

The Gracian

No. 02
2021

E08
Grace Kids'
Amazing Grace
Easter Programme

E22
Life-Stage Track

E40
New Executive
Church Board
2021-2022

MCI (P) 032/12/2020



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Grace Assembly Of God
神召会恩典堂

15 MAY — 6 JUNE

THE
Supernatural
超自然



We continue on our journey into the unseen realm of the Bible, from the point of view of its Ancient Near East culture. This quarter, we will take a deeper look at certain ideas and themes that we mentioned in the last round: supernatural beings, the imagers of God, the place of free will in humankind. We will also address questions that have been raised when we explored the three divine rebellions previously and celebrate the significance of Pentecost in relation to missions to the nations. Join us once again as we explore The Supernatural Realm!

1. Your Top 5 Questions about The Supernatural Realm
2. Pentecost Sunday — Reclaiming the Nations
3. The Satan & Angels
4. The Image of God
5. Free Will



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CONTENTS | N^o 02 / 2021



E04-07

MESSAGE FROM OUR SENIOR PASTOR

E02-03 Moving Forward Strongly

RECAP

E04-07 Good Friday and Resurrection
Weekend Services

E08-09 Grace Kids' Amazing Grace
Easter Programme

E10-11 Missions Convention 2021

IMPACT

E12 Church Planting in East Asia

E13 Sharing the Good News
at Sungei Tengah Lodge

E14 Online Missions Trip to IBC Batam

E16-17 Delivering Bags Filled with God's
Love and Blessings

E18 -19 Parenting with Grace

E21 Getting To Know...
Pastor Victor Toh

GROW

E22-23 Life-Stage Track

E24 GAP Intern's Sharing —
Reflections of A GAP Intern

E26 Grace Discipleship Institute
Courses

E29 An Amazing God Working
Through the Wholeness Seminar

E30 A Father's Dilemma

E32 Thriving in the Marketplace

E33 Together Again

E34-35 Making Jesus Known in a
Digital World



E10-11



E38-39

GRACE CONNECT

E36 J333 Returns On-Site!

E38-39 Declaration of Faith Through
Water Baptism

E40-41 2021-2022 Executive Church
Board Members

FACES OF GRACE

E42 Pastoral Staff Movement &
Appointment / Recruitment



Scan QR code for
our church services.

Editorial Team:

Selina Esther Lim
Ellie Nwee
Tay Huizhen

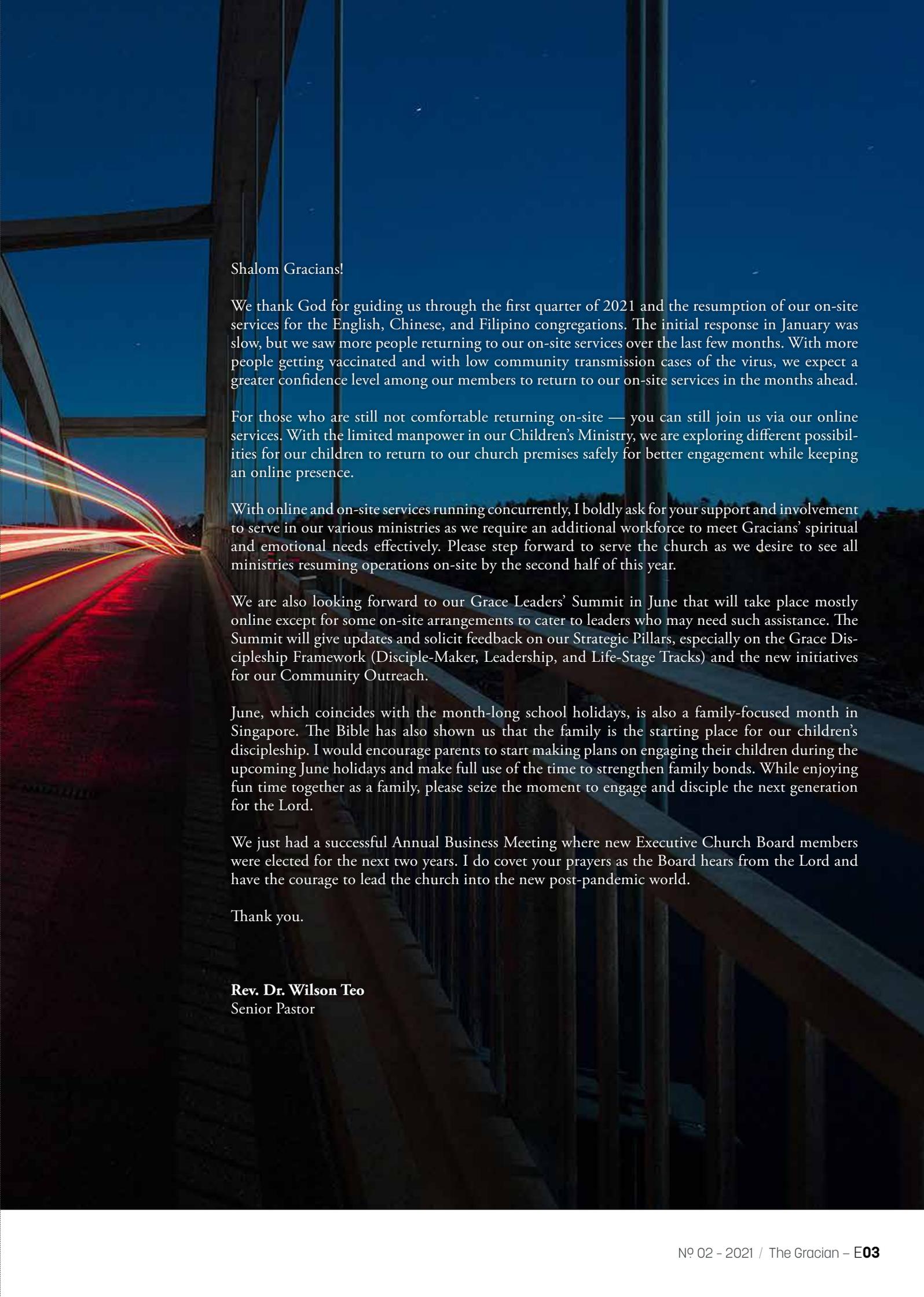
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Kua Ling

*Thank you for your
contributions!
We are grateful to
Gracians who have
contributed to this issue,
in one way or another.*



MOVING
FORWARD
STRONGLY



Shalom Gracians!

We thank God for guiding us through the first quarter of 2021 and the resumption of our on-site services for the English, Chinese, and Filipino congregations. The initial response in January was slow, but we saw more people returning to our on-site services over the last few months. With more people getting vaccinated and with low community transmission cases of the virus, we expect a greater confidence level among our members to return to our on-site services in the months ahead.

For those who are still not comfortable returning on-site — you can still join us via our online services. With the limited manpower in our Children's Ministry, we are exploring different possibilities for our children to return to our church premises safely for better engagement while keeping an online presence.

With online and on-site services running concurrently, I boldly ask for your support and involvement to serve in our various ministries as we require an additional workforce to meet Gracians' spiritual and emotional needs effectively. Please step forward to serve the church as we desire to see all ministries resuming operations on-site by the second half of this year.

We are also looking forward to our Grace Leaders' Summit in June that will take place mostly online except for some on-site arrangements to cater to leaders who may need such assistance. The Summit will give updates and solicit feedback on our Strategic Pillars, especially on the Grace Discipleship Framework (Disciple-Maker, Leadership, and Life-Stage Tracks) and the new initiatives for our Community Outreach.

June, which coincides with the month-long school holidays, is also a family-focused month in Singapore. The Bible has also shown us that the family is the starting place for our children's discipleship. I would encourage parents to start making plans on engaging their children during the upcoming June holidays and make full use of the time to strengthen family bonds. While enjoying fun time together as a family, please seize the moment to engage and disciple the next generation for the Lord.

We just had a successful Annual Business Meeting where new Executive Church Board members were elected for the next two years. I do covet your prayers as the Board hears from the Lord and have the courage to lead the church into the new post-pandemic world.

Thank you.

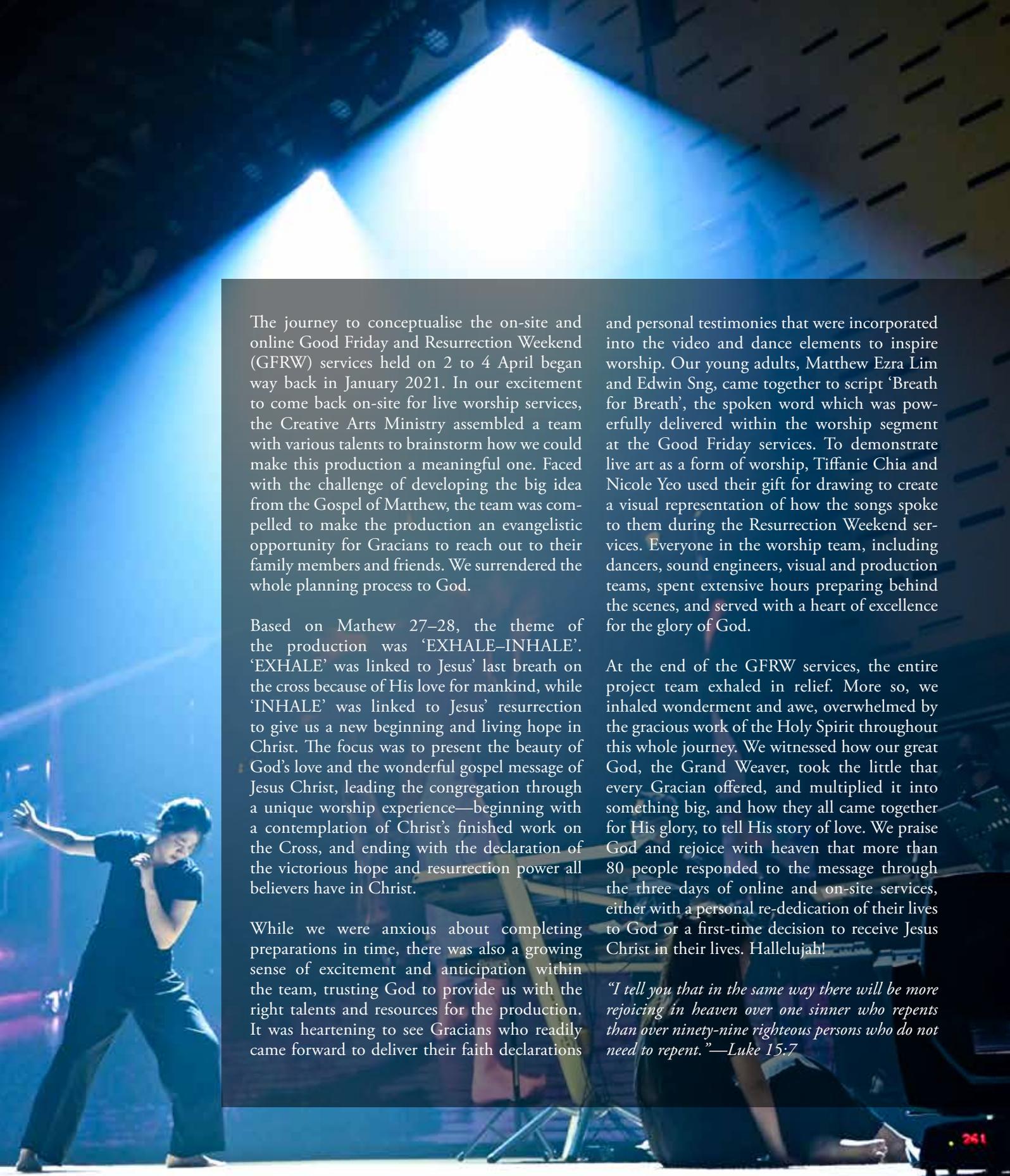
Rev. Dr. Wilson Teo
Senior Pastor



*More People
More Like Jesus*

Good Friday and Resurrection Weekend Services

BY Andrew Yeoh, Lighthill 4th Precious / Goh Lee Choo, Creative Arts Ministry



The journey to conceptualise the on-site and online Good Friday and Resurrection Weekend (GFRW) services held on 2 to 4 April began way back in January 2021. In our excitement to come back on-site for live worship services, the Creative Arts Ministry assembled a team with various talents to brainstorm how we could make this production a meaningful one. Faced with the challenge of developing the big idea from the Gospel of Matthew, the team was compelled to make the production an evangelistic opportunity for Gracians to reach out to their family members and friends. We surrendered the whole planning process to God.

