MAY 2016 ISSUE GRACE ASSEMBLY OF GOD

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LOVE SELF TO LOVE OTHERS

The greatest love story continues ...

As we have received the love of the Father and responded in love for Him through our lives, the outworking of that is seen in the second commandment, 'Love your neighbour as yourself' (Matthew 22:39). We begin with five sermons on building a strong foundation for loving others through loving ourselves biblically and holistically. The last four sermons will deal with four arenas of relationships – singlehood, marriage, family and the church family. Through this series, we explore how we ought to act towards the good, the well-being and the fulfilment of people in our areas of influence, and how that is the result of a correct understanding of healthy and wholesome self-love.

- 1. LOVE SELF: Holistically
- 2. LOVE SELF: Our Thoughts
- 3. LOVE SELF: Our Emotions
- 4. LOVE SELF: Our Lifestyle
- 5. LOVE SELF: Freedom from Idols
- 6. LOVE OTHERS: Wholeness in Singlehood
- 7. LOVE OTHERS: Passion in Marriage
- 8. LOVE OTHERS: Honour in Family
- 9. LOVE OTHERS: Authenticity in Church

Grace Missional College

New Testament Survey Class, 14-16 April 2016

INTRODUCING MODULES – 2ND TERM OF 2016

25-27 August — BIBT726: Kingdom of God

Professor: Rev Peter Tsukahira, Executive Director of Carmel Communications & Mt Carmel Ministry Center

27-29 October — BIBT502: Theology of Missions

Professor: Elder Dr Khoo Hin Hiong, President of ICM Plus Ltd

8-10 September — BIBT325: Pneumatology

Professor: Dr Jerry Horner, former Dean of School of Theology, Oral Roberts University

17-19 November — BIPT235: Conflict Management & Resolution

Professor: Dr Joseph Umidi, Executive Vice President for Student Life, Regent University, USA

Registration of the above modules will commence from mid-June onwards. Look out for the announcements, details and GMC brochure/ registration form in June 2016.



тор: New Testament Class with Dr Jerry Horner воттом: Celebration of Dr Jerry Horner's 80th Birthday

grace discipleship process (gdp) Workshop on Evangelism Made Simple

Wallis Sultan (Singaporean) has a passion for evangelism. Since being baptized in the Holy Spirit, he has been empowered with courage & boldness to share God's love & preach the gospel to strangers. On a weekly basis, Wallis uses rollerblading as a platform where he reaches out to people intently, brings the lost to Jesus, and prays for them during these divine appointments that God gives. In addition, he has recently launched his book with the same title.

This practical session will cover a new perspective to evangelism, a toolbox of conversation starters, practical examples that have been tested and proven to be effective and simple for all to use during gospel sharing.

Date: 21 May, Saturday Time: 9:30am – 12:30pm Venue: GI Emmaus

Register at www.graceaog.org/gdp-seminars by15 May.

J333 PRAYER MEETINGS FOR MAY 2016

Prayer Focus: Love Friends –Engaging the communities/ Expanding the world

Dates: 4, 11, 18 May 2016 (Wednesday) Time: 7.30pm – 8.30pm Venues: GI L3 Emmaus G2 L4 Chapel

COMBINED J333 (ENGLISH & CHINESE)

Date: 25 May 2016 (Wednesday) Venue: GI L1 Galilee





"But as for me and my family, we will serve the LORD." Joshua 24:15

If you need to make counselling appointment, please contact: **Pastor Benjamin Wong 9066-2994 OR Chang-Goh Song Eng 6801-0730** All counselling sessions are strictly private and confidential

A Family in Grace

You are never too old to set another goal or to dream a new dream. C. S. Lewis



Regardless of whether we are driving, taking the public transport or walking to church, hardly will we miss this couple on every Sunday. Come rain or shine, from patiently directing traffic to lending a helping hand to church goers alighting from the taxis and finally, directing them where to go, seemed simple tasks but the couple does them with pride! Their lightly wrinkled faces and hair grizzled with white tell us they may look a little older than some us yet certainly, they are young at heart. Every week, we see them zealously carrying out their tasks therefore, who exactly are these two faithful servants of God?

FLG – Family Life@Grace CK – Fong Chuk Kong IP – Cho Inn Peng FLG: Hello, please tell our readers about yourselves? CK: I am Fong Chuk Kong, 75 years old, married to Inn Peng for 43 years

IP: I am Cho Inn Peng, 68 years old.

FLG: Share with us about your family **CK:** There are 8 members in my family including my son, daughter-in-law and 4 grandchildren.

FLG: And where do you stay... IP: We live in Bukit Merah

FLG: How long have you been in Grace Assembly? **IP: We have been attending Grace 1, Chinese service, since** 2003/4.

FLG: You have been married for 4 decades, care to reveal to our readers of the secret to your successful marriage. **CK:** You neither cross your boundaries nor harp on the same issue. In the event if a conflict arises, have a heart to heart talk with your spouse and most importantly, put Christ in the centre of your marriage.

