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The Law of the Believer Is Love

By Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam



“You, my brothers, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the sinful nature; rather, serve one another in love. The entire law is summed up in a single command “` Love your neighbour as yourself.’ If you keep on biting and devouring each other, watch out or you will be destroyed by each other.”

Galatians 5:13-15 NIV

Living the Christian life is exciting if you understand the believer’s law of life is love. Understanding that you have been set free to love and allowing love to rule and guide your life will bring unspeakable joy. As you see God doing marvellous things even in your difficulties, you will be glad that you are free from the struggle of keeping the law. God knows that by yourself, you do not have the ability to keep the law. He has provided the way for you to come to Him through Jesus Christ. Christ died to set you free from sin and through Christ, you are now free to love, obey and serve Him. You have this freedom because of God’s love in you (Romans 5:5).

What is this freedom? In the Bible, it was used in the context of a slave and master relationship. Slaves serve under taskmasters. Similarly, you were slaves to your old Adamic nature. Sin dominated and controlled you, like a taskmaster. Even if you wanted to, you could not break from the things that brought hatred, jealousy, anger and unrighteousness. Paul said, “I do not understand what I do. For what I want to do I do not do, but what I hate I do” (Romans 7:15 NIV). Why did he say

this? Paul’s reason was that he was “sold as a slave to sin.” Similarly, sin ruled your life. But God has rescued you from this bondage. Jesus came and broke the power of sin over your life. You are no longer a slave to your Adamic nature that is sinful and wicked because you have been redeemed by Jesus. You can choose to be righteous rather than sinful. You are free through Christ who strengthens you.

God’s love has set you free but you need to be careful how you use this

freedom. Paul warned the Galatian Christians against using this freedom to do what they liked. “For you, brethren, have been called to liberty; only do not use this liberty as an opportunity for the flesh...” (Galatians 5:13). This licence is not a licence to live after the flesh and commit greater sin. Freedom or liberty to sin is no freedom at all because it enslaves you to the devil, others or your own sinful nature. Liberty is not licence to do anything you want. “What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin that grace may abound? Certainly not! How shall we who died to sin live any longer in it?” (Romans 6:1-2). Grace does not mean that you can continue to live in sin. Liberty is therefore not a licence for the gratification of the flesh but to overcome sin and live righteously. Having tasted the love of God, your natural response is to love Him. And when you are motivated by love, you will use your freedom to serve others. “For even the Son of Man did not come to be

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The Marks of A Real Man

By Audrey Kum

Father's Day 20 June 1999

On Father's Day, the 536 fathers who attended Worship Services at Calvary Church Damansara Heights, Bandar Utama and Cheras were given several treats. Not only did they receive gifts from the Church and have the Carpenter's Workshop (CW) children sing a special song in their honour, they were blessed by the message given by Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam.



The CW children singing to the fathers



Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam



Senior Pastor Guneratnam praying for the couples

"What is man?" Using this question as a springboard, Senior Pastor Guneratnam brought across four marks of a real man. He contrasted the lives of two men—the first Adam and Jesus, the second Adam. Every man must decide where he wanted to draw his masculinity from—the first Adam who represents a life of sin separated from God or from the second Adam who represents a life in union with God.

Four clear marks define a real man. Firstly, the real man rejects passivity. Secondly, he

accepts spiritual and social responsibilities. Jesus was a good example. He accepted the responsibility to do the will of His Father, to work for His Father by teaching and saving the lost and to love the Church, which is His bride. Similarly, a real man accepts the responsibility to obey God, to do His work—not just work as in his career but work at his home, church and his community. He must also be responsible to love his wife and be faithful to her. Thirdly, a real man leads with courage. This leadership demands courage to master

the earthly passions and to love the truth. Finally, a real man expects a rewarding life. He knows that God never intended that manhood be burdensome but instead it should be liberating and rewarding.

In conclusion, Senior Pastor Guneratnam challenged the men to be bold, courageous and to rebuke the devil. They were to believe in the second Adam and live like Him. At the end of the service, he invited not just the fathers to the altar but also their wives so that they could pray for themselves as a couple.



