

Testimonies for 3 & 4 April 2021 (Easter Worship Services)

Baptisms (Sat 3 Apr):

Sherrilyn Lim (sherrilynlim@gmail.com)



Growing up as a child, I remembered school life to be extremely stressful and competitive. Exams were a constant source of worry and dread for me. With everyone so fixated on their studies and doing so well effortlessly, I developed the mentality that achievements were priority and the ticket to "success" in life.

This continued into my teenage and adult years where it fuelled my desire to be "better" than my siblings and peers. As a result of which I grew more independent, competitive and withdrawn. Achievements and recognition were idols that I constantly fought for and sought after, and I was consumed in fighting for my wants.

Nonetheless, I am thankful for the opportunities and people that God has surrounded me with. For starters, it could have been God's intention right from the beginning for me to join CHIJ St Nicholas Girls' (SNGS) after primary school.

During my time there, I was exposed to the Bible and prayers. This not only ignited my curiosity of the Gospel but also allowed me to experience what dwelling in a Christ-like environment was like – one filled with compassion, grace and sisterly love. It was also the first time that I felt that there were more important aspects of life to look out for instead of purely focusing on worldly achievements. In hindsight, God seemed to have worked and softened my heart through the friendships I've forged and Christ-like values I've been taught during my time in SNGS.

However, with the subsequent change in school environment having secured a place in the integrated programme, it was difficult not to sin and fall back to my old mentality given the competitiveness and demands of the curriculum. Yet, by God's grace, I got to know my fiancé (then boyfriend) and started attending church with him. Throughout the years however, we floated in and out of

church and never really committed or understood the Christian faith. Life also presented us with different sets of challenges which made us question if we can rely entirely on our own understanding and efforts to “achieve” what we want in life.

As I grappled with my identity, purpose and in trying to find a “right balance” in life, I began to learn to entrust my worries and anxieties on things beyond my control to God. Even when things go contrary to expectation, I’ve learnt to recognise that He is in control and that He will work on me continuously through different seasons of life.

On top of that, God had also planted several opportunities for my youngest sister and I to have meaningful conversations revolving around the Gospel. This was pivotal in my journey of faith and made me realise that faith in God is a personal conviction. She gave me the courage to recognise that we are all sinners in different ways, and all in need of God’s forgiveness through Jesus Christ. It is also important to be plugged into a community, alongside brothers and sisters in Christ, to encourage and keep each other accountable.

In hindsight, it is by God’s grace that my fiancé and I managed to find GBC as we embark on our new journey in life. We are thankful to be able to be part of a community that encourages and strengthens each other in our understanding of the Christian faith.

Proverbs 3:5-6 – “Trust in the Lord with all your heart and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him and he will make straight your paths.”

1 Peter 5:7 – “Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you.”

These verses resonate with me greatly because only when we rely and put our complete trust on God, our faith becomes whole and He will be able to work in our life. Regardless of how caught up we are with our worldly responsibilities, we should also always make time to dwell in God’s word and let the Word lead us in all that we do. Once we are able to achieve this and trust God to take care

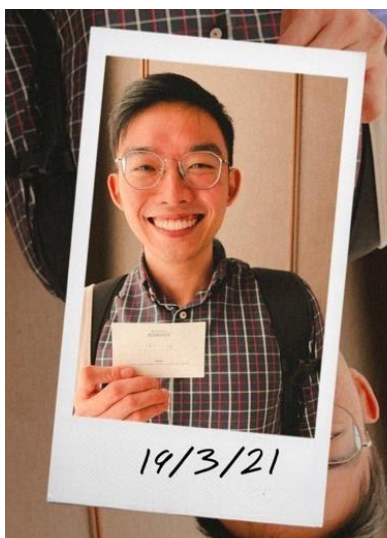
of what we cannot, then we can achieve peace and the rest will follow and be provided for.

Sim Xin Yi (simxinyi@u.nus.edu)



I grew up in a Christian family and have been going to church since I was born. At the start, however, my relationship with God was merely self-centred and transactional. My thinking then was to avoid the consequences of hell. Sin was something I struggled to come to terms with and I treated God as a means to my end. The more I do good, the less I should suffer from the consequences of sin. But God showed grace to me. He knew I was lost and placed people and suffering in my life, to remind me of Jesus' death and the Cross. I realized how far my heart was away from God, and even so, God still loves me. During one of the fellowship sessions with my University Hall friends, we sang "His mercy is more". I was moved to follow Jesus because the lyrics speak of His truth: *What love could remember no wrongs we have done. Omniscient, all-knowing, He counts not their sum. His blood was the payment, his life was the cost.* God's love was beyond what I could comprehend: Jesus' blood paid for my sins, and to treat him as a tool for me to escape hell was wrong. I was assured that God had love and had redeemed me as one of his own. And through this experience, I found peace and joy knowing that I have a God who is so gracious and merciful to a sinner like me.

