

BETHANY

INDEPENDENT-
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

God's Kind of Church...

Where God is touching lives...

And people care for people.



沉思录

2022 年 12 月 11 日

经文：以赛亚书12

“救恩的泉源”

欢欣的理由

由于我们得到主的救恩，我们因此能够欢欣。
让我们思考关于救恩的美好诗歌！

“到那日，你必说：“耶和华啊，我要称谢你！”

因为你虽然向我发怒，你的怒气却已转消，你又安慰了我。看哪！神是我的拯救，我要倚靠他，并不惧怕。因为主耶和华是我的力量，是我的诗歌，他也成了我的拯救。”所以你们必从救恩的泉源欢然取水。”《以赛亚书12:1-3》

1. 上帝的怒气
 - a) 祂的怒气已转消
 - b) 上帝的怒气转为安慰
2. 上帝是我们的拯救
 - a) 我们无需惧怕
 - b) 让我们选择信靠上帝
3. 我们的力量，我们的诗歌
 - a) 上帝确实是我们的力量
 - b) 祂也是我们的诗歌
4. 救恩的泉源
 - a) 能够领受给予生命的泉源是多么地美好
 - b) 这是救恩的泉源
 - c) 让我们从救恩的泉源欢然取水

一个充满喜乐的圣诞节

让我们期待一个美好和充满喜乐的圣诞节！我们有理由欢欣地报佳音！

公告专栏

欢迎来到伯大尼

我们很高兴您选择与我们一起崇拜主耶稣！愿您的心充满主的喜乐！

圣诞报佳音

2022年12月17日

下午5点

圣诞晚餐：6点半

请计划尽早报名（订餐考量）。

圣诞节（香格里拉酒店）

2022年12月25日

早上10点半

午餐随后

已经预订了大约60个餐桌

请尽早预订您的座位。

洗礼崇拜会

1. 2022年12月11日

2. 2022年12月18日

让我们期待这些洗礼崇拜会！我们将会进行集体崇拜会。

回忆之廊

日期：2022年12月31日

时间：晚上8点

主题：“仰望上帝”

经文：诗篇42-43

用心灵和诚实崇拜祂

路加福音 2:8-14

“在伯利恒之野地里有牧羊的人，夜间按着更次看守羊群。有主的使者站在他们旁边，主的荣光四面照着他们，牧羊的人就甚惧怕。那天使对他们说：“不要惧怕，我报给你们大喜的信息，是关乎万民的。因今天在大卫的城里，为你们生了救主，就是主基督。你们要看见一个婴孩，包着布，卧在马槽里，那就是记号了。”忽然有一大队天兵，同那天使赞美神说：“在至高之处荣耀归于神！在地上平安归于他所喜悦的人！”

1. 大喜的信息

- a) 天使报给谦卑的牧羊人大喜的信息
- b) 此信息是关乎万民的

2. 在至高之处荣耀归于神

- a) 这是天使合唱团唱的赞美歌
- b) 愿我们常常将一切荣耀归于上帝！

以赛亚书 11：4 以公义审判贫穷人

“却要以公义审判贫穷人，以正直判断世上的谦卑人，以口中的杖击打世界，以嘴里的气杀戮恶人。”

1. 焦点是弥赛亚强大的统治
2. 祂将为受压迫的贫穷人伸张公义
3. 不悔改的恶人会被杀戮

诗歌

上帝的道是完全的

(译自英文原诗)

上帝的话语是富有荣耀的礼物；
通过祂的话语，我们认识上帝的道。
我们从上帝的话语得到祂的光；
在黑暗中照明着我们。

上帝的话语是完全的；
通过时间的考验，祂的话语的确来自于天国。
上帝没有不顾世人；
通过上帝的话语，我们找到最重要的忠告。

当我们经历苦难，上帝的话语是重要的帮助。
祂的话语到给我们心中所需的安慰。
我们必须珍惜经文的祝福；
珍惜上帝所给予的智慧和力量。

上帝的话语必须藏在我们的心里；
上帝会给予所有忠诚的人们来自祂的话语的智慧。
愿我们能够找到力量和极大的鼓励！
感谢上帝赐给我们祂的话语的祝福。

(诗篇18:28-30受启发而作)

作者：陈俊成



PRELUDE 前奏

CALL TO WORSHIP 呼召敬拜

Deacon Dr. Quek Li Wei

PRAYER 祈祷

HYMN 诗歌

CP 146 | It Came Upon The Midnight Clear

诗篇146 | 夜半歌声

HWC 127 | Thou Didst Leave Thy Throne

诗篇127 | 主撒下天上宝座冠冕

MESSAGE 证道

“A Precious Cornerstone” “宝贵的房角石”

Text: Isaiah 28 以赛亚书 28

Rev. Dr. Charles Tan 陈俊成牧师

PRAYER 祈祷

HYMN 诗歌

HWC 168 | Who Is He In Yonder Stall?

