

Miracle Service Report

September 26, 2015
Reported by Rita Lim

Pastor Rony's message for the night is entitled **Tests of Faith**. Many people have the misconception that believing in Jesus frees you from all your problems. The truth is, God would allow problems and trials to mature us. Through adversity and trials, He trains and toughens us to prepare us for eternity. Trials involve corrections and chastisement to make us better people. We must learn to praise God and place our entire hope and reliance upon Him in times of trials.

We are tested on what we have learned, understood and retained. The test is to see if we have made application of those lessons and master the principles of life. In life, there will come a critical juncture where we will encounter a crisis. We are not afraid of such a moment because we have endured the little tests.

There is always the next level after an examination. With every new level, you will learn new lessons and assume heavier responsibilities which call for greater discipline and more diligence. This will increase your competence, develop your skills and enlarge your vision. As a result, you will become a more dependable character. At the heart of all tests, it is about character. God's purpose is to put steel in your spine so that you are dependable as He is.

All inventions, products and services in this world have to be tested for functionality, safety, durability and dependability before they are marketed. Yet all these products and services do not last a lifetime. However, the spirit of a believer (the real you) is everlasting. Therefore, it is more needful for a believer to go through tests and trials. Jesus says, "In this world you will have tribulation." This certainty is as real as the positive promises given to you by our Lord. You have to maintain a proper balance in everything. If temporal products have to be tested, all the more must we, precious souls of God who are born for time and eternity, be tested!

The Apostle James says, "Consider it all joy whenever you face trials of all kinds." When a trial

comes your way, count it pure joy. The trial is going to make you stronger if you respond with a positive attitude. All things will work together for your good in the long run. (James 1:2-4)

If you respond correctly to a test, it produces endurance. Endurance is important because we cannot achieve success without it. The benefit of endurance is that you will become perfect and complete, not deficient in anything. You become a fuller person. If you keep trusting Jesus, He will work in and walk with you. He will go through the process with you just like a father with his child. Our Heavenly Father is like that. He will always watch over you and pick you up when you fall. In Paul's epistle to the Philippians, he says that God will see to it that you will become a finished product for eternity. So right now, you are a work-in-progress getting ready for eternity. (Philippians 1:6)

We can all learn from the Father of Faith, Abraham. He went through tests of various kinds in his entire life. Since the day God called Abraham out to make his descendants His special people, he encountered many challenges, tests and trials. In some trials, he failed miserably. Yet in others, he passed with flying colors. Nevertheless, Abraham trusted God completely in all situations, no matter how many times he had fallen. God promised Abraham that he would have a son in his old age and a mighty nation. His descendants would be like the stars in the sky and sand on the seashore. When Abraham was not even the father of a child, God also promised that he would be a father of many nations. Abraham and Sarah waited very long for a child. One day, she couldn't wait any longer. So she told Abraham to help God out by taking her maid, Hagar, so that a child could be born through her. As a result, Ishmael was born through Hagar. Later, as promised by God, the true son Isaac was born; and from Isaac came Jacob, whose name was changed to Israel. Through Israel, the nation of Israel came into existence. Ishmael, the son of Hagar, became the father of all Arab nations. Abraham's failure in this test has created many problems in the Middle East, even up to today. There are consequences when we fail a test, but God still forgives and carries us forward. Although Abraham committed a number of mistakes in his life, yet he is called the Father of Faith. When we look at the imperfections of Abraham, we can be comforted that there is hope for us.

One day, Abraham was ready for the supreme test. When everything was fine and Isaac, the promised son, was born, God told Abraham to sacrifice his only son. Abraham knew that sacrifice of a child was never demanded by Jehovah God before. He saw

how the pagans had killed their children on the altar as a sacrifice to their so-called pagan gods. Now his faith in God was so strong that he wanted to obey what God had demanded. God told him to sacrifice Isaac on Mount Moriah which was a few days' journey away from his home. One morning, Abraham and Isaac got ready for the journey to Mount Moriah where he would lay his child on the sacrificial altar, plunge the knife into him and burn him as a sacrifice to God. When father and son reached the place, Abraham built an altar there and arranged wood on it. He tied his son and laid him on the altar. When he was about to plunge the knife into his son, the angel stopped him. God was indeed testing Abraham whether he would obey Him even if he could not understand.



All Christians will face a supreme test one day. It will be an uncomfortable moment. God wants to know whether you will go all the way with Him whereby His great blessing will be poured down upon you. The angel told Abraham now that God knew his heart, He would bless him and his descendants would be many. Abraham will be the father of many nations, including the nation of Israel. The book of Galatians says that everyone who receives Jesus Christ is a son or daughter of Abraham. We will be like Abraham and live by faith. Fast forward from Abraham, 2,000 years ago on the same mountain, known as Mount Calvary, Jesus Christ, the Son of the living God, became the sacrifice. Abraham's son Isaac was spared, but God spared not His Son. For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son that if you believe in Him, you will not perish but have everlasting life.



