



CHURCH of CHRIST
— PASIR PANJANG —



3 May 2020

2020 Year Theme:
Be Strong and Courageous! Joshua 1:9

Worship Theme:
No Longer Afraid (Holy Boldness)

Today's scripture texts: Acts 4:5-12; John 10:11-18; 28-35; Psalm 23:1-6,

The message in these few weeks is about restoration, life, and God's compassionate care for His people. These are the themes that come through the readings for this week too. In the book of Acts, it is recorded that the disciples, who are put on trial for healing the lame man outside of the Temple, proudly proclaim Jesus as the name by which the healing has happened, and by which humanity is to be saved. In David's famous Psalm 23, God's care as a shepherd is celebrated. Finally, in John 10, Jesus proclaims himself as the Good Shepherd who cares for the sheep with commitment and courage, and who lays down his life for the sheep.

This week's reading has some strong words for all Christians. How can we be a **bold** witness for Christ? Often, the term **bold**, used in relation to Christian witness, generates images of brash, obnoxious people, trying to strong-arm others into embracing the Christian faith. In this week's passage, Peter demonstrates how the Holy Spirit gives him the boldness to preach, teach, and heal in the name and authority of Jesus Christ. How does his boldness compare with our notions of being a bold witness?

This week's passage provides an opportunity to explore a well-rounded, mature view of bold, Christian ministry.

Questions to Wrestle With

1. What is your reaction to the type of boldness Peter displayed in today's passage?
2. If you were to suddenly become "bold" for Christ, what about you that would change?
3. A common complaint about the church among men is that the church simply teaches you to be "nice" and do "nice things" (usher, sing in acapella, teach in Sunday school), but doesn't challenge men to do bold things for Christ. How might your church respond to such a complaint?
4. What could your congregation do to get more involved in reaching out to your local community?
5. If there were one and only one thing your congregation could do to be a bold witness for Christ in your community, what would it be? Would it be to pray as a church for the Holy Spirit to empower your congregation for bold ministry?

EVENTS

Online Bible Class & Worship

3 May

9.30 am Bible Class
The Parable of the Seed
growing secretly by
Lim Cher Yam

11.00 am Worship

Acts 4:5-12 (1-22)
Simon Goh

Wed Online Bible Class

6 May

7.30 pm
Study on the book of Daniel
Lim Lian Chye

Zoom Prayer Warriors

Every 2nd & 4th Tue
Lim Lian Chye

5 Jul Youth for Christ (Youth Day)



Use this QR code to access
Online Worship



CIRCUIT BREAKER TO MINIMISE FURTHER SPREAD OF COVID-19

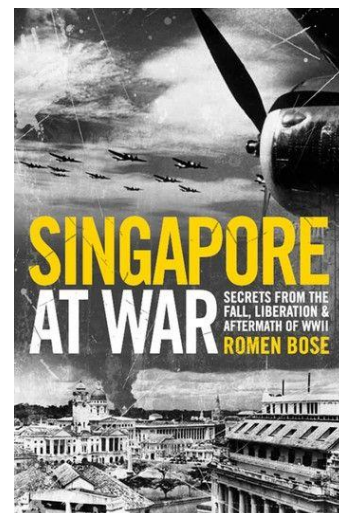
The Circuit Breaker measures have been in place since 7 April 2020 and will be extended by another 4 weeks until June 1 (inclusive).

YOU can join us in worship by going to www.ppcoc.org and click on our Online Worship under Resources tab or Quick Links. You can also check the Donate tab on how to make bank transfers to the church for tithes and offerings.

This is war!

In a war situation, nobody asks anyone to stay indoors. You stay indoors by choice. In fact, if you have a basement, you hide there for as long as hostilities persist. During a war, you don't insist on your freedom. You willingly give it up in exchange for survival. During a war, you don't complain of hunger. You bear hunger and pray that you live to eat again.

The world is currently in a state of war. A war without guns and bullets. A war without human soldiers. A war without borders. A war without ceasefire agreements. A war without a war room. A war without sacred zones.



