

CALVARY NEWS

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The **HOLY SPIRIT** and the **BELIEVER**

By Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam

It is important for every believer to understand that the Christian life is a partnership. The more you appreciate and recognise the need for partnership, the more your Christian life develops. You will see greater things happening in your life as well as in your ministry.

In life we see that the success and victory behind what is important, crucial and has real value, revolve around areas of partnerships. For instance, marriage is a partnership. Businesses also thrive on partnerships. In fact, depending on the nature of a business, going into partnership will realise its true potential and bring great success. Who then is your partner as a Christian?

"And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever" (John 14:16). When Jesus prays we can expect that the Father will answer. And we have discovered that He surely has sent the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is our partner. In fact, He is our Senior Partner. Some of you are waiting to become better persons so that the Holy Spirit can come to you. This is a lie of the devil. The Holy Spirit is a gift to help you become better. Your own righteousness cannot merit the Holy Spirit. All you have to do as a believer is to simply ask the Father for the Holy Spirit. Luke 11:13 assures us that, "If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!" James points out the importance of asking. "...You do not have because you do not ask. You ask and do not receive, because you ask amiss, that you may spend it on your pleasures" (James 4:2-3).

Getting into this kind of a partnership with the Holy Spirit will bring success in your Christian living. We see this illustrated in the lives of Eijah and Elisha. In 2 Kings



... marriage is a partnership.

2, we read that when Elijah was taken up by the chariot of fire, the anointing that was upon Elijah's life came to rest on Elisha's life. Earlier, Elisha had asked Elijah, "Please let a double portion of your spirit be upon me" (v9). Elisha was doubly anointed by the Spirit of God. When the sons of the prophets who were from Jericho saw him, they said, "The spirit of Elijah rests on Elisha" (v15). These men in the Old Testament who were called and did the work of God understood this important truth of partnership with the Holy Spirit.

Jesus says, "Without Me you can do nothing." There are two reasons why we depend on the Holy Spirit. Firstly, the Holy Spirit is the source of character building. It is not how much knowledge you have that counts! What good is knowledge if you do not have the wisdom and the strength to change your character for the better? Changing your character to become more like Jesus is only

possible with the partnership of the Holy Spirit. The Bible says that the Holy Spirit can bear fruit in our lives, such as love, joy, peace, long-suffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control (Galatians 5:22-23). The fruit of the Spirit is the character of Jesus.

Secondly, the Holy Spirit is the power for ministry and for living. 1 Corinthians 12:7-11 says, "But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit of all: for to one is given the word of wisdom through the Spirit, to another the word of knowledge through the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healings by the same Spirit, to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another discerning of spirits, to another different kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually as He wills." These

gifts become operational when we get in partnership with the Holy Spirit. If you have faith and believe, God will use you. The secret is to yield yourself to the Holy Spirit. The more you recognise your partnership with the Holy Spirit, the more blessed, victorious and successful you become. Whatever your occupation may be, the Holy Spirit can make you successful.

Let us learn from seven practical examples.

Skills to work

Bezalel and Aholiab are clear examples of men whom the Holy Spirit helped and they became very skilful in their occupation. Exodus 36:1-2 says, "And Bezalel and Aholiab and every gifted artisan in whom the LORD has put wisdom and understanding, to know how to do all manner of work for the service of the sanctuary, shall do according to all that the LORD has commanded."

In Battle

Deuteronomy 34:9 says, "Now Joshua the son of Nun was full of the spirit of wisdom, for Moses had laid his hands on him; so the children of Israel heeded him, and did as the LORD had commanded Moses." Joshua came out the winner of each battle he faced because the Spirit of God came upon him and gave him wisdom. Whatever challenges you are facing, be it morality, temptations or corruption, you too can fight and win, if you are in partnership with God through the power of the Holy Spirit.

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Introducing the **1999** **Heads of Departments/Ministries** of Calvary Church

DEPARTMENTS



Pastoral Care
Associate Pastor
Timothy Ong



Associate Pastor
Richard Yun



Youth & Education
Associate Pastor
Steven Kum



Children's
Assistant Pastor
Susan Tan



Missions
Associate Pastor
Peter Ong



Hospitality
Raymond Yong



Music & Creative Arts
Christopher Lee

EXTENDED MINISTRIES



Asian Institute of Ministries
Associate Pastor
Steven Kum



Calvary Communication & Publications
Jim Guneratnam



Calvary Life Ministries
Pam Guneratnam



Calvary Church Press
Michael Eng



Calvary Book Corner
Lydia Selvaratnam



Calvary Kindergarten/ Child Care
Lee Foong Ling



Calvary Charismatic Fellowship
Associate Pastor
Peter Ong

CHURCH MINISTRIES



Calvary Prayer Tower
Chan Lee Peng



Calvary Social Ministry
Yow Kit Yen



Chew Siew Keng

LANGUAGE MINISTRIES



Chinese
Associate Pastor
Timothy Ong



Filipino
Jessie Soo



Japanese
Masako Funatsu



Bahasa Malaysia
David Seah

Ten Excuses

And how to respond to those trying to dodge the Great Commission.