IP: Avoid repeating the same mistakes and have an open communication with your spouse. On weekdays, we are usually busy with our activities and taking care of our grandchildren hence, weekends are precious to us when we spend time together as a couple such as having breakfast together, going marketing, etc...

We cherish these fond memories as we grow old together.

FLG: We know both of you as the traffic controllers in G1, tell us how did it all started?

CK: I started serving as a traffic controller when we were still in the old church building. I had been serving for about 3 to 4 years before shifting to Furama Riverfront Hotel when I stopped serving. Now, that the building is up, I am back serving again.

IP: The decision to serve as a traffic controller was a calling from God. Sometime back, before returning to the new building, I had a vision of a spiral image which I felt that the Lord was leading me to serve as a traffic controller. On Sundays, where I am positioned, when directing the cars, there is a spiral stairway which I believe, fulfils God's vision.

← PREVIOUS PAGE

FLG: We see you every weekend without fail. Both of you are very faithful in your service towards God. Talk about what made you do what you do, unceasingly.

CK: God has been very good to us by granting us the strength, good health to serve Him, so we must serve Him with all our heart.

FLG: Did you face with any challenges, as after all, traffic controlling is not an easy job.

CK: I have sensitive skin, so I cannot stay for too long under the hot weather. Every now and then, I would need to move into the sheltered porch. There was once, I had to signal to a driver to stop his car and to give way to those drivers who have just alighted the passengers and those turning into the carpark which resulted in the driver being upset. He stopped his car and even questioned me if I knew what I was doing. **IP:** I am always on the lookout for the senior worshippers and the young children who get off from their cars.

FLG: How did you overcome these challenges? What are your happier moments?

CK: The challenges do not happen often and I do not take them to heart. When people wave their hands at me or when they wind down their windows and stop their cars to say, "Thank you", have helped to make my day.

IP: When I see worshippers that are wheelchair bound, coming for service and that their disability does not deter them from loving God and worshipping Him are indeed inspirational moments for me.

FLG: Do you have any wise words for Grace members?

CK: Make time to serve God. He does not only look for people to serve Him in important positions, but above all, in our own ways and with whatever we have where God looks for a willing heart and thus, we are never too old to serve God.

IP: Whatever talent, knowledge and time God has blessed you with, serve Him within your capacity.

Now Joshua was old and advanced in years, and the Lord said to him, "You are old and advanced in years, and there remains yet very much land to possess. Joshua 13:1

Ed note : If we see Bro Chuk Kong and Sister Inn Peng, be courteous, acknowledge them, thank them and listen to their instructions.

Please send your feedback to familylifegrace@gmail.com

WE'VE GOT MAIL

"I personally appreciate the candidness and love demonstrated by the husbands and fathers who graciously share their lives with younger men like me. It is courage in print as plain as it can get – thank you for taking the time to share the Christ that you know.

As brothers-in-Christ, in God's family, I learn to model myself after these elder brothers, learning from their wise counsel through the lives that they share. Their faith, hope and love continue to encourage me, as each of them (along with their families) follow after Christ.

Continue to declare His glory & His wonders in your lives!

Your younger brother-in-Christ, **Kenneth**

NICE FROM FAR. FAR FROM NICE!

Nurturing Closeness in Marriage

A Public Talk by Dave Carder Brought to you by REACH Counselling Centre

> Date : 21 May 2016 Time : 9.30am - 11.30am Venue : ACC Edu Hub, #13-19 9 Penang Road, Park Mall Singapore 238459

Register your interest at www.tinyurl.com/TAseminar-REACH

Early-bird registration (register and pay by April 22) \$25 per couple / \$15 per person

> Standard registration \$30 per couple / \$20 per person

For enquiries, please contact Catherine at 68010730 or email rc@reach.org.sg

RESTORED LIFE

A major stronghold that we as believers might face is the Shame-Fear-Control stronghold. In Asian cultures, shame is often a basic bedrock in our upbringing and in our identity formation. For example, the mere acknowledgement that we might have an issue goes against the grain of our culture as that implies we have failed in some areas of life or we have not fulfilled an area of expectation by parents, spouses, teachers, bosses or even friends. This enhances the area of struggle that an individual might be going through with messages of shame and the need for secrecy.

Shame, unlike guilt, is a sense that we are hopelessly flawed and have failed. In attempting to cope with our shame, we give place to fears in our lives. An example of fear that is intricately tied to shame is the fear of rejection (actual or perceived). All these open the door for control (or the need to control) to come into our lives. We try to take Control of the situation or issues, attempt to cover up our shame and to keep it from being exposed, and to keep our fears under wrap. As a result, we live our lives in bondage, and feel unable to break out of this cycle of shame-fear-control.

This workshop aims to deal with the basic lies that enable this stronghold to continue its hold upon us and how it suppresses our true identity, and prohibits our progress towards true freedom and healing. There is a teaching cum ministry session where we hope to equip individuals with the tools to experience the Lord's healing and freedom.

