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教會裏的小孩子，在神的帶領下，不斷在身量上及靈性上成長，有些更在神的祝福下，在眾人面前受浸，加入神的家。亦有多對在神與人前共證主恩成為夫婦，神的福杯不停臨於我們教會。神的愛不但在我們神的家中顯現，更且臨到海外，神給我們的異象：「來、看、去、傳」，在神的帶領下，我們的牧者、師母紛紛到中國或泰國作短宣的工作，教導當地弟兄姊妹，讓神的道得以傳揚，亦有弟兄姊妹團到巴西去幫助當地的宣教士，向當地中國同胞傳神的話，實在看到神的大能，他們沒有受到特殊的訓練，但他們願意順服神的旨意，他們便能成為神的出口，大大的幫助當地的同胞認識福音。他們不但是施與者，更是接受者，得著神更多的祝福。我們的年青人亦不甘後人，亦到鳳凰城去向當地土著傳講神的話。看見教會上下一心，人神同工，實是最大的福氣。

年刊亦是傳福音的工具之一，弟兄姊妹的見證往往都能打動人的心，今年年刊更有多篇短宣的見證文章，願神大大祝福它，讓它不但成為我們教會的祝福，亦願成為海外宣教工場的祝福，願神的旨意，行在地上，如同行在天上。

Editorial

Kit Ping Wong

Children in our church are continuously growing spiritually and become mature under God's guidance. Some of them, blessed by God, were baptized in front of people and became members of the church. A few of them were brought together and became husbands and wives. God's cup never stops flowing upon our church. Not only we can find God's love in our church, we also show our love to overseas. God gives us a vision: "Come and see, go and tell". Being led by God, our pastors and their wives went to China and Thailand for short term missions. They taught the local brother sisters there, to share God's Word. Six brothers and sisters went to Brazil to help the local missionaries to spread out the gospel to local Chinese. We can really see the power of God: They have not received the special training, but they are willing to obey the Will of God and they then can become the channel of God and of big help to local people to understand the gospel. Not only are they the giver, they are the receivers and results in more blessing from God. Our young people did not fall behind; they went to Phoenix to speak to native Indians about the Word of God. Seeing the church being united and people work together with God. This is really God's blessing.

The yearbook is also one of tools to spread the gospel. The brother and sisters' testimony can often move people's hearts. This year the yearbook has many testimony articles on short term missions. May God bless the yearbook. Let it not only bless our church, the hope is it will also bless the overseas mission fields. Your kingdom come, your Will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

假若神許可我活到七十歲以上的話，我想到身邊的人大多數是後輩，對於我這位老牧師的缺點，相信不敢直言，所以趁現今腦袋仍未完全硬化，自己提點一下自己，故此成為書寫給自己的信。(註一)

七十歲的黃牧師：

恭喜你！自從你受浸歸入主名那日，到今天已經過四十五年；年輕的自己今日提醒自己：千萬不要放鬆啊！務要至死忠心，不要以為自己爐火純清，就中了撒旦詭計，現在特別提點你幾件事：

- (一) 假若你還有機會講道，每一次都要好好預備，不要以為自己講道已經三十年，駕輕就熟，隨便分享一下事奉的故事，”想當年”的經歷就可以造就信徒(其實未必然)，記得林後4:5 的金句：“我們原不是傳自己，乃是傳基督耶穌為主，並且自己因耶穌作你們的僕人”。
- (二) 在聚會中，有人請你發言，緊記：要簡潔、切忌長氣，假若別人處事有什麼看不順眼的地方，不要倚老

賣老地批評，多說祝福的話。

- (三) 老人家也可以學新的知識，向年輕的學習也不是掉面子，經常嘗試新事物不單加添生活情趣，也可以防止老人痴呆症。
- (四) 你年輕時經常被摩西團長者請你吃飯，現在要慷慨施惠於年青人，金錢帶不進棺材，若有能力多作慈惠事，樂己樂人。
- (五) 要尊重年輕人的自尊心，不要自倚長輩問長問短後輩的私穩，或公開他們的私事。
- (六) 師母為你辛勞這麼多年月，你要怎樣愛惜她？
- (七) 要注意自己飲食，儀容，經常運動。
願主恩常在！

五十三歲的黃牧師

註一：題目靈感來自麥陳永萱著作：
《婆婆媽媽的話》



「我來了，是要叫人得生命，並且得的更豐盛。」（約翰福音 10:10）

我們都知道若一間屋子沒有人居住在裏面的話，長久了之後就會發霉荒廢，一部停久了而不用的車子，想要再啟動的時候就會遇到困難，家後院的游泳池裏若是沒有水，不單不能發揮其原來應有的功能之外，反而會成為一個人人要留意小心的陷阱！

耶穌經常在祂的教導中，要我們不僅只求獲得祂所賜的這個屬靈的新生命之外，也更要在這新生命裏追求完全（即是那豐盛之意）。這個屬靈的生命需要不斷的操練才能持續成長，才能更近完全，這個新生命才能更似耶穌！

如何來操練這個新生命呢？我們首先就要從珍惜生命開始，而「珍惜」者不是在乎於將生命小心翼翼的收藏不用，相反的乃是要從愛用、善用、多用開始，也就是深深地領受到這新生命的背後那得來不易的原因（道成肉身的大愛），所以就更要熱愛重生後的一切在主裏的經歷，活出在基督裏那豐盛的生命力。而這一種的活力，是很自然的會在與人分享這個新生命的互動之中體現了出來，正如耶穌所說的葡萄樹與枝子之間的真正關係乃是維繫於那結果子與否的一事之上的（約 15 章）。

「分享」是基督徒在教會和個人生活中的重心所在（太 25:45）：「我實在告訴

你們：這些事你們既不做在我這弟兄中一個最小的身上，就是不做在我身上了。」只顧自己個人得益的生命，又豈能稱之為一位擁有基督那「捨己」特質生命的門徒呢？

神藉著獨子耶穌的救贖工作，將那稱義的新生命注入在我們這一個原來垂死的靈魂之中，祂的心意不單只是要喚醒一個生命而已，神乃是要我們在這個得贖的生命中，展現出那基督復活的大能，一股有朝氣的生命力，力求（一種神要求的盡心、盡性、盡意、盡力的態度）與人分享在基督耶穌裏的生命，沒有保留，也更無需隱藏（這裏是沒有所謂的低調之說），不要害怕，只管去充分使用你的生命力，藉著敬拜、團契、生命小組的生活，來一同明白基督的愛是何等長闊高深（這即是那得豐盛之意）！而神所要成就的，必超過了我們所求所想的（弗 3 章）。

在屬靈的生命中，你今天可是一位有朝氣有活力的基督徒呢？耶穌基督的形象藉著我們的教會，又是否能讓周圍的人見得到呢？

你還記得那棵沒有結果實的無花果樹嗎？（太 21:18~19）我們這個神所賜的新生命，其實是不要擔心用多了會耗損，我們只怕不去用它，使徒保羅不也正是在勸勉我們「竭力追求」的嗎？（腓 3:12）



定義

敬拜 -- 以神所許可的方式將榮耀與尊貴歸於神。敬拜就是去宣揚神的榮耀與尊貴，並將頌讚歸給神。或者用經上的話來說，敬拜是指我們讚美神，是指我們述說，歌唱神的良善與大能。

現在我們用聖經中所用的字看敬拜。在希伯來文和希臘文中，敬拜有兩個層面的意思。第一層意思是指俯首，下跪和臉面朝下的動作來表示尊敬和歸順。表示我已做好準備來聆聽祂的指示，願意來順服。另一層意思是指服事。這個字大約有一半的時候被譯成敬拜，另一半被譯成服事。

1. 敬拜包括講；
2. 敬拜包括聽；
3. 敬拜包括做；

敬拜是心的表達，包含了思想和身體。敬拜是向上的讚美，敬拜是從上接受指示，並且在我們周圍的世界執行這個指示。

我們需要以上三方面的敬拜。有的人注重講或唱來讚美神。讚美是好的，但是如果我們所做的僅僅是讚美，卻不聽神所說的，我們就得問自己，我們是否真的相信我們所講所唱。如果神確實是一切智慧和愛的源頭，那麼我們就要專心聆聽他的教導。因為祂配得我們去聽。

同樣，只講不做也沒有表示出對神配得的尊崇。行動比語言更響亮。如果我們的行為沒有被神改變，那麼我們是在表示，神不重要，他只不過是一個好的願望而已，和我們每天的生活沒有直接的關係。只有當我們真正地相信，神是配得所有的讚美，我們才願意聽神的話，改變我們的生命，以此來回應這個榮耀尊貴的神。我們信靠祂，尋求祂，盡我們的所能

去討祂的喜悅。敬拜應該影響到我們的行為。

舊約縱覽

摩西時代以前的敬拜

如果我們縱覽聖經，我們會看到神的子民使用多種多樣的方法來敬拜神，表達對神的虔誠。有些敬拜的方法是由神所指定的，另一些似乎是被選來用於敬拜的。我們在聖經中看到這樣的模式：一些事情是神指定的，另一些事情是人為選擇的。

創世紀第四章告訴我們，該隱和亞伯把供物獻給神。他們這樣做，沒有人告訴我們他們為什麼這樣做。挪亞在大洪水以後築了一座祭壇，並以一些牲畜為燔祭。亞伯拉罕獻祭，他在示劍、伯特利、希伯倫和摩利亞山築壇。亞伯拉罕禱告，割禮和十一奉獻，作為敬拜的一部份。以撒在別是巴築壇；雅各在伯特利用石頭立作柱子，澆酒和油在上面作為敬拜。這些例子說明什麼呢？

1. 不需要祭師。每個人築他們自己的祭壇，用自己的牲畜做燔祭，進行他們自己的敬拜。

2. 沒有提到特別的時間，特別的日子，特別的季節，也沒有地方的限制。族長們隨意在任何時候，任何地方，以任何形式敬拜神。

3. 靈活性--族長們沒有被地點、人物、儀式、日期、時間或方式等規定所限制。

有一件重要的事，敬拜中最大的要求，無論你是誰，無論你在那裏，都必須遵守的法則，那就是：你不可敬拜別神。神與雅各同在時，祂最關注雅各的就是雅各敬拜獨一真神，而別無他神。神要求專一的敬拜，百分之百的忠誠，不留任何餘地給別神，那怕0.01%。敬拜神是我們首要的事，金錢，個人的想法，忙碌，任何事

都不能取而代之。

摩西和帳幕

在摩西時代，敬拜由形式簡單變得特定，具體且有詳細規定。神明確地指定：

- 什麼時候獻祭
- 怎樣獻祭
- 在那裏獻祭
- 誰來獻祭

敬拜變得越來越形式化：在摩西的律法下，有聖所、神職人員、潔淨的牲畜、敬拜的禮儀和敬拜的時間，神明確特定的事務在敬拜中作特定用途。

帳幕就是聖所：帳幕代表了神的聖潔，它同樣表示神不是遙遠的神。古代以色列人的敬拜有專門的神職人員，利未人被分別出來做帳幕的工作，在人和神之間有祭師的階層，敬拜的過程是由祭師們完成的。有分別為聖的牲畜和植物，首生的動物是聖潔的，是獻給神的，初熟的果子是聖潔的，被分別出來用於敬拜。同樣有分別為聖的香膏，如果任何人製做了同樣的香膏，他們可能被驅逐出國，因為那種香膏是特殊的，是分別出來專用於敬拜的，是神聖的。

有分別為聖的時間：每星期有一天是分別為聖的，每年有一些特別的日子是分別為聖的，每七年和每五十年，整個一年被分別出來作特別的用途。這些指定的時間用於以色列人的敬拜，人物、事務、時間和地點都已解釋清楚，每一件事都已結構化，組織化和公式化。

這些細節大多數現在已經不用了，但是最重要的原則依然存在於我們今天的敬拜中，應該敬拜獨一真神，並不是他應比別神得到更多的敬拜。他是獨一真神，他配得所有的尊貴和榮耀。

敬拜的心

在摩西律法中，人們容易忙於所有這些具體的敬拜禮儀，但這並不是真正的重點。設置這些細節的目的是為一個更大的目的，那就是神。我們的重點應該是神。

古代的以色列人，他們定睛在神的身上。

古代以色列人的敬拜不僅僅是在帳幕中，敬拜同樣是在心裏和家裏。神不要人們去做一些敬拜儀式，然後又以他們喜歡的方式去生活。「做」敬拜是不夠的，人對神的尊敬應該是發自內心的真誠，是用整個生命去敬拜神。在申命記第六章，摩西告訴以色列人，要把神的話語記在心上，並且教育他們的兒女。無論是坐在家裏，行在路上、躺下、起來，都要談論，整個的生命都是敬拜。

後來的一些先知們也強調這個重點。撒母耳告訴掃羅，順服比獻祭更討神的喜悅。神要的是正確的態度，而不僅僅是正確的儀式。在耶利米書7：22，神說，我領你們出埃及地並不是因為要你們獻祭，我只是要你們順服我，而獻祭只是我命令中很小的一部分。

要使敬拜為神所悅納，我們必須有順服的生命。僅僅有儀式是不夠的，態度最重要。如果人們嘴上說神是偉大的，但行的卻是另一套，神不要那種虛偽的敬拜。或許這就是有關敬拜的第二個誡命——敬拜必須是真誠的。如果我們說神配得所有的尊貴和榮耀，我們就應該在心裏如此相信。如果我們心裏如此相信，就應該表現在行為上。真正的敬拜改變我們所做的一切，因為它改變了我們的生命。敬拜不僅僅是在敬拜的場所，敬拜必須是在心裏。

聖殿音樂

許多人知道，大衛首先計劃建造聖殿，作為一個「永久性」的敬拜場所。但是大衛另一個貢獻的影響甚至比建聖殿更長久，就在音樂方面，大衛有音樂的基礎，作為一個牧羊人，他彈琴（一種簡單的弦樂器），他作曲和唱歌來讚美神。在他牧羊的同時，他敬拜神——在工作中敬拜神。大衛的歌被稱為詩篇，這個字來自於希臘字Psallo，意思是「彈弦琴」，詩篇是一本弦樂的歌譜。我們能用歌聲和樂器敬拜神。

整本詩篇，甚至包括抱怨的詩篇，都

是敬拜。事實上我們對神的質問和抱怨，說明了一些我們和神的關係，所有的生命都在神的手裏，在神的控制之下。詩篇表達了我們對神的依賴。

詩篇經常是一個禱告，對神說的話。神是聽眾，人是參與者，敬拜者。那些詩歌被用於禱告當中，因為它們是向神說的。有人認為基督徒不應該熟記禱告詞，但事實上在每個星期的禮拜中我們都有這樣做。我們為禱告配上悅耳的音調，這是正統的敬拜形式。即使沒有音樂，一個朗誦的禱告也是一種正統的敬拜形式。

詩篇第150篇說明了多樣化的敬拜方法。「你們要讚美耶和華，在神的聖所讚美他，在他顯能力的窮蒼讚美他。要因他大能的作為讚美他，按著他極美的大德讚美他。用角聲讚美他，鼓瑟彈琴讚美他。擊鼓跳舞讚美他，用絲弦的樂器，和簫的聲音讚美他。用大響的鈸讚美他，用高聲的鈸讚美他。凡有氣息的，都要讚美耶和華。你們要讚美耶和華。」

我們可能發現一些敬拜的方法在今天已少見，但所有這些藝術表達方式在用來讚美神時都是可取的。敬拜的主要原則是我們敬拜獨一真神，我們真心實意地敬拜祂。

猶太會堂的敬拜

聖殿被毀以後，猶太人逃離至整個中東，一種新的敬拜形式建立起來。在猶太會堂，重點是經文，而不是獻祭。這是一個更簡單化的形式。

會堂的禮拜通常是由讚美和禱告開始的。有標準化的禱告和祝福，有些每個星期被引用。在講道中有讀經，需要的話，有經文的翻譯和解釋。我們能夠從新約中隱約看到這些。但是最好的解釋是在尼希米記第八章。在以色列的領導下，一些猶太人返回耶路撒冷。

「文士以斯拉站在為這事特備的木臺上（今天我們可能稱它為講臺）...以斯拉站在眾民以上，在眾民眼前展開這書（摩

西律法書）。他一展開，眾民就都站起來。以斯拉稱頌耶和華至大的神。眾民都舉手應聲說：阿們！阿們！就低頭，面伏於地，敬拜耶和華。」（尼8:4-6）

你是否曾經在現代的教會禮拜中看到這樣的回應場面——人們高舉雙手，說：「阿們」、俯伏敬拜等？如果這是對神的一個真誠的回應，它就是一個好的回應。人們懷著崇敬去聆聽，帶著自願去順服。「利未人使百姓明白律法，百姓都站在自己的地方。他們清清楚楚地念神的律法書，講明意思，使百姓明白所念的。」（尼8:7-8）猶太會堂以這種形式敬拜，其重點在經文。

雖然聖殿最終被重建，但在猶太會堂，公開的讀經依然是猶太人敬拜的一個重要部分。大多數猶太人不能每個星期去聖殿，但是他們在猶太會堂聚會，通過禱告，唱詩和讀經在每個安息日敬拜神。

其結果產生出一個新的重點，就是安息日。在大衛的時代，大多數以色列人不能每個星期去耶路撒冷，因此守安息日的重點是休息，這是律法書的命令。但是當猶太會堂變得普遍的時候，安息日同樣被視為參與敬拜的一天。平信徒在敬拜中起了重要的作用——他們能夠在會堂禮拜中承擔多種角色。人們可以在沒有殿堂，沒有祭師和沒有祭物的情況下敬拜。

今天的敬拜

敬拜包含了我們與神的關係、我們的言語、我們的態度和我們的行動。我們的言語可能是正常的講話，或唱歌或禱告。在任何一種講的方式中，我們可以讚美神，可以表達我們依靠神的信心。

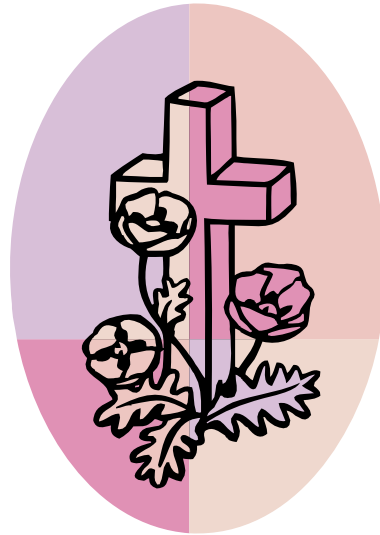
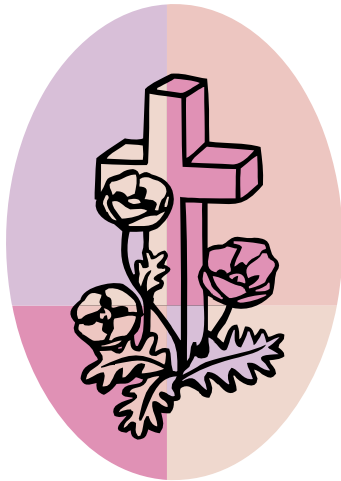
神希望我們的敬拜不僅是在口頭上，而且是在心裏。祂希望我們的敬拜是虔誠的——祂希望成為我們生命中最重要的一部分，要我們真正地順服祂。神希望我們的敬拜能影響我們的行為，要我們做出犧牲，治死老我，要我們尋求公義，有憐憫，要謙卑，去幫助別人。神不僅要我們聽從祂，更要我們照著祂的命令去做。無論我