诗篇168 | 看婴儿在马槽里

POSTLUDE 后奏



CP 146 It Came Upon The Midnight Clear

夜半歌声

1. It came upon the midnight clear, that glorious song of old,
时方夜半光华忽现，传来远古歌声。

From angels bending near the earth to touch their harps of gold:

天使从天降临大地，手拨金琴和唱：

“Peace on the earth, goodwill to men, from heaven’s all gracious King”:

“地上平安，世人蒙恩，得自天上君王。”

The world in solemn stillness lay to hear the angels sing.

此夜众声肃穆安静，聆听天使歌声。

2. Still through the cloven skies they come, with peaceful wings unfurled,

从天破空惠然降临，展开和平恩翼，

And still their heav’nly music floats o’er all the weary world;

不断奏出天韵歌声，安慰困倦众生。

Above its sad and lowly plains they bend on hov’ring wing.

天使来回振翅高飞，关注愁苦大地。

And ever o’er its Babel sounds the blessed angels sing.

从纷乱、喧闹、扰攘中，请听天使歌声。

3. For lo, the days are hast’ning on, by prophets seen of old.

时光岁月运行不息，世事变化万千。

When, with the ever-circling years, shall come the time foretold,

先知圣徒早有预言，幸福岁月来临。

When peace shall over all the earth its ancient splendours fling,

那日全地得享平安，昔日光华重现。

And all the world give back the song which now the angels sing.

如今万千生灵欢唱，和应天使歌唱。

(End 终)

HWC 127 Thou Didst Leave Thy Throne

主撒下天上宝座冠冕

1. Thou didst leave Thy throne and Thy Kingly crown,
When Thou camest to earth for me;

主撒下天上宝座冠冕，为我众罪人降世；

But in Bethlehem's home was there found no room
For Thy holy nativity.

在伯利恒客店无房可作主诞生地方。

Refrain 副歌：

○ come to my heart, Lord Jesus, There is room in my heart for Thee!

求主耶稣进入我心，在我心有空处为你。

2. Heaven's arches rang when the angels sang,
Proclaiming Thy royal decree;

天使欢唱，天庭回响，充满你无限权威，

But of lowly birth didst Thou come to earth, and in great humility.

你竟虚己，成为贫穷，降临尘世甘寒微。

Refrain 副歌

3. Thou camest, O Lord, with the Living Word,
That should set Thy people free;

主到地上来，传扬真理，使人得释放自由；

But with mocking scorn, and with crown of thorn,
They bore Thee to Calvary.

反受戏弄，头戴荆冕，更被钉在十架上。

Refrain 副歌

4. When the heav'ns shall ring, and the angels sing,
At Thy coming to victory,

众天使歌唱，諸天和应， 同迎接得胜君王，

Let Thy voice call me Home, saying "Yet there is room,
There is room at My side for thee."

主对我说：“祢可进来，我为祢留下地方。”

My heart shall rejoice, Lord Jesus,
When Thou comest and callest for me!

当主再回来召我. 我的心定欣喜欢乐.

(End 终)

HWC 168 Who Is He In Yonder Stall?

看婴儿在马槽里

1. Who is He in yonder stall,
At whose feet the shepherds fall?
Who is He in deep distress,
Fasting in the wilderness?

Refrain 副歌

'Tis the Lord! O wondrous story! 'Tis the Lord! the King of glory!

是我主, 圣经所记载! 是我主荣光的主宰!

At His feet we humbly fall, Crown Him, crown Him! Lord of all!

用谦卑用心拜跪, 认我主至尊至贵!

2. Who is He the people bless
For His words of gentleness?
Who is He to whom they bring
All the sick and sorrowing?

Refrain 副歌

3. Who is He that stands and weeps,
At the grave where Lazarus sleeps?
Who is He the gath'ring throng
Greet with loud triumphant song?

