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# SALTSHAKER



TRINITY  
Methodist Church

MICA (P) 058/09/2014



ONE DEGREE  
OF SEPARATION  
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REALLY!  
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THE SOUND(S)  
OF DISCIPLESHIP  
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# Shaking Salt

## Of Politics, Religion &



by Lim Sue Yien

Me: "Serangoon Gardens."

Taxi Uncle (in Mandarin):  
"Have I fetched you before?"

Me: "Yes, I think so."

This was true. I have in fact ridden  
in this Uncle's taxi.

After the taxi turned the corner,  
the conversation began. Why  
conversations on subjects such  
as politics, religion and money,  
always occur in Mandarin which  
I am not fluent in, remains one of  
those mysterious things which I  
think God puts in my way to keep  
me humble.

Taxi Uncle: "The elections will  
be on September 11".

Me: "It will?"

The global financial markets were  
in a tailspin, US\$2 trillion had  
been lost in the stock market, and  
a bomb had gone off in Bangkok  
at the time of this conversation.  
My mind was not exactly on local  
politics.

Taxi Uncle: "You have internet on  
your mobile phone? Go check if  
you don't believe me."

So check I did, and indeed it was.  
I tried to make myself understood  
about September 11 being a  
terrible day in history. However,  
I didn't know the Mandarin word  
for "terrorist", and I momentarily  
forgot the word for "plane" and  
"skyscraper", so I gave up. Uncle  
didn't seem to mind. His concern  
was for the elections.

Taxi Uncle: "Who's running in  
Tanjong Pagar?"

Me: (after rummaging through  
the internet for a while) "It's  
rumoured to be this party called  
Singaporeans First. I've never  
heard of it."

Taxi Uncle: "Me neither. Do you  
know that this is the first time that  
Tanjong Pagar is being contested?  
In Lee Kuan Yew's time, no one  
cared to. You know, I spoilt my  
vote in the last election."

The conversation went on about  
politics for a few more minutes  
along this vein. Taxi Uncle was a  
proud man who did not believe in  
anyone or anything but himself.  
And then it happened as it always  
does with me and taxi uncles – the  
subject of Christianity.

Taxi Uncle: "Are you a Christian  
or a Catholic?"

Thankfully, he used the English  
words for "Christian" and  
"Catholic". But where did that  
question come from?!

Me: "I'm a Christian".

Taxi Uncle: "You know, Christians  
and Catholics do not like each  
other."

Me: "No lah, Uncle, that is not  
really true. I'm a Christian and I  
don't hate Catholics."

Taxi Uncle: "In Northern Ireland,  
they kill each other."

It looked like this Uncle was well-  
versed in international affairs; I  
could not skirt around this hairy  
topic.

Me: "Uncle, that is a matter of  
politics, not religion."

Taxi Uncle: "I want to be a  
Catholic. Because I believe that  
Mother Mary is an admirable  
character."

Me: "So what are you waiting for?"

Taxi Uncle: "When I find a  
suitable church to go to, then I  
will. Somewhere near where I  
stay."

Me: "Where do you stay?"

Taxi Uncle: "Hougang area."

Me: "There is a big Catholic  
church on Highland Road. You  
should go and visit. Since you've

# Fake Money



already made up your mind, you should just do it.

Taxi Uncle: “Is there?” (pause)  
“I don’t understand these people who burn fake money. They burn up thousands of dollars, and cars and houses! I don’t believe that these items can find their way to the other side. Do you?”

Me: “Uncle, I already told you I’m a Christian. Of course I do not believe it. God doesn’t need your money. I think Heaven should have enough money in it already.”

OK, so I was thinking about the streets of gold in Rev 21:21, and I acknowledge that this was not a very smart response, but what would YOU have said if you were me?

Taxi Uncle was tickled by the prospect of Heaven having gazillions of dollars in it. Of course, he didn’t believe a smidgen in the transport of fake money to another world through a blaze.

As he was musing over the possibility that something burnt could nevertheless reappear whole and useable in another world, the taxi arrived at its destination, and we parted ways amicably.

Naturally, this conversation stayed in my mind for a while, as with all the conversations I have had with taxi uncles about Christianity (and there have been quite a few) in my broken Mandarin. I can’t say that I was satisfied with the outcome. What could I have done

differently? Perhaps I could have directed him to drive past our church, and invited him to attend our Mandarin service. Perhaps I could have given him a tract on the Four Spiritual Laws. Perhaps I could have told him about Jesus and the way to salvation. Perhaps I should now memorise an arsenal of “right” responses in Mandarin so that I can react in another situation (and there *will* always be other encounters and opportunities if only we look out for them).

Or perhaps I was just one in a line of many people who would finally lead Uncle onto the right Path. I do not know if this is wishful thinking. However, I do know that we are meant to be salt, plant seeds for the Gospel, and allow God to do His work. Next time, I hope I will be able to plant a better seed. In English, God willing.