It isn't hard to find reasons to avoid reaching out to others with the good news of Jesus Christ. Here is how I respond to ten common objections.

1

"I don't have any non-Christian friends." Jesus was a friend of sinners. We need to take risks to follow his example.

2

"I don't have the gift of evangelism. It's not my thing." Jesus gave the great Commission to the entire church. We all have a vital part to play by using approaches that fit our unique personalities.

3

"I don't have time right now." Mix outreach with things you're already doing by inviting unchurched friends to join you. Think of the difference one lunch made in the life of Zacchaeus!

4

"I'm afraid of what friends will think of me." That's a good sign you're sensitive enough to approach people in ways that won't necessarily offend them! If you interact respectfully, they'll likely be open.

5

"I'll just live out my faith in front of my friends; they'll figure it out." That sounds appealing, but it's neither biblical nor effective. Paraphrasing Romans 10:14, they're not going to see it unless we also say it.

6

"I don't know how to bring up the topic." Pray for wisdom and courage to seize split-second opportunities to steer ordinary topics, like getting a drink of water (John 4), into spiritual conversations ("I could have given you living water").

7

"I wouldn't know what to say once the topic was raised." That's okay because it's best to do more listening at first anyway. Once you're into it, you'll find experiences to explore, questions to discuss, and stories to tell—and the Holy Spirit will guide you!


8

"I don't know enough." The best way to grow in this area is simply to dive in and say what you do know. You can always delay answering a tough question until you've had time to look into it.

9

"In our church's tradition, we don't talk about personal faith." Your friends need to understand the gospel message because it's "the power of God for salvation." Stretch yourself to communicate it in ways that fit you, and them—maybe writing letters or sending books or tapes. Take small steps, and it'll become more natural.

10

"My church is more into teaching and worship than evangelism." Don't excuse negligence of one area because we have competence in another. For the sake of lost people who matter to God, let us do all we can to reach them, personally and through the church. 

Mark Mittelberg
LEADERSHIP

A Practical Journal for Church Leaders
Summer 1998

...continued from front page

Decision-making

1 Kings 3:28 records, "And all Israel heard of the judgement which the king had rendered; and they feared the king for they saw that the wisdom of God was in him to administer justice." What was the secret behind the wisdom of Solomon, the wisest man who ever lived? It was none other than his partnership with God through the Holy Spirit who anointed him.

In Righteousness

Without a partnership with the Holy Spirit our righteousness is like filthy rags. But when the Spirit of God enables you to be, to become and to do, then that righteousness glorifies God. David understood this well. In Psalm 51:11 he prayed, "Do not cast me away from your presence, and do not take Your Holy Spirit from me." David realised that it is not possible to live a life that is pleasing to God without the Holy Spirit. That is why David pleaded with God not to take the Holy Spirit away from him.

When you are in partnership with the Holy Spirit you will be convicted when you sin. The Bible says that those who weep and mourn are blessed! Why? When men and women know how to be sorry and repent of their sins, they are blessed because there is

hope for them. You cannot live your Christian life successfully without the Holy Spirit. God wants to abide in you through the Holy Spirit so that you can live for the glory of God.

In Ezekiel 36:26-27, God promises, "I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will take the heart of stone out of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will keep My judgements and do them." You are not just born again but you are given a new Spirit. The Holy Spirit enables you to walk in the will of God and you do not have to succumb to temptations.

Insights & Inspiration

Insights & inspiration come through partnership with the Holy Spirit. Scripture tells us that Moses' elders were inspired and had tremendous insights. "...When the Spirit rested upon them, they prophesied..." (Numbers 11:25).

Ezekiel

Ezekiel 11:5 says, "Then the Spirit of the LORD fell upon me, and said to me, 'Speak! Thus says the Lord: Thus you have said, O house of Israel; for I know the things that come into your mind.'" The Holy Spirit gave revelation and understanding to Ezekiel.