Membership

Congratulations!

On 18 July 1999, at the 5pm Worship Service at Damansara Heights, 32 individuals received membership in Calvary Church. The following are testimonies of four of them who received their membership that day.



Church Secretary, Patrick Wong, congratulating Eleazar Tan

"I want to praise and thank God that I have received my Junior Membership. Membership gives me a sense of belonging and commitment. I am involved in the Christ's Ambassadors youth meetings. I am very blessed and my spiritual walk has been strengthened. I will continue to serve the Lord faithfully and in greater ways." **Eleazar Tan**

"When I accepted the salvation of our Lord Jesus Christ, I also received God's grace abundantly. He changed my life and gave me hope. With my receiving membership in Calvary Church, God has reaffirmed His love for me and also His will for me to serve Him. Thank you Father." **David Tan Tah Way**



Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam praying for those who received membership

"Since attending Calvary Church in 1995, I have been blessed and have grown in my walk with the Lord through the various ministries of the Church. With the encouragement of my Life Group leader, I applied for transfer of membership to Calvary Church with the desire for greater participation in the vision and the work of the Church. I am presently attending the Life Group Training classes on Fridays and pray that with God's guidance and strength, I will be able to assist my Life Group leader in leading our Life Group in Setapak." **Anne Yap**

"Our good Lord has blessed me in many ways. He has led me to be baptised in water and now I am a member of Calvary Church. I thank God for the wonderful things that He has done. It is indeed a joy to be chosen by Him. When I was down and needed help, guidance, protection and good health, Jesus answered my prayers. How much joy one has who accepts the Lord as one's Saviour and God. I thank God for His faithfulness and kindness. I will seek to obey God's will as long as I live." **Low Mai Keok**

Taming Your ANGER

By Ada Nicholson Brownell

A crying infant suddenly is grasped by the ankles and hurled against the wall. A teenager kills his parents, then marches into a school and shoots several students and a teacher. A mother walks out on the most important thing in her life—her family.

Angry people are said to be mad. Perhaps that's appropriate, because anger sometimes causes people to act insane.

Anger can consume your happiness, rob your joy, affect your health, end relationships, mangle your faith and may even lead to murder.

When I was a child, I'd get so angry with my older brother's teasing I'd start swinging at him. I was a scrawny freckled-faced redhead and two years younger, so no wonder he laughed hysterically as he held me at arm's length with his hand on my forehead while I swung into the air.

After I married and had five children, I grew weary of going to bed feeling guilty about my angry outbursts that day. I asked forgiveness from God, my husband and my children. About that time I read Henry Drummond's book, *The Greatest Thing in the World*.¹ In his comment on love "is not easily provoked" (1 Corinthians 13:5), he says, "No form of vice, not worldliness, not greed of gold, not drunkenness itself, does more to unchristianize society than evil

temper. For embittering life, for breaking up communities, for destroying the most sacred relationships, for devastating homes, for withering up men and women, for taking the bloom of childhood, in short, for sheer gratuitous misery-producing power this influence stands alone."

Here are 10 ways to help control inappropriate responses to anger, compiled from my experience, research and an interview with Derrald Vaughn, Ph.D., a psychologist and professor at Bethany College of the Assemblies of God in Scotts Valley, California:

1. Realize anger is one of the emotions God gave you and is not a sin in itself. "We all have anger," says Vaughn, "but most of us don't lose control."

If you have something to be upset about, you can communicate it and probably should before the problem gets worse, Vaughn notes. For instance, this helps spouses with serious problems get into counselling (and usually at least one of them will be helped).

2. Acknowledge that being hot-blooded, a redhead or someone who needs to vent feelings are not plausible excuses for out-of-control outbursts.

3. Realize actions are controlled by the will, so you can decide to control anger's behavior. You can stop and pray for help. Sometimes anger should be vented to God alone. Or you can write a letter and destroy it. You can take anger out by doing housework or washing the car.

