to be the speaker session by Pastor Daniel where I really encountered God! Was really given a new direction in life.  
-Jia Chen

My highlight for Victory2012 was Pastor Neli and his inspiring dope stories! I also loved the Girls-Only heart to heart talk with Alarice! Learnt so much and made so many new friends through this camp!  
- Grace Koh

My highlight was the Girls-Only session with Alarice. I was reminded that we are princesses who are greatly loved by God. And to place my insecurities in Him and no one else.  
- Jacelyn

I've learnt that God is always there for me. Regardless of what has happened, he would always be there to comfort us. I'm also reminded when we move, God moves too. Prayer is important and it changes everything.  
-Claudi

The highlight of Victory2012 for me when Pastor Andrew Yeo spoke to the Guys-Only, and shared about his own experiences which really related to me personally.  
-Nick Thian

Most memorable thing I learnt in Victory2012 is that we should constantly seek after God. He definitely will speak to us, maybe not immediately and maybe not how we want Him to speak to us, but in His own time and in His own way.  
-Anonymous





## ALPHA Course in TMC

# LIFE IS WORTH EXPLORING

**ALPHA.ORG.SG**  
THE ALPHA COURSE 

### who should participate?

- Pre-believers, non-churchgoers, new believers who desire to know more about Jesus Christ and the faith.
- Christians who need a refresher course in the basics of their faith

### what is it about?

ALPHA is an opportunity for anyone to explore the Christian faith in a relaxed setting. Each weekly session and discussion is thought-provoking, and one of the highlights of the course is the weekend away.

### why participate?

It's an opportunity to ask anything. Remember the difficult questions and awkward conversations with your relatives and friends about your faith, Christianity and the Bible? ALPHA is here to help!

### Course Schedule

| Dates        |       | Title  |
|--------------|-------|--|
| Sat, 3 - 5pm |       |  |
| 2 Mar        | Intro | "Christianity: Boring, Untrue, and Irrelevant?"  |
| 9 Mar        | 1     | Who is Jesus?  |
| 16 Mar       | 2     | Why did Jesus die?   |
| 23 Mar       | 3     | How can I be Sure of my Faith?   |
| 6 Apr        | 4     | Why and How Do I Pray?   |
| 13 Apr       | 5     | Why & How Should I Read the Bible?   |
| 20 Apr       | 6     | How does God Guide Us?   |
| 27 Apr       | 7     | Alpha Weekend<br>- Who is the Holy Spirit?<br>- What does the Holy Spirit do?<br>- How can I be Filled with the Spirit?<br>- How can I Make the Most of the Rest of My Life? |
| 4 May        | 8     | How can I Resist Evil?   |
| 11 May       | 9     | Does God Heal Today?   |
| 18 May       | 10    | Why and How Should We Tell Others? plus Celebration!   |

### how to participate?

Registration forms available at the mobile stand or online [www.tmc.org.sg/alpha.html](http://www.tmc.org.sg/alpha.html)

# Discipleship MY LORD & I

Luke 9:20

## TMC CHURCH CAMP

Thurs 13 to Mon 17 June 2013 (5 days 4 nights)  
Zenith Hotel, Kuantan

Our camp speaker, Edmund Chua has had an itinerant preaching ministry since 1975. Edmund's home church is the Corrie Ten Boom Centre, which is a church associated with the Hiding Place Christian Home Mission - a drug rehabilitation ministry. Edmund is one of two founding pastors of the Corrie Ten Boom Centre in Singapore which was established in 1986. He is also a member of the Board of Directors of the Hiding Place. Married to Esther, they have two children, Euodia and Eshton. Edmund (since 1980) and Esther (since 1985) have been going on tours of ministry to India, and they continue to do so.



### Room Selection

Single = S\$650

Double/Twin = S\$385

Triple Sharing = S\$370

(The above prices are on a per person basis.  
Cost of transport is separate)

Register on Sundays or online before 30 April 2013

[www.tmc.org.sg/churchcamp.html](http://www.tmc.org.sg/churchcamp.html)

Enquiries to Kelvin Tan / [kelvinls@singnet.com.sg](mailto:kelvinls@singnet.com.sg)



# SERVICES

**Children's Ministry** is looking for more than 20 volunteers who love reaching out to children from the Creche, Kindergarten and all Primary School levels for the 845 and 1115 am Sunday sessions. All you need is to be committed, teachable, humble and willing to learn from each other. Training will be provided. Queries to Alice Lim at [alice@tmc.org.sg](mailto:alice@tmc.org.sg)

They are so serious about the game that rain does not stop them from training. The **Serangoon Kings** are 20 boys from Contact 123 who want to do better at this healthy sport. Help them with warm-up, drillings and a practice match. Every Saturday, 2-5pm | Field opp. Blk 125, Serangoon North Ave 1. This is part of our community effort to the youths in Serangoon North. Queries to Jestyn Koh at [jestyn@tmc.org.sg](mailto:jestyn@tmc.org.sg)

A guiding hand is needed by students who visit Contact 123. **Give tuition** in English, Chinese or Maths to primary school and secondary one students on Tues, Weds or Thurs. Queries to Cathrine at 6285 8450 / [cathrine@tmc.org.sg](mailto:cathrine@tmc.org.sg)

Volunteer **Drivers** needed only in the Serangoon Garden vicinity for the Yum Cha@10 session in TMC on the 1st Wed of each month. Zoom forward to speak to Victor Seah ([vseah@singnet.com.sg](mailto:vseah@singnet.com.sg)) as soon as you can.