Refrain 副歌

4. Lo, at midnight, who is He
Prays in dark Gethsemane?
Who is He on yonder tree
Dies in grief and agony?

Refrain 副歌

5. Who is He that from the grave
Comes to heal and help and save?
Who is He that from His Throne
Rules through all the world alone?

Refrain 副歌

(End 终)

圣诞节洗礼崇拜会(I)

2022年12月11日

我们的 故事





THIS IS MY STORY

TESTIMONIES OF BRETHREN WHO WILL BE
RECEIVED INTO CHURCH MEMBERSHIP
ON 11 DECEMBER 2022

[A] Paedo-Baptism

1. Lim Kai Le Louis (Son of Wee Ta and Belle)
2. Elijah Lee Rui Yi (Son of Joshua and Stephanie)
3. Liang Rui Jie Nathan (Son of Keith and Pei Ling)
4. Liang Rui Jun Caleb (Son of Keith and Pei Ling)
5. Timothy George Charles (Son of Charles and Ainslie)
6. Cai Jie Xin Zyon (Son of Yinzhou and Aleena)

To Be Baptized By:

Pastor Benjamin Quah
Pastor Benjamin Quah
Pastor Eugene Seow
Pastor Eugene Seow
Pastor Mark Tan
Pastor Mark Tan

[B] Adult Baptism

1. Elaine Yeo
2. Jimmy Lai Hong Sin

To Be Baptized By:

Pastor Mark Tan
Pastor Moses Kwek

[C] Transference

1. Liang Wei Han Keith
2. Leong Pei Ling
3. Yew Mee Yiek

To Be Prayed For By:

Pastor Eugene Seow
Pastor Eugene Seow
Pastor Moses Kwek



A LETTER TO OUR PRECIOUS SON

LIM WEE TA AND BELLE
(PARENTS OF LOUIS LIM)

Dear Louis,

Today you will be baptized, and you have no say in this. Just as we did not ask for your permission to be born and just as we did not ask your opinion on what to call you, we also did not give you a choice in this meaningful event called baptism that will define your identity and your purpose.

Child, please know that as soon as both Daddy and Mummy knew about you, we have never stopped praying for you. We had your baptism on our minds so that your life of faith could begin. As your parents, we want to share with you everything we love, treasure, and think is worth dying for. Faith is so vitally important to us that we don't want you to live a life without it. Baptism is the greatest gift we could offer you.

Both Daddy and Mummy were not brought up in a Christian family but by God's grace, we were given a place in God's family. We are so blessed to be able to experience and learn aspects of God's heart through the people in church that we simply can't learn alone. Through the community in church, we encounter people with various giftings, perspectives and past experiences that are different and God uses them to help us grow. We are very thankful that we need not raise you and your older brother (Luke) all by ourselves.

We hope that as you grow, you will choose to continue to grow in faith and flourish in a life with Christ. Live the abundant life that God intends for you, have grace for others, help when no one else will and most importantly to love the Lord with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.

Love,
Your parents
Wee Ta & Belle



GOD'S PRECIOUS GIFT

JOSHUA AND STEPHANIE LEE
(PARENTS OF ELIJAH LEE)

This Christmas is special to us because God has given us a precious gift - Elijah! Our hearts are filled with joy as we welcome our son into this world. We are so grateful as we trace God's hand of protection throughout the pregnancy and delivery.

We had to learn how to commit our little one to God in prayer from the very onset when we found out that we were expecting. Our doctors warned that we were at risk of complications because of a congenital condition where there is reduced blood flow in Steph's abdomen. Whenever there were uncertainties and fears creeping up on us, we were challenged to put our trust in our sovereign God. This was exactly the lesson we needed to learn from the pulpit theme in January 2022 - "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He shall direct your paths." (Proverbs 3:5-6). Each time we went for a checkup, we were relieved when our doctor told us that Elijah was developing well. Truly, God was protecting him!

When we finally held our newborn baby in our hands and examined his little hands and feet, we were simply in awe of God's creation. This Christmas, we gain a fresh appreciation of the gift of eternal life that God has given to us through the birth of the Lord Jesus. We thank God for the life we can have in and through Christ. We have every reason to be joyful not just because we are new parents but as we have found inspiration and purpose in our lives through our Saviour's birth.