Details

Date:	Sat 25 Jun
Time:	9.30 am – 1 pm
Venue:	G2, Praise Room
Cost:	\$5 (include materials & refreshments)
	– early-bird sign-up till 10 Jun
	\$10 (include materials & refreshments)
	– after 10 Jun till closing date on 19 Jun



Online Registration: https://event.graceaog.org

Payment to be made via cash or cheque at the church office at G1 or G2

GII Parents Dialogue

Calling all parents / guardians attending GII services! We are embarking on an exciting new direction and some significant changes for the pre-teens (11-13 years old) in 2017. If your child / ward is a preteen (11-13 years old) in 2017, this meeting is for you!

Ps Calvin and the NEXUS leadership team would like to invite all parents/ guardians of children / wards attending GII Pre-teens next year for this special dialogue. We will not only share with you the important new plans and the ministry's programme on how it may affect you and your child but also invite you to give us feedback.

Date: 29 May 2016 (Sunday) Time: 10:30am – 11:30am Venue: GII L2 Praise Room

Please register your attendance with jac.tang@graceaog.org by 24 May 2016.

The Parenting Life proudly presents... A MOVIE MATINEE

Filled with heart, humor, and wit, WAR ROOM follows Tony and Elizabeth Jordan, a couple who seemingly have it all - great jobs, a beautiful daughter, their dream home. But appearances can be deceiving. In reality, their marriage has become a war zone and their daughter is collateral damage. With guidance from Miss Clara, an older, wiser woman, Elizabeth discovers she can start fighting for her family instead of against them. With the power of prayer and Elizabeth's newly energized faith which has transformed her life; will Tony join the fight and become the man he knows he needs to be? Together, can they protect their family?



Date: 22 May 2016, Sunday Time: 3pm - 5pm Venue: GI Bethel Hall Email: AskFamilyLife@gmail.com

Register and get your E-pass at http://gfc.graceaog.org



Love Through Service

Mdm Lim, from the Chinese Ministry, finds great joy in whipping up refreshments and spending time with the seniors in Bukit Batok, on every Thursday, at REACH Youth Powerhouse.

With the desire to continue serving for many more years, Mdm Lim passionately shares about how she feels motivated simply by seeing others happy. She adds, "I am grateful that I am still relatively healthy at my



image credit: South West CDC

age, so I think I should give back to society. I am not educated so I can't write, but I can welcome people when they come for our activities so that they are put at ease."

Mdm Lim exemplifies this year's theme 'Above All, Love' through her acts of service to the seniors. It takes conscious effort and commitment to faithfully serve and accompany the seniors every single week.

In a needs assessment conducted by REACH Youth, it showed that 13 out of 53 elderly respondents were living alone and these seniors had requested for social activities to help them cope with the loneliness they experience.

Mdm Lim's simple act of love to help out in the weekly senior's activities serves as an encouragement for others to do likewise. Contact elaine.tan@reach.org.sg to find out about the volunteering opportunities available!

Alpha Course @ GII Helper Recruitment & Training

Alpha Course at GII is starting on 2 July from 12-3 pm every Saturday for a total of 13 Saturdays consecutively. We are recruiting helpers and it is particularly, a great way to minister and serve pre-believers therefore, if you are interested to serve in any capacity in this year's course, we invite you to sign up at alpha@graceaog.org or visit the booths outside the service hall for more info by 22 May.

Training will be provided on:

Date: 28 May (Sat) Time: 9 am – 3 pm Venue: GII Level 3 Praise Room (Lunch Provided)



LENGKOK BAHRU COMMUNITY OUTREACH

26 Mar 2016, 1130am — The sun glimmers high in the azure sky, beaming down over Lengkok Bharu, one Saturday afternoon where the elderly residents and kids were gathering at the void deck of block 53, ready to board the 2 buses that would take them to Grace Assembly.

Upon arriving at their destination, what greeted them was a hearty Indonesian buffet lunch which was catered for them and moreover, games were lined up to delight the kids. After the "very sedap" lunch, the kids and parents headed to the Salvation Army across the road for their tuition while the elderly joined in the Hokkien service for the worship session.

What a wonderful time of worship and warm welcome by the Hokkien congregation. Never in their wildest dreams, would they experience worship by singing and clapping. It was clearly an eye opener for them, particularly, for those who lifted their hands during worship and notably, for the few who shed tears as a result of being touched by the Holy Spirit.

Every Saturday, Pastor Joey and his team would not only do the follow-up visits by joining the elderly at the void deck of block 53 Lengkok Bahru and getting to know them better but the team also constantly extends invitations to the elderly to Grace Assembly. To date, there are already five of them who have expressed their intentions to join in the Hokkien service.

All Glory to God!







WISDOM IN GIVING - (PART 1 OF 2) BY REV CHAN PECK YIN

We serve a generous God "for God so loved the world that he gave" (John 3:16). The word of God teaches us to be generous as well, that "whoever is generous to the poor lends to the Lord" (Proverbs 19:17).

Giving can be a tricky thing. Parents will know that not everything children ask for are actually good for them. The same can be said for the mission fields. Giving is good, until our giving does them more harm than good. Jesus said in Matthew 10:16 that we need to be as shrewd as snakes and as innocent as doves. In giving, we can apply shrewdness and innocence so as to protect our heart from hardening when faced with unpleasant reality of third-world cultures. This way, we can minimize mistakes, unpleasant experiences and avoid deceptions.

