

纽西兰基督教华人
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Greenlane Chinese Methodist Church



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“弟兄们，我不以为自己已经得着了，我只有一件事，就是忘记背后，努力前面的事…” 腓3:13

“Brothers, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead...” Phil 3:13

连于基督 凭信而活 合一事奉

*Abide in Christ
Live by faith
Serve in Unity*

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忘记背后 努力面前 Forgetting What Is Behind, Striving Toward What Is Ahead

◆ 沈俊廷牧师 / Rev Aaron Sim



过去的一年，对于你来说是怎样的一年呢？从你自己的个人灵命，婚姻，家庭，亲子，工作，个人的事奉方面，神是如何的带领了你？你作了什么选择？你学习了什么？有什么失败或软弱？有什么成长？

我们常听见一种说法：“不必在乎过去的事了，因为圣经说，忘记背后，努力面前”。

其实，圣经这句话，不是要我们不必在乎或反省过去的事情。

腓利比书3:13-14节的意思是，我们不要被过去的失败或成功给困住了，以致我们活在过去，或自怜自哀而瘫痪了，或自恋自满而安逸了，以致我们不能前进，去追求神所要我们去得的。

因此忘记背后努力面前，绝对不是不要我们回顾过去，而是要我们用**正确的态度回顾过去**，这其实是帮助我们更好的去努力面前的事。因此，腓利比书当然提到许多的现在和未来的事情，但是这些事情跟过去是连在一起的。比如：保罗提到了腓利比教会过去从头一天开始如何的热心福音的事工，这常常是他的喜乐和感恩（腓1:4），提到了以巴弗提并保罗自己过去如何经历了神的怜悯，并这如何影响了保罗接下来的安排（腓2:25-30），提到了他如何看待他自己过去的骄傲和失败（腓3:7），这成为他对腓利比教会的勉励。因此，**记得，并正确的看待、面对、反省过去的事情，使我们更加能努力面前的。**

在年头旅行当中，我遇到一位的波兰人，在谈话中，他提及了过去苏联是如何的杀害了许许多多的波兰人，包括他的家人。并且，在这一切的回顾中，他不断的说一句话：forgive,

How was the past year for you? In terms of your personal spiritual journey, marriage, family, parenting, work, and personal ministry, how has God led you? What choices did you make? What did you learn? Have there been any failures or weaknesses? Have you experienced any growth?

We often hear the saying: "Don't care about the past, because the Bible says, 'Forgetting what is behind, striving toward what is ahead.'" (Philippians 3:13)

However, this verse does not mean we should disregard or neglect reflecting on the past. Rather, Philippians 3:13-14 teaches us not to be trapped by past failures or successes. It warns against dwelling on past regrets and becoming paralyzed by self-pity or complacently basking in past achievements—both of which can keep us from moving forward to pursue what God has planned for us.

Therefore, forgetting what is behind and striving toward what is ahead does not mean ignoring the past, but rather **learning to reflect on it in the right way**. When we approach the past with the right attitude, it actually helps us better pursue what lies ahead. Philippians mentions a lot about the present and the future, but these are all connected to the past. For example, Paul recalls how the Philippian church was enthusiastic about the gospel ministry from the very beginning, which was a source of joy and gratitude for him (Philippians 1:4). He also speaks about how Epaphroditus and himself experienced God's mercy in the past, shaping his future plans (Philippians 2:25-30). He also shares how he views his past pride and failures (Philippians 3:7), using them to encourage the Philippians. Therefore, **remembering, correctly understanding, and reflecting on the past enables us to strive for what is ahead more effectively.**

During my travels at the beginning of the year, I met a Polish man. In our conversation, he spoke about how the Soviet Union had killed many Polish people in the past, including members of his own family. As he recalled these events, he kept repeating

but do not forget. 饶恕，但不要忘记。

如果连一个还没有信主的人，也知道不能忘记历史的教训，我们作为基督徒，岂不更应该知道，圣经更是要我们不可忘记过去。历史里的教训，里面的感恩、反省，使我们更好的能够在未来中努力。

我想，年刊，就是其中一个这样的回顾历史的一个平台。当我们记录过去的事迹，无论是过去一年的事工、或个人灵命旅程，不是为了要活在过去的光荣或伤痛中，**而是反省自己的过错和神给我们的学习和功课、数算神的丰盛恩典和怜悯**，因此更加带着确据和使命，迈向新的一年。唯有这样，才是“忘记背后，努力面前”的真意。

美恩堂的一年，是发生了许多的事情的一年。而我们要感谢神，在祂手中，**所有的事情，都是为了要造就我们，为了我们的益处**（罗8:28），让我们以信心和感恩的心来回顾每件事情，不要把过去当作不堪回首的往事，或难以捉摸的云烟，因为神在当中有要我们感恩的，学习的。

其实，神要我们在一切事情当中最重要的感恩和学习，是**认识主耶稣和祂复活的大能，并在祂的受苦上有分**（腓3:30）。这也是使徒保罗所追求的标杆（腓3:14），也是罗马书8:29所说的，神叫万事互相效力为要我们得得益处：**像祂的儿子**。

让我们带着这样的感恩的心，来到神的面前，回顾过去的事。并且也带着信心和感恩的心，努力面前的，也知道无论什么是，包括**“现在的事，将来的事”**，都不能叫我们与神的爱隔绝，这爱是在主耶稣基督里的（罗8:37-39）。

a phrase: "Forgive, but do not forget."

If even someone who does not yet believe in Christ understands the importance of remembering history, how much more should we, as Christians, acknowledge that the Bible teaches us **not to forget the past**? The lessons of history—our gratitude and reflections—enable us to move forward with greater purpose.

I believe that the church's annual publication serves as a platform for such historical reflection. When we record the past—whether it be the ministry of the past year or our personal spiritual journey—it is not to dwell on past glories or pains, but to **examine our shortcomings, learn from God's teachings, and count His abundant grace and mercy**. In doing so, we step into the new year with greater confidence and purpose. Only then can we truly understand the meaning of "Forgetting what is behind, striving toward what is ahead."

This past year at GCMC has been full of events. We give thanks to God because, in His hands, **everything works for our good** (Romans 8:28). Let us look back with faith and gratitude, not viewing the past as something unbearable or fleeting like mist, but recognizing that within it, God has given us reasons to be thankful and lessons to learn.

Ultimately, what God wants us to be most grateful for and to learn from all things is **to know Christ, the power of His resurrection, and to share in His sufferings** (Philippians 3:10). This was the goal that Paul pursued (Philippians 3:14), and it aligns with Romans 8:29, which states that God causes all things to work together for good **so that we may be conformed to the image of His Son**.

Let us come before God with such a heart of gratitude, **reflecting on the past**. And with faith and thanksgiving, let us also press on toward the future, knowing that nothing—neither **"the present nor the future"**—can separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus (Romans 8:37-39).

“Your hair looks great! I love the colour of your hair!” A lady whom I did not know at all on the travellator while getting down said out loud to me as I was taking the travellator up to a supermarket around 10th December 2024.

I was surprised to have that said to me by a stranger. While feeling shocked by the comment, my heart became very warm and I felt Jesus’s love filling me up once again. Only through the eyes of Jesus could a person see beauty in imperfection.

I was invited by a very dear sister in church on 8 th December 2024 to share any testimony that I have in the church annual publication. I was humbled by the invitation as writing has never been my strength. However, I believe if it is a calling from God, all I need is His Grace. Hence, I responded by saying I would pray about it. Not knowing whether it was God’s calling for me to do so, my prayers were “whether I should?” and if it was so, “what should I share?” I believe the incident at the travellator was an affirmation from God to share His goodness.

Twelve years ago due to intense life stress, I had a rare medical condition called Alopecia Totalis which is a form of Autoimmunity. I had severe inflammation on all my joints and scalp. As a result, I had lots of pain on my joints, itches on my skin and scalp. Eventually, I lost all my hair. My skin looked pale and I was bald. I looked like an Albino.

I was devastated. I felt I had lost my identity as I looked totally a different person in the mirror. Many visits to the doctors and spending hours each day doing therapies and treatments had drained me out physically and mentally. Depression set in. I started to lose interest in everything. I only wore black coloured clothes. Those who knows me would know that was not me at all. My husband told me not to worry as only my outward appearance had been affected and that I would always be his 19 year old. (That was when we met) Did I take that well? Not at all! I felt bitter, short-changed. I asked God why this way? God’s presence certainly seemed to be very far away during that time.

Many months had passed. My life was very busy then with work and young family. I carried on with life routine in the day and at night, I cried myself to sleep. One day, a family friend came to visit me. When she arrived and saw the state that I was in, she was totally shocked. We had not been in touched for a while and she was not aware of what had happened to me. However, she was holding a book called “Jesus Today” (Experience Hope through His Presence written by Sarah Young) as a gift for me for her visit. Apparently, while she was at a Christian bookshop, Holy Spirit prompted her to get that book specifically for me with no knowledge of my medical condition.

“你的头发真好看！我太喜欢这颜色了！”2024年12月10日左右，当我乘自动扶梯前往超市时，一位素不相识的女士在下行扶梯上突然大声对我说。

陌生人的赞美让我猝不及防。在震惊之余，一股暖流涌上心头，我再次感受到耶稣的爱充满全身。唯有透过耶稣的眼睛，人才能在瑕疵中看见美。

2024年12月8日，教会一位亲爱的姊妹邀请我为教会年刊撰写见证。这个邀请让我受宠若惊——写作从来不是我的强项。但我相信若这是神的呼召，我只需倚靠祂的恩典。于是回复说会为此祷告。当时并不确定这是否出于神，只不断祈求“我该写吗？”若该写，“又该分享什么？”我想扶梯上的偶遇正是神要我传扬祂恩典的印证。

十二年前，因承受巨大生活压力，我患上名为“普秃”的罕见自体免疫疾病。全身关节与头皮严重发炎，关节剧痛、皮肤瘙痒，最终头发全部脱落。苍白的肤色配上光头，活像白化病患者。

我崩溃了。镜中陌生的模样让我失去自我认同。频繁求医与每天数小时的治疗耗尽了身心。抑郁随之而来。我开始对一切失去兴趣，只穿黑色衣服——熟悉我的人都知这绝非常态。丈夫安慰说外表改变无妨，我永远是他心中十九岁的少女（我们初遇的年纪）。但这安慰无济于事！我满心怨愤质问神为何如此？那时，神的同在似乎遥不可及。

数月过去，我忙于工作与育儿。白天按部就班生活，夜里却以泪洗面。某日一位老友来访，见我模样大惊——我们久未联系，她并不知我的遭遇。奇妙的是，她手中正捧着《盼望不停歇》（莎拉·杨所著）作为见面礼。原来她在基督教书店时，圣灵感动她要买这本书给我，而她对我的病情一无所知。

几日后我翻开书页，手指不自觉地停在第十

She responded to the prompting and went ahead to buy the book for me.

I started reading the book a few days later. My fingers somehow landed on chapter 17 to begin with and the first sentence said “MY GRACE IS SUFFICIENT FOR YOU.” (All in capital letters). The second sentence said “This GRACE is enough to get you through your toughest times.” Stream of tears just started to roll down my cheeks.....The chapter went on to say “Do you believe this? It’s one thing to believe it when circumstances are going your way. It’s another thing altogether when you’re struggling just to take the next step. Yet this is when My grace is the most precious and glorious—when you know you cannot go another step without it. Then it becomes the shining focus of your life.”.....”So come freely into My Presence and pour out your heart to Me. I do not always say yes to your petitions, but I do give you what you need. And I always give you Myself—My compassionate understanding, My unfailing Love.”

The chapter ended with “Do not be ashamed of your weaknesses; boast about them! Through them you are learning to depend more on Me, so that My Power may dwell in you.” Supporting bible verses listed were 2 Corinthians 12:9 and Isaiah 54:10. I was aware of these verses but they became more alive than ever at that moment. Thank you Jesus for the reminder! I had been so focus in my circumstances and problem that I overlooked the fact that I had a Heavenly Father who cares and had not forsaken me. I was reminded to seek Jesus, His Presence, His Peace and His Love. Ref: John 16:22 and Matthew 11:28-29.

By the time I finished reading this book, I was a transformed person.

God is good! Though I could not see Him and feel His presence at the start of my problem, He did not forsake me. He sent His love and comforting words through angels like my friend who obediently dropped off the book to me. Throughout the whole period, church friends knitted me hats, bringing me to buy hair wigs, doing research to direct me for micropigmentation treatment. One of my best friends living in Melbourne sent me a huge parcel full of hats, head wraps and scarves. Many others supported me in prayers and sending me encouraging words and bible verses to uplift me. I felt so loved! I started to gain confidence in going out and to socialise. I also realised then I was very blessed to have a loving husband who could see beyond my outward appearance. His love for me is unconditional just as Christ’s love for me. I started to accept the situation I was in. I realised God was still in control. I was exactly where I meant to be for the purpose of character building.