We named our son Elijah and it means "the LORD is my God". Our hope is that Elijah will come to discover our God just as we have found Him to be so real and personal in our lives. We are deeply conscious that Elijah belongs to the Lord and we are just given the privilege of being God's instruments to love and care for him! Through baptism, we commit ourselves to bringing him up in a Christian home that fears the Lord, and to sharing God's gift of salvation and joy with him. Our prayer is that Elijah will experience the grace of God so that he may one day grow up to become a person who will love and glorify Him.



GROWING IN FAITH

KEITH LIANG AND PEI LING
(PARENTS OF NATHAN AND CALEB LIANG)

Joining the Bethany family

We started attending Bethany since 2018 and were deeply drawn by the Bethany spirit. There was such a great sense of love for God and for one another; a desire to grow in knowledge and in faith; and immense joy and dedication in serving, whether young or old. We have experienced the warmth and genuine love of the Bethany family in more ways than one, as a whole and especially through individuals. It is our desire to be a part of this family, to grow our faith here and to faithfully serve Him as a family.

Keith's journey with God

As a second-generation Christian, my spiritual journey followed a gentle upward climb, albeit many dips along the way. But I thank God that "He who has begun a good work in [me] will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ." – Philippians 1:6. I started attending church at the age of 3 years, but it was not till my later teens that I began to take my Christian walk more seriously. Over the years, fruit-bearing was a gradual process – little by little, God was changing me.

My life was smooth-sailing for the most part, until the Lord called my father home to be with Him when I was just 14 years old. Needless to say, I had many questions, doubts and fears; but God proved Himself to be real and faithful. Time and time again, He reassured my family that He would provide, that He would never leave us nor forsake us (Hebrews 13:5). And as He promised, so He did. "And my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus." – Philippians 4:19. How precious it was to be able to experience His never-changing faithfulness. Indeed, "Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness! Morning by morning new mercies I see; All I have needed thy hand hath provided. Great is thy faithfulness, Lord unto me!"

Throughout my journey thus far, God has taught me so many precious lessons – through perceived failure, waiting on the Lord, God's miraculous answers to prayer and instances in which God blessed me above and beyond what I asked for or im-

(Continued on page 6)

(Continued from page 5)

agined (Ephesians 3:20). There are still so many ways in which I fall short of God's standard, so much unfinished work within me for my Master, and so much stumbling along the way; but "I know whom I have believed and am persuaded that He is able to keep what I have committed to him until that Day."— 2 Timothy 1:12. Indeed, I owe all that I am to the One who has been faithfully walking alongside me, and it is my prayer and desire to faithfully serve Him and be His instrument of blessing to the people around me, by His grace and for His glory.

Pei Ling's journey with God

I was born into a loving non-believing family of five. Growing up, life was simple. However, in my teenage years, I began asking myself questions. "What is life, truly?" "Am I good enough?" "Is life all about studies?" During those seasons, I found a temporal sense of security in other places, e.g., having a vibrant social life, earning man's approval, seeking popularity. As the years passed, I realised that these things did not matter at all. What truly mattered then?

In His own divine plan and timing, the Lord graciously placed individuals in my life who shared Christ with me and taught me precious truths from the Bible. Through testimonies of God's faithfulness in their lives, I began to experience a growing interest to know the God of the Bible. I was presented with Ephesians 2.8-9: "For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God." At that point, I could not comprehend why good works could not lead me to Heaven. I had been to church and had heard the gospel many times, but there was no conviction in my heart. By God's grace, at the age of 19 years, following a gospel message at a Youth Rally, the Holy Spirit revealed John 3: 16 – 18 to me in a very personal and special way. I came to the foot of the Cross, confessed my sins and asked the Lord Jesus to be my Saviour. Knowing that my past, present and future sins have been washed away by the Blood of the Lamb gave me tremendous inward peace; and knowing that I was a new person in Christ gave me much courage, light and hope.

As I grow older, I realise how much of a work in progress I am. Following Jesus is a day-to-day journey and not a one-time event. My walk with Jesus has not been a bed of roses. More times than ever, I have had to make intentional decisions to deny myself, take up the cross and follow Him. I am thankful that I can always find grace at the foot of the cross! "This is my story, this is my song, praising my Saviour all the day long." May I trust the Author to pen His story in my life!