4. Decide what is important to be angry about. Don't bother with spilled milk, scratched furniture, dented cars or money. With children, get upset with rebellion, disobedience, lying, breaking the Ten Commandments or other things that will hurt the child or someone else. To find appropriate places for anger, study the Bible and pray for wisdom.

5. Use anger constructively, but accept what can't be changed. We must not take matters into our own hands, however. "Bombing an abortion clinic is inappropriate

use of anger because it breaks the same commandment abortionists are breaking," states Vaughn. "It is not righteous indignation."

Anger at Satan's work should take us to our knees to intercede for family, friends, neighbors and nations; cause us to volunteer to teach Sunday school, visit the sick, love the broken, feed the hungry; vote and speak out on moral matters.

6. Humble yourself and listen to other people. Much anger is caused by pride—you are always right, you know better than anyone.

7. Ask forgiveness from those offended by your angry outbursts. "Sometimes we use anger inappropriately because we are rewarded for it temporarily," Vaughn says. "However, it doesn't solve problems in the long run. When we ask forgiveness, that's punishment and becomes a deterrent."

8. Forgive those who cause anger.

9. Avoid substances that unleash anger and investigate other causes.

According to Vaughn, alcohol affects inhibitory pathways in the brain, sometimes, causing angry outbursts, violence and even murder. Recent research has found drinking is the number one predictor of physical and sexual abuse.

Grief also could be involved because anger is a stage in the grieving process for any loss.

10. Cultivate the fruit of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22, 23). When you're filled with love, joy, peace, long-suffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness and temperance, there's little room for inappropriate use of anger.

When I decided I would no longer be ruled by anger, our house became a home filled with peace and laughter. 🙏

¹ Westwood, New Jersey: Fleming H. Revell Co.

Ada Nicholson Brownell, a health and religion writer, lives in Pueblo, Colorado.

Pentecostal Evangel
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WHAT THE BIBLE SAYS ABOUT ANGER

"A soft answer turneth away wrath: but grievous words stir up anger." **Proverbs 15:1**

"Let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath: for the wrath of man worketh not the righteousness of God." **James 1: 19,20**

"Be ye angry, and sin not: let not the sun go down upon your wrath. Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamor, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice: and be ye kind one to another, tender-hearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you." **Ephesians 4:26, 31, 32**

"He that ruleth his spirit [is better] than he that taketh a city." **Proverbs 16:32**

"Anger resteth in the bosom of fools." **Ecclesiastes 7:9**

"Provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord." **Ephesians 6:4**

"If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." **1 John 1:9**

Two Questions People Ask About Life Group

What do I get by belonging to a LG?

What can I contribute to the LG?

Are these questions familiar to you?

Too many people dwell on the first question.

They ask themselves:

“Why should I belong to a LG?”

How does it benefit me?”

They say:

“I have been a few times but it does not appeal to me. I got nothing out of it.

I already attend Friday night Prayer Meeting and SCG.

I don't need another Bible study or Christian gathering.

I don't see any need for that!”



Belonging to a big family

If this is how you feel, then perhaps you should dwell more on the second question. Ask yourself: What can I do to be a blessing to the LG ministry? Will my musical talents help? Can my contribution in the discussion direct others to God? Will my prayer for a fellow member encourage him? Will my testimony of God's goodness lift the spirits of others? Can my sheer presence in the LG meeting be a blessing to someone? Can I be a supportive friend to someone?

The human tendency is to determine what one can get out of attending or joining something. Sad to say, many

have this idea when they come to Church too. “What can I get out of the service?” “How can the message help me?” “I need the pastor to pray for my need”. “I want God to help me, etc.”

If only we can have the desire to bless the Lord and bring pleasure to Him, we will see that the gathering will become more meaningful and our needs will be met. The Life Group meeting will be a source of life and blessing to you as you determine to be a blessing first. “Give and it shall come back to you ...”

YOU can and should be a blessing to the LG nearest you by helping meet the various needs in the LG!

What each LG needs:

Leaders, members, meeting places, prayer warriors, worship leaders, musicians, greeters, encouragers, testimonies, transportation, evangelism, care for one another, etc., etc.

