

2016年6月份

生命影响生命



耶稣的生命不断地影响 着历代门徒的生命;

在两千多年前,主耶本堂主理 蔡伟山牧师 稣道成肉身,离开天上 尊贵宝座,降临尘世,

活在人群中,将自己所传讲的有关生命的价值观借着生活中的处事为人体现出来。他以一种既超凡但又入世的生命,活出自己所传达的信息;例如他所教导的"饶恕和牺牲",就那么鲜明地在十字架上完全流露出来。这样的身教不但影响了当时跟随他的门徒,也不断地影响着历代信徒们的生命。

那么,我们身为信徒的要如何以身作则, 在生命中体现出主基督那种超凡的生命价值观 呢?

现在,我简单扼要地从以下数点来阐明;

一. 以生命影响生命

从初期教会的形成延续发展一直到今日的教会,其中过程,经历了许多艰难困苦,尝尽无数的酸甜苦辣。因为要形成教会的特征以及塑造信徒们的生命特质,必须要透过圣灵的浇灌与培育,同时,信徒们也必须在生命中经历许多的熬炼和启发,明白神的旨意,坚守所信的道,才能在生命中散发出基督爱的芬芳;让人从你见耶稣,方能影响其他人来归向主。

另一方面,信徒若要真正明白生命的意义与价值观,单靠研读一些有关书本中的理论和教导是不够的,更关键的要素,乃是必须从所接触到的有关信徒在日常生活中所流露出的那种诚挚关爱,热心助人等的属灵生命品质,谦逊地互相学习,彼此激励,方能真正活出出那种属基督的完美生命品质。

二. 生命的见证人

今年2月21日深夜,我们失去了一位在本堂服事了20年的同工阮立文姐妹!那几天的守丧礼拜,大家可从有关讲员的信息及家人和教会中的 弟兄姐妹的追悼分享中,见证到立文姐妹的一生;她是一位懂得尊主为大、凡事都以主为优先的好门徒。在侍奉主的历程中,她不但一贯始终,持守岗位,毫不怠惰地认真教导学员们有关圣经里的真理,更重要的是,她也在生命中把所教导的活出来。

最令我深受感动的是;在她离世约两个月前,她身体状况非常疲弱时,她仍然抱病参与当时的"青年营"及教导"青年坚信班"。而且尽心尽力参与筹划有关营会的活动节目。让我更深切地感受到她是用生命来事奉主

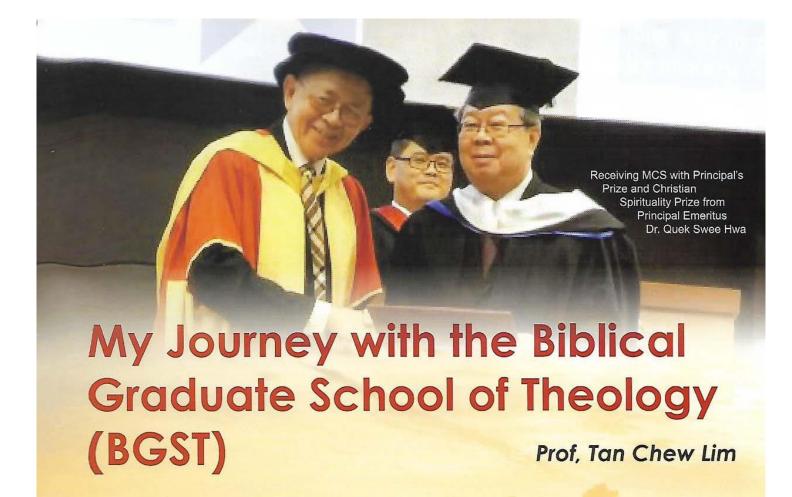
(备注:有关立文一生如何以生命来影响 生命的事奉历程,我们可以从有关牧者和弟兄姐 妹以及她的学生们所写的见证文章感染到她那种 热心爱主的生命力。)

三. 让生命果子传承下去

让我们一起恳切祷告:如今立文姐妹虽已 不在我们当中,但上帝仍要我们继续学习她那种 坚定不移,终生效法基督的生命见证来造就更多 的人。就如耶稣所说的:

"一粒麦子不落在地里死了,仍旧是一粒,若是 死了,就结出许多籽粒来。"(约12:24)

期盼立文生前所撒下的种子,能够果实累 累,而她那种忠心服事基督的心志能成为我们学 习的榜样;如同一粒麦子的生命 放下自己, 尊主为大、关爱他人的生命。阿们!



My graduation from the Biblical Graduate School of Theology (BGST) on 28 May 2016 concluded a seven-year long journey of evening and weekend classes. My journey began in June 2009 when our Church organized two Holy Land Tours, one in English and one in Mandarin, as part of our Church's 120th Anniversary celebration. Both tours were led by Dr Quek Swee Hwa and I served as his interpreter for the Mandarin tour. During the tour, Dr Quek encouraged me to apply for a course of study at BGST. Upon returning to Singapore, I signed up for the Master's degree in Christian Studies (MCS) at BGST.

The first module of the course was conducted by Prof Paul Stevens and it was MM101 "Vocation, Work and Ministry". The main text of this course, The Other Six Days, was written by Prof Stevens himself. In this book, Prof Stevens says: "In spite of the fact that the clergy-lay division in the church finds no basis in the New Testament, it persists tenaciously". Indeed, it is our Methodist tradition that the clergy and lay delegates sit separately in our annual conference meetings. I think this arrangement

facilitates balanced decision making on many issues from both sides of the representation. On the other hand, from the perspective of Christian ministry, as we learnt from this course, there is really no distinction between the clergy and the lay. Every Christian, including the lay, is in full time ministry not only just on Sunday but on the other six days of the week. As such, theology is not just for pastors, but for everyone in church. Therefore, each of us needs to be equipped in order to serve well within and outside the church.

I also learnt that the word "Vocation" is derived from the Latin word "vocare" which means "to call". Thus when we talk about vocation, we are talking about the call of God. In other words, for Christians, in whatever vocation we are in, it is a calling from God. As such, the phrase "vocational choice" is an oxymoron since our vocation is a calling from God although it appears to be our own choice. During one of the group discussions in the course, we each re-examined our vocation in light of God's calling. It amazed me to see how God's hand was in my vocational choice leading to my present career as a



university professor. There was divine providence when I made the move to the university at the time when I already had a stable job in the civil service. Through this course, I came to realize that my career is important as a ministry in God's Kingdom since it presented me with opportunities to interact with students with whom I can share Christian love. When I was young, I was very active in church school and Methodist Youth Fellowship (MYF), often taking leadership roles. Many of the MYFers and even Rev Fang Chao Hsi, who was then the pastor-in-charge, envisioned that one day I would be in full-time ministry and would become a pastor. This, however, did not materialize. Well, today, I think I am not far from this vision - I am now in "full time ministry" in my Christian vocation in my university and in church. I am a "pastor" to my students, to my small group members and as a local preacher in our church..

MM101 marked the beginning of my journey with BGST and it has since motivated me to continue till my graduation. During the journey, there were times when I almost gave up the study due to pressures of work. As a result, I dropped a module in the height of my teaching and research duties at the university and I wondered whether I should just call it quits. But MM101 was a reminder to me that it is God's calling to serve and I should serve it well through theological

training. So I moved on in the following semester.