(Continued on page 7)

(Continued from page 6)

Ambassadors of Christ to our children

God has blessed us with two lovely sons, Nathan and Caleb. They are such precious gifts from above, yet we know that they do not belong to us, for we are merely ambassadors of Christ entrusted with the role of raising them for His purpose. One lesson that has stood out is the need to surrender our children to the very One who created them. Through hiccups during the pregnancy and delivery, challenges along the way and fears and anxieties about the future, we recognized how difficult it was to put this into practice. How blessed it is to know that our sovereign God is in control. He knows best and He makes no mistake!

Being parents of two boys, we recognize God's unseen hand of protection daily! Missing a sharp object by a few centimetres during a fall; missing a toppling motor-cycle on the pavement by a few seconds; being spared from injuries during a car accident – these are just a few of the many instances where God's protection upon our children has been so real to us. Indeed, God's angels are constantly watching over our little ones!

We are thankful that our children can be part of this everlasting covenant that was first established with Abraham. We recognize that we as parents are responsible as God's tools to raise them up in the fear of God, and in the grace and knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. We need to be mindful of the spiritual example that we set for them, and even more so the spiritual heritage that we leave for them. It is our great privilege to shepherd their hearts, as we entrust them to the Great Shepherd of their lives. It is our hope and prayer that they will grow to love the Lord, serve Him faithfully and be vessels for honour, sanctified and useful for the Master, prepared for every good work. (2 Timothy 2:21)



IN HONOUR OF OUR WONDERFUL GOD

CHARLES GEORGE AND AINSIE CHARLES
(PARENTS OF TIMOTHY CHARLES)

When we found out that Ainslie was pregnant, we were overjoyed with this blessing! It was a prayer answered. We thank God for His grace and protection over the pregnancy and the safe delivery.

(Continued on page 8)

(Continued from page 7)

The name Timothy was specially decided for a few reasons. First, Timothy means 'Honouring God' and it is our hope as Christian parents that our son will honour God with his life one day. Additionally, it serves as a reminder to us that we must continuously seek to honour God with our own lives even as we learn to care for him.

Honouring God

We have both witnessed and experienced God's love in our lives. From our own journeys of finding salvation, to coming together in marriage, we recognise the Lord's goodness and provision that has been poured out.

Till today, His lovingkindness continues to be evident as we enter parenthood. He strengthens us with His Word and encourages us to focus on Him above all things despite weaknesses and challenges. Only God has made it possible for us to cope and find joy while making adjustments in our lives. Thus, we desire to honour Him with our actions by taking this step of baptism and committing Timothy to the Lord.

Households of Faith (Family and Church)

In the Bible, Timothy discovered faith through his family. Similarly, we too are committed to raise our son in the way of the Lord as we desire to build a household centered on faith. We are so blessed to be a part of Bethany, our spiritual family, where we have seen many examples of faith. God's love has also been witnessed through brethren and families that have supported us in prayer and practical ways. We hope that Timothy would also experience this deep sense of connection to God's house and His people through baptism.

Hope for the Future

As the family goes to the U.S. next year as Charles pursues his Masters, we hope that our faith will keep us grounded and connected to God and His people. We are truly humbled and grateful for the privilege to be parents and we want to acknowledge that Timothy ultimately belongs to our wonderful Lord. We recognise that only He can do this work of building our family and Timothy's life. Therefore, we pray and desire that the Lord will continue to guide us as we seek to be godly parents to Timothy, in hope of him finding personal faith.

Looking forward to returning and being together with everyone again!



OUR PRAYER AND HOPE

CAI YINZHOU AND ALEENA
(PARENTS OF ZYON CAI)

Hello everyone! We are Yinzhou and Aleena, parents to Zyon Cai (蔡芥信 cài jiè xìn), our almost ten-month-old son.

Zyon is a precious gift from the Lord to us, and we have witnessed the Lord's loving presence and abundant blessing upon our family throughout our journey of parenthood thus far. From the pregnancy, delivery and now as we face challenges that come with being new parents in this season of life, God has shown us grace upon grace. Despite our fears and weaknesses, we see Him lovingly equipping us with the sensitivity, skills and strength to care for our little boy.

Zyon was named after our prayer and hope for him. "Zyon" is derived from the word "Zion", which in the Bible signifies not only God's presence, but also the eternal spiritual kingdom of God. It is our prayer that Zyon will grow to find God's presence real in his life and have a "kingdom mindset" - where his mind is set on things above, and not on things on earth.