Come on! There is definitely something you can contribute!

Make it your goal to belong to a Life Group before the next millennium. The LG ministry will prove vital for the Christian in facing the many challenges of the coming century.

Calvary Church has more than 100 LGs throughout KL, PJ and even in Shah Alam and Klang. Some of these LGs meet at homes, some in offices, some specially for men, some for women only, some for the elderly (Golden Eagles) only, etc.

We are at the 11th hour before Jesus comes. Every day, hour and minute is precious. The Church needs to mobilise every believer to play an active role in the body of Christ. LG ministry provides you various opportunities for involvement and service. Make that decision today to enrol in the service of the King of Kings. The first step is to join a LG. 🙏



Come let us sing unto the Lord!



United in prayer

Please call Roy/Wai Ling at 2552620 x135 & 134 respectively for more information.

Look out for the LG emphasis throughout the month of September.

The Happening '99 30 June - 2 July 1999

By Kester Low

The three nights of the Happening '99 were well attended by youths and supportive parents and adults.



Pastor Matthew Barnett speaking to the youths

On the first night, the "Blind Man" skit got everyone's attention. It was the modern version of the account of Jesus healing a blind man. This Jesus wore a trench coat and dark glasses! Though the skit was humorous, it reminded us that Jesus still does miraculous things today. After that, the Youth Ensemble comprising youths from Calvary Church, presented a song.

The second night was another night to remember. The youths jumped to the tempo of "All Things Are Possible". The Youth Choir presented a "Praise Medley" which got the congregation clapping along. The Y's (Young Women In Action), a part of the Missionettes also presented a song using sign language to enhance their message of giving their all to God.

On the third and final night, the sanctuary was filled by 8pm! The youths put up a hilarious skit, "Yuan Flung", based on the story of David and Goliath. The skit brought a realisation that faith in God does make a difference.

Each night, Pastor Matthew Barnett shared on different topics that spoke to the hearts of those present. The first night, he talked about "Putting Yourself In Another Man's World". He shared about his experience in Los Angeles (LA)—how he came to be serving the Lord in the "LA Dream Center" which caters for the poor, the needy and those "in the streets". He also told us about the time when he had dreams. In one dream, God showed him a map

of America. He started seeing every corner of the country and ended up in LA. He knew then that this would be his future. That night, Pastor Barnett focused on how Jesus made time to help other people. He said that God will always take care of ministries that care and love. He asked us to consider carefully this question: "What would you do for the King?"

"Nebuchadnezzar My Servant" was the topic for the second night of the rally. That night, we were reminded that we should make every adversity and hardship, our servant. When we do that, we become victors over difficult circumstances. God provides strength for us to overcome all adversities, even persecution. God used Nebuchadnezzar's evil to make His people stronger in their faith.

On the last night of the rally, Pastor Barnett talked about "visions". He told us how Paul was encouraged to go to the whole world to preach the Gospel when Barnabas believed in his dreams and vision. If not for that, Paul would not have done what he did. He said that God believes in us and will continue to love us no matter what other people may think about us. He ended with the story of Kevin Johnson who was a janitor at a university but had a vision to play basketball for the university. By believing in his vision and despite his shortcomings, he not only made it to the National Basketball Association but also became one



"Yuan Flung" (David) versus "Ten Men Hi" (Goliath)



And the winner is "Yuan Flung" (David) whose faith is in God!



Trench-coated "Jesus" healing the blind man



Youth, parents and other adults responding at the altar

of their best players.

In all the three nights, there was a total attendance of 1,185 people. I was really amazed by the response at the altar, especially on the last night. A total of 125 people came forward—25 for salvation while the rest came for other reasons including rededicating their lives to the Lord.

Jesus still makes good things happen. "The Happening '99" not only brought a challenge to the youths to serve the Lord in every way they can but has made them sensitive to current issues such as the need to reach out to the homeless and drug addicts. 🙏

Reach Out With



The flag bearer of Fiji decided to dress up like our island brethren!