Daniel's ability to interpret visions and dreams

Daniel 4:8-9 records, "But at last Daniel came before me (his name is Belteshazzar, according to the name of my god; in him is the Spirit of the Holy God), and I told the dream before him, saying, 'Belteshazzar, chief of the magicians, because I know that the Spirit of the Holy God is in you, and no secret troubles you, explain to me the visions of my dream that I have seen, and its interpretation.'" The Holy Spirit of God was with Daniel and gave Daniel the wisdom and understanding to interpret the dreams of the King.

No wonder Jesus commanded His disciples "not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the Promise of the Father, 'which,' He said, 'you have heard from Me; for John truly baptized with water, but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now'" (Acts 1:4-5). Paul also instructed the Ephesian Christians to be filled with the Holy Spirit (Ephesians 5:18). How much more we need to be filled with the Holy Spirit as we see the coming of the Lord is at hand. Let us serve the Lord in the power of the Holy Spirit.



(All the Bible quotations are from the New King James Version)

Getting Acquainted With The 1999 Nominees for Church Deacons and Auditors

The Bible, in Titus 1:5-9 and 1 Timothy 3:1-10, has given clear qualifications to guide us in our choice of Deacons and leaders. On 19 March 1999, our annual Stewardship Day, we will be choosing three Deacons who will make up a Board of seven Deacons and two Auditors, whose terms will be ending.

The Nominating Committee has proposed the following candidates from whom we are to choose. We would like to introduce them to you so that you may get to know them and to pray along with us for the Lord's confirmation of their ministry involvement.

Nominees for Church Deacons



Aric Low Han Men, 44 years old, is a Management Consultant at Mega-Plus Resources. He and his wife, Karen Yue, Head of Unit, Research & Publications, have three sons. They are Kester, aged 15 years, Kenson, aged 12 years and Kurtwin aged nine years.

Aric has been a member of Calvary Church since 1978. His whole family are also members of the Church. From 1983 to 1985, Aric was a School of Christian Growth teacher. He served as Missions Department Committee Member since 1988 and as World Assemblies of God Relief & Development Agency (WAGRA) Administrative Secretary since 1994.



Edward Vijayaraj Rajasingam, 38 years old, is a Financial Reporting Manager in Esso Production (M) Inc. Married to Hoe Wee Fang, a home-maker, they have two children, Karl Le-Yon aged ten years and Tania Kat-Lin, aged seven years.

Edward has been a Calvary Church member since 1983. His family are members as well. From 1991 to 1995, he has served as both Assistant Auditor and Church Auditor. He is currently a Life Group Leader.



Bernadette Foo Fong Lian, 46 years old, is a lecturer by profession. She is married to Dominic Tay Seng Lim, a Sales and Marketing Manager. They have a son, Zebedee aged 17 years.

Bernadette has been a member of Calvary Church since 1987. Her family are members too. She has served as a Life Group Leader since 1987 and been involved as a trainer the Life Group Leaders' Training programme for a number of years. She was Head Counsellor from 1988 to 1996, Wanita Calvary Media Representative from 1990 to 1994, was its Treasurer from 1994 to 1996 and the Secretary in 1997. She also served in the Creative Arts Ministry as a Committee Member in 1997 and 1998.



Patrick Wong Sing Fah, 48 years old, is a Training Manager with IBM World Trade Corporation. Married to Shereen Wong, a home-maker, they have two children, Patreen, aged 21 years and Shawn aged 18 years.

Patrick has been a Calvary Church member since 1968. His whole family are members too. He has served as Church Deacon since 1980. As Church Deacon, he was Missions Treasurer from 1980 to 1987, in charge of Church Business from 1988 to 1989, was Secretary from 1990 to 1995 and was in charge of Human Resources in 1996 and 1997. He is currently the Church Secretary. In 1987, Patrick served as the Single Adults' Fellowship Advisor. He was a Life Group Leader from 1979 to 1981. He has been a School of Christian Growth teacher since 1981.



Philip Tan Puay Koon, 41 years old, is Vice-President & Head of Money Market, Treasury, Citibank Berhad. He is married to Faith Chin, an artist.

Philip has been a Church member since 1982. Faith too is a member. Philip has been a Life Group Leader since 1988. He served as Church Deacon from 1991 to 1997. From 1990 to 1991, he was Membership Department Chairman. He has been involved in the Music Ministry for many years—as Choir member from 1983 to 1994, as Worship Team member from 1988 to 1994 as as Worship leader since 1990. In 1990, he was a Royal Ranger Councilman. From 1986 to 1988, he was Publicity Coordinator of the Singing Christmas Tree and Choir Director in 1990.