Here are three words of caution when giving in the mission fields.

1. Do not give for their own personal gain.

When we go on missions trips, we will come across to the poor and needy and naturally our hearts will go out to them where we will want to help them. As much as we want to help them, we must not create unhealthy expectations where they learn to rely on our generosity for their personal gains.

There was one season where locals in the mission fields interacted with our mission trippers and started to ask for assistance in their children's education, wedding expenses, and their housing construction. They wrote to the trippers about their special stories of need and told them not to share with others about their requests. Were these genuine needs? Can the local people live on without you providing for them?

In the Riau islands, every family have their own hard-life stories. Life is a struggle for most of them and however, it is almost impossible to verify their stories since missions trippers are strangers in the land. While life may be a struggle, one can almost always make a living with hard work and responsibility and they need not live beyond their means. It is not uncommon for 'professional' beggars to take advantage of givers who pity them.

2. Do not give with limited knowledge of the community.

The situation in the third-world could causes us to be uncomfortable and sympathetic as we are blessed to enjoy many good things unlike our mission partners such as electricity, clean water and good food. We want to give our money to those less well off than us, and therefore we dish out money to the local people without fully understanding their context. In this process, we will undermine local judgement, discipline, stewardship, and savings.

An NGO went to a fishing village and found that the people did not have proper sanitation. This could be the possible cause of sickness and diseases for them. As such, they decided to build them toilets but to their surprise, no one used them after the construction. Later, they found out that the fishermen had the practice of doing their 'business' in the open. They would chat together as they squat at a distance from one another on the beach.

The enclosed toilet is not what they wanted. Were they asked or consulted on what they wanted? Not likely. Having toilets may be a good idea for us in the first world but not to the fishermen.

3. Do not give without any commitment to follow up or without any system of accountability.

There was once I witnessed foreign aid pouring in to a location to help feed the locals by providing free rice as a form of disaster relief. However, the rice did not reach the needy as the local coordinator proceeded to sell the rice away in the black market without the donors' knowledge.

Most mission partners are aware of the generosity of the teams from affluent countries. Many teams arrive at the same location and each team leaves with a generous giving. Mission partners would benefit much from receiving the teams. Some mission partners might even run orphanages in order to raise funds as it is easier to get funds through this front.

We, at Grace Missions, have seen many cases where money given by donors was to be used for a specific thing, but then it was ended up being used for other things due to no efforts on their part to follow up with their giving. We, at Grace Missions, want to avoid this as much as possible. Thus, greater accountability among the body of Christ is needed so that the funds can reach those who need them.

Part 2 of the article will touch on three words of exhortation on giving in the missions field.

Rev Chan Peck Yin was sent by Grace Missions to Orissa, India (2001-2003), Timor Leste (2005-2009). She is now the Country Director for Indonesia (2009- now).

UPCOMING MISSIONS TRIPS

Please pray with the missions trippers for God's protection to rest on them, and that they would be sensitive to the Holy Spirit's leading.

Tg. Uban (Riau Islands), Indonesia 07/05/2016 – 08/05/2016 Rev Chan Peck Yin

Batam (Riau Islands), Indonesia 13/05/2016 – 13/05/2016 Rev Chan Peck Yin

Vietnam (IGA) 13/05/2016 – 14/05/2016 Rev Calvin Lee **East Asia** 15/05/2016 – 21/05/2016 Khoo Khee Ling

Pekanbaru (Riau Islands), Indonesia 18/05/2016 – 20/05/2016 Ps Scott Tey

East Asia 18/05/2016 – 26/05/2016 Rev Richard Wee **Papua, Indonesia** 20/05/2016 – 04/06/2016 Roger Tan

East Asia 22/05/2016 – 28/05/2016 Rev Siew Woh Kit

Nepal 30/05/2016 – 06/06/2016 Ps Alvin Lim

PRACTICAL LESSONS ON THE SPIRITUAL REALM BY DOMINIC CHIA, 19

The team from R-AGE was in Orissa, India from 29 March - 06 April. There were many new experiences for the team whereby they felt first-hand of the reality on the spiritual realm and the overwhelming power of the Holy Spirit. Prayers uttered in the name of Jesus were indeed a "yes and amen!" We witnessed people healed right before our eyes and we felt oppressive atmospheres lifted when we proclaimed the name of Jesus and in particularly, some experiences that were kept dear to our hearts.

There was an occasion when we went to a believer's house to pray for the family. The family was under some kind of witchcraft, as claimed according to the person. Upon stepping into the house, we got comfortable with where we stood, Ps Matthew then told us to note the difference in the spiritual atmosphere in the house in contrast to standing outside. He even pointed out the exact spot, drew an imaginary line, and told us to step on either side of that line and to feel the difference. True enough, there was indeed a marked difference as the atmosphere in the house seemed heavier, more sinister which was very disturbing. There seemed to be a specific invisible boundary where the change in atmosphere was felt.