Have you seized an opportunity, or been given an opportunity, to plant a seed for the Gospel? If so, do write to us at [tmccomms@gmail.com](mailto:tmccomms@gmail.com). We would like to share your testimony with others.



# ONE D OF SEPAR

I am writing this article at the height of the General Election 2015 (GE) fever.

By the time you read this, the die would have been cast, and the results known as to who will form the Government of Singapore for the next 4 to 5 years.

It became apparent to me during this GE that one really cannot do or say anything which remotely attracts criticism if one wants to run for public office. I am not just alluding to the proven or alleged wrongdoings of some of the candidates which were narrated in the media for all to read (and more often than not, judged).

I am referring to what is communicated through “Six Degrees of Separation”. This is the theory that everyone and everything is six or fewer steps away, by way of introduction, from any other person in the world. In other words, a chain of “a friend of a friend” statements can be made to connect any two people in a maximum of six steps. (Definition source: Wikipedia) In our small island home Singapore, the applicable theory may well be three degrees of separation instead of six.

“My good friend knows this candidate whom he says cheats on his golf card.”

“My colleague told me that he received a rudely-worded request for help from this candidate.”

“This candidate says he is struggling to make ends meet. Someone just saw him eating at [name of expensive restaurant] with his family.”

“I overheard my boss say to this candidate that if he got elected, it can only benefit the company.”

Forget the most well thought out or workable policies. Out with the most persuasive manifestos. Disregard the most fluently-delivered and grammatically-correct speeches. Ignore all the impressive leg work employed in visiting hundreds of homes, hawker centres and bus interchanges. Never mind how many hundreds of thousands whistled, waved banners or trekked to listen to your rally speech.

If your conduct is in question, your political party suffers.

If your conduct is in question, your Christian witness suffers.

There are motorists who dangle a visible cross from their rear view mirrors but park inconsiderately.

There are people who stick Christian paraphernalia in their office cubicles, or tell their colleagues that they cannot work overtime because they have to get to an evening bible study, but are known never to hand in work on time or shirk their responsibilities at other times.



# DEGREE ATION



by Tricia Tong



There are students who flaunt bookmarks or phone covers embossed with bible verses, but are careless with coarse language or knowingly disrespectful to their parents.

Well, guess what? There are people who have difficulty embracing the Lord Jesus because of something nasty done to them by a Christian, or because they have observed poor behaviour by a Christian. Furthermore, applying the theory of Six Degrees of Separation, a person's poor conduct is not necessarily confined to the immediate and present observer. Nowadays, your bark at that waitress can be all over social media in the next five minutes.

We may feel that it's unreasonable to taint all Christians with the same brush just because of a few "black sheep". But apart from the fact that indignant cries of "it's unfair" win no souls for Christ, let's get something straight— all Christians are black sheep, saved by grace through faith in the Lord Jesus. We don't get this message across clearly enough most of the time, which can result in pre-believers concluding that we think we are perfect; this can be a real turn off for anyone.

Unlike Jesus who offers forgiveness freely to those who earnestly repent, our fellow man (with his proverbial elephant memory) is not so apt to forgive a wrong even in the face of repentance. Let's face it – we Christians don't always have a generous forgiving

spirit either so why should we expect other people to forgive our wrongs easily.

Therefore, it is important for us as Christians to live in a way that glorifies our God in heaven if we are to be living lights for Christ. How?

**"Dear friends, I urge you, as foreigners and exiles, to abstain from sinful desires, which wage war against your soul. Live such good lives among the pagans that, though they accuse you of doing wrong, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day he visits us." (1 Pet 2:11-12)**

**"Do all things without complaining and disputing, that you may become blameless and harmless, children of God without fault in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world," (Phil 2:14-15)**

**"As obedient children, do not conform to the evil desires you had when you lived in ignorance. But just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do; for it is written: 'Be holy, because I am holy.'" (1 Pet 1:14-16)**

As Christians, we actually subscribe to the theory of One Degree of Separation. For in the words of a song by Bette Midler, "God is watching us from a distance," and perhaps closer than we think (Ps 139).

# REALLY!



By Kwa Kiem Kion

Really? Really!

The parable of the wise and foolish builders (Matt 7:24-27) ends the Sermon on the Mount.

Jesus is unequivocal that those who hear his words and put them into practice are like a wise man who builds his house on the solid rock which can withstand the storms and vicissitudes of life. We note that it is not just about hearing his words but also about putting them into practice (7:26). But we wonder whether these ancient words are *really* meaningful in today's world.

We have seen that the Sermon on the Mount is a study of contrasting values – the contrast between worldly, secular, “non-Christian” values and God's values; as well as the contrast between seemingly “religious” values and God's values.

In the world, we must make sure that we protect ourselves by saving for a rainy day. But Jesus says, don't worry (6:25).

Religions say do not do to others what you do not want them to do to you. But Jesus says do good to others (7:12).