Insights I had gained during this time of setback:

七章。首句用全大写字母赫然写着：“我的恩典够你用”，紧接着是“这恩典足以带你度过最艰难的时刻”。泪水瞬间决堤.....章节继续写道：“你信这话吗？顺境时相信容易，当你挣扎着迈出下一步时，我的恩典就显为最宝贵荣耀——正是你寸步难行之际，它成为你生命中最璀璨的焦点”.....”只管坦然来到我面前倾心吐意，我未必应允每个祈求，但必赐你所需，更将我自己——我的体恤、我永不止息的爱——永远赐给你。”

章节以“不要以软弱为耻，反要夸口！借此你正学习更倚靠我，让我的能力覆庇你”作结，并引述哥林多后书12:9与以赛亚书54:10为证。这些经文我虽熟悉，却在那一刻焕发新生。感谢耶稣的提醒！先前我只盯着困境，却忘了有位永不撇弃我的天父。这提醒我当寻求耶稣的同在、平安与爱。（参约翰福音16:22；马太福音11:28-29）

读完这本书时，我仿佛变了一个人。

神真美好！虽然困境初期我感受不到祂的同在，祂却从未离弃。藉着顺服圣灵感动而送书的朋友，祂传递了爱与安慰。整个病程中，教会姊妹为我织帽子、陪买假发、研究微色素沉着治疗。墨尔本的挚友寄来装满头巾围巾的大包裹，更多人用祷告、鼓励经文托住我。我被爱包围，重获社交勇气，也才惊觉拥有不看外表的丈夫何等蒙福——他如基督般无条件爱我。我开始接纳现状，明白神仍在掌权，这恰是为塑造品格的必经之路。

这段低谷时期我领悟到的真理：

— 神的恩典够我用

我生性忧郁型人格，做事讲究条理，喜欢未雨绸缪。医生诊断我的免疫疾病极可能由高压诱发。那时我们正筹建新家，频发的意外打乱了所有计划。更雪上加霜的是，我最敬爱的父亲突然离世。当时我锥心悲痛，心里有无数疑问。而先如今我学会了信靠神，在未知中发现美好。我明白世事不会尽如人意，但正是在人

- God's Grace is sufficient for me

My personality is of a Melancholy type. Hence, I am a methodical person who likes to plan ahead and be aware of what is to come. Doctor said my autoimmunity condition was most probably induced by high stress. At that time, we were building our own new home. We encountered many unexpected obstacles that lead us to have our plans redirected. My Dad whom was very dear to me passed away suddenly during that time. I grieved very badly with lots of questions in my mind. But, I have come to learn to trust God, to find beauty in the unknown. I realised things don't always go according plan. This is when God's Grace take over, miracle happens.

- God will never forsake me (Hebrew 13:5)

My situation may change not according to my expectation, it does not mean God has forsaken me. God still loves me. As we know in Romans 8:28 says "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love Him, who have been called according to His purpose."

Romans 8: 38-39 says" For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord." I feel so privileged to have received such an ultimate love from Christ, our Lord Jesus.

I am still a work in progress but I am learning to surrender and submit to God's way and His will knowing that He loves me no matter what.

- My identity is in Christ

My outer appearance may have changed. I may have lost my original physical identity, I am still more than a conqueror as my identity is in Christ. Romans 8: 37 says" in all things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us."

I have come to learn to accept and appreciate how God has created me to be as stated in Psalm 139:14 "I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well."

Fast forward to twelve years later, although I am not fully recovered as far as my autoimmunity is concerned with some ongoing medical issues, I don't need to have hair pieces on to get by. I have my own hair grown back now. Praise the Lord for His mercy!

I have peace and joy within me knowing that I have the gift of God's unconditional love. Every time when someone gives compliment on my hair, my heart smiles as I know they are looking at me through the eyes of Jesus.

智穷力竭时，神的恩典开始运行，奇迹由此而生。

— 神永不离弃我（希伯来书13:5）

境遇不如预期并非神已离弃，祂的爱永不改变。如罗马书8:28所言："我们知道，为了爱神的人，就是按祂旨意蒙召的人的益处，万事都一同效力"。罗马书8:38-39更宣告："因为我深信：无论是死、是生，是天使、是掌权的，是现在的事，是将来的事，是有能力的，是高天的、是深渊的，或是任何别的被造之物，都不能叫我们与神的爱隔绝"。能领受基督这般广阔高深的爱，是何等恩典。

— 我属基督的身份永不改变

外在形貌虽然改变，肉身标识虽然失去，但因着在基督里的身份，我仍是得胜有余的人（罗马书8:37）。诗篇139:14成为我的金句："我要称谢你，因为我的受造奇妙可畏；你的作为奇妙，这是我深深知道的。"。如今我正学习接纳神创造的每个细节，虽仍在成长路上，但越来越甘心顺服神的道路，因深知祂永不改变的爱。

转眼十二年过去，虽然我的自体免疫问题尚未完全康复，仍有些病症需要治疗，但已不再需要假发遮掩。如今我的头发已重新生长，感谢主的怜悯！

我心中充满平安与喜乐，因深知自己拥有神无条件的爱这份礼物。每当有人夸赞我的头发时，我的内心都会泛起微笑——因为我知道，他们正透过耶稣的眼睛看着我。

“你无论到哪里去，我必看顾你” “Behold, I am with you and will keep you wherever you go”

祷告会灵修分享 Prayer meeting devotional sharing

05/02/2025

◆ 陆汉江 / David Lok

创世记 28:15 我与你同在，你无论到哪里去，我必看顾你；我必领你回到这地方来，因为我必不离弃你，直到我实现了我对你所应许的。

Genesis 28:15 "Behold, I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land. For I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you."

创世记 28:10-11 “雅各离开别是巴，到哈兰去。来到一个地方，就在那里过夜，因为太阳已经落了。他拾起那地方的一块石头，把它放在头底下作枕头，就在那里躺下睡了。”

雅各眼下前途漫漫，且是独自一人，在陌生的路上，去往陌生的地方。他不知前面将发生的事情。或顺利或艰辛或危险。这也是我们许多人经历过的也是我们每天要面对的未知数。尤其是我们移民到一个新的国家。我们工作，生活会面对不确定因素。我们会彷徨，沮丧，甚至不安。

这节经文不仅适用于雅各，也安慰今天的信徒：无论经历什么，神的同在、看顾和应许仍然真实可信。我们也相信神在我们每一个人都有祂的计划。神对雅各的应许 “**直到我实现了我对你所应许的。**” 也安慰我们。只要我们信靠祂，依靠祂，行祂喜悦的事。无论身处何地，**神的同在与保守**都在看顾祂的子民。祂的计划不会因环境或人的软弱而改变，因为**神的应许必定成就**。

雅各有神透过梦给他引导和祝福，我们却有神的话，就是圣经，让我们知道更多神的应许和福分。

“神知道如何针对他百姓的苦难施恩给他们，正在经历的苦难是这样，尚未来到的苦难也是这样。” - 马太亨利

Genesis 28:10-11 “Jacob left Beersheba and went toward Haran. And he came to a certain place and stayed there that night, because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones of the place, he put it under his head and lay down in that place to sleep.”

Jacob now faces a long and uncertain future, traveling alone on an unfamiliar road to an unknown place. He has no idea what lies ahead—whether it will be smooth, difficult, or dangerous. This is a reality many of us have experienced and continue to face daily, especially when we immigrate to a new country. In our work and daily lives, we encounter uncertainties that can leave us feeling lost, discouraged, or even anxious.

This passage not only applies to Jacob but also brings comfort to believers today: no matter what we go through, God's presence, care, and promises remain true and trustworthy. We also believe that God has a plan for each of us. His promise to Jacob, "Until I have done what I have promised you," comforts us as well. As long as we trust in Him, rely on Him, and do what pleases Him, His presence and protection will watch over His people, no matter where we are. His plans will not be altered by circumstances or human weakness, for God's promises will surely be fulfilled.

While Jacob received guidance and blessings from God through a dream, we have God's Word—the Bible—which reveals even more of His promises and blessings to us.

"God knows how to give his people graces and comforts accommodated to the events that shall be, as well as to those that are." - Matthew Henry

社会关怀 - “关怀穷乏人的有福了...” - 诗41:1

Social Concerns - “Blessed is the one who considers the poor...” - Psalm 41:1

26/02/2025

◆ 陆汉江 / David Lok

诗篇 41:1 “关怀穷乏人的有福了；
在遭难的日子，耶和华必救他。”

*Psalm 41:1 “Blessed is the one who
considers the poor! In the day of
trouble the Lord delivers him;”*

最近看到一段特蕾莎修女讲述她自己经历的短视频。有人告诉她有一穷苦母亲有八个孩子，已经很久没有吃饭了。当特蕾莎修女拿米给这家庭时，这母亲把米分成两半；一半分给穆斯林的邻居。这母亲跟特蕾莎修女说他们的邻居也饿了。特蕾莎修女说令她感到惊讶的不是这母亲分米饭给邻居，而是这母亲在她的痛苦中，在她的饥饿中，她知道有人也饿了。

当我看了这视频后，我感到非常扎心。往往经历贫困痛苦的人，才能体会身在其中的苦涩与艰难。而我们若不曾经历三餐温饱的问题，岂能体会饥寒交迫人的处境呢？想到这里，我流泪为贫困的人祷告，更为自己祷告能在生活安稳的日子里，懂得去怜悯关怀穷乏人的需要，而不能坐视不理。求神怜悯我！

我们当中也有许多有怜悯人心肠的，在自己力所能及的，帮助贫困的人。大卫在诗篇41:1写到“关怀穷乏人的有福了；在遭难的日子，耶和华必救他。”耶稣在登山宝训马太福音5:7也给我们同样的应许 - “怜悯人的人有福了，因为他们必蒙怜悯。”

Recently, I came across a short video of Mother Teresa sharing one of her experiences. She recounted how someone told her about a poor mother with eight children who had not eaten for a long time. When Mother Teresa brought rice to the family, the mother divided it into two portions and gave half to her Muslim neighbors. The mother explained to Mother Teresa that their neighbors were also hungry. Mother Teresa said what struck her was not that the mother shared the rice with her neighbors, but that in her own suffering and hunger, she was aware that others were hungry too.

After watching this video, I felt deeply moved. Often, it is those who have experienced poverty and hardship who truly understand the bitterness and struggles it brings. If we have never faced the uncertainty of having enough to eat, how can we truly comprehend the plight of those who are hungry and cold? Reflecting on this, I wept and prayed for those in poverty, and also prayed for myself—that in my days of comfort and stability, I would learn to show compassion and care for the needs of the poor, rather than turning a blind eye. May God have mercy on me!

Among us, there are also many with compassionate hearts who, within their means, help those in need. David wrote in Psalm 41:1, “*Blessed is the*

马太亨利对这两节经文的注解提到：凡是眷顾贫穷的，神应许要帮助和安慰他们。（1）所要求我们的怜恤：要体谅贫穷的，体谅受苦的，包括内心受苦，身体受苦，财产受苦。这些我们都要体谅，怀着通达和温柔的心；要看到他们的疾苦，关心他们的处境，要同情他们，凭爱心判断他们。体谅穷人时要有智慧，就是说，看到别人贫穷或受苦，自己就要学功课，当作是对自己的训诲。（2）所应许给我们的怜恤。人若体谅贫穷的（即便没有能力帮助，也可体谅他们，关怀他们，酌情相助），神就必体谅他，使他不但在义人复活的时候得奖赏，也必在地上享福；体谅贫穷的，乃是敬虔的行为，与其他敬虔行为一样，都有今生的应许（提摩太前书4:8），常在今生蒙福。

2025年四月是我们美恩堂社会关怀委员会正式成立。我们有两位执事负责这事工（英文部 - 胡立初弟兄；中文部 - 陆汉江弟兄）。这一新的事工是神感动我们的领袖们，让我们看到了这个事工的重要，顺服上帝的带领而开始了这工作。我们在这方面没什么经验，有许多想做的也不懂怎样开始。我们呼吁大家一起祷告，求神引导我们，响应这事工，让我们慢慢从我们力所能及的开始（如捐赠物品，探访老人院等）到我们能领略找到了一些窍门，摸对方向，进入社区，关怀人群，将神的爱和怜悯带给他们，将福音耐心以实际行动传给他们。

我相信我们凭着爱心去做，在凡事上，神必给我们智慧和能力去成就祂的事工。

one who considers the poor! In the day of trouble the Lord delivers him;” Jesus, in the Sermon on the Mount in Matthew 5:7, gives us the same promise—“*Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy.*”

Matthew Henry's commentary on these two verses mentions: *God's promises of succour and comfort to those that consider the poor. (1) What the mercy is which is required of us. It is to consider the poor or afflicted, whether in mind, body, or estate. These we are to consider with prudence and tenderness; we must take notice of their affliction and enquire into their state, must sympathize with them and judge charitably concerning them. We must wisely consider the poor; that is, we must ourselves be instructed by the poverty and affliction of others. (2) What the mercy is that is promised to us if we thus show mercy. He that considers the poor (if he cannot relieve them, yet he considers them, and has a compassionate concern for them, and in relieving them acts considerably and with discretion) shall be considered by his God: he shall not only be recompensed in the resurrection of the just, but he shall be blessed upon the earth This branch of godliness, as much as any, has the promise of the life that now is and is usually recompensed with temporal blessings.*

In April 2025, the Social Concerns Committee of GCMC will be officially established. We have two deacons overseeing this ministry (English Ministry - Brother Lih Reng Hu; Chinese Ministry - Brother David Lok). This new ministry was initiated as God moved the hearts of our leaders, helping us recognize its importance and leading us to obediently follow His guidance in starting this work. We have little experience in this area, and there are many things we want to do but are unsure how to begin. We call on everyone to join us in prayer, asking God to guide us, inspire us to respond to this ministry, and help us gradually start with what we can do within our capacity (such as donating items, visiting nursing homes, etc.). As we gain experience and find the right direction, we hope to reach out to the community, care for people, and bring God's love and compassion to them, patiently sharing the Gospel through practical actions.