Thia Zhang Jie (zhangjie_sg@hotmail.com)



Before coming to Christ, I lived aimlessly, without direction. I focused on earthly things, such as enjoying my bookout weekends, striving for good grades, and saw attending church as a burdensome and time-wasting activity to appease my mother. As life was smooth sailing, I relied largely on myself and did not see the need for God in my life.

It was through various events in my life, that I saw God's grace and how he worked. I saw how God had intervened in multiple situations to provide me with what I needed, even when I clearly did not deserve them. It was also when my relationship with my fiancée (then girlfriend) started to go downhill, that I realised that I wasn't that capable after all, and that I needed God to lead my life.

In March 2020, my fiancée and I made the decision to start attending church regularly, and we started listening to GBC's online services via Youtube. God did not give up on me as I started to pray, read his words and attend service regularly. Having been plugged into the GBC community, I am grateful for how God has pulled me back to him. God never gave up on me despite me straying away for many years, but have instead provided me with a new family in Christ. With a CG in GBC, I am now able to read the word together with like-minded brothers and sisters, reflect on the word, and be encouraged to take action on these words in my daily life.

Today, I declare that I am a sinner, and acknowledge that I need God's redemption and rescue. I also need God's grace to take me through each day on Earth. As Jesus said in Mark 16:16, "whoever believes and is baptised will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned". I am grateful for the opportunity to be baptised today, to publicly declare my faith in God, and my trust in Jesus for salvation.

In the years ahead, I hope that my fiancée and I will be able to build our marriage around Christ, to grow stronger in our faith with each passing year, and to be a good testimony of Christ to those around us. Amen.

Transfers (Sat 3 Apr):

David Chung (weifun24@hotmail.com)



Growing up, I would say I lived a rather comfortable life with little to complain about and struggles were few in-between. Despite

that, life felt mundane and meaningless. My parents emphasized the importance of studying hard to get a good job and eventually retiring well. This was the supposed end goal of life. However, I wasn't convinced that was my purpose in life. Nonetheless, no one had given me answers to the questions I had and I didn't dwell too deeply on them since I was occupied by computer games. Since I couldn't see the David Chung (far right) I lived day-by-day, trying to derive as much happiness as I could from gaming. However I had only growing emptiness inside of me.

Fast forward to when I was about 15 - 16 years old, the loss of a loved one who took her own life, coupled with conversations about Heaven and Hell with a childhood friend from when I was younger and from a seemingly 'random' encounter with an evangelist on a bus, left me gravely concerned for my eternal destination. Somehow, the idea of accumulating good deeds to earn my way to Heaven didn't sit well with me, probably because innately, I knew I wasn't a good person. I approached my Christian friend, seeking for answers, to which he passed me a Bible to read, and the rest is history. Looking back, I thank God for His grace, that though I was not seeking Him, He called me to Him through convicting me of my sin and placing people in my life who, in one way or another, led me to Him.

As I attended Church and continued reading the Bible then, God revealed to me the beauty of the gospel, that though I had sinned and fallen short of the glory of God (Romans 3:20) and was deserving of death (Romans 6:23), God the Father had sent Jesus Christ, the Son of God, to die on a Cross for my sins, the just for the unjust, that He might bring me to God (1 Peter 3:18) and grant me eternal life in Him. Eternal life means more than going to Heaven, it is about knowing the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom He sent (John 17:3), which is the reward of the gospel, that we get to enter into a relationship with God and know the One who created our souls and formed us in His image - what a glorious truth!

Knowing the gospel has led to my repentance of sin and placing my trust in Christ. Although I still sin, my confidence is in the finished work of Christ on the Cross and not in myself, for I am saved by grace alone, through faith alone, in

Christ alone (Ephesians 2:8-9). I now labour for the Kingdom of God not to earn God's favour, but because of gratitude and joy for what He has done. I am exceptionally thankful for this family in GBC, who encourage me to walk more faithfully with Christ daily, and I hope to become more closely integrated with this community :)

To God be the Glory!