His Chinese name, 芥信 (jiè xìn), was also specially chosen for him. "芥(jiè)" refers to "芥菜 (jiè cài)" the mustard (plant), and "信 (xìn)" means faith. Inspired by the Lord's words in the Gospels (Matthew 17:20, Luke 17:6), we hope that Zyon will come to have a genuine and strong faith that will enable him to overcome the challenges in life, and use this faith to serve God effectively.

We are so grateful that Zyon can be baptised as an infant in Bethany today. This symbolises our commitment as parents to bring Zyon up to know and fear God, and we know there is no better place to do so than here in Bethany. We pray that God will hold our family close as we seek to walk with Him, and be examples to Zyon.



THE BEGINNING OF MY JOURNEY WITH THE LORD

ELAINE YEO

Greetings Bethany! I am Elaine. My daughter, Freya, and I attend Bethany.

Today marks a new chapter of my life. I started coming to Bethany in June 2016. (I brought Freya along a few months later.) Just like everyone else, life is full of challenges, big or small.

Finding Faith and myself

I work in the Banking industry. In late 2014, I left a team of caring and supportive managers and colleagues for a better career opportunity, working in a Global Bank. I struggled adapting to the new environment and culture. I began to realise that relying solely on my own strength was not enough, I needed more. Something in me led me to seek God and I followed my sister to a Church which she attends. There, I found God's Word meaningful and guiding. His Word also comforted me. Although I started attending church with my sister, I felt something was still lacking. During a catch-up meal with my dear friend Yvonne, she once again invited me to Bethany. I attended her baptism here many years ago. She would always invite us to Bethany's Christmas lunch, but we were always caught up with our own plans. This time, I told her I would text her when I was ready and I did. I can only say that this was done according to His Timing and His will.

I am still in the same job. The challenges have not stopped. Accepting God does not mean that all the challenges we face will go away, As I learnt in God's Word, I know I need to further reflect on myself and to change. I used to go all out, do what is right and speak up.

I have learnt to put my faith in God. It is also through Him and the challenges that He has put before me that I have learnt to be patient and work alongside Him. I have come to trust that He has a plan for me. He is also moulding me to be a better person as I study His Word and try hard to apply them in my life.

(Continued on page 11)

(Continued from page 10)

As I learn of God's Word, my faith grows stronger as I know through His wisdom and strength, I will have peace, comfort, and joy in my heart. Whenever I feel something bothering me at work, I would calm myself down as I remember His Word,

James 1:19-20

"So then, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath; for the wrath of man does not produce the righteousness of God."

At home, my family have all been protected by Him. The past 2 years have been good, despite the fear of catching COVID. Working and studying at home have brought us closer. We spent more time together than pre-COVID, as I used to work late. Through God's timing, we caught COVID this year, myself, in March, followed by my husband, Nick in April. Freya caught it in October, just when her "O" level exams started, thus causing a bit of stress. Through God's grace, she recovered quickly and was out for her exams on the 5th day. My symptoms were mild while Nick had it quite serious with side effects lasting 6 weeks. Letting us catch COVID at different times helped us to take care of each other.

I am very happy to be part of Bethany where I can learn and worship, deepen my knowledge and faith in the Lord and be a part of ONE Bethany.

I would like to finish by sharing two verses that have proved to be very meaningful to me. I hope they speak to you too.

Philippians 4: 6-7

"Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus."

Proverbs 3:5-6

*"Trust in the LORD with all your heart,
And lean not on your own understanding; In all your ways acknowledge Him,
And He shall direct your paths."*



MY JOURNEY OF FINDING FAITH

JIMMY LAI HONG SIN

I grew up in a village. My father was a businessman and my mother was a homemaker. My family did not have any religion. When I was young I went to a Christian Secondary School. I was the first batch of students there, and the school took in students from various backgrounds, religions, and also foreigners. Some of the teachers were prejudice in the way they handled manners, showing favouritism to students from rich families and students from families who went to church. Because of this I had a disagreement with my teacher and I left school, learning business from my father since then.