們在哪裏，我們都在敬拜。所做的一切都要榮耀神，隨時禱告、感恩，成為聖靈的殿。我們的敬拜包括了我們怎樣工作，怎樣開車，怎樣選擇看電視。

敬拜並不是只限制在一個特定的地點和時間。以往發生在我們身上最好的就是我們生命中有神。本週發生在我們身上最好的就是我們生命中有神。我們有理由時時慶賀。當我們活著的每一天，我們在心裏讚美神。當我們相聚時，當我們彼此在一起述說發生在我們身上美好的事情時，

我們自然而然地讚美神。我們所有的時間都是敬拜，當然我們也在特定的時間，為了一個特定的目的而一同敬拜。

敬拜真正的考驗並不是在教會，而是在家裏，在工作場所，在我們所去的任何地方。神是否如此重要，以至於我們的生活方式要改變？我們的工作態度要改變？我們與別人的關係要改變？當聖靈住在我們心裏，當我們成為聖靈的殿，敬拜就成了我們每天生活的一部份。



教牧人員

Pastoral Staff

主任牧師：黃冠明牧師	Senior Pastor	: Rev. Ming Wong
國語牧師：郭定牧師	Mandarin Pastor	: Rev. Conrad Kwok
英語牧師：符之恆傳道	English Pastor	: Pastor Ken Foo
顧問牧師：馮津牧師	Advisory Pastor	: Rev. John Fung

理事會職員

Executive Board Members

二千零七年

2007

主席：關振鵬	Chairman	: James Quan
副主席：余子建	Vice Chairman	: Jim Yu
文書：黃光耀	Secretary	: Kwong Yiu Wong
財務部：潘國麟	Treasury	: Alan Poon
傳道部：趙國達	Mission	: Danny Chiu
主日學部：王陳非比、劉廣彰	Sunday School	: Phoebe Wang, Brian Lau
助道部：姚陳偉儀、瞿錦榮	Fellowship	: Amy Iu, Denny Chiu
兒童部：周啟明	Children	: Colin Chow
聖樂部：區啟榮	Music	: Erwin Au
總務部：張國榮	General Services	: William Truong
探訪部：吳余華	Visitation	: Yu Hua Wu

二千零八年

2008

主席：余子建	Chairman	: Jim Yu
副主席：趙國達	Vice Chairman	: Danny Chiu
文書：黃光耀	Secretary	: Kwong Yiu Wong
財務部：林修德	Treasury	: Xiu De Lin
傳道部：潘國麟	Mission	: Alan Poon
主日學部：谷景雲、李凱能	Sunday School	: King Kuk, Hoi Li
助道部：林霄、瞿錦榮	Fellowship	: Lin Xiao, Denny Chiu
兒童部：張黃秋麗	Children	: Chow Le Truong
聖樂部：區啟榮	Music	: Erwin Au
總務部：白石	General Services	: Robert Bai
探訪部：張百順、楊羅拔	Visitation	: Bai Shun Zhang, Robert Young

二千零七年新會友名單

New Members in 2007

在本會受浸加入教會的有：

四月復活節浸禮： Jimmy Vong

黃翠虹

陳敬恆

鄔莎

黎慧蘭

馬君蕙

陳蘭君

許保國

黃翠雲

十月感恩節浸禮： 陳晨

范舒麗

郭褚瑞白

魏巍

陳智昌

陳衛航

程秀芳

屈潔儀

周樂茵

廖培安

十二月三十日浸禮： 陳泓屹

轉會加入的有：

三月轉會加入： 曾光華

陳莉梅

曾錦婷

七月轉會加入： 趙園碧

喬冠鴻

喬增海

劉玉華

Membership through baptism in our church:

April Easter Baptism: Jimmy Vong

Sally Huynh

Darren Tan

Wu Sha

Le, Hue Lan

Emily Ma

Chen, Lan Jun

Xu, Bao Guo

Anna Huynh

October Baptism: Chen Chen

Fan Shu Li

Rebecca Kuo

Wei Wei

Stephen Tran

Wilson Chen

Zhai Xiu Fang

Susan Wat

Rebecca Chow

Ann Liao

December 30 Baptism: David Chen

Membership transfer:

March transfers: Tony Tsang

Fiona Tsang

Sarah Tsang

July transfers: Janny Lin

Victor Qiao

Zenhai Qiao

Liu Yu Hua (Janice)



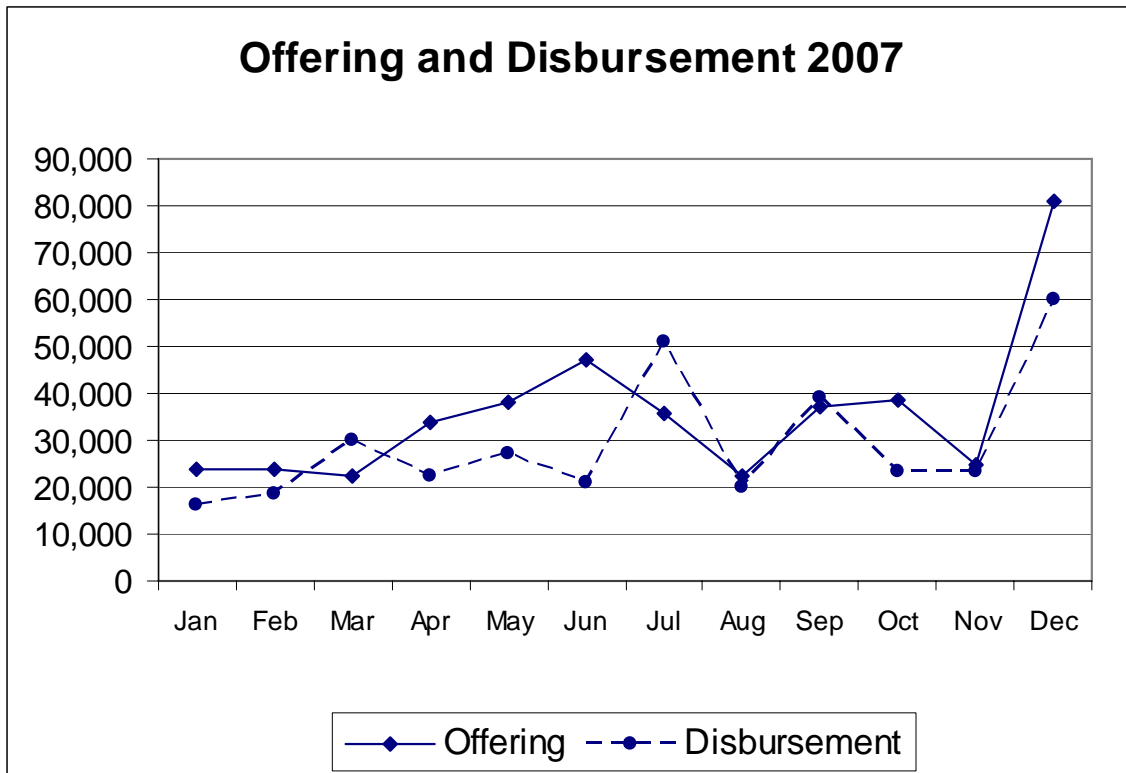
Brampton Chinese Baptist Church
Comparative Receipts and Disbursement
 賓頓市華人浸信會(部門)收支報告

GENERAL FUND	常費		
RECEIPTS	收入	2007	2006
Congregation offering	會眾奉獻	4,451.39	2,618.21
Individual offering	個人奉獻	321,067.80	315,497.68
Interest /Other Income	利息/其他收入	2,342.59	2,889.66
TOTAL RECEIPTS	總收入	327,861.78	321,005.55
DISBURSEMENTS	支出		
General service	總務	31,290.15	*60,672.27
Mission - General	傳道	19,425.83	13,075.69
Mission - Scholarship	差傳助學金	-	-
Fellowship	助導	9,518.60	8,048.75
General Administration	文書	3,726.02	2,945.20
Treasury - General	財務	6,385.92	6,209.39
Sundry	會務	10,798.07	7,189.73
Children	兒童	2,900.38	1,193.59
VBS Program	夏令兒童聖經班	665.67	904.66
Education - Chinese	中文主日學	244.36	756.34
Education - English	英文主日學	380.06	686.64
Music	聖樂	2,606.32	2,156.67
Visitation	探訪	888.15	2,287.47
Bible (Recovery - Sales)	聖經	178.70	(260.67)
Wages & Benefits	薪津	190,298.38	176,040.64
Benevolent payment	慈惠金	-	-
TOTAL DISBURSEMENT	總支出	279,306.61	281,906.37
GENERAL FUND SURPLUS	常費盈餘	48,555.17	39,099.18
CHURCH PLANTING	植堂奉獻	19,885.68	20,313.00
MISSION FUND	差傳基金		
Mission Fund offering	差傳奉獻	83,722.56	85,477.31
Mission Fund disbursement	差傳支出	73,000.00	77,823.80
MISSION FUND (DEFICIT)	差傳盈餘	10,722.56	7,653.51
TOTAL SURPLUS	總盈餘	79,163.41	67,065.69

* General Services included Special Project spending: \$23,811.36 (20th Anniversary) + \$3,221.84 (LCD projector) = \$27,033.20

BRAMPTON CHINESE BAPTIST CHURCH
Summary of Monthly Offering and Disbursement for the Year 2007
 賓頓市華人浸信會二千零七年每月收支報告

Month	Offering				Disbursement		
	General Fund	Church Planting	Mission Fund	Total Offering	General	Mission	Total
Jan	15,376.08	1,606.00	6,905.00	23,887.08	16,004.37	-	16,004.37
Feb	17,295.54	1,795.00	4,844.75	23,935.29	18,748.35	-	18,748.35
Mar	15,666.69	1,176.00	5,715.00	22,557.69	26,224.37	3,999.99	30,224.36
Apr	24,011.71	2,795.00	7,201.00	34,007.71	21,139.45	1,333.33	22,472.78
May	29,966.60	2,090.00	5,967.27	38,023.87	25,638.19	1,333.33	26,971.52
Jun	38,867.11	1,289.23	6,870.77	47,027.11	19,545.49	1,333.33	20,878.82
Jul	27,259.68	1,199.00	7,436.00	35,894.68	21,902.12	29,083.33	50,985.45
Aug	17,086.57	1,273.00	4,205.00	22,564.57	18,858.09	1,333.33	20,191.42
Sep	28,709.98	1,352.00	6,984.00	37,045.98	37,864.84	1,333.33	39,198.17
Oct	30,986.76	1,270.00	6,110.00	38,366.76	21,999.18	1,333.33	23,332.51
Nov	17,025.70	1,539.00	6,122.00	24,686.70	22,082.19	1,333.33	23,415.52
Dec	63,266.77	2,501.45	15,361.77	81,129.99	29,299.97	30,583.37	59,883.34
Total	325,519.19	19,885.68	83,722.56	429,127.43	279,306.61	73,000.00	352,306.61
Interest, Other Income & Adjustment				2342.59			
Total				431,470.02	352,306.61		



二零零八年財政預算

2006 - 2008 Budget & Actual

Department	2006 Budget	2006 Actual	2007 Budget	2007 Actual	2008 Budget
Salary & Allowance	164,798.00	160,648.13	179,472.00	173,202.04	185,708.00
CPP & EI	7,709.32	8,235.57	9,059.00	9,099.06	9,467.00
Convention Pension	7,156.95	7,156.95	7,800.00	7,997.08	8,541.00
Mission General	18,000.00	13,075.69	18,500.00	19,425.83	19,000.00
General Services	43,575.00	33,639.07	41,660.00	31,290.15	50,445.00
Fellowship	18,050.00	8,048.75	20,600.00	9,518.60	17,200.00
General Administration	6,500.00	2,945.20	17,000.00	3,726.02	8,000.00
Treasury	7,500.00	6,209.39	6,500.00	6,385.92	6,500.00
Sundries	15,000.00	7,189.73	15,000.00	10,798.07	14,650.00
Education (Chinese)	1,500.00	756.34	1,500.00	244.36	1,500.00
Education (English)	2,200.00	686.64	2,350.00	380.06	9,450.00
Children Ministry	7,500.00	2,098.25	5,000.00	3,566.05	4,650.00
Music Ministry	5,000.00	2,156.67	19,500.00	2,606.32	4,900.00
Visitation	2,895.00	2,287.47	1,500.00	888.15	3,000.00
Benevolent Fund	3,000.00	0.00	3,000.00	0.00	3,000.00
Two LCD projectors	6,000.00	3,221.84			
New Organ	15,000.00				
20th anniversary renovation	33,120.00	23,811.38			
Total	364,504.27	282,167.07	348,441.00	279,127.91	346,011.00
Special Project Fund					
Bible (Cost Recovery)		-260.67		-178.7	
Mission Fund	83,000.00	77,823.80	85,500.00	73,000.00	89,000.00
Church Planting Fund	100,000.00		50,000.00		50,000.00
TOTAL	547,504.27	359,730.20	483,941.00	351,949.21	485,011.00



二零零七年教會大事回顧

黃光耀

教會主題：來、看、去，傳

月份	日期	活動
二月	四日	嬰兒奉獻禮
三月	十二至十五日	中學生春令會，在城北華人基督教會舉行。
四月	六日	受難節聯合崇拜。
	八日	復活節主日聯合崇拜及浸禮，共九位弟兄姊妹受浸。
五月	二十六日	Mark弟兄與Stephanie姊妹的婚禮。
六月	二日	教會大清潔。
	九日	Adrian弟兄與Alison姊妹的婚禮。
	十日	社區同樂日。
	廿四日	按立郭定傳道
	三十日至七月二日	教會退修會—Ridgetown College(一百七十人參加) 主題：來、看、去，傳 講員：賴若翰牧師(中文)，約翰斯哥特牧師(英文)
七月	廿七日至八月四日	符傳道帶領五位青少年弟兄姊妹到鳳凰城參與短宣工作。
八月	七日至十七日	暑期兒童聖經班日營。
	十二日	畢業慶祝。
	十五日	暑期乒乓球友誼比賽。
	廿五日	黃光耀夫婦之子黃沛恩與谷景雲之女谷靈芝姊妹的婚禮。
九月	廿一至廿三日	第九屆差傳年會，主題：來、看、去，傳 講員：杜光耀牧師(伯特利聖道學院院長)(中文)， 馬克卡希蒂牧師(英文)
十月	七日	感恩節主日聯合崇拜及浸禮(十位弟兄姊妹受浸)--感謝主
	十八日至三十日	六位弟兄姊妹到巴西的短宣工作。
	卅一日	家庭同樂之夜。
十一月	一日至十四日	黃牧師與黃師母到中國海南島培訓中心事奉。
十二月	十五日	教會聖誕節慶祝聚會。
	廿三日	聖誕節聯合崇拜。
	廿四日	聖誕報佳音。
	廿五日	聖誕特別聯合崇拜。
	三十日	特別浸禮。

傳統上由宣教士、牧師、主日學老師、外展工作者、詩班成員或基督徒領袖所做的工作被認為是事工。很少有人認為由教師、法官、律師、商人、企業管理人員或工程師所做的工作是事工。如果我們仔細察看聖經的教導，我們會發現事工超過了僅僅由教會或基督教機構的僱員的工作這個含義。那麼根據經文的教導，事工的含義是什麼呢？

事工的聖經觀基本上由下列部分組成：

1. 敬拜和事奉神
2. 彰顯祂的榮耀
3. 建立祂的教會
4. 向世界傳福音

敬拜和事奉神

使徒保羅在他給哥林多教會的第一封書信中指示哥林多人應該怎樣敬拜。「弟兄們，這卻怎麼樣呢？你們聚會的時候，各人或有詩歌，或有教訓，或有啟示，或有方言，或有翻出來的話。凡事都當造就人」（林前14：26）。這裏有多種敬拜的形式，它們的目的是造就人。敬拜神是事工，是每個基督徒的義務和權利。

事工這個字的基本意義是「服事」，是指那些已放在面前的基本任務（徒6：1）和把禮物分給窮人（林後9：12）。在新約中，傳揚福音同樣是事工（徒20：24），每一個基督徒被教導要為神作工。

這並不僅僅局限在為一些指定的教會成員的工作。事實上，保羅說那些坐在教會辦公室裏的人所擁有的恩賜是用來裝備所有屬神的人來作事工。「他所賜的有使徒，有先知，有傳福音的，有牧師和教師。為要成聖徒，各盡其職，建立基督的身體」（弗4：11-12）。因此，事奉神是事工，這個事工是每一個基督徒的義務。

彰顯他的榮耀

我們應該持什麼態度作事工呢？「無論作什麼，或說話，或行事，都要奉主耶穌的名，借著他感謝神」（西3：17）。「無論作什麼，都要從心裏作，像是給主作的，不是給人作的。因你們知道從主那裏，必得著基業為賞賜。你們所事奉的乃是主基督」（西3：23-24）。

保羅進一步的勸勉我們（林前10：31），「所以，你們或吃，或喝，無論作什麼，都要為榮耀神而行」。

在保羅的每一封書信中，他用到一個短語「無論作什麼」。這個包羅萬象的短語既包括了所謂「重要的」的事，也包括細小或平常的事。作為信徒我們應該牢記，我們職業和生活中所做的例行日事都必須是「奉主耶穌的名」而做（西3：17）以及「都要為榮耀神而行」（林前10：31）。

正如保羅在給腓立比的信中所描述的，事工的一個完美的例子就是耶穌基督自己。他教導他的讀者，他們相互之間的態度應該是「當以基督耶穌的心為心」（腓2：5）。由於我們所做的每一件事是為了榮耀神，因此我們的工作，無論是細小的或重要的，都成為事工。

建立他的教會

教會並不是一個建築物，而是由一群屬基督的人組成（腓2：19-21）。這個身體（教會）不是由一個肢體而是多個肢體組成的。有多個肢體，卻只有一個身體。「你們就是基督的身子，並且各自作肢體。神在教會所設立的，第一是使徒，第二是先知，第三是教師，其次是行異能的，再次是得恩賜醫病的，幫助人的，治理事的，說方言的」（林前12：27-28）。神並沒有給任何個人所有這些恩賜，但他期待所有的基督徒盡全力使用他們的恩賜，並且渴望得到更多的恩賜。所有給予我們的恩賜是用來事奉神和加快基督身體-教會屬靈的