Part of the flag parade

Do Your Dreams Include God? Faith Prom

On Faith Promise Sunday, at all the Worship Services, the Life Groups of Calvary Church formed a flag parade (the flags were made by the Life Group members) with each group representing a certain country in which Calvary Church has had a part in the work of missions.

The flag bearers each gave brief praise reports reminding the congregation of how their missions giving made a difference to the recipients. The parade helped many to realise the impact that they have made across the world as they each gave faithfully toward missions.

In his report, Associate Pastor Peter Ong who is our Missions Director, said that Calvary Church has achieved a new record during the last Faith Promise period by giving over RM1.5 million! This, he pointed out, was accomplished under difficult regional economic times and shows that Calvary Church has matured both in faith and in giving.

That Sunday, Pastor Matthew Barnett, the Co-Pastor of the Los Angeles International Church, USA, told the congregation how

LIGHT

LIGHT Missions Banquet By Peter Chan

Tony Phang, Calvary Church's missionary to Kenya, Africa, challenged a group of about 50 single adults to follow the Lord into the mission field at the LIGHT Missions Banquet on 3 July 1999.

He reminded them that when they accepted Jesus Christ as their personal Saviour, they had, in fact, made a covenant to surrender their lives to Him and to follow Him when He led them to the mission field, wherever that may be.

The Holy Spirit moved powerfully in their midst that evening and many surrendered their lives to God again and renewed their commitment to reach out to those that the Lord would lead them to. A need was shared about sponsoring members who are interested to join future missions trips planned by the Missions Department and the LIGHT members responded by giving sacrificially. A total of RM1,941 was received!

The group later adjourned to a sumptuous banquet with lifted spirits and enlarged hearts. 🙏



Tony Phang spoke at the LIGHT Missions Banquet and also at the Children's Evangelistic Meeting

Carpenter's Workshop

Children's Meeting/M

On 4 July 1999, the Carpenter's Workshop was happening. The children raised the idea of inviting their friends to a meeting with them. By doing this, the

The morning started off with Aaron Sarma and Hazel Yeo leading the large group of children in song at the Elim Multi-purpose Hall. They started with a few lively songs before leading us to worship with slower songs. After that, we took the morning's offering. During that time, Sam Shin San presented a solo, "Be It Unto Me", accompanied by Karl Le-Yon at the piano and Maybel Koh playing the flute. Next, a group of CW children presented a skit retelling the "Parable of the

th Compassion



Pastor Matthew Barnett



Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam, the Associate Pastors, Deacons and Missions Committee praying for the Faith Promise partners

Promise Sunday 4 July 1999

God turned his childhood dream of building a church that would remain open to minister 24-hours a day, into a reality. He encouraged them with the Word of God, adding that God could turn their dreams into reality too. Then as the congregation prepared to renew or make new Faith Promises, Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam stood at the pulpit and asked this simple question: "Do your dreams include God?"

God used this question to convict the hearts of many in the congregation that day. As Senior Pastor Guneratnam continued to challenge them to dream for God, the Holy Spirit worked powerfully in their midst. A total of 2,528 people have pledged to be Faith

By Casey Sha

Promise partners for the next six months, promising to give towards the work of missions.

As Calvary Church has been faithful in giving towards the Faith Promise programme, God has not only blessed individual faith Promise partners, but He has also blessed and matured the Church as a whole. The overwhelming participation as Faith Promise partners was not in response to tear-jerking stories of people who are in need nor was it the result of carefully planned gimmicks, but simply because the congregation has learned to trust in a faithful God. They have learned to give because they love Him and to give to fulfill the Great Commission. 🙏

(CW)

Evangelistic Missions Emphasis

By Maybel Koh and Justin Tiew Senn

Carpenter's Workshop of Calvary Church held an evangelistic service for children from nine to 13 years of age, had the opportunity to attend this special service and sharing the Word of God. They were able to fulfill God's teaching to witness.

"Sower" except that this time, the story was portrayed with shoes and not seeds! Not only did the children have fun watching, but the actors, Justin Tiew Senn, Karl Le-Yon, Jonathan Lim and Maybel Koh enjoyed themselves too!