Ronnie Oh Joo Poh, 41 years old, is a Projects Manager, Corporate and Technical Services, with F&N Dairies (M) Sdn. Bhd. He and his wife, Ann Wong, a teacher, have two children, Aveline, aged 14 years and Samuel, aged 11 years.

Ronnie has been a member of Calvary Church since 1984. His family too are members of the Church. Ronnie has served as a Life Group Leader since 1985 as as a Sectional Leader since 1992. He has been a Church Deacon since 1997.



Paul Yem Khai Peng, 49 years old, is the Financial Controller of MUI Continental Insurance Bhd. He is married to Patricia Wong, a home-maker and their children are Audrey, aged 19 years, Andrew aged nine years and Adelene aged seven years.

Paul has been a member of Calvary Church since 1967. His family are also members of the Church. Paul has served as Church Deacon since 1972. As Church Deacon, he was Christ's Ambassadors President in 1972, in charge of Evangelism from 1973 to 1976, Pulpit Chairman from 1977 to 1980, Secretary from 1981 to 1987 and 1996 to 1997 and Treasurer from 1988 to 1995. He is currently the Church Treasurer. He was a Sunday School Teacher from 1970 to 1981 and served as the Superintendent from 1978 to 1981. He has been a School of Christian Growth Teacher since 1982. From 1978 to 1988, Paul was Committee Member/Counsellor of the Single Adults' Fellowship. Within the Christ's Ambassadors, Paul was a Committee Member in 1958, it's Vice President in 1969 and served as President from 1970 to 1973.

Nominees for Church Auditors



Clarence Ng Thiam Hock, 45 years old, is General Manager of Batts Sdn Bhd. Married to Karen Tan, who works at Inti College, they have three children, Kerwin aged 15 years, Crystal aged 13 years and Kerby aged three and a half years. He has been a Calvary Church Member since 1980.

Qualifications:
Institute of Chartered Secretaries & Administrators (FCIS) since 1991;
Chartered Association of Certified Accountants (FCCA) since 1987;
Institute of Cooperative Auditors (ICA) since 1985

His responsibilities in Church have included being Special Function-Usher in 1980, Assistant Auditor from 1989 to 1990 and 1992 to 1994 and Church Auditor from 1995 to 1998.



Lee Tuck Heng, 38 years old, is Executive Director at Price Waterhouse. He is married to Tan Tek Huey and they have a son, Bryan, aged 4 years old. Tuck Heng has been a Calvary Church member since 1985.

Qualifications:
Malaysian Association of Certified Public Accountants (MACPA) since 1994;
Malaysian Institute of Accountants (MIA) since 1985

His responsibilities in Church have included being an Assistant Life Group Leader from 1986 to 1987 and 1991 to 1994, Assistant Auditor in 1994 and Church Auditor from 1995 to 1998.



Tan Boon Seng, 46 years old, is a Director of Compac Sdn. Bhd. He is married to Yong Mei Yong, a home-maker and they have two sons, Joshua aged 12 years and Daniel, aged six years. Boon Seng has been a Calvary Church member since 1974.

Qualifications:
Institute of Chartered Secretaries & Administrators (ACIS) since 1978

His responsibilities in Church have included being an Altar Worker since 1984, Church Auditor from 1984 to 1990 and 1992 to 1993, Usher since 1984, Chief Usher in the Cheras Satellite Church since 1997, Life Group Leader since 1982 and Life Group Sectional Leader since 1991.



Yong Saw Chan, 41 years old, is a Manager, Group Accounts (Manufacturing) of Assembly Services Sdn. Bhd. Married to Ko Weng Fatt, a Construction Manager, they have a daughter, Valerie, aged 13 months. Saw Chan has been a Calvary Church member since 1982.