At the beginning of last year, BGST alerted me that I was reaching my six year limit still with 13.5 credits short of the total required 60 credits for the MCS degree. I requested for a one-year extension. But in my mind, I felt that it was a mission impossible. judging from my pace over the past years. It was only through God's sustaining power and his wisdom in guiding my time management that I finally finished the last lap of my journey. Looking back, I marveled at my own ability in completing four and half modules worth of study during this period of time amidst my continuing busy schedules at work and usual activities in church. When I submitted my very last 3000-word essay assignment on 25 April in time for my graduation in May, my heart echoed what Paul says in Philippians 4:13 "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me."

My journey with BGST also ended with my upcoming retirement from NUS in June 2016 after 34 years of service. I do not know what God's plans are for me in the years ahead. One thing is certain - the MCS training at BGST has equipped me well for my "Vocation" after retirement.



追悼本堂同工 阮立文姐妹特辑

(本堂同工阮立文姐妹于21-02-16 安息主怀,以下是本堂 教牧同工及她生前教过的学生的思念悼文)

施谦益牧师

牧师证道信息

来13:7-8,如此说:『从前引导你们、传神之道给你们的人,你们要想念他们,效法他们的信心,留心看他们为人的结局。耶稣基督,昨日、今日、一直到永远、是一样的。』

这两天我们听到许多有关立文姐妹的生命见证,让我们多少能认识这位上帝忠心的使女,立文姐妹就像来11:4所提到的亚伯那样,是个有信心的信徒,因他是[因着信,献祭与神],所以『他虽然死了,却因这信,仍旧说话。』

今晚,我要在这里代表TA教会来感谢她过去 20多年在事奉的历程中所带来的果效;她不但培育了 许多年轻人在属灵方面的知识和处事为人的道理,同 时也建立了许多人在灵命方面的认知与成长,其中 也包括一些成年人,以及许多来自华语崇拜的弟兄姐 妹。因为,他(她)们在接受洗礼前,都必须经过立 文姐妹在洗礼班里的教导和指引。[其中包括如何做 一个有属灵生命的基督徒,一个对教会有责任感的会 友。]

所以,这几天来我们看到有不少的青年人和 成年人都带着一颗不舍与肃穆的心来参加这个追思礼 拜。

在这里,我们特别要感谢在她那段尽忠职守的侍奉历程中,帮助教会造就了一班有使命感的青年;若不是因为她的执着与坚持,我相信这班受英语教育的年轻人,不会留在我们教会的华语崇拜,更无法用流利的华语来事奉上帝。

也许有人会如此想;如果上帝让立文姐妹继



续留在侍奉的岗位上,她必然能够培育更多能讲流利 双语的年轻人,成为新一代的继承人,教会就不至于 因年轻一代的流失,而陷入青黄不接的断层局面!但 上帝的意念超过我们的意念,上帝的作为自有祂的 美意;立文在侍奉的道路上辛苦了那么多年,是该放 下人生的劳苦重担,回到创造主的面前享受安息了。 因为在那里『上帝要搽去他们一切的眼泪,不再有死 亡,也不再有悲哀,哭号,疼痛,因为以前的事都过 去了,一切都更新了。』

如今,立文在世上所受的病痛煎熬已经在上 帝面前完全得到释放,得到医治。她已完全安息在主 的怀里了!

圣经教导我们要做个懂得感恩的人,过去那一些曾将上帝的话语来教导我们的人,无论是教牧,还是主日学或圣经班的导师们,我们都要为他(她)们的忠心事奉来感谢上帝。因为我们所信靠的耶稣基督,是『昨日、今日、一直到永远、是一样的。』他的爱永不改变,永不止息。他永远与我们同在。我们的生命是本于祂,依靠祂,归于祂。立文也是这样地度过她在世间最后的阶段;尽管她也曾遭遇患难,经





历病痛的煎熬,但她还是一贯始终地坚守着对上帝的 信心,因为她和这位亘古长存的上帝已经建立了一个 永恒不变的密切关系。

立文在1994那年成为我们堂会第一位到海外侍奉的宣教士;期间她曾远赴台湾事奉,至1998中才回



到我们当中负责青年事工。她尽心尽力地去进行这份 事工,无论顺利或遭遇困难挫折,她都无怨无悔地, 继续以爱心和耐心去引导,去培育年轻人。

青年工作做起来不简单,尤其是在这个瞬息 万变的时代;而立文却义无反顾地挑起这个沉重的包袱;她对青年人严厉管教,苦口婆心地教导他们明白 上帝的话语,引导他们用《归纳性研经》法来查考圣 经。所以其中有一班一直跟着她的年轻人因不断参考 圣经,日后在信仰上就扎根更深,更加甘心乐意地投入上帝国度的事工,把自己献给上帝使用。

她能以这样的生命活力来影响着他们的生命,因为她采用了主耶稣『道成肉身』的方式,融入他们当中,与他(她)们同喜同乐,同悲同泣。她是用自己的生命来影响他们。所以这班年轻人,非常尊敬她,叫她老师,也有人甚至称她为"GENERAL"。

除了严厉教导之外,她自己也勤奋好学:到了50多岁那年,还在半工半读的忙碌中,抽空修完神学硕士,的确不简单!我相信她继续进修,是为了能够更全备的来事奉,有更充足的养分来培育年轻人。

与她同工的这十多年,我所能见证的,就是她那孜孜不倦的侍奉精神;她是一位尽忠职守的同工,从不会以虚假待人,讨人欢心。她乃是以上帝为中心,专心一意地殷勤事奉。凡是托付与她的事工,她必定是做得妥妥当当,尽善尽美,从不敷衍塞责,得过且过。

由于爱上帝,也就更懂得去关爱他人的灵魂;她尤其关心她母亲的信仰问题,时常想方设法要带领母亲信主,但一方面又要担心家人不谅解,真是处于两难困境!后来,由于她对母亲无微不至的爱心关怀与照顾,让她老人家亲身感受到从立文身上所散发出来的那种耶稣基督大爱的芬芳,最后她母亲终于信了主。

一个月前,她曾如此对我说:『如果可以选择,我希望回到上帝的身边。但有很多人为我祷告, 求上帝留我下来。』我能明白她内心的挣扎,正如保罗所说的:『我正在两难之间,情愿离世与基督同在,因为这是好得无比的。然而,我在肉身活著,为你们更是要紧的。』

因此,为了爱,她毫不退缩地紧紧把握最后几个礼拜的宝贵时间,完完全全地为主摆上自己的生命;直到上个主日,她仍旧抱病上阵教导洗礼班。她真是一位至死忠心到底的好使女,正如圣经中所描述的,是合上帝心意的好工人,日后上帝必定会对她说:『你在不多的事上有忠心,我要把许多事派你管理;可以进来享受你主人的快乐。』马太25:21





放工了 REST FROM OUR LABOUR

Rev Ng Beng Keow

"What time are you leaving today? Are you staying back for any meeting? Are you ready to go home? Oh, give me another few more minutes. Let's go home now."

Well, these were some daily conversations we had when I had the opportunity to give Lip Bun a ride home from office since my re-appointment to TA church in 2014. As a friend and colleague for almost 20 years, I have known Lip Bun to be a very conscientious person, always giving her best in all that she did. She would spend lots of time preparing for Bible Study, teachings, sharing and even discussing or talking with the youths under her care. As such, at times it would require some effort for her to lay aside her busy work and to go home with me after a long day's work.