Based on Mathew 27–28, the theme of the production was ‘EXHALE–INHALE’. ‘EXHALE’ was linked to Jesus’ last breath on the cross because of His love for mankind, while ‘INHALE’ was linked to Jesus’ resurrection to give us a new beginning and living hope in Christ. The focus was to present the beauty of God’s love and the wonderful gospel message of Jesus Christ, leading the congregation through a unique worship experience—beginning with a contemplation of Christ’s finished work on the Cross, and ending with the declaration of the victorious hope and resurrection power all believers have in Christ.

While we were anxious about completing preparations in time, there was also a growing sense of excitement and anticipation within the team, trusting God to provide us with the right talents and resources for the production. It was heartening to see Gracians who readily came forward to deliver their faith declarations

and personal testimonies that were incorporated into the video and dance elements to inspire worship. Our young adults, Matthew Ezra Lim and Edwin Sng, came together to script ‘Breath for Breath’, the spoken word which was powerfully delivered within the worship segment at the Good Friday services. To demonstrate live art as a form of worship, Tiffanie Chia and Nicole Yeo used their gift for drawing to create a visual representation of how the songs spoke to them during the Resurrection Weekend services. Everyone in the worship team, including dancers, sound engineers, visual and production teams, spent extensive hours preparing behind the scenes, and served with a heart of excellence for the glory of God.

At the end of the GFRW services, the entire project team exhaled in relief. More so, we inhaled wonderment and awe, overwhelmed by the gracious work of the Holy Spirit throughout this whole journey. We witnessed how our great God, the Grand Weaver, took the little that every Gracian offered, and multiplied it into something big, and how they all came together for His glory, to tell His story of love. We praise God and rejoice with heaven that more than 80 people responded to the message through the three days of online and on-site services, either with a personal re-dedication of their lives to God or a first-time decision to receive Jesus Christ in their lives. Hallelujah!

“I tell you that in the same way there will be more rejoicing in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who do not need to repent.”—Luke 15:7

1. Grace dancers practising for the Good Friday video
2. Masie Ong recording her testimony for the Resurrection Weekend services
- 3-6. Gracians who declared their faith in the Good Friday video.
Top: Chelsea Leong and Reuben Wong Bottom: Paul Raman, Jeannie Lim
7. Worship rehearsals and technical runs

What Gracians said:

“What a blessing that we were able to experience Good Friday in church! The programming was innovative and impactful. Pastor Joey’s sermon was stirring and insightful. A big thank you too, to the ushering team that welcomed everyone home and ensured safe distancing with warmth and ‘smiles’.”

– *Tan King Ming, Joshua Generation Grace Group*

“No better place to be on Good Friday than back in the House of God! Once the lights dimmed and I focused on the service, my heart stirred and tears flowed as I have so missed being here. Attending service online has just not been the same. So indeed, this was a good Good Friday.”

– *Joanne Lee, Joshua Grace Group*

“This year’s Good Friday service was one of the best services I have attended. The dance, the video and especially the spoken narrative of God’s full redemption story, presented by the young man was extraordinary. I want to thank the team’s hard work and effort to put the show together. It was refreshing and touching, orchestrated by the Holy Spirit. I even wept while watching. It really touched my heart and the hearts of many who also grieved the painful death of Jesus for the salvation of mankind.”

– *Cindy Sim, Havelock Grace Group*

“Like the warmth of Spring brings back life, Resurrection Sunday in 2021 brought life to our family. After my mother-in-law became a Christian in August 2020, my brother-in-law started his search on how she was transformed so drastically. He started to read the Bible daily. We could see how his soul thirsts for our living God. He accepted our invitation to join the Alpha course. We also took the opportunity to invite him to our online Good Friday service and on-site Resurrection Sunday service. By the grace of God and the power of the Holy Spirit, my brother-in-law received his salvation on Sunday! We thank our church for creating opportunities for us to reach those who need to hear the Good News.”

– *Andy Tan, Shammah Grace Group*





12.



13.



15.



14.

8-15. Good Friday and Resurrection Weekend services at Grace@Tanglin and Grace@BukitBatok

Grace Kids' AMAZING GRACE Easter Programme

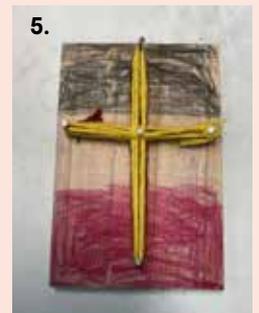


By Sim Soo Wei, Head, Grace Kids

After a year of weekly online Zoom services, Grace Kids came back on-site for a special Easter Programme at Grace@Tanglin on 3 April morning. 234 eager attendees filled Bethel hall that day and another 53 participants joined in live via our online church platform as well. The ministry rejoiced over 19 salvations and 20 guests who rededicated their lives to Jesus Christ that day. It was our privilege to have hosted 32 first-time guests and to see all the familiar faces that we have been longing to meet.

This year, we invited The Treasure Box SG and they took centre-stage during the hour-long programme, leading all the families in a fun time of worship. They put on a skit entitled “Why is Good Friday Good?”. During the re-enactment of the crucifixion, hammering sounds echoed through the sanctuary. The children began to understand the suffering of our Saviour and it was a moment of solemn reflection for every attendee.

Due to the pandemic, there were very stringent Safe Management Measures that all participants needed to ensure and adhere to so that the event would be safe for all to attend. Having said that, we were very grateful to all children and parents who remained very understanding and cooperative throughout the event, be it queuing up to check-in or waiting to be dismissed in an orderly manner. That made coming home to church a pleasant one.



1. Families worshipping the Lord together
2. Our Guest Speakers: Elvin and Esther from The Treasure Box SG
- 3-5. Children reflecting on the true meaning of Good Friday through the hands-on activity

The event was put together by a 11-man committee who worked tirelessly behind the scenes. It was no easy feat organising an event with capacity restrictions, safe management measures and other limitations. Here are some of the committee members' reflections in their planning journey:

“Organising an event during a time such as this involves A LOT of communication compared to pre-COVID-19 days. Due to the number of people in the committee, we had to conduct online meetings, and this was sometimes more draining than meeting one another face-to-face. Meanwhile, when I saw how the rigorous vetting process took place between the committee and the full-time staff, I had a deeper appreciation for what ‘stewardship’ and ‘intentionality’ entails.”
 – *Randy Leong, Overall-in-Charge*

“Planning for this hybrid service had really been challenging because this is the first time that Grace Kids is returning on-site in nearly a year. Therefore, we needed to ensure that all the safe-distancing measures are in place so that our guests will be safe when they come back on-site. We also had to equip ourselves with the knowledge of the protocol, as well as briefing of the volunteers when they help us with the event.”
 – *Keith Chan, Publicity & Reception*

Operating the sound and media system is a very technical and hands-on process, whereby volunteers must take in a lot of information in the first practice session held by Grace Media. Thus, the volunteers were initially very apprehensive as to whether they will be able to operate the system properly on the day of the Easter Programme, with so much information to take in, within a short period of time. However, after a few more practice sessions, they became more confident and less afraid, as they were able to touch and ‘play around’ with the system.
 – *Cheryl Chin, Media*



6. Committee members hard at work, putting the Good Friday kits together
 7. A mother participating in the crossword puzzle activity with her children
 8. A father helping his child with the nailing (craft work)
 9. Sisters Renee and Natalie Kwan with their beautiful masterpieces

What our participants said:

“I could not contain my excitement at the thought of going back to church after 14 months when I signed up for the Amazing Grace event. From entering to sitting down in Bethel hall, it all seemed so surreal. It was the familiar smiley faces of the Shine leaders that greeted me, my friends and their children waving at my children and me from a distance that brought me back to reality.”
 – *Jane, with daughter Christy, 8 and son Caleb, 10*

“It was like returning home after being away for a long time. The warm reception and the joy of coming back together again physically can never be replaced by online meetings. Though we are still not able to mingle, I am so glad to see all the familiar and friendly faces again. It’s really the personal touch that enlivens the spirit and soul.”
 – *Seok Bee, a Gracian who invited children from the Lengkok Bahru Community*

“I find it very well organised, 辛苦你们 [you all must have worked hard]! The nailing activity helped my child think about the time when Jesus was nailed on the cross. He said, ‘Very painful!’ As a parent, I really appreciate the planning that goes into the event. The message was simple enough for kids to understand.”
 – *Soo Li Wong and son Michael Wong, 8. New guests to Grace Assembly*

Everyone went back that day with their hearts full — thankful for what Christ had done for us on the cross and contented from meeting the friends and Grace Kids community after so long.

Everyone is now looking forward to returning on-site from week 1 of July 2021 for their weekly services. More information will be released on the Grace Kids Telegram channels in the weeks to come.



Missions Convention 2021

BY Pastor Rosita Cristobal, Head, Grace Filipino Ministry





This year's Missions Convention was held on 20 and 21 February across all services at both Grace@Tanglin and Grace@BukitBatok. At the Grace Filipino Service held on Sunday afternoon, everyone was filled with excitement as the ushers dressed in traditional Filipino costumes welcomed the congregants joyfully. Even with masks on, everyone smiled brightly with their eyes.

Upon entering Galilee hall at Grace@Tanglin, attendees were greeted by 12 flags representing the partner nations that Grace Missions is working with, declaring God's victory in the missions fields.

The Filipino congregation was blessed by Awaken Generation which led the worship segment of the service. Awaken Generation is a worship and missions organisation with a vision to see a movement of worship leaders transformed, equipped and empowered by the Holy Spirit to live out the Great Commission and impact the nations for His glory. As Awaken Generation performed songs such as, "I Will Sing of the Mercies of the Lord Forever", "Sound of Revival", and "I Have

Decided to Follow Jesus", everyone could feel the presence of God as they raised their hands in worship. Although singing was not allowed, many clapped and moved to the music and enjoyed the immersive worship experience as a church.

Psalms 89:1 says, "I will sing of the Lord's great love forever; with my mouth I will make your faithfulness known through all generations." Fresh from the wonderful praise and worship, the congregation was also blessed by the video preaching of Pastor Ron Cantor as he challenged everyone to tune in to God's heartbeat for the nations.

Pastor Ron also reminded the congregation that anyone who is now born again has the calling to reach the nations, so that God's ways may be known on earth, and everyone everywhere can receive His saving power. (Psalms 67:2) Towards the end of his preaching, the guest speaker reiterated that the only thing we can bring to the next life is the souls we have reached. While this insight is not new, everyone was once again reminded of the importance that we should not be complacent, but we are to take the Gospel seriously to all nations.