As an architecture student, I was particularly intrigued by how an evil spirit belonging to the spiritual realm would actually take its claims in the physical realm. So I went to search the Bible to look for instances where the Bible addressed these issues. The Lord led me to Acts 2:2 and my eyes are opened to this new understanding:

"Suddenly, there was a sound from heaven like the roaring of a mighty windstorm, and it filled the house where they were sitting." - Acts 2:2

The holy and intangible spirit filled the house (place) where they (being) were sitting. The Spirit, the place and the being are revealed here. I believe that the Holy Spirit dwells within us beings, and we dwell in a place and not the other way around. We are spiritual beings yet we dwell in physical places.

In Singapore, we strive greatly to meet our physical needs before feeding our spirit therefore resulting in the dullness of our spiritual needs. In India, however, the people see themselves first as spiritual beings and meet their spiritual needs so when they lack, they pray to their gods. For the Christians, they pray to Jesus and they witnessed Jesus providing for them in

impoverished conditions.

"For we are not fighting against flesh-and-blood enemies, but against evil rulers and authorities of the unseen world, against mighty powers in this dark world, and against evil spirits in the heavenly places." – Ephesians 6:12

Hence, it is pointless to wage spiritual battles with weapons belonging to the flesh. Instead, let us put on the full armor of God and be aware of our spiritual climate. Pray unceasingly for the presence of God to always be with us and with this nation.

TRIPS AVAILABLE FOR SIGN UP

BANGLADESH

01 - 11 December

INDIA 24 - 29 August (Medical Camp, Hyderabad) 25 November - 03 December (Orissa)

WEST BENGAL 06 - 12 September

NEPAL 18 - 24 November

SRI LANKA 10 - 20 June

15 - 28 September

VIETNAM 05 - 11 July 10 - 17 October 26 December - 02 January 2017

MYANMAR 05 - 10 October 30 November - 05 December

CAMBODIA 03 - 07 Oct 18 - 24 November 02 - 07 December

INDONESIA

23 - 28 June (West Kalimantan) 30 - 05 July (West Kalimantan) 12 - 19 July (South Sulawesi)

23 - 28 August (Pekanbaru) 09 - 14 December (Pekanbaru)

RIAU ISLANDS, INDONESIA

Batam 13 May 26 August 13 October

Karimun

30 April - 01 May 27 - 28 August 28 - 30 October 26 - 27 November 03 - 04 December

Tg. Pinang 13 - 14 August 10 - 11 December

Tg. Uban 07 - 08 May 01 - 02 October

Due to flight schedules and other unpredictable circumstances, these dates are tentative. Do send an email to matthew.tan@graceaog.org for more enquiries about Grace Missions or her mission trips.

MAY 2016

the area of physical needs in their





EVENTS CALENDAR 2016

MAY - JULY

26/02 - 27/05	Adult Alpha course (Fridays)	GI L2 Eden, L5 Zion 6pm	
30/03 - 11/05	Women of Grace WOG-DBS (Weds)	GI L5 Zion 10am &	
		GII L2 Praise Room 10am	
09/04 - 14/05	Men's Bible Study MBS (Sats)	GI L1 Gethsemane 10am	
09/04 - 28/05	Women of Grace WOG-SBS (Sats)	GI L2 Eden 10am	
12, 19, 26/05	GDP Class 102 : Foundations of Our Faith (Thurs)	GII L1 Glory Room 7.30pm	
25/05	J333 Prayer Meeting (Combined)	GI L1 Galilee 7.30pm	
26/05 - 27/05	AG Annual General Council	GI L3 Bethel & L1 Galilee 9am	
29/05 - 02/06	Grace Retreat (Chinese)	Katerina Hotel, Batu Pahat, MY	
01/06	Grace Retreat Briefing (English)	GI L3 Bethel 8.30pm	
09/06 - 13/06	Grace Retreat (English)	Hotel Pullman, KL Bangsar, MY	
29/06	J333 Prayer Meeting (Combined)	GI L1 Galilee 7.30pm	
08/07 - 09/07	Marketplace Ministry	GI L1 Galilee 9am	
13, 20, 27/07	Lunchtime Prayer & Fasting	GI L3 Emmaus 12pm	
16/07	GDP Seminar: The Father's Embrace	GI L3 Emmaus 9.30am	
27/07	J333 Prayer Meeting (Combined)	GI L1 Galilee 7.30pm	

Event details are subject to changes, please refer to www.graceaog.org for latest info & updates.

Staff Update

We want to welcome Ronnie Lee to his new portfolio as Ministry Staff.

His primary responsibility will be over GRACE Communities GIC/ GID and is the Country Director of Vietnam, under Grace Missions.

He was our Ministry Operations Manager (MOM) from 2014 till this March. He is also the husband of Ps Jadene, our Children's Pastor.

Let us welcome and encourage him as he undertakes his new role.



GRACE ASSEMBLY ON FACEBOOK

Have questions? Or just want to be kept updated on the latest news that's happening in Grace Assembly? Connect with us via Facebook at www.facebook.com/graceaogsingapore



Heartiest congratulations to the following couples, may the Lord continue to bless & guide them with wisdom & strength as they embark on their new journey together!