While we have a choice to'放工'early, leave the office on time or keep working as if time is endless, there is one'放工'in life that we can never choose, negotiate or know when it will come – that is, DEATH! On the night when Lip Bun passed on, the first thing I said to her was "Lip Bun, you have finally' 放工了!'Indeed it was a long awaited'放工'that Lip Bun was looking forward to — to be with Jesus whom she loved and to find that perfect rest that she needed. Such longings can be expressed in this hymn that we used to sing during our Methodist Youth Fellowship days — "Beyond the Sunset" by Virgil P. Brock (taken from Youth Hymns No. 82).

When I reflected over the ten days of her stay at the Assisi Hospice (11-20 February 2016), I thank God for giving me the opportunity to journey with her and to learn precious lessons from her – one of them was about life and death. As Christians, we all know when we passed on from here, we will return to be with our Lord Jesus in heaven. Knowing that we have an eternal home in heaven would have given us courage and confidence to face death. Yet in reality, it may not be so. Fear of the unknown, how death would be like could be very real especially for a patient who is going through sickness and pain. Someone asked Lip Bun, "Tell me, how you feel about death?" Her honest reply was, "How could I tell you when I have not gone through it?"

During one of my visits, Lip Bun expressed her wish to die so that she could be released from the physical sufferings and to be with her Lord. Her desire to choose death over life was so real during the last lap of her journey on earth. How do we pray under such circumstances? How could one sustain her faith in God to lead her on?

I had only one precious Sunday evening with her on 14 February for a time of worship and prayer. That Sunday morning, for the very first time (so unlike her to send out a video as she was not well-versed with any hand phone gadgets), Lip Bun sent me a video of a song "Showers of Blessings". It was a clip with beautiful choral singing accompanied by an orchestra

Beyond the sunset, O blissful morning, When with our Savior heav'n is begun. Earth's toiling ended, O glorious dawning; Beyond the sunset, when day is done.

ensemble in the forest, with a lovely waterfall at the back. Apart from the beautiful singing, what captured my attention was the rushing water of the waterfall. The immediate word that came to my mind was "Life", as water represents life. Our Lord Jesus offers us abundance of life – not just when life is beautiful or when everything is good, but more so in the messiness, brokenness and the pain of our lives. Life abundance is not only to be experienced in heaven, but it can be experienced here and now on earth – even in the pain and sufferings of life.

How can that be? When life's storm is raging over us, we can rest in the full assurance that God still loves and cares for us. His grace is sufficient for us. With renewed confidence and faith in God, Lip Bun finally chose life and overcame her struggles facing death. She pressed on and continued in this path of Grace (恩典之路) knowing that Jesus was holding her hand, leading her step by step to return to the heavenly home.

Her changed perspective of life and death was shown in the third picture (the tree) which she drew about two days before she passed on. It was an awesome picture – there is glory radiating through the tree which has roots spread wide and deep (stability),

branches with green leaves well spread out (shelter) and a tall trunk (far sight). There is so much life in this picture – vibrancy and abundance!

How could a sick patient like Lip Bun draw such a glorious picture? She drew it while in the midst of facing death. It was therefore God's grace and love that had enabled her to embrace life and experience its abundance as she finished her final journey on earth. Praise the Lord! Lip Bun has now gone on to join the clouds of witnesses, cheering us on in our pilgrimage to live well and to experience life in its abundance.

For the initial few weeks after Lip Bun's passing on, whenever I passed by her work cubicle, there seemed to be an echoing of our familiar conversations: "Are you ready to go home? Give me half an hour more..." Though there will not be anymore of such conversations between us, I know for sure one day when the time comes, perhaps I will be able to hear someone saying, "Beng Keow, you have'被工了!" I hope by then, I would be able to testify that indeed we can experience life in its abundance on this side of heaven even in the midst of sufferings and pain. With God's grace, it is possible. Amen!



追悼立文老师

张瀚华

敬爱的立文老师,

在侍奉的道路上,您已付出了那真实又满有爱心的生命!从您的生命中,我才真正地了解耶稣所说的那最重要的戒命:"你要全心、全性、全意爱主你的神。"这是最重要的第一条诚命。第二条也和它相似,就是要"爱人如己"。全部律法和先知书,都以这两条诚命作为根据。" 马太福音22:37-40

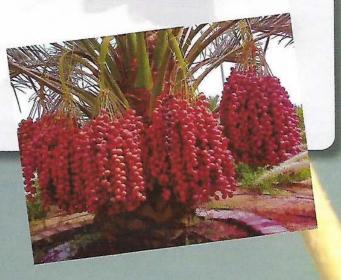
我也深深地体会到您跟上帝之间已建立了, 很密切的关系,所以您对自己的遭毫无怨言。 是无怀疑!虽然病情看来不简单,但我看得出生。 我们是有不安。我记得您曾经在我们帝是我们帝是我们帝是这段历程中,是否应认你是一种的带领了您;您说您曾问过上程,是否应认明的一些当时您对化疗的医生有关的医生的的治疗,他们答;例如,如服用一些有关的药物,如服用一些有关的治疗。您说您听了之后,心里感受到上不需要做化疗。您说您听了之后,心里感受到上

帝所赐的平安。因此,就接受了服药的治疗。结果,您的病情有了进步。

从您这些分享中,我感受到您那种寻求上帝旨意的心态,是那么的坦然与淡定!因为您真正聆听了上帝的声音,也遵从了他的指引,就能带着平安的心来面对您所遭遇到的处境!

您是一位坦诚直率的人。是就说是,不是就说不是。您绝不会因为怕别人会排斥您,不而敢指正他们的错误。在我们的立约小组当中不知是我们有什么不明白的,就有什么不明白的,然都会认真引导。我们有什么不明白的,你都会认真引导的指正我们的立约小组当中,我们正我们的立约小组当中,我们有关的大人,我看望能在这一方面跟您学习,敢是人人,我看到我们可以看出您有一颗真正关爱他人的心。

最后,我要感谢您那么多年来在教会的事奉;您教导与栽培了堂会学校的许多青少年和青成年人团契的成员。您也是一位我们能够信任和愿意分享私人问题的老师与朋友。我相信您感化了许许多多的人。我们都会深深的思念您。谢谢您,立文老师!更要感谢慈悲天父极大的恩典赐给我们如此一位好老师,引导我们这一群青年能够继续奔跑于这条又活又丰盛的生命道上。



杨泳泰

记得 我第一次认识立文老师,是我参加青年团契那段时期。当时她给我的印象是;一位非常严厉,而且非常会说话的老师。如果你想与她辩论,那你就输定了!记得当时有一些比较顽皮的年轻人,时常想戏弄老师,但最后都被她训了一顿!以后,他们再也不敢了。

我记得我是因她的鼓励,才参加团契的,后来也成了委员。我就这样在团契里事奉的干车教,这样在团契里事奉的一个教,我感受了老师循循等诱与后来。在这十年里,我感受了老师循循的敬爱与管教,其后,与关爱。加深了我对老师的敬爱与人对事本的认真与敬爱,深深地影响了我的生命,就是当中那种孜孜不倦的教导。在我们心目中所依靠的人人。在我们心目中所依靠的年龄。在我们心间,她都会在我们当中;她的年龄虽为光明的人人,我们这班青年才能够到今天还在教会里侍奉。

无论我们面对什么问题,我们都可以毫无 顾虑地到立文老师那里寻求帮助与指导。记得在 我正要服完兵役的那几个星期,有一个晚上,我 与老师分享我对未来的一些担忧。她聆听了我的 分享后,也与我分享她自己的经验,之后,便与 我祷告直到凌晨一点。这件事让我深受感动,至 今难忘!