Dennis Koh (denniskohbt@gmail.com)



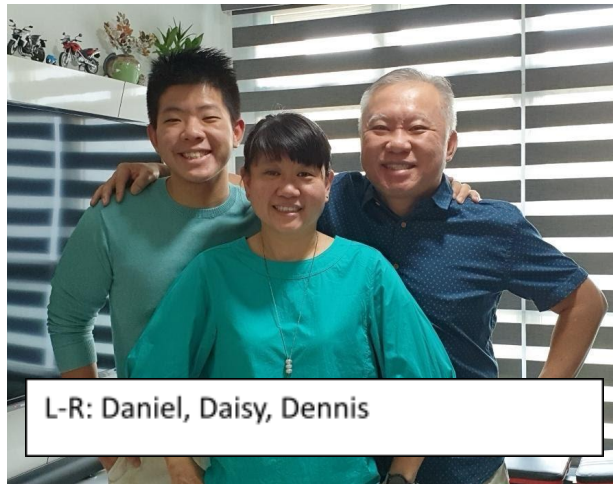
L-R: Daniel, Daisy, Dennis

I'm currently ministering as Founder and Director of Dream Quest International Missions, Tacloban City, Philippines and Pastoral Counsellor in St Luke's Hospital in Singapore. I'm married to Daisy, and Daniel is our only son. Before I came to trust in our Lord Jesus Christ, my first experience with Christians was when I was invited to a Christmas party expecting fun and games, but

it turned out to be a house group event. On that day, I was convicted of my sins, and a pang of a deep hunger for God's truth drew me to study the Bible. I bought a Bible the next day and spent six hours reading it in one sitting. The spiritual hunger was so intense that it gave me the courage to step into a church to listen to every sermon I could find. Several weeks after studying the Bible, I knew that I needed to repent, change my belief, values, lifestyle and received Jesus into my life. I accepted Jesus Christ as my Lord and Saviour on 24 January 1994 and was baptized by immersion on 3 April 1994 subsequently. In June 1995, I sensed God's call upon my life to be a missionary, and I enrolled with Tung Ling Bible School of Ministry. Three years after my conversion, I resigned from the Police Force and embarked on my missionary journey to the Philippines in 1997 and planted a few churches over the years and founded Dream Quest International Missions ministry to mentor the young in the Philippines. By God's grace and being powered by His love, the passion to

impact lives continues to grow today and sets me on the next lap of my life to serve the elderly community in Singapore.

Daniel Koh (danielkohzhiming@gmail.com)



I don't remember much of how my life was like before I met Christ as a second-generation Christian. However, I believe that I wanted to be with and know more about God when I was young. Having lived in the Philippines, I observed my parents do missions work and didn't understand why they did it. As I grew, I learnt more about how much God

loved us when He sent his one and only Son, Jesus Christ, to die for our sins (John 3:16). More years passed, and I started to understand a little better why my parents were missionaries, they did it to spread God's love so that more people can have eternal life through believing in Jesus' death and resurrection. From all of these experiences, I trusted in Jesus and began my relationship with God to know more about Him and His character. Once again, I thank Him for sending His one and only son Jesus Christ to die for my sins and His resurrection and for always being there for me, even when I least know it.

Sarah Lim (sarahlsl12@gmail.com)



I grew up in a Christian family, accepted Jesus as my Saviour and was baptized as a teenager. Through the years, I've seen how the Lord has been faithfully working in my life & strengthening my walk with Him. Being a 2nd generation Christian, I am also very blessed to have my family & loved ones constantly encouraging me in my faith.

Since returning home after pursuing my education overseas, I was reluctant to commit to a local church. I went to church regularly, enjoyed the worship as

well as the sermons and my private quiet time with the Lord. However, I did not see why I needed to commit to a local church or community. I was already surrounded by many Christian family & friends, and I thought that a personal relationship with God was enough.

Last year, I was given a book called “What is a Healthy Church?” by Mark Dever and came to terms with my disobedience and reluctance to join a local church. As Matthew 22:34-40 says, the two greatest commandments are “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind” and the second is “You shall love your neighbour as yourself.” For the first produces the second and the second proves the first. How could I claim to love the Lord if I was not rooted in a church, to love, serve and have fellowship with His people? How can I learn to love others if I could not even love God’s people? Through His word, the Lord has shown me that loving Him wholeheartedly also means loving His people (best done in a church), and everyone around me.

As I began searching for a community, God has been good to me. I’ve been blessed with an amazing CG & have met many loving & encouraging people in GBC, who are most importantly, intentional about pointing each other to Christ.

As part of the church, I know the Lord will strengthen my walk with Him, through fellowship as well as faithful prayer for each other. I pray that the Lord will give me strength to obey His command to love, serve, gather & hold each other accountable in our walk with Christ.