It would mean the whole world to our **Homebounds**. Do you know that our volunteers can only visit 2-3 homebounds each month because of transport limitations? If you offer to drive, we can bring God's love to more homebounds on our monthly Sunday visits. Volunteers to contact Lucy Chan at 9748 2733.

**The Institute of Mental Health** (10 Buangkok View) is where TMC has been serving for many years. We are arranging for residents of IMH wanting to attend the church service with effect from March. Helpers are needed on Sundays to chaperone the residents from their wards onto a chartered vehicle to TMC and back, and to accompany them during the service. We are aiming for 4 teams of 3 helpers each; 1 team per week so that the residents can worship God in church weekly. Seasoned TMC-ers from the Outreach & Social Concerns ministry will be present to guide. Queries to Yvonne Tan at [yvnn\\_tan@yahoo.com](mailto:yvnn_tan@yahoo.com). [www.tmc.org.sg/osc.html#imh](http://www.tmc.org.sg/osc.html#imh)

It's a simple task which you won't be doing alone. Just ask any of the **communion helpers** who have been helping with the filling of those communion cups every month. They do enjoy a certain camaraderie. Do lend a deft hand as a Communion Helper before and after the 1115am service. Queries to Patricia Tan at [patriciazoeystan@gmail.com](mailto:patriciazoeystan@gmail.com)

Fit and test mike. Listen out, and adjust, for feedback. Play CD. Pan video camera. Our **PA Crew** plays a significant role in TMC. They are the faithful and silent workers behind the scenes who give us sound every Sunday. Join this vibrant team. Training will be provided. Queries to Patricia Tan at [patriciazoeystan@gmail.com](mailto:patriciazoeystan@gmail.com)

You're eagle-eyed and can spot that visitor who raises his / her hand. You have a winsome smile and a friendly handshake. The team of **Ushers & Greeters** wants to grow and you're "it". Queries to Koh Shuwen at [shwern@gmail.com](mailto:shwern@gmail.com)

We'd all be singing a capella (without instruments) at our services without **Organists, Pianists, Drummers** and **Bass Guitarists**. We would kill more trees if we had no **Display Coordinators** (those who prepare the powerpoint slides). If you possess any of these musical abilities or can use powerpoint, please contact Patricia Tan at [patriciazoeystan@gmail.com](mailto:patriciazoeystan@gmail.com)

You can volunteer to serve God by letting anyone in the church office know, or registering online at [www.tmc.org.sg/servegod.html](http://www.tmc.org.sg/servegod.html)

# EVENTS

**Sat, 2 Mar and thereafter every Saturday till May 18**  
**3.00 – 5.00pm**

The ALPHA course is back. It recognises that seekers have this burning question: "Christianity: Boring, Untrue, and Irrelevant?" Invite your seeking friends to ask more questions at ALPHA. Registration forms at the Media Board in the Plaza or online.  
[www.tmc.org.sg/alpha.html](http://www.tmc.org.sg/alpha.html)

**Wed, Mar 6, Apr 3 and every 1st Wed of the month**  
**10.00am – 12.00pm**

Yum Cha@10 is an opportunity for people to come together for fellowship, and serves as a platform for TMC-ers to meet one another as well as non-Christians in the community mid-week. Contact Victor through the church office / [vseah@singnet.com.sg](mailto:vseah@singnet.com.sg)  
[www.tmc.org.sg/regular.html](http://www.tmc.org.sg/regular.html)

**Sun, Mar 17, Apr 21 and every 3rd Sunday thereafter**  
WSCS Visitation to Homebound. Those interested to cheer up old folks, please contact Lucy Chan at 9748 2733.

**Mar 24**  
Boys' and Girls' Brigade Enrolment Service at TMC  
[www.tmc.org.sg/ministries.html](http://www.tmc.org.sg/ministries.html)

**Thurs, Mar 28, Apr 25 and every last Thurs of the month**  
**10.00am – 12.00pm**

St Luke's Eldercare Centre Devotions at Blk 217 Serangoon Ave 4 on how to handle one's inferiority and temptations. TMC's ministry to SLEC brings hope, help and the love of Christ to many needy elderly. If you wish to join in, contact Eddie in the church office / [eddie@tmc.org.sg](mailto:eddie@tmc.org.sg).  
[www.tmc.org.sg/osc.html#slec](http://www.tmc.org.sg/osc.html#slec)

**Sun, Mar 31, Apr 28 and every last Sunday of the month**  
**9.00am**

Visit to Institute of Mental Health by Outreach & Social Concerns  
Contact Yvonne Tan at 9091 8589 / [yvnn\\_tan@yahoo.com](mailto:yvnn_tan@yahoo.com)  
[www.tmc.org.sg/osc.html](http://www.tmc.org.sg/osc.html)