The announcement video by Pastor Steve Tan, Head of Grace Missions, echoed the same when he unveiled what the ministry accomplished in 2020 despite the pandemic. The testimonies proved that God is still moving in our midst. Indeed, there is something that all of us can do. We can be "a part of", but not "apart from" this harvest field. We can intercede for, and contribute to the work by giving our time, talents and treasures to bless the nations that God has placed under Grace Missions.

Through Grace Missions, we can see God's hand and mission flourishing in many nations. Through participation in Grace Missions' work in our partner countries, there are opportunities for every Gracian to invest in eternity and harvest the fruit that will last forever. For Romans 1:16-17 says, "For I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes: first to the Jew, then to the Gentile. For in the gospel the righteousness of God is revealed—a righteousness that is by faith from first to last, just as it is written: 'The righteous will live by faith.'"

Church Planting in EAST ASIA

BY Rev Scott Tey, Grace Missions

“But we have this treasure in jars of clay to show that this all-surpassing power is from God and not from us. We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed; perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not abandoned; struck down, but not destroyed.”

2 Corinthians 4:7-9

When we think about Apostle Paul, we think about his struggles and pressures in life. Paul was forced to endure for the privilege of preaching about Christ (the lashings, the stonings, running for his life, doing without meals at times, being ridiculed, arrested, threatened, nearly drowned, beaten, and betrayed); lesser men would have lost heart, but not Paul. Paul tells us that we who are in Christ have a great treasure within; it is Jesus Christ living His life in us, the Holy Spirit dwelling in us, empowering us, and manifesting in us.

As I ponder over these verses, I can see why East Asia church planters need the Holy Spirit’s power them through the many challenges in reaching the unreached. Much of our East Asia work takes place in difficult places where people face persecution and pressure from the authorities. The pandemic has resulted in even tougher measures that believers have to deal with, such as meeting in smaller numbers, or using online platforms to meet. Although the church planters cannot control what happens around them, they chose to depend on God for their believers. In recent months, they have spent more time discipling their key leaders, and are also growing deeper in their discipleship framework in their churches.

In partnering with our church planters, Grace Missions spends time providing pastoral care and discipleship during difficulties. We also provide online training for our church partners to develop their leadership and equip potential church planters.

Despite the difficulties and hardship, there is joy and peace in East Asia church planters’ hearts when they serve and obey Him. Please remember them in your prayer, that they will have the power of Christ to overcome when they are hard-pressed on every side, persecuted, and struck down. Indeed, they will not be crushed, fall into despair, nor will they be forsaken!



Although the church planters cannot control what happens around them, they chose to depend on God for their believers.

SHARING the Good News at Sungei Tengah Lodge

By Sarah Seng, Young Adults and Young Professionals (YAYP)

Our migrant worker friends undertake labourious jobs such as beautifying our city with greenery and painting the exterior of our HDBs under the sweltering hot sun. On 1 April 2021, our Young Adults and Young Professionals (YAYP) team, along with Pastor Scott from Grace Missions, and some adult volunteers came together to perform a Good Friday and Resurrection Sunday skit for the migrant workers residing at Sungei Tengah Lodge.

The event which took place on a Thursday night, saw the YAYP team acting out scenes from the crucifixion and resurrection story of Jesus Christ, complete with hand-made props. Pastor Scott preached to the migrant worker brothers from the perspective of a Roman soldier. After the skit, our adult volunteers also blessed the migrant workers with a good dinner so that they did not need to cook.

We really thank God for this opportunity to be able to sow seeds in these brothers, whom we have been building relationships with since October last year and we pray that God will continue to soften their hearts to receive the Gospel!!

We have received favourable response from the migrant work brothers and hence, we hope to continue serving the migrant brothers through teaching them conversational English, as well as conduct Art and Music classes for them.

If you would like to join us in this local missions endeavour, or contribute through donating used laptops, musical instruments or art materials, please contact Pastor Scott at missions@graceaog.org.

“For we are God’s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.” Ephesians 2:10 (NIV)

1. Missions in Action!
2. Building relationships with the migrant workers
3. Sharing the Gospel through the stories of Jesus’ crucifixion and resurrection
4. Friendships formed with the migrant workers



We really thank God for this opportunity to be able to sow seeds in these brothers... we pray that God will continue to soften their hearts to receive the Gospel!!

On a Sunday afternoon in February 2021, our group of eight Gracians embarked on our very first online missions trip with partners in IBC Batam. It was a journey with many 'unknowns' as none of us had experience with an online trip. We did not know how the session would go, whether participants would have stable WIFI connection or enough devices to use, or if we would be able to connect with participants and have two-way conversations online.

By the end of the trip, we saw how it was indeed possible for Gracians to be connected to the ends of the world with the help of technology. It was a short but meaningful time, as relationships were built between Gracians and the IBC students.

It was encouraging to see that the IBC students felt comfortable enough to share about their fears, hesitations, and concerns as they were preparing to embark on various ministries.

It was a time of open and vulnerable sharing as some talked about the difficulties faced in trusting in God's call on their life, facing opposition from family members, sickness in the family and self-doubt and financial concerns. For some, this was the first time verbalising such thoughts and feelings to another person. Our team was grateful for the chance to walk alongside them, to encourage and pray with them. We recounted how God had delivered us from difficult situations in the past and were reassured that our God is bigger than all the problems we face.

One reflection the team had while preparing for the trip was regarding the life of King Asa. He began his journey as King of Judah well, as he was wholly devoted to God and had commanded his people to seek God as well (2 Chronicles 14:4). However, though he had walked with God for many years, he did not finish well, turning to man and his own strength instead of relying on God (2 Chronicles 16:9).

We recognise that walking with God is like a marathon, and we desire for all to endure all the way to the finish line. The students' time in IBC has prepared them for the journey ahead, and they are filled with passion for God and a desire to serve Him — some through planting churches and others through teaching in schools.

Do pray along with us:

- That the IBC graduates will continue to serve God with wholehearted devotion in their respective ministries;
- For spiritual friendships and mentors to walk alongside them, supporting and spurring each other on to finish the race well;
- For the Lord to continue to guide their paths and develop their giftings in ministry, and
- That God will take care of their family members as they decide to give their lives to serving God

ONLINE Missions Trip to IBC Batam

By Geraldine Ng, Young Adults and Young Professionals (YAYP)

“We recognise that walking with God is like a marathon, and we desire for all to endure all the way to the finish line.”



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by 23 May 2021



Delivering Bags Filled with God's Love and Blessings

by Selina Esther Lim, Head, Corporate Communications



Chinese New Year is usually a busy period for many – spring cleaning, decluttering, changing notes, shopping, and many other chores.

This year, some Gracians took time off their busy schedules and roped in their friends and families to help with the packing of CNY gift bags to bless those in need.

In total, our Gracian volunteers packed more than 1,000 CNY gift bags. During the Chinese New Year period, volunteers from Grace Assembly of God, together with others from REACH Community Services, Hong

Kah North Community Club and Kim Tian West Residents' Committee, distributed these CNY gift bags to migrant workers at Sungei Tengah Lodge, community residents in Bukit Batok, Lengkok Bahru, Jalan Bukit Merah, Telok Blangah Crescent, as well as to Henderson Home and Henderson May Wong Day Care Centre.

Thank you to all who have participated and contributed to the success of this CNY outreach activity!

Let us continue to be vessels of God's love and bless lives in the community!

Parenting with **GRACE**

BY REACH Community Services Society



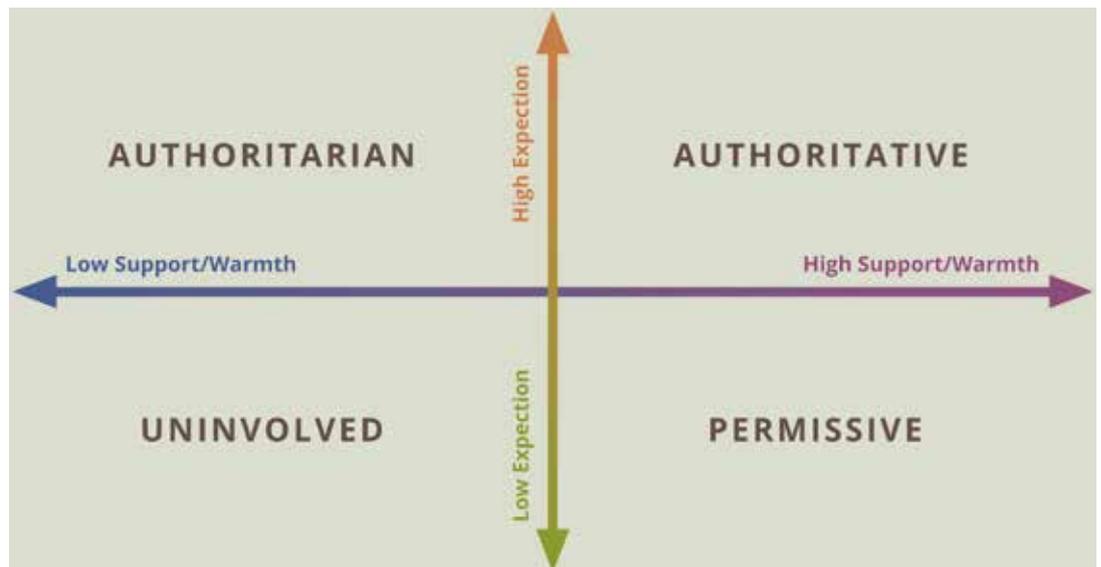
“Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.”
– Proverbs 22:6 KJV

There is a saying that parenting is the “world’s hardest job”. While children are gifts from God, being a parent is one of life’s greatest responsibility, apart from bringing about one of life’s greatest joy. To commemorate Mother’s Day and Father’s Day in the months of May and June respectively, REACH Counselling Service discussed the pros and cons of some common parenting styles.

FOUR TYPES OF PARENTING STYLE

According to developmental psychologist Diana Baumrind, there are four types of parenting style, namely, *Authoritative*, *Authoritarian*, *Permissive* and *Uninvolved*. Here are some main advantages and disadvantages of each style.

4 Types of Parenting Style



Authoritative Parenting Style

Parents adopting this parenting style create a loving and supportive environment that allows their children to fail and learn from mistakes. This helps to build resilience and confidence in children, resulting in high self-esteem and good quality of life. Children tend to understand that they are responsible for the choices they make and this empowers them to make good decisions. They tend to be productive, responsible and motivated. They often thrive in social settings and do not cave in to peer pressure.

However, parents adopting this style need a lot of patience and effort, and need to adjust their rules at times in view of the difficulties in implementation and adaptation. Children may struggle to manage life situations by themselves, have low self-confidence or lack emotional resilience. They may either be over-dependent or feel restricted by their parent's control. Parents may also have difficulty maintaining this parenting style for children with challenging behaviour or personalities.

Authoritarian Parenting Style

Children under this parenting style tend to know the boundaries set with clarity and perspective, are better able to focus on achievements and are disciplined and self-motivated. They will know the stand, limits and what is expected of them. They are likely to be more rule-abiding and thus get into less trouble.

However, these children may have issues seeing their parents as legitimate authority figures, while viewing relationships and situations as black and white. They are more likely to rebel and engage in delinquent behaviour due to strict upbringing. They tend to be less happy due to the high expectations for selves and exhibit low self-esteem

or harming behaviour. The strict rules and patterns can make them secretive which results in suppression of anger and emotional dependence.