[Hebrew 10:24-25 “And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.”]

Daisy Teo (dqxhsom@gmail.com)



I came to know the Lord in 1983 when I heard about the gospel during a cell group meeting which my sister shared about going to hell without knowing Jesus, and I wanted to go to heaven and accepted and trusted Jesus for the forgiveness of my sins. To grow spiritually in my faith in the Lord, I joined the Royal Rangers in church and water baptized by

immersion in 1986. Many scripture verses encouraged me in my Christian faith, such as Philippians 4:16, Joshua 1:8, Psalm 119:105, Proverbs 3:5-6, etc. I was involved in the hearing-impaired ministry in the church serving as an interpreter and teaching the children in Sunday school. To further equip me, I enrolled in a three-month course at Tung Ling Bible School, where I met Dennis. In 1999, I joined Dennis in the Philippines, where we were both involved in the ministries of church planting and outreach to schools. We returned in 2012 together with Dennis and Daniel, our only son. I continued to be engaged in social work, namely Touch Community Services and currently in a SPED school for the Visually Impaired and Hearing Loss students.

Baptisms (Sun 4 Apr):

Melissa Chan (silentcelle@gmail.com)



Growing up in a non-Christian family, I found myself drawn to Christian teachings during Primary school, after reading about major religions of the world. Many of the teachings made a lot of sense to me, and I even “accepted” Jesus at one point in my teens. Alas, it turns out I was not a Christian.

As a sinner, I struggled a lot with pride and the desire for self-gratification. It was not possible to have truly accepted Jesus as my saviour, without grasping the full extent of the fallen world. Through various trials in my life, which even led me to depression at one point, I grew weary and spiralled into self-hatred. In hindsight, I was fighting life alone. I even started to actively shun God, and any agent he could possibly send my way.

But God is faithful. He never stopped pursuing me. He allowed me to grow through these trials of life, sending me people and opportunities, everything I needed to fully recover. Slowly but surely, I was shaped by these life experiences. And in His perfect timing, He brought me back to Christ for God-given peace to settle within my heart.

The LORD will fight for you; you need only to be still.

– Exodus 14:14

I no longer have to fight life alone, for now I understand that true joy lays ahead in God's kingdom, beyond this fallen world – one in which our God has already secured victory for us.

Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies. – Romans 8:33

I came to understand that my worth was not tied to any of my achievements (or lack of) and circumstances in life, but in my faithfulness and obedience to God. It was liberating to know that God is the one who justifies sinners, and I no longer need to hold myself to high standards. This was a breath of fresh air for my weary soul. I am more than glad to confess and repent on my sins, and I submit all of them to God, trusting in Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of my sins. By following the narrow path, I no longer feel lost having to try to choose the right path on my own. I can surrender all the weight of my burdens to Him, and rest in Jesus.

God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it. -1 Corinthians 10:13

Today I'm so grateful to God for his commitment and love towards me, and I am fully aware that I'm still a work-in-progress. It is my desire to not squander His love for me, but to live in obedience to Him from here on. And today, I take this step of obedience by submitting to Jesus' command to be baptised.

Christine Chew (christine.acyl@gmail.com)



I was blessed to have grown up in a Christ-loving family. However, despite knowing I was God's child, my confidence was largely dependent on others' acceptance of me. I followed trends blindly and posted on social media frequently to receive validation from others. I even had tainted intentions when helping others at times. I only recognised this as a problem when I started facing rejection from others and my insecurities grew tremendously. I desired to please others so much that I lost my own identity. I thought that I needed an identity that fit worldly standards to be truly confident in who I am. However, nothing seemed to give me the everlasting acceptance I needed.

When I entered university, I decided to join the Christian Fellowship (CF) there as I barely had Christian friends and wanted to be exposed to bible study. Through the sessions and relationships built at CF, God opened my eyes to His sovereignty and the sufficiency of Christ's death. While He revealed to me my brokenness and helplessness, He also revealed to me the assurance that I can have in Him through repentance and faith in Jesus. Why should I care about societal acceptance when the only One whose judgement actually matters has *already* unconditionally accepted me into His Kingdom?

While my sinful flesh still struggles with acceptance in this ever changing world, the difference now is that I know and trust that I can have complete peace in the unwavering love and acceptance of God. Because of His endless love, mercy and grace, I can confidently live in this world with a clear identity in Christ, and with a clear purpose to glorify Him.