成長。

新約清楚地指出我們每個人，作為這個身體的個體，需要整個身體的力量。同樣地，整個身體需要每個個體的力量。我們在基督身體中的每個人都有需要，同時我們每個人要對別人的需要提供幫助。信徒間運用神的恩賜，彼此建立，就是事工。

向世界傳福音

在舊約中，神給亞伯拉罕和他後裔的一個承諾。他承諾要祝福他們，並且透過他們祝福「地上的萬族」（創28：14）。神要他的子民，以色列民，成為一個宣教的民族，向異教徒的世界宣告他是獨一無二的真神。神既給以色列人祝福，也給他們義務讓世界認識神。

我們現在生活在新約的時代，相同的祝福和義務也加在了我們所有基督徒的身上。在我們日常生活中，我們享受神透過基督對我們美好的祝福，我們也賦予了義務去傳揚基督的生命，祂的死，祂的復活這個好消息。這就是神賦予每一個基督徒的事工。馬太福音28章19節，神頒佈大使命，「所以你們要去，使萬民作我的門徒，

奉父子聖靈的名，給他們施洗」（太28：19）。當然並不是我們所有的人能夠成為宣教士將基督的信息帶給世界遠方的人，但我們依然能夠並且應該在我們的家裏、學校、鄰舍、工作的地方，有一塊屬於我們自己的「宣教工場」。

傳揚基督的福音，在生活中活出這個福音是我們的事工。向世界傳福音是事工。

結論

根據聖經，事工並不是僅僅由牧師、宣教士或其他的基督徒領袖所完成的一些事情，而是由每一個基督徒，無論他/她的生命處於何種狀況，應該去完成事工的工作。事工包括敬拜和事奉神、彰顯祂的榮耀、建立祂的教會、向世界傳福音。無論我們做什麼，我們要在聖靈的引導下，滿懷感恩的心去做。作為信徒，我們應該完全明白事工在聖經中真正的意義，以及我們在其中的角色。我們事工的目的為了榮耀神。

1. Center for Christian Leadership, bible.org.



傳道部：角聲已響，不能靜默

趙國達

「……我不能靜默不言，因為我已經聽見角聲和打仗的喊聲。毀壞的信息連絡不絕，因為全地荒廢。我的帳棚忽然毀壞，我的幔子頃刻破裂。」（耶利米書四章十九至二十節）

在猶大國即將滅亡，人民將會被擄，但全國上下仍活在醉生夢死之中，他們敬拜偶像，遠離耶和華神之際，生性膽怯且懦弱的耶利米，奮不顧身地為國家和民族的命運呼喊，要喚醒國民悔改，歸向耶和華神，說：「你們當在耶路撒冷的街上跑去，在寬闊處尋找，看看有一人行公義的沒有？……」（耶利米書五章一節）

在今天的世代裏，相信有絕對真理——聖經的，行公義的，求誠實的，不多，但相反地，不法之事不斷增多，人的道德觀念

每況直下，人與人之間不講求承諾，婚姻，家庭破裂已成為平常之事，國與國之間，只著重經濟和利益上的互相利用，其實只是各懷詭胎，敵友難分。因著人類不斷的破壞，全球氣候在不規則地突變，導致人民生命財產損失慘重，源油價格直線上昇，經濟危機四伏，糧食短缺，多處出現饑荒，貧富懸殊越來越大，世界動蕩不安，戰火可能在很多地方一觸即發，就好像先知的呼喊一樣「毀壞的信息連絡不絕，因為全地荒廢」。我們的救主耶穌回來的日子太近了，角聲已響，還能等待麼？神的教會啊，起來吧！最後爭戰的時候已到，膽怯且懦弱的信徒們啊，不能再靜默不言了。

英文主日學部

劉廣彰

二零零七年我們英語主日學繼續依照在二零零六年所起草的英語事工的五年策略計劃去進行事工。重點如下：

- 初中部--由七至八年級的學生組成，所用的教材選自青少年主日學課程，由聖經出版社出版。主日學教師是：瞿錦榮、李凱能、鄭凱恩、余子建和楊羅拔。
- 高中部--由九至十二年級的學生組成，所用的教材是《新約歷史與神學概述》，以及如何學習和實踐基督教屬靈的原則。這一班的老師是符傳道。

- 大學生與年輕夫婦的主日學是分小組進一步學習和消化當日講道的內容。
- 成人主日學由關振鵬帶領，圍繞不同的神學主題展開學習。

在主日學的形式上我們做了一些修改：所有的班級先聚集在一個房間，大家一起有一段唱詩和靈修的時間，然後在十一時三十分，回到各自的班級和小組。我們為主日學的老師們感謝神。他們孜孜不倦地準備和教授主日學的課程，並且身體力行成為眾人的榜樣。

神在這一年中祝福我們，讓每個團契在屬靈上和人數上都有很大的增長。神還給了我們很多的機會走出去，在我們附近的社區傳福音。

我們中文部的各團契繼續在成長和成熟。教會兒童的人數有了大的增長，為此我們為年齡在幼兒園到五年級的兒童們成立了日光團契小組，每次大約有十五個兒童參加這個小組。

我們英語部的會眾也在成熟。我們成立了一些新的小組，為會眾各種的需要服務。我們青年夫婦小組每月聚會一次，那是為新結婚或婚姻初期階段的青年夫婦成立的。我們同樣也開始了每月一次的婦女團契，以回應已有的男仕團契。最後，由於教會學生人數的增加，我們也開始了大專和大學的小組。在整個一年中，青年、磐石、男仕、成人各小組繼續不斷聚會。

至於社區傳福音方面有：

社區燒烤

我們第一次在教會舉辦的社區燒烤可以說是相當成功的。我們的目的是邀請我

們的鄰舍來教會認識我們是誰。在這次活動中我們供應食物、組織小朋友作手工和遊戲。參加活動的鄰舍反應良好。我們希望在新的一年中多舉辦類似的活動，把我們的教會介紹給社區。

廚師料理比賽

磐石、大學和青年團契舉行了一個烹飪比賽。看看那一個團契有最好的廚師。每個隊伍用一個小時的時間，按照一個特定的食物烹調不同的菜式。這種食物在烹調之前他們是不知道的。最後，青年團契用多種混雜的、有趣的菜式贏得了比賽。我們希望在新的一年，組織一個中文部會眾一起參加，更大的烹飪比賽。

退修會

Ridgetown College 再一次被選為我們退修會的舉辦地點。今年出席的人數和上一年比較有15%的增長。中文堂的會眾完全地被講員的講道和問題解答所吸引。許多人因著這個週末的退修會，靈命有了復興。明年我們將再一次在那裏舉辦退修會。

感謝神，我在過往的兩年時間裏能夠參與教會的探訪事工。這三點小結是我的切身體會。

- 一. 教會的探訪事工是神的命令之一。在四福音書中有多次記載主耶穌教訓人，傳福音，醫治病人，並且「走遍加利利」（太4:23-25，太28:19-20，約5:1-15，路15:1-7，.....）。我們既是主的門徒，毫無疑問，我們也當

如此行。

- 二. 探訪關顧的工作不僅能使被探訪者得到造就，也能使探訪者受益。在探訪的過程中，探訪者需要思考如何勸慰和幫助被探訪者，同時也會自然地檢查自己在靈命和生活中的問題，這對復興自己的靈命是很有幫助的。因此，教會應該多鼓勵和帶領更多的弟兄姐妹們一起參與探訪關顧的事工。

三. 如何判斷並選擇最合適的時間去探訪是相對比較難的。對於去探訪平時接觸比較多的弟兄姐妹，這不是問題。但對於去探訪那些第一次進教會，或者有一些問題發生的家庭來說，如何選擇並聯係去探訪的時間，確是比較難的。在受到一些挫折之後，我只求

主帶領，並賜給智慧，也預備被探訪者的心。

願主帶領保守我們前面的探訪事工，並且藉著探訪，興起更多的人，並復興我們的靈命。阿們！

兒童部

余鄧愛玲

二零零七年是在我們兒童部有為的一年。首先，我們所建立滿有衝勁的核心小組，有效地籌劃這一年的兒童事工，使兒童部的同工們更有效地事奉神。

另一喜訊是兒童行政指南手冊已完成，也順利地通過牧師團及理事會的批閱，已遞交保險公司，各兒童同工的保險權益已是拭目以待。我們不得不為這兒童行政指南手冊感謝主，因在過往十多年中，已有很多弟兄姊妹參與編制這手冊，使這心血作品得已完成，真令人興奮！在此同時也特別多謝各弟兄姊妹的參與，使兒童部能達進一個令人奮興的里程碑。

為了更有效地事奉神與實踐兒童行政指南手冊的要求，我們要求所有參與兒童事工者進行警務資料調查(Police record Check)，又要求所有兒童戶外活動皆要父母或監護人簽署認可表格(Waiver form)；為了方便兒童同工並有效地填好老師或同工登記表和警務資料調查表，在十月初崇

拜後，兒童部要求所有兒童工作者留步，即時填寫老師登記表和派發警務資料調查表。

在這裏還有一快樂的分享，因著我們已編製了一個根據我們教會的需要而編製的教師訓練課程，讓我們有效地舉辦了教師訓練主日學課程，吸收了許多年輕人參與事奉行列！這就解決了尋找新的兒童主日學老師的問題，感謝主！

回顧這一年，有數不盡稱頌主和感恩的事！感謝主每主日給我們四十多位活潑可愛的兒童！感謝主有英文部的詩班幫助兒童崇拜中的詩歌頌讚！感謝主兒童行政指南手冊的完成！感謝主使用我們所編製的教師訓練課程，更感謝主加添年青的新力軍！感謝主有一群忠心事主的同工！讓我們繼續同心向神祈求，賜與我們更多的兒童，並每一個在我們當中的孩童都蒙恩得救！沒有一個滅亡！阿們！



聖樂部

區啟榮

耶和華以勒 — 耶和華必預備。我們的舊風琴已經找到新的家，就是賓頓市新生命五旬節教會之新生命事工。在同時，神又預備另一部較為可靠的風琴，也讓我們在台上加建一小處地方放置它，使風琴與鋼琴相對。這樣能夠讓領詩者、風琴司與鋼琴司有更好的配合。

聯合詩班在受苦節唱了一套「觸髓地」歌曲。這套歌是描述耶穌基督被釘在十架上所說的七句話，也稱為十架七言。這套歌提醒我們耶穌基督死在十架上，但三天後復活。歌曲的最後更以一首確實的歌 — 「基督今日已復生」來完結。

在二千零七年十二月聖樂部更用了另

一種方式來表達聖誕節的意義，就是以歌曲加話劇形式。聯合詩班唱一套歌名叫“Jesus, There is something About That Name”，而幾位青年人演譯當中的角色。感謝神幫助這幾位在英文崇拜的年青人背熟他們的台詞。更感謝神有我們未來的詩班員 — 兒童詩班員一起唱詩，他們不需要看譜來唱，已經將歌詞全記心裏。總括而言，我們有更多說不同語言、年齡的會眾參與事奉。這是神的恩典，雖然有不同的母語，但卻能夠用同一語言傳揚祂的信息。如果神允許的話，我們將會在二千零八年用同一的形式，以歌劇來榮耀神的名。

總務部

張國榮

時間過得真快，二千零七年已結束，轉眼又踏入新的一年，感謝神，近幾年來，總務部的工作，在神帶領下，有頗多兄弟姊妹委身事奉參與工作，特別是每週教會的清潔，如果來年能有更多人參與，效果則會更好，俗語說：「人多好做作」。

感謝神，今年總務部在大堂完成幾項工程：換上美輪美奐的吊燈及壁燈；增加了一部對著進堂門上牆壁的投影機，方便詩班、主席及牧師都能清楚地看到整個崇

拜程序；更新了一些音響設備；將風琴搬遷到正堂前方的右邊台上；並在零八年初完成走廊髹上新顏色及修補天花板。這些工程全賴主的引領及差派幾位兄弟來同心協力，使一切都能順利完成。惟願神在來年繼續祝福教會，保守新一屆的理事弟兄姊妹們，堅守崗位，事奉神，又彼此服侍，將一切榮耀都歸與我們在天上的父！阿們。



二千零七年的迦南團，先有吳秉權弟兄七十歲壽辰，繼有小弟兒子的婚禮，又有姚陳偉儀宣佈退休，看來迦南團很快便成為長者團契了。至於我連任迦南團團長四年後，亦要休息一下，讓其他人起來接棒。

回顧這四年來的事奉，感謝神的帶領，讓我們在主裏一同成長，有很好的配搭，謝謝輝哥安排合適的查經內容配合團契主題，又謝謝副團長秀麗負責財政及總務，黃佩乾姊妹幫助電話聯絡團友，各弟兄姊妹們努力的參與，願神祝福他們。

二千零七年的迦南團主題，仍沿用我們教會的主題：「來、看、去、傳」，一方面我們努力查考神的話語，另一方面我

們吸取短宣經歷。查經方面：我們一年內把傳道書看完，從傳道者的眼光看人生的價值。短宣經歷方面：我們先有郭定牧師分享泰北短宣經歷，後有巴西短宣隊合團分享巴西短宣經歷。願這些查經和分享，幫助我們屬靈生命的成長。

最後謹以傳道書十二章12-14節彼此互勉：「我兒，還有一層，你當受勸戒：著書多，沒有窮盡；讀書多，身體疲倦。這些事都已聽見了，總意就是：敬畏神，謹守他的誠命，這是人所當盡的本分。因為人所作的事，連一切隱藏的事，無論是善是惡，神都必審問。」

以琳團：珍惜平凡

馬蔡紅

回顧二千零七年，我們彼此關心照顧，共同在主內成長，在靈命裏，在彼此的感情裏去年我們以琳團內的弟兄姊妹都有了很大的進步。

每次聚會我們有唱詩、主題分享、靈修祈禱。我們也有彼此製作愛心美食，一同歡笑，一起的為些特別的事悲痛，同心幫助有需要的弟兄姊妹。

去年我們整個團契積極的參與教會主辦的和我們團契自己組織的外展工作。我們在賓頓市的中國商場和超級市場派發福音單張、書籍和報刊給中國人和其他族裔的人。我們照聖經的教導去撒種，在整個過程中，我們都感受到各人傳揚福音熱切的心。

像以往一樣，二千零七年秋季，我們跟摩西團聯合聚會。我們這幫「年輕人」帶著摩西團的長者坐火車，欣賞那還未變

成很多燦爛顏色的楓葉。我們很享受相聚的時間，也相信長者們都感受到弟兄姊妹對他們的關懷。

我們的團長潘國麟夫婦和導師谷景雲夫婦是我們團友們學習的典範。他們以愛心待別人，安慰和幫助有需要的人，讓我們深深感受神的愛。神對祂每一個的兒女無條件的愛，可以從他們身上反影出來。我們從這些事中體會到耶穌的教導：「你要盡心、盡性、盡意，盡力愛主你的神。其次，就是說要愛人如己。」（可十二：30、31）

展望新的一年，我們團契會跟隨二千零八年教會的主題：「敬拜、見證、增長」，不但在我們的團契要藉敬拜建立自己，更要努力將人帶到教會，把福音廣傳出去。

回顧過去的二零零七年，在神的保守與祝福下，我們看到國語團契的弟兄姐妹不僅在屬靈生命上繼續有成長，在組織結構及國語事工等方面也日臻成熟。國語團契堅持每月二次的團契聚會，採用形式和內容的多樣化來幫助已信主的弟兄姐妹和未信主的朋友對基督信仰有更廣深的認識。一年當中，我們也舉辦了幾次大型的活動，如六月份的郊遊燒烤聚會，八月份的露營，十二月份的慶祝聖誕火鍋晚宴等。神使用這些聚會把新人帶到我們當中，他們第一次接近教會，接觸基督徒，了解基督教。我們看到許多的弟兄姐妹為神所用，熱心傳揚福音，積極參與服事，真正成為基督愛的流通管道。感謝神，二零零七年國語團共有十一位弟兄姐妹受浸成為神的兒女，他們是：鄔沙、許葆國、陳蘭君、陳晨、范舒麗、褚瑞白、陳偉航、焦凡非、翟秀芳、陳智昌，魏巍。

隨著國語事工的深入與擴展，郭定牧師帶出異象，將原來的家庭查經班的小組

模式向組員間生命交流，彼此建造的生命小組的模式轉變，期待透過生命小組帶領新人，產生出更多的生命小組。郭牧師在國語團契聚會上作了生命小組的異象分享，並專門對生命小組組長進行培訓。經過整整一年的禱告、籌備，異象最終變成了共同的目標，變成了實際的行動。從二零零八年初開始，國語團共有九個生命小組。燕華師母選用聖經加拉太書5:22-5:23節的聖靈的果子來命名這九個小組。

感謝神，讓我們弟兄姐妹透過教會、透過團契、透過生命小組，彼此有代禱，有見證，有安慰，有鼓勵，在耶穌基督的愛裏共同地成長。借此機會我也特別感謝二零零六、二零零七年的同工們 - 張百順、郭丹青、陳琦、黃英。我們有如此豐盛的二零零七年，離不開整個團隊的努力和搭配。求神繼續使用國語團契，使用生命小組，使用每一位神的兒女，來榮耀主的名！



八間華人浸信會姊妹聯合退修會於二零零八年四月五月舉行。這個每兩年舉辦一次的姊妹聚會已有超過二十年的歷史，超過七百位姊妹參加。策劃委員來自以下八間浸信會：

- 賓頓市華人浸信會
- 愛證浸信會
- 多倫多東區華人浸信會
- 麥城華人浸信會
- 美城華人浸信會
- 多倫多北區華人浸信會
- 士嘉堡華人浸信會
- 多倫多華人浸信會

除了敬拜信息分享，還有兩項非常特別的節目。

1. 恩雨之聲話劇組演出粵語及國語話劇。最特別是以國語演出兩個短劇。是婆媳之間的家常對話。用同一樣的臺詞，先是以互不尊重吵架式的態度演出；然後以和氣、溫柔、彼此尊重的態度再演出。同一樣的演員，同一樣的字句臺詞，以不同的語氣態度，強烈對比，提醒我們與人溝通相處的祕訣。

2. 彼此代禱。教會代表分享姊妹事工的需要及彼此代禱。從禱告的內容得知各教會姊妹所關心的事情及她們的心聲。期望你們也常常紀念這些來各堂會姊妹的需要：

- 求主幫助姊妹們熱心傳揚福音。有勇氣，特別是向家人。
- 有智慧與謙和向人分享信仰。

- 求主幫助初信的姊妹成長。
- 記念配偶尚未信主的姊妹，願姊妹作美好的見證。
- 記念單親母親，求主賜智慧教導子女。
- 記念單身姊妹，在適當時間預備合神心意的配偶。
- 求神使用姊妹們將基督的愛和關心，帶到我們所接觸的人群裏。
- 家人關係與子女溝通。
- 建立一間有感染力的教會。求神感動弟兄姊妹努力追求靈命成長，個人及教會皆榮耀主名。
- 單親母親事工及支持小組。
- 祈求在未來有職業婦女及年輕母親的團契。
- 姊妹查經班。
- 姊妹團契。
- 姊妹探訪事工。
- 家庭及工作壓力。
- 求主幫助姊妹們能夠全人成長，作主精兵。