That day, we were blessed to have Tony Phang, our missionary to Kenya, Africa, as our speaker. He gave a very encouraging message and many of us were touched and were ministered to by his sermon. After that, we watched a short

video of how the Faith Promise giving by the Church is being used to help others. We then renewed our Faith Promise pledges before going back to our different classes for a time of fellowship and eating! We thank God for blessing us with a wonderful day. Thirty-two children accepted the Lord Jesus Christ that day and a total of 517 children committed themselves to be partners in the Faith Promise programme! 🙏



Actors and audience enjoying the "Parable of the Sower"



Carpenter's Workshop children making their Faith Promise pledges

The Joy of Belonging

Calvary Church Family Day

26 June 1999 By Audrey Kum

"Red and yellow black and white, all are precious in His sight..." I thought of this Sunday School song when I saw the over 650 participants filing into the Church Sanctuary wearing coloured tee-shirts indicating their various teams—Red, Yellow, Blue and Green—everyone precious to the Lord. By 8am, most of us had gathered for worship led by Associate Pastor Steven Kum.



"Hmm...wonder if this is the right noodle"

Great disguise, huh?



Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam flagging off the cars to begin the Motor Treasure Hunt

Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam welcomed the participants and prayed for the Lord's blessing upon us and the activities planned for the Family Day. Next came Associate Pastor Timothy with very helpful guidelines and hints for the Motor Treasure Hunt from Calvary Church to the Stadium Juara, Bukit Kiara. Senior Pastor Guneratnam flagged off the four cars of the team leaders and a convoy of 160 cars, identified by ribbons on the car aerials, moved carefully along the prepared route with all eyes on the look out for

the answers. Someone remarked that we must have looked like a huge wedding entourage to the other road users that morning!

Credit must be given to KC Lim who cleverly worded the clues and questions that made everyone put on their thinking caps. The Pusat Damansara "7-Eleven" convenience store recorded extra high sales that day when almost every team made a bee-line there to purchase the Spearmint "Polo" sweets and the Maggi noodles that were the "treasures" that must be acquired!

Upon arrival at the Stadium



"God took from here to give first man assistance." Now, what could this be?



"And...stretch, two, three, four"



"We are the champions!" The Yellow Team—first in the Children's telematches



Sr. Assoc. Pastor Petrina Guneratnam presenting the Red Team with their prize



Winner of the Motor Treasure Hunt—Chay Joon Keat representing his team



"Yeaaahhh, go for it!!!"



"Help! I think I'm stuck!"



"Hope they don't throw the balls at me instead" for the various games so that everyone had an opportunity to participate. The team leaders made many attempts to get their respective teams to cheer the contestants. Sporadic "Mexican waves" were seen accompanied by loud cheers. One team almost brought the stadium down with their enthusiastic and loud stomping! Everyone, from the children to the senior citizens was caught up with the excitement of the games.



"Quick, quick, quick! I'm ready for the next paper!"



Golden Eagles making paper chains



"Come on Blue!!!"



"Hey trust me! I am sure I can do this."

Juara, another game was activated—the "No" game. Anyone who answered "No" to a question quickly lost the coloured ribbon attached to their nametags. The objective of this game was to encourage conversation. Points were awarded for the ribbons collected from other teams. The organisers have concluded from observation of the types of questions asked and the answers given that more

specific guidelines must be given should they decide to use the game again in the future!

Sun visors, a regular item of the attire of the participants of past Family Days were noticeably missing this year as all the telematches were held in the cool comfort of the covered and air-conditioned stadium. The games for the adults and children were carried out simultaneously. Each team fielded different members



"All that exercise made us hungry"



"...so hungry that it doesn't matter where we sit to eat!"