1 Peter 2:9: *But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.*

Ephesians 2:8-10: *For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.*

Euodia Chi (euodiachi@gmail.com)



I was born into a Christian family and grew up in Grace Baptist Church (GBC). From young, I attended Sunday School, heard Bible stories, and even spent my time playing in church. Jesus was not new to me, he was familiar. Yet, the concepts of salvation and grace were alien to me, and I did not fully appreciate what they meant to me. The center of my life was anything but Christ.

Growing up, I always felt inferior to others, which led to a deep-seated sense of insecurity and inadequacy. My worth was shackled to my achievements, my intelligence, my friendships, and the perceptions of others, and I let these shape and define my sense of worth. Over time, cracks started to show when I fell short of the things I sought, as my identity was not built on the solid rock of Christ. When trials came, this often led to self-loathing and guilt at the kind of person I was. I was prone to self-isolation and loneliness, since I believed I was never kind nor patient enough, never enough as a good friend, daughter, or sister.

I let my sin define me and my guilt to separate me from receiving the love and grace of God. Even as I hid from God in shame, he drew near to me each time and shaped the posture of my heart through my struggles with my self-worth. I began to realise, through God's grace, that I had taken my faith for granted, while my self-loathing was a self-centred rebellion against his design. My worth

does not lie in what I own but in the cross, and in the blood-bought ransom that Christ has paid for my sins.

I thank God for continually making his presence known to me, and through fellowship with his people. God's grace is indeed sufficient for me, therefore, I can boast in Christ, my true joy and delight. (2 Cor 12:9).

Psalm 139:14 says: *"I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well."* As I build my identity upon Christ, may I worship and glorify my Creator for his sovereignty and wondrous wisdom, together with this local body of Christ.

Nicholas Goh (nicholasgohjx@gmail.com)



Coming from a strong catholic family, God was an integral part of my life. Like many others, I went through the entirety of Catechism classes and eventually was confirmed. However, I never managed to establish a community in the church and my faith was individualistic and family oriented. Many of my peers were catholic by name due to their families and fell out of the faith once confirmed. I never understood what it truly meant to be a follower of Christ and how to act it out with my life apart from going to church and prayer. I also regarded Christianity to be the rebel against the catholic faith.

I met my girlfriend in 2012 and she is a Christian. As our differing faiths led to many arguments over the years, we decided to be more open towards finding out about each other's faiths. To understand Christianity better, I attended her university's Christian Fellowship sessions. They helped me to see and understand that my previous assumptions about Christianity were falsely based on a few bad examples. Christian Fellowship opened my eyes to expository teaching which helped me to better understand His word. God had warmed my heart to see the truth past what I had believed in for so long. I trusted in the gospel of Jesus Christ, and received God's grace for a sinner like me.

At 21, I suffered a serious back injury and a bone tumour in my leg. As I struggled to walk, the experience opened my eyes to how fleeting earthly ambitions are. It was a humbling year of reflection on my reliance and need for Christ. I felt a serene calmness despite going through the procedures and recovery knowing that He was with me always and decided for myself to start being serious about being a Christian. While studying overseas, I seized the opportunity to join a Christian church, which helped to nurture my budding faith. They taught me what a loving Christian community is and gave me a newfound appreciation of the grace God has given a sinner like me which I hope to help others see.

“Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.”
(Joshua 1:9)

“In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.” (1 John 4:9-11)

Zenn Lin (lyh.zenn@gmail.com)



Hello! My name is Zenn and this is how I came to know Christ!

For the most part of my life, I was caught in the endless pursuit of things that I thought would make me happy. From spending long hours honing my hockey skills to endless days of mindless farming so I could get the best item in a computer game to wanting to get that A grade for every subject, the list goes on and on. Just when I thought there would be less things to chase when I grew older, it only got worse with the onset of my career.

I thought that after I got all these things in my life, I will lead a happier, more fulfilling one. I was wrong. There was always something else to chase, something else to yearn for, the sense of fulfilment after striking one item off the list was short-lived. It always gave me a sense of nothingness after a short burst of exuberance.

When I was in university, I met my girlfriend, Sheryl, who brought me to Christ. I thank her for graciously taking time to share the gospel and guiding me through the faith. I learnt that I was a sinner and needed God's saving grace. Jesus' sacrifice was propitiation for our sins and gave us a way to have this reconciled relationship with God. This is the good news we all need to hear and share!

However, I continued to pursue worldly achievements and just as you thought I would have learnt my lesson, I did not. I got into my first job and the first thing on my mind was to do a good job and get promoted ASAP. In 2019, I worked hard for the promotion and by God's grace, I did get it. Looking back, I was not proud of how I placed everything and everyone else on hold that year, I spent less time with my girlfriend and family, and I thought I could make it up when I finally got the promotion. I was blinded by this pursuit that I did not see how it was straining my relationships with others.