個人成長：穩定靈修，與主親近，聆聽主言。

靈命進深：研讀聖經，學習真理，謹守遵行。

彼此建立：激發愛心，互相守望，彼此代求。

共宣主恩：活出信仰，見證基督，榮耀上帝。

「耶穌斥責風和海，風和海就大大的平靜了。」（太八：26下）

終於克服了自己的死穴（怕暈船浪）的心理恐懼，以及多時的禱告。「你們要知道耶和華已經分別虔誠人歸祂自己，我求告耶和華，祂必聽我。」（詩四：3）

由在香港專業經營遊輪代理的誼女作安排，順利在二月八日起程。

為了行程不想太匆忙，我提前於八號早上由多倫多先飛往 Fort Lauderdale, Florida，於 Hilton 酒店住宿一晚，翌日早上才上船。據說該船得過多次獎項，以及船上食物比較豐富好食。Holland America Line 船公司旗下的船，M/S Zuiderdam 八天的旅程，船上的吃、喝，玩樂，各種的娛樂及表演節目，不必多敘。許多朋友都有去過，各遊輪的設備，都是大同小異。今次觸發我們踏上遊輪的意念，是因為我的腳傷復原，已可以活動多了，女兒 Margaret 有兩個星期假期，有足夠時間，好讓她休息，輕鬆，暫時避開多倫多的漫天風雪，享受一下溫暖的天氣及陽光。心動了，亦想往外走走，最適合就是乘搭遊輪。可以不用陸上旅行，天天要收拾行李，上車落車的麻煩。但我仍然有小小憂慮，我出外習慣了帶著自己的私家車，就是「有四個輪的助行車」用來扶持借力，會不會因此而不方便。事實告訴我，一點也沒有，反為好處多多，有了它，我可以安心走路，不怕跌倒，及被碰撞，有了它，幫助我減低體重的負荷，腳也比較輕省。路比較走多，走倦了，又可以當椅子坐下，手提包及購物後可以放在椅上推著走。旅行時，上落船都有特別的安排不用排隊，走特別的通道，十分優待，又舒適，我的憂慮是多餘了。

輪船上碰到的，都是愉快的臉孔，各人都讓自己盡情沉醉在歡樂的玩意中，一

雙雙的情侶，互相依伴親密又溫馨，這是當然好。

感謝神，聽我們的禱告祈求，旅途中天氣十分好。今次旅程並沒有暈船浪。早已準備好的暈浪手鐲，耳貼，暈浪丸一概不需用。「耶和華阿，認識你名的人要倚靠你，因你沒有離棄尋求你的人。」（詩九：10）

水連天，藍天白雲，深深的吸幾口沒有被污染的新鮮空氣，光一點一點從雲層滲透出來，終於露出了漂亮的陽光。神的奧秘，神的創造，神的大能！我對自己說一聲早晨，也對神說一聲早晨。謝謝祂又賜給新的一天。「又要將你們的心志改換一新。」（弗四：23）

獨處寧靜房間內的露台，是禱告最佳的好地方，向著天空，對著窮蒼，祇看見天和水，感到與神很接近，默默地感到聖靈的同在。「因為所賜給我們的聖靈，將神的愛澆灌在我們心裏。」（羅五：5下）

神的偉大，天然的無敵，自己的渺小，甚至一無可取，感謝神，祂並沒有遺棄我。「凡以感謝獻上為祭的，便是榮耀我，那按正路而行的，我必使他得著我的救恩。」詩五十：23。每天雖然在歡樂中，仍然有多次的感恩禱告。便能夠清心寡慾，帶著安靜敬畏的心，對著大海，朝向上空，大聲的讚美我們的神。「你要保守你心，勝過保守你一切，因為一生的果效，是由心發出。」（箴四：23）

隨身帶著一疊的見證單張，好像沒有甚麼作用。船上的搭客百份之百是外國人仕，沒有碰過中國人，實在有點失望！

意外的，一次在 High Tea 時間，鄰桌坐著的竟然是黃臉孔。坐下來，大家互相微笑，點一下頭。那年青女仕自動與我聊天，叫我一聲姐姐。我多麼開心呀！原來他們是母女及年青的丈夫，和父親，一共

四人，是由美國三藩市來，也曾經過香港。年青的女仕很健談，講她自己，話題又多，相談甚歡。機不可失，立即取出見證單張數款送上，隨即把話題轉到福音上，先說我自己的經歷及見證。講到人生，人的軟弱，每人都需要神。人人都犯了罪，需要藉著信耶穌才能得赦免，得救...。他們本來在進食，都停下來，有興趣留心聽我說。「全地都要向耶和華歌唱，天天傳揚祂的救恩，在列邦中述說祂的榮耀，在萬民中述說祂的奇事。」（代上十六：23、24）

他們分別拿著見證單張來看，年青的丈夫看完後說，寫得很好，很感人，又問

了我一些問題。他還說今次返美國後，打算受浸歸主，並帶領他們家人得救。

短短的數天旅程中，仍然有機會給我
把福音介紹給人，見證單張終於能夠派出，很喜樂，感謝神！

旅行完結，返回多倫多，一切回復正常。

多倫多還是遍地白雪，仍然寒冷，加勒比海的溫暖、陽光與海灘，還是未能忘懷。

意猶未盡又開始計劃，精選下一次的旅程。

巴西短宣後分享

潘國麟

在短宣中探訪其間，深深體會到作為宣教士的心志；亞泉和亞珍，恍忽像戰地裏的先鋒和司令，我們就是他的兵卒，一同走訪了里約市外共六個城鎮。

「公共巴士」就是我們的戰車，去到這些城鎮約要一至一個半小時。由於這些戰車(巴士)比較舊，多數只有天然的空調(無冷氣)，加上要走的道路較爛；在一次旅程中，幾位姊妹坐在車尾，就拋到好像坐過山車一樣。

我們還要有戰馬，那就是我們早已準備了「蝕得起的波鞋(因為我們要跑著來跟住亞泉的，否則我們會被敵人捉住或走失了)」。在那四十度以上炎熱天氣之下，走遍了當地的角仔鋪(Patties Shop)。

「號角報紙、中信月刊、和福音單張」便成為我們手中的寶劍，送給當地的華人同胞，祈求神的道創開他們的內心。

很佩服亞泉和亞珍，他們沒有黃頁和上網可以查，就是靠著戰馬(波鞋)、拿著這把寶劍(號角報紙)，在之前的每星期和每個月裏，也在這炎熱的天氣下，從每個鎮和每條街去找到了這些角仔鋪和華人，

他們大多數要從早上六點工作到晚上八、九點；所以初時這些人多數都不理睬他們，但是他們仍然堅持到底去送報紙，去探訪他們，終於與他們建立了良好的關係。他們兩人對這個傳福音異象的迫切和堅持，實在給我們上了很大的一課！

在探訪中，很奇怪，我們遇上一個連亞泉也不認識的人，就是這個人，原來他從更偏遠的城鎮來到這裏來探朋友。我們正想向他傳福音的時候，他說已有人來到那偏遠的城鎮向他傳過了，他們就是耶和華見證人會。亞泉甚為慨嘆地說：「為什麼反而純正的福音未能夠傳到那裏呢？並且很希望他能夠早日將神的福音進佔這更偏遠的城鎮去」；奈何看到可與他同工的人太少了！

回到我們賓頓市裏，不知道我和你每當從外面行回我們這教會的時候，見到耶和華見證人會也在我們對面，不斷也傳緊那些不純正的福音，其實，亦不單只他們正在這樣做，是嗎？例如還有摩門教等等；如果是這樣，我們應該以什麼心態來回應呢？究竟我們會有什麼反應或行動呢？

走出去，離開熟習的環境，去看看神在外面的工作，真是一件賞心樂事。巴西是我第次參加短宣的目的地，也是我第一次去南美洲的旅程。在去之前我想這次短宣我會得到些甚麼呢？初時以為有牧者帶領，自己就聽從吩咐作一隻兵卒罷了，誰知走出去的就祇有我們六個人，是一團自由發揮的短宣團。當時有些手足無措，但弟兄姊妹們為我們的禱告支持，成為我們的力量。神是聽禱告的，在我們的預備過程中，不斷的給我們異象。就我來說在順服上得到一個很實用的功課。我在準備的行程上再沒有惶恐的感覺，因為不是靠自己有甚麼恩賜，而是仰望神的安排及保守。

在教會和團契中我們個別分享過我們的經歷，我們所遇到的不是天色常藍，但每個人都有不同的感受。我們就好像一齣電影名叫「職業特工隊」一樣，各有各的崗位，各有各的工作。每次的聚會都能一氣呵成，沒有甚麼勉強，每次都乘興而出，盡興而返。每晚回酒店後，大家都有祈禱，分享聚會的經歷，直至深夜二時後，才各自回房休息。心裏喜樂之情蓋過身體的疲勞。真是值得我們歌頌的。祂所給我們的超過我們所想所求。

巴西里約熱內盧市附近的小埠是我們工作場地，對象是食店角仔鋪內的中國僑

胞，他們從中國出外找尋新天地，真盼望他們在這裏找到這位又真又活的神。在我們所住的「新」市有二十多弟兄姊妹一同聚會，他們非常之年青，但非常之渴慕神的話語，而且信得十分之純真，令我想起馬太福音第十九章第十四節中所記到耶穌的說話，祂說：「讓小孩子到我這裏來，不要禁止他們，因為在天國的，正是這樣的人。」他們工作時間很長，晚上拖著疲乏的身體來參加各樣的聚會，使我感到自己身在福中不知福，還時常因小事而發怨言。他們各人都有不同的際遇，而且很願意和我們分享。美國、加拿大是他們心中的天堂。我們就好像一群天之驕子，從天上落來，到他們那裏關心他們的需要。這種感情從他們的表情流露出來。無怪乎那些宣教士都能從他們中得到無限的安慰，願為他們的得救忍耐、恆切的努力耕耘。愛真是可以包容一切，如果沒有愛，人與人的關係真不知變成怎樣了。

十二日的旅程很快便完滿結束，令我們每一個成員都慨歎造物者的奇妙。短短的行程給我難忘的經歷，見到祂奇妙的安排，真是特別為我度身訂做。生命不在乎長短，祇要與主同行的經歷，才是我畢生的追求。阿們。

投靠祂的人有福了

黃吳佩乾

詩篇第三十四篇，是今年迦南團團契第一次分享的經文，整篇經文中的第八節和第九節，特別激發我的靈性。我要在今年的年刊上為主作見證。那經文是「你們要嘗嘗主恩的滋味，便知道他是美善，投靠祂的人有福了。耶和華的聖民哪，你們

當敬畏他，因敬畏他一無所缺。」

我一個基督教家庭長大，年青時經常參加教會崇拜，詩班和團契，並受浸成為基督徒。但踏足社會工作後，我便開始離開主，結婚後，更為上班和家庭忙碌，變為一個有名無實的基督徒。我的兩個孩

子因而失去認識基督的機會，那是我人生
中最大遺憾。

移民後，以為生活上仍然事事順利
時，突然被病魔重擊，躺在醫院時，全家
都憾入惶恐中，不知所措。雖然腦手術成
功，重拾生命，但我由一個正常的人變成
一個半身不遂的人，一切生活基本所需，
如說話、進食、步行能力等等，都要從新
學習。當時每天都以淚洗臉，其中滋味和
感受，真非外人所能體驗。

有一天，我的弟弟送了一部聖經給
我，而姐姐也用心教我讀詩篇第二十三
篇，從那時起，我便好像一隻迷失的羊，
回到主人的懷抱，我再以耶和華為我的牧
者，再不會離棄祂。從發病到今天，前後
差不多六年了，回想往事，我真的感到祂
使我的靈魂甦醒，引導我走義路，我雖然
行過死蔭的幽谷，也不遭害，因為祂與我

同在。

主的恩典在我家真數不盡的。每遇到
困難的事，祂都能一步一步帶領我們，以
致困難迎刃而解。我有一件事同大家分
享，是主的安排真奇妙，祂竟在我需要的
時候，給我的丈夫，Paul 有機會提早退休，
以致他能專心照顧我，還夫兼母職，由一
個只顧上班下班的人，變成一個全職照顧
家庭的「住家男人」。祂真是一位無所不
能的神。

我的兩位孩子雖然還未信主，但我相
信主一定不會離棄他們，只是時候未到，
因祂說一人得救，全家得救，主自有祂的
安排。就像今天我能夠在家人悉心照顧和
主的扶持下，能夠再用腳站起來行路，我
真是有福了，我終於知道，投靠祂的人有
福了。

七十而從心所欲

半百小子

最近幾年來團契弟兄姊妹陸續慶祝五
十歲、六十歲、七十歲壽辰，我總喜歡送
他們一張賀卡，寫上一段《論語·為政篇》
及屬靈的解釋作恭賀的話。現記在下面與
大家分享：

子曰：「吾十有五而志於學，三十而
立，四十而不惑，五十而知天命，六十而
耳順，七十而從心所欲，不逾矩。」《論
語·為政篇》

屬靈的解釋為：

孔子說：我十五歲的時候立志向學。

三十歲時候能夠自立，確立了行道的
根基標準，能夠自行判斷何者為可，何者
為不可。

四十歲的時候對於一切事理都能夠通
達，已經明瞭各種事情而不會感到疑惑。

五十歲達到了「知天命」之境，即知

神的心意。

六十歲達到了「聞之而順天命」之境，
凡聽到的都能辨別清楚，明白貫通。

七十歲的時候，已可凡事順心而為，
不會犯錯；能夠達到了一言一行皆自然合
乎神的心意，不違背神的誠命。

詩篇九十12：「求你指教我們怎樣數
算自己的日子，好叫我們得著智慧的心。」

箴言第二十章29：「強壯乃少年人的
榮耀；白髮為老年人的尊榮。」

提多書第二章2-5：「勸老年人要有節
制、端莊、自守，在信心、愛心、忍耐上
都要純全無疵。又勸老年婦人，舉止行動
要恭敬，不說讒言，不給酒作奴僕，用善
道教訓人，好指教少年婦人，愛丈夫，愛
兒女，謹守，貞潔，料理家務，待人有恩，
順服自己的丈夫，免得神的道理被毀謗。」

我是在二零零六年的十一月走進教會和基督教有所接觸的，十二月五日在麥希真牧師的佈道會上決志信主的。雖然整個認識基督的時間並不長，可是我內心的觸動和感受卻是讓我無比的震撼和感動。

在沒有信主之前的我是一個驕傲，自大，心浮氣燥，非常情緒化的人。有很多時候，連自己都不喜歡自己，可是又覺得無能為力，無法控制。只有自己找藉口說：「沒辦法，江山易改，本性難移嘛。」也就這樣隨性而為這麼多年，在這個充滿誘惑，充滿邪惡，充滿罪惡的世界裏，其實內心也常常有另一種聲音在拉扯自己，但是這個聲音是那麼的短暫，那麼的軟弱，那麼的模糊，最後感覺真的是很無奈。就是這樣由於人性的罪惡和自己靈性上的軟弱，讓自己經歷了挫折，失敗，和痛苦各種情感上的折磨。自己的罪惡束縛了自己，活在黑暗之中隨波逐流，看不到光明。可怕的是那時的我根本沒有意識到自己的

罪，更不用談去承認自己有罪。在人生路上，當我面臨要做出一些重大的決定的時候，理性和感性經常會有極大的沖突和矛盾，自己找不到答案，找不到真理。內心深處也經常會問自己很多的為什麼，為什麼活著，為什麼我會在加拿大，為什麼自己的付出不能得到回報，為什麼別人比我強，為什麼我沒有他那麼走運？

直到我找到了主，和主有了第一次的親密交通。主的話語讓我豁然開朗，讓我找到了答案，找到了人生的真理和人生的價值，讓我看到了自己的罪惡，讓我看到了光明。更神奇的是主改變了我，改變了我的思維方式，改變了我的行為方式。經常受到聖靈的感動，和聖靈的指引。自己以前認為不可能做的事情我都能做到。我越來越喜歡自己，越來越喜歡和主交通，活在主的世界裏，更盼望看到自己在屬靈上的成長，活出主的形，主的貌來！

奇異恩典，感謝主恩

陳蘭君

我們偉大的神啊，我們偉大的上帝！在復活節這個神聖的日子裏，我能真正成為你的兒女，心情無比激動，特獻上我的感恩：在這茫茫的人海中，是你揀選了我，當我次次回避你、不願意接受你時，你是那麼執著那麼威嚴，使我由衷的敬畏。

回想自己人生的經歷，是在一片讚美聲中走過，心想事成，家庭幸福，我認為是自己聰明智慧、辛勤勞動的結果。當我一次次拒絕神的愛和猶豫徘徊的時候，是你撥開迷霧、指明方向，推了我一把，使我頓悟榮耀的光環原來是神的恩賜，使我謙卑地拜倒在你的腳下，感謝神的恩典：

在我人生的每一個後台階，你的手總是攙拉著我，把我帶到你的身邊，成了你的兒女。

過去我對神的認識模糊，雖然受無神論的影響幾十年，但我相信世上有神，也許是人們常說的：頭上三尺之外有神靈。也許是廟裏供奉的佛像，渴望神靈保佑的願望使我也常去燒香拜佛、以求平安。二零零四年來加拿大後，我心裏暗暗下決心，不信基督教。但當我參加教會崇拜和查經後，聖經的話語深深打動我。原來是因為我不認識耶穌所以才不信，是因為沒有讀過聖經，才不知道真理。過去我尋找

我的神，神卻原來就在我們身邊。這次來之前，我又暗暗在想，我信耶穌從死裏復活，我也信祂是創造宇宙萬物的唯一真神，但我不受洗，不要成為基督徒。但是當我來到神的施恩寶座面前，聖靈馬上進入我的心裏。原來我是多麼渴望聆聽神的話語，如鹿渴慕溪水一樣。當我第一次禱告，將心門打開，與神傾訴的時候，心裏真切地感到神與我同在，他給我智慧、膽量和能力，神的大愛帶給我平安和喜樂。

我不要去明白上帝揀選的秘密，而是

感謝他揀選了我。我要順從祂的揀選，遵守祂的誡命，成為祂的忠實兒女。我要將神普世救恩的福音傳到中國，傳給我的親朋好友，使他們乾涸的心靈早日接受聖靈的恩澤。我要獻上一首詩，讚美慈愛公義的神：