Some Christians say just pray “in Jesus' name” and the prayer will be answered. But Jesus says that only those who do the will of His Father will enter the Kingdom of Heaven (7:21).

Thus we ask ourselves whether the Sermon on the Mount *really* makes sense in today's world. It is so contrary to popular understanding.

Yet I believe all of us can testify that there have been times when we have known an inexplicable peace and joy when we have chosen to follow God's ways even when it seemed foolish to those who do not believe.

We remember how we have made seemingly irrational decisions - giving up lucrative careers in order to stay home to look after children or parents, or to work in church or with the marginalized - and have known life to be enriched in ways that money cannot buy. In these ways then we have built our house on solid rock, the solid rock of Jesus' teachings and have found them to be true and right and life-giving. For indeed Jesus' words give us life and life to the full (Jn 10:10). Therefore His teaching is not just about the life hereafter, it is also about life here and now.

We have seen through these months that being a follower of Christ is not about “going to heaven”. Rather, it is about knowing Jesus and following his ways here and now because these ways make sense by giving strength and sustenance for life.

We have seen how, by being the peace-maker or being merciful, we can make a profound difference and cause change at home, work or school.

We know that when we put God first, whether it means making the effort to go to church, or to tithe, or to commit a difficult situation to prayer before trying to solve it with our human wisdom, it has meant that we are *really* happier.

All this means that when we put Christ at the centre of our lives and then let everything revolve around him, then our perspective changes and we have the strength and courage to face everything that life throws at us. *Really*.

*This is the last in a series of articles for the Saltshaker 2015, following the pulpit calendar on the Sermon of the Mount.*

# BAPTISM & MEMBERSHIP CLASSES

## Baptism

This is the sacrament of initiation into the body of Christ, the Church, which joins the new member with Christians everywhere.

Under the guidance of the church, candidates carefully consider their motives for baptism and their willingness to accept the responsibilities of Christian life.

Under the guidance of disciplers / sponsors, candidates participate regularly in the life of the church, attend worship services, study the Bible and learn to follow Christ's teachings in daily life.



## Membership

When persons unite with a local Methodist church, they profess their faith in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, His only Son; and in the Holy Spirit. Thus, they make known their desire to live their daily lives as disciples of Jesus Christ. They covenant together with God and with the members of the local church to keep the vows which are part of the order of confirmation and reception into the Church.

More (including registration forms) at [www.tmc.org.sg/baptism.html](http://www.tmc.org.sg/baptism.html). Enquiries to the church office / [churchoffice@tmc.org.sg](mailto:churchoffice@tmc.org.sg).

Please register at the iSunday Counter for baptism classes by 27 Sep and membership classes (including those transferring from another church) by 25 Oct.



Sun 11 Oct	Our New Life in Christ
Sun 18 Oct	The Bible
Sun 25 Oct	Worship
Sun 1st Nov	Baptism & Holy Communion
Sun 8 Nov	<b>Baptism Service</b>
Sun 15 Nov	Holy Trinity
Sun 22 Nov	Church History & Methodism
Sun 29 Nov	Structure of the Methodist Church in Singapore & TMC
Sun 6 Dec	Small Groups, Accountability & Spiritual Gifts
Sun 13 Dec	Membership Make-up Classes Interview with Pastoral Team
Sun 20 Dec	<b>Reception of New Members</b>
Fri 25 Dec	<b>Baptism of Infants</b>





# THE SOUL OF DISCIPLESHIP

*“When Christ calls a man,” says Dietrich Bonhoeffer, “he bids him come and die.” There are different kinds of dying, it is true; but the essence of discipleship is contained in those words.*

Bonhoeffer, Dietrich. *The Cost of Discipleship*. New York: SCM Press Ltd, 1959.

Many contemporary Christian books and pieces have been written about what a disciple looks like, but placed less emphasis on what discipleship sounds like – something I find strange given, arguably, that discipleship begins with hearing the call of God. In other words, it is an aural invitation to respond in faith to following and submitting to His commands.

I was fortunate to witness and experience this at the inaugural Ukulele Festival of Praise (FOP) in Singapore held on 15 Aug 15 at Trinity Methodist Church (TMC). Organised by TMC’s Glowing Years Ministry (GYM) Fellowship of Ukulelians (FOU), the festival aimed to bring together like-minded Ukulelians to praise and worship the Lord.

In my opinion, it did more than that. Beyond the passionate and vigorous strumming of strings, the festival really brought to life the “sound(s) of discipleship” in three ways.

## 1.Sound of Faith

The FOP opened with a rousing and animated repertoire of old favourites, the likes of “Crown Him with Many Crowns” to “His Love

is Warmer”. But the journey to pitch-perfect renditions was not at all smooth-sailing. It took a huge amount of faith and obedience on the part of the FOU to pick up their “Ukes”, as they call their instruments affectionately, and continue practising to prepare for the Festival even in the face of physical exhaustion and an initial lack of confidence. The weekly practices were daunting and I was privy to daily nights of practice that my parents (as members of the FOU) went through, just to ready themselves for the upcoming practice. In fact, the FOP itself was a testimony of faith, right from its initial mooting to the FOP Committee as a vision from the Lord, to the growing of faith of each FOP member with every FOP practice.