I was promised new incentives and a brighter future but then came COVID in 2020 and many of the benefits were taken away. The company I was working for was not doing well and my efforts in 2019 ended up for naught. I was bitter and upset that things ended up this way.

After nights of praying and asking why, I realized that God has been teaching me an important lesson through this incident. The securities that we place in life can be taken away in a blink of an eye. It was through this incident that I finally understood that true satisfaction and contentment only comes from believing and trusting in Christ. It taught me to trust in His plans instead of taking things into my own hands. I thank God for opening my eyes to what life truly has to offer and this is me taking this step of obedience as an outward declaration of my faith in Jesus Christ.

“In your presence there is fullness of joy; at your right hand are pleasures forevermore” (Psalm 16:11)

Sheryl Tay (sheryltay96@gmail.com)



I am thankful that I came to know about God and the gospel story since I was young, having grown up in a Christian home. However, my heart did not treasure God over worldly pursuits of comfort and leisure. I had dreams of living a ‘princess’ life and went to church only to enjoy the company of friends. I spared little thought for caring for the people around me and relating to God who loved me.

God, in His grace, stopped me from straying too far. In my late teens, I was exposed to missions and met friends who questioned my religion. It was then I realised I could not share the gospel if I did not truly know it for myself. At this time, God allowed me to read and understand the Word through bible studies in Romans and John’s gospel, and gave me a loving Christian community who pointed me to Him. As God’s Word became clearer and clearer to me, I was convicted of how I’ve sinned by setting my mind on the flesh, and how that made me God’s enemy (Romans 8:7). I was in big trouble! But God, because of His great love for you and I, provided a way out of this by giving His son to die on the cross (John 3:16). It is only through Jesus’ death on the cross, that I can turn to Him as His child, repent of my ways, and find righteousness in God’s eyes. I felt God’s very personal love for me through the sacrifice of His son, and the only response I could have was one of gratitude and repentance.

Since then, God has allowed me to delight in Him instead of pursuing worldly satisfaction. I realised that it was only Christ who could satisfy me, and nothing else - not even marrying my *prince charming* and living in a castle. Jesus is enough and I no longer had to long for my previous pursuits (John 6:35). God has allowed me to say no to sin and gave me the assurance that my future is secure with Him (Romans 6:5-10). He enabled me to love Him and love others.

I continue to need to remind myself of the gospel in my daily struggle with sin, but I know I can trust God for His sanctifying work in my life - to grow in God-pleasing holiness. I'm grateful to have GBC as a church community that I can commit to doing life with, to love and serve one another, as we grow as a body toward maturity in Christ.

Transfers (Sun 4 Apr):

Caroline Cheah (carolinehopecheah@gmail.com)



Have you ever hung out with a friend, listened to them talk about their life and concluded that they have the middle child syndrome? Well that friend would be me. Most of my secondary school friends would describe me as “angsty”. The cherry on top of this was that I had the “I’m alone in a world that’s vehemently against me” perspective that I tightly held on to for most of my teenage years.

Growing up Catholic, I was kind of familiar with who God is and what Christ did. I also knew that I wasn’t perfect and that sin existed and caused us to do bad things and think bad thoughts. But I did not see the gravity of these things and only sought God in prayer whenever I needed to pass whatever test or exam that was ahead.

Things gradually changed when I was brought to my previous church by my Christian aunt. There, I was taught that God is my heavenly Father who loves and desires to have a relationship with me. This made me realise that God, who I had thought of as distant and cold, was one who deeply loves me and wants to have a relationship with me. A relationship that was previously impossible to have because of separation between us and God because of our rebellion towards Him (otherwise known as sin). God in His love and grace sent Jesus, who loves us and died on the cross for us, taking upon Himself the punishment

for our rebellion. Three days later, He resurrected, according to Scripture, overcoming sin and death. All this to reconcile us to God, Himself.

Hearing and internalising this good news (otherwise known as the Gospel), I saw how warped my worldview had been and how much I needed a saviour. Therefore, I chose to repent of my sins and believe in Him. Now I know that His word is truth and is the very thing we cling onto.

The truth of the Gospel sunk in deeper for me when I attended a study on the book of Romans.