她对生命中一些事物的先后次序非常的清楚,如;上帝,教会与事奉永远是她的第一,其他的其次。当老师知道自己得癌症时,她还是不断地到教会来侍奉,她常常为教会的青年人操心,也不停地为他们祷告。在去年(2015年)的青年营会,她依然带着重病筹备营会的讲章,甚

至参加我们在樟宜度假村的营会。她的病情,并 没有让她妥协她对生命的优先次序的执着与坚 守。

我从她的生命里,深深地感受到什么是 爱!正确的爱绝不是溺爱与姑息!而是当对方犯 错时,即刻给予正确的劝导与指正,这样才能让 我们健康地成长。她所指导的这些年轻人,犯错 时都曾遭受到她严厉的训导与指正!,她每天都 为我们这般青年人祷告。在立约小组里,她常常 为着每一个青年人来代祷,希望他们能够更深入 地认识上帝;上帝的爱是永不改变的。

在平常的日子里,与她交谈时,当她提起一些已 经离开我们教会的青年人时,总是以无限感慨的 语气,叫我们要多多为他们代祷,常常纪念与关 爱着他们。

虽然立文老师没有自己的孩子,但在她这一生所付出的这种无条件的关爱中,她其实已经 养育了我们这群,当年顽皮,不成熟的的孩子。

立文老师,谢谢你的付出,让我们深深地感受到那一位看不见的上帝对我们的爱。因为你的付出,我们才能在这里茁壮成长,成为上帝所疼爱的儿女。

所以,让我们效法立文老师,好像她效法 基督那样,在信心的道路上,务要坚固坚强,不 可动摇。常常竭力多做主工。因为知道你们的劳 苦,在主里面不是徒然的。



梁荣耀

记得我第一次上立文老师的课是在我十六岁那年。当时的我对信仰的问题并没有很认真地去思考;参加主日学也都是因为父母的鼓励。在我们上立文老师的课之前,我早已已绝处的大名;知道她是一位很严厉的老师,上她的课时都要时刻提高警惕,做好准备来回答她的问题。因为,若是稍微不专心而回答错误,就们都不明白她为什么要那么问道。对真正明白她的一片苦心;我的属灵生命也就在她苦口婆心的教导下,逐渐茁壮成长。

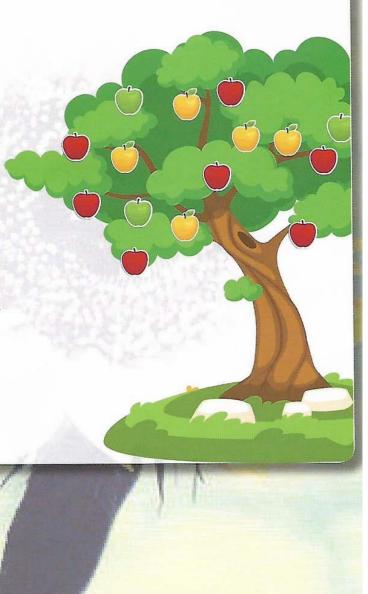
立文老师虽然很严厉,但很多时候也会把我的名字和同学泳泰的名字搞乱。但她非常都关心着我的灵命,在我成长的每一个阶段都给予我很好的引导。假如有什么问题需要她的帮忙,无论她多么的繁忙,她都会抽空耐心聆听与引导。

我记得在她得了这种病后,有一天,我有机会与她交谈,便问她为什么她的病情会如此体速恶化;她就说应该是因为太忙,没有好好休息。当我难过地望着她那张憔悴的病容时,竟找不到一丝的后悔和埋怨!因为她知道她所付出的都是值得的。记得当我在青年事工事奉的时候的出了老师常常不断的提醒我要用生命来影响!我记得当我们一起上《基督里的良伴》时,导师要我们凭想象,照自己的意愿画出我们20年后的样子。我记得当时候立文老师画了一棵树,树上

有很多果子。她分享说:"我不贪心,我只希望上帝让我们在这20年里可以看到教会里有30位的青年人愿意献上他们的生命来事奉主。"

如今,她虽然没有办法活多20年,看到20年后的 光景;但是我知道她那丰盛的生命见证必定会活 在大家的心中,继续通过我们来影响更多的生 命。

谢谢您,敬爱的立文老师。感谢上帝,让 我有这个福份能做你的学生!





风中止了舞步的人

刘淑莲

你曾说你愿是一名舞者,在习习的清风中 婀娜旋摆,在悠扬的音乐中曼妙舞动...

那天,你停止了所有的舞步,风还是继续 地吹,你以婀娜的身姿徐徐缓缓地步向那永恒圣 地…我在心中呼唤着你的名字,直叫你不要走, 你没有转身,也没有回头,而是安静地循着天父 的召唤毅然前行----我们纵有万般的不舍,也无法 把你留住!因我明白那是天父的美意;在伤心难 舍之余,我要感谢天父的恩赐,让你走过的生命 如斯丰盛、美丽,亦感谢天父在过去三十年来为 你我的情谊所浇灌的爱与恩典。而今,你虽已舍 我远去,但这不等于,你我之间的情谊就这样画 上无情的句点!而是有一条更坚韧的直线牵系着 你我 ; 你,含着微笑在天边,我,挂着泪痕留 在地上;这条思念的直线,提醒我要竭力活出像 你这么美好的生命,蒙主悦纳,不枉此生!而你 则已在另一端享受着永恒的福乐,期待将来在天 国重逢时,你我要笑着紧紧相拥。

后来,你出国深造,远赴浪漫热情的夏威夷。那几年,虽然相隔两地,我与你交流的信笺却依然飘洋过海地往来。每次收到你的书函,我都很受激励。我们那时候常为身边的事彼此传递讯息,也常透过信仰互相鼓舞。而今,你那一沓沓ъ贵的信件已泛黄,但我仍然珍惜地把它们安置在我那已陈旧的盒子里,我会继续好好保存,成为你给予我的美丽回忆。

为你感恩的是你学成后,不是要在商界大展拳脚,而是选择到台湾去,回应上帝的呼召,成为任劳任怨的宣教士。你为了那些失落的灵魂竭尽所能地付上你的心力,为上帝的国度全然摆上你的生命,称颂主!