I believe that as we act in love, God will grant us wisdom and strength in all things to accomplish His work.

端午后，写给朋友的邀请函

After Duanwu, Invitation Letter to a Friend

◆ Jewel

亲爱的A博士：

上週六6月8日，真遗憾您没能来参加我们的端午聚会。不过，您还有机会！每年，美思堂都会举办端午节和中秋节聚会，专门邀请新朋友。

今年的聚会从流水宴席开始，大家带来各自的拿手好菜，整个宴席像迷你美食博览会一样，有您喜欢的北京烤鸭，多麼希望您也能来一饱口福啊。

这次我们邀请了不少新朋友，他们一边品嚐佳餚，一边和我们聊天，其乐融融。饭后，新老朋友聚集在温暖的教堂裡，听诗歌、见证和信息。如果你能来，听到主持人回忆起自己小时候吃粽子的趣事，您一定会哈哈大笑的。

敬拜团弟兄提起华人端午节用艾草驱邪求安康时，我就想起了您，您也爱这样用，不知道效果怎麽样？其实，这次聚会，就是想帮助大家了解，最大的驱邪力量从何而来，并在美好的歌声、钢琴和小提琴演奏中，得到身心灵的滋润。

本来我还打算把您介绍给一位和您背景相同的C姐妹认识。这次，她分享自己最近六年接触耶稣的经歷，浓缩出好几个第一：第一本圣

Dear Dr. A,

Last Saturday, June 8th, I was truly sorry you couldn't join our Duanwu Festival gathering. But don't worry—you still have a chance! Every year, GCMC hosts special events for the Duanwu Festival and the Mid-Autumn Festival, specifically for newcomers.

This year's celebration began with a potluck feast, where everyone brought their signature dishes. The spread was like a mini food expo—there was even your favorite Peking duck! How I wished you could have been there to enjoy it.

We invited many new friends, and as they savored the delicious food, they chatted with us in a warm and joyful atmosphere. After the meal, old and new friends gathered in the cozy church hall for hymns, testimonies, and a message. Had you been there, you would have laughed along when the host shared funny childhood stories about eating “zongzi” (sticky rice dumplings).

When the worship team mentioned how Chinese traditions use mugwort to ward off evil spirits and seek blessings, I immediately thought of you—since you also practice this. I wonder how effective it's been for you? Actually, this gathering aimed to help everyone understand where true spiritual protection comes from. Through beautiful hymns, piano, and violin music, we sought nourishment for body, mind, and soul.



经、第一个祷告、第一次决志…神透过她身边的人，在她迷茫不安时，陪伴她，安慰她，引导她在神面前感恩。如今神的话语和灵就像光一样，成了她生命成长的必需品。她发现自己慢慢地抱怨吐槽减少了……。

C姐妹提出了两个问句，我也想借用来问问您：

1. 「若您相信有幽灵鬼魂，为什麼不信上帝呢？」

2. 「若您相信上帝无所不能，为什麼不信耶稣能死而复活呢？」

如果您有时间，可以上YouTube看这次活动的录影：[\[活动录影\]](#)

很可惜，您没能听到牧师的短讲。他的分享让我反思，为什麼在科技如此发达的今天，世界依然这麼溷乱？人们以爱的名义离婚出轨，以适者生存的口号自杀，以自由的角度变性。作为一位在大学教书的学者，您对这些问题有什麽看法呢？问题究竟出在哪裡？

牧师还提到以色列古代的两位先知，以利亚和以赛亚，他们像中国歷史中的屈原一样忧国忧民。以赛亚预言了救主耶稣的降生和死亡。耶稣为我们而死，这是神计划的一部分。您了解神的这个计划吗？短讲中，牧师还提到了永恒的天国，您知道那是什麼吗？这些重要的事情我都很想与您探讨。

A博士，感谢您一直以来对我和其他校友的关心。如果您读完我的信，觉得所说的所问的不反感，那麽请接受我真诚的邀请，来参加七月即将开始的11堂启发课程。这是专门为新朋友预备的，深入探讨基督信仰的课程。每週四晚上，我们会先吃饭，看录像，然后讨论。如果您愿意，我可以陪您去。

等您回音。愿上帝赐福您！

您的校友，激扬

P. S. A博士的回信：「虽然周四晚上我已经安排，去不了启发课程了，但愿意参加你们下次类似的活动。」请大家为她信主祷告。

I'd also planned to introduce you to Sister C, who shares a similar background as yours. She shared her six-year journey of encountering Jesus, highlighting many “firsts”: her first Bible, first prayer, first decision to follow Christ... God used people around her to comfort and guide her during times of confusion, leading her to thanksgiving before God. Now, God's Word and Spirit have become like light—essential for her growth. She's noticed herself complaining less and less...

Sister C posed two questions, which I'd like to ask you as well:

1. “If you believe in ghosts and spirits, why not believe in God?”

2. “If you believe God is all-powerful, why not believe Jesus could rise from the dead?”

If you have time, you can watch the event recording on YouTube: [\[Event Video Link\]](#).

It's a shame you missed the pastor's short sermon. His message made me reflect: Why is the world still so chaotic despite advanced technology? People divorce and cheat in the name of love, justify suicide with survival of the fittest, and pursue gender transitions in the name of freedom. As a university scholar, what are your thoughts? Where do you think the root of these issues lies?

The pastor also spoke about two ancient Israelite prophets, Elijah and Isaiah, who—like China's Qu Yuan—were deeply concerned for their people. Isaiah prophesied the birth and death of Jesus, the Savior. Jesus died for us—this was God's plan. Do you understand this plan? The pastor also mentioned eternal kingdom of heaven—do you know what that is? I'd love to discuss these important topics with you.

Dr. A, thank you for your care toward me and other alumni. If, after reading this, you find my words and questions inoffensive, I sincerely invite you to our 11-week Alpha Course starting in July. It's designed for newcomers to explore the Christian faith deeply. Every Thursday evening, we'll share a meal, watch a video, and discuss. I'd be happy to accompany you if you're willing.

Looking forward to your reply. May God bless you!

Your fellow alumnus,
Jiyang

P.S. Dr. A's response: “Though I already have commitments on Thursday nights and can't attend Alpha, I'd love to join your next similar event.” Please pray for her journey to faith.

正视骄傲 - 灵命成长的必修课

Facing Pride Head-On

- A Required Course for Spiritual Growth

◆ Cyrstal Chen

“骄傲”在圣经中被定义为“自我高举，取代神的地位”（以西结书28:17）。作为基督徒，我们应该清新的认识到，骄傲也是一种罪，是最原始也是最容易犯的罪，是我们人类堕落的重要根源之一。无论信徒的信心处于在什么阶段，都会很容易被骄傲搅扰。人类的祖先亚当和夏娃在伊甸园中不顺服，受到蛇的诱惑，吃了上帝禁止他们吃的分别善恶树上的果子（《创世记》3:1-6），显示他们对上帝的告诫不信任，对自己的判断过度自信，甚至取代神来做决定，这就是骄傲。箴言16:5明确指出：“凡心里骄傲的，为耶和華所憎惡。”我们充分认识骄傲，远离骄傲，克服骄傲。

一、认识骄傲，以下是骄傲的一些表现形式

1. 自以为义：骄傲的人常常以自我为中心，认为自己比别人更重要或更有价值。例如圣经中著名的典故之一（路加福音18:9-14），法利赛人在祷告中夸耀自己的义，而税吏却谦卑认罪，在神的眼里，税吏的行为反而是义的，是神所喜爱的。

2. 自夸虚荣：骄傲的人往往忘记一切都是神的恩典，反而认为自己的成就是靠自己的能力得来的，并喜爱夸耀自己的成就，自认为强大，甚则可以与神同等。巴别塔事件中，人类企图靠己力“传扬己名”，后遭神的惩罚和拦阻（创世记11:4-9）。希律王在众人面前接受崇拜，没有将荣耀归给神，结果被天使击打，最终被虫咬死（使徒行传12:21-23），他的骄傲直接导致了他的灭亡。

3. 轻视他人：骄傲的人常常看不起别人，认为自己比别人优越，因此还会论断人。《马太福音》7:1-2警告不要论断他人，因为你们怎样论断人，也必怎样被论断，上帝要求信徒以宽恕和理解对待他人。腓立比书2:3教导我们要“存心谦卑，各人看别人比自己强”，可见，轻视他人与谦卑相反，上帝希望信徒谦

In the Bible, "pride" is defined as "self-exaltation, taking the place of God" (Ezekiel 28:17). As Christians, we should clearly recognize that pride is also a sin—one of the most primal and easily committed sins, and a significant root of human fallenness. Regardless of the stage of a believer's faith, pride can easily become a stumbling block. Our ancestors, Adam and Eve, disobeyed in the Garden of Eden, tempted by the serpent to eat the fruit from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, which God had forbidden (Genesis 3:1-6). This act demonstrated their distrust in God's warning, overconfidence in their own judgment, and even an attempt to replace God in making decisions—this is pride. Proverbs 16:5 clearly states, "Everyone who is arrogant in heart is an abomination to the Lord." We must fully recognize pride, distance ourselves from it, and overcome it.

I. Recognizing Pride: Here Are Some Manifestations of Pride

1. Self-Righteousness: Proud individuals are often self-centered, believing they are more important or valuable than others. For example, in the well-known biblical parable (Luke 18:9-14), the Pharisee boasted of his righteousness in prayer, while the tax collector humbly confessed his sins. In God's eyes, the tax collector's actions were righteous and pleasing to Him.

2. Boastfulness and Vanity: Proud people often forget that everything is by God's grace, instead attributing their achievements to their own abilities. They love to boast about their accomplishments, considering themselves strong, even equal to God. In the story of the Tower of Babel, humans sought to "make a name for themselves" by their own strength, but were punished and thwarted by God (Genesis 11:4-9). King Herod accepted worship from the people without giving glory to God, resulting in being struck by an angel and ultimately dying from worms (Acts 12:21-23). His pride directly led to his downfall.

3. Looking Down on Others: Proud individuals often disdain others, believing themselves superior, and thus are quick to judge. Matthew 7:1-2 warns against judging others, for as you judge, so you will be judged. God calls believers to treat others with

卑，要尊重他人的价值和尊严。

4. 拒绝认错：骄傲的人往往不愿意承认自己的错误或罪，也不愿意悔改。骄傲使人硬心，如埃及法老（出埃及记5-12章）和犹大王西底家（历代志下36:12-13），最终招致审判。再如，扫罗是以色列的第一位国王，他在多次事件中拒绝承认自己的错误。最终，神因他的顽固不悔改而废弃了他的王位。

二、骄傲的危害

圣经多次警告骄傲的危险，并鼓励信徒要存谦卑的心。箴言11:2说：“骄傲来，羞耻也来；谦逊人却有智慧。”

1. 灵性败坏

《箴言》16:18 说：“骄傲在败坏以先，狂心在跌倒之前。”这表明骄傲往往导致人的失败和堕落。保罗责备哥林多教会容忍淫乱的行为，指出他们的骄傲导致灵性败坏（哥林多前书5:1-2）。神“阻挡骄傲的人”（雅各书4:6）。巴比伦王尼布甲尼撒因骄傲自大，夸耀自己的成就，神使他失去理智，像野兽一样生活（但以理书4:28-37）。

2. 关系破裂

骄傲使人背离对上帝的依赖，转而依靠自己，最终导致灵性上的堕落和与上帝的分离。路西法本是神创造的天使长，但因骄傲而企图与神同等，最终被逐出天堂，成为撒旦。他的骄傲直接导致了他与神的彻底决裂（以赛亚书14:12-15；以西结书28:12-17）。哥林多教会因自夸分裂，保罗责备他们“自高自大”（哥林多前书4:6-7），他们不仅使教会合一，“神的殿”被破坏，从而严重影响了信徒与神的关系。

三、克服骄傲：

雅各书4:6指出：“神阻挡骄傲的人，赐恩给谦卑的人。”

1. 学习基督，服务他人

耶稣“虚己，取了奴仆的形像”，甚至为门徒洗脚（腓立比书2:5-8；约翰福音13:14-15），是谦卑的楷模。效仿耶稣的榜样，以服务他人为己任，关注他人的需要，减少自我中心，培养谦卑的心态。

forgiveness and understanding. Philippians 2:3 teaches us to "in humility value others above yourselves," showing that disdain for others is contrary to humility. God desires believers to be humble, respecting the value and dignity of others.