Mr Ang Jeng Wee and Ms Juliana Cheong 07 May 2016

Mr Chow Minyang and Ms Grace Lum Hui Ting 14 May 2016

CAUTION

It has come to our attention that an ex-attendee (in his early 30s) has been approaching Grace members for monetary support in the following areas:

- Assistance for his parents' funeral
- Investment in pre-IPO shares
- Donations to charities based overseas

Members who have offered assistance have reported that these claims are false. If approached, please check with the leadership.

2016 1st batch acceptance of membership on 28 March 2016

BAPTISED ON 27/03/2016

Chan Kai Bin Jonathan Lisa Chan Lee Sia Choong Pei Yim Nicole Billy Lee Kok Whye Lee Kian Teck Lim Boon Kok Dawn Lum Ee-Lin Rachel Teo Selvin Yeo Shirley Yeoh Esther Yuen Feng Yi

TRANSFERRED ON 28/03/2016 Ang Chin Kiong Constance Chan Sook Yin



Chen JianWei Michael Annie Chin Soo Nui Fong Wei Keong Goh Boo Chong Allan Goh Swee Lee Ho Wan Leng Ho Xue We, Cheryl Pang Winnie Faith Peter Selvan Tan Lee Ann Andrew Thong Lai Ching Priscilla

FILIPINO SERVICE BAPTISED ON 29/11/2015

Annalie Cevil Omana Charmaine Bato Gil Janna Jean Ladimo Jaztynn Phoemela Libut Jocel O Dangoc Joey Mateo Morales Juvee De Guzman Liezel Pajarillo Calortes Lingelynne Caryl Ramos Abellana Lorna Ocampo Zapanta Maricel Gallardo Pioquinto Mary Jane Evangelista Morales Rez Dela Cruz Rodilyn J Baer

TRANSFERRED ON 28/03/2016

Arlene Donaire Emnace Gerry Salgado Jahzhiel Lloyd Elechicon Lea Targa Luchie Lugatiman Masing Mercy Sienda Unciano Tessie B Gagarin

GRACE HOUSE IS OPENING A NEW KINDERGARTEN AT G1 @ TANGLIN ROAD IN JANUARY 2017!

10

CHURCHWIDE

PRE-REGISTER YOUR CHILD (for children born in 2011 to 2015)

Parents who are interested to enroll your child for 2017 academic year, please send an email to evetay@gracehouse.com.sg with the Subject Title: Pre-register for G1 Kindergarten; indicating your name, contact number, your child's name and his/her date of birth. In response, an invitation to our Open House will be sent to you upon the confirmation of the dates.

For enquiries, please call Tel: 6262 3585

RECRUITMENT FOR NEW KINDERGARTEN

The new kindergarten at G1 @ Tanglin Road is looking for a dynamic and passionate team to come onboard.

Positions available:

- (1) Principal, DPTL trained with min. 2 years of supervisory experience
- (2) Teachers, DPT or CPT trained
- (3) Administrator cum HR personnel
- (4) Assistant Teachers
- (5) Cook
- (6) Cleaner

Please send your resume to weekee@raffleshouse.com.

"Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it." Proverbs 22:6



TRAFFIC MOVEMENT AFTER EACH SUNDAY SERVICES

For those young and fully abled bodied Gracians who are attending the first or second service, we would appreciate it if you can use Staircase 1 or 7 or the escalator (see indication) upon exiting after the service instead of using the Lobby Lifts.

The Lobby Lifts are reserved for those who are elderly, wheelchair bound, parents with young children and pregnant ladies.

This will not only enable the human traffic to clear faster after each service instead of overcrowding at the lift lobby but also reduce the waiting time as there is a limitation to the speed of the lift.

The operating time of the escalator is as follows:

- ▲ 8 am to 10 am Ascending / 10.50 am to 12 noon Ascending
- ▼ 10 am to 10.50 am Descending / 12 noon to 2 pm Descending

THANK YOU



THE PROSPERITY GOSPEL: A BIBLICAL EVALUATION (PART 3)

BY FRANK D. MACCHIA

PROSPERITY GOSPEL AND POVERTY

Of course, all this might be easy for someone writing from a middle class environment to say. What about people living in poverty or sustained financial hardship? They have a need that requires an answer. How can we say God wills this hardship for them? Does not God wish for them to prosper? These questions represent the greatest challenge of the prosperity message.

Of course, God does not will poverty for humanity. Poverty is our doing, not God's. The Psalmist says confidently of God: "I know that the Lord secures justice for the poor and upholds the cause of the needy" (Psalm 140:12).

The Bible instructs us to help those in need out of obedience to God: "Defend the cause of the weak and fatherless; uphold the cause of the poor and the oppressed. Rescue the weak and the needy; deliver them from the hand of the wicked" (Psalm 82:3,4).