## 2.Sound of Service

Being a disciple not only begins with the sound of obedience but also the call to serve. And serve was what TMC’s FOU did in the process of organising the festival. In their outreach to the ukulele groups of more than 20 TRAC churches, the FOU championed the message of serving God by serving others. The FOU even spread the joyous strains of music to Johor Baru Wesley Methodist Church by performing

at their services and inculcating in the congregation a love for making music to God. Through the festival, the FOU also created a sustainable platform to connect other Ukulelians and their guests with God.

## 3.Sound of Worship

The last sound that resonated was one of worship. Despite lasting a short two hours, the Festival enthroned God at the centre, from start to end. It was heartwarming to see all the participants and guests – young and old, members of TMC and those from our sister churches, Ukulelians and guitarists – all banding together to make a joyful noise unto the Lord. Sure, there were one or two stray notes and off-beat rhythms – which performance would not have these? But I dare say God was pleased because the music created was an authentic offering by His children, one marked by a spirit of gratefulness in thanksgiving for all that He has given. It was indeed worship characterised by the sound(s) of discipleship.

The FOU meets every Saturday from 9.00-11.30am. To participate, please get in touch with the church office.



# OUND(S) PLESHIP

by Romona Loh



## songs of faith

by Alice Chong, FOU Coordinator and  
Irene Eng, Ensemble Director

The first ever Ukulele FOP hosted by the TMC FOU started as a dream last year. And we dared to dream BIG! The Lord convicted our hearts to create a platform for ukulelians from other TRAC churches to come together as a big family to praise and worship His Name.

From the word “go”, a group of spirited seniors huddled together to realise this dream. We plodded on with some trepidation of heart and anxiety almost every Sunday.

Invitation letters, registration forms and posters were given out to coordinators of Seniors’ Ministry in the TRAC churches. Then we waited – for three months.

In typical Singaporean fashion, the RSVPs to perform poured in at the last minute. True to God’s faithfulness, we could comfortably cope with the seven churches that eventually agreed to perform. There was even an additional group across the Causeway that agreed to participate – the MSF Ukulelians from Johor Baru Wesley Methodist Church.

There was no turning back as preparations went full swing. Tweaking and finalising the different segments of the programme, honing our skills in strumming, plucking and singing in harmony. Communications through numerous phone calls and WhatsApp messages to the other churches cemented our mutual bonds of friendship. We could also feel the excitement emanating from them.

The first ever Ukulele FOP was a resounding success. On the big day, Emmanuel Hall was filled to the brim with a congregation of about 260 persons.

We also heard this from a pre-believer: “I am not familiar with Christian songs but I enjoyed the singing very much. There was not a moment that I was bored. I was captivated throughout the two-hour programme.”

We were really blessed with God’s presence and His provision.

# Caring God's Way

- EVERY TMC MEMBER A CARING DISCIPLE OF CHRIST



by Linda Wee

The Caring God's Way Workshop took place over 4 Sundays and was led by Rev Peter Goh and the Pastoral CareNet Ministry (PCM).

It consisted of six video lessons accompanied by a workbook. Each presentation was reinforced with an immediate intense discussion, and a follow-up personal study segment. The workshop schooled the participants in the ministry of encouragement, the ministry of exhortation, and caring through enlightenment. It sought to give understanding on what Christian caring is all about with emphasis on being drawn into a closer relationship with the Lord, developing closer relationships with members of the church and developing new skills and insights to becoming a more effective care-r.

Participants had to pay close attention to the video presentations which were the mainstay of the course, providing a time for learning, unlearning and re-learning. Many participants confessed to developing new insights and skills that led to fresh perspectives and concepts.

For example, to care God's way is to start with encouragement. We learnt that the key word for encouragement is *paraklesis* (Greek) or "being called alongside to fortify, support, comfort". Only an encouraged person can be exhorted by the Word of God, and then be enlightened so that his path is aligned with that of the Almighty.

The Theory of Emotion was another helpful lesson. It taught that we needed to clarify what different "activity events" catalyse certain responses; to understand that different "belief systems" can affect our response; and to identify the "consequent emotion" that can erupt or seep in insidiously.

In the group discussions, there was a good exchange of views and ideas that added to the wealth of information that participants had gleaned from the video presentations. There was an honest recognition of an important starting point – to care, one must relinquish one's position of superiority and work from a position of broken-ness. Some honestly confessed their limitations "to care, God's way".

In the personal study segment, participants had to read collections of scripture verses. The exercises of summarising a clutch of verses into one or two sentences were demanding and exhausting. From these exertions, however, came wonderful revelations as participants they discovered how true it is that the whole is often more than the sum of its many parts. And some found themselves pausing to relish the "aha" of the moment through the repeated reading of the Bible, the contemplation on bible passages, the listening of the preached Word, and the prodding of our conscience in the process of questioning our own actions.