4. Refusing to Admit Mistakes: Proud people are often unwilling to admit their errors or sins, nor are they willing to repent. Pride hardens the heart, as seen in Pharaoh of Egypt (Exodus 5-12) and King Zedekiah of Judah (2 Chronicles 36:12-13), ultimately leading to judgment. Similarly, Saul, the first king of Israel, repeatedly refused to acknowledge his mistakes. In the end, God rejected his kingship due to his stubborn unrepentance.

II. The Dangers of Pride

The Bible repeatedly warns of the dangers of pride and encourages believers to cultivate a humble heart. Proverbs 11:2 says, "When pride comes, then comes disgrace, but with humility comes wisdom."

1. Spiritual Corruption: Proverbs 16:18 states, "Pride goes before destruction, a haughty spirit before a fall." This indicates that pride often leads to failure and downfall. Paul rebuked the Corinthian church for tolerating immoral behavior, pointing out that their pride led to spiritual corruption (1 Corinthians 5:1-2). God "opposes the proud" (James 4:6). King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon, due to his pride and boasting, was driven by God to lose his sanity and live like an animal (Daniel 4:28-37).

2. Broken Relationships: Pride causes people to turn away from dependence on God, relying instead on themselves, ultimately leading to spiritual decline and separation from God. Lucifer, originally an archangel created by God, sought to be equal with God due to pride and was cast out of heaven, becoming Satan. His pride directly led to his complete rupture with God (Isaiah 14:12-15; Ezekiel 28:12-17). The Corinthian church, divided by boasting, was rebuked by Paul for being "puffed up" (1 Corinthians 4:6-7). Their actions not only disrupted church unity but also damaged "the temple of God," severely affecting believers' relationship with God.

III. Overcoming Pride

James 4:6 states, "God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble."

1. Learn from Christ, Serve Others: Jesus "humbled himself by becoming obedient to death—even death on a cross" and even washed His disciples' feet (Philippians 2:5-8; John 13:14-15), setting the ultimate example of humility. By following Jesus' example, we should make serving others our mission, focus on others' needs, reduce self-centeredness, and

2. 多读圣经，信靠上帝

靠我们人自己来客服骄傲的本性是不太可能，只有信靠神，多读圣经，通过神的话语，认识自我，理解骄傲的危险和谦卑的价值。“虚心的人有福了”（马太福音5:3），神要求人“存谦卑的心与祂同行”（弥迦书6:8）。

3. 谦卑自省，凡事感恩：

时刻提醒自己，所有才能和成功都是上帝的赐予，而非完全依靠个人努力，时常感恩。雅各书4:10呼吁：“务要在主面前自卑，祂就必叫你们升高。” 承认自己的有限（诗篇131:1），凡事祷告（箴言3:6），以神为满足（哥林多后书12:9）承认自己的有限性，并寻求上帝的指引和帮助，避免自我膨胀。谦卑是避免骄傲的基础。

4. 承认错误，接受批评：

勇于承认自己的错误和不足，不掩饰或推卸责任，保持诚实和谦卑。接受他人的批评和建议，视其为成长的机会，而非固执己见。《诗篇》32篇5节：“我向我神认罪，你就赦免我的罪恶。”《使徒行传》2章38节：“你们各人要悔改，奉耶稣基督的名受洗，叫你们的罪得赦。”

5. 同伴指导，彼此尊重：

与属灵导师或信仰同伴交流，获得提醒和帮助，避免骄傲的陷阱。希伯来书3:13说：“总要趁着还有今日，天天彼此相劝，免得你们中间有人被罪迷惑，心裡就刚硬了。”一个基督徒容易跌倒，因为天性就有软弱，所以拥有属灵同伴是必需的，正如摩西有约书亚，大卫有约拿单，但以理有三个朋友，彼得有雅各，保罗有提摩太 等等他们都有主里的同伴。每位基督徒都该在教会中有属灵同伴。这样，他必然成为一个刚强、喜乐、正当的基督徒。

圣经视骄傲为人类堕落的根源，基督徒唯有效法基督的样式，承认一切美善源于神（雅各书1:17），“用谦卑束腰，彼此顺服”（彼得前书5:5），活出符合上帝心意的生命。正如耶稣所言：“凡自高的，必降为卑；自卑的，必升为高。”（路加福音14:11）

cultivate a humble mindset.

2. Read the Bible, Trust in God: It is nearly impossible for us to overcome pride by our own strength. Only by trusting in God and immersing ourselves in Scripture can we understand ourselves, recognize the dangers of pride, and grasp the value of humility. "Blessed are the poor in spirit" (Matthew 5:3), and God calls us to "walk humbly with your God" (Micah 6:8).

3. Humble Self-Reflection, Give Thanks in All Things: Always remind yourself that all talents and successes are gifts from God, not solely the result of personal effort, and be grateful continually. James 4:10 urges, "Humble yourselves before the Lord, and He will exalt you." Acknowledge your limitations (Psalm 131:1), pray in all things (Proverbs 3:6), and find satisfaction in God (2 Corinthians 12:9). Recognize your finitude and seek God's guidance and help to avoid self-inflation. Humility is the foundation for avoiding pride.

4. Admit Mistakes, Accept Criticism: Have the courage to admit your errors and shortcomings, without hiding or shifting blame, maintaining honesty and humility. Accept others' criticism and advice, viewing it as an opportunity for growth rather than stubbornly clinging to your own opinions. Psalm 32:5 says, "I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not cover my iniquity." Acts 2:38 states, "Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins."

5. Seek Mentorship, Respect One Another: Engage with spiritual mentors or fellow believers for accountability and support, avoiding the traps of pride. Hebrews 3:13 says, "But exhort one another every day, as long as it is called 'today,' that none of you may be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin." A Christian is prone to stumble due to inherent weaknesses, making spiritual companionship essential. Just as Moses had Joshua, David had Jonathan, Daniel had his three friends, Peter had James, and Paul had Timothy, every Christian should have spiritual companions within the church. This ensures they become strong, joyful, and upright Christians.

The Bible views pride as the root of human fallenness. Christians must follow Christ's example, acknowledging that all good things come from God (James 1:17), and "clothe yourselves with humility toward one another" (1 Peter 5:5), living lives that align with God's will. As Jesus said, "For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted." (Luke 14:11).

先生的祷告卡被抽中啦！

- 2024中秋聚會的驚喜

Husband's prayer card was drawn!

- A special surprise at our 2024 Mid-Autumn Event

◆ Jewel

9月14日的中秋福音晚会真的让我印象深刻，尤其是我先生的祷告卡居然被抽中了！他开心得像个小孩，笑得眼睛都眯成了一条缝，跟我说的時候我差点也忍不住笑出声。其实这个抽卡环节，主要是让大家参与一下，没想到他的卡真被抽中了，这让他开心了很久，直到晚上躺在床上还在乐呵呢。

那天晚上，外面下着大雨，但活动一点没受影响，顺利开始。节目从儿童诗班开始，孩子们唱的《这是天父世界》真的太可爱了，接着还有4位歌手从观众席中边唱边走上台，唱着《耶稣爱你》，当他们唱到“你是否愿意同为神的儿女，一生让耶稣爱你？”这句的时候，我的心真的被触动了。

牧师也分享了关于爱的经文，特别提到了圣经里的那段话：爱是恒久忍耐，又有恩慈，不嫉妒，不自夸，不张狂……这种爱真的让人感觉到，耶稣的爱是一种多么深沉、温柔的爱，跟随他，一生会有平安和喜乐。

这次的中秋活动教会还特别准备了上百张祷告卡，每个人都可以写下自己最想祝福的人，或者内心的祷告。牧师在活动中抽出了5张卡片，认真地为那些祈求带领大家一起祷告，那一刻真的感觉满满的爱和祝福在场中流动，心里特别温暖。

没被抽中的祷告卡也不会被遗忘，它们会在接下来的每周祷告会上继续祈祷，直到每一个心愿都被上帝看见。活动结束后，大家一起品尝了一位姐妹亲手做的月饼，细腻又不油腻，特别好吃。就在那时，先生高兴地告诉我，他“中奖”的卡片上写的是：“愿妈妈平安健康，愿女儿平安喜乐。”听完后，我心里充满了感恩。

愿荣耀与赞美归于全能的神。

The Mid-Autumn Evangelistic Meeting on September 14th left a deep impression on me, especially when my husband's prayer card was unexpectedly drawn! He was as delighted as a child, his eyes crinkling into joyful slits as he grinned. When he told me about it, I nearly burst out laughing too. The card drawing was mainly meant as a way to engage everyone—who knew his card would actually be drawn? It made him so happy that he was still beaming when we went to bed that night.

That evening, despite the heavy rain outside, the event proceeded smoothly. It began with the children's choir singing *This Is My Father's World*—their voices were utterly lovely. Then, four singers emerged from the audience, walking up to the stage while singing *Jesus Loves You*. When they reached the line, "Would you be willing to become God's child, and let Jesus love you all your life?" something in my heart stirred deeply.

The pastor also shared scriptures about love, particularly that passage: "*Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant...*" This kind of love—so profound and tender—made me feel how boundless Jesus' love truly is. Following Him brings a lifetime of peace and joy.

For this Mid-Autumn event, the church had prepared hundreds of prayer cards, inviting everyone to write down their deepest blessings or heartfelt prayers. During the gathering, the pastor drew five cards and led the congregation in praying earnestly for those requests. In that moment, the room felt saturated with love and blessings, wrapping us all in warmth.

Even the cards not drawn that night weren't forgotten—they'll continue to be lifted up in the weekly prayer meetings until every petition is seen by God. After the event, we enjoyed mooncakes handmade by a sister in Christ. They were delicate, not overly sweet, and absolutely delicious. It was then that my husband, still glowing, told me what his "winning" card had said: "May my mother be safe and healthy, and may my daughter live in peace and joy." Hearing that filled my heart with gratitude.

May all glory and praise be to our Almighty God.

情人节看基督徒的婚姻观

Valentine's Day: A Christian Perspective on Marriage

◆ KS Tan

婚姻是一夫一妻、一生一世、忠心不二、神圣至极的誓言。正如神要求我们——他的子民不可敬拜偶像，而应当敬拜那独一的真神，“……因为我耶和華你的神是忌邪（jealous）的神”【出埃及记20:5】。为什么上帝会妒忌（jealous）我们拜偶像呢？试想，若我们的配偶出轨，身为受害的一方怎能容忍？圣经在旧约中将百姓拜偶像比作出轨，视为属灵的奸淫。最直接的记载见于《何西阿书》，其中描述了先知何西阿与淫妇歌篾的婚姻。“耶和華初次与何西阿说话，对他说：‘你去娶淫妇为妻，也收那从淫乱所生的儿女，因为这地大行淫乱，离弃耶和華。’于是，何西阿去娶了滴拉音的女儿歌篾。”【何西阿书1:2-3】。歌篾对丈夫何西阿不忠，与别的男人发生不正当的关系。然而，何西阿却要接纳她，甚至在她回归时反复收留她。“何西阿”的意思是“救恩”或“拯救”，在希伯来文中与“约书亚”同字根。约书亚这名字在新约中被翻译为希腊文的“耶稣”，意为拯救。“因他（耶稣）要将自己的百姓从罪恶里救出来。”【马太福音1:21】。我们人人都犯了罪，亏缺了上帝的荣耀，并在心里或多或少犯了拜偶像的罪，都犯了属灵的奸淫。而耶稣在十字架上为我们这些“属灵的淫妇”流下宝血，成就了这极重无比的救恩。因此，我们得以成为圣洁，而基督徒聚集在一起成为基督的身体，就是教会。基督也是我们全教会的头。

同样的，夫妻之间的关系如同基督与教会的关系。“因为丈夫是妻子的头，如同基督是教会的头，他又是教会全体的救主。”【以弗所书5:23】。所以，正如基督爱教会，我们做丈夫的也当以牺牲的爱来爱我们的妻子，“你们做丈夫的，要爱你们的妻子，正如基督爱教会，为教会舍己”【以弗所书5:25】。基

Marriage is a sacred vow lifelong commitment, unwavering faithfulness, and divine holiness between husband and wife. Just as God commands us—His people—not to worship idols but to worship the one true God, "for I the Lord your God am a jealous God" (Exodus 20:5). Why does God feel jealous when we worship idols? Consider this: if our spouse were unfaithful, how could we, as the wronged party, endure it? In the Old Testament, the Bible compares idolatry to adultery, portraying it as spiritual infidelity. The most direct account is found in Hosea, which describes the marriage of the prophet Hosea to the adulterous woman Gomer. "When the Lord first spoke through Hosea, the Lord said to Hosea, 'Go, take to yourself a wife of whoredom and have children of whoredom, for the land commits great whoredom by forsaking the Lord.' So he went and took Gomer, the daughter of Diblaim." (Hosea 1:2-3). Gomer was unfaithful to her husband Hosea, engaging in illicit relationships with other men. Yet Hosea was called to accept her, even taking her back repeatedly when she returned. The name "Hosea" means "salvation" or "deliverance," sharing the same Hebrew root as "Joshua." In the New Testament, Joshua is translated into Greek as "Jesus," meaning "Savior." "She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." (Matthew 1:21). We have all sinned and fall short of the glory of God (Romans 3:23), and in our hearts, we have all committed idolatry to some degree—spiritual adultery. Yet Jesus shed His precious blood on the cross for us, these "spiritual adulterers," accomplishing the immeasurably great salvation. Thus, we are made holy, and Christians gathered together as the body of Christ form the church, with Christ as our head.