欣逢花甲得福音，箴言愛語潤我心。
我知我罪思悔改，耶穌救我得重生。
慈愛公義的父神，賜下恩膏給世人。
傳揚福音我重任，普世救贖頌主恩。

牢記主的恩典，走好今後人生路

許保國

未到加拿大以前，我認為自己是一位無神論者，所以對那種「求神拜佛、燒香叩頭」之事，雖然也做過，但內心很反感，既然做了也只是隨波逐流而已。自從兒子一來加拿大就信了上帝，並認為認識了上帝是他一生中最大收穫，並且很快將福音傳給我們。我想兒子也是一名共產黨員，為什麼這麼快就改變了人生的信仰呢？二千零四年我老伴到加拿大探親，返回時並沒有決志信主，但回國後我經常看到她認真真地學習聖經，時常與親朋好友滔滔不絕地談論聖經中的神奇言語，看到她對家人比以前謙卑忍耐，甚至對錢財看得沒有以往那麼貴重……老伴這短短時間的變化又說明了什麼呢？

我帶著以上問題第一次來到加拿大，內心只想了解基督教為什麼這麼神奇？並沒有打算成為一名基督徒。我到賓頓市快三十個星期了，幾乎每個星期都參加教會的主日學、崇拜和團契，以及查經小組學習。與此同時，我還認真讀完了新約，舊約也讀了一部分，以及相關各種資料。聖經的話語使我百聽不厭，百學不倦。聽了弟兄姐妹的真實見證，使我堅信基督教不

是什麼迷信，而真正知道真理就在這裏，愛在這裏，和平在這裏，光明在這裏，生命在這裏！才知道你想得到的就在耶穌基督裏。

回想自己人生的經歷，總括來說是稱心如意，但從來沒有對自己做過的路及思想言行進行反省。對照聖經的律法，我看到自己是一個罪惡深重的人，是一個不配作神的兒女的人。如今神設立耶穌基督作挽回祭，是憑著基督的寶血，因著人的信，要顯明神的義。是耶穌基督主的寶血赦免了我的罪，並告訴我當走的路。有了主還要什麼？所以我決志認罪悔改信主！只有信主才能得救，只有信主才可獲得新的生命，成為一個新造的人。

今天是神聖復活節，在這一天我能真正成為神的兒女，心情十分激動。在這茫茫人海中，是神揀選了我。我決志跟隨主，遵守神的誡命，做主喜悅的兒女！我要將福音傳到中國，傳給我的親朋好友。與此同時，我也要在聖靈的帶領下在屬靈生命上不斷成長，並時刻牢記主的恩典，走好今後人生路，直到主再來的日子！阿們！

歲末年初的時候，我接到一個朋友的電話。朋友是我高中的同班同學，高中畢業以後我們進了不同的大學，大學畢業以後我們又在不同的城市工作，他在北京，我在廣東，一南一北，各自奮鬥，二十年未曾見面，直到一年前，通過國內另一個同學的消息才在加拿大重逢相見。他現在和太太及女兒住在多倫多。最近與他通電話，一陣寒暄之後，我們談起了二零零七年的生活，他感慨地說，過去的一年裏，他遇到太多的挫折和失意。他申請父母的簽證一拒再拒，他們滿懷希望的想生第二個孩子，結果因為壓力太大，太太提前小產而不得人意，還在醫院動手術，前前後後，一個月之久。我的朋友要努力工作，要照顧僅二歲的女兒，又要到醫院照顧太太，極其勞累，也大病一場，現在剛剛好轉，但情緒還是比較低迷，總覺得太多的不如人意。不過最後還是盛情地邀請我們一起去過新年。我總覺得想和他再談些什麼，我愉快地接受了邀請。

新年那天，我和太太帶著孩子，全家驅車到了多倫多士嘉堡，拜見了我的同學，街還是那條街，家還是那個家，但是我明顯的感覺我的同學與半年前相比，顯得消瘦，正是：歲歲年年花相似，年年歲歲人不同。他乏神的眼目中，流露出生活的疲乏勞累，緊鎖的眉宇裏，透出太多的重擔愁苦和失意惆悵。

砌茶落坐之後，他就對過去一年的生活進行了一番苦淚申訴，我也盡力安慰。隨後，他問起了我們的生活怎樣以及怎樣過聖誕節。我說過去一年我們全家在賓頓市華人教會慕道求經，有神聖的主日崇拜，有靈活多樣的命小組聖經學習研討，有多彩多姿的國語團契交流。每一週，我們都過得很充實，很豐富，很開心，特別是今年聖誕節，我們和其他幾家慕道

友，受邀在一個叫黃英的基督徒家裏渡過，有豐盛的晚餐，有虔誠的禱告，有聖經閱讀，有詩歌分享，最後還有教會的兄弟姐妹不畏酷寒，驅車遠道而來，喜報聖誕平安佳音，給這個本來就充滿溫馨的聚會增添了無盡的溫暖。我在平安和喜悅中渡過了這美好的聖誕節。

當我問及他們的聖誕節怎樣過時，他說他們是在他太太的一個朋友家過的，正好，這個朋友也住在賓頓市，也常去教會，我很好奇，問他們是誰，或許我認識，他說是程晨和范舒麗夫婦，我說是不是那個又高又大又瀟灑的程晨和那個又苗條又漂亮的范舒麗，他說正是，他還說不知什麼原因，這次感覺他們兩個人有特別的不同，與以前交往中的感受有明顯的區別。當晚受邀的還有好幾家，主人盛情邀請，熱情接待，還有無微不至的照顧和關懷，茶足飯飽之後，主人還根據每個客人不同的興趣進行分組，給予不同的活動和遊戲。客人們興奮倍至，流戀忘返，而主人則是樓上樓下，跑前跑後，忙得不可開交，但他們總是滿懷笑容，毫無倦意，一言一行無不充滿著喜樂和關愛。我說程晨和范舒麗在感恩節前已施浸受洗，決志信靠於主。於是他就跺著腳，大徹大悟的說，總覺得他們有所不同，原來如此，原來如此。

後來，我就對他講了我對聖經的理解和一年來參加教會的活動的感受，並順便安慰他說，其實，誰家都有不順心的事，都有挫折和失意，但基督徒懂得怎樣把失意變成快樂，把傷心變開心。通過開導，他們心情也好了許多，有了要學習聖經，參加教會活動的強烈願望，並有了想到賓頓市華人浸信會來的願望。

通過這個簡單而平常的故事，我有以下三個方面的感受：

第一：基督徒是更新的人，是快樂的人。哥林多後書5:16-17，「人若活在基督裏，他就是新造的人」。耶穌基督的死而復活帶來的最大影響就是人類靈魂的更新。信基督的人雖然不一定能比別人有錢，不一定比別人更快地換算化學方程式，但他們更清楚的理解聖經的真理，和神有著更親密的關係。他們更熱衷並明白屬靈之事，並且積極的付之於實踐。他們用神的眼光去看世界，用更新的頭腦去思考人與外在財富的關係，他們心中充滿了聖靈，充滿了喜悅。所以我們才會發出「好像變了個人似的」這樣的感慨。

第二：基督徒是發光體，他們無時無刻地在發光。大的像太陽，強烈炙熱，光芒四射，小的像蠟燭，纖細親切，溫暖柔

和，但無論如何，他們的光就像他們身上的愛，都在無形的影響著他人。他們的光和愛溫暖了單位的同事，溫暖了四舍的鄰居，溫暖了同校的同窗，溫暖了親朋好友。正是如此，我們才感覺到他們的愛，同時，他們又像漆黑大海上的航標燈，給我們慕道的朋友指明了前進的方向。

第三：基督徒是教會的形像，代表和宣傳。俗話說：「酒香不怕巷子深」。一個舞會結束了，人們順著酒瓶上的商標就找到了酒廠。同理，人們通過認識基督徒而找到了教會，雖然教會位置遠點、偏點，但只要培育出好的基督徒，這樣的教會一定興旺繁榮，神名遠揚。

以上是我的所見、所聞、所想，算是我的見證。謝謝大家。



我渴望受洗，因為我企盼神能揀選我成為基督耶穌的信徒。感謝主基督耶穌的揀選，今日我將蒙恩受洗，獲得新生，成為基督的信徒。

我一個無神論的環境中生長。最早接觸基督耶穌的信息是在小時學畫畫時，所看的一些畫冊對耶穌以及聖經故事的描寫，尤其是文藝復興時期三傑對神子的畫作。記的當時問長輩耶穌是誰？長輩回答耶穌是一位有名的私生子，西方人都迷信他，聽了這個回答，心裏更全是不明白。

九零年至九一年間，因為想出國，便從海南回到西安並去西安外語學院進修英語。其間接觸很多外籍教師，他們基本上都是基督徒。雖然他們當時並不傳教，只是教授英語，但從他們的舉指言行中使我感到真誠、友善、謙和，感到他們都樂觀並彷彿具有一種力量，因之對他們漸生敬意。通過這些潛移默化的影響，心中便有了一個願望，希望獲得一些有關基督教及聖經的知識。

願望歸願望，隨著學習的結束，一切又回到了原來的生活，只是偶爾讀一些聖經故事之類的書，時間飛逝。二千年我又開始辦理出國，於是又開始學習英語了。

這次英語老師是位美國人，是他引領我開始學習聖經，起初像很多其他出國迷一樣，學聖經主要還是為了學英語，每個星期天到外教家去做禮拜，主要也是為了有機會練聽力，可這時我可真進步的快了，畢竟這時對聖經進行了一些系統性地學習。我開始接受聖經中這些珍貴的信息，開始一點點地懂了一些真理。

至零一年七月份，出國遙遙無期，為了生存我來到深圳。積極找工作外，堅持學習聖經，並天天祈禱。人事盡到了，神恩開始顯現，神使我的命轉變：我有了很

好的工作，貳年後又成功創業，神又讓我認識了我的妻子鄧艷，她是受洗十幾年的老基督徒，從她身上又學習體會到了很多道理，我真的認為她是神賜給我的。我們又開始了共同學習，並時常一同去敬拜。信仰在心中成長，且越來越強烈。後來神又賜給我們那麼可愛的小女兒，她就是我們的天使，將神愛的信息傳到我們心中，如此強烈、如此深沉、如此刻骨銘心，我感到神對我們的愛也是如此啊，我們全是神所創造的啊。感謝神，我終於帶著全家出國移民了。我們來到了加拿大。在下飛機的那一刻，我們便開始受到我們教會眾多人的幫助與愛心，並在這五個多月中在我們教會又進一步更深刻地學到了、理解了更多的神的福音，見證體會了很多虔誠的信仰與愛心，我為你們卻什麼都沒有做，沒有報答，又要離開你們。有罪之人，神並未捨棄，離開前教會還為我洗禮。神是多麼的愛我們啊。

神就是這樣愛我們的啊。因為就是我們慈愛、大能的天父、唯一的真神創造了宇宙萬物以及我們人類，而我們卻生活在罪孽之中——自私、驕傲、貪財、忌妒、懦弱、愚蠢、虛榮等等，甚至不認天父或信仰脆弱。上帝為了救我們甚至將他的獨子耶穌基督道成肉身來到人間以傳送福音並為救贖我們之罪而被釘在了十字架上。我要認罪，我要贖罪，因為我企盼被神揀選，我希望與神同在。我要以信得救，要遵循主耶穌的話語「盡心、盡性、盡意愛主你的神」，「要愛人如己」以及其它教導，謙卑地做人，順神旨意志做事。希望經過受洗而獲得新生，如鷹般返老還童，將生命交給主，在主的恩典中成長並獲得永生，同時培養我的孩子成為基督信徒，完成神對她的使命。

得救見證

黃翠虹

「他必興旺，我必衰微。」(約翰3:30)

我現年15歲，在認識基督之前，生長在這個教會裏並不容易。很多時我感到神很遙遠及不容易明白。我變得對自己感到挫敗和不耐煩，很想知道其他人為甚麼這麼容易知道在正確的時間接受祂；但是，現在我再也不用關注這意念了！我獲悉縱使我沒有時常瞭解神的旨意，我必須信靠祂才可以在祂裏面成長。明白這道理後，我更想學習更多關於神的事，想要跟隨祂並且也開始建立一點信心，靠這我在耶穌

基督裏的信念增長了，並且有勇氣接受一切。

我知道，我並不完美，並且我是一個有罪的人，無論在逆境或順境我將會盡力做我最好的來跟隨祂，我知道萬物之結局，都是在乎耶穌，我相信很多人都有同感。

我在這裏向大家宣佈，我已經將我的生命給了耶穌基督。

受浸見證

黃翠雲

由我有記憶之年開始，我已知道神的存在。我年少時，與基督一起的生活比較簡單；我對於誰是神或祂為我作了何事沒有疑惑或問題。

後來我長大些，我認為神是不可理喻。但如果沒有神，為什麼我哭泣時會祈望被擁抱？為什麼當有事情發生時我仍能感覺到安寧在心頭？我總希望能安眠，因在睡夢中，您生存在一個無邊際的世界裏。沒有痛苦、沒有創傷、沒有恐懼，和沒有眼淚。但當我醒來，知道有人愛這個真正的我，願意攙扶我的手和引導我渡過困難並給我活著的原因。

作為基督徒並不容易。有時我太沉醉於自己的世界而漂離神。但神從未離開我；祂仍然站立在我旁邊，等我返回。我的心知道總是有人在觀看我。知道這點，每天我微笑因為我知道神在看顧我。我唱歌因為我知道神在聽。

我希望分享一節經文：腓立比書4:13；「我靠著那加給我力量的，凡事都能做。」這經文鼓勵我，當我知道在困難中神是看顧我，給我希望和信心。祂將永遠不離棄我及愛我到底。



受浸見證

馬君惠

在我非常年輕時我接觸到神及基督教，但直至最近我才體會到祂是我生活中的一大部份。在我年幼時我只是在傾聽，我相信神的存在及接受所教導的。但我自己從未認真地思想過。因此我從未著重主日學或崇拜，這也就是形成我與神的關係並不非常親密。

在我的生活中，我迫使自己相信，我總會是單獨的。因此，我經常隔絕了自己。我有這想法是因為從前發生了的一些事情，首先是我的弟弟Edwin的死亡，其後是我中學的好朋友搬走了並轉往另一間中學，接著我的另一位好朋友也搬走了。自此，我開始感受到一定是有問題，因此我開始疏遠他人。

最近，我設法透過主日學並崇拜專心

認識神，我也多加思想祂。我得到了結論：在過往我遇到的每次障礙和試驗中，祂都與我同在，並且給我預備了很多人，如我的父母、教會的姨孀叔伯及朋友來協助和安慰我渡過種種困難。因著我把自己包裹在自憐上而忽略神和其他人的支持。我常記得在孩童時學到馬太福音28:20：「我常與您同在」。這經文成為我的幫助因為它提醒我，我並不孤單，因此我不至於喪志。我開始瞭解崇拜及學會怎麼去敬拜神；此外，我亦殷勤與基督建立良好關係及更多開放自己和接納其他人。

我知道，在接受基督以後我並不是完全了，我仍需要饒恕，但我樂意接受救恩這禮物。我今天在你們面前承受耶穌基督作為我個人的主和救主。

受浸見證

陳敬恆

我是在教會裏長大的。我六歲開始去教會。當我長大我逐漸接受了基督。既然我已接受了基督，我將盡我所能的服事教會及基督。

我最喜愛的是馬太福音26:39，「他就稍往前走，俯伏在地，禱告說：『我父阿，倘若可行，求你叫這杯離開我。然而，不要照我的意思，只要照你的意思。』」這是最喜愛的金句，因它顯示耶穌是多麼的愛我們。雖然他不想死，然而，他甘願死在十字架上為了拯救我們脫離罪惡。這句經文也告訴我們即使耶穌是神，他也是

人；但在他感到恐懼、痛楚和受苦時他仍是對神說：「不要照我的意思，只要照你的意思。」

基督並不需要死，但他因為非常愛我們，他願意為我們死在十字架上。這顯示我們無論處在艱苦，痛苦，或嚇唬情況下，都不應該害怕，因耶穌為我們死。我們也應該對神說：「不要照我的意思，只要照你的意思。」

所以我今天在你們眾人面前，宣告我已經將我的生命給了耶穌基督。

受浸見證：耶穌是誰

Jimmy Vong

在我未來這教會之前，我並不知道耶穌是誰，我並不知道關於聖經、福音書，以及耶穌基督的死亡及復活。我仍記得當我去Alive 團契時，我感到很開心。我不知道為什麼我這麼快樂；或許是與我的朋友們在一起崇拜，學習聖經或祈禱有關，但我卻肯定知道我接受了耶穌進入我的生命中。我接受耶穌因為我相信他；在我有生之年我將跟隨他和服從他。耶穌使我很感激；我感激能有一個滿有愛心及互助的大家庭和朋友，一個有朋友及熱誠的教

會。我更感激我的牧師回答我正在苦心預備的問題好使我能有所準備。最重要的是感激耶穌基督為我的罪孽死在十字架上，讓我能有機會與他同在。我真的很感激神為我從前並將來的供應。

「我要照著耶和華的公義稱謝他，歌頌耶和華至高者的名。」(詩篇7:17)

所以我今天在您們面前宣告說：我將我的生命給耶穌基督。



By the time I am 70 years old, if God willing, most of the people around me will be much younger. With respect to this old pastor, it is unlikely that they will tell me about my shortcoming even if they see one. In order to get an honest opinion at that time, I decided to write a letter now to remind my future self on living wisely:

My dear 70-year-old Reverend Wong:

Congratulations! It has been over 45 years since the day you were first baptized in the name of the Lord. Here's a word of caution from your younger self: Be faithful always, even till death! Do not be overconfident in your spiritual maturity, and thereby stumble into Satan's deceitful scheme. I would like to remind you of the following:

1. If you still have the privilege to preach the Word, be well prepared for each sermon. Do not say to yourself that, since you have been preaching for 30 years that you can skip the hard work of sermon preparation. Do not deceive yourself that a story here and experience there, will automatically edify the audience. Remember the scripture found in 2 Corinthians 4:5, *"For we do not preach ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, and ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake."*
2. When you are invited to say a few words at a public gathering, remember to be concise and not to drag on and on! If you disagree with the organizer, do not

criticize them out loud, and be generous with your praises and blessings.

3. Even in your old age, you can still learn new knowledge. You do not lose face when you learn from those younger than you. Attempting new things often will add fun to your life, and help to prevent Alzheimer's!
4. When you were younger, you were treated well with meals by the seniors in Moses Fellowship. It is now your turn to extend favors to the young people around you. Since you cannot bring money with you to your grave, the more money you sacrifice for other's happiness, the more happiness will be given to you.
5. Be sensitive to the self-esteem of young people, do not abuse your seniority to pry into their personal lives, nor embarrass them publicly.
6. Sharon has taken care of you all these years, how do you respond with your love and affection?
7. Be self disciplined with your diet, pay attention to your appearance, and exercise often.

May God's grace be with you always.

Yours truly,

Yourself at 53 years old



Definitions

Worship - ascribing worth to God on the terms that He proposes and in the way that He alone makes possible. Worship means to declare worth, to attribute worth. Or to put it in biblical terms, we praise God. We speak, or sing, about how good and powerful God is.