The Lord gave us a straightforward command – "...love one another." (1 Jn 3:23). PCM hopes to make a cultural and mind-set change in Trinity Methodist Church through its ministry.





## *Here are what participants had to say:*

This workshop is useful as we minister to our family members and friends when they are sick, troubled or facing life's challenges. The key takeaway for me is that we need to be willing to spend time with a willing heart in order to encourage someone in emotional and physical pain, and to bring God's word and presence into their lives. - Susanna Bay

Initially I thought one has to solve the problems of the hurting or troubled person with good advice and good counsel. However, I learnt that we should not try to be doctors to cure the problems, but be more like caring nurses.  
- Queenie Lee

I pride myself for being a caring person by nature, but I was blown over by the different levels of caring and the correct ways of showing that we care. I not only learnt to minister to others, but I was ministered to as well, during the sessions and everyday as I did my daily personal study. - Alice Chong

Hundreds of people are hurting every day. They are in our midst. What are we to do? What would Jesus do?

Come and see, listen to the videos and God will open your eyes as He has done to me, to be a better listener, to give hope and to give grace, to be enlightened in His Love and His Light. Then we too can love one another as Jesus loved us.  
Join "Caring God's Way" and see if you are "different" after just four weeks.  
- Janet Sathiasingham

I learnt the importance of timing and not being drawn into a power struggle with the person I am caring for. - Grace Lee

Having learned the 3 concepts of caring, practising them is itself a journey of learning and is challenging. The completion of the course is only the beginning of awareness that there are many people around us who are hurting more than we realise. The new commandment that Jesus gave was to "Love one another". A thousand miles start with a small step and the way forward for me will be to serve in the PCM as a way to love another.- Nerrine Seng

# Being a Care Comforter



by Lee Lix Ngon

All of us should try to become a caring disciple of Christ.

Caring includes not only encouragement and coming alongside to support someone. It also includes exhortation and enlightenment. Words which we were familiar with took on a whole new perspective at the Caring God's Way Workshop. "Power of words", "right attitude", "right question", "right timing", "empathy", "body language", "walk your talk" and so on.

We learnt to demonstrate care and love effectively, and also grew spiritually as we were made to further appreciate the relevance of God's Word on this subject. We had to change our thinking about ourselves and about others. We also learned that it was useful in caring for others to connect to Scripture for credibility and to practise sensitivity in quoting biblical text whether with respect to an issue or a person.

As we continue to practise and role-model caring to hone our skills, we will become better care comforters over time and with more experience. We need to make a conscious effort to avail ourselves in church when the opportunity arises. We need to step forward, to come alongside, listen, share and be more sensitive to the needs of the people around us.

For a start, we can begin with gestures such as a smile, a call, SMS, email, a card or chit chat over coffee. These will go a long way in establishing relationships and building care.

Hopefully, such a loving and caring lifestyle will lead to a culture change in our church.



# HOSPITALITY - EVERYONE'S MINISTRY

This is the third in a series of articles featuring our new and not-so-new members. These stories provide a glimpse of how we, as a TMC family, reached out to these once-upon-a-time visitors and impacted their lives and decision to stay on to worship at TMC.



by Koh Shuwen

## In this issue, the Saltshaker talks to Derina Chong...

Tell us a little about yourself

I'm a clinical psychologist. My work connects me with many youths and young people who are facing various mental health issues. Being able to reach out to those who are in need of emotional and psychological support has been the most fulfilling and meaningful aspect of my work. Outside of work, I enjoy spending a lot of quiet time with my loved ones and by myself. Travelling, reading and being with my dogs and in nature are my favourite ways to unwind and relax.

### How did you first learn about Trinity Methodist Church?

I was introduced to TMC by some close friends. Prior to TMC, I had visited a few other churches but somehow did not feel connected and did not attend church regularly until I came to TMC.

### What first struck you about TMC?

The sanctuary was the first thing that left an impression on me. While I sat in the pews amongst everyone and looked at the large cross shining at me, somehow I felt at ease and sensed that this was the place for me. The cross shining at me, somehow I felt at ease and sensed that this was the place for me.



### What made you decide to worship regularly at (or become a member of) TMC?

I deliberated a lot on my decision to become a member of TMC. It was a decision I avoided making, mostly because of fear. My fear of the unknown as well as of commitment and responsibility. After a lot of thinking and praying, I eventually decided that I had to make my stand, make a commitment to God and do my best. I also realised that no amount of thinking or deliberation can help me decide on where to worship or when to become a member. Only by faith and by my actions can I move along in my journey as a Christian.

### How do you hope to grow / serve at TMC as a disciple of Christ?

As a disciple of Christ, I hope that I will be able to reach out to, and connect with people, as well as continue to have fellowship and learn with others. Personally, I also hope to always be able to be with God and to continue to learn His word in my everyday life.