Likewise, the relationship between husband and wife mirrors that of Christ and the church. "For the husband is the head of the wife even as Christ is the head of the church, his body, and is himself its Savior." (Ephesians 5:23). Therefore, just as Christ loves the church, husbands ought to love their wives with sacrificial love: "Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her." (Ephesians 5:25). Christ "gave himself up for her, that

督“要用水借着道把教会洗净，成为圣洁，可以献给自己，做个荣耀的教会，毫无玷污、皱纹等类的病，乃是圣洁没有瑕疵的。”【以弗所书5:26-27】。我们因着听到福音而认罪悔改，接受耶稣，因信心得着救恩，藉着主的道在圣灵里天天更新，成圣，因着基督的无瑕疵。同样，做丈夫的应当在主里带领妻子到基督台前，藉着圣经的道引导妻子活出在主里应当荣耀上帝的生活，从而活出爱妻子的生活，彼此分别为圣，成为圣洁。“这是极大的奥秘，但我是指着基督和教会说的。然而你们各人都当爱妻子，如同爱自己一样；妻子也当敬重她的丈夫。”【以弗所书5:32-33】

因此，当我们在婚姻中遇到争执和冲突时，让我们时刻想起基督为我们舍了生命，为要赎回我们的罪。我们也当效法我们的主，为配偶牺牲舍己，付出而不求回报，建立对方如同基督建立教会——他的身体一样。“从来没有人恨恶自己的身子，总是保养顾惜，正像基督待教会一样，因我们是他身上的肢体。为这个缘故，人要离开父母，与妻子联合，二人成为一体。”【以弗所书5:29-31】

当今时代的潮流告诉我们，婚姻讲究感觉和利益，而不是以基督为榜样的价值观。许多人认为合则来，不合则散，离婚后再寻新欢，甚至寻花问柳。然而，基督徒的婚姻观和价值观建立在基督与教会的关系、福音的本质以及基督在十字架上舍己的爱的基础上。夫妻之间的爱、委身和牺牲都应当基于基督的福音，而不是以自我为中心的个人感觉或利益关系。基督为教会舍己、不离不弃的爱，应当成为我们夫妻彼此相爱的源头和榜样。若我们视基督为我们人生的至宝，过于个人的感受和利益时，我们当记住：“唯有基督在我们还做罪人的时候为我们死，神的爱就在此向我们显明了。”【罗马书5:8】。所以，弟兄姐妹们，“我们爱，因为神先爱我们。”【约翰一书4:19】。“最要紧的是彼此切实相爱，因为爱能遮掩许多的罪。”【彼得前书4:8】。使徒保罗也在《哥林多前书》13章中阐明了爱的真谛。

当我们认识到婚姻的真正意义是指向基督，而基督的荣耀是我们婚姻的中心和基础时，我们的婚姻必然是幸福美满的。因为这是神在永恒中所定的计划。愿在今天情人节之际，与各位终成眷属的情侣或渴望步入婚姻的男女共勉，愿你们的婚姻幸福美满。

he might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, so that he might present the church to himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish." (Ephesians 5:25-27) Through hearing the gospel, we repent, accept Jesus, and receive salvation by faith. Daily, we are renewed and sanctified by the Word and the Spirit, made blameless because of Christ. Similarly, a husband should lead his wife to Christ, guiding her through Scripture to live a life that glorifies God, thereby loving her sacrificially and fostering mutual holiness. "This mystery is profound, and I am saying that it refers to Christ and the church. However, let each one of you love his wife as himself, and let the wife see that she respects her husband." (Ephesians 5:32-33).

Thus, when conflicts arise in marriage, let us remember how Christ gave His life to redeem us from sin. We ought to follow our Lord's example, sacrificing ourselves for our spouse, giving without expecting return, and building them up as Christ builds His church—His body. "For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as Christ does the church, because we are members of his body. Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh." (Ephesians 5:29-31).

The trends of our age promote marriage based on feelings and self-interest rather than Christ-centered values. Many believe that if a relationship no longer suits them, they should move on—divorcing and seeking new partners, or even engaging in promiscuity. However, the Christian view of marriage is founded on the relationship between Christ and the church, the essence of the gospel, and Christ's self-sacrificial love on the cross. Marital love, commitment, and sacrifice should be rooted in the gospel, not self-centered emotions or personal gain. Christ's unwavering, sacrificial love for the church must be the source and model for how spouses love one another. If we treasure Christ above our own feelings and interests, let us remember: "But God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us." (Romans 5:8). Therefore, brothers and sisters, "We love because he first loved us." (1 John 4:19). "Above all, keep loving one another earnestly, since love covers a multitude of sins." (1 Peter 4:8). The Apostle Paul also expounds on the true nature of love in 1 Corinthians 13.

When we recognize that the true meaning of marriage points to Christ, and that His glory is the foundation of our union, our marriages will inevitably be blessed and fulfilling—for this is God's eternal design. On this Valentine's Day, may all couples who have found love or those longing for marriage be encouraged. May your marriages be filled with joy and rooted in Christ.



受洗 Baptism



受洗 Baptism



受洗 Baptism



成团圣诞节目
Adult Fellowship Christmas Programme



中秋布道晚会
Mooncake Evangelistic Event



受洗
Baptism

入会
Membership induction



儿童洗礼
Child baptism

照片集锦 Photos



农历新年聚餐
CNY Potluck



19周年中英联合崇拜全体照
19th Anniversary combined service group photo



青年主日献唱
Youth Sunday song presentation



中秋聚餐
Mooncake Festival Dinner



出游



Outings



敬牧晚宴
PPRC Dinner



老人院报佳音
Caroling at the Resthome



19周年诗班献唱
19th Anniversary Choir Presentation



敬牧主日
PPRC Sunday





我是把高尔夫大伞，挺大的一把，主人已经好久没带我出门了，直到今天一大早，主人带着我跑出门，我当时心里那个激动啊，原来，我们要去参加常青团契的郊游活动！

在我的陪护下，主人在Remuera教会的门口，坐上了牧师开的12人面包车，跟着领队孝祥的另一辆车，我们很快到达了Huntly小镇的Lake Hakanoa。淅淅沥沥的雨中，主人撑开了我，我骄傲地张开臂膀，护着主人漫步湖边。湖里大鸭子带着小鸭子，悠闲地游来游去，远处烟雨朦胧，我心想：这雨倒是下得有诗意。

领队带着大家走进了湖边的Green Cathedral，那是一个露天小教堂，有长条木凳和石头讲台。要不是下雨，主人一定会请牧师在那儿讲道吧。

接着，我们又去了参观了一个古董火车俱乐部，Glen Afton line 那里有一辆1929年建

I'm a big golf umbrella—quite large, actually. My owner hadn't taken me out for the longest time, until this morning when the owner rushed out with me in hand. I was so excited! Turns out, we were going on an outing with the Evergreen Fellowship!

Under my shelter, my owner waited at the entrance of Remuera's church and boarded the 12-seater van driven by the pastor. Following another car led by Stephen, we soon arrived at Lake Hakanoa in Huntly. In the drizzling rain, my owner opened me up, and I proudly stretched my arms wide, shielding her as we strolled by the lake. Big ducks paddled leisurely with their ducklings, and the misty rain blurred the distant view. This rain has a certain poetry to it, I thought.

The leader guided everyone to the Green Cathedral by the lake—an open-air chapel with wooden benches and a stone pulpit. If not for the rain, my owner would've surely asked the pastor to preach there.

造的火车头，如今还能跑！我一边听着介绍，一边默默想：“这火车能跑95年，我这把伞也希望为主人撑那么久！”

中午到了Raglan，奇怪这里没有下雨，公园的餐桌椅都是干的，显得我这把伞有点多余了。主人谢饭以后，大家在公园里开怀品尝着本地的炸鱼薯条，可惜，好景不长，半个小时不到，雨就飘落下来了。我见大家都赶快收拾午餐，三步并作两步钻上了车，主人还把我撑开举高，架放在两辆面包车之间。我心里正纳闷，结果听主人说，等下我要给讲道的牧师挡雨。

雨声依旧敲打着我的伞面，大家在车内唱完诗，牧师便站在2个敞开大门的面包车之间，在我的正下方，缓缓地讲解提摩太后书4:6-8“我已经被浇奠；我离世的时候也到了。那美好的仗我已经打过了，当跑的路我已经跑尽了，所持的信仰我已经守住了。从此以后，有公义的冠冕为我存留，就是按公义审判的主在那日要赏给我的；不但赏给我，也赏给所有爱慕他显现的人。”

牧师的声音温和坚定：“我们基督徒不怕谈论死亡，因为我们被拣选，是带着盼望和使命而生。……不管有什么阻拦，不管有多少风雨，我们要甘心被神浇奠，尽力传扬福音……。”

牧师讲完，雨还是没有停，有些人冒着雨前往Raglan小桥和码头，兴致勃勃地指点着当地人在海里钓上的大鳟鱼…在回奥克兰的路上，我们经过了Whatawhata Berry Farm，我主人吃上了冰激凌，买到了大草莓，高兴得像小孩，笑声不断。

感谢这场恩雨，让我这把伞，有给主人和牧师遮风挡雨的机会，并见证了风雨兼程，平安喜乐的常青团契。

Next, we visited an antique train club at the Glen Afton Line, where a locomotive built in 1929 still runs! As I listened to the guide, I mused, “If this train can keep going for 95 years, I hope I can shelter my owner just as long!”

By noon, we reached Raglan. Strangely, there was no rain here—the park benches were dry, making me feel a bit unnecessary. After a prayer of thanks, everyone happily dug into local fish and chips. But the good weather didn't last; within half an hour, the rain returned. People quickly packed up and hurried back to the vans. My owner held me high, propping me between the two vans. I was puzzled until I heard him say I'd be shielding the pastor while he preached.

Raindrops pattered against my canopy as hymns filled the air inside the vans. Then the pastor stood between the two open van doors, directly below me, and began expounding on 2 Timothy 4:6-8 (ESV):

“For I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure has come. 7 I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. 8 Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have loved his appearing.”

The pastor's voice was calm yet firm: “As Christians, we do not fear discussing death, for we are chosen—born with hope and purpose... No matter the obstacles, no matter the storms, we must willingly be poured out for God, striving to proclaim the Gospel...”

Even after the sermon, the rain continued. Some braved the weather to visit Raglan's little bridge and wharf, eagerly pointing out the large trout locals had caught from the sea. On the way back to Auckland, we stopped at Whatawhata Berry Farm. My owner enjoyed ice cream and bought huge strawberries, laughing like a child, his joy uncontainable.

I'm grateful for this rain of grace—it gave me, a humble umbrella, the chance to shelter my owner and the pastor. And in doing so, I witnessed the Evergreen Fellowship's unwavering joy and peace, journeying together through wind and rain.

2024 Coworkers Camp Reflection

2024同工营反思

◆ Zi Yao Jia

The 2024 coworkers camp was the best four days of my life! I learned so much about God's rock-solid truth, I bonded with so many friends and created so many lasting friendships with children all around the country. During the four-day 'Breaker Rock Beach' children program. We had insightful lessons based on God's truth never changing, powerful inspiration, and nights where we toasted marshmallows while making homemade popcorn. Everyone made so many new friends and were all extremely sad to leave. At the end of the program, every child left the camp with five very important lessons stuck on a key chain. Number one, truth comes from God. Number two, God's plan is best. Number three, everyone needs Jesus. Number 4, The Bible is true. Jesus is the Only Way. And lastly, Speak the truth in love.

I, along with three other aged 12 or 13 tweens were given the role of leaders of the Children Sunday School. This was a fantastic opportunity to

2024年的同工营是我人生中最美好的四天！我学到了许多关于上帝坚如磐石的真理，与众多朋友建立了深厚的情谊，并与来自全国各地的孩子们缔结了持久的友谊。在为期四天的“Breaker Rock海滩”儿童项目中，我们深入学习了基于上帝永恒不变的真理的课程，获得了强大的灵感启发，夜晚还围坐一起烤棉花糖、自制爆米花。每个人都结交了许多新朋友，离别时都感到无比不舍。项目结束时，每个孩子都带着五个重要的人生课程钥匙扣离开了营地：第一，真理来自上帝；第二，上帝的计划最完美；第三，人人都需要耶稣；第四，圣经是真实的，耶稣是唯一的道路；最后，以爱心说诚实话。

我和另外三位12或13岁的青少年被赋予了儿童主日学领导者的角色。这是一个锻炼领导能力、了解年幼孩子并为我们下一届树立良好领导榜样的绝佳机会。作为领导者，包括我在内，我们负责带领茶点前的祈祷、打扫教室等多项任务。完

practice leadership, to get to know the younger children and to set a good example of leadership for the year group below us. The leaders, including me, helped lead prayers before snack time, clean up the classrooms, and many more. After we completed all 8 tasks, we received a prize that I kept as a memory. But as my teacher said, it is not the prize that matters, it is what we've done to serve the Lord that truly counts. I not only grew as a person, but I grew as a faithful servant of the Lord.

A very exciting and memorable experience that I will never forget is singing worship songs on a double decker bus. The stunning view, the delicious sorbet and the smell of Sumner Beach is something I will always remember.