There is no question that God wills to deliver people from poverty and to use people of good will to accomplish His purpose. In response to this need, one cannot deny that the prosperity message has had a positive effect in some parts of the world in generating financial health for the church and the surrounding community. Hope can be a powerful force among the poor. Giving to the work of God has in certain contexts allowed a church to open up opportunities for financial well-being for its members and others in the community. A church dedicated to rallying around those most affected by poverty can be an immense source of strength and wholeness.³

Moreover, hospitality is a marvelous way to show gratitude to God for a home and a regular job that puts bread on the table. Those who are generous will flourish in life. And God will multiply the Church's gifts to others so that they will bear fruit in their lives and, through them, in the lives of many others. Yet, while all of this plays a vital role in a biblical understanding of the prosperous life, it is not enough to address the larger problem of poverty. The causes of poverty involve more than an individual's defeatist attitude or lack of faith. It involves more than the need to give to the work of the Church. It involves issues related to education, housing, and unjust social institutions and structures that sustain poverty and make it difficult to reverse. The Church's role in addressing this complex area of human suffering will involve more than encouraging faith and generosity among the faithful.

A CALL FOR BALANCE

In the midst of the Church's witness in the world, it is vital to reach for a balanced message. Especially needed in offering a biblical understanding of the prosperous life is a message that discourages giving primarily for the motive of getting back. The motive in giving cannot simply be one's desire to get a "bigger piece of the pie." Instead, the motive should be accomplishing God's will for humanity.

Obedient giving has its own rewards, even if there is little tangible return. Biblical motives for giving are listening to the Spirit's voice, following Christ in the world, and drawing closer to the heart of God.

Extravagant testimonies of financial wealth through giving implicitly place the priority of faith in the wrong place. Giving is all about God and caring for others, not building a little garden for me and mine to enjoy. Life prospers best when prosperity is not the motive: "Whoever finds their life will lose it, and whoever loses their life for my sake will find it" (Matthew 10:39).

It is understandable for people struggling in hardship to pray for bread and envision a better future. But the communities of faith that embrace them should help them expand their vision from the context of their own needs to a Christ-centered yearning for a better world. All giving and flourishing of life should remain focused there.

We are to pray for our daily bread and for the flourishing of our lives for the purpose of abounding "in every good work" in service to others (2 Corinthians 9:8). The prosperity message can remain relevant to the Church if it keeps its focus clearly moving in this direction.

This article is written by Frank D Macchia, Professor of Christian Theology at Vanguard University, US and Associate Director of the Centre for Pentecostal and Charismatic Studies at Bangor University, Wales. He has recently published The Trinity, Practically Speaking (InterVarsity Press, 2010).

NOTES

3 See Amos Yong and Katherine Attanasi, eds. Pentecostalism and Prosperity: *The Socio-Economics of the Global Charismatic Movement* (New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2012).



为主发光 走入邻舍

恩典二社区关怀事工的目的是《为主发光 走入邻 舍》,我们欢迎社区居民和新朋友参加,也同时鼓 励弟兄姐妹加入我们义工团队的服侍。

盼望能够借着一系列的活动,让我们能接触居民朋 友,认识他们,与他们建立关系,并把福音传扬出 去,为主赢得城市。

喝早茶派对 Tea Corner

日期:	每逢第一个星期六			
时间:	10点 - 12点			
地点:	恩典二 2楼赞美室			
早餐:	9点 - 10点 (1楼咖啡厅)			
Date:	Every 1st Saturday of the month			
Time:	10am – 12noon			
Venue:	GII, L2 Praise Room			
Breakfast: 9am - 10am @ Level 1 Café				

卡拉OK歌唱班 Karaoke Singing Class

日期:	每逢第二个星期三
时间:	下午1点30分 - 3点30分
地点:	恩典二 2楼赞美室
Date:	Every 2nd Wednesday of the month
Time:	1.30pm to 3.30pm
Venue:	GII, Level 2 Praise Room

美食烹饪班 Cooking Class

日期:	每逢第四个星期三	
时间:	下午1点30分 - 3点30分	
地点:	恩典二 1楼饮茶角落	
Date:	Every 4th Wednesday of the month	
Time:	1.30pm to 3.30pm	
Venue: Grace II (Level 1 Café Area)		

如有任何询问,请联络陈牧师9152 8787或拨打 6410 0800查询。









进入社区的服侍工作,是恩典堂一个重要的方向。我们希望透过社区的服侍,把神的爱带到社区里面,让 我们在社区里面帮助一些有需要的人,使居民在生活上有改善,让他们明白神的爱。

透过这个社区平台,让我们的弟兄姐妹可以一起参与在社区里的服侍,与居民建立一个更好的关系,也让 我们能够把神的爱,透过我们的生命行动传扬出去。我们同时与援触社区服务协会合作,探讨更多可以让 弟兄姐妹一起参与的社区工作。

感谢神,在过去几年我们已经建立了几个据点,提供一些定时的社区的活动,特别是给予年长者和一些低 收入的家庭。让乐龄人士可以透过这个平台,彼此交流,帮助他们建立彼此间的友谊关系,并促进个人发 展和增加他们的社区资源网络,走向正面积极的乐龄生活。我们每个星期都会主办不同的活动,帮助他们 在心身灵继续有健康的发展。

我们盼望有更多的弟兄姐妹可以起来参与这个社区外展的工作,让我们一起把神的爱传扬出去。如果你可以参与以下任何的服侍,可以与中文事工的李向阳传道联络。Patrick.lee@graceaog.org