### What encouragement do you have for people who are contemplating baptism and/or membership?

Let go of your fears. Listen to your heart and listen to God.

The next baptism class will take place on Sunday 11, 18, 25 Oct and 1 Nov 15 | 2pm. The baptism service will be on Sunday 8 Nov 15.

If you are already baptised and wish to become a member of TMC (including by transfer from another church) by committing to her your prayers, presence, gifts and service, classes will be on Sunday 15, 22, 29 Nov and 6 Dec 15 | 2pm.

Interviews with the pastors are scheduled for 13 Dec 15. New members will be received on Sun 20 Dec 15

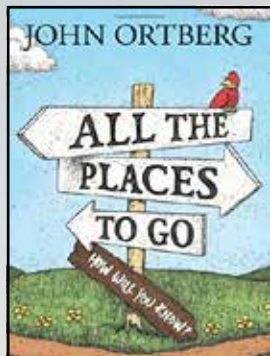
[www.tmc.org.sg/baptism.html](http://www.tmc.org.sg/baptism.html)



# BIBLIOTHEQUE

by Vinitha Jayaram

Our Wealth of Literature | The TMC Resource Centre, Level 2



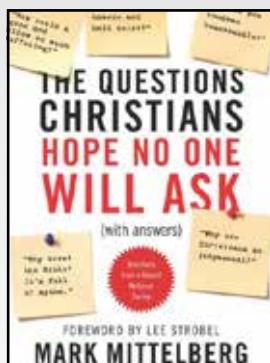
ALL THE PLACES TO GO, HOW WILL YOU KNOW? GOD HAS PLACED BEFORE YOU AN OPEN DOOR. WHAT WILL YOU DO? (248 ORT)

Author: John Ortberg



ASK IT: THE QUESTION THAT WILL REVOLUTIONIZE HOW YOU MAKE DECISIONS (248.4 STA)

Author: Andy Stanley



QUESTIONS CHRISTIANS HOPE NO ONE WILL ASK (239 MIT)

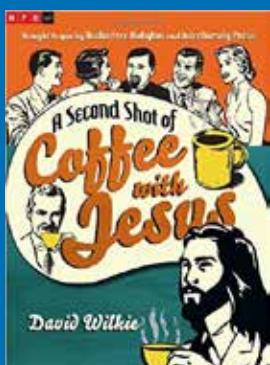
Author: Mark Mittelberg



KEEP IT SHUT: WHAT TO SAY, HOW TO SAY IT, AND WHEN TO SAY NOTHING AT ALL (241.672 EHM)

Author: Karen Ehman

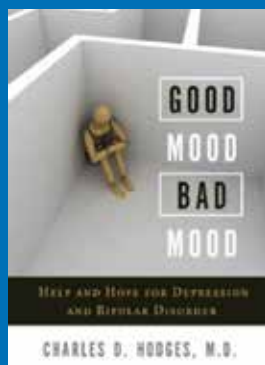
## Latest arrivals from SKS



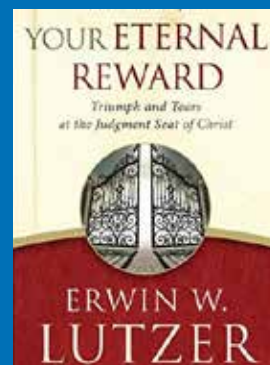
A Second Shot of Coffee with Jesus  
Author: David Wilkie



Fairness is Overrated  
Author: Tim Stevens



Good Mood Bad Mood  
Editor: Charles D. Hodges, M.D.



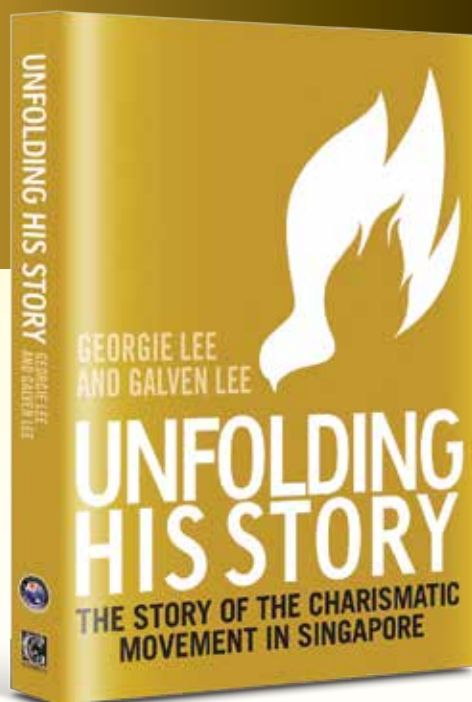
Your Eternal Reward  
Author: Erwin W. Lutzer