Qualifications:
Chartered Association of Certified Accountants (FCCA) since 1988;
Malaysian Institute of Accountants since 1988

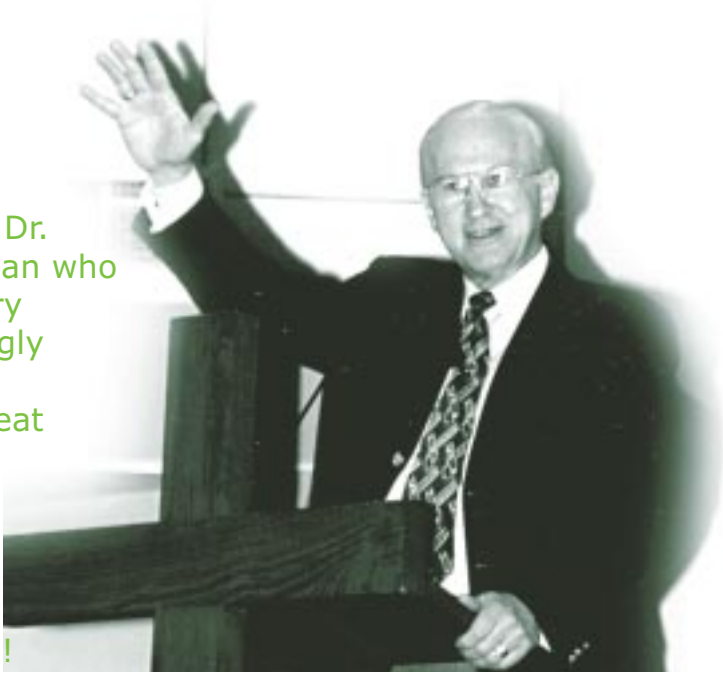
Her responsibilities in Church have included being a Missions Committee member from 1991 to 1993 and from 1996 to 1998 and being a Life group Leader from 1989 to 1996.

Anointed To Serve

6-8 January 1999

By Casey Sha

In describing missionaries, Dr. Robert Houlihan who is a missionary himself, jokingly said, "We missionaries eat your food, receive your offerings and preach the Word." And preach he did!



Beginning with three nights of Revival Meetings and finishing on Faith Promise Sunday, he delivered anointed messages from God that brought revival to the lives of many who heard him.

Dr. Houlihan began by reminding the congregation on the first night of the Revival Meetings that God is not stingy—that He is, in fact, a God of abundance. He challenged the congregation not to let the boundaries of their experience limit what God could do in their lives. The following night he drew the congregation's attention to Jesus Christ's example of humility and pointed out that the anointing of God and servanthood go hand-in-hand. He encouraged the congregation to release their grudges and walk humbly before God so that God could also forgive them and anoint them. And, finally, on the last night of the Revival Meetings he told the

congregation that God desires to heal—not just to reveal His glory and to lead sinners to Him—but also heals to give Christians a foretaste of what heaven would be like. He then opened the altar for everyone who wanted healing from God and a foretaste of heaven.

Almost everyone present at that final night of the Revival Meetings went up to the altar to believe God for healing in their lives. The Pastors anointed each one of them with oil and prayed for many were who were sick, including some who were fighting cancer in their bodies. Some obviously received their healing immediately, but the most significant healing of all could not have been seen with the naked eye—it is the healing that takes place in the spirit and soul when the glory of God is revealed. It is what we call a personal revival. 🙏



The Ha

Associate Pastor Peter Ong (literally by a taped special effect) on Faith Promise Sunday over how God helped Calvary Church with their pledges for the month of December. In the current economic woes, this is a clear sign. A few months earlier, the Church conducted a video showing him falling backwards. That was to mark the fulfilling of the prophecy. The videos have got everyone wondering

Rev Robert Houlihan then preached a sermon entitled, "Living At The Cutting Edge Of Life" from Ecclesiastes 11:1-6 and challenged us to be bold in our walk of faith. He also encouraged us to be generous and not to hold our possessions tightly and to be spiritually smart to invest wisely in the work of the Lord.

Before the Services at Damansara Heights and the Satellite Churches at Bandar Utama and Cheras concluded that Sunday, a total of 2,202

The Young

On Saturday, 9 January 1999, 105 young people attended the Youth Missions Convention held at the Church Sanctuary. Rev Robert Houlihan, currently President of Mission of Mercy was the speaker. Having served as a missionary to Japan for 20 years and as the Field Director for Asia with the Division of Foreign Missions of the Assemblies of God, America, he was the appropriate person to share about the purpose of missions of the Assemblies of God.

At the end of the service, forty young people responded at the altar to be involved in missions!



*"Warning!
Do not try this
stunt at home!!!"*

Invest Is Ready!

Faith Promise Sunday 10 January 1999

By Casey Sha

...roke through a "brick wall" (a video-
...Sunday to demonstrate his excitement
...rch's Faith Promise partners to fulfil
...ber, 1998. In the light of the nation's
...sign that God is a God of abundance.
...gregations were surprised by his first
...in slow motion into a swimming pool!
...August Faith Promise pledges. These
..., "What's he going to do next?"