退休老师,医护人员,辅导,亲善大使,载送食物,总务-预备聚会地方,排椅子,操作电脑、音响、烹饪 导师、手工艺导师、舞蹈员、恩典操导师、带领活动、定期探访居民、录影、拍照、交通运载物件等等



乐部 每逢星期二在恩典一2楼时间:10:00 至13:00

援触乐龄康乐中心 每逢星期四在武知巴督西4道大牌417 REACH Youth PowerHouse 时间: 09:30 至12:00

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Saturday 1.30 pm HOKKIEN SERVICE	GALILEE	LEVEL 1
Saturday 5 pm YOUNG ADULTS & YOUNG PROFESSIONALS (YAYP) SERVICE CANTONESE SERVICE ELEVATE @ R-AGE YOUTH (14-19 YRS OLD)	BETHEL GALILEE EMMAUS	LEVEL 3 LEVEL 1 LEVEL 3
Sunday 9 am ENGLISH SERVICE MANDARIN SERVICE SHINE @ GRACE KIDS (7-10 YRS OLD) SPARKLE @ GRACE KIDS (3-6 YRS OLD)	BETHEL GALILEE EDEN ZION	LEVEL 3 LEVEL 1 LEVEL 2 LEVEL 5
Sunday 11.15 am ENGLISH SERVICE FILIPINO SERVICE EMERGE @ R-AGE YOUTH (11-13 YRS OLD) SHINE @ GRACE KIDS (7-10 YRS OLD) SPARKLE @ GRACE KIDS (3-6 YRS OLD)	BETHEL GALILEE EMMAUS EDEN ZION	LEVEL 3 LEVEL 1 LEVEL 3 LEVEL 2 LEVEL 5
Sunday 5 pm KHUSH KHABRI FELLOWSHIP	EMMAUS	LEVEL 3
GRACE II SERVICES: 1 Bukit Batok West Ave 4 Singapore 659125		
Saturday 2 pm ELEVATE @ R-AGE YOUTH (13-19 YRS OLD)	CHAPEL	LEVEL 4
Sunday 9 am ENGLISH SERVICE MANDARIN SERVICE SHINE @ GRACE KIDS (7-12 YRS OLD) SPARKLE @ GRACE KIDS (3-6 YRS OLD)	CHAPEL SANCTUARY LOVE KINDNESS	LEVEL 4 LEVEL 2 LEVEL 2 LEVEL 4
Sunday 11.15 am ENGLISH SERVICE HOKKIEN SERVICE SHINE @ GRACE KIDS (7-12 YRS OLD) SPARKLE @ GRACE KIDS (3-6 YRS OLD)	SANCTUARY CHAPEL LOVE KINDNESS	LEVEL 2 LEVEL 4 LEVEL 2 LEVEL 4
Sunday 1.30 pm FILIPINO SERVICE	CHAPEL	LEVEL 4

J333 4, 11, 18 May, 7.30 pm @ GI L3 Emmaus & GII L4 Chapel Combined J333 (English & Chinese) 25 May, 7.30 pm @ GI L1 Galilee

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AG GENERAL COUNCIL 2016



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING Thursday, May 26, 9.00 AM

PASTORS & LAY LEADERS SEMINAR

Friday, May 27, 9.30 AM to 12.30 PM (Register for free entry) Email: admin@ag.org.sg

NIGHT MEETINGS Thursday, May 26 & Friday, May 27, 7.30 PM (Free Admission)

VENUE

Grace I <mark>35</mark>5 Tanglin Road



Organized by The Assemblies of God of Singapore

SPEAKER Rev Dr R Wayne Clark

Dr R Wayne Clark has served in ministry since 1968. He married his wife, Judy, on July 9th, 1971. They have four children, Stacy, Donice, Rob and Cory. They have 14 grandchildren and love being with their family as often as possible. They have pastored churches in Ohio, Vermont, California and San Antonio, Texas. Both their sons are in Full-Time Ministry.

Pastor Clark, together with his wife Judy, has served as pastor of First Assembly of God, San Antonio, Texas since April 1996. Pastor Clark has a strong conviction of the importance of family in regard to ministry. He is driven and passionate about the Biblical mandate of discipleship, and has always placed high priority on children's and youth ministries.

He also believes people must experience God's presence, receive His love and grace as well as being empowered by the Holy Spirit.

Pastor Clark believes that missions, both home and abroad, are a vital necessity for any fellowship. "You cannot be close to God and not feel His heart for a broken and lost world". He has traveled to 62 different countries, most of which Judy has accompanied him to.

He has served at most levels of leadership in the Assemblies of God as well as on many local, District, National and international leadership teams. He also served as Board Chairman for Adult and Teen Challenge in Texas for over 19 years, during which time the ministry grew from one campus with 15 students, with close to almost 200 students.

Judy has served as a chaplain at the Bexar County Family Justice Center for over 10 years, where she counsels and works with victims of domestic violence. Pastor Clark enjoys his marriage and family as well as his pastoral ministry. He likes the outdoors, especially fishing and is a fairly accomplished golfer.