The army in this war is without mercy. It is without any milk of human kindness. It is indiscriminate – it has no respect for children, women, or places of worship. This army is not interested in spoils of war. It has no intention of regime change. It is not concerned about the rich mineral resources underneath the earth. It is not even interested in religious, ethnic or ideological hegemony. Its ambition has nothing to do with racial superiority. It is an invisible, fleet-footed, and ruthlessly effective army.

Its only agenda is a harvest of death. It is only satiated after turning the world into one big death field. Its capacity to achieve its aim is not in doubt. Without ground, amphibious and aerial machines, it has bases in almost every country of the world. Its movement is not governed by any war convention or protocol. In short, it is a law unto itself. It is coronavirus. Also known as COVID-19 (because it announced its destructive presence and intention in the year of our Lord 2019).

Thankfully, this army has a weakness and it can be defeated. It only requires our collective action, discipline and forbearance. COVID-19 cannot survive social and physical distancing. It only thrives when you confront it. It loves to be confronted. It capitulates in the face of collective social and physical distancing. It bows before good personal hygiene. It is helpless when you take your destiny in your own hands by keeping them sanitised as often as possible.

This is not a time to cry about bread and butter like spoilt children. After all, the Holy Book tells us that man shall not live by bread alone. Let's obey and follow the instructions of the authorities. Let's flatten the COVID-19 curve. Let's exercise patience. Let's be our brothers' keeper. In no time, we shall regain our freedom, enterprise and socialising.

Yemi Mapaderun



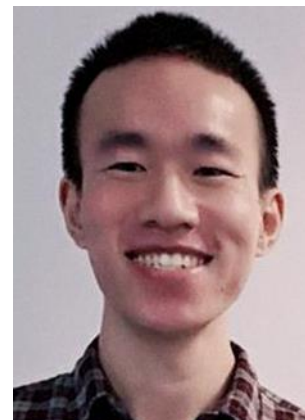
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Testimony – How I became a Christian by Kody Deng Ke

It was an interesting and memorable experience.

I had not yet graduated from college when I was lucky enough to be hired, as a ground handling staff of SATS in Singapore, together with students from several other schools. There were about 20 of us on a flight from Wuhan, China to Singapore. We had a layover in Guangzhou. It was on this flight from Guangzhou to Singapore that I met Winston Chong and his wife. They brought me to know God later and Winston baptized me into Christ. When I was first invited to their home, I was drawn to the wisdom that was shared with us through the thick bible they held in their hands.

I heard things that I had never heard in my life before, like "You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt should lose its taste, how can it be made salty?"

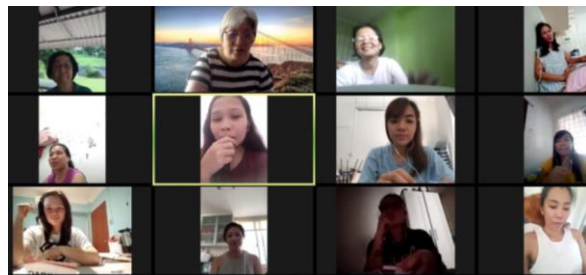


I didn't understand the meaning of the scriptures. But a God that the western world believed in, and the Bible, one of the most printed books in the world, intrigued me and I thought would make sense to me. So, I started reading the bible, led by the Winston couple, and came to church on Sunday. When I walked into the church, that kind of feeling I had was wonderful. I was introduced to one stranger after another. Everyone greeted me warmly and with a big smile on their face, as if I were a successful person. I had never experienced anything like this before. It felt so good. Even family members couldn't give you that kind of experience. The relationship with the church members was so simple and pure.