Permissive Parenting Style

As parents are generally loving and nurturing under this parenting style, their children tend to develop into independent, decision-making adults. They have enhanced imagination and increased positivity, resulting in higher self-esteem and lower risk of mental health issues.

On the other hand, as the parents are lax about their expectations and do not set standards and boundaries, their children tend to exhibit risky behavior, have undeveloped coping skills, are less mentally healthy and have more perceived stress. They are likely to struggle with self-control and self-regulation and are more likely to be victims of bullies. They may be demanding, insecure and lack direction in life, and therefore are less driven to achieve at school. They tend to develop an irresponsible attitude, take things for granted, and are defiant and disrespectful.

Uninvolved Parenting Style

Children with uninvolved parents learn to take care of themselves at a very early stage. Thus, they are likely to be independent, self-reliant, resilient and more self-sufficient. On the flip side, children tend to feel unloved and therefore display psychologically impacted behaviour, such as deficits in cognition, attachment, emotional and social skills, and are at higher risk of depression. They lack discipline, leading to poor self-control and more behavioural issues in school, and face academic challenges.

While there are pros and cons accompanying each parenting style, the Authoritative style is generally highly recommended with its high level of expectation balanced with equal level of support and warmth. Nonetheless, it does not mean that all parents should adopt this style. It depends largely on the needs and personality of the parents and each child, as well as the age and life stage of the child. It may be necessary to adopt and adapt to different styles at different phases of the child's life.

Regardless of the parenting style adopted, building a close relationship with your children and loving them are of utmost importance as they are blessings from God.

Contact REACH Counselling Service at 6801 0730 or counselling@reach.org.sg if you need to speak to a counsellor.

#UnmaskTheStigma



Despite living in a COVID-19 world for over a year, many still struggle to cope with their mental health in the new normal, dealing with heightened anxieties about the future to strained relationships and poor emotional well-being.

While we keep our masks on to protect our society and loved ones, we don't have to mask our mental health problems.

You can do your part to provide mental health support to the Least, the Lost, and the Lonely by donating, as REACH Community Services aims to provide counselling for those who may not be able to afford them.

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GETTING TO KNOW...

Pastor Victor Toh

MARRIED TO: Yang Shuyi

FATHER OF: Raena Toh and Isaac Toh

HOBBIES/PASTIMES: Soccer, Cycling, Roller Blading, Fishing, Music

FAVOURITE FOOD: Durian

When did you first hear the Good News, and who shared it with you? What was your response?

I was raised in a Christian family. I was in church every Saturday and Sunday because my parents would be serving. I would have to attend extra Sunday School and Children Church services every weekend. I would know the way to worship God and the Bible verses. However, I did not know God personally until I turned 13.

When I was 13 years old, my mum forced me to join a youth camp. It was in the camp that God spoke to me so clearly. I was touched by His presence and knew that God was reaching out to me. I properly gave my life to Jesus then and it was the start of my relationship with God.

Share your journey of faith.

My life is filled with many miracles. Miracles of how God preserved my life three times for a purpose. One of these instances happened when I was 11 years old. I had a cycling accident in which I hit my head and had internal brain bleeding. Doctors told my parents that I needed immediate surgery to stop the bleeding as I was facing imminent death. My family and church prayed for my life. On the day of surgery, I woke up feeling perfectly well. The doctors were amazed and sent me for a last scan before the surgery. Through the scan, there wasn't any internal bleeding nor blood clot in my brain. The doctor told me that he has never seen anything like this in his life and said that it was definitely a miracle. I didn't need the surgery and walked out of the hospital a few days later.

This incident was the start of me seeing God move in, and through, my life. I

have always learnt to walk in faith and God has never failed me. God has always provided for me. From my wedding to my honeymoon and even my house, He always provided for me and my family. Even though walking in faith is a scary thing, I truly enjoy it because I know I am not in control, but rather, He is always in control.

When were you called into full-time ministry?

It was also in a youth camp when I was 14 years old that I heard God distinctively calling me to serve Him in full-time ministry. I knew it was God's call because that desire in me kept getting more and more intense year after year. After army, I stepped into the ministry on 1 June 2004.

Tell us about your family.

I am married to a wonderful and supportive wife, Yang Shuyi. She is my best friend, encourager and critic for all the songs I write. Incidentally, she also stepped into serving God full-time in an administrative role on 1 June 2004. I also have two wonderful children, Raena Toh (11 years old) and Isaac Toh (1 year old). Both of them are miracles from God. In both instances, we wanted to give up trying to have them, but God surprised us. Indeed, His timing is never early nor late. He is always on time.

What's your role in Grace Assembly? And what's your vision for your ministry / the church, and how do you think you can contribute?

I am serving as the Head of Creative Arts Ministry (CAM). My vision for CAM is to raise, train and release Levites to build this house and even other churches in need. I pray together with the team. I will continue to write



Pastor Victor with his wife Shuyi, and children.

songs and release prophetic worship into Grace Assembly. I also believe that we can use technology and creative elements to enhance the worship experience as well as sharing the gospel with pre-believers. There is so much that Grace Assembly can do, to be a blessing to other churches and to the community. I pray that I can be a part of what God has begun here.

LIFE-STAGE Track

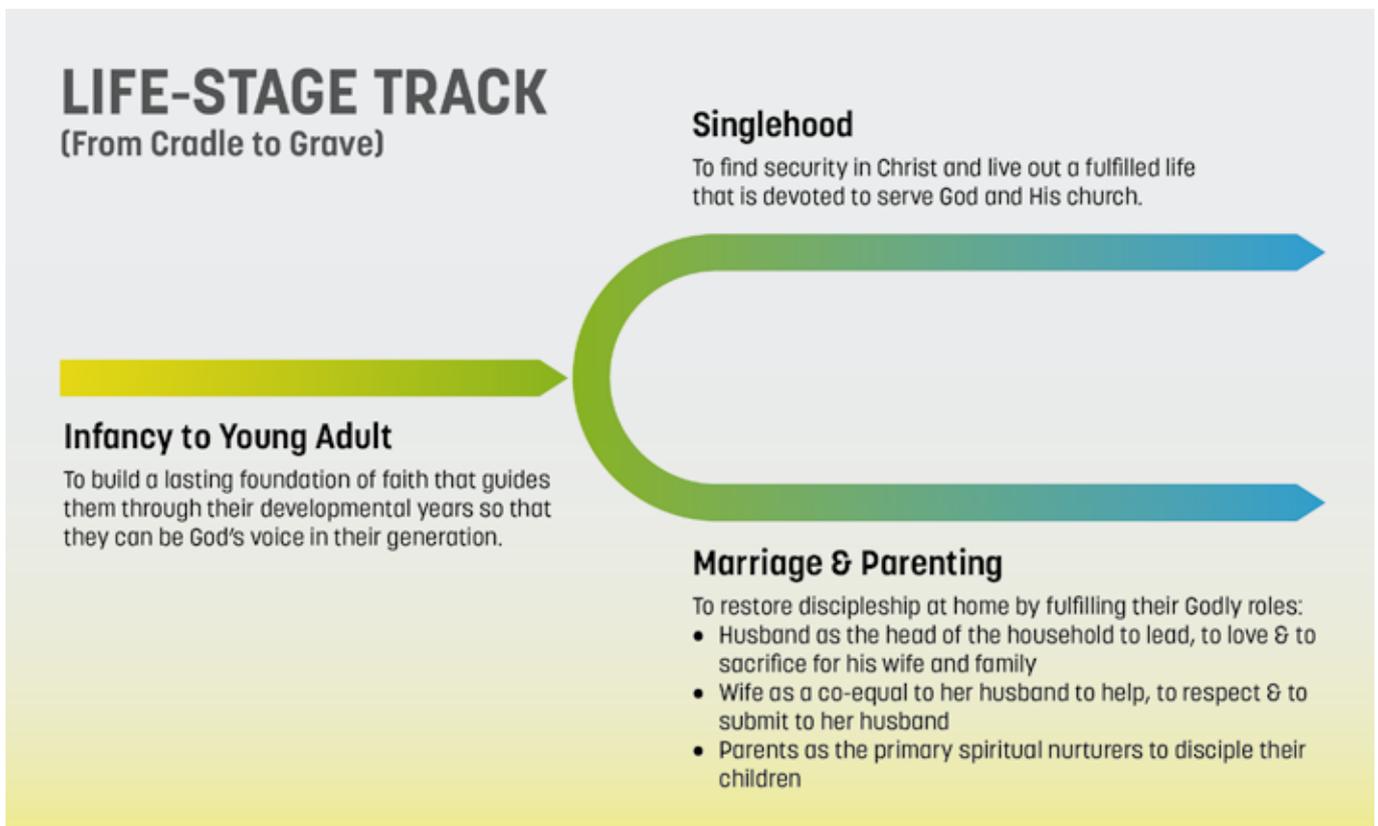
BY Rev Benjamin Wong, Grace Discipleship Institute (Family Life Ministry)

In the two previous issues of *The Gracian* in October 2020 and January 2021, you have read much about the development of the Grace Discipleship Framework. God is indeed doing a great work through the Grace Discipleship Institute (GDI) team and the team of passionate Gracians partnering with us. After reading about the Disciple-Maker Track, I hope it has inspired you to embark with us on this track to see how God can transform you, your life, your family, your job and all your relationships. Apart from the Disciple-Maker Track, the GDF also includes two other tracks: the Life-Stage Track and the Leadership Track. These three tracks will offer a wholistic approach in the making of disciples. In this issue, we will continue to unveil the Life-Stage Track (LST).

Each person is an image-bearer of God (*imago Dei*). Christian theology sees humans holistically as material and immaterial, body and soul-spirit. This holistic view involves both an understanding of developmental theories and theological truths. In our biological growth, we move through life stages. Developmental theories help us to understand the physical, cognitive, and psychosocial development needs of a believer throughout their life span. Physical development involves growth and changes in the body and brain, the senses, motor skills, and health and wellness. Cognitive development involves learning, attention, memory, language, thinking, reasoning, and creativity. Psychosocial development involves emotions, personality, and

social relationships. Theological truths help us to teach God's Word in the most effective ways to meet those developmental needs and empower the believer in their faith journey as they grow from one stage into another. Thus the LST framework will help us assess the developmental needs and chart the growth of the believer from cradle to grave.

The LST framework consists of three distinct life stages which includes infancy to young adult, singlehood and the marriage-parenting. Each life stage is defined by unique goals and constructs.





CONSTRUCTS FOR MARRIAGE & PARENTING

Develop God-honouring relationships with key people in their lives.

RELATIONSHIPS



Discover and fulfill their God-given identities and responsibilities.

ROLES



Steward what God has given them at each life stage to accomplish His purposes.

RESOURCES



Find enjoyment and renewal in healthy leisure and celebrate the life that God has given.

RECREATION



Establish wholesome routines in their lives.

RHYTHM



Seek opportunities to serve and bless others as a family.

REACH-OUT



Constructs are key areas of developmental needs that surface in every life stage and across the life span of the believer. These constructs are Relationships, Roles, Rhythm, Recreation, Resources and Reach-out. Each of these constructs are meant to be broad enough to include as many areas of needs and growth.

At each life stage, believers need:

- **RELATIONSHIPS:** Develop God-honouring relationships with key people in their lives, e.g. student managing peer pressure, young adult looking for life partner, spouse resolving marital conflict, couples building relationship with in-laws, etc.
- **ROLES:** Discover and fulfill their God-given identities and responsibilities, e.g. a son/daughter honouring their parents, a student excelling in his/her studies, a husband leading the

family, a wife supporting her husband as co-equal, parents nurturing their children, an employee glorifying God through diligent work, etc.