Thank you to everyone who made this camp possible. Thank you to the pastors, the organizers, the bus drivers, the chefs, and lastly to everyone who participated, without you, this camp would not have happened. Oh, and also, thank you to my friends I made at this camp. I miss you guys so much.

Overall, this camp is a 11 out of 10 experience, it could not have been any better, I learned so much, I made so many new friends and I had so much fun. I'm already looking forward to the next camp in two years. See you guys there!

成所有8项任务后，我们获得了纪念奖品，但正如老师所说，重要的不是奖品，而是我们为服务主所做的一切。这次经历不仅让我个人成长，也让我在成为主的忠实仆人道路上更进一步。

一个令人兴奋且难忘的经历是在双层巴士上唱赞美诗。那壮丽的景色、美味的冰沙以及Sumner海滩的气息，都将成为我永恒的记忆。

感谢所有让这次营会成为可能的人。感谢牧师、组织者、巴士司机、厨师，以及最后但同样重要的每一位参与者，没有你们，这一切都无法实现。哦，还有我在营地结识的朋友们，我非常想念你们。

总的来说，这次营会体验满分10分，我给11分，它完美得无以复加。我学到了很多，结交了许多新朋友，享受了无尽的乐趣。我已经迫不及待地期待两年后的下一届营会了。到时候见，朋友们！



会友事工 – “为的是要装备圣徒，去承担圣工，建立基督的身体” – 弗 4:12

Laity Ministry - “to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ” – Ephesians 4:12

27/02/2025

◆ 陆汉江 / David Lok

哥林多前书 12:27 “你们就是基督的身体，并且每一个人都是作肢体的”

纽西兰基督教华人卫理公会年会设立许多不同部门来推动年会事工。其中有会友事工部来联系各堂会的会友领袖一起商讨和推动年会的事工。其章程对会友领袖的设立目的如下：

各牧区堂会应有一会友领袖，由牧区议会选举，他应与牧师及执事会主席合作，共同促进卫理公会会友事工活动节目。其职责应为：

1. 了解卫理公会之全部活动节目，以便指导并与牧师共同执行活动节目。
2. 通过堂会程序委员会向执事会呈会友事工之各项活动节目，以便与其他计划取得联络，得以推行各项活动。
3. 协助牧师向会友报告教会经济之需要。
4. 协助牧师发展执事会之训练项

1 Corinthians 12:27 “Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it.”

The Chinese Methodist Church in New Zealand (CMCNZ) has established various departments to promote the ministries of the annual conference. Among them is the Laity Ministry Department, which connects layleaders from all our churches to discuss and advance the conference's initiatives. The purpose of establishing layleaders, as outlined in its constitution, is as follows:

There shall be a church lay leader in each Local Church, elected by the Local Conference, who shall take leadership in promoting in cooperation with the minister and the chairman of the Executive Committee the program of lay work of the Methodist Church. He shall be responsible for:

1. *Becoming acquainted with the total program of The Methodist Church in order that he may counsel and work with the minister in the execution of the program.*
2. *Presenting the program of lay activities to the Executive Committee, through the local*

目。

5. 向每次执事会例会会议提出报告。
6. 参与教区会友事工执行会及年议会会友事工部之活动节目。

【纽西兰基督教华人卫理公会 – 执事手册 – 年会法规 88】

美恩堂有两位会友领袖负责英文部事工和华文部事工。堂会有许多有纪念性的活动和聚会。其中主要的一项活动是每年九月的一个重要的主日，就是“会友和敬牧主日”。其目的除了借此机会来表达我们对牧者的敬爱，更重要的是要传达会友与牧师一起努力实现教会的使命和异象。借此主日提醒我们会友参与教会服事的重要。

会友领袖的职责就是透过定期与牧师会面，讨论教会的状况以及事工的机会，并和教会其他事工部，与牧师配合，推动整个事工朝着教会的使命而努力。会友领袖也需要积极协助牧师，透过小组或个人探访，一起照顾会友的属灵生命。

美恩堂十九周年庆典过去了，新堂也落成了，也是我们想想如何推动扩展福音事工了。会友事工部将会和各部门配合，比如和基督教教育委员会积极推动和加强门徒训练的事工，坚固信仰，专注在属灵生命的成长。

在扩展事工，我们也会和新成立的社会关怀委员会和其他团契配合，把这社会关怀的事工建立起来。透过社会关怀，让我们跟随耶稣的脚踪行，看见穷苦和老人的需要，并给予帮助，使我们明白和体会“施比受更为有福”的真理。

神把我们从世界不同的地方聚集在美恩堂，我们的生活习惯不同，在不同的文化背景成长，神却要我们一同的来事奉祂。透过这些事奉，我们彼此服事和配搭，使我们在主里同心合一，喜乐在福音事工上，各尽其职。我们不要因事工的繁琐和忙碌，而彼此失去耐心。我们少埋怨，少批评，多祷告，确实专注在主耶稣吩咐的大使命，彼此相顾，相互勉励，激发爱心，如保罗在哥林多前书 12: 20-26 用身体的比喻

church Program Committee, for the correlation of plans to carry on the program.

3. *Working with the minister in presenting all financial needs to the congregation.*
4. *Working with the minister in developing a program of training for the Executive Committee.*
5. *Reporting to each regular session of the Executive Committee.*
6. *Participating in the Program of the District Commission and the Conference Board of the Laity.*

GCMC has two lay leaders responsible for the English and Chinese ministries respectively. The church holds many commemorative events and gatherings. One of the key events is an important Sunday in September each year, known as "Laity and Pastor Appreciation Sunday." Its purpose is not only to express our love and respect for the pastors but, more importantly, to convey the congregation's commitment to working alongside the pastors to fulfill the church's mission and vision. This Sunday serves as a reminder for us lay members to actively participate in church ministries.

The role of the lay leaders is to meet regularly with the pastors to discuss the state of the church and ministry opportunities. They collaborate with other ministry departments and the pastors to advance the church's mission. Additionally, congregational leaders actively assist the pastors in caring for the spiritual lives of church members through small group or individual visits.

With the 19th-anniversary celebration of GCMC behind us and the new church building completed, it is time to consider how to expand our gospel ministry. The Lay Ministry will work closely with various departments, such as the Christian Education Committee, to actively promote and strengthen discipleship training, firm up faith, and focus on spiritual growth.

In expanding our ministries, we will also collaborate with the newly established Social Concerns Committee and other fellowships to establish a robust social outreach ministry. Through social care, we follow in the footsteps of Jesus,

所描述的“但现在肢体虽然很多，身体却只是一个。眼睛不能对手说：“我不需要你。”头也不能对脚说：“我不需要你们。”相反地，身体上那些似乎比较软弱的肢体，更是不可缺少的。我们认为身体上不大体面的部分，就更加要把它装饰得体面；不大美观的部分，就更加要使它美观。我们身体上美观的部分，就不需要这样了。但神却这样把身体组成了：格外地把体面加给比较有缺欠的肢体，好使肢体能够互相照顾，免得身体上有了分裂。如果一个肢体受苦，所有的肢体就一同受苦；如果一个肢体得荣耀，所有的肢体就一同快乐。”

会友事工推动的每一个节目活动都是为了促进和建立会友之间和在主里更深的关系。我们的目的就如以弗所书 4: 12-13 所说：“为的是要装备圣徒，去承担圣工，建立基督的身体；直到我们众人对神的儿子都有一致的信仰和认识，可以长大成人，达到基督丰盛长成的身量”。

“基督徒若是彼此冷落，就会彼此漠不关心。”— 马太亨利

recognizing the needs of the poor and elderly and offering assistance. This helps us understand and experience the truth that "it is more blessed to give than to receive."

God has gathered us from different parts of the world at GCMC. Though our lifestyles and cultural backgrounds differ, He calls us to serve Him together. Through these ministries, we serve and support one another, fostering unity in Christ and joyfully fulfilling our roles in gospel work. Let us not lose patience with one another due to the busyness and complexity of ministry. Instead, let us complain less, criticize less, pray more, and truly focus on the Great Commission given by Jesus—caring for one another, encouraging each other, and stirring up love. As Paul describes in **1 Corinthians 12:20-26** using the body as an illustration: **“As it is, there are many parts, yet one body. The eye cannot say to the hand, “I have no need of you,” nor again the head to the feet, “I have no need of you.” On the contrary, the parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, and on those parts of the body that we think less honorable we bestow the greater honor, and our unpresentable parts are treated with greater modesty, which our more presentable parts do not require. But God has so composed the body, giving greater honor to the part that lacked it, that there may be no division in the body, but that the members may have the same care for one another. If one member suffers, all suffer together; if one member is honored, all rejoice together.”**

Every program and activity promoted by the Congregational Ministry aims to deepen relationships among members and strengthen our bond in Christ. Our goal, as stated in **Ephesians 4:12-13**, is: **“to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ”.**

“Where Christians grow cold towards each other, they will be careless and unconcerned for each other.” — Matthew Henry

从陌生到归属 – 会友主日感恩分享

From Stranger to Belonging – A Thanksgiving Sharing on Laity Sunday

◆ Jewel

我是2年前，2022年4月3日，第一次在网络上参加了美恩堂的主日，那是个圣餐主日，牧师的主日信息是《要善用神所供應的資源》。一周后的4月10日我来到实体主日聚会。一位友善的弟兄，隆昌弟兄，在门口迎接了我，聚会结束后，Julia姐妹热情地把我拉进了线上的成团团契，现在改名为长青团契。Angela把我拉进了周三的线上祷告会。在线上我认识了更多的美恩堂的弟兄姐妹，他们追求真理的心，依靠神的心，从那时到现在一直深深打动着我。

在实体聚会不久之，诗班的Kenny, Grace, Julia和Angela主动邀请我加入诗班，我好开心啊。但参与后，我发现自己气息不足，换气不顺，练新歌有时跟不上节奏，有时高音唱不上去，又尝试唱中音，结果我更容易跑调！真想放弃！

还好，诗班没有放弃我。Weber弟兄帮助我练吸气吐气、练发音，其他弟兄姐妹也给我提供宝贵的练唱经验。看到这些弟兄姐妹，即使身体有病痛、工作有压力、家庭有负担，依然每周来练唱。还有，最小的Nicole姐妹从不迟到、从不抱怨，总是默默地给我们伴奏。这些榜样都鼓舞我，继续参加唱诗班。

记得去年中秋，我和诗班的弟兄姐妹们一起，前往New Plymouth传福音，开车需要5个多小时，那一次，来听福音的人甚至没有我们下去的诗班成员多，但大家依然精心准备节目，尽心尽力地服侍。今年中秋节我们再次前往，有位姐妹还亲手制作了100个月饼带去。令人感恩的是，来了不少年轻的慕道友，非常认真地聆听福音信息。这些都让我看到大家这种不求名和利、只专注传福音的精神。

Two years ago, on April 3, 2022, I attended my first online Sunday service at GCMC (then RCMC). It was a Communion Sunday, and the pastor’s message was titled "Make Good Use of the Resources God Provides." A week later, on April 10, I joined the in-person Sunday gathering for the first time. A kind brother, Brother Long Chang, greeted me at the door. After the service, Sister Julia warmly invited me to join the online Adult Fellowship group (now renamed Evergreen Fellowship). Angela then invited me to the Wednesday online prayer meeting. Through these online platforms, I got to know more brothers and sisters from GCMC. Their pursuit of truth and reliance on God deeply moved me then and continues to do so today.

Not long after attending in-person gatherings, members of the choir—Kenny, Grace, Julia, and Angela—invited me to join them. I was overjoyed! However, I soon realized my shortcomings: weak breath control, difficulty transitioning between notes, struggling to keep up with new songs, and failing to hit high notes. When I tried singing alto, I found myself even more prone to going off-key! I felt like giving up.

Fortunately, the choir didn’t give up on me. Brother Weber helped me practice breathing and vocal techniques, while other members shared valuable singing tips. Seeing these brothers and sisters—some enduring physical pain, work stress, or family burdens—still faithfully attending choir rehearsals every week inspired me to keep going. And then there’s Sister Nicole, the youngest among us, who never arrives late or complains but quietly accompanies us on the piano. Their examples encouraged me to persevere.

Last Mid-Autumn Festival, I traveled with the choir to New Plymouth for an evangelistic outreach—a five-hour drive. Surprisingly, the number of attendees was even smaller than our choir team. Yet, everyone wholeheartedly prepared and served



with dedication. This year, we went again, and one sister even handmade 100 mooncakes to share. Thankfully, many young seekers came and listened attentively to the Gospel message. These experiences showed me the selfless, Gospel-centered spirit of our team.

Thank you, Winnie and Julia, for encouraging me to join the usher team. Two years ago, when I first arrived, the in-person gatherings were small, so I thought serving would be simple. But once I started, I couldn't tell who was new! More than once, I mistakenly asked long-time members if it was their first time at church. Though Julia and Iris often came to my rescue, I want to take this moment to sincerely thank our seasoned members for their grace, patience, and acceptance.

Serving in ushering, choir, and prayer meetings has given me wonderful opportunities to connect with more brothers and sisters in the church. I'm thankful for these chances to serve and for the constant support from my church family.