Now let's look at the biblical words. In both Hebrew and Greek, there are two major kinds of words for worship. The first kind means to bow down, to kneel, and to put one's face down as an act of respect and submission. I am ready to listen to your instructions and I am willing to obey. The other kind of biblical word means to serve. Roughly half of the time these words are translated as worship, and the other half as serve.

1. worship that involves speaking, and
2. worship that involves listening, and
3. worship that involves doing

There is a worship that expresses the heart, and worship that involves the mind, and a worship that involves the body. There is a worship that is giving praise upward, a worship that is receiving instructions from above, and a worship that carries out instruction in the world around us.

We need all three types of worship. Some people focus primarily on speaking or singing praise to God. Praise is good, but if all we do is praise God, without ever *listening* to what He says, we have to ask whether we believe the words we are saying. If He is really all wise and all loving, then we need to be attentive to what He is telling us, because He is worth listening to.

Similarly, all talk and no action does not show God the respect He deserves. Actions speak louder than words, and if our behaviour isn't changed by God, then our

actions are saying that God isn't important — He's a nice idea, but not relevant to our day-to-day lives. When we really believe that God is worthy of every praise, then we will be willing to listen and to change the way we live in response to such a worthy God. We will trust Him and *seek* Him and want to *please* Him as much as we can. Worship should affect our behaviour.

Survey of the Old Testament

Worship before the time of Moses

If we survey the Bible, we will see a wide variety of methods that God's people have used to worship Him and express their devotion to Him. Some of these methods were commanded by God, others seem to be a choice of the worship. We see this pattern in the Bible: some things are commanded and some things are optional.

Genesis 4 tells us Cain and Abel brought an offering to the Lord. We are not told why – but rather that they did. Noah built an altar after the Flood and sacrificed some animals. Abraham made sacrifices; he built altars at Shechem, Bethel, Hebron and at Mount Moriah. As part of his worship, Abraham prayed, circumcised and tithed. Isaac built an altar at Beersheba; Jacob set up a stone pillar at Bethel and poured a drink offering and oil as a form of worship. What can be said of these examples?

1. No one needed a priest. Everyone built their own altars and sacrificed their own animals and did their own worship.
2. There is no mention of special times or special days or special seasons. There is no restriction on place, the patriarchs worshipped God wherever, whenever and however they wanted.
3. Flexibility – the patriarchs were not restricted by rules about special places, people, rituals, days, time, or methods.

One thing was important – the greatest commandment about worship, the most important rule no matter who you are or when you live. The first and greatest: You shall worship no other gods. When God dealt with Jacob, His primary concern was that Jacob worshipped the true God and no other gods. God demands exclusive worship, 100% allegiance. There is no room for loving any other gods even 0.01%. Money, self-consciousness, busyness or anything else cannot get in the way; worshipping God is to be our highest priority.

Moses and the tabernacle

In the days of Moses, worship went from very little structure to very specific and very detailed structure. God specified exactly

- *when* sacrifices were to be made,
- *how* they were to be made,
- *where* they were to be made, and
- *who* was supposed to make them.

Worship became much more formal. Under the Law of Moses, there were holy places, holy people, holy animals, holy rituals, and holy times. God designated certain things for certain uses in worship.

The tabernacle was a holy place. The tabernacle pictured God's holiness, but it also pictured that He was not some far-off God. For worship in ancient Israel, they were holy people. The Levites were holy and assigned to work in the tabernacle. There was priesthood between the people and God. For many acts of worship, the priests had to perform the actions. There were also holy animals and holy plants. Every firstborn animal was holy, dedicated to the Lord. The first-ripe fruits were holy, set apart for worship. There was a holy incense formula, too, and if anyone made the same formula, they were supposed to be expelled from the nation. It was that special. It was reserved for worship. It was holy.

There were holy times. Every week, one day was holy. Every year, some extra days were holy. Every seven years and every 50 years, a whole year was set apart for special use. These designated times gave structure to the Israelite worship. The who, the what, the when, and the where were all spelled out, everything was structured, organized and formalized.

Most of those details are obsolete, but the most important principle carries over into today's worship, too. Only God should be worshiped. It's not that He should be worshiped *more* than other gods are. It's that He is the only God *worthy* of worship.

A matter of the heart

In the Law of Moses, it is easy to be distracted by all the detailed worship regulations, but that is not the real focus. All those details were given in order to serve a larger purpose, and that is God. Our focus should be on God, and the same was true for the ancient Israelites. They were to focus on God.

Worship in ancient Israel was not just at the tabernacle – it was also in the *heart* and in the home. God did not want people to think that they could do the rituals and then live as they please. It was not enough to "do" the worship – a person's honour and respect for God should be genuine, in the heart, which meant that God was to be praised in all of life.

In Deuteronomy 6, Moses told the Israelites to put God's instructions in their hearts, and teach them to their children, to talk about them when they sat, when they walked, and when they lay down. All of life is worship.

Some of the later prophets build on this theme. Samuel told Saul that obedience is better than sacrifice. God wants a right attitude more than He wants correct rituals. In Jeremiah 7:22, God says, I didn't bring you out of Egypt because I wanted

sacrifices. I just wanted you to obey me, and sacrifices are only a tiny part of what I commanded.

For worship to be acceptable to God, we must have obedient lives. The ritual is not enough – the attitude is what is most important. God does not want hypocritical worship, people who say He is great but do not act like it. Perhaps this is commandment number 2 regarding worship – that it must be sincere. If we are going to say that God is worthy of all worship, then we should believe it in our hearts, and if we believe it, it will show in our actions. Real worship changes everything we do, because it changes who we are. Worship must be in the heart, not just at the place of worship.

Music at the temple

Many know that David initiated the building of the Temple, a "permanent" place for worship. But David's other contribution has lasted even longer than the Temple did. That is in the area of music. David had a background in music. As a shepherd, he played the lyre, a simple stringed instrument. He composed music and sang about God. He worshiped God while he took care of his sheep – it was worship on the job. David's songs are called *psalms*. That comes from the Greek word *psallo*, which means "to pluck a string." Psalms is a book of songs for stringed instruments. We can worship God with songs and musical instruments.

All the psalms are worship – even the psalms that complain. The fact that our questions and complaints are directed to God shows something about our relationship to him. All of life is in His hands, in His control. The psalms show our dependence on Him.

The psalms are often in the form of a prayer, in words spoken to God. He is the audience, and the people are the participants, the worshipers. These songs are memorized prayers, since they are spoken to God. Some

people think that Christians shouldn't have memorized prayers. But we actually have several of them during worship services every week. We just have them with a melody, and that is a legitimate form of worship. Even without the melody, a recited prayer can be a legitimate form of worship.

Psalms 150 points out a variety of worship methods: "Praise the Lord. Praise God in His sanctuary; praise Him in His mighty heavens. Praise Him for His acts of power; praise Him for His surpassing greatness. Praise Him with the sounding of the trumpet, praise Him with the harp and lyre, praise Him with tambourine and dancing, praise Him with the strings and flute, praise Him with the clash of cymbals, praise Him with resounding cymbals. Let everything that has breath praise the Lord."

We might find some of these worship methods unusual today, but all these artistic expressions are permissible when they are done to the glory of God. The main principle of worship is that we worship only God, and that we really mean it.

Synagogue worship

After the temple was destroyed and Jews were scattered throughout the Middle East, a new format for worship was developed. In the synagogue, the focus was on Scripture, not on sacrifices. It was a much simpler format.

Synagogue services typically began with praises and prayers. There were standard prayers and benedictions, some of them used every week. The Scriptures would be read, translated when necessary, and explained in some sort of sermon. We can see glimpses of this in the New Testament, but the best description is in Nehemiah 8. Under the leadership of Ezra, some of the Jews had come back to Jerusalem.

"Ezra the scribe stood on a high wooden platform built for the occasion ... [today we might call it a pulpit] Ezra

opened the book [the Law of Moses]. All the people could see him because he was standing above them; and as he opened it, the people all stood up. Ezra praised the Lord, the great God; and all the people lifted their hands and responded, 'Amen! Amen!' Then they bowed down and *worshiped* the LORD with their faces to the ground" (vv. 4-6).

Have you ever seen that kind of response in a modern church service – people lifting their hands, saying Amen, and bowing down? If it's a genuine response to God, it is a good response. They listened with great respect, with a willingness to obey. "The Levites...instructed the people in the Law while the people were standing there. They read from the Book of the Law of God, making it clear and giving the meaning so that the people could understand what was being read" (vv. 7-8). Synagogue worship followed in this pattern, with a focus on Scripture.

Even though the Temple was eventually rebuilt, the public reading of Scripture in synagogues continued to be an important part of Jewish worship. Most Jews could not go to the temple every week. But with a synagogue, they could gather for worship every Sabbath, with prayers, songs, and Scripture.

One result of this was a new focus for the Sabbath. Even in the days of David, most Israelites could not go to Jerusalem every week. The focus of Sabbath-keeping was therefore on rest, as commanded in Scripture. But when synagogues became common, the Sabbath was also seen as a day of participating in worship. Laymen had a greater role in worship – they could do every portion of the synagogue service. People could worship without a temple, without priests, and without sacrifices.

Worship today

Worship involves our entire relationship with God: our words, our

attitudes, and our actions. Our words may be normal conversation, songs or prayers. In any style of speaking, we can declare God's praises and express our faith reliance on him.

God wants worship not only on our lips, but also in our hearts. He wants our worship to be sincere — *He* wants to be the most important thing in our lives, that we are truly submissive to Him. He wants our worship to affect our behaviour, that we make sacrifices, that we put to death the deeds of selfishness, that we seek justice, be merciful and humble, and help others. He wants us not just to obey Him, but to serve in ways that go beyond specific commands. We are to worship wherever we go, doing all things to God's glory, praying always, giving thanks always, never ceasing to be a temple of the Holy Spirit. Our worship involves how we work, how we drive, and how we choose what to watch on television.

Worship is not restricted to a specific place and time. The best thing that has ever happened to us is that we have God in our lives. The best thing that's happened to us *this week* is that we have God in our lives. We have reason to celebrate all the time. When we live each day praising God in our hearts, it is natural that we praise God when we gather together, when we speak to one another about the best thing that's ever happened to us. We worship all the time, but we also worship together at specific times at meetings designated for that specific purpose.

The real test of worship is not what happens at church, but what happens at home, and on the job, and wherever we go. Is God important enough to make a difference in the way we live, in the way we work, in the way we get along with other people? When the Holy Spirit lives in us, when we are the *temple* of the Holy Spirit, worship is a part of everyday life.

John 10:10: "I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full."

We all know that a house without inhabitants for long would go deserted or desolate; a car without being driven for long would be hard to start; and a swimming pool without water would lose its original function and become a pitfall that everyone must watch out for.

Jesus often teaches us to aspire perfection in addition to the spiritual life He bestows on us. And this spiritual life can only be perfected through our constant work in the Holy Spirit to become more Christ-like.

How do we work out this new life then? It starts with our treasuring it, and to treasure life does not mean to conceal it with care; on the contrary, to treasure life means to use it constantly with love and with dexterity. It means to deeply appreciate the true meaning behind the life given to us (the love of Incarnation), so that we can cherish all experiences in the Lord and live out the vitality of life in Jesus. Such vitality is naturally revealed through our interaction with people when we share this new life, just as Jesus explains in the parable of the vine and the branches that, the heart of the matter is whether or not the branches bear the fruit of the Spirit (John 15).

Sharing is at the centre of every Christian's life. Jesus says, "I tell you the

truth, whatever you did not do for one of the least of these, you did not do for me" (Matthew 25:45). How can you be a true life-giving Christian while only focusing on your own life?

When God sent us His only Son to save us by infusing a new life into our otherwise dying lives, He did not intend only to awaken ourselves, but also to enable us to demonstrate the power of His resurrection which can revive more lives through sharing the life of Jesus without fear, without concealment and without reservation. We should use our lives to the fullest through Christ, through worship, through fellowship in cell groups to share the life and love of Christ which is deep and wide. When we genuinely do this, what we can accomplish through God will be far more abundant beyond our expectations (Ephesians 3:20).

In your spiritual life, are you a Christian with vitality and energy? Can our church make visible the image of Christ to all people around us?

Do you still remember the fig tree without bearing fruit? (Matthew 21: 18-19) The life that is given to us by God will never be worn out because we can never overuse it, which is why Apostle Paul urges us to work with it using all our might (Philippians 3: 12).



BCBC 2007 Major Events

Kwong Yiu Wong

Church Theme: Come & See, Go & Tell

Month	Date	Events
February	4	Dedication of Children Ceremony.
March	12-15	Teens Conference - Richmond Hill Chinese Community Church.
April	6	Good Friday Joint Worship
	8	Easter Sunday Joint Worship and Baptism (9 brothers and sisters) Praise our Lord!
May	26	Wedding – Mark & Stephanie
June	2	Church Cleanup
	9	Wedding – Adrian and Alison
	10	Community BBQ
	24	Ordination of Pastor Kwok
	30 - July 2	Annual Retreat - Ridgetown College (Over 170 attended) Theme: Come & See, Go & Tell Speakers: Rev. Johann Yuek-Hon Lai (Chinese); Rev. John Scott (English)
July	27 - August 4	Pastor Ken Foo led five youths for a short term mission trip to Phoenix, USA.
August	7- 17	Vacation Bible School Day Camp
	12	Graduation Ceremony
	15	Ping Pong Tournament
	25	Wedding – Fred and Jennifer
September	21-23	9 th Annual Mission Conference Theme: Come & See, Go & Tell Speakers: Rev. Aphiwat Jaroentangwiwat (Chinese); Rev. Mark Cassidy (English)
October	7	Thanksgiving worship and Baptism (10 brothers and sisters) - Praise our Lord!
	18-30	Brazil Short-Term Mission (6 members)
	31	Family Fun Night Outreach
November	1 - 14	Rev. Wong and Sharon teach in Hainan China.
December	15	Church Christmas Celebration
	23	Christmas Joint Service
	24	Christmas Caroling
	25	Special Christmas Joint Worship with music and skit
	30	Special Baptism

Traditionally the work done by missionaries, pastors, Sunday School teachers, outreach workers, choir members, or other Christian leaders are considered to be ministry. Very seldom do people think of work done by teachers, judges, lawyers, sales people, business executives, or engineers as ministry. If we carefully examine the teaching of the Bible we will find that ministry is more than just work done by people who are employed by churches or Christian organizations. So what is the meaning of ministry, one according to the teaching of Scripture?

A Biblical view of ministry is basically comprised of following parts:

1. Worshipping and serving God
2. Bringing Him glory
3. Building up His Church
4. Evangelizing the world

Worshipping and Serving Him

The Apostle Paul, in his first epistle to the Corinthians, instructed the Corinthians how they should worship. “When you come together, everyone has a hymn, or a word of instruction, a revelation, a tongue or an interpretation. All of these must be done for the strengthening of the church” (1 Corinthians 14:26). We see there are various forms of worship and they must be done for the purpose of strengthening the church. Worshipping God is ministry, a responsibility and a privilege of every Christian.

The basic meaning of the word ministry is “service.” It refers to such basic tasks as waiting on tables (Acts 6:1) and bringing gifts to the poor (2 Corinthians 9:12). In the New Testament, proclaiming the gospel is also a ministry (Acts 20:24). Every Christian is exhorted to take some part or parts in God’s work and it is not just limited to the service of a few elected or appointed

members within the church. As a matter fact, Paul said that those who hold offices in the church are given gifts for the purpose of equipping all of God’s people to do ministry. “It was he who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers, to prepare God's people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up (Ephesians 4:11-12). Therefore, serving Him is ministry and such ministry is the responsibility of every Christian.

Bring Him Glory

What should our attitude be in doing ministry? “And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.” (Colossians 3:17), “ Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving.” (Colossians 3:23-24). We are further advised in (1 Corinthians 10:31): “So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God.”

In each of his epistles Paul used the phrase “whatever you do.” This all-inclusive phrase includes both the so-called “important” as well as the trivial or mundane things. As believers, we should keep in mind that all day-to-day activities done in our profession or life must be done “in the name of the Lord Jesus” (Colossians 3:17) as well as “for the glory of God” (1 Corinthians 10:31).

The perfect example of ministry is Jesus Christ Himself as described in Paul’s letter to the Philippians; he instructed his readers that their attitude toward each other “should be the same as that of Christ Jesus” (Philippians 2:5). Since everything we do is

for the glory of God, therefore, our work, however trivial or important, becomes ministry.

Building up His Church

The church is not a building but a gathering of God's people (Eph.2:19-21). The body (church) is not made of one part but many. There are many parts, but one body. "Now you are the body of Christ, and each of you is a part of it. God has appointed first of all apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then workers of miracles, also those having gifts of healing, those able to help others, those with gifts of administration, and those speaking in different kinds of tongues" (1 Corinthians 12:27-28). God has not given any individual all these gifts but he expects all Christians try their best to use these gifts and desire the greater gifts. These gifts are given to us for serving God and enhancing the spiritual growth the body of Christ, the church.

The New Testament clearly points out that each of us, as individual members of the body, needs the contribution of the entire body. Likewise, the entire body needs the contribution of each individual member. Each of us in the body of Christ has needs, and each has something to contribute to others' needs. Building up the body of believers using our God-given gifts is ministry.

Evangelizing the World

In the Old Testament God gave a promise to Abraham and his descendants. He promised that He would bless them and that through them He would bless "all peoples on Earth" (Genesis 28:14). God wanted His people, the Israelites, to be a missionary people to the pagan world that He alone was the one true God. God gave

Israel both a blessing and a responsibility to make God known to the world.

We now live in the New Testament time; these same themes of blessing and responsibility apply to all Christians as well. In our daily lives we enjoy God's wonderful blessings through Christ and have been given a responsibility to spread the good news of His life, death, and resurrection. This is a God-given responsibility for each and every Christian. We are commanded in Matthew 28:19: "Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit." Of course not all of us can be missionaries to take the message of Christ to people in the far away lands of the world, but we still can and should have our own "mission fields" in our homes, schools, neighborhoods, places of employment, and the like. It is our responsibility to spread the gospel of Christ and live out the gospel with our lives. Evangelizing the world is ministry.

Conclusion

Ministry, according to the Bible, is not something just done by pastors, missionaries or other Christian leaders but should be done by every Christian regardless of his or her status in life. Ministry can be summarized as worshipping and serving God, bringing Him glory, building up His church, and evangelizing the world. Whatever we do we are commanded to do it with all our heart with thanksgiving, under the guiding of the Holy Spirit. As believers we should all understand the true Biblical meaning of ministry and our part or parts in it. The purpose of our ministry is to glorify God.

1. Center for Christian Leadership, bible.org.

“... I cannot keep silent. For I have heard the sound of the trumpet; I have heard the battle cry. Disaster follows disaster; the whole land lies in ruins. In an instant my tents are destroyed, my shelter in a moment” (Jeremiah 4:19-20).