After marriage, because of work partnerships with my friends, I had to travel frequently. My wife would take care of our 3 sons. One year, we moved house and I had to transfer my youngest son to a nearby Catholic school. Our application was rejected even after I saw the principal of the school. When I came out of the principal's office, I met a teacher whom I knew. He revealed to me that money could resolve the problem. 2 days later I met the principal again and asked how I could get my son into the school. He told me the school piano was spoilt and a new one was needed, it cost about \$4,500. It was only when I agreed to his condition that my son was accepted into school. These experiences gave me a bad impression of Christianity for many years.

Many years passed and my sons graduated, got married, and had kids. Their 3 families became Christians. Whenever there were special events, they would invite me to church with them. 3 years ago, an accident changed my life. I fell from about a 3-metre height in my company warehouse. Because it was lunch time, there was no one around to help me. I felt the world spinning, I could see stars, and I was about to faint. During that time, I prayed to God to help me. About 10 mins later, I stabilized a little but was still numb on my left arm and leg and could not stand. Thankfully I could use my right hand to contact my youngest son to help me. I prayed to God again to help me and not let me faint.

Shortly, my son arrived and brought me to Khoo Teck Phuat hospital A&E. An X-ray was taken and it showed that my left wrist bone was broken. My left leg was also

(Continued on page 13)

(Continued from page 12)

broken and immediate surgery was needed. I was afraid that I could not stand ever again. Initially there was no bed for me, but Dr Tan from Bethany saw me and arranged for a temporary bed. I managed to go for surgery the next day. Thank God everything went smoothly.

Although I was initially very worried that I could not stand again, the comfort and prayers from my children and grandchildren lightened my pain and encouraged me to go for the surgery. After the surgery, I could not move half my body because my left arm and leg were in a cast. Thankfully my family took turns to visit and pray for me, including the church friends of my 3 children. Each time they left, I would always feel peace and joy in the heart. I stayed in hospital for more than a month because I was transferred to a general hospital. Church friends continued to visit and this made me feel how loving Christians are. That year, during my birthday BBQ celebration, I made a decision and told my whole family that I wanted to go to Church.

After I was discharged and able to walk with crutches, Roger brought me frequently to Bethany. I have experienced warmth and love from the pastors and church members in Bethany. I decided to attend Catechism Class to learn more about the faith and the teachings of the Lord. I also began to attend the weekly SSP sessions to increase my faith and to let go of my unpleasant experiences in the past. I want to thank God for overseeing all that has happened, He has made my hardened heart tender, and allowed me to experience His love mercy. Thus, I hope to be a part of Bethany, and to be able to know Him more and more.

我信主的旅程

我从小是在村里长大，父亲是商人母亲家庭主妇，没有宗教信仰。直到我被派到附近一所新的教会中学，我们是第一批学生，而且所收的学生都来自不同的背景和宗教，还有很多外国学生。有的老师在教学或处理事情上有偏见，如特别地对待有钱人的学生和教会学生。我因此和老师起了冲突而离开学校，从此便跟父亲学做生意。

结婚后我与朋友做生意又常出国做工，三个儿子都由太太照顾。有一年，我们搬了家，因些我们必须为我最小的儿子转校到附近的一间教会学校。见了校长后，仍然被拒绝。当我走出教室时，我遇见了一位认识的老师，

(Continued on page 14)

(Continued from page 13)

他透露说给钱就能解决。两天后我再去见校长问他有什么方法能让我儿子来这里上学。他告诉我学校钢琴坏了要买新的，大概要四千五百元。我答应了他的条件后，他才接受小儿子的报名。因为这些事件，多年来我一直对基督教有着不好的印象。

不知不觉几年过去了，儿子们都上了大学，毕业后也都结婚生子，三个家庭都信基督教。偶尔有特别节目，都邀请我跟他一起去教堂。三年前，一次的意外改变了我。那一天我在公司货台上大概3米高跌倒，因为午餐时间公司没人。那时我感觉地球循环，周围都是星星，好像要晕倒。那时我求神帮我，大概10多分钟才稳定下来，不过左边手脚都麻痹，不能站起来。还好右手可以动拿起手机打电话给小儿子，叫他快回来帮我。我再次求神帮我，希望不要晕过去。

不多久小儿子回来把我送去最近的 **Khoo Teck Phuat** 医院的急诊室。医院的人马上替我照X光，才得知左边腕骨碎了，需要开刀放螺丝在里面，左手碗也裂了，左脚也裂了，需要马上动手术。我当时很害怕在也不能站起来。原本没床位，不过一位伯大尼的陈医生来见我后，我便被安排了一个临时床位。隔天早上也动手术。感谢主一切都很顺利。