Sometimes, serving means missing parts of the pastor's carefully prepared Sunday messages. So, I'm grateful to the media team for making these precious teachings available online afterward.

Thank you, Pastor and his wife, for faithfully feeding us with God's Word during fellowship gatherings.

Above all, thank God for leading me into this warm, spiritual family. To Him be all the glory!

谢谢Winnie和Julia鼓励我加入招待团队。2年前我刚来的时候，实体聚会的人数不多，所以我以为会是很简单的服侍，可一上岗，我认不出谁是新人！出现了很多次，向老会友问是不是第一次来教会？虽然Julia和Iris也及时地来解围，但是今天我要特别在此，衷心地感谢老会友的大度，对我的包容和接纳。

其实做招待，在诗班和在祷告会，是给了我很好的机会去认识教会里更多的弟兄姐妹。感谢教会给我这些服侍的机会和弟兄姐妹给我随时的帮助。

有的时候我因服侍，错过了牧师精心准备的主日信息，所以要感谢后面的网络媒体的弟兄们，是因为你们的付出，让我得以重新聆听这些宝贵的信息。

感谢牧师师母，在平时团契中神话语上的辛勤的喂养。

感谢神赐给我，带领我融入这个温暖的属灵的家，荣耀归于他！

Church Building Ministry - A Reflection 建堂事工反思

◆ Kenny

May all glory be to God for blessing us with a new church and a smooth renovation process. We moved in during the last week of 2024. By His grace, we were granted Building and Resource Consents in July 2024, and construction was scheduled to be completed by February 2025. We obtained the Certificate of Public Use just before the council's holiday shutdown and the Code of Compliance Certificate in the new year.

I would like to acknowledge the committee members: Evelyn (Vice Chair), Rev Aaron, Chris, David, LihReng, Richard, Betty, Jackson, and Mark. We navigated many meetings, decision-making processes, late nights, debates, and disagreements that got us through, together.

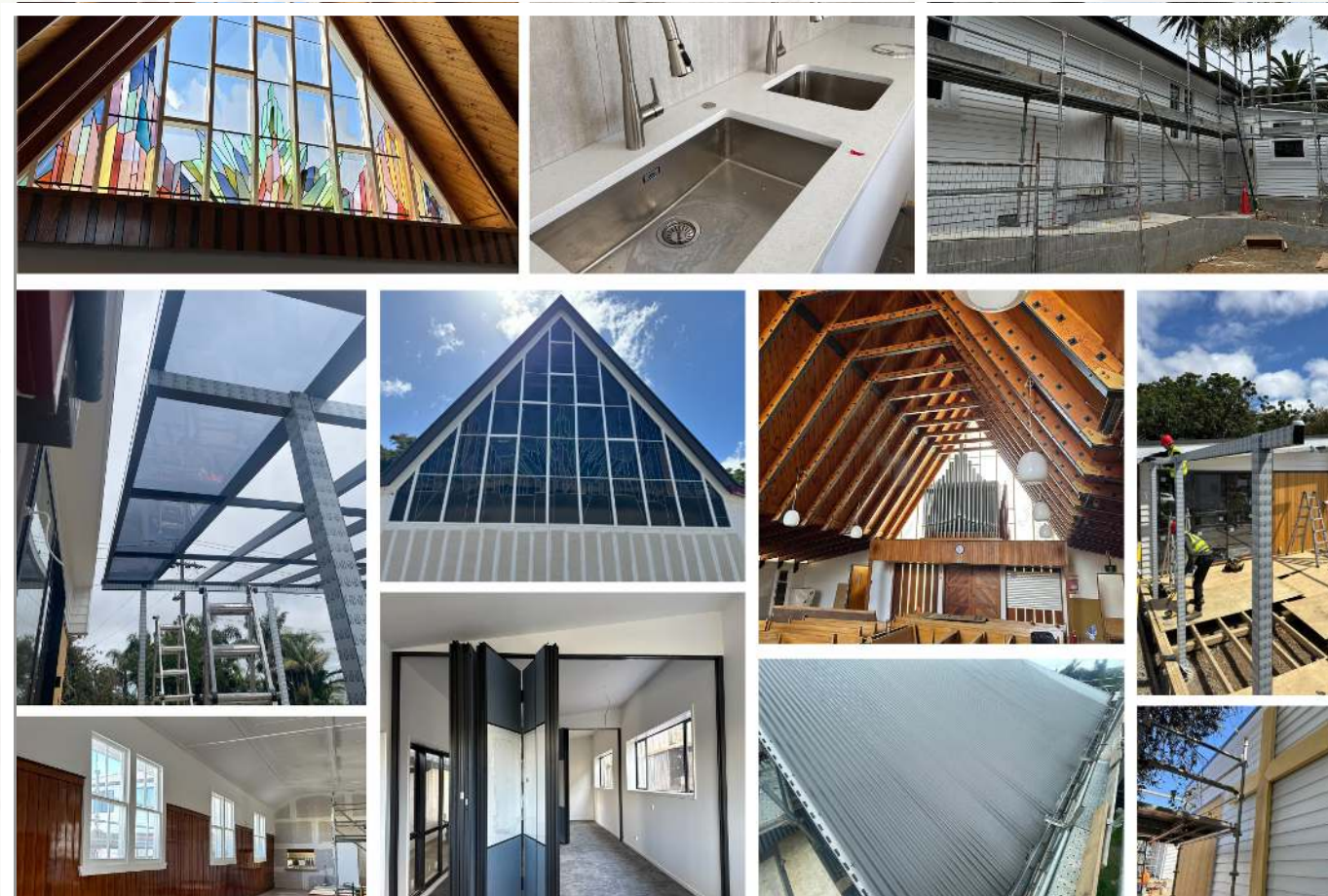
Special thanks to Aulfon/Livefirm, we were only able to fund the Chapel Earthquake Strengthening and Hall Renovation scope, they supported us financially to complete the three new classrooms, outdoor accessible toilet, outdoor area and the new kitchen. Their timely advice and generous donations, including upgraded scopes at no additional cost, were invaluable.

愿一切荣耀归于上帝，因祂赐予我们新的教堂，并保守修缮工程顺利完工。2024年最后一周我们正式迁入，靠祂恩典，我们于2024年7月获得建筑与资源许可，原定2025年2月竣工。恰逢市议会休假前我们取得公共使用许可证，新年伊始又获合规认证。

衷心感谢委员会同工：副主席伟芬、沈牧师、Chris、David、立初、Richard、Betty、Jackson和Mark。我们共同经历了无数会议、决策、深夜讨论、辩论甚至分歧，最终携手跨越难关。

特别感恩Aulfon/Livefirm团队，当我们资金仅够支撑教堂抗震加固及后堂改造时，他们慷慨资助我们完成了三间新教室、无障碍户外卫生间、户外区域及新厨房的建设。他们及时的建言与无偿升级工程的奉献弥足珍贵。

也要感谢由David带领的搬迁团队，全体成



We also want to thank the **Moving Team**, led by David and supported by everyone, for clearing and cleaning out St Paul, preparing the new church, tidying, and shelving. Special thanks to Chris, for his at all time dedication, full of passion and love, goes up and down, bends sideways when needed, never-say-no HandyMan efforts.

We are weak, but God is strong.

I had to step down from the CBC chair before handing over to the new LCEC 2025/26 due to fatigue and the need for a break. I faced many emotional ups and downs, including the loss of a well-respected manager and beloved ex-manager in 2024. He retired early due to health issues and passed away six months later. I led his memorial service, sharing the gospel with him, though he wasn't interested.

At work, I was initially invited to act in my ex-manager's role during a recruitment crisis, which I accepted. Later, I was asked to continue in the role without a promotion, despite my higher position application being rejected. I was advised to take a grievance, but my heart was deeply tested, and I chose not to.

I faced tests of pride, spirituality, family arguments, and conflicts with co-workers.

Scripture reminds us:

- *"But I say, walk by the Spirit, and do not gratify the desires of the flesh. For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh; for these are opposed to each other, to prevent you from doing what you would. But if you are led by the Spirit you are not under the law."* (Galatians 5:16-18)
- *"For you were called to freedom, brothers. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another. For the whole law is fulfilled in one word: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' But if you bite and devour one another, watch out that you are not consumed by one another."* (Galatians 5:13-15)

I fell and gave way to Satan's attacks. My weaknesses are visible, yet by the love of Christ and the support of brothers and sisters, God's power is even greater.

"But he said to me, 'My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.' Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me." (2 Corinthians 12:9)

May God guide us and give us strength and wisdom to overcome. May He heal our scars.

员清理圣保罗堂、布置新堂、整理收纳不遗余力。特别致敬Chris弟兄，这位满怀热忱的全能工匠随时待命，攀高伏低从不推辞，以爱为动力完成各项艰巨工作。

我们虽然软弱，但上帝刚强。

因身心俱疲需休整，我不得不在交接2025/26届长执会前辞去CBC主席职务。这一年我历经情感波澜，包括痛失一位备受尊敬的现任经理与深爱的前任经理——他因健康提早退休，半年后安息主怀。我主持了他的追思礼拜，虽曾向他传福音未果。

职场中我最初应召临时代理前任经理职务以解招聘危机，后虽申请更高职位未果仍被要求留任原职。有人建议申诉，但心灵经历深度试炼后，我选择放下。

我经历了骄傲的试炼、灵性的挣扎、家庭争执与同工冲突。

经文提醒我们：

- "你们当顺着圣灵而行，就不放纵肉体的情欲了。因为情欲和圣灵相争，圣灵和情欲相争，这两个是彼此相敌，使你们不能做所愿意做的。但你们若被圣灵引导，就不在律法以下。"（加拉太书5:16-18）
- "弟兄们，你们蒙召是要得自由，只是不可将你们的自由当作放纵情欲的机会，总要用爱心互相服侍。因为全律法都包在'爱人如己'这一句话之内了。你们要谨慎，若相咬相吞，只怕要彼此消灭了。"（加拉太书5:13-15）

我曾跌倒屈服于撒旦攻击，软弱本相显露无遗。但藉基督之爱与弟兄姊妹扶持，神的能力更显完全。

"祂对我说：'我的恩典够你用的，因为我的能力是在人的软弱上显得完全。'所以，我更喜欢夸自己的软弱，好叫基督的能力覆庇我。"（哥林多后书12:9）

愿神指引我们，赐予战胜困境的力量与智慧，并医治我们一切伤痕。

祷告会灵修分享 Prayer meeting devotional sharing

“以色列中没有神吗？”

“Is it because there is no God in Israel?”

◆ Nick

列王紀下 1:3 但耶和华的使者对提斯比人以利亚说：“你动身上去迎着撒玛利亚王的使者，对他们说：‘你们去求问以革伦的神巴力·西卜，是因为以色列中没有神吗？’”

在《列王记下》第1章中，记载了亚哈谢因坠楼受伤，不去寻求神的医治，而是差人去求问外邦的假神巴力西卜，结果遭到神的斥责和严惩的故事。透过这个事件，我们看到神对祂子民的要求是绝对的忠诚和完全的信靠。祂绝不允许我们向别的神求问，或是事奉别神。旧约的以色列人就是因为常常忘记真神，去求问事奉各样的假神，而一次又一次地为自己带来灾祸。亚哈谢的结局正是其中一个最鲜明的例子。

这里神带着近乎嘲讽的语气质问亚哈谢：“...是因为以色列中没有神吗？”，直指亚

2 Kings 1:3: But the angel of the Lord said to Elijah the Tishbite, “Arise, go up to meet the messengers of the king of Samaria, and say to them, ‘Is it because there is no God in Israel that you are going to inquire of Baal-zebub, the god of Ekron?’

In 2 Kings chapter 1, the story is recorded of Ahaziah, who, after being injured in a fall, did not seek healing from God but instead sent messengers to inquire of the foreign false god Baal-Zebub. As a result, he faced God's rebuke and severe punishment. Through this event, we see that God demands absolute loyalty and complete trust from His people. He will not permit us to seek answers from other gods or serve them. The Israelites of the Old Testament repeatedly brought disaster upon themselves because they often forgot the true God and turned to inquire of and serve various false gods. Ahaziah's fate stands as one of the clearest examples of this.