The Red Team won the first prize in the adult telematches while the Yellow Team was the first prize winners for the children's telematches. Chay Joon Keat's team was the winner of the Motor Treasure Hunt. KC Lim announced that the "Polo" sweets would be given to the children and the variety of Maggi and other noodles would be given to the Calvary Sunshine Home! Each one who was present that day received a "goody" bag before heading for the queues to collect their lunch boxes and drinks. It was great to see the Calvary family following instructions to the very end. The cooperative attitudes of the participants helped to make the Family Day a very happy one—one which left us feeling that it was definitely good to belong to the family of God. 🙏



Jesus told the story of the Good Samaritan in response to the question, “Who is my neighbour?” What made this Samaritan stand out from the rest? He was governed by the law of love.

served, but to serve...” (Mark 10:45). That was exactly how Jesus lived. He served. When Jesus called Peter, note what He asked Peter. “‘Simon, Son of Jonah, do you love Me?’ He said to Him, ‘Yes, Lord; You know that I love You.’ He said to him, ‘Tend My sheep’” (John 21:16). All that Jesus asked of Peter was, “Feed My sheep.” May I challenge you in your living and serving to let the law of love motivate you. “Serve one another in love” (Galatians 5:13 NIV). If what you do is for the sake of pleasing people, then it would not be long before you stop serving or giving. But if you obey, serve and give of yourself to Jesus because you love Him, then you will not only continue to give but to grow in giving. The believer’s law of life is to love God. You serve because you love Him. You can obey without love and you can serve without love. But you cannot love without obeying and serving.

It is the Holy Spirit dwelling in you who gives you the power to love. “The love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us” (Romans 5:5). It is this love that makes you please God. You have the freedom to overcome the flesh that unceasingly wages war against your better judgment. But God’s grace is available. You can rise above your flesh. You no longer need to be subject to sin. If you use your liberty to do what you want, you will face this danger: “For to be carnally minded is death, but to be spiritually minded is life and peace. Because the carnal mind is enmity against God; for it is not subject to the law of God, nor indeed can be. So then, those who are in the flesh cannot please God” (Romans 8:6-8). Living a life to please yourself will bring eternal death/damnation. If you use your liberty under a love relationship, you can express your love, enjoy the grace of God and partake in God’s nature and experience victory and success.

The Bible also says, “For the love of Christ compels us, because we judge thus: that if One died for all, then all died; and


He died for all, that those who live should live no longer for themselves, but for Him who died and rose again” (2 Corinthians 5:14-15). The love of God becomes a constraining law because you love Jesus—there is a response in your heart to do what pleases Him, by the power of the Holy Spirit. That is why a believer’s life is governed by love.

A lawyer once tested Jesus by posing this question to Him, “‘Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?’ Jesus replied, “‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbour as yourself.’ All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments”” (Matthew 22:36-40 NIV). Jesus’ reply is applicable to you too. You should understand that the law of love transcends all the laws given by the prophets. If you love God, you are obeying and fulfilling the law of God. Know that only complete love for God can empower you to love rightly, God, your neighbour and yourself. “Love does no harm to a neighbour: Therefore love is the fulfilment of the law” (Romans 13:10). “Owe no man anything except to love one another, for he who loves another has fulfilled the law” (Romans 13:8). The only debt that Christians owe and cannot pay is the price for sin. But God paid the price for the forgiveness of your sins for you. He wiped the slate clean. Therefore, as a born again believer and as long as you are alive, you have a debt—a debt to love God and your neighbour.

Jesus told the story of the Good Samaritan in response to the question, “Who is my neighbour?” What made this Samaritan stand out from the rest? He was governed by the law of love. The good Samaritan stopped by the wounded man, bandaged his wounds and took him to an inn and took care of him. Why did he stop? Luke 10:33 says that “he had compassion.” Love would not allow him

to go by and do nothing. Love simply responds to the human need. He also went the second mile in love. He could have left the man to the innkeeper and let the innkeeper take over from there. How many of you would have done just that? But love does not draw boundaries or see limitations. Nothing is too much for love to do. Similarly, when you come into a relationship with God and have tasted His goodness, you will serve Him because you love and not because the Church says so or because people are watching.