本来很担心以后在也站不起来，不过孩子们和孙子们的安慰和祷告使我减轻痛苦，让我安心去开刀。手术后，左手和脚都包了石膏，半边都不能动。还好家人轮流来拜访祷告。以及三个孩子教会都有教友来拜访和祷告，每次他们离开后我都觉得安心快乐。就这样住院一个多月。然后医院要我转到别的综合医院，可是教友还是继续来探望，使我感到基督督都很有爱心。就这样，在那一年我的生日BBQ会时我就做了决定，并且告诉所有在场的家人，我要去教会。

出院后，当我可拿拐杖走路时，**Roger**就常带我来伯大尼教会。在这里我觉得牧师和教友都很友善也很有爱心。我就决定来教理课，可理解多一点教理及耶稣的话语，同时也参加每周的乐龄活动，增加信心，放下不愉快的

(Continued on page 15)

(Continued from page 14)

过去。我要感谢神一直都在监管着这一切所发生的事件，是神把我僵硬的心给结溶化，让我感受到祂的爱和怜悯。因些我希望能成为伯大尼的一份子，好让我能更深切的认识祂。



Hello everyone, my name is Yew Mee Yiek. My husband is Jimmy Lai, and we have 3 sons. Roger is our eldest son.

The very first time I was exposed to Christianity was during my Secondary School days when I attended a mission school. However, it never got me engaged.

It was until my eldest son, who coincidentally also attended the same mission school, got converted and baptised in the school chapel brought me and his 2 brothers to Church, where we got to know Christ and believed in Him. Eventually, all of us were baptised and settled down in a Chinese speaking Church. My mother (Roger's grandmother) attended the church too.

I attended the Church with my children for a very long time. However, as my 2 elder sons grew older, they built their own families and began to attend another Church, I began to slowly stop attending Sunday Worship. Especially after the passing of my mother, I literally stopped going to Church, except when I was invited for some special programs like Easter or Christmas concerts.

In 2019 when my husband had a bad fall and broke his hip in his company's storage area. It was through the incident that God touched his heart and got him wanting to know more about God and to attend Church Services. Hence, we decided to follow Roger and his family to Bethany.

I enjoy coming to Bethany and the Special Seniors Program where both my husband and I got to know other members of the Church. I experienced warmth and genuine

(Continued on page 16)

(Continued from page 15)

love, and felt that Bethany is like a big family. Most importantly, it is through the teaching of Pastor Charles that I get to learn more about God.

Therefore, it is through all these that I would like to be part of the Bethany family.

回到上帝的大家庭

大家好。我是姚美玉。我的先生是Jimmy Lai。 我们有三位儿子，长子为Roger。

我第一次接触基督教时是在我上教会学校的中学时代。 然而，我都没有真正去认识这个宗教。

直到我的长子巧合地就读于同一所教会学校时，他在学校的教堂里信了主并受洗。是他把我和他的两个兄弟带到了教堂，在那里我们认识了基督并相信了祂。后来，我们都受洗并在华语教会安顿下来。 我的母亲（罗杰的祖母）也在同一间教会崇拜。

很长一段时间，我一直和我的孩子们一起去教堂。 然而，随着我的 2 个大儿子建立了自己的家庭并开始参加另一间教堂时，我开始慢慢停止参加主日礼拜。尤其是在我母亲去世后，我几乎不再去教堂，除非我被邀请参加一些特别的节目，比如复活节或圣诞节音乐会。

在2019 年，我丈夫在他公司的仓库里摔得很重，摔断了臀部。 正是通过这件事，神触动了他的心，让他想要更认识神并参加教会礼拜。 因此，我们决定跟随 Roger 和他的家人来伯大尼。

我和我先生喜欢来伯大尼，因为我们借着SSP和学道班认识了其他教会的成员。在这里我能感受到温暖和真挚的爱，觉得伯大尼就像一个大家庭。 最重要的是，通过查尔斯牧师在圣经上的教导，我对上帝有了更多的了解。因此，我想成为伯大尼大家庭的成员。

Bethany Independent-Presbyterian Church

301 Upper Paya Lebar Road. Singapore 534934

tel: +65-62877713 . website: bethanyipc.sg