- **RESOURCES:** Steward what God has given to them at each life stage to accomplish His purposes, e.g. students managing school and church life, young adult developing giftings and passion for God's work, family learning the value and habit of tithing and being generous in blessing others, etc.
- **RECREATION:** Find enjoyment and renewal in healthy leisure and celebrate the life that God has given, e.g. setting aside time to have fun with loved ones, enjoying God's creation in nature, creating family and life milestones, etc.
- **RHYTHM:** Establish wholesome routines in their lives, e.g. to inculcate spiritual disciplines like fasting

and prayer, building family altar, scheduling time for Sabbath rest, and to handle school stress or balancing work demands, etc.

- **REACH-OUT:** Seek opportunities to serve and bless others as a family, e.g. walking with a classmate/colleague in need, blessing the needy in one's community, serving the local church, doing missions/evangelism as a family together, etc.

With this comprehensive perspective to meet needs and direct growth, the believers can then accomplish God's task at each stage of their life. Now, with a deeper appreciation of the LST, we hope that you will be inspired to embark on this journey with us. In the next issue, we will unveil more of the LST on marriage and family.

GAP Intern's Sharing

REFLECTIONS of A GAP Intern

BY Gideon Lim



Gideon with "his pillars of strength" - Wife, Kyann, and daughter, Libby



Gideon with another GAP intern, Grace, and Lee Choo from Creative Arts Ministry

Back in 2017, I felt the Lord deposited in my heart a desire to serve him in a greater capacity and I knew this was not something I could ignore. I spoke to my wife and several close friends about this desire, and God paved the way for me to learn about the Grace Apprenticeship Programme (GAP), a 9-month internship programme. There was much hesitation as I was concerned about how leaving my job would affect our financial situation, with a young child at hand. But after much encouragement, assurance and support from my family and leaders, I took a step of faith.

Joining GAP has drawn me closer to God as I experienced His providence, guidance and empowerment throughout the steep learning curve. His grace is always sufficient! It has also developed me as a servant of the Lord. I experienced first-hand what our full-time ministers do beyond the weekend services. Their hard work and their families' sacrifice for the Lord and His church are an inspiration and encouragement to me. Last but not least, it has deepened my fellowship with the church as I saw the importance of belonging to a community of believers. To be able to embark on a faith journey with others is indeed a privilege.

I came with fear and uncertainty. But I have grown in faith and clarity – learning to trust God with my life and my family, knowing that His ways are higher than mine, and that His plans are to give us hope and a future.

Gideon has ended his nine-month GAP internship and is now serving full-time in Creative Arts Ministry (CAM).

AN INVITATION

You are cordially invited to:

- Get a glimpse of what being in *full-time* ministry entails
- *Be equipped* through courses that will prepare you to be a people helper, witness signs and wonders, preach the Word, and many more!
- Receive *mentorship* and *be disciplined* by our own pastors
- *Grow* through serving full-time in ministry to disciple and mentor others, preach and teach, plan and lead, and *many more!*



ACT NOW!

Join the 9-month Grace Apprenticeship Programme (GAP), starting 1 July 2021.

Enrolment for GAP 2021-2022 is now open. Register by **30 April 2021**.

For more information, please visit www.graceaog.org/GAP.



Grace Discipleship Institute

GDI Courses

COURSE	DATE	DURATION	TIME / VENUE*
MAY			
约伯记 Book of Job #	20, 27 May • 3, 10, 17, 24 Jun	7 Thur	8pm–9.30pm
新常态中的人生蓝图 Navigating life in the new normal #	30 May	Sun	3pm–5pm
Restored to Wholeness Level 1	30 May Briefing^ 20 Jun Meet the Facilitators session^ Main session: 2–4 Jul	Fri–Sun	^Sun 2.30–4.30pm 2 Jul, Fri 8pm–10.30pm 3 Jul, Sat, 10am–12.30pm 4 Jul, Sun, 2.30pm–5pm
JUNE			
Conversational Evangelism	8, 15, 22, 29 Jun	4 Tue	8pm–9.30pm
Kairos (English)	3, 17, 24 Jun 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Jul • 5 Aug	9 Thur	8pm–10pm
JULY			
Women of Grace (Saturday Bible Study) – Book of Acts	3, 17, 31 Jul • 14, 28 Aug 18 Sep • 2, 16, 30 Oct	9 Sat	10am–12pm
Women of Grace (Day Bible Study) – Book of Acts	7, 14, 28 Jul • 4, 18 Aug 1, 22 Sep • 13, 27 Oct	9 Wed	10am–12pm
Alpha	10, 17, 24, 31 Jul • 7, 14, 21, 28 Aug 4, 11, 18, 25 Sep • 2, 9 Oct	14 Sat	1pm–3pm
Marriage Preparation Discipleship Programme	10 ^A , 24 Jul • 7, 21 Aug • 4, 18 Sep 2, 16, 30 Oct	9 Sat	9.30am–12pm ^A 10 Jul – Grace@Tanglin / Off-site
Emotionally Healthy Spirituality	27 Jul • 2, 10, 17, 24, 31 Aug 7, 14 Sep	8 Tue	8pm–9.15pm

* All courses will conduct via Zoom Online, unless otherwise stated. # Class will be conducted in Mandarin.
Registration starts one month before course commencement. Closing date is one week before the course starts.

REGISTER ONLINE:



English
<https://event.graceaog.org>



Chinese / 中文
<https://event.graceaog.org>

Start your day with God's Word by tuning in to
Grace Every Morning!

Share the link to our daily devotionals with a friend or
a family member and encourage them to join you!

Daily Devotionals

26 APRIL - 17 MAY

1 CORINTHIANS

(16 Chapters)

24 MAY - 9 JUNE

2 CORINTHIANS

(13 Chapters)

21 JUNE - 28 JUNE

Ephesians

(6 Chapters)



<https://www.graceaog.org/devotionals/>



RESTORED TO WHOLENESS

(Zoom Format)

LEVEL ONE

Introduction to Inner Healing & Deliverance
(Mass Ministry)

30 May

Pre-Briefing: 2:30 – 4:30pm

20 June

Meet the Facilitators: 2:30pm – 4:30pm

2 July, Friday | 8:00pm – 10:30pm

3 July, Saturday | 10:00am – 12:30pm

4 July, Sunday | 2:30pm – 5:00pm



Course Fee: \$10

Register online:

<https://event.graceaog.org>

Closing date: 23 May

- ** Gmail is required for the participants to access the teachings for the seminar.
- ** GDI course refund: admin charge of \$10 will be chargeable for cancellation of courses less than 7 days prior to course commencement.



For more details, please visit our website:
<https://www.graceaog.org/familylifegrace/>

An **AMAZING** God Working Through the Wholeness Seminar

BY Angie Hooi, Wholeness Ministry

Our online Level 2A Restored to Wholeness Seminar was held from 5 to 7 February 2021. I am in awe of what God is doing and can do even when we could not see Him working. He is indeed a way maker. Although we were ministering remotely online, our God is certainly far from remote. He is ever so close to us.

Having been on the receiving end myself, I see the powerful work of God through the Wholeness Ministry. However, being a highly cognitive individual, I was sceptical about whether inner healing could really take place remotely and how we could minister without meeting in person.

However, God proved my shallow faith wrong when we completed two runs of Level 1 of the Restored to Wholeness Seminar last year through Zoom and we all witnessed the same amazing power of God all, as if we were physically in the ministry room together. We rejoiced with the many powerful testimonies of God touching lives and healing hearts.

I was reminded of Genesis 50:20, “You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives.” When COVID-19 hit, many ministries were temporarily put on hold as we did not have any plans to conduct them remotely. However, many creative ideas and innovations emerged, and God inspired our ministry leaders to birth a new ministry format that is more sustainable, enabling us to reach out to even more receivers simultaneously, which was never possible when we were doing one-on-one ministry.

Hence, I was really anticipating more of God at work as we embarked on our Level 2 ministry this February, focusing on the root causes of Unforgiveness, Abandonment & Rejection. The

course also covered other issues like Anger & Bitterness, Doubt and Unbelief and Shame-Fear-&-Control. We accompanied our participants on their journey into deeper healing, one layer at a time. Once again, God continued to show that He is our good, good Abba Father who is interested in every detail of our lives, healing our deepest wounds, and bringing us to wholeness.

The amazing release of God’s power that was evident through visions, prophetic words and confirmations through the sharing of testimonies as we journeyed with our ministry receivers is real testimony that God is beyond boundaries and buildings. He is omnipresent and omniscient!

God once again brought wholeness to many broken and contrite hearts, releasing a beautiful vision at the end of our session: Many people were carrying big bags of heavy loads uphill. When the bags were opened, there were all stones tied with ropes. As the people started to throw the stones upwards, the ropes started to loosen and the stones were all broken into pieces, falling from the skies but turning into the words, “freedom”, “new identity”, “new boldness” and “courage”. People were bursting with joy, catching all the words and placing them in their hearts, like a scene of little children catching bubbles in the air. Praise God! Through it all, I am reminded again that my human logic is always limited but His ways are limitless. Isn’t God simply amazing?



A Father's DILEMMA

BY Frank Boey, Family Life Ministry

During breakfast one morning, a random thought came to my mind: "If I were to be out of a job and a lucrative job offer with a six-figure income comes along, would I take it?" I found myself imagining what I could do with the six-figure income: buying a big house, going for nice exotic holidays... Indeed, all these fantasies felt good.

However, my subconscious prompted me to think twice. What if this was an overseas job offer? Well, there is nothing wrong with that, you may say. Many people work overseas nowadays. I would say "yes" to such a job offer if I am single and unattached. But when I pondered about my current status as a husband to a beautiful wife who often needs me to fix things at home, a father to my three lovely daughters who still need me to carry groceries and fetch them around, I found myself struggling.

Just when I thought I had the answer to my imaginary question, my logical mind started assuring me that things at home would take care of themselves. My wife would learn how to fix computer software problems and unclog toilet bowls on her own. My daughters could always turn to the Internet or their friends to teach them how to survive in this world.

But, wait a minute. Would I want my daughters' friends, YouTubers, fancy idols or strangers lurking online taking over my role as guardian for my children? How would my daughters be influenced if they were to learn from such people about life, money, sex, family, marriage and God? 1 Timothy 5:8 started to flash in my mind—"Anyone who does not provide for their relatives, and especially for their own household, has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever."

I realised there is no easy answer, especially if a person has been out of a job for a long time and such an opportunity comes along. A father has to fulfil his duty to care for his family financially and spiritually. Just as my head was about to burst, thinking of an answer to my imaginary

question, my second daughter interrupted my thoughts with a practical question: "Daddy, am I supposed to give God all of my first month's pay?"

As a Christian father, I wanted to tell her the answer is found in Proverbs 3:9, "Honour the Lord with your wealth, with the firstfruits of all your crops." But I hesitated. I recalled the struggles she went through in her first job as a part-time packer in a local supermarket, and how my wife had to massage her and paste pain relief patches on her back almost every night. I said to her, "It's up to you. Some will offer a full month's pay, while some will offer a full day's pay."