When the country of Judah was about to perish and her people to be captured, the whole country was still indulged in debauchery -- they worshiped idols and drifted from the Lord. But the naturally timid and weak Jeremiah gave himself up to wake up his country people to repentance, saying: "Go up and down the streets of Jerusalem, look around and consider, search through her squares. If you can find but one person who deals honestly and seeks the truth, I will forgive this city" (Jeremiah 5:1).

In today's world, we do not find many people seeking truth and righteousness and believing the inerrancy of the Bible. On the

contrary, we see more and more illegal things, declined morality, betrayals among people, broken families, mutual manipulation for economic gains among countries without distinguishing friends from enemies. We see global climate change as a result of human abuse of the Earth, which results in losses of people's possessions, sky-rocketing gas prices, economic crises, food shortages, emerging famines in several areas, and the widening gap between the rich and the poor. We see a world in turmoil, wars that are imminent, just like what the prophet cried: "Disaster follows disaster; the whole land lies in ruins." The second coming of our Lord Jesus Christ is at hand, the trumpet has sounded, and what can we wait for? Arise, the church of God! The time has come for the last war and we can not keep silent anymore.

English Sunday School

In 2007, our English Sunday school classes continue to follow the vision and direction of the English ministry's five-year strategy plan, first drafted in 2006.

Highlight of the classes are:

- Junior high school - consists of students from grades 7 and 8. The material used was from the Young Teen Sunday School curriculum, published by Scripture press. The teachers were Denny, Hoi, Janice, Jim, and Robert.
- High school - consists of students from grades 9 to 12, the curriculum used was a historical/theological survey of the New Testament, and how to learn and practice Christian spiritual discipline. This class was taught by Pastor Ken.

- University Sunday School and Young Couples Sunday School met in small groups to do further study and reflection on Sunday' Sermons.
- Adult Sunday school was taught by James to study various theological topics.

We introduced a minor change to the Sunday school format, where all classes would gather in the chapel room to have a time of singing and devotion, and then split into their respective classes and groups at 11:30 a.m.

Praise the Lord for the Sunday school teachers and leaders, who tirelessly prepare the course material and teach the classes, as well as leading Christian lives by example.

God has blessed us with tremendous growth both spiritually and in numbers throughout our fellowships this year. God has given us many opportunities to go out and make disciples throughout our proximate community.

Our Chinese fellowships continue to grow and mature, and as such we have experienced a large increase of young kids in our church. This has resulted in the creation of a new “pre-Faith” fellowship group for kids from kindergarten to grade 5. There may be up to 15 kids at one time attending this group.

Our English congregation is maturing. This has led to the creation of more new groups to serve the various needs of the congregation. Our young couples group meets once a month and is geared for those that are newly-weds or are at the younger stages of married life. We also have started a women’s group that meets once a month as well to complement the men’s group. Finally, the growing number of students at our church has led us to start a college and university group as well. The English Alive, Rock, Men’s, and Adult groups have continued to meet throughout the year.

Highlights

Community BBQ

Our first ever community BBQ at our church was fairly successful. The purpose

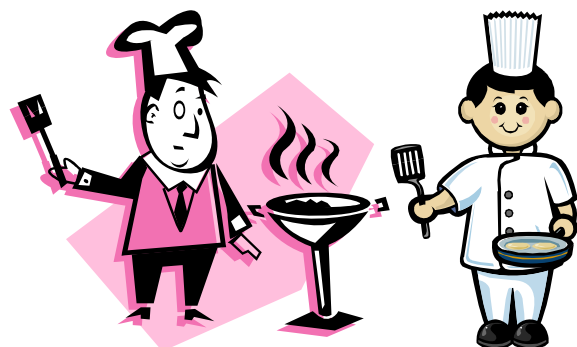
was to invite our local community to our church to get to know who we are, and we offered food, crafts and games to the kids through this event. The feedback from the local community who came was positive and we hope to hold more of these events in the coming year to bring awareness of our church to the community.

Iron Chef Cook-off

The Rock, College, and Alive groups held a cooking competition one Friday to see which fellowship groups had the best chefs! Each team had one hour to cook different dishes revolving around one ‘secret’ ingredient. The secret ingredient is not known until they start cooking. In the end, the Alive group won with their wide assortment of interesting dishes. We hope to host a bigger cooking competition in the coming year with the Chinese congregation!

Summer Retreat

Ridgetown College was once again the chosen location for our retreat. We had a 15% increase in attendance over the previous year. The Chinese congregation thoroughly enjoyed the speaker as well as the question and answer sessions. Many have been spiritually enriched from the weekend retreat. Next year will be our last year at this retreat location.



Visitation Department

Wu Yuhua

Thank God for allowing me to participate in the visitation work of our church in the past two years. The following three points summarize my own experience and reflection:

1. Visitation is one of God's commissions. In the four Gospels, we can find several records of Jesus teaching, preaching, healing, and "walked all over Galilee" (Matthew 4:23-25, 28:19-20, John 5:1-15, Luke 15:1-7 ...). As followers of Jesus Christ, we should do this without any doubt.
2. Consider that visitation work will not only benefit the visited, but also the visitors. In visitation, visitors should consider how to comfort and help the visited; at the same time, they need to examine themselves, which is quite

beneficial to their spiritual growth. So the church ought to encourage more brothers and sisters to participate in visitation work.

3. It is a challenge to pick an appropriate time to make a visitation. This may not be a problem for brothers and sisters familiar to us, but for those who have come to this church for the first time, or experience some family problems, it is difficult to find the best time to visit them. After experiencing a few setbacks, I could only ask the Lord to lead me and inspire me. At the same time, I ask the Lord to prepare the hearts of the visited.

May the Lord guard us and lead us in our visitation work ahead. May the Lord raise more people and revive their spiritual lives through the visitation work. Amen!

Children's Department

Ada Yu

2007 is another promising year in our children's department. First of all, the strong core team is working well in planning for the ministries over the year. In addition, our children's ministry policy has been approved by our pastors and the executive board! We are so relieved and joyful as this policy has been a work in progress over the last ten years and we finally reached this final stage. We have submitted our policy plan to the insurance company and in the near future, our youth workers will be fully covered under the insurance policy.

Along with the requirement of the policy, we have tightened up the requirements of children workers and all children activities. All children field trips/activities are required to have waiver

forms signed by parents or guardians. Moreover, each children's worker is required to fill out a teacher/worker registration form and to have reference and police record check. In order to make it easy for everybody, we made use of one October Sunday after worships to have all children workers stayed behind to fill out teacher registration form and police record check form.

The other joyful news is that we have successfully conducted our in-house teacher training workshop according to our needs and time schedule. Since we have composed and tailored our own teacher training materials according to the needs of our church, we have recruited lots of young adults in the ministry of children Sunday

school. This helps to relieve the problem of finding new children Sunday school teachers.

Looking back at the ministries of this year, our hearts are full of praise and thanksgiving to the Lord! Thanks to the English Music teams, who come to lead the children's worship singspiration. This solves the problem of finding special workers to lead singspiration during worship. Besides, the children are more enthusiastic

under the lead of these music teams. We are also thankful to God as each week we have regularly 45 children attending our children Sunday worship and Sunday school. We continue pray to God to prosper our children ministry that all children who come to our worship will be saved by the grace of God! Let no one perish but everyone to come to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ!

Music Department

Erwin Au

Jehovah Jireh: The LORD Will Provide! Our old organ found a new home with New Life Pentecostal Church in Brampton and, at the same time, God provided a newer, more reliable organ. A platform was raised for it to be placed at the front of the sanctuary, along with the piano, in order that we could have good coordination among the pianist, organist, and singspiration leader.

The joint choir sang the cantata "Calvary" on Easter. This cantata is based upon the last seven words that Jesus said while on the cross, and it reminded us that Jesus died on the cross according to God's Will, and also that He rose from the dead after three days. For the last song, we sang out our blessed assurance "Christ the Lord is risen today."

In December of 2007, we took a different approach in presenting the meaning of Christmas by mixing both drama and music together. We sang "Jesus, There is Something About That Name", along with a skit acted out by our teenagers. It was such a blessing that the brothers and sisters from the English congregation could memorize their parts, and that our little children and our future choir members could sing songs without looking at the music scores. Overall, we have had more brothers and sisters from different language congregations participating in the choir this year. It was by God's grace that we could use one language to bring out the message of: "Jesus, There is Something About That Name". If the Lord willing, we will try again in the year 2008 in the same format, the cantata and skit presentation to give glory to God with our voices.



General Services

William Truong

Time does travel quickly! The year 2007 is now gone, and we have now entered into a new year. We thank God for guiding us in general services in the past years, and for motivating so many brothers and sisters to participate in our work. We see God's work through them in weekly church cleaning and other activities. We hope that more people will participate since more hands will do a better job.

We thank God for the several completed projects in the sanctuary:

- We replaced the old ceiling lights with beautiful new ones.

- We installed a new projector facing the back wall, so that pastors and choirs can see the display of the whole worship program.
- We upgraded some sound systems, moved the organ to the right side of the stage, and renovated the ceiling of the hall way.

All this would not have been possible without the hard work of our brothers and sisters. We ask that God's continued blessings be upon our church and our new Executive Board. We give all the glory to our Father in heaven. Amen!

Jireh Fellowship

Hank Kwok

For some of us, our parents were sick and because of the time and energy we've already spent with the little ones, we thought we would not be able to serve our Lord. However, our Lord provided us with wisdom and strength, as well as the knowledge of time management as we allow the Lord to teach our children.

Also, some of us underwent several career challenges. The company a brother was working for did not properly manage their business practices; however, by God's wisdom, the brother was already retraining himself academically and planning for a possible career move, just in case of any company restructuring. The brother is doing well by God's guidance, and God has led him to the light.

This year, we also received an addition of a new member to our fellowship. His name is Daniel Kwok, and he was born in May of 2007. During both pre-and-post pregnancy, brothers and sisters in the fellowship prayed and supported the family. It was a time when we could unite together to help each other.

In terms of curriculum, we are heading towards the end of our 'Experiencing God' Bible study as we will be reaching the last two chapters in April. We are very thankful to Lulu, who devoted a lot of time and energy to lead us.

As we are heading into 2008, we will continue praying and relying on the blessings of our Lord Jesus Christ, with the objective to experience God, as we learned from our Bible study.



Job 26:7 “*He suspends the Earth over nothing.*” What law of physics prevents the Earth from falling out of its orbit like a falling meteoroid?

If we swing an object attached to a string, in order to stay on its path it requires string tension, resulting in a circular motion. The object will travel off-tangent in a straight line if the string breaks. Newton’s law of motion explains: any motion in a circular path requires a force directed toward the center of the path. This force is called the centripetal force which means “center seeking” force.

The Bible, truth or fairytale?

The Bible is not a book written about science, although the Scriptures, written thousands of years ago, contain numerous scientific facts, some of which had been revealed in the last century or recently been discovered.

The Bible is not just any other book of religion; it is a book of God’s revelation of who He is, the origin of life, God’s plan of salvation in the history of mankind, knowledge, science and much more. The scientific and historical accuracy of the Bible are powerful evidence to the inerrancy and truthfulness of God’s divine authorship.

“All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness.” (2 Timothy 3:16)

Although the Bible was not written in scientific terms and language, yet biblical accounts of scientific data are phenomenally relevant, scientifically accurate and verifiable.

The Earth’s rotation and revolution

Genesis 1:1 “*In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. 14. And God said, “Let there be lights in the expanse of the sky to separate the day from the night,*

and let them serve as signs to mark seasons and days and years, 15. And let them be lights in the expanse of the sky to give light on the earth.” And it was so. 16 God made two great lights -- the greater light to govern the day and the lesser light to govern the night. He also made the stars. 17. God set them in the expanse of the sky to give light on the earth, 18. To govern the day and the night, and to separate light from darkness. And God saw that it was good.”

Written in narrative language: Genesis 1:14-16 mentions the two great lights that govern the day and the night and to mark different seasons, days and years. In scientific description: The spinning of Earth about its axis is called rotation. During the day, one side of the hemisphere is facing the sun and the other is facing the moon during the night. The Earth also moves within its orbit around the sun which is called revolution. The Earth revolves around the sun in an elliptical pattern. The Earth's orbit is oval (nearly circular) because the Earth rotates at its axis with a tilted angle of 23.5°: The tilt of its rotation axis creates different seasons. When one hemisphere is tilted towards the sun; it experiences summer; away from the sun, winter; spring and fall occur when the hemisphere is between the two extremes.

Who measured and determined the dimension of the Earth?

“Where were you when I laid the Earth's foundation? Tell me, if you understand. Who marked off its dimensions? Surely you know! Who stretched a measuring line across it?” Job 38:4-5. The scripture revealed that God measured the dimension of the Earth which in effect, created the right amount of gravitational force to keep us grounded on the face of the Earth.

The moon has approximately 1/4 Earth's radius, 1/50 Earth's volume, and 1/80 Earth's mass. Gravitational force on the moon is only 1/6 of the gravitational force on Earth. The near weightlessness makes us float on the surface of the moon. Jupiter, on the other hand, is much larger than planet Earth. Jupiter is 10x Earth's radius, 1.3x Earth's volume and 300x the Earth's mass. An object on such a planet would experience gravitational forces 3x greater than those on Earth. The gravity will make human's movement heavy and difficult on the surface of Jupiter.

Relative to the near weightlessness on moon and weightiness on Jupiter, the precise dimension of the Earth produces the right amount of gravitational force on the Earth, a perfect pre-condition for human habitation. Consider also the precise distance between the Earth and the Sun: A few thousand miles from the Sun in either direction, the Earth climate would either be too cold or too hot to render the Earth inhabitable. The position that God placed the Earth in the solar system created a perfect living condition for all living organism on planet Earth. With such exact scientific precision, could it come by mere coincidental existence? Or the intelligent design of divine creation?

Who sustains all things?

Consider the speed of Earth's self-rotation and revolution around the sun. Earth rotation is about 1000 miles per hour (1670 km/hr or 0.4 km/sec) at the equator. The Earth is also revolving around the Sun at about 67,000 miles per hour (107,000 km/hr or 30 km/sec). With that speed, it takes roughly 365 days for the Earth to go around the Sun. Moving at such ultra high speed faster the speed of sound, what sustains the Earth from spinning out of control?

Newtonian law of universal gravitation explains: The force of gravity works between pairs of massive objects and it operates everywhere in the universe.

The scripture tells us that Christ (the living Word), through whom God made the universe, sustains all things by His powerful word. "In the past God spoke to our forefathers through the prophets at many times and in various ways, but in these last days He has spoken to us by His Son, whom He appointed heir of all things, and through whom He made the universe. The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of His being, sustaining all things by His powerful word." Hebrew 1:1-3

The roundness of the Earth

"He sits enthroned above the circle of the Earth, and its people are like grasshoppers" Isaiah 40:22

"When He established the heavens, I was there: when He set a circle upon the face of the deep." Proverb 8:27

Long before the scientist of the early century discovered that the Earth was round and not flat, the scripture clearly laid out that the Earth is a circle (globe). People of the fifteenth century who feared sailing because they thought they would fall over the edge of the flat Earth. Yet the Bible revealed this truth in 1000 B.C., 2500 years before man discovered the truth that the Earth is round.

Slowing down of the Earth rotation?

"In the beginning, O Lord, you laid the foundations of the Earth, and the heavens are the work of your hands. They will perish, but you remain; they will all wear out like a garment." Hebrew 1:10-11, Psalms 102:25-27

With the advent of atomic clock, it is known that planet Earth's rotation is gradually slowing down as the Earth loses its kinetic energy due to all forms of friction acting on it, such as tides, galactic space dust, solar wind, space weather, geomagnetic storms, etc. Astronomers can now measure this very precisely with atomic

clocks to provide a non-celestial time standard for comparison. The length of the day is increasing by 0.0015 seconds every century.

Thermodynamics physics deals with energy work of a system. The Second Law of Thermodynamics, or law of entropy, is one of the bedrocks of modern theoretical physics. The Second law of thermodynamics states that everything manifests a tendency towards decay and disintegration with a net increase in what is called entropy (state of randomness and disorder of the system).

Unique species of animal and plant kingdom

Gen 1:11 *Then God said, "Let the land produce vegetation: seed-bearing plants and trees on the land that bear fruit with seed in it, according to their various kinds." And it was so.* Gen 1:24 *And God said, "Let the land produce living creatures according to their kinds: livestock, creatures that move along the ground, and wild animals, each according to its kind." And it was so.*

In the book of Genesis, the accounts of God's creation clearly revealed the scientific genetic knowledge of animal kingdom and plant kingdom. God made each species of animal and plant according to its own kind. In modern genetic science discovery, the molecular basis for genes is Deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA) and each species of animal and plant has its own unique and distinct DNA genetic structure.

Cat and dog belong to different family species. Due to genetic difference of DNA structures, they cannot cross breed to produce offspring. Apple and pear belong to different family plant species and they cannot cross breed, even though an apple tree can be grafted onto a pear tree and produce fruit with apple-pear like flavor.

Under adverse chemically-toxic or radio-active environment, a normal cell can

be degenerated and mutated into an abnormal cancerous cell. Scientifically, however, we have yet to see and prove that lower-order cells can evolve /mutate to different, more complex higher-order cells. The discovery of modern genetic science has in fact refuted the scientific-unsubstantiated theory of evolution, where human species originally evolved from single amoeba-like cell to apes, and then evolved to human species.

Factual historical accuracy of the Bible

Not only have the discoveries in science shed new light on the wonders of creation, but there have also other sources, external to the Bible, that affirm its historical credibility: Numerous historical manuscripts, records and archaeological artifacts that have been unearthed, such as the Dead Sea Scrolls which recorded the exact geographical locations and people mentioned in the Bible, the birth, the mission, the death and the resurrection of Christ, all of which affirm the historical accuracy of the Bible.

Evidence of fulfilled prophecies

The Bible is the only book that substantiated the prophetic fulfillment about Jesus Christ. Many Messianic prophecies in the Old Testament regarding the virgin birth, the ministries, the crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus Christ were fulfilled in the New Testament. Today, scientists have been able to use mathematical probability to demonstrate that the fulfillment of all these prophecies concerning Christ was no accident or coincidence. The probability that 456 prophecies would be fulfilled in one man by chance is mathematically improbable. "God so thoroughly justified Jesus Christ that even mathematicians and statisticians, who were without faith, had to acknowledge that it is scientifically impossible to deny that Jesus is the Christ."

- David Williams, a Christian mathematician.

Summary

“For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities -- His eternal power and divine nature -- have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that men are without excuse.” Roman 1:20

Our faith in Christ is not a blind faith, nor superstition based on ancient legends, folklore or fairytale, but is grounded on the solid Word of God, affirmed by historical truth and scientific accuracy. As the word of God was true in the ancient days, it remains true and relevant today, for God is the same yesterday, today and forever.

Through nature, God reveals Himself. When we look at the nature, we see the power, wisdom and divine nature of the Creator. From the scripture, we know that God is love and sins have separated us from God. *“God does not want anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.”* 2 Peter 3:9. *“God manifests his love towards us when we were yet sinners, Christ died for us in order to restore our broken relationship with God.”* Roman 5:8-11.