...old and new Faith Promise partners had already
...made their pledges. More pledges would be
...expected to come in during the following two
...Sundays. Through his sermons and the numerous
...personal accounts that he related, Dr. Houlihan
...helped us put a face to missions—not the face
...of a hungry child or a forlorn-looking man—but
...our own faces. He helped us realise that we are
...the ones whom God has called to be His partners
...in the work that He is doing among the lost of
...the world. We are His missionaries. 🙏

Are Challenged To Step Out In Faith

By Audrey Kum



On Sunday, 10 January 1999, the Carpenter's Workshop children at Damansara Heights, Bandar Utama and Cheras were challenged to be partners in the work of God to reach the lost by their respective teachers.

The younger children, from four to nine years old promised to put their "Faith Promise" offerings into specially designated coin boxes, weekly. The older ones, aged 10 to 13 years, filled out Faith Promise cards similar to those given to the adults, expressing their faith in the Lord who would help them to fulfil their pledges.

That Sunday, a total of 433 children stepped out in faith to make commitments to give that the lost may be reached. 🙏

“Deep Sea Adventures/ Exploring Vacation Bible School (VBS)

There was an overwhelming response to VBS this year—620 children came expecting a great time. One hundred and twenty-seven teachers and helpers geared themselves to receive, help, teach and guide the children aged four to 13 years of age, from day one. Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam sportingly donned the VBS T-Shirt when he officially opened the VBS 1998 with a greeting and prayer.

The opening ceremony was elaborate, complete with drummers from the Missionettes, flag bearers from the Royal Rangers and a taking of pledges led by a young lady from the Y's (Young Women In Action) and two Rangers. This was followed by the Children's Choir singing the VBS theme song. "Come along with me on this great adventure, we're going under the sea...Jesus is our Captain...we will learn about Him...We'll trust Him every day." The theme song this year was extremely catchy. Children, teachers, helpers, yes, even mums and dads and visitors found themselves humming the tune during the week, even if some did not know all the words like the participants!

From the beginning, Assistant Pastor Susan made clear some simple but important rules that the children had to obey for the duration of the VBS. From Tuesday to Friday, at 9am, the children aged four to seven years moved to the back portion of the Sanctuary for their daily puppet shows and those aged eight to 13 years to the front of the Sanctuary for their daily skits and other programmes.

Many children responded at the altar to the invitations given daily for salvation and the baptism in the Holy Spirit. On Friday morning, responding to the leading of the Holy Spirit, Pastor Susan encouraged the older children and teachers to kneel all over the



Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam declaring VBS 1998 open.



Leading the pledge



During the Opening Ceremony



The younger children enjoyed daily puppet shows



The Children's Choir introducing the VBS theme song



The older children watched skits at the Sanctuary



Asst. Pastor Susan spelling out the rules



The eight to thirteen year olds reaching out to the Lord in the Sanctuary



The four to seven year olds declaring that "Jesus is their Captain!"



While some were praying for salvation and the baptism in the Holy Spirit at the altar, the rest of the children were encouraged to pray and worship at the pews

God's Treasures"

7-11 December 1998

By Yee Yuet Hoh
and Audrey Kum

Sanctuary. As they prayed for the Lord to baptise them with His Holy Spirit and to touch their lives, many children wept with tears flowing down their cheeks. God answered their simple prayers.

At about 10am each morning, the children went to their respective classes according to their age groups. The routine before lunch break was morning tea break, Bible lessons and Workbook assignments. The children enjoyed the lessons that were based on the VBS theme. The objective of the lessons was to help the children discover the wonders of the sea and to understand the great value of God's salvation and promises and to accept them as priceless gifts and treasures. After lunch, the children enjoyed a time of creativity and fun during the handicraft sessions, making pencil holders, paper bags, memory verse books, picture frames and calendars using pictures of sea creatures as decorations.



Totally engrossed in the lesson



Eagerly participating in quizzes



Looking forward to the outing for the day!



At the Royal Selangor Pewter factory



Samples of the handicraft



The extent the teachers went to make their lessons clear!



For the last time, "Come along with me on this great adventure..."



At Desa Water Park



Senior Associate Pastor Petrina and Pastor Susan with the top prize-winners of each age group



The hardworking and dedicated Committee!