Love is practical and is spelt out in 1 Corinthians 13:4-7: “Love suffers long and is kind; love does not envy; love does not parade itself, is not puffed up; does not behave rudely, does not seek its own, is not provoked, thinks no evil; does not rejoice in iniquity, but rejoices in the truth; bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.” Love does not destroy. Paul warned, “If you keep on biting and devouring each other, watch out or you will be destroyed by each other” (Galatians 5:15 NIV). This evokes a picture of wild animals. Wild animals attack one another. The loser becomes the dinner of the winner. Paul was warning the Christians to beware, and not bite one another as it is self-destructive and they will be consumed. If you always criticise, condemn or abuse others, the Scripture says, you will end up by destroying yourself. If you have experienced God’s love and continue to bite and devour, you do not need the judgment of God; you destroy yourself. “If someone says, ‘I love God,’ and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen, how can he love God whom he has not seen? And this commandment we have from Him: that he who loves God must love his brother also” (1 John 4:20-21). Love for God must express itself in love for fellow believers. “Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all, especially to those who are of the household of faith” (Galatians 6:10). Do good to others when you have opportunity. Be especially responsive to your brothers and sisters in Christ.

The law of the life of the believer is to love. How? The Holy Spirit pours the love of God into our hearts. Everyday, ask the Holy Spirit to fill you with God’s love. Let love be the basis of your commitment to obey and serve Him. Let love compel you. Serve not because you have to but because you have been set free to serve and because God loves you. 

All Bible quotations are from the New King James Version unless otherwise indicated.

Do You Have Time To Pray? God Has Time To Listen

By Chan Lee Peng



Prayer Tower at Jerusalem Bungalow, 4 Jalan Damansara Endah



Saturday intercession

“Calvary Prayer Tower? What tower is that? KL Tower, Twin Towers, I know...but where is this place? Is there a tower somewhere in Calvary Church?” Every once in a while, we receive queries of this nature from newcomers and surprisingly, some regular worshippers as well.

The history of Prayer Tower goes back to the early 80's. Recognising the need then to harness the power of prayer effectively to meet the needs of believers and to help them in their prayer life, a vision was planted in the heart of Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam to set up a Prayer Tower. The purpose is three-fold—to provide a place of meeting between God and man; to pray with those in dire need and to stand in the gap for the needs of individuals, the Church and the nations.

A prophecy given by the Lord for Calvary Church through evangelist Dick Eastman confirmed the importance of commitment to the ministry of prayer. The Lord showed his servant seven pillars of a 'fountain head' church of which one of them is the pillar of intercession. Thus, on the eventful day of 9

December 1984, the vision of our Senior Pastor became a reality. The Prayer Tower, then operating on a rented premise, was dedicated to the glory of God. In 1996, the Prayer Tower shifted to its own bungalow next to the Church Sanctuary.

Over the years, the ministry as a whole has expanded under the leading of the Holy Spirit. Currently, what are the ministries of the Prayer Tower? Firstly, there is the Prayer Helpline where prayer requests can be submitted in confidence via telephone, fax or e-mail. These requests are disseminated to the intercessory groups besides being prayed for in the Friday Prayer Meeting. The weekly ministries include the Tuesday Morning Watch, Hospital Visitation every Wednesday and Thursday and Saturday Intercession. A bi-monthly

intercessor's newsletter highlighting Church events and global prayer needs serves to encourage intercessors to touch the nations through their prayers. Prayer has also been included in the School of Christian Growth curriculum to enable believers to have a better understanding of prayer.

Where do we go from here? It is exciting to see what the Lord has done, is doing and will be doing in and through this ministry of prayer. He wants to take us to greater heights still in the realm of prayer and in these last days, He is calling all His people to pray. He has promised in His Word, “If My people, who are called by My name will humble themselves and pray and seek My face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sins and will heal their land.” In His prophetic

word through Rev Harold Cabelleros in 1996, He has declared that “Nine arrows will go forth from Calvary Church.” And one of these is the arrow of intercession, which will touch many nations.

Let us take heed of the Word of the Lord to pray. Do you have time to pray? God has time to listen.

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