Here, God questions Ahaziah with an almost



哈谢的荒谬，因为亚哈谢绝非不知道以色列中有神，只是他活得就像这位神完全不存在一样。这是多么可悲的一种写照，但多少时候也反映了许多基督徒在生活中对神的忽视。盼望亚哈谢愚蠢的行为能成为一个宝贵的提醒，帮助我们鉴查自己，是否我们遇事首先“求问”的是什么人或什么世俗的意见、方法或资源，而不是求问神？是否我们首先考虑的是大家都怎么说，或是某某权威专家怎么说，或是亲人朋友怎么说，却忘了先看看神的话怎么说？还是我们觉得神的话已经过时了，不管用了？是否有时我们就算口头求问神，心里却不是真正信靠祂，而是依赖自己、财富、某种学说，或是某位名人、牧师的意见？是否我们真正信靠的是什么人或是什么东西，而不是神？求主帮助我们看见，对除了神之外的任何人事物的依赖最终只会带来失望，甚至灾难。求主让我们不要错误地认为，只要我家里没有摆放神台供奉偶像，只要我没有去某某神庙敬拜求问其他神明，我就不能和亚哈谢相提并论，因为心中的偶像比外在的神像更为隐秘，也更危险。我们可能在不知不觉中“就将它们高举到神的地位，成为我们内心真正的倚靠。”

愿我们在每一天的生活中，不忘记向神祈求帮助，使我们能够真正地信靠祂，将我们的生活完全交托在祂的手中。求主怜悯我们，帮助我们能真正认识到，唯有耶和華神是一切美善，恩典，真理和智慧的源头。我们一切的好处都不在祂以外。求主帮助我们，不要口头上说有神，信神，但是每天活得像神不存在一样，或是一周里面只让祂礼拜天存在一天。求主帮助我们每时每刻都与祂同行，大事小事都向祂求问，学习单单地信靠祂，单单地认定祂，正如箴言3章5-6节所说：“信靠耶和華，心里不倚靠自己的聪明；在一切所行的事上，都要认定他，他必指引你的路。”

共勉之。

sarcastic tone: "...Is it because there is no God in Israel?"—directly exposing Ahaziah's absurdity. For Ahaziah was not unaware that God was in Israel; he simply lived as if God did not exist at all. What a tragic picture this paints, yet how often does it reflect the way many Christians ignore God in their daily lives? May Ahaziah's foolish actions serve as a valuable reminder, helping us examine ourselves: Do we first "inquire" of people, of worldly opinions, methods, or resources, rather than seeking God? Do we first consider what everyone else says, what some authoritative expert says, or what family and friends say—while forgetting to first see what God's Word says? Or do we think God's Word is outdated and no longer relevant? Even when we verbally seek God, do we truly trust Him in our hearts, or do we rely on ourselves, wealth, certain philosophies, or the opinions of some celebrity or pastor? What—or whom—do we truly trust, if not God?

May the Lord help us see that dependence on anything or anyone other than Him will ultimately lead only to disappointment, even disaster. May the Lord keep us from wrongly assuming that just because we have no household shrine to idols or because we don't visit temples to worship other gods, we cannot be compared to Ahaziah. For the idols in our hearts are far more hidden and far more dangerous than external statues. Without realizing it, we may "exalt them to the place of God, making them the true objects of our reliance."

May we, in our daily lives, never forget to ask God for help, that we may truly trust Him and entrust our lives completely into His hands. May the Lord have mercy on us and help us truly recognize that the Lord God alone is the source of all goodness, grace, truth, and wisdom. Every good thing we have comes from Him alone. May the Lord help us not merely to say we believe in God with our lips while living each day as if He does not exist—or allowing Him to exist only on Sundays. May the Lord help us walk with Him at all times, seeking Him in all things, big and small, learning to trust Him alone and acknowledge Him in all our ways—just as Proverbs 3:5-6 says: "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."

Let us encourage one another in this.

在神的爱中重新得力

Strengthened anew in God's love

◆ 陈美兰 / Mei Lan Chen

时光飞逝，我们每天都在与时间赛跑，转眼又到主日。看到大家匆匆擦肩而过，我们这对老夫妇显得额外抢眼。未曾老去的人，很难体会衰老过程中各种病痛带来的沮丧；若没有爱的激励，人很可能就此放弃自己。因为情绪起伏复杂难解，久而久之，更会发觉肌力与体力的极限——尤其当照顾者未能住在神的爱中时，便无法给出真正的爱。

我们都是软弱的罪人，一切丰盛都从神而来。唯有养成每日与神连结的习惯，活在祂的同在中，才有力量服侍软弱的人。当我们枯竭疲乏时，不妨到户外透透气，在园中漫步，转换心境，欣赏神所造的万物，赞美至高者的大能，必能重新得力。

看见会众不同的样貌，更令我感谢神。大家都仰望主，信心坚定，以基督的心为心。我们是为享受神的同在而来，领受祂的爱来填补心中的空缺，否则永远无法满足。

我牵着日益衰老的老伴，旁人的目光反而使我更刚强——因我所倚靠的是神！世人能把我怎样呢？

让我们在教会一同成长吧！看哪，弟兄和睦同居是何等美善！愿会众齐声敬拜，一同被神转化；愿祂的大能降下，滋润我们干渴的生命。

众城门啊，要抬起头来！让神的生命影响我们的生命。感谢牧者的喂养和弟兄姊妹的爱：你们如同天使，用包容与帮助温暖我们——无论是接送车辆、递上一杯水、伸手搀扶防跌倒，还是一个微笑、一道饱含爱意的目光，都足以融化老人的心。看哪！就连耐心等待卫生间的队伍，也让我们心生歉意。那位至高神早已看见这一切，祂说："凡作在这最小的身上，就是作在我身上。"

Time flies, and as we race against the clock each day, Sunday arrives again in the blink of an eye. Watching everyone hurry past one another, we two old folks stand out conspicuously. Those who have not yet aged can hardly understand the frustration brought by the various pains and illnesses of the aging process; without the motivation of love, one might easily give up on oneself. Because emotions are complex and unpredictable, over time, one becomes acutely aware of the limits of physical strength and stamina—especially when caregivers do not abide in God's love, making it impossible to offer genuine love.

We are all weak sinners, and every abundance comes from God. Only by cultivating a daily habit of connecting with Him and living in His presence can we find the strength to serve the weak. When we are drained and weary, stepping outside for fresh air, strolling in the garden, shifting our perspective, and admiring all that God has created while praising the Almighty's power will surely renew our strength.

Seeing the diverse faces in the congregation fills me with gratitude to God. Everyone lifts their eyes to the Lord, firm in faith and aligning their hearts with Christ's. We come to enjoy God's presence, to receive His love and fill the voids in our hearts—otherwise, we would never be satisfied.

Holding the hand of my increasingly frail spouse, the gazes of others only make me stronger—because my reliance is on God! What can mere humans do to me?

Let us grow together in the church! Behold, how good and pleasant it is when brothers dwell together in unity! May the congregation worship in one voice and be transformed together by God; may His power descend and quench our thirsty souls.

Lift up your heads, O gates! Let God's life influence ours. We thank our pastors for their spiritual nourishment and our brothers and sisters for their love: you are like angels, warming our hearts with your patience and help—whether it's offering rides, handing us a cup of water, steadying



愿主奇妙的作为向你们显明！想到你们正代替基督施行恩惠与慈爱，我们便感激不尽，日日将荣耀归于神！

主啊，求你教导我们数算自己的日子，好得着智慧的心；愿你的作为向我们显现，愿你的荣耀及于子孙，愿你的荣美归于我们身上。

"真光耶稣"已来临，要吞灭我们生命的黑暗，使我们成为祂手中的杰作，作那闪闪发光的器皿，在教会中穿梭不息。愿权柄、荣耀、智慧、能力都归给至高神！阿们！

us to prevent a fall, or simply sharing a smile or a loving glance—all of it melts an elderly heart. Look! Even the patient wait in line for the restroom fills us with gratitude. The Most High God has seen it all, and He says, "Whatever you did for the least of these, you did for me."

May the Lord's wonderful deeds be revealed to you! Knowing that you are acting as Christ's hands of grace and love fills us with endless gratitude, and we give glory to God daily!

Lord, teach us to number our days, that we may gain a heart of wisdom. May Your deeds be shown to us, Your glory extend to our descendants, and Your beauty rest upon us.

The "True Light, Jesus," has come to consume the darkness in our lives, shaping us into His masterpiece—radiant vessels that shine brightly, moving tirelessly within the church. May all authority, glory, wisdom, and power belong to the Most High God! Amen!

奇妙之旅：信心与感恩的见证 Wonderful Journey: A Testimony of Faith and Thanksgiving

◆ 黄万力传道 Ps.Allan Huang (新普利茅斯布道所 New Plymuth Mission Centre)

几周前的周五早晨，阳光洒满大地，我们七位弟兄姐妹临时起意，驱车前往邻近的小镇 Stratford 采集板栗。这原本只是一次简单的出游，却在上帝奇妙的安排下，成为了一段充满恩典与感动的旅程。

一路上，大家满怀期待。当我们抵达那片小镇的田野时，阳光透过树梢洒落在满地的板栗上，仿佛提醒我们，上帝的恩赐无处不在。大家一边欢笑，一边分享着彼此的生活点滴。

旅途中，我们不仅收获了板栗，更收获了意想不到的祝福。在探访镇上由 Charles 弟兄和 Mandy 姐妹经营的中式快餐店时，我们遇到了 Charles 弟兄。我们与他分享近况，一同祷告，彼此祝福，这次温暖的相聚让我们深刻感受到主内大家庭的亲情。

最令人感动的是，我们同行的苏姐在此次旅程中深受触动。她被弟兄姐妹间的爱与互助所感动，决心决志信主，跟随主。这份决志不仅是她信仰生命的全新开始，更深刻地鼓励了我们每个人，见证了上帝的爱如何在人心中动工。

此外，当我们去探访禹阿姨儿子张辉的 Dairy 店时，意外地重逢了多年无法参与教会生活的禹阿姨。禹阿姨在这次不期而遇中重新点燃了对神的信心，愿意再次回到主的怀抱。于是，我们决定每周提供接送服务，帮助禹阿姨重新融入教会的大家庭。

回顾这次奇妙的旅程，我们深深体会到

On a sunny Friday morning a few weeks ago, seven of us brothers and sisters spontaneously decided to drive to the nearby town of Stratford to gather chestnuts. What began as a simple outing, under God's amazing providence, turned into a journey overflowing with grace and touching moments.

With great anticipation, we set out. When we arrived at the fields in that small town, sunlight filtered through the trees, casting golden hues over the chestnuts scattered on the ground—a beautiful reminder that God's blessings are everywhere. As we laughed and worked together, we also shared stories from our lives, deepening our bonds.

But this trip yielded far more than just chestnuts—it brought unexpected blessings. While visiting a Chinese fast-food restaurant run by Brother Charles and Sister Mandy, we met Brother Charles. We shared updates, prayed together, and encouraged one another, experiencing the warmth of fellowship in God's family.

The most moving moment came when Sister Su, who was traveling with us, was deeply touched by the love and mutual care among the brothers and sisters. Moved by this Christ-like love, she made the decision to follow the Lord. Her commitment not only marked the beginning of her new life in faith but also profoundly encouraged each of us, testifying to how God's love works in human hearts.

Later, when we visited Brother Zhang Hui's dairy shop (the son of Auntie Yu), we unexpectedly reunited with Auntie Yu, who had been unable to attend church for years. This divine encounter rekindled her faith, and she expressed a desire to return to the Lord's embrace. As a result, we arranged weekly transportation to help her reconnect with the church family.

上帝奇妙的作为。原本只是偶然的出游，却变成一次满载属灵祝福的经历。我们看见神如何奇妙地带领我们，让我们在看似普通的日子

里，经历祂的恩典和爱。

这次旅程也使我们深刻认识到弟兄姐妹间彼此相爱的可贵。正如主耶稣在《约翰福音》13章34节所说：“我赐给你们一条新命令，乃是叫你们彼此相爱；我怎样爱你们，你们也要怎样相爱。”透过彼此真诚的爱，我们的生命被更新，许多未信主的人也因此感受到神的爱，愿意接受福音。

此外，我们也意识到，基督徒的生命需要更多地走出去，接触不同的人，经历不同的事情，才能真正体会神的作为。如果我们只是停留在舒适区、待在家中或工作场所，其实会错失许多机会。就像《使徒行传》8章26至40节所记载的腓利，他若没有顺从神的带领踏上旷野的路，就无法遇到埃提阿伯的太监，也无法引领他认识基督。

如今，我们每周都前往Stratford接送禹阿姨，我们不禁思想：这或许是上帝特别的安排，让我们能有更多机会接触当地的弟兄姐妹，甚至可能还有更多尚未联系上的基督徒。我们盼望在未来的日子里，上帝继续引导我们，借着这些定期的出行，帮助更多人回到教会的团契中。

愿我们都带着这份期盼，继续寻求主的带领，成为祂美好工作的器皿。

Looking back on this remarkable journey, we are in awe of God's marvelous work. What seemed like a casual trip became a spiritually enriching experience. We witnessed how God guided us in unexpected ways, allowing us to encounter His grace and love in the midst of ordinary days.

This journey also deepened our appreciation for the preciousness of brotherly and sisterly love. As Jesus said in John 13:34, "A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another." Through genuine love, our lives are renewed, and those who do not yet know Christ can sense God's love and be drawn to the Gospel.

Moreover, we realized that as Christians, we must step out of our comfort zones, engage with different people, and experience new things to truly witness God's work. If we remain confined to familiar spaces—our homes or workplaces—we may miss many opportunities. Just as Philip in Acts 8:26-40 obeyed God's leading to the desert road, where he met the Ethiopian eunuch and led him to Christ, we too must be willing to follow God's guidance into unknown places.

Now, as we drive to Stratford weekly to pick up Auntie Yu, we wonder: Could this be God's special guidance for us to connect with more brothers and sisters in that town—perhaps even those we have yet to meet? We pray that in the days ahead, God will continue to lead us, using these regular trips to bring more people back into the fellowship of the church.

May we all carry this hope, continually seeking the Lord's guidance, and become vessels of His beautiful work.