回国后,你就加入教会服事的团队,成为了教会里青少年亦师亦友的"大妈妈"。你对青少年的全心全意,使得我心里非常钦佩;你对青少年的爱心与耐性,使得每个年轻人都敬爱你对青少年的爱心与耐性,使得每个年轻人都敬爱你有好,愿意听从你的训诲,因为他们知道你是从心里爱着他们,愿他们好,要他们在上帝的话语上扎根,在主耶稣的灵里成长;至于那些的佐语上扎根,在主耶稣的灵里成长;至于那些的他们早日归队。你对小辈们的爱是无可置疑的,你为主不停地燃烧着的生命是诚然可贵的。

对于你在教会全时间事奉,我既开心又感 恩。因为我得以与你同工,是一件好得无比的 事。我视你为我的挚友、知己、属灵伙伴--当我 在灵程上软弱时,你常扶我一把;遇到有人用语 言伤害我时,你会用善言良语来安慰我;当我心 灵受创时, 你总默然不语地作我最好的聆听者; 当我有困难时,你不是找我吃饭,要帮我解决问 题,就是静静地留在我身边,陪我一同流泪面 对;除此之外,你的厚道、智慧以及对信仰的执 着,都教会我许多宝贵的功课……你知道吗?我 一直把你当作我生命中一个很重要的人看待,所 以当你生病时,我只想要你好起来,不断为你祷 告,很想为你作一些事,好让你得以重回我们当 中。直到你终于离开我们,回到天父家里!现在 回想起来,我真真切切为你感恩;你在地上的劳 苦,天父都知道;祂更知道你已完成了祂托付给 你在地上的使命,如今,是该回家的时候了。

立文, 我们爱你。再见。



感谢上帝的带领,让我有机会参与这次海南岛的儿童营的事工,在这次的历程中我不但学习到许多宝贵的功课,也让我经历到上帝的保守和带领。

在我们抵达的第一天,气温还不怎么冷, 也有些热气。几天下来,都没有遇到倾盆大雨, 来回营地和旅店都很顺利。我们带去的厚衣服几 乎没有机会用到。一直到了我们离开营地的那个 早上,气候才开始转冷。当我们在等候坐高铁的 阳台上时,开始感受到冷风一阵一阵的吹来。我 们抵达海口后,就开始穿上厚厚的衣服。回程的 当天早上气温就更低了,甚至还下起雨来。

在营会里,看到当地的老师们有一些是从 其他村庄过来的。她们长途跋涉,路途既遥远又 费时;坐公车、赶高铁----要经过好几个小时才抵 达目的地。她们这种热切爱主和爱儿童的心,领 我钦佩。当地老师对圣经里的教导都非常熟习, 因此,虽然要她们在一两天的时间里,把我们带去的资料,清楚无误地传达给100多位孩子听。她们都能胜任愉快,而且满怀喜乐的去完成。我从她们身上学习到团体的合作精神,上帝的工是要大家同心合意来完成的。

在海南岛营地旅店的最后一个晚上, 我突然感到身体不适,上吐下泄。一直到半夜两点才停止呕吐,可以安然入睡。

在这期间,我非感谢同房明菀姐妹的爱心 扶助与关怀。那几晚她也不好睡,因为我入睡时 就会打鼾。

这次旅程,让我深深感受到上帝的同在与带领,我更要感谢上帝的怜悯与医治。隔天,我的身体就恢复体力,可以乘坐高铁去海口。一直到我平安踏上归程。



海南短宣分享

林明菀

今年新春期间,有机会参与教会海南岛的短宣,很感恩的是从那里同工们的分享中得知今年已是我们教会到海南岛宣教的第二十周年了,这完全是上帝的看顾与保守。

我也很高兴这次有机会可以和当地的老师互相配搭。一起分工合作,带领儿童营的参加营会的孩童人数还是很多,他们都积积的参与聚会中的各项活动。也看到他们都从所教导的主题《奇妙的身体》里获益不浅,我非常感恩。在此,祈愿神看顾和保守这群孩童,让他们能在祂的话语上继续追求与成长,将来可以成为上帝的忠心的仆人,在海南的国度。荣神益人。

愿以箴言二十二章六节和大家共勉之:

"教养孩童,使他走当行的道, 就是到老他也不偏离。"

WITNESSING 20 YEARS OF GOD'S

Faithfulness and Harvest In the Hainan Missions Ministry with its Emerging Needs Observed

In our church today, whenever we think about the Hainan Missions, most people would reply, "You mean we are still going to Hainan? I thought we have stopped ministry there already." While it is true that our church has ministered to the Hainan people for many years and counting, we thank God for His continual guidance and faithfulness. Our recent trips there revealed new emerging needs from the growing church in Hainan.

In 2016, the decision to go Hainan came much later than usual years. When the news came in December last year, I was pleasantly surprised and also worried. This is because we typically require three months of preparation time and we usually start planning for Hainan as early as October and will largely be prepared by late December. In addition, Yishun Methodist Church who joined us for the previous three Hainan trips have also started other new ministry points and was unable to join us for any future trips. Thankfully, since Chinese New Year was in February this year, we had a full four to plan for our trip. By God's grace and strength, our small team of four Sunday school teachers managed to plan a threeday children's camp program titled "奇妙的身体" or "Our Wonderful Body", adapted from a VBS source. This year, we have a small but dynamic group of six -Rev See, Hua Joo, Beng Wan, Hua Woon, Li Ting and myself.

We tried a new approach in the running of our children's program. Previously, we ran our programs on our own, with the Hainan teachers facilitating at the side, before packing up and leaving. This year, however, in the attempt to spur the Hainan ministry to become more independent, we decided to run a 2-day training and preparatory workshop for teachers where we introduce and brief the teachers on our program. We also ran through all of the activities with them. After the teachers' training, we ran our usual 3-day children's camp for the Hainan children with the local teachers taking charge of the main program while our team oversaw their lead. We hope that this new arrangement would equip them with new teaching skills and enable them to eventually conduct

effective and enriching children's program on their own. This new method yielded wonderful results! In our 2-day workshop for teachers, while running through the program together, we got to know the Hainan teachers much more. In the past, the Hainan teachers were helpers and after the camp, we hardly knew their names or who they are. This time, as we split into different groups to discuss theme lessons and worked on our short lesson skits, in the midst of laughter and learning, they were more than helpers, they became co-workers. In addition, because they knew the children much better and came from the local ministry, when it came to practicing worship songs and craft activities, they provided invaluable feedback from the ground that enhanced our program to suit their ministry. We even changed some of our song lyrics to fit theirs!

When it came to the actual running of the children's program, some teachers were nervous, as it was their first time addressing such a large group of children. However, it was a great chance for them to practice their story-telling skills and we were glad that these opportunities served as stepping-stones towards bolder steps in the future. I was deeply encouraged by the prayers of the local teachers. Before the commencement of the program each day, they will always gather together for prayer. Unlike in Singapore, where we are used to praying silently, in Hainan, the individual teachers prayed loudly and fervently with much rigor and zeal. Rapid streams of Chinese words cumulatively cooked up a prayer storm and that, in turn, inspired me to pray courageously, boldly and with conviction.

We also observed that, due to our new method of running our program, we had fewer interactions with the Hainan children and hence, we were not as close to them as in previous trips. The children were however closer to their own Hainan teachers as they interacted and related with them. We give thanks for that! Personally, I was glad that we have moved from eager Mission-trippers who arrived excitedly and scrambled to make friends and take photos with the children (which was what I did in the past) to a more

mature team that rationalizes and creates long-term strategies to extend ministry there. All in all, we thank God for guiding us through the smooth delivery of the children's camp this year!