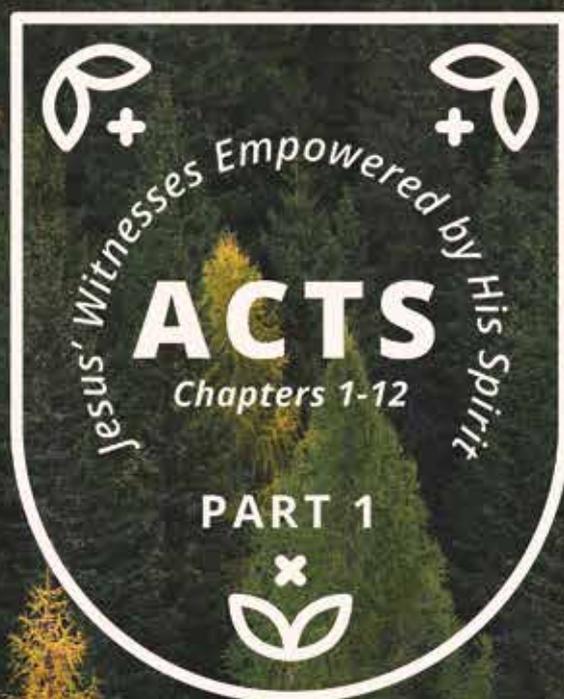
During the recent Chinese New Year online service, I saw my second daughter taking out her phone to tithe. She chose to offer God a full month's pay. I was overjoyed. Is this a result of my choice to stay by the side of my wife and my three daughters all these years? I hope so. But I also believe there are children who would do the same thing even if their father is posted overseas for many years.

As fathers, we have many roles to play and many decisions to make. Many times, we find ourselves stuck in different dilemmas. If you want to know more about being a godly father, or are keen to network with other fathers who share the same journey as you, you are most welcome to email me at parenting.life@graceao.org

Frank is currently serving in the Family Life Ministry in the parenting and publicity arm. He is also a regional leader.



WOMEN OF GRACE



Jesus sent the Holy Spirit to empower the apostles to testify to the power of God in salvation and in living every day for the gospel. Learn from their examples how you too can witness to others. Stand in awe of the power of God in believers to endure persecution and suffering for the cause of Christ, and embrace His power in your life.

- ZOOM ONLINE -

SATURDAY BIBLE STUDY (SBS)

SATURDAYS

DATE: 3 July (Intro) • 17, 31 Jul •
14, 28 Aug • 18 Sep • 2, 16, 30 Oct
(SATURDAYS)

TIME: 10am - 12nn

COST: \$21.00

DAY BIBLE STUDY (DBS)

WEDNESDAYS

DATE: 7 July (Intro) • 14, 28 Jul •
4, 18 Aug • 1, 22 Sep • 13, 27 Oct
(WEDNESDAYS)

TIME: 10am - 12nn

COST: \$21.00

Come join the Women of Grace Bible Study in this 9-week study.



Register at <https://event.graceaog.org>

THRIVING in the Marketplace

BY Pastor John Lin, Young Adults & Young Professionals (YAYP) Ministry

This past quarter, our YAYP (Young Adults Young Professionals) ministry held an online webinar series called THRIVE. We believe that, as followers of Jesus, we are called to thrive in the spaces we are placed in within the marketplace.

For the first time ever, we connected with our overseas partners who specialise in the area of marketplace ministry: One Rock International (UK), a ministry that focuses on developing godly individuals and leaders across the world through strong content, coaching and community, as well as Chick-fil-A, one of the fastest-growing fast food chains in USA that has a current turnover of \$13 billion a year. Their corporate purpose is, “To glorify God by being a faithful steward of all that is entrusted

to us and to have a positive influence on all who come into contact with Chick-fil-A.”

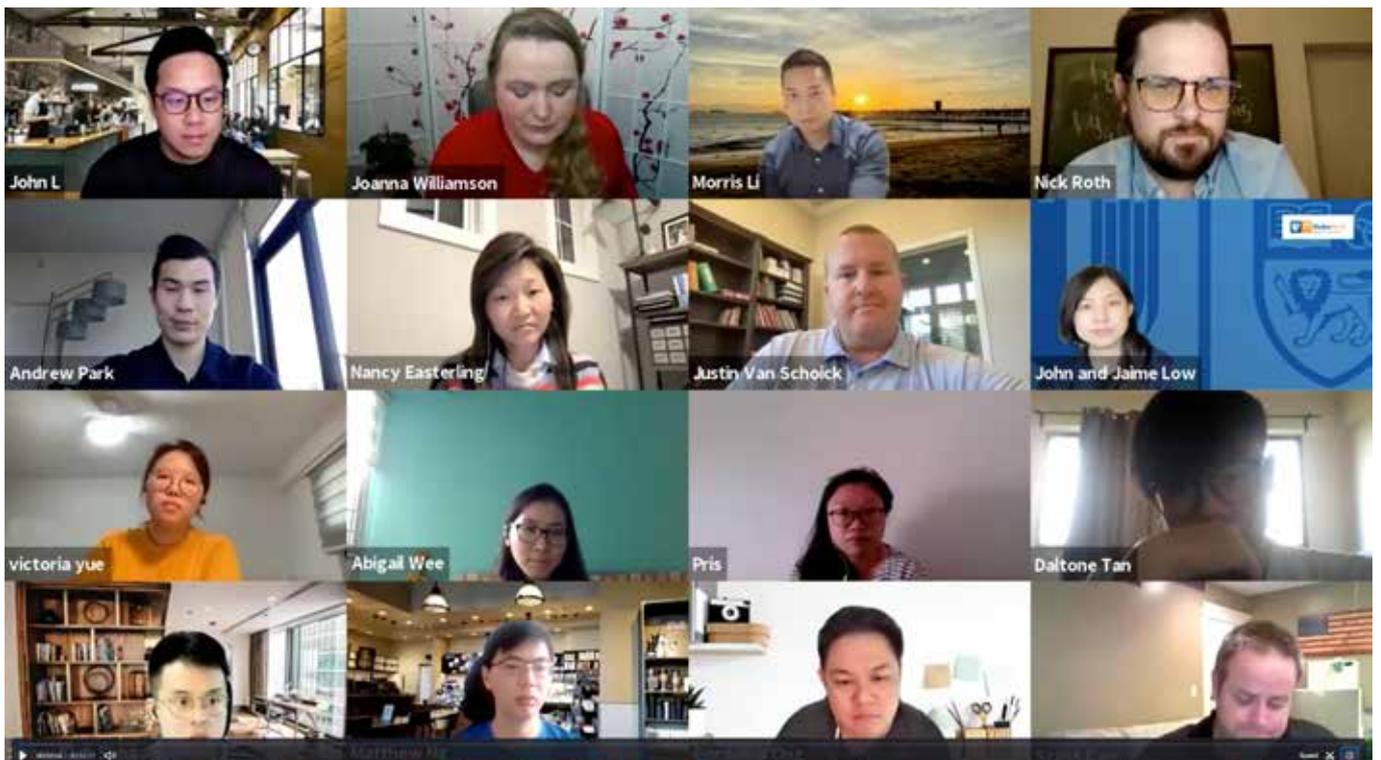
We held our webinars across three different time-zones, focusing on key topics that impact young adults the most. These topics were gathered through a survey in late 2020, where we asked young adults about their top concerns in navigating faith and work.

Through these webinars, about 40 young adults engaged regularly in panel discussions as well as break-out sessions that provided mentoring at a deeper level. Beyond these webinars, we also created a Telegram group to connect with our overseas partners through the curation and sharing of content that will help disciple the young adults in the marketplace weekly.

One of our young adults shares her experience:

“I’ve been encouraged by the sharing and reminder of the need for intentional efforts to form friendships at the workplace. Additionally, hearing from Christians who have lived out their faith even in difficult work circumstances reminds me that it’s not impossible with Jesus around.”—Delaine Tang

Let’s continue to pray for our young adults as they navigate their faith at work, the tensions of stress, relationships and being the salt and light for Christ.





TOGETHER Again

BY Samantha Loh, GAP Intern, Nexus

Over the March holidays this year, our Emerge leaders met with their pre-teens in person for a time of fun and fellowship. After being confined to meeting online for nearly the whole of last year, they were excited for this much-awaited meeting.

Partnering our pre-teens’ parents to host the cells in their homes was also a new experience for our leaders! We were thankful for their hospitality in providing a space for the pre-teens to gather in their homes and guiding the leaders in coordinating these meet-ups. Parents — your generosity encouraged our leaders immensely! Thank you!

“I was quite anxious about how the pre-teens would respond to the activities because they had not seen each other for a long time,” shared Dominic, one of the cell leaders involved in planning the meet-up. “However, seeing them have fun together as a break from school was all the encouragement I needed! As I read the messages on the chat group after, the strong support from the parents also assured me that we could partner together well for future meet-ups!”

As the world slowly returns to a pre-Covid normalcy, Emerge is also looking to resume on-site gatherings. However, we hope to continue gathering our pre-teens in home-based cell gatherings to strengthen the relationships among different stakeholders of Emerge — our pre-teens and their parents, with our leaders. We are so excited for what is to come for Emerge!

Making Jesus **KNOWN** in a Digital World

BY Vera Lim, Nexus

On 21 March 2021, campus students gathered on Zoom as our guest speaker, Pastor Patrick Tan, from the Philippines took time to equip our young adults on evangelising in our increasingly digital world. Pastor Patrick gave us an insight into the heart behind online evangelism. He also equipped us with the fundamentals of how to initiate and hold a spiritual conversation over text.

Having written Christian content occasionally on Instagram and WordPress for the last five years, I turned up in hopes of strengthening what I had. Verbal evangelism was never my forte, but digital evangelism on social media seemed to be something within reach. I wanted to maximise what the Lord had given me.



The landscape may have changed, but our mission remains the same...**to go and make disciples of all nations.**

But I was in for a surprise. Pastor Patrick did not provide us with the content I was expecting. Instead, he pushed for all to start a spiritual conversation via text messaging. I was appalled, staring at my list of pre-believing names I wrote in horror. Although I knew Pastor Patrick had good intentions at heart, I did not feel ready to text them. Some had no phone (grandparents), and others loathed all Christians except me. What made it worse was the root of their hate. While

Action Plan



Pray.

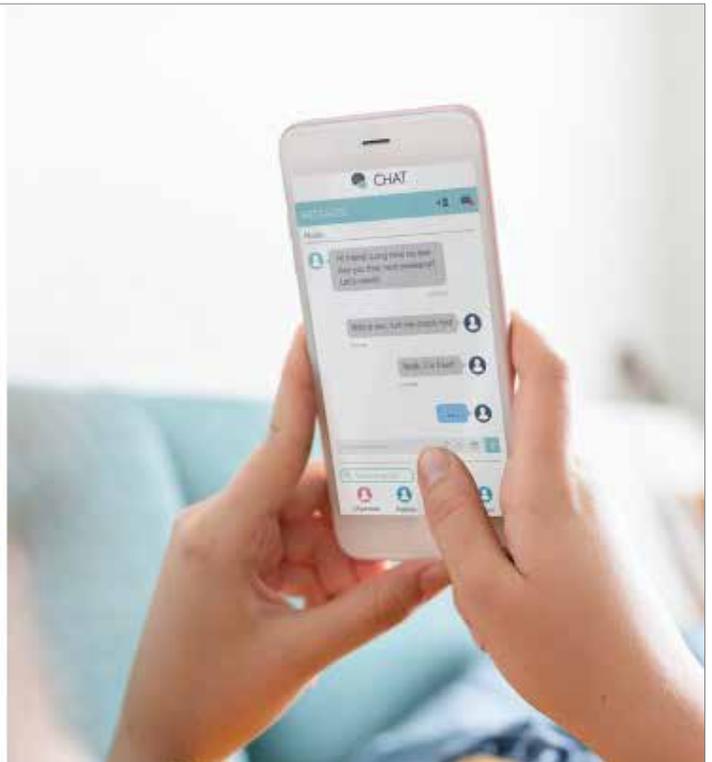


Care.