“For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life. More than that, we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.” – Romans 5:10-11

Knowing that Jesus displayed such mercy and sacrificial love to us who utterly do not deserve it, tugs immensely at my heart and further encourages me to repent daily and trust in Him. The road ahead is long and paved with painful moments of difficult grace but I can fully rest, hope and trust in Christ who loves me.

Chew Bi Ting (meganangel005@gmail.com)



When I was young, I was a hot-tempered child who felt unloved. Even though I knew about God's existence since kindergarten, I did not understand the presence and love of God until I was in Junior College (JC).

During my year 1 of JC, I struggled in my CCA and studies. Due to self and others' expectations placed upon myself, I was afraid to change CCA and share with others about my stressors. My pride and bottled-up emotions resulted in me having nightmares. As I felt that no one but God can help me in the spiritual battle, I could only think of returning to church.

“The heart of man plans his way, but the Lord establishes his steps.” - Proverbs 16:9

On that day when I returned to church, the sermon was on God’s love. I was deeply heartened as I felt that God knew that I was going through a down time and was blaming myself for my struggles. On that same day, I shared about my school stressors with my sister who encouraged me that God is fighting for me in the spiritual battle. I then realised that God has not forgotten me despite me going astray. Instead, He continued to love me and show me grace which allowed me to overcome my turmoil and receive forgiveness for my pride.

“The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.” - Lamentations 3:22-23

Since then, I committed myself in the journey of repentance of sin and renewal of self with God. He brought me through the furnace to draw me closer to Him and mould me with His loving hands.

“I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.” – Galatians 2:20

Matthew Kwok (mrkwok2012@gmail.com)



God has been good to me. He gave me parents who were believers. They brought me to my previous church before I could walk and pointed me to Jesus who they hoped would be my Saviour, just as He was theirs. While growing up in church meant that I had many opportunities to hear the Good News of Jesus, it took embarrassingly long before I recognised that I was a sinner in need of a Saviour – and that I was not saved by my (almost) perfect attendance in church. By God’s grace, He revealed to me that I was separated from Him because of my sin – falling short of God’s perfect standard in my thoughts, actions, and desires – but God desired to reconcile me to Himself. In order to bridge the chasm between me and Him, God showed me through the

Bible that He sent His beloved Son, Jesus, to earth with a plan to save humanity. Jesus lived the life we should have lived and died the death we should have died, so that whoever believes that God raised Jesus from the dead and confess that He is Lord will not perish but be with God forever. Though I am very much a work-in-progress, I trust that God, who began a good work within me, will continue His work until it is finally finished on the day when Christ Jesus returns (Philippians 1:6).

Eugene Lau (noveul@gmail.com)

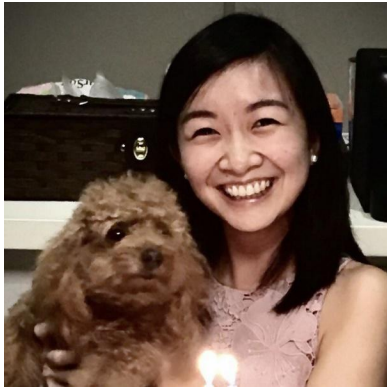


While I grew up in a loving, welcoming and serving Christian home and church, my patchwork understanding of the Gospel and the Spirit's providence for everyday Christian life left me beset by anxiety and fear. Because I did not grasp the comprehensive, sufficient and initiating nature of God's grace in my salvation, I constantly oscillated between self-righteous pride and despondent shame. Often, when feeling defeated by sin, and having no knowledge of the coming glorification of our bodies, I despaired.

By God's grace, I was exposed to the beauty and sufficiency of the Gospel by faithful members of Grace Baptist Church (GBC) who teach at an external bible study. Tracing the lines of God's providence and grace for His people through the Old Testament instilled a precious confidence in my heart that the LORD saves sinners (like me) by grace alone, despite His people's tendency to faithless recalcitrance. After being introduced to more sound biblical teaching - podcasts, YouTube sermons and books - I also slowly grew to understand and long for glorification and heaven. Though far from perfect, my daily Christian walk today is almost unrecognisable from before; I find that I have strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow.

As I become a member of GBC, I look forward to participating in church life and experiencing grace in the faith community, wary of the danger of knowledge outpacing love. I hope to hear testimonies about the LORD's faithfulness and serve Christ's Body as it is built up, to the praise of His glorious grace.

Zerline Lee (zerlinelee@hotmail.com)



I was blessed to grow up in a Christian family, learning about Jesus from a young age through my parents and Sunday School. My first understanding of the grace of God came when I was 8 years old, when I first experienced guilt and helplessness about my “badness” because I couldn’t seem to stop myself from making the same mistakes over again. It was great news to my 8-year-old self when I

learnt that Jesus could save me, and that He forgives and loves me no matter how bad I thought I was. That was the first time I remember asking Jesus into my heart.