**Holy Week Mar 25 to 31**  
See back cover

**Sat, Apr 6**  
**10.00am – 1.00pm**  
Small Group Leaders' Get-Together. All queries to Colin ([colinyip@gmail.com](mailto:colinyip@gmail.com)) / Park Ming ([parkming@tmc.org.sg](mailto:parkming@tmc.org.sg))  
[www.tmc.org.sg/smallgroup.html](http://www.tmc.org.sg/smallgroup.html)

**Wed, Apr 10 and every 2nd Wed of the month**  
**3.00 – 5.00pm**  
Tea @ 3 organised by Glowing Years Ministry. Origami class at Apr 10 session. Contact Victor through the church office / [vseah@singnet.com.sg](mailto:vseah@singnet.com.sg)

**Wed, Apr 17 and every 3rd Wed of the month. No meeting in March.**  
**10.00am – 12.00pm**  
God's Master Works. A Concerto in 39 Movements is an overview of the Old Testament conducted by Rev Peter Goh. Currently teaching on Leviticus.  
[www.tmc.org.sg/regular.html#gym](http://www.tmc.org.sg/regular.html#gym)

**Every Fri**  
**9.15-11.15am**  
Bible Study on Psalms by Mrs Esther Wong. For more info, contact Lynn through the church office / [zlipop@yahoo.com](mailto:zlipop@yahoo.com)  
<http://www.tmc.org.sg/highlights.html#wscsbs>

**8.00 – 10.00pm**  
Healing Ministry in the Prayer Chapel

**Every Sat fortnightly**  
**9.00 – 11.00am**  
Fellowship of Ukulelians meet to fellowship and play the ukulele of course  
[www.tmc.org.sg/regular.html#ukulele](http://www.tmc.org.sg/regular.html#ukulele)

**Every Sat**  
**6, 13, 20, 27 April, 9.00 am – 12.00pm**  
Contact 123 IT Courses from basic computer, to the use of Facebook and movie-making.  
<http://www.tmc.org.sg/osc.html#c123>

**2.00 – 4.00pm**  
Contact 123 - Soccer Training at Blk 143 Serangoon North Avenue 1.  
<http://www.facebook.com/Contact123>

**3.00 – 5.00pm**  
Line Dancing. Contact Eunice Yeo through the church office for more information.

**Every 2nd and 4th Sunday**  
**7.30 – 8.30am**  
Church Prayer Meeting in Prayer Chapel  
[www.tmc.org.sg/prayer.html](http://www.tmc.org.sg/prayer.html)

# CREDITS

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Rev Peter Goh

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Further details on TMC's events can be found at  
[www.tmc.org.sg](http://www.tmc.org.sg)



# Lent and Easter 2013

A Time to Repent and A Time for Renewal. Lent began on Ash Wednesday, 13 February. It is a time that calls us back to God, back to basics, back to the spiritual realities of life. It calls on us to put to death the sin and the indifference we have in our hearts toward God and our fellow persons. And it beckons us to enter once again into the joy of the Lord. 300 copies of Lenten Devotions from the Bible Society have been made available since 10 Feb. If you missed the distribution, you can visit SKS bookstore or [www.umc.org](http://www.umc.org) (go to Lent and Easter Resources) for devotions to help you encounter God in this season of Lent.

A Time to Unite with Other Disciples in Christ. In gratitude for the use of our premises whilst their church was undergoing building works, Ang Mo Kio Methodist Church (AMKMC) has invited all TMC-ers to join in their holy week services on Tuesday and Wednesday. We will therefore be joining our brothers and sisters at AMKMC situated at 1 Ang Mo Kio Street 21, Singapore 569383, on Tuesday and Wednesday of Holy Week.

A Time to Identify with Jesus. We are repeating the 3-hour prayer devotion on Good Friday after the service. Since about the 4th century, the time between noon and three in the afternoon when Jesus hung on the cross has been set aside for various Scripture readings related to the passion, interspersed with prayers and ending with the reading of the passion story from John's Gospel. These 3 hours of devotion are to help you identify with Jesus. There will be light snacks available before the Prayer Vigil begins.

|               |            |  |
|---------------|------------|--|
| Mon, 25 Mar   | No service |  |
| Tues, 26 Mar  | 8.00pm     | Holy Week services at Ang Mo Kio Methodist Church, 1 Ang Mo Kio Street 21, Singapore 569383 ( <a href="http://www.amkmc.org.sg">www.amkmc.org.sg</a> ) |
| Wed, 27 Mar   |            |  |
| Thurs, 28 Mar | 8.00pm     | Maundy Thursday service  |
| Fri, 29 Mar   | 10.00am    | Good Friday English service  |
|               | 11.00am    | Good Friday Mandarin service   |
|               | 12.00pm    | Prayer Vigil (3 hours)   |
| Sun, 31 Mar   | 6.30am     | Sunrise Service  |
|               | 9.00am     | Easter Sunday English service, with Reception of New Members   |
|               | 11.00am    | Easter Sunday Mandarin service   |

All services at Trinity Methodist Church unless otherwise specified