Share.

Success in witnessing is simply taking the initiative in the power of the Holy Spirit and leaving the results to God.



people generally do not detest the person who holds the faith, they hated the act of forceful evangelising and were repulsed by it.

Reminded of that reason once again, I looked at their names despondently. I wanted desperately to text them, but I knew speaking—let alone texting—was unwise. It was in that instant that God dropped an old quote and a couple of words in my heart.

“Your life may be the only Bible some people will ever read.”

My dear,
Evangelism lies not only in words but in the way we live our lives.
Evangelism lies not only in our speech but in the state of our heart.
The bulk of Jesus’ testimony lay not in his words.
But in His life and His act of sacrifice that He did out of love.
Though the world may shoot down our words,
Will you still use your life as a living sacrifice?

I may never have a chance to text my peers about Christ. But I do have a choice to let His love radiate in my life. We may never evangelise on the street again, but we can let His love shine through our online behaviour. Although the means of evangelism has changed, God’s call for The Great Commission remains the same. Will we still have the same heart for evangelism and use every aspect of our lives to lift His name?

As I listened to the closing words from Pastor Patrick, I knew I left learning something new. Perhaps I texted no one, but I now understand a heart who chooses to. It is a choice to fulfil The Great Commission, to make Jesus known in a digital world. Today, I choose to obey Him. But the question stands. Will you?

“Your life may be the only Bible some people will ever read.”



J333 RETURNS On-Site!

BY Pastor Peter Lim

It was a significant day – 7 April 2021, Wednesday – not just because it was our first on-site corporate prayer meeting since over a year ago. It was not planned this way, but God was working behind the scenes to let us know this was the right time to bring our J333 prayer meetings back on-site.

I reminded Gracians that it was exactly one year ago, on 7 April 2020, that Singapore was thrown into a complete lock-down. The Circuit Breaker certainly broke our routines, plans, morale, and for some, even our jobs and health.

“But look at how far God has brought us as a nation! Today, we are back here in church worshipping and seeking God

together again!” The dozens who came that day broke out in applause to God.

This was also the first time, ever, we held a corporate prayer meeting on-site, while being broadcast live over Zoom, where dozens more tuned in. Both groups of attendees could interact with each other as we prayed and worshipped with one voice. And yes, we could do it with our voices now, because just days before, religious organisations were permitted to sing with masks on. How appropriate that the first service being held with singing allowed was at a prayer meeting, where we simply gathered to seek our Lord!

A mighty sound of praise filled the air as Pastor Victor led us in song, lifting up the beautiful, wonderful, and powerful name of Jesus. The tangible presence of God filled the hall, and homes too, as one Gracian who tuned in online testified, “I felt the strong presence of the Lord saturate my dining room during the worship.”

The theme for the night was “Here I Am”. Just like Moses’ experience at the burning bush, we were desperate to encounter the Great I Am, and in that place of encounter, we were led into a time of consecration to God, saying, “Lord, here I am – you got my attention, have your way, I am yours.”

We committed our lives, gifts and talents to God for His Kingdom and interceded for the many who gave their hearts to Jesus for the first time over the Good Friday and Resurrection Sunday weekend.

The meeting ended with prayer for Sri Lanka where we heard of the work God was doing through Pastors Kanthan and Hendry. About 120 Gracians (like on the day of Pentecost), both online and on-site, joined hearts to pray fervently for a mighty harvest to be brought into God’s Kingdom through them.

This is only the beginning of a powerful prayer movement in Grace Assembly. Prayer is a precursor of power, catalyst of change, and reason for revival. God is calling you to join His army of prayer warriors, every Wednesday, to call forth God’s purposes on earth. Will you say: “Here I am”?

The next ON-SITE English J333 prayer meeting will be held on Wednesday, 5 May, at Grace@Tanglin at 8pm.



Start booking your tickets from 30 April, at 12 noon

<https://www.tickettailor.com/events/gaog>



J333 Prayer Meetings

8.00PM

EVERY 1ST WEDNESDAY of the month, join us **ON-SITE** at Grace@Tanglin for our **English J333 prayer meeting!**

Ticket booking starts on the Friday before the prayer meeting at:



<https://www.tickettailor.com/events/gaog>

You can still join us online at the same time, at 8pm, if you are unable to attend the on-site session.

every
WEDNESDAY

Zoom Online

3rd week
ENGLISH

2nd & 4th week
MANDARIN

5th week
BILINGUAL



<https://www.graceaog.org/online-j333>

J333 SUPER-NATURAL

Hosted by **HEALING ROOM MINISTRY**



Our J333 Supernatural prayer sessions hosted by our Healing Room Ministry are for those who need physical healing.

Do join us **ONLINE** on the **2ND AND 4TH TUESDAYS** of every month at 8pm!

JOIN US FOR OUR UPCOMING SESSIONS:

11 May • 25 May

8 June • 22 June

13 July • 27 July



<https://www.graceaog.org/online-j333>

NO PASSWORD IS NEEDED



Declaration of Faith Through **WATER BAPTISM**

BY Rev Larry Lee, Head, Grace Missional Communities

“Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved ...” Mark 16:16a (ESV)

What a joy it was for families and friends of 18 Gracians to witness the water baptism of their loved ones in January this year! It was a long-awaited event that has been postponed due to the pandemic. Nine Gracians were baptised on 23 January at the Chapel in Grace@BukitBatok while the another nine were baptised on 30 January in Galilee hall at Grace@Tanglin. Each of the baptismal candidates gave a short testimony on how they came to know the Lord and how their lives were transformed by the Lord Jesus Christ. It was an emotional but powerful time of declaring their faith in the Lord.

Below are some excerpts of their testimonies:

Ever since I became a Christian, I try to be more Christ-like in everything that I do. – **Kelvin Tan**

Having experienced God’s grace and mercy, I have been transformed into a more caring and considerate person now than before. – **Serene Lim**

I experience a new sense of joy and peace. I have learnt to pray to God for guidance when I need to make difficult decisions. Many times, I have experienced God answering my prayers and have learnt to trust Jesus more, especially in times of crisis. – **Kim Neo**



In the year that I accepted Christ, I had a difficult break-up from a 10-year relationship. I was in a very bad emotional state. I chose to ask God to teach me to forgive this person, even after what was done to me. The bible does not teach us to seek revenge when we are wronged, but to bless and forgive those that wronged us instead. I wonder how different it would have been if I did not know the Lord then while going through this break-up. – **Sheryl Koh**

I started attending church regularly and even joined a cell group and participated as a worship guitarist. I experienced the warmth and love of Christ through my cell group members. The thing that moved me the most was how I felt the presence of God in our midst during cell group meetings, especially when we were praying for our fellow brothers and sisters. I knew this was for me and I said the sinner's prayer during a church service to receive Christ as my Lord and Saviour. – **Stanley Chua**

I said the sinner's prayer ... I felt a really strong presence of God, something that I have never ever experienced before ... God's presence came, and tears began streaming down my face... it was a sense of sureness that Jesus indeed died for me so that I can come to God. – **Hayley Sion**

My Christian life has been filled with grace and joy. I could feel His presence

every day with the Holy Spirit leading and guiding me. When I feel down, He will send someone to offer me a prayer. When I am worried with many uncertainties, He gives me His assurance. He is always my provider, my redeemer and the healer of my heart. This is the greatest relationship that only in Him that I can find. – **Janice Ngoh**

I now surrender my troubles and weaknesses to the Lord, and my generosity is my way of demonstrating love. I have also not looked too much into winning the favour of many, but to do the right thing in the eyes of the Lord. – **Jessica Oh**

By God's grace, my wife and I were invited to a Grace Assembly service in December 2018 by an ex-colleague. In that service, I could sense God's strong warmth and closeness and I responded to the altar call that day. After that day, I have an inner peace knowing that God has not forgotten about me and has breathed new life into me. Subsequently, my wife, mother and children were saved. Thoughts of reuniting with my dad returned and I prayed to God to help with this matter. And through a long-lost relative, I was able to reconnect with my dad. God never stops working and He is faithful, and I want to thank Him for the opportunity to be reunited with my dad. – **Steve Tan**



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Pastoral Staff Movement & Appointment

NEW APPOINTMENT

We are pleased to welcome:

- Pastor Victor Toh, Head, Creative Arts Ministry

RESIGNATION

The following pastoral staff has resigned due to personal reasons.

- Sheryl Teo, Nexus Ministry

We pray and entrust them in God's hand that He will continue to lead them and guide them according to His plans!

Looking for a meaningful job?

Look no further! Check out our full-time positions in the following ministries in Grace Assembly.

- **Corporate Communications**
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Head over to <https://www.graceaog.org/jobs/> for more details!



恩·友

No. 02
2021

C04
受难节聚会花絮

C10
人生周期之道

E40
2021-2022年
新执事会

MCI (P) 032/12/2020



请扫描二维码以订阅
《恩·友》季刊电子版。



Grace Assembly Of God
神召会恩典堂

5月15日 — 6月6日

THE Supernatural 超自然



我们将从古代近东文化的角度，继续探索圣经那看不见的领域。在这个季度里，我们将更深入地研究上一轮所提到的某些思想和主题：超自然活物，神的形象，自由意志在人类中的位置。我们也将会回应先前探讨三个神圣叛乱时所提出的问题，并庆祝五旬节对向万国宣教的重要性。再次邀请您与我们一起探索超自然的领域！

讲道标题

1. 关于超自然领域5个常问的问题
2. 五旬节主日 – 夺回万国
3. 撒旦与天使
4. 神的形象
5. 自由意志



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<https://graceaog.online.church/>

目录 | N^o. 02 / 2021



恩牧之言

C02-03 勇往直前

回顾

E04 受难节聚会花絮

E06-07 2021年宣教周

恩典之作

E08-09 送出装满神爱的福袋

恩典教学

C10-11 人生周期之道

恩典节拍

C12-13 受洗礼

我们下一期的季刊将在七月份发行！敬请留意！

我们期待听到您的声音！

我们一直都在寻找恩友分享生命的故事以及对我们教会的爱。如果您想与我们分享，请发送电邮至

gacomms@graceao.org



若要查询崇拜时间，请扫描二维码。

勇往直前



各位恩友平安！

感谢上帝引领我们度过2021年的第一个季度，并恢复了我们的英语、中文和菲律宾语的现场崇拜聚会。最初在一月份的反应很缓慢，但在过去几个月里，我们看到更多人回到教会的现场崇拜聚会。随着越来越多国人接种疫苗，而且在社区里的病毒传播病例很低，我们期盼在未来的几个月里，恩友能更有信心地回到教会的现场崇拜聚会。

对于那些仍觉得不想回来现场崇拜聚会的恩友，您可以继续参与我们的在线崇拜。由于我们的儿童事工人手有限，为了让儿童有更好的参与，我们正在探讨不同的可能性让孩子们能安全地回到教会参与活动，并同时保有在线节目。

随着在线和现场崇拜聚会同时运作，我大胆地恳请恩友支持和参与我们各个事工的服事。因为教会需要额外的人力，以有效地满足恩友在灵命和情感上的需要。我们希望所有的事工能在今年下半年之前恢复现场运作，因此请大家站出来服侍教会。

我们也期待着将在六月份举行的恩典领袖峰会，除了安排一些可能需要帮助的领袖在现场参加峰会外，此峰会将主要在线举行。峰会将在我们的战略支柱议题上进行最新汇报并征求反馈，特别是关于恩典门训框架（建立门徒、领袖和人生周期）和社区外展的新举措。