We were thankful that Rev See joined us on this trip as it marked the 20th anniversary of the Hainan Mission ministry. We only realized this when we arrived at Hainan. The Hainan church leaders held a small thanksgiving ceremony to remember TA's efforts these 20 years. One of the local church pastors, 李牧 师, gave a rousing speech where he led the Hainan people on rounds of resounding applause to thank our church. When Rev See went up to speak thereafter, he said that all those applause and cheer should be directed to our God who has been faithful to us all these years. We ended the session with a song that spoke about people from all around the world giving praise to our God who is above all praise. At that moment, as we offered our worship with the Hainan people, there was a warmth exuding from my heart that proclaimed a message: We are a family together in Christ. It was the warmth of family, knowing that in God, we have become brothers and sisters. Oh what a joy and privilege!

"The Lord is good and His love endures forever; His faithfulness continues through all generations"

Psalm 100:5

Having gone to Hainan for five consecutive years, I have forged a bond with some of the children who used to be at the children's camp but have since moved up to the youth camp. In the past, the youth camp was "big news" - an annual event that the youths in the Hainan church looked forward to in anticipation. Unfortunately in recent years, the attendance at the youth camp has declined. What used to be a hall packed with youths, is now a hall that is half full. What used to be youths who excitedly came in to listen to theme talks while actively taking down notes have been replaced by lethargic bored souls dragging their feet into the sanctuary without their bibles. The Hainan youths are now glued to their cell phones and mobile devices and some of them were even falling asleep in front of Rev See while he preached. And what used to be enthusiastic children whose hands shot straight up when we asked questions became youths with dull faces who are reluctant learners. We saw these changes as an issue the Hainan church needs to address. Rev See met up with the leaders and discussed with them about engaging their youths and give attention to the youth ministry as they are the future of the church. The youths in Hainan (as in Singapore) are now presented with many more summer activities (such as student reunions and gatherings) and the youth camps was merely one of the many events that they could choose from.

In the midst of joy and challenges that we faced in this year's Hainan trip, we thank God for leading and protecting us. We are always treated with sincere hospitality that is sufficient to fill hearts and luggage! Below are some prayer points for the Hainan church:

For the church pastors and leaders. To have wisdom and foresight from the Lord in reviving the youth ministry and leading the youths back to church. For God to raise youth leaders to guide and counsel their local youths.

For the Hainan youths. When faced with various distractions and noises from the modern society, they will stay rooted in the word of God and hold onto their spiritual family in church.

For the expanding children's ministry. We give thanks for the Hainan ministry that has started 20 years ago, which has resulted in the first generation of youths now sending their children and grandchildren to the children's ministry.

For the Hainan teachers. May God grant them wisdom as they teach and source for materials.

Building Lives Together TA Church Camp 2015

Ang Chin Chin

I stopped going to church camps for a few years, and hence I found the experience at TA church camp 2015 refreshing. It was well-organised and well-paced with a good balance of spiritual food and time for fellowship. And the food was sumptuous.

The camp was held in Changi and hence we need not bear the anxiety of crossing the causeway. Changi offered the convenience of being in Singapore but yet away from the busyness of the city. It was a place for us to retreat to relax, refresh, reflect and also to enjoy the sea breeze. The daily worship session and theme talk were scheduled at 0900 hours and 1930 hours. In the afternoons, there was a wide range of interest group programmes that catered to different age groups and interests including bowling, cycling, café hopping, contemplative art, talk on foster care, movie screening, board games and a visit to Changi Museum. Each camper was given flexibility to choose from these programmes. All the meals, except for the dinner on the first evening, were provided for in buffet style at the hotel. We were even treated to two tea breaks daily — one in the morning and one at night. It was difficult not to put on weight over those four days!

During the camp, I felt close to God during worship time and when I heard God's word through his servant, camp speaker Pastor Benny Ho. The ministry time after the sermons and sharing among members in our discussion groups helped to affirm God's message to us and our bond as members in the family of God. God spoke to me in many aspects of my life such as my prayer life, my commitment, work of the Holy Spirit and giving thanks to God. I have learnt that God is pleased with me and I am blessed to be a blessing.

I thank God for this camp, the committee and everyone who had played a part in contributing to the smooth running of the camp. I am glad to see the youths coming up to serve God in this camp. This camp marked a meaningful closure for me for 2015.

见证分享 TESTIMONY

A WIFI CONNETION TO JESUS

Janice Tay

After having been a casual Buddhist for 30 years, I never expect that my spiritual life would turn out to be so fulfilling after the Alpha Course. I came to Alpha simply because I had some free time and I thought it would be a great opportunity to make new friends and expand my social circle.

Within the first few sessions, I found myself inspired by the speaker, Nicky Gumbel, through his often humorous and entertaining illustrations. I would search the Internet after each session for more information on the topics he covered. In order to enhance my understanding, I would also watch the Chinese Alpha video, translated from Nicky's talks. Prior to Alpha, I had never read anything about Christianity. Hence, it was quite a challenge to grasp certain biblical meanings and implications without the help of the Chinese version.

I found myself looking forward to the Alpha day every week. Besides Nicky's speeches, I also enjoyed the fellowship over dinner, and the open and interesting discussions in the small group sessions. I could frankly share whenever I had doubts over some beliefs without feeling embarrassed. Overall, I think I was taking a rational approach to appreciate or understand each topic covered. There were two topics, however, that had extreme impact on me, which led me to accept Christ eventually.

The first one was "Why did Jesus die for you and me?" I was doubtful and asked myself how that could be possible since Jesus died more than 2000 years ago! But a few days after that session, I asked myself about the missing links in my knowledge and wisdom that will enable me to better appreciate this belief. That question really aroused my curiosity. Not only did I "Googled" to learn more, but also began to read the book, Knowing God Intimately, by Joyce Meyer.

The second topic was on the Holy Spirit. With my prior limited knowledge of Christianity, I was only aware of the belief in God and Jesus. Holy Spirit was new knowledge for me then, and yet surprisingly, I could accept this belief quite easily. When Nicky was explaining the verse about "You have access to Jesus through Holy Spirit", I made a link with the need for Wi-Fi connection these days. With my IT background, I saw a similarity in both concepts, and found it quite amusing. I said to myself: using LAN cable might be too short to connect to Jesus and also inconvenient as you have to be at a specific location. But with Wi-Fi, you can connect to Jesus anywhere, any time and any place, and it is always on! I was quite pleased with this analogy.

So, in order to get the "key" to this Holy Wi-Fi connection, I accepted Christ even though I was still having some doubts then. I chose the approach: believe in order to understand, in accepting Christ! This is because by then, I already had a hunger for more information and knowledge, and I knew the truth would be revealed gradually.

Continuing with my Wi-Fi analogy: though I had the key to the Holy connection, I did not receive any Wi-Fi signal immediately as I had yet read God's word. By the time I read the first few books of the Old Testament (Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy) and the first few Gospel books in the New Testament (Matthew, Mark, Luke and John), I gradually had my earlier doubts cleared. During Old Testament times, the sinners would sacrifice their first-born animals that were in perfect condition to redeem their sins. And in the New Testament, Jesus was the scapegoat! With that realization, I am now convinced that Jesus is my Savior.