Cheryl Lum, one of the twenty-two water baptism candidates

After tea break, at about 3pm, they went for their recreational activities and educational tours. The children thoroughly enjoyed their visits to Mindef, the Royal Selangor Pewter factory, Desa Water Park, KLCC, the Planetarium, Museum PDRM and the video shows in the Sanctuary.

The closing ceremony on Friday was different from those held in past years. Besides the usual introduction and appreciation of the hardworking committee that ensures an enjoyable and meaningful VBS and the always much-awaited prize giving, the children witnessed for the first time, the water baptism of 22 children by Assistant Pastor Susan Tan. These children gave touching testimonies of the Lord's salvation and relationship with them, throughout the VBS. The taking down of the flags by the flag bearers and the singing of the theme song for the last time signified that the VBS was at an end. And what a wonderful end it was. We thank God for the 227 children who responded for salvation, the 101 who were baptised in the Holy Spirit, the 115 who rededicated their lives to the Lord and the 117 who received healing. We are grateful for His protection upon the children, the fine weather and for His love.

Each child went home not just with a VBS bag full of gifts but with their lives enriched by the Lord! To God be the glory! 🙏

JESUS Loves the Little Children

A total of 13 babies were dedicated to the Lord on 13 December 1998 in Damansara Heights.—eight at the 10am Morning Worship Service and five at the 5pm Service. The parents declared their determination to bring up their children in the nurture and fear of the Lord. Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam dedicated the babies, including his grandson, Matthew Lee and prayed for them and their parents.

The babies dedicated at 10am:

Bryan Lee Fur Chiang
Parents
Francis & Maggie Lee



Elijah Chua

Elijah Chua Jin Hao
Parents
Jimmy & Woon Li



Esther Cheang

Esther Cheang Li Ying
Parents
Cheang Siew Hoong & Lee Chin



Joshua Tan

Joshua Tan Xian Feng
Parents
Tan Kai Hua & Jenny

Ng Ze Tsuen
Parents
Ng Soo Shin & Joyce



Ng Ze Tsuen

Sheena Joy Sivam
Parents
Sivam & Mikhalai



Sheena Sivam

Vinesha Audrey Vermani
Parents
Veramani & Yogamalar



Vinesha Vermani



Isaac Gan-Selvam



Matthew Lee

The babies dedicated at 5pm:

Isaac Gan-Selvam
Parents
Paul Selvam & Wan Yeat

Jonathan Louis Andrew
Parents
Andrew Nathan & Lee Mai

Kimberly Ching Kit Lyn
Parents
Ching Kok Hin & May Ling

Julian Lim Hsu Wen
Parents
Benny & Yvonne Lim

Matthew Christian Lee
Parents
Chris & Pam Lee 



Jonathan Andrew



Kimberly Ching



Julian Lim



Bryan Lee

Youth The Happening

30 November -2 December 1999 By Toh Yew Peng



Where Jesus is, something good happens. These words rang true throughout the three nights of "The Happening" Youth Rally at Calvary Church, Damansara Heights.

Under the umbrella of Calvary's Youth Department headed by Associate Pastor Steven Kum, the Christ's Ambassadors, the College Students' Ministry, the Missionettes and Royal Rangers united their

efforts to present the Good News to their contemporaries around Kuala Lumpur and Petaling Jaya.

Much preparation was done before the event especially in terms of tracting, prayer and fasting by the youth. The Lord graciously honoured their faith by moving mightily, blessing and refreshing all—the young (and not-so-young including very supportive parents) that came during the three nights.

Every night, young and energetic song leaders led the congregation into lively times of zealous praise and worship, complete with fun actions that the crowd sportingly participated in. Nightly, Victor Chua who composed the song "Share the Dream" that was aired often over television and the radio during the 16th Commonwealth Games in Kuala Lumpur, shared powerful testimonies before singing songs that he wrote.

The Youth Ensemble also sang during the three nights before Rowdy took the service. Rowdy and his wife, Ashli's nightly performance was awesome. Their vocals and the meaningful lyrics of each song blessed the congregation. Rowdy preached a different illustrated sermon each night with the help of the youths.

There was a tremendous response at the altar. Out of the average attendance of 380 each night, 37 responded for salvation and 78 responded for rededication. All glory be to God.

"The Happening" not only brought the youths of Calvary Church together but has made them aware of their potential of fulfilling their vision of youth reaching out to youth—reaching out to their own generation, the future leaders for the work of God.