In Singapore, I felt I was living in a society that is modern, yet at the same time, people were respectful towards one another and trusted one another. It was a feeling I couldn't experience simultaneously in China. The salary I received here was not available to many Chinese graduates with higher educational qualifications than me. I began to think about all that I had, but I couldn't explain why I was so blessed. I had no money, no connections, no background, no good educational degrees, no special talent. I felt I was so ordinary, yet I was able to receive such blessings. Was I too lucky? Of course, I was, but could sheer luck explain where all this came from? It couldn't. Finally, I thought of God, the God who rules on earth and in heaven, the only one who can explain the origin of life, the universe, the changes of history, and where we belong in the end. With a sense of gratitude to God and a desire to be guided and blessed throughout my whole life, I decided to be baptized and become a Christian. I can feel that God loves me, and that I can feel the love from my church brothers and sisters. Even better, this love was completely free, I received it without me having to pay for it.

It had been nearly eight years since the day of my baptism. I have never regretted making this decision of being baptised. On the contrary, I am very grateful that God has raised me like a father over the years, like a shepherd tending to his sheep. Though I have made mistakes, I have never been abandoned. God's love is eternal. And His eternal love has taught me to be patient and humble, not to give in to strife, but to forgive. It has helped me discover that there is so much beauty in life that is far better than the materialistic things, power or glory we toil for. It gives me strength and peace, and enables me not to be afraid in the face of sickness or death or all kinds of calamities. Because of this eternal love, I believe that we have a wonderful hope beyond this very short life on earth.

Filipinos Fellowship Online Bible Class



Since our non-physical meeting at PPCOC, our FF Bible Class has been conducted using Zoom Technology. Response from the ladies has been encouraging, numbering around eleven. Sis Wai Leng is currently doing a series of lessons based on the Theme of 'Doing What's Right.'

Reach Out Love Meals for Christ!

Our fellow Christians Bro. John Then and Sis. Wendy not only kindly cooked 39 love meals but also took the extra efforts to deliver them to our 13 Deaf pals and their families in different locations. Our Deaf pals appreciated such yummy lunches which were made with love. It enabled them to come to know a bit about God's Word through our church tracts and brochures. God bless John and Wendy on their food ministry for Him.



RE-BUILDING: A MILESTONE IN THE HISTORY OF PPCOC

GOAL



Pledged Donations	S\$ 5,894,372
Pledged Loans *	S\$ 720,000
Ad-Hoc BF Donations (Cumulative collection to date)	S\$ 348,287
Pledges & Ad-Hoc BF Donations	S\$ 6,962,659
Amount to achieve \$8.7m goal	S\$ 1,737,341
Total Collection (Pledges Fulfilled & Ad-Hoc BF Donations)	S\$ 3,628,186

Note: * Pledged Loans to be repaid from 1 year after TOP

LAST SUNDAY



FACTS FIGURES

5th April - \$4,835
 12th April - \$4,238
 19th April - \$7,768
 26th April - \$11,895

WAYS TO GIVE

(A) CHEQUE

- Please address the cheque to "Church of Christ, Pasir Panjang"
- Please write the following at the back of the cheque
 - Account number you wish to give to
 - Your name, contact number and address
- Please **deposit your cheques** at POSB or DBS branches. Please do not mail the cheques to the church office as our staff are working from home.

(B) Donate via BANK TRANSFER

ACCOUNT NUMBERS

1. **General Fund** bank account number: 063-001497-4
 - No further action is required
2. **Mission Fund** bank account number: 063-001495-8
 - Please inform Sis Annie (receipt given)
3. **Building Fund** bank account number: 063-007311-3
 - Please inform Pledge/BF Committee (Peter, Jim or Grace) (receipt given)

WAYS TO GIVE

(C) Donate via PayNow (QRCode)

CHURCH OF CHRIST PPG
S76SS0008AGFD

1. Scan the QR code using your mobile banking app
2. Verify that it shows: Church of Christ PPG, S76SS0008AGFD
3. Indicate your name in the "Reference No." (optional)
4. Enter the amount you wish to contribute
5. Click next, verify the details and confirm.



SCAN TO PAY

FEEDBACK on Church Matters



Pledge & Building Fund Committee
 Peter Lim
 Jim Kawi
 Grace Mariaraja

Elders
 Simon Goh
 Peter Lim
 Lim Swee Aun
 Ooi Boo Chye
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