**SKS BOOKS WAREHOUSE**  
SERVING THE KING'S SERVANTS

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# UNFOLDING HIS STORY

THE STORY OF THE CHARISMATIC MOVEMENT IN SINGAPORE

## WHAT'S UNIQUE ABOUT THIS BOOK?

- Chronicles the history of the Charismatic Movement in Singapore from 1970's till today
- Helps believers understand what God has done in our nation in the past, to prepare ourselves for future revival
- Lays out God's plans and work in charting the destiny of Singapore over the last fifty years
- Explains the growth of churches in Singapore—from Anglican to Methodist to Assemblies of God to Mega Churches and more!
- This book is meant for everyone—Evangelical, Charismatic, Liberal and also, non-Christian

### PRODUCT CATEGORY

History/Theological Resources  
Christian Response & Social Issues;  
Missions; Teaching & Exposition;  
Singapore; History, Charismatic  
Movement, Inter-denominational

## ENDORSEMENTS

*"A mighty resource for the whole church."*

THE RIGHT REVEREND RENNIS PONNIAH  
BISHOP OF SINGAPORE  
THE ANGLICAN CHURCH

*"A timely reminder for a 'future-obsessed' generation."*

REV DR NGOEI FOONG NGHIAN  
PRINCIPAL, TRINITY THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE, SINGAPORE  
GENERAL SECRETARY, NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES, SINGAPORE

*"A testimony of Jesus in our nation."*

JUDGE (RETIRED) RICHARD MAGNUS CHANCELLOR  
ANGLICAN DIOCESE OF SINGAPORE

*"This is history made alive."*

LIM SIONG GUAN  
CO-AUTHOR OF THE LEADER, THE TEACHER & YOU

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# SMALL GROUP CONNECT

**JILL, 23**

Works at Ministry of Manpower (MOM)

**Favourite ice-cream flavor: cookies and cream**



**SU-MIN, 19**

Liberal Arts Undergrad at Yale-NUS College

**Favourite ice-cream flavor: Ferrero**



**RUTH, 17**

Biomedical Science student at Ngee Ann Polytechnic

**Favourite ice-cream flavor: NIL (the occasional soft-serve is ok)**



**VERNETTA, 19**

Medical Student at the Lee Kong Chian School of Medicine

**Favourite ice-cream flavor: Godiva**



**NICOLE, 19**

Business and Econs undergrad at the National University of Singapore (NUS)

**Favourite ice-cream flavor: Strawberry but she always regrets it**



**PENTAGON EST. 2014**



*Hi There!*

We are a small group/accountability group/circle pentagon of trust that started from the Youth Ministry. We chose the name "Pentagon" because there are 5 of us in the group and because a name like "Circle of Trust" would have been too mainstream (read: boring). Our small group is led by Jill and we meet fortnightly at her place because it is the midpoint between all our homes. As a small group consisting of soon-to-be young adults and with each one of us actively serving together in TMC, small group meetings are always a time for us to recharge and refresh, to pray for one another and to share one another's burdens.

It has been an immense year of change for everyone in this group. Last year, each one of us had to sit for major examinations and we were either transitioning from school to work or tertiary education. Through this journey, we have grown much closer as a small group and we can testify to God's faithfulness and goodness both as individuals and as a group. We are currently doing a book study on J.I. Packer's *Affirming the Apostles' Creed*. Last year, we completed *The Prodigal God* by Timothy Keller. To us, small group is incomplete without ice cream. It makes a special appearance at every meeting. Other than meeting up fortnightly for our regular sessions, we try to have a meal together every two months.





# THE SQUAD REPRESENT

and



By Blossom Chan

# B & Js

One year ago, starting a small group (or disciple group as we call it in Youth Ministry) with these girls never crossed my mind. However by His hand, plans changed. Fast forward to today, these girls are very much a part of my life.

“The Squad Represent” is a name coined in line with a current urban lingo “Squad Goals”, which is an inspirational term for what one would like one’s group of friends to be or accomplish. We hope that our relationships grow deeper in Christ and with one another. “B&Js” is made up of our initials, and also rides on the name of a famous ice-cream brand. Our name could change if we grow in number. After all, our most important identity is that of being God’s children.

Both small groups are made up of 17 to 19 year olds and most of them are schooling. Having been through the entire education system, I understand how stressful and challenging school life can be, and it is no different for these girls. I remember how people came alongside me to spur me on in moments when I felt like giving in to the stress. It reminded me of the importance of walking alongside these girls as well. This small group has been a place for us to share our struggles and to encourage one another through these struggles.

During the week, it is easy to get distracted and worn out by school work and other responsibilities. However, the things that are done and shared when we meet really make a big difference. We pray for one another when anyone has tests, exams or projects coming up in the week and share messages of encouragement (such as bible verses, short devotions and pictures) in our *Whatsapp* chat group. Some of the girls even meet up to study together. It is through these little acts of gathering and keeping in constant communication that help each of them tide through what seems arduous and impossible. It is through this connection that God’s love is shared and multiplied greatly, reminding us to keep fixing our eyes on God for strength and to cling onto His promises that stay the same throughout the ages.