So what difference has Jesus made to my life? My life still looks the same as before, from the outside. But now the feeling of emptiness is gone and I have a sense of relief. Before Christ, I did have my worries, doubts and fears over my own decision to retire from the corporate world at the age of 50. But now it is a relief, as I know God has a plan for me. Meanwhile, I get myself ready by reading and obeying God's word. I see the Bible as my life manual rather than just a religious book. I have a new positive attitude to life! And God is wonderful - He gave me many new friends from my Alpha journey too!

17

异乡之路—与主同行

张胜利



不知不觉来新工作已两年了,在这两年来的经历可谓坎坷不平,有高山、有低谷,更多时候伴随着我的是孤单、寂寞;因为我的亲人、朋友都在中国。

起初,在我软弱、疲惫、心情低落时,我 选择远离人群,独自退缩,以孤独为伴,除了向 上帝祷告以外,我别无选择,只希望这时间赶快 过去—因为我没有办法可以使自己走出软弱的低 谷,更无法越过内心深处那一道道的魔障!总觉 得自己的支撑力已到了所能承受的底线。

我是被一位弟兄带领到教会来,后来又受邀参加了中国同胞团契。刚开始时,我人虽在教会,可是内心里依然感到孤寂。我开始后悔!满脑子的问号:"为何要来新加坡工作?"我更不知道我的信仰对我有何益处?我心里一直浮现出想回国的念头;内心充满了忧伤郁闷,孤独无助…

可是就在这之后的某个礼拜天,我参加中 国同胞团契时,得到团契负责人的鼓励,更出人 意料之外的是; 他竟然邀请我负责带领其中一 次的祷告会!我当时因为自觉能力不足而有所迟 疑,但为了"顺服",我便勉为其难地答应了。在接下来的几周内,我就和其他同伴一起祷告、策划、筹备。我们在团契中,大家同心合意地将此事交托给主。一直到了祷告会那天,我怀着紧张、复杂的心情负责带领团契祷告,结果一切都很顺利,感谢天父上帝的保守!

不久,我发现我对中国同胞团契有了负担,就每天积极地为团契和当中的成员祷告。渐渐地,这种持续不断的日常祷告已成了我的生活习惯,心中已不再犹豫与挣扎!感谢天父,我此刻非常相信圣经上所说的"为人祝福,自己也能得福"这样美好的话。我越是为人祷告,就越有力量持续祷告,而且内心是充满了喜乐与感恩,哈利路亚!荣耀归与上帝!

现在的我,因着天父的眷顾,加上团契弟兄姐妹的关怀与勉励,我在不知不觉之中已战胜了在工作上、生活中及内心里的那一重重的障碍,也突破了那一道道自以为不可能的藩篱。现在我已放弃了回国的念头,渐渐地爱上了团契的生活。在团契里,我们一起敬拜、感恩、祷告、分享,以上帝的话语彼此激励,互相扶持,一同



委身在主的爱里。如今,团契对我而言就像是一个温馨的家,它带给我温暖,也让我知道自己存在的意义与价值。

此外,也非常感谢教会牧者和众弟兄姐妹的热情与爱心,预备了新春火锅,让我来新的第一个春节,就能够和其他同处于异乡的老乡们在教会里一起包饺子、烫火锅。这对我们这些离乡背井的游子来说,是一种异常的温暖,还有说不出的幸福。当时我还没用餐就迫不及待地打电话回家,与我的家人一起分享快乐与感恩!

回首再望时,我除了感恩之外,我更确知信仰的 力量是何等的巨大!它不但陶造我、操练我、 而且更新了我的生命!信仰成了我人生中重要而 不可或缺的一部分。"祂熬炼我之后,我必如精 金。"

现在我参加四个不同的小组,也加入迎宾 员的服事团队。称颂主!让我在其中受益不浅, 也感谢祂赐我乐意的心与人分享信仰的好处。

如今我坚信;我所信的这位是有丰盛怜悯 与丰富恩典的伟大上帝!信靠祂就不虚此生,跟 随祂就蒙福不止,蒙恩无疆!





十二月假期,姐姐提议一家大小组团到台湾一游,我们都好兴奋,也好期待。原本是一次普通的旅游,没想到却让我们深深地感受到主的同在与带领,让我们一家领悟了圣经所提到的"五饼二鱼"故事!

在旅途中,上帝安排了许多有特色的民宿,让我们目睹及感受到台湾人亲切诚恳的招待。其中还认识了信主的基督徒民宿主人。在民宿舍内佈满了圣经里的金句,让我们真的感受到上帝处处与我们同在!在那个平安夜里,上帝带领我们住进一家类似"伯利恒"的民宿,好让我们可以跟家中的小孩能够感受到,主耶稣当年就是在这样简朴的环境里诞生的!

之前因为没带足够台币现金,在逛夜市之前,都担心"钱不够用"。但上帝往往在我们最需要的时刻,及时供应;每当我们觉得有缺乏时,总是奇妙的忽然间发现;嗯,怎么钱包里还有一些台币!而每回都是"钱恰恰够用"。在这一刻,让我更加领悟到"五饼二鱼"的故事,上帝往往在我们有需要时会不断地供应!

但最美妙的经历是在圣诞节当天!当我和姐姐在讨论接下来的行程时,都无法安排到恰当的时间去教堂礼拜,感到好内疚。爸是个随和的人,出外游玩少要求。他只记得陈树霖博士在礼拜天崇拜证道时,曾提过他收到一份非常有意思的"杏凤椰酥"饼。爸爸就要求我们到台湾时,一定尽量找到这间卖"杏凤椰酥"饼的店。

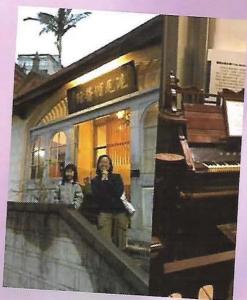
我们好不容易才找到有关店铺的地址,便把行程 表发给导游安排。但沿途走去,一直找不到有关 地点,只好拖延到旅程最后第二晚到淡水老街找 找看。淡水老街,最著名的应该是逛夜市,游" 渔人码头",吃当地的食品。很少听说那儿有买 酥饼的店。我们就抱着探险的心情,跟着导游去 寻找这店!

走了一段路后,天已黑了,还找不到"酥饼店",心里开始着急。忽然转了个弯,就在一条狭窄的后巷,发现亮着灯,而"杏风椰酥"餅店就在巷口!一踏进小小店铺,女店员们连忙把茶水和饼干端出来,好热情地款待!当知道我们是特地从新加坡来买酥饼,又是基督徒时,她们都好兴奋。她们就把我们带到大厅里,就在那儿,在事先没有安排之下,对我们解释了当地淡水光街与基督教简史"。过后,由于当晚正好是圣诞夜,店里的姐妹们还高兴地唱起了"平安夜",以及好几首圣诞诗歌!我们都感动到掉泪了。

("信奉耶稣"与"杏凤椰酥"的典故,陈博士在教堂已介绍过,就不再多提。)

买了酥饼过后,店员带我们到巷后的古老 教堂参观,我们才知道;愿来淡水老街也是台 北发扬基督教的一个重要起点。因为淡水老街原 本是酒吧区,后来基督徒在那区创办了教堂,医 院,学校,好让在那儿的流浪汉有所寄托。





在圣诞节期间离乡背井,忽略了上教堂, 没想到上帝竟然为我们安排了这么美妙的圣诞 夜!我们是多么不配得到上帝的爱,但上帝的爱 却是那么的美妙,无私的施于。家庭当中,我的 先生,姐夫以及亲家都是未信者。而在这次宝贵 的经历中,他们也感受到了上帝的奥妙!可能这 就是上帝安排我们一家到台北游玩的原因吧!好 让未信主的家人也看到上帝无论在任何情况下, 都会大大地供应我们的需求!