Towards a **New Horizon**

The Lord has always been faithful leading and guiding our Church towards a new horizon. Through Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam's vision and burden, the Life Group ministry is going beyond meetings in homes and geographical boundaries. This year, we have added the homogenous Life Groups (Men's, Ladies and Golden Eagles Life Groups) to our heterogeneous Life Groups. Life Groups can now meet in any place acceptable to the Church, wherever and whenever as long as it meets the needs of that group.

The purpose of the Life Group is to care for the spiritual needs of the believers, primarily,

and their social well-being too; to reach believers where they are and also to reach out to unbelievers. Life Group meetings have the teaching of God's Word, prayer for one another, the building of strong bonds of fellowship through sharing of testimonies and evangelism.

Numerous testimonies were shared by individuals during the New Year's Service, of how they have been blessed through belonging to a Life Group. If you have not been to a Life Group, let 1999 be the year where you can receive help in this vital area of maturing in the Lord together with fellow believers. 🙏



A Life Group meeting in session



It was a pleasant surprise when our team was declared the winner of the Calvary Church Christmas "Best Decorated Bungalow" competition during the combined Christmas Service at Menara PGRM. I thank Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam and the Committee for recognising all the teams during the service. Indeed, every team deserved to win for the effort and creativity put in.

Looking back, I can only thank God for His guiding Hand and provisions that enabled us to complete the job smoothly and on time. I also pay tribute to all my team members who were so co-operative, sacrificing a lot of time and sleep to work tirelessly to see the project through. Towards the end of the project, I could see the weariness on the members' faces and there were many aching bones as well! However, all we wanted to do was our best to glorify our Lord Jesus Christ.

The theme given was Emmanuel—God With Us. My team met at my home to brainstorm for the decoration. We surfed the Internet and looked through encyclopaedias, Christian books and even Christmas cards for ideas. Eventually, we decided to be different in that, besides the manger scene, angels, shepherds, which are all part of Christmas, we wanted to show the risen Christ as well. Indeed, it is because Christ has risen that God is still with us today.

For two full weekends, my living room and driveway was turned into a workshop and

Hard Work Pays Off!

By Herbert Leong *Leader of the winning team for the "Best Decorated Bungalow" competition*

a hive of activity. The ladies were busy doing the banner, cutting the styrofoam letterings, drawings, and accessories while the men were busy with jig-sawing the plywood figurines. It was a fun time of discovering each other's talents. David Choo especially, was so engrossed with his "Star of David" that he took it upon himself to draw up the dimensions, did the cut-out, painted it and spent countless hours installing the thumb-tacks and lights around it. I could really see the glow on his face when the star was finally fixed at the apex of the building. We were also delighted to find some bamboo in Sungai Buloh and with the permission of the owner, the team members had a fun time chopping and sawing the bamboo for the hut.

The real hard work began when we had to install the materials prepared. Putting up the scaffolding was tough and dangerous due to the distance between the wall and the concrete roof where we had to install the star and the painting. We were later told that the ladies were praying for God's protection upon us while we were putting up the scaffolding. Building the manger out of real bamboo, palm and coconut leaves was also challenging. In this, Veramani was instrumental in putting it all together. Credit should also be given to Judy Ngan who worked tirelessly behind the scenes sewing the banner and making the props and accessories. Daniel Tan, who is normally quiet during the Life Group meetings showed his true mettle—he can do almost anything! We thank God too that Carol Lim was able to witness to Mr. Lee who helped us with the gigantic mural. I cannot name everyone but everyone played their parts very well. We were amazed at how



we stretched ourselves to do the things that we usually would not be able to do. I believe that teamwork was our highest score!

In conclusion, I thank God and the Church leadership for the experience gained from this project. It has definitely brought the team members closer together. We committed our project to the Lord every time we met as well as in our own prayers. Two of our members who were jobless during this period of involvement were blessed with jobs. We also thank God for helping us raise the funds to meet our budget—in fact we had a surplus! Thanks a lot, Sponsors. I saw the pride on each of the members' faces when we were proclaimed the winner. All the hard work finally paid off. Glory to God! 🙏



CALVARY CHURCH (ASSEMBLIES OF GOD)

CHRIST CENTRED • EVANGELICAL • MISSIONARY

2, Jalan Damansara Endah, Damansara Heights, 50490 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. Tel: 2552620

Visit our website: <http://www.calvary.org.my> E-mail: email@calvary.org.my

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5, Jalan 2/131-A, Jalan Klang Lama, 58200 Kuala Lumpur.