*“I think it really helps that my small group is made up of people who are of the same age group as me. Most of us are still students and it helps to know that others are also going through the same challenges as I am. I am also really encouraged when we talk to each other and push each other to do better with the strength and perseverance that God has given to us. I’m really thankful for Blossom who’s always there to encourage and pray for us when we are going through stressful periods preparing for exams!” - Stefanie Ang*



The B&Js (L-R): Blossom, Joy, Jin Li

*“Small group encourages me through my examination period. Through the sharing of short biblical verses and short devotions, it enables us to meet God through His word, and know that He is there for us and that His love never fails!” - Joy Koh*



The Squad Represent (L-R): Claudy, Jacelyn, Stefanie, Grace, Blossom, Celeste

*“Small group has given me a platform to share my experiences and share about my faith, as well as learn new things about God and how we can apply His word to our daily lives and through adversities” - Jin Li*

TO JOIN A SMALL GROUP, VISIT [WWW.TMC.ORG.SG/SMALLGROUP.HTML](http://WWW.TMC.ORG.SG/SMALLGROUP.HTML) AND CLICK ON THE “JOIN A SMALL GROUP” LINK WHERE YOU CAN PROVIDE SOME BASIC INFORMATION TO HELP THE SG COMMITTEE FOLLOW UP WITH YOU, LEAVE YOUR NAME WITH THE ISUNDAY COUNTER, OR EMAIL [COLINYIP@GMAIL.COM](mailto:COLINYIP@GMAIL.COM) FOR MORE INFORMATION.

THE SQUAD REPRESENT AND B & JS MEET ONCE TO TWICE A MONTH AT VARIOUS LOCATIONS IN SINGAPORE.

# IN AND ABOUT TMC .....









# Events

## **Sat 7 Nov**

**10.00am Small Group Leaders' meeting**

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

## **Sat 3, 24 Oct, 7, 21 Nov**

**3.00pm Youth Avenue Youth Captains' Leadership Development**

[www.facebook.com/YouthAvenue123](http://www.facebook.com/YouthAvenue123)

## **Sat 3 Oct, 14 Nov**

**9.00am Small Group Leaders' Discipleship Group**

## **Sun 11, 18, 25 Oct, 1 Nov**

**2.00pm Baptism Class**

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

## **Thurs 29 Oct - Sat 31 Oct**

**LCEC Retreat**

## **Fri 30 Oct - 3 Nov**

**Mission Trip to Cambodia**

## **Sun 1 Nov**

**WSCS As Good As New Sale**

## **Sun 8 Nov**

**Baptism Service**

**11.00am Mandarin Service 12th**

**Anniversary Celebration**

## **Sat 14 Nov**

**Youth Avenue Deepavali Celebration**

[www.facebook.com/YouthAvenue123](http://www.facebook.com/YouthAvenue123)

## **Sun 15, 22, 29 Nov, 6 Dec**

**2.00pm Membership Class**

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

## **Wed 25 Nov**

**7.00pm Youth Avenue Cycling**

[www.facebook.com/YouthAvenue123](http://www.facebook.com/YouthAvenue123)

## **Every Sun (except 1st Sundays)**

**10.15am**

**Design for Discipleship**

[www.tmc.org.sg/d&n.html](http://www.tmc.org.sg/d&n.html)

## **Every 2nd and 4th Sun**

**7.45am**

**Church Prayer Meeting**

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

## **Every 3rd Sun**

**10.00am**

**WSCS Visitation to Homebound.**

Bring the church into the homes of the homebound, please contact Lucy Chan at 9748 2733.

## **Last Sun 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#imh](http://www.tmc.org.sg/osc.html#imh)

## **Every 1st Wed**

**10.00am-12.00pm**

**Yum Cha@10** is an opportunity for people to come together for fellowship, and serves as a platform for TMCers to meet one another as well as non-Christians in the community mid-week. Contact the church office / [churchoffice@tmc.org.sg](mailto:churchoffice@tmc.org.sg)  
[www.tmc.org.sg/ministries.html#gym](http://www.tmc.org.sg/ministries.html#gym)

## **Last Thurs of the month (except Oct when it will take place on 22 Oct)**

**10.00am-12.00pm**

**St Luke's Eldercare Centre Devotions**

at Blk 217 Serangoon Ave 4. 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 from 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)

## **Every Fri**

**8.00 - 10.00pm**

**Healing Ministry at the Prayer Chapel**

## **Every 1st and 3rd Fri (not 20 Nov)**

**9.15 - 11.15am**

**Bible Study on Exodus**

[www.tmc.org.sg/regular.html#exodus](http://www.tmc.org.sg/regular.html#exodus)

## **Every Sat**

**9.00 - 11.30am**

**Fellowship of Ukulelians**

[www.tmc.org.sg/regular.html#ukulele](http://www.tmc.org.sg/regular.html#ukulele)

# Credits

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Rev Paul Nga  
Rev Peter Goh

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