“In the past, God spoke through the prophets at many times and in various ways, but in these last days He has spoken to us through His Son Jesus Christ.” Hebrew 1:1-3. God is a God of covenants, full of mercy and faithful to His promises. In the Old Testament, God established His covenants with Abraham and the people of Israel.

Through the shed blood of Jesus on the cross, we enter into a covenant of eternal salvation with God. When we receive Christ as our personal savior and Lord, trusting in His word based on His finished work on the cross, we are born again and become the children of God. *“Yet to those who received Him, to those who believed in His name, He gave the right to become children of God.”* John 1:12.

My friend, would you receive Christ as Lord and personal savior of your life?

“As God's fellow workers we urge you not to receive God's grace in vain. For He says, “In the time of my favor I heard you, and in the day of salvation I helped you.” I tell you, now is the time of God's favor, now is the day of salvation.” 2 Corinthians 6:2.

Mission Trip 2007

Elaine Kwok

Of all the experiences in my life, the week I spent on the mission field in Phoenix, Arizona was one of the most amazing. In just the one week in Arizona, I experienced more of God than I had in my entire life. I am so thankful that God gave me the opportunity to see the amazing work that He can do.

In Leupp, a native reserve, a day would consist of Vacation Bible School for the kids, door-to-door visitation around the community, evening services for the adults and lots of things in between. The first day

that we went out into the community, my group was assigned to the trailer park. When they opened their doors, I saw people who were hurt, sad, and without hope. Through this, I knew that God was showing me how much people need Jesus as their Savior.

I came to the realization that I could no longer sit idly and wait for God to use someone else at another time, but I still had my fears talking to complete strangers. God used me in ways I didn't think possible; personally, I am quite reserved, but this did not stop God from using me. He gave me

strength to overcome my fear and seize the opportunity to speak to others.

Also amazing was the opportunity to see how God answered prayer and changed the lives of the Native Americans. A large portion of our time was spent holding the Vacation Bible School, and we were blessed to have up to 70 kids show up on certain days, even though the opportunity to talk to kids was enough. Although, at the time, they may not have fully understood the message, we were able to plant the seed in their hearts and God is always able to make those seeds grow.

Overall, the mission trip was much more than I expected it to be. It was definitely one of my most challenging experiences. The experience made me spiritually stronger and through this mission trip God gave me the passion to be Alive for Him.

“Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.” Joshua 1:9

Mission Trip to Leupp, Arizona

Fandi Chen

This past summer was a defining moment in my life, because I was given the opportunity to evangelize and witness the gospel in an unfamiliar and remote environment. Besides myself, there were five others who also decided to make the two-week long journey in the hopes of strengthening their faith. Initially, I felt intimidated and was overwhelmed by fear, which prevented me from fulfilling my desire to evangelize. As time progressed, I realized that I needed to step out of my comfort zone and begin to start taking risks. I came across many opportunities to share my faith, but I did not take advantage of these opportunities.

Through the difficulties in my ministry, I have learned perseverance and that we

should live our lives in the way that we evangelize, focusing more on God rather than what other people may think of us.

Soon I began to witness the power of the Holy Spirit gradually take its effects in the hearts of the people. Not only did I witness the people of the community begin to accept Christ, but I also saw the conception of an intimate bond between the members of our team.

For the first time in my life, I can truly say that I encountered God the Holy Spirit, a feeling that can not be merely described in words but leaves you with an overwhelming sense of reverence and awe for Almighty God.



Mission Trip to Leupp 2007

Matthew Yu

Amidst the wrecked abandoned houses and broken beer bottles was God.

It's actually harder for me to see God in Canada. I know God is in Brampton too. In Brampton, I have assignments, school, work music, church, internet, and cell phones to distract me from God. It is devastating to see all these blessings actually divert me from seeing God. In Leupp, they have one gas station, one corner store, one recreation center, one *paved* road. I can count two paved roads out my window as I type this. The entire town of Leupp has one paved road. My cell phone doesn't work in Leupp. We have no assignments or jobs to worry about. Nothing stands in the way of witnessing God in Leupp. I see God in the eyes of the natives, I hear God in the deafening thunderstorms, and I feel God in the pouring rain, as the sparse grass sways in the afterglow of the sun. I see God in the natives taking care of the stray dogs that wander the town and I think back to our neglected homeless people in Brampton.

It's actually harder for me to be a Christian in Canada. In Leupp, we are so focused on urgently bringing God's salvation to the natives. We only have one week. We hold each other up in Christ; we laugh and cry and pray together and we grow stronger together. We are so exhausted

and drained, but we have each other to lean back on. When we come back to Canada, I lose that sense of urgency and family. The team, we drift apart, we don't hold each other up as much, we don't pray together as much and we are not focused on urgently bringing God's salvation to Brampton. We only have one life. I think that we should look at Brampton, Canada and the World as a mission trip. We are sent from the Father to urgently spread His message, before we go home. We must see the lost around us and be moved to bring the light to them. We must hold each other up, we must pray together and we must be united together.

-Matt.07

A wise man once said:

“God is with the poor people struggling to eat on the streets.

God is with the single mother who has infected her son with a virus that will kill them both.

God is with a jobless man with a family to support.

God is with the widows.

God is in the slums, in the cardboard boxes where the poor play house.

God is with us, if we are with them.”

Phoenix Mission Trip 2007

Mike Yu

The Phoenix mission trip of 2007 was a time of fellowship, a time where we poured out our passion for God. Of course, there were times of disagreement, which made it

far from easy, but it was these times that made us stronger and more united as a team. In Leupp, we were able to truly focus, far away from the distractions in Brampton, on

our mission to help and aid those who need God's salvation.

The week in Phoenix went by really fast, and on the ride home, I realized that I was sitting beside a complete stranger, and I started having a casual conversation with him. After that, most of the plane ride was spent relaxing.

A few days later, I thought of the moment when I spoke with this man; there was an opportunity for me to share God's love, but I never took the chance. I was perplexed, so I began to think of why I did not share my faith. This experience brought me to the stark realization that just because the mission trip was over, it didn't mean that

we should stop there. We don't need to go all the way to Phoenix to spread God's word.

In the aftermath of the mission trip, I felt the urge to bring the passion of God from Phoenix to our church, and especially to our fellowship. Although change didn't happen immediately, I have the feeling that God has brought us a long way from that point in time to the present. At school, fellowship, and on the worship team, we should never cease to praise God, regardless of the situation.

“But the time is coming –indeed it’s here now-when true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and in truth.” John 4:23

Praise to the Amazing Grace

Lanjun Chen

Glory and praise to our great God! On this Easter day, I am excited to become a true child of God and offer my thanksgiving to Him. Among the vast sea of people, you have chosen me, even though I always run away from you, not willing to accept you. I sincerely worship and revere you because of your amazing love and grace towards me.

Now looking back, my life was full of praises, successes and blessings. However, I thought they were achieved by my own wisdom and diligent work. I had rejected your love and wandered around. But you directed and drew me to yourself. You made me recognize that the glorious aura of my life was indeed a blessing from you, so that I could humbly kneel down before you and give thanks to your amazing grace. Just as a song of my favorite sings, “At every step of my life, your hand is always with me, bringing me to your side as your precious child.”

In the past, I had a vague understanding of God. Although I was supposed to be an atheist, I always believed that there is god(s) in the world. Just as a Chinese saying goes, “There is a god even three feet above your head.” I always went to Buddha temples to worship and burn joss sticks, wishing to gain blessings and protection from these gods. In 2004, the first time when I came to Canada, I made a decision in my heart not to believe in Christianity. However, after being brought to church worship services and Bible studies, the Word of God deeply touched my heart. I recognized that my unbelief was because of my lack of knowledge of Jesus Christ and the Bible, the Word of God. Two years later, the second time when I came to Canada, I thought I could believe in the resurrection of Jesus Christ and the only true God of the universe, but I wouldn't get baptized to become a Christian. Whereas, when I worshipped before the mercy seat of God, the Holy Spirit opened my heart and gave me the

desire to listen to His words, just like a deer longs for the brook. When I first opened my heart to pray and talk to God, I truly experienced the Presence of God with me. He gave me wisdom, courage and strength to believe in Him. Peace and joy came along with the love from God.

I wouldn't seek to understand the mystery of God's selection. I would rather give Him thanks and praises for choosing me. I have determined to obey His choosing, to keep His commandments, and be a faithful child of Him. I will bring the redeeming Gospel of Christ to China, to my relatives and friends, so that their thirsty hearts may also receive this gracious gift from God. Today I want to present a poem

to praise my loving and righteous Father in heaven:

So joyful to receive the gospel in my old age,

As the wisdom and word of God has blessed my heart.

When I confessed my sins and repented,
Lord Jesus saved me and gave me a new start.

Oh, my loving and righteous Father in heaven,

To all the peoples You gave this gracious gift;

It is thus my duty to proclaim the gospel

And praise Your redeeming grace all days of my life!

Walking with God, Remembering His Grace

Baoguo Xu

Before coming to Canada, I regarded myself as an atheist. Therefore, I disliked people around me worshipping Buddha in China. Even though I myself did it too sometimes as I just went along with the stream. After my younger son (Stephen) went to Canada, he believed in God in a short time and he shared the Gospel with us. He said knowing God is the greatest gain in his whole life. I was wondering why he changed his belief from Communism to God so quickly, after being a Communist party member for many years. In 2004 my wife came to Canada to visit my son and his family. When she returned to China, she had not yet believed in God. But I saw her reading the Bible regularly and talking to her friends and relatives about the wonderful words from the Bible. She became more humble and patient with us and less affectionate about money. My wife's change

during this short period of time also made me think.

With the above questions in my heart I came to Canada the first time. I only wanted to know why Christianity was that amazing, but didn't plan to become a Christian at all. Now it has been almost thirty weeks since I came to Brampton. Almost every week I attended Sunday worship services, Sunday schools and Mandarin fellowships, as well as home Bible studies. I also read through the New Testament, a part of the Old Testament and some other Christian books. I realized that the Bible is worth hearing and studying. After hearing true testimonies of brothers and sisters around me, I started to believe that Christianity is not a blind faith. Rather, the truth is here, love is here, peace is here, light is here, and life is here! All that I wanted is in Christ Jesus.

Looking back on my life, although it looked to be all right, I never self-examined the path I walked, the things I did, the thoughts I had, and the words I spoke. Comparing to the laws in the Bible, I realized that I am indeed a guilty and sinful man. I don't deserve to become a child of God. Now God has set Jesus Christ as a propitiation of my sin in His blood through our faith to establish His righteousness. It is the blood of the Lord Jesus Christ that has saved me, and in Him all my sins have been forgiven. He also directs my path ahead. What else shall I want apart from Christ? I decided to confess my sins before Him and

believed in Him, for only through faith in Him could I be saved, to have a new life and become a new creation.

Today is Easter Day and I am so excited to become a true child of God. God has chosen me from among the peoples. I commit myself to follow Him, to keep His commandments and to be an obedient child of God. I will bring the Gospel to China, to my friends and relatives. Meanwhile, I want to grow spiritually through the guidance of the Holy Spirit. I will always remember the grace of the Lord and walk with Him from now on until He comes again. Amen!

My Relationship with God

Wu Sha

I first came in contact with the church in November 2006, and received Christ as my personal savior at one of Rev. Maak's preaching conferences. Despite only knowing Christ for a short period of time, the impact of knowing Jesus has impacted my life tremendously.

Before I met Christ, I was proud, self-conceited, restless and moody. Many times, I disliked myself, because in my life I felt helpless and out of control. To try and make me feel better, I adopted the saying "It's harder to change one's nature than to move mountains and rivers around."

For so many years, I had been drifting in a world full of malice, wickedness, sin, and temptation. Occasionally I was confronted by an inner voice telling me to change, but it seemed so vaguely weak and powerless. I was emotionally hindered and conquered, as I was constantly being tortured by my sins and spiritual shortcomings. By these sins I was bound, drifting aimlessly in darkness without seeing any light. Worse still, I would rarely even

realize my sins let alone admit them. Being so far from the truth, I constantly felt enormous conflict between my reasoning and emotion in all my major life decisions. Deep within, I began to question the purpose of my existence in this world with questions like: Why am I in Canada? Why can't I get what I deserve? Why are others better than me? Why am I not as fortunate as others?

Such was the darkness in which I was lost, until the Lord found me after my first close encounter with Christ. My heart was illuminated by the light of the Word of God, in which I found divine truth and the value of life. I saw my sins through the eyes of God, Who miraculously changed me, transforming my thoughts and actions. The Holy Spirit guides me from time to time, and now I can do what I believe was impossible before, and I'm getting to love myself more and more. I enjoy my communication with God, enjoy my life in Him, and I eagerly desire to grow more in the image of God.

Easter Testimony

Sally Huynh

“He must become greater; I must become less.” (John 3:30)

Good morning everyone, my name is Sally Huynh and I am currently 15 years of age. I stand before you today to share my testimony of how I accepted Jesus Christ as my personal savior.

Before my life with Christ, growing up in this church was not an easy task. There were many times where I felt distant from God, and could not understand Him. I became frustrated and impatient with myself, wondering how it was possible that everyone around me was able to accept Him so easily and knowing exactly the right time. None of these matter to me anymore, because I learn that even if I do not always

understand God's will, I must place my trust in Him in order to grow in Him. Knowing this, I want to learn more about God, and I want to follow Him and I begin to have faith. My initial faith in Jesus Christ started to grow, and from that I had the courage to accept everything else.

I realize that I am not at all perfect, and I am a sinful person saved by grace. I will try my best to follow Him through all times in my life, whether in good times or bad times. I always try to remember that at the end of the day, nothing else matters and is all about Jesus.

I declare to you today that I have surrendered my life over to Jesus Christ.

How I've accepted Jesus

Anna Huynh

For as long as I can remember, there has always been a God. Life with Christ was much simpler when I was younger, and there were no doubts or questions as to who God was or what He did for us.

As I grew older, I concluded that God just didn't make much sense. But if there was no God, why did I feel comforted when I was sad? Why did I feel peace within me in the midst of confusion? I used to wish that I could sleep forever, because when you're sleeping, you're living in a boundless world of dreams. There is no pain, no fear, and no tears. When I wake up, to know that someone loves me for everything I am, someone who's going to take my hands and guide me through the tough times gives me a reason to continue on living.

Life as a Christian is never easy. There are times when I became too absorbed in my own life and I drift far away from God, but God has never left me, He still stands beside me, awaiting for my return. It fills my heart with joy to know that someone is always watching over me. I smile every day because I know that God is watching and I sing, for I know that He is listening.

I would like to share with you a Bible verse, from the book of Philippians 4:13: *“I can do everything through Him who gives me strength.”* This verse encourages me to know that God will be with me when I'm going through hard times, giving me hope and faith and He will never abandon me and will love me beyond the end of time.

I was introduced to the concept of God and Christianity at a very young age, but it was not until recently that I realize that He is a large part of my life. Since I was a child, I only absorbed what was told to me so I believed that God existed because that was what I was taught. Because I never thought for myself, I never took Sunday school worship seriously, and this in turn, reflected upon my relationship with Christ in a lack of intimacy.

Throughout my life, I forced myself to believe that I was and always would be alone, which caused me to often isolate myself. It was the culmination of past events that led me to these thoughts, which started with the death of my brother Edwin, and then, my two closest elementary friends and I took separate paths. After that, my closest friend from middle school moved away, and during my first year of high school another one of my friends also moved. Because of this, I began to feel like there was something wrong with me so I distanced myself from others.

Recently, however, I have been trying to listen intently to God through Sunday school and worship and I've been thinking a

lot about Him. I realized that He was the One with me and every obstacle and trial that I have encountered, He has also provided many people like my parents, aunts and uncles in church, and my friends to assist and comfort me through difficult situations. The problem was me; that I was too wrapped up in my own self pity to notice God and others who were supporting me.

One particular Bible verse that I learned as a child and will always keep in mind is found in Matthew 28:30, where Jesus says "... *And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.*" This verse keeps me from falling because it reminds me that I will never be alone. I am working to strengthen and build up my relationship with Christ, who is helping me to understand how to worship God as well as helping me to become a more open individual to accept others.

I have come to the realization that I am not perfect, a fact that will not change even after accepting Christ. Therefore, with my need for forgiveness, I humbly accept the gift of salvation. I stand before you today to confess Jesus Christ as my Lord and savior.

I grew up in church and have been in attendance since the age of six. As I grew up, I gradually accepted Christ and now that I have fully accepted Him, I will strive to do my best to serve Christ and the church.

My favorite verse in the Bible is Matthew 26:39 "*My Father, if it is possible, may this cup be taken from me. Yet not as I will, but as you will.*" This is my favorite

verse because it shows how great the love of Christ is for us, and although He did not wish to die, he died on the cross to save and redeem us. Another aspect revealed in this passage is the humanity of Jesus, and that even though Jesus is God, He felt fear, pain, suffering, and still, He said to God, "*Yet not as I will, but as you will.*"

Christ did not have to die, but because He loves us so much, He willingly sacrificed Himself for us. It shows me that no matter how hard, painful or frightening the situation is, we should not fear because

Jesus had died for us. We should say to God, “*Not as I will, but as you will*”.

That is why I am standing before you today to declare that I have given my life to Jesus Christ.

Testimony

Jimmy Vong

Until I came to Brampton Chinese Baptist Church (BCBC), I never really understood who Jesus was. I never knew about the holy Bible, the Gospel, life after death, or even the resurrection of Jesus Christ. I remember feeling so joyful when I first went to Alive Fellowship, I didn't know exactly the reasons why, whether I was with my friends, worshipping the Lord, doing Bible study, or praying, but I knew one thing for sure that I had accepted Jesus into my life. I accepted Christ into my life because I believe in Him and I will follow and obey Him for the rest of my life.

Jesus makes me feel so thankful, grateful for a great family and friends who are so loving and supportive, and a wonderful church with friendly and

welcoming people. I am also thankful for my pastors who are always willing to answer my questions, and worked so hard to prepare for church events. Most of all, I am very thankful to Jesus Christ for dying on the cross to save me from my sins and allowing me to have a relationship with Him. Thanks be to God for providing so many things in my past, present, and future.

I will give thanks to the LORD according to His righteousness, and will sing praise to the name of the LORD Most High (Psalm 7:17).

This is why I am standing before you all today to declare that I am giving my life to Jesus Christ.

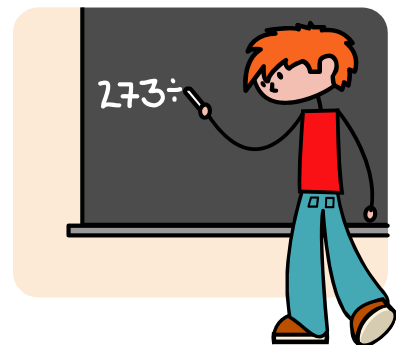


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