回新的时候,心中有很大的感动,一心想要要把这次"台湾之旅"的奇妙经历传扬开来。

最近,我女儿忽然感染到很严重的湿疹(eczema),搞到一家人很心烦。在写这篇文章时,上帝又提醒了我;无论路有多艰苦,身体有多虚弱,心中有任何的需求,只要把我们的烦恼都交托给上帝,他是会永远不断的供应的。"五饼二鱼"都可以喂饱5千人,小小的皮肤病,还不容易医治吗!在他没有难成的事!只要我们的信心坚定,在祷告中完全的交托,他必然垂听。

是的,信奉耶稣,幸福满满,我们一家都领受了!阿门!

我的见证

洪玉雪口述 (弟弟笔录)

这些年来,我因肾脏病必须接受洗肾治疗,身心疲惫不堪。每周三天必须到洗肾中心。 时报到;给子女们增添了许多麻烦和挂虑。 ,我的健康状况更是随着年龄增长而下降, ,我的健康状况更是随着年龄增长而下降。 常虚弱;进出医院多次。但因有主与我同在年, 等虚弱;让我脆弱的生命得以延长至今;每 等看顾,让我脆弱的生命得以延长至今; 病情危急入院的时刻刻在我身旁保护我, 的同在与看顾;他时时刻刻在我身旁保护我在 经 历病痛,才真正感受到他伟大的作为。

七年前我就开始前往中心洗肾。初时备受 折腾煎熬,很难受;可是习惯后反而觉得精神 饱满,能照常到教堂参加崇拜,以及参加其他聚 会,如妇女会,勉励会,属区小组等。这完全是 主的大恩典;我要称颂他直到永远。

今年岁首,我不慎在家里跌了一交,伤及 盆骨破裂。入院动手术,置入钢片螺丝,得到完整治疗。住院期间,蒙主保守看顾,让我安心接 受治疗;又得到邱德拔的医务人员很好的看顾 住入单人病房,费用却没有增加。我衷心感激医 住入单人病房,费用却没有增加。我衷心感激 院对我的厚爱;但更重要的还是要感谢救主垂听 我的祷告,藉着资深的医务人员为我疗伤,让我 很快地恢复健康。一个月后我就能柱着拐杖步进 入圣堂,感谢赞美主!

自我生病以来,儿女们日夜为我饮食起居操心,时常在身旁照顾我,心里实在很过意不去;尤其是小女儿,还刻意辞去在外国的职业,就每天寸步不离地照顾我;我多希望自己能再度站起来,免得处处倚赖他人。

然而,就在今年 4月22日,我到大儿子家 小住数日。没想到回家后突然觉得肩膀微痛,卧 床片刻,疼痛越发难以忍受,最后竟然连翻身都 难。便紧急入院,送往邱德拔医院急救。

经过检验报告;疑是病毒感染,需动手术清除。由于仪器配备不足,得借助国大医院的高级医生来检查。就在4月30日(星期六)下午六时半转移到国大医院,等候安排时间动手术。

5月1日下午两点动手术。原本是要在肩膀发痛处开刀,但因该部位骨头多,就改在靠近喉部开刀。但这手术可能会影响声带,我心中忧虑,就不停祷告,恳求主藉着医生的手准确操刀,将病菌全部割除。结果,手术成功!我不觉得痛苦,也没有声音沙哑或呼吸困难。感谢主垂听祷告!

手术后第二天,医生巡查时发现开刀后的伤口出血,于是安排5月2日星期一,再动一次手术。我很害怕,信心开始动摇;不明白出主为何要让我接受这样痛苦的疗程!还好,面对着这样的处境,让我想起一首闽南圣诗,使我我心里很安慰,内容如下;

"我心不可疑,救主是近近,的确要出现,给我来施恩,我若有忧闷,病症或练,岂不当忍耐,何事出怨言?他永远爱我,我免怀讶疑,他不放弃我,不与我相离,各次所经过,助我坚固信-----要救我到尽。"

而今,我凭着信心,完全交托,愿主恩上 加恩,使我早日恢复健康,阿门!

(写于5月8日大姐在国大医院期间)

Lip Bun led a life that was a great witness to Christ. She magnified the Lord through her words and deeds. She gave priority to being a good disciple of Christ. She served the Lord consistently and was diligent in teaching about the truth of the Bible. But more importantly, she taught and showed us how life should be lived.

I was most impressed that about two months before her death, when she was already physically very weak, she continued to participate in the youth camp and taught classes for the youth. Her dedication and involvement in planning the camp program did not dwindle despite her illness. Indeed, she exemplified what it is to use her life to serve the Lord.

(NOTE: We can learn about Lip Bun's love for the Lord and how she used her life to serve others through the testimonies shared by the pastors, her family, her students and all those whom she witnessed to.)

Passing down the seed of Life

Let us now earnestly pray — Although Lip Bun is no longer with us, the Lord still wants us to continue to learn from her unwavering love and dedication to God, so that we can continue to witness to more people and bring them Christ. As Jesus said: "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit." (John 12:24).

I hope that the seeds that Lip Bun sowed will bear fruit and her kind and faithful service to Christ will continue to be our role model and inspire us to bear witness for God. Indeed, we should lay aside our lives like a grain of wheat so that we can magnify Christ and care for others. Amen!

THE LIFE CHANGING LIFE



Pastor-in-Charge Rev Chua Ooi Suah

Jesus' life and ministry on earth continue to affect the lives of disciples from ancient times to present day. Two thousand years ago, Jesus Christ left His throne on heaven and came to earth to live among us. In His time on earth, preached

life through His service to people on earth. His extraordinary sinless life on earth is a testimony of His mission on earth. His message of "Forgiveness and Sacrifice" was clearly demonstrated by his obedience on the cross. His actions, teachings and obedience encouraged His disciples to follow him and to this day, continue to influence the lives of all believers. As such, as believers of Christ, how can we lead a Christ-centered life that reflects the extraordinary values of Christ?

I will expound this notion with the following points:

Life changing Life

The establishment of the early church to the church today is a journey that is peppered with difficulties, hardship and numerous ups and downs. The formation of a life transforming church requires the presence of the Holy Spirit to nurture the believers. At the same time, believers must also go through trials and tribulations in life so that they can understand the will of God. They need to keep their faith in order to be the fragrance of Christ's love to enable people to see the love of Jesus in their lives. This will draw people to the Lord.

On the other hand, the true believer must also understand the meaning and values that a Christian life promotes. Acquisition of head knowledge through reading books and teaching of theoretical ideas are insufficient. What is more important is for believers to be in contact with other believers and to exercise kindness, sincerity, patience etc. It is only through humbly learning from each other, encouraging each other that we are truly living a life that is Christ-like.

Witness of Life

Late on the night of February 21 this year, we lost a co-worker who served in the parish ministry for 20 years — Ms Wang Lip Bun. Lip Bun's departure was a great loss to her family and the church.

[Continual Page 23]

TELOK AYER CHINESE METHODIST CHURCH

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