六月恰逢为期一个月的学校假期，也是新加坡以家庭为中心的月份。圣经也告诉我们：家庭是装备孩子为门徒的起点。我鼓励父母在即将到来的六月假期开始制定与孩子互动的计划，并充分利用时间加强家庭凝聚力。在一家人享受欢乐时光的同时，请把握时机为主装备下一代。

我们刚成功的举行了常年事务大会，并选出了未来两年的新执事会成员。我恳请您为我们祷告，让执事会聆听主的声音，并勇敢地带领教会进入后疫情时代的世界。

谢谢！

赵克文牧师（博士）
主任牧师

受难节聚会花絮

撰文 蔡文燕, 闽南语堂



因为主耶稣的舍命，我们得着了生命。因为祂的流血受刑罚，我们才能回到爱我们的神那里。

感谢主，我们能在预防冠病的安全措施下举行现场的耶稣受难节聚会。当天出席两个地点（恩典堂@东陵和恩典堂@武吉巴督）的现场聚会人数多达550人。

大家都很踊跃地索取门票。我们也通过现场直播的平台让恩友们能在线上观看。

聚会在开始后是由蔡凌凌姐妹与团队带领我们敬拜。首首诗歌都将我们的心门打开，让神的深恩厚爱进入我们心中。特别呈献的诗歌《钉痕的手》，其歌词句句都扣人心弦，弟兄姐妹都不由自主地开声敬拜那又真又活的神。

很荣幸能邀请到陈赞美博士牧师来证道。《耶稣—被钉的神》这个主题，陈牧师把我们带到2000年前，述说当年的情景。无罪的耶稣被出卖、被捕、连夜受审、被毒打、被定罪、被众人怒钉十字架。但第三天，主从死里复活了。

主耶稣的牺牲向世人反映了一个没有罪的人，救我们有罪的人，祂爱我们，赦免我们，饶恕我们。在这一天我们纪念神的大爱，纪念祂的十字架，纪念主耶稣为我们成就一切美好的事。感谢主。

圣灵也藉着主耶稣在十字架上所流露的大爱，感动了好几位的新朋友接受主耶稣做他们个人的救主。感谢赞美主。



在《恩典每日晨修》中，以神的话开启您的一天。

与您的朋友或家人分享我们每日灵修的链接，
鼓励他们上线观赏！

每日晨修

4月26日至5月17日

哥林多前书
(16章)

5月24日至6月9日

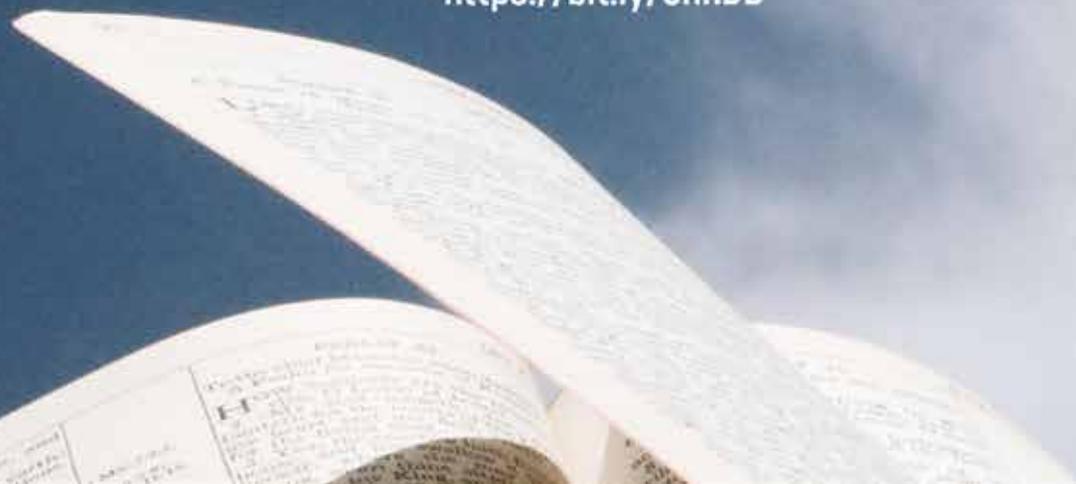
哥林多后书
(13章)

6月21日至6月28日

以弗所书
(6章)



<https://bit.ly/ChnDD>



回 顾

2021年宣教周

撰文 沈赛娥, 闽南语堂





耶稣自己来到世界完成上帝的差传使命，也差派他的12门徒去传扬天国的福音，耶稣说：“你们要往普天下去传扬福音给万名听使万名作我的门徒。”

在准备2月20和21日举行的差传周日时，牧师事先通知组长和组员们穿上各国的服装参加聚会以作宣传。

聚会当天牧师、弟兄姐妹都兴高采烈的穿来美丽服装争艳斗丽，有中式的旗袍、有印度的沙里、印尼的沙龙、菲律宾等异国风情好看的服饰，并且拍下许多好看的照片。

当天也请来了庄良貌牧师为差传事工做了美好的分享，他曾经在非洲差传超过10年在极度恶劣的环境里，染上了肺病，得了肾病，但是因着主的恩典他换了肾，现在他仍然健康的生活着，继续服侍神。

感谢主，我们虽然暂时不可以到世界各地做差传,传扬福音，但仍然可以祷告；奉献金钱支持差传事工。





送出装满神爱的福袋

撰文 林燕玲，教会通讯主任 翻译 王紫璇牧师



华人农历新年通常是一个忙碌的时期——忙着春季大扫除、清理、换钞票、购物和许多其他事务。

今年，一些恩友从繁忙的日程中抽出时间，召集他们的朋友和家人帮助包装春节礼包，祝福那些需要帮助的人。

我们的恩友义工们总共包了1000多个礼包。在华人新年期间，神召会恩典堂的义工和来自援触社区服务协会、丰加北民众俱乐部、金殿西居民委员会的义工们一起分发礼袋，祝福在双溪登加宿舍的客工，以及在武吉巴督、麟谷峇鲁、惹兰红山、直落布兰雅弯、Henderson Home和亨德申日间中心的居民。

感谢所有参与此次春节外展活动并为此次活动的成功做出贡献的人！

让我们继续成为神爱的器皿，祝福社区！

人生周期之道

撰文 黄耀辉牧师, 恩典门训中心(家庭生活事工) 翻译 萧和杰牧师

在2020年10月和2021年1月的前两期《恩·友》中，您已经阅读了许多有关恩典门训框架的开发内容。神确实借着恩典门训中心(GDI)团队和一组与我们一起合作的热衷恩友，进行很棒的工作。阅读了有关门训之道后，我希望它能激发您与我们一起走上这道，看看神如何改变您，您的生活，您的家庭，您的工作以及您所有的人际关系。除了门训之道外，恩典门训框架还包括另外两道：人生周期之道和领袖之道。这三道将为建立门徒提供全面的途径。在这一期刊里，我们将继续发布人生周期之道(LST)。

每个人都是神形象的载体(imago Dei)。基督教神学从整体上看待人类为物质和非物质，身体和灵魂。这种整体观包含对发展理论和神学真理的理解。在我们的生物成长中，我们总是从人生的一个阶段步入到另一个人生的阶段。发展理论有助于我们理解信徒一生中在身体、认知和心理社会发展上的需要。身体发育涉及身体和大脑的生长和变化，各种感官、运动技能以及健康状况。认知发展涉及学习、注意力、记忆力、语言、思维、推理和创造力。社会心理发展涉及情感，个性和社会关系。神学真理帮

助我们以最有效的方式来教导神的话语，以满足这些发展的需要，并增强信徒在他们的信心旅程上，有能力从一个阶段发展到另一个阶段。因此，LST的框架将帮助我们评估发展需求，并规划信徒从摇篮到坟墓的成长进程。

人生周期之道的框架由三个不同的人生周期组成，其中包括婴儿期到青成年期、单身以及婚姻到教养儿女。每个周期都是由独特的目标和建构观念所界定。

人生周期之道

(从摇篮到坟墓)

单身

在基督里得到保障，过着充实的生活，忠诚的服侍神和祂的教会。

婴儿到青成年

建立持久的信仰基础，能以引导他们度过他们的发展岁月，以便他们可以在那一代人当中成为神的声音。

婚姻以及养育儿女

通过履行其虔诚的角色来恢复在家中的门徒训练：

- 丈夫作为家庭的头，当领导妻子和家人，并付出爱和牺牲
- 与丈夫同等的妻子，当帮助、尊重和顺服她的丈夫
- 父母作为主要的属灵养育者，当培训他们的孩子作主门徒



婚姻和教养儿女的建构观念

在他们的生活中与关键的人物发展尊荣神的人际关系

关系



发现和履行神赋予他们的身份和责任

角色



在每个人生阶段里管理好神所赋予他们的一切以成就神的旨意

资源



在健康的休闲娱乐中找到乐趣与更新，并欢庆神所赐予您的生命

娱乐



在他们的生活中建立有益健康的习惯

节奏



寻找机会以整个家庭去服侍和祝福他人

外展



建构观念是信徒一生当中，在每一个人生周期发展需要里所浮现出来的关键领域。这些建构观念是关系、角色、节奏、娱乐、资源和外展。每一项建构观念都应该是足够广泛的，以尽可能包括多方面的需要和成长。

在每一个人生的周期里，信徒都需要：

- **关系：**在他们的生活中与关键人物发展尊荣神的人际关系，例如学生应对同学的压力，寻找生活伴侣的青成年人，解决婚姻冲突的配偶，建立婚姻中的婆媳关系等。
- **角色：**发现并履行神赋予他们的身份和责任，例如儿女尊敬父母，学生在学业上有优异的成

绩，丈夫带领家庭，妻子以平等的身份支持丈夫，父母抚养子女员工通过勤奋工作荣耀神等。

- **资源：**在每个人生阶段里管理好神所赋予的来成就神的旨意，例如学生管理好学校和教会的生活，青成年人神的事工发展恩赐和热忱，家庭学习什一奉献的价值和习惯及慷慨地祝福他人等。
- **娱乐：**在健康的休闲娱乐中找到乐趣与更新，并欢庆神所赐予您的生命，例如拨出时间与亲人一起玩乐，享受神在大自然中的创造，建立家庭和生命的里程碑等。
- **节奏：**在他们的生活中建立有益健康的习惯，例如灌输属灵生命操练如禁食和祷告，建立家庭祭坛，安排时间回归安息，以及处理学校压力或平衡工作需求等。

- **外展：**寻找机会全家人参与服侍和祝福他人，例如与有需要帮助的同学/同事同行，祝福社区中需要帮助的人，在教会里服侍，全家人参与宣教/布道等。

有了这个综合的观点来满足需求和引导成长，信徒就可以在他们的每个人生周期里完成神的托付。现在，随着对人生周期之道有更深入的了解，我们希望您能被激发与我们一起踏上这旅程。在下一期中，我们将介绍中有关婚姻和家庭的更多内容。

受洗礼





由于2019冠状病毒疫情，洗礼的日子被延迟了。心里总觉得有点失望，到底还要等待多长时间？在我受洗之前，教会安排一班接受洗礼的弟兄姐妹，一起在线上学习洗礼课程。无形中也让有机会学习如何上线。

感谢上帝！终于在2021年1月23日，我在恩典堂@东陵的加利利堂内，在新设置的洗礼池完成了生命重生后的受洗礼！

很高兴能成为上帝这个大家庭里的一员，灵魂得到救赎和安息。阿门！

一 蔡健忠弟兄