Subsequently in my growing up years, I strived much and thrived on the praise and affirmation I would receive from teachers, relatives, and peers. Achievement and recognition motivated me to work harder and rely on my efforts to achieve even more.

Matthew 6:19-21 says, *“Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”* This was a verse I knew by heart through Sunday School, but it did not occur to me that my treasure continued to be the things of this world. I placed my identity in my achievements; and loved God for the things I thought He could give me rather than for who He is.

There then came a point when I realized that the things of this world could not satisfy, trusted people would fail me, and I wasn’t as dependable as I had thought I was. Wanting to feel in control had been an idol to me, but I realized that helpless and futile was what I really was at the foot of the cross. Yet here is where God’s love and grace is displayed, and that is the beauty of the gospel just as I had first experienced as that 8-year-old child—that only Jesus could save me from myself. I also came to realize that choosing to believe in Jesus

meant submitting to Him as Lord over every aspect of my life and trusting Him to be my all sufficient One.

Choosing to daily follow Jesus is not an easy task, as we are often easily drawn to worldly treasure. In Mark 10:21, Jesus *“look[ed] at him [the rich young man], loved him, and said to him, “You lack one thing: go, sell all that you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me.”* It struck me that Jesus looked upon him with *love*, passionate about the state of his lost heart. This encourages me that as difficult as Jesus’ call to abandon all and follow Him seems, He daily grants us the grace and has lovingly paid the price to bring us to Himself. All glory be to God.

Rolland Li (rolland.li@hotmail.com)



Hi there, I’m Rolland and I am Hannah’s husband, for those who happen to know her. I have been attending Grace Baptist Church in person for over a month now (Although I gotten to know some of the members of this church since early 2020) I was born and raised in what is known as a “Christian household” and have been taught Bible stories and lessons during childhood. Even as a child, I was zealous to get all the answers correct for each week’s Bible quiz, reading each passage with unusual care. When I was 11, my parents asked me if I understood the message of the Bible, that is, the gospel, and if I believed that Jesus died and rose again for the forgiveness of sins, to which I answered in the affirmative. My sister and I were subsequently baptized at our local church by the elders.

Between then and now, God has been tremendously gracious in His dealings with me. Although I never renounced my faith at any point in my life, there were periods of time when I was a hypocrite and had lived a double life, putting on a spiritual front on the weekends during youth and Sunday service, and then living however I wanted during the week. Even though I could say the right things and make it appear as though I was “spiritually stronger” than

others, my prayer life and my personal walk with Christ was practically non-existent.

In 2016-2017, I met Hannah and we began our relationship together. During this time, my friends and I came across Reformed theology during our personal battle against Calvinism. In studying about the Reformation and in reading the precious literary treasures from the Reformers and the Puritans, I became convinced that my entire theology must be grounded upon Scripture and formed according to the principle of *sola Scriptura*. As such, the entire redemptive-historical narrative of salvation throughout Scripture (that God in Christ Jesus was saving a people for Himself) became ever more beautiful and real in my life, as I discovered that one's theology truly does impact all other areas of life. I am grateful for God's grace and for His Spirit that has drawn me to Him, and who continues to work in my life to conform me to the image of Christ, for the glory of His Name.

Timothy Tan (timothy.tan.sing.yee@gmail.com)



I grew up in a Christian home and attended Sunday school. I had said the sinner's prayer, trusting Jesus for the forgiveness of my sin, at a young age; however, it was only in secondary school that I truly understood a glimpse of what God has done for me.

It happened when my parents' friend told me that he wanted me to read a verse in the bible, to put it short, I couldn't find it. That began a whole thought process of which I pondered to myself: did I really know what was in the bible? And did I truly know who God was?

Thankfully God placed a leader in my cell group who would guide me in the word and my journey of knowing the depravity of my own sin, being unable to save myself and yet the glory of Jesus in his death and resurrection was by which I was saved and restored to life. Through the years I got baptized, grew more in the word and served in my previous church.

For if anything, God has taught me that He will and has provided for everything in my life and especially through Jesus. That He has commanded me to pursue Him first, knowing and seeing the ever-increasing height and depth of His unfolding glory. *“For what does it profit a man to gain the whole world and forfeit his soul?”* Mark 8:36 was the verse that impacted me the most, for what else do I have to give but this life to desire to honor God in the best I can.