Lighthouse Evangelism

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Four thousand years ago, Isaac was a foreshadow of Jesus Christ. Although Abraham loved his son Isaac so much, he was willing to sacrifice him in obedience to God. But God did not allow Isaac to be sacrificed. Then 2,000 years ago, Jesus, the only begotten Son of the Father, became a sacrificial Lamb on the altar. This time round, God Who loved His Son so dearly spared not His Son. This is a beautiful love story – the supreme test of Abraham and the supreme test of Jesus Christ. Jesus left His glory in Heaven to come to earth. He left His supreme comfort to become a Man. Jesus did that because He loved you.

God did not spare Jesus because without the shedding of blood, there is no remission or forgiveness of sin. Blood must be shed by a pure, innocent person – Jesus. Life, when transformed by Christ, emits an aroma. If anyone is in union with Christ, old things have passed away and behold, old things have become new.

Renew your mind with the Word of God. Be born again. When you need help, God will be there for you. Trust Jesus and let Him perfume your life.

On that night, many were also touched by Jesus. Here are some of the testimonies.

Lum Low Peng was scheduled for **cataract** surgery on **her right eye**. Fearful and worried, she attended the Miracle Service to be prayed for. Praise the Lord, she was told by her eye doctor yesterday that she did not need to go for surgery. On top of this, she can now see clearly.

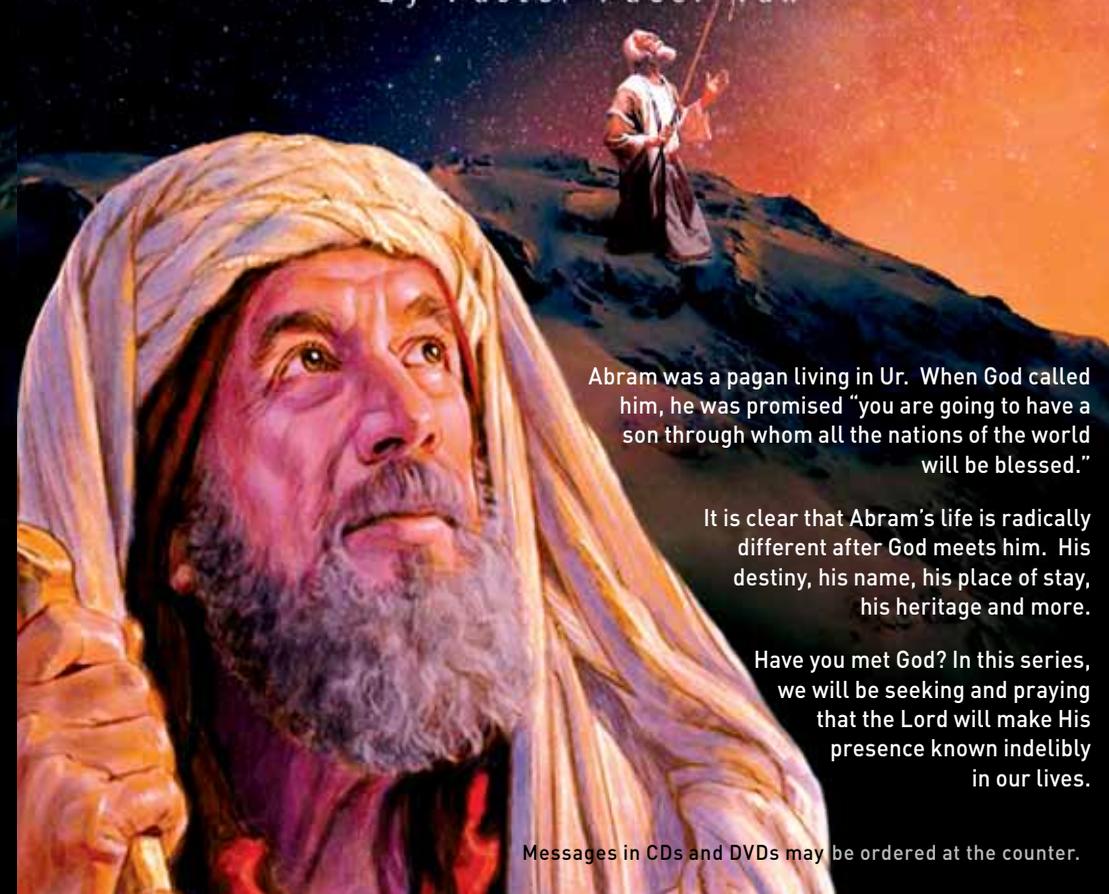
Mary Ram woke up with **heart palpitations** coupled with breathlessness. This morning she decided to attend the Miracle Service. After prayer, her palpitations had ceased.

Linda Ngeow praised God for healing her of **ovarian cysts**. In August, she went for a scan. The results of the scan showed that she had a 5cm cyst in her left ovary. The doctor recommended surgery. Three weeks later, another scan showed that the cyst had increased in size. The doctor insisted on surgery, but she pleaded with the doctor to give her two weeks to think about it. She came to the Miracle Service to be prayed for. And today, she went to see her doctor who confirmed that the cyst in her left ovary had disappeared. All glory to God!

lighters' link

OCTOBER 11, 2015

Encounters With God Series Part 1 THE ABRAHAMIC COVENANT By Pastor Pacer Tan



Abram was a pagan living in Ur. When God called him, he was promised "you are going to have a son through whom all the nations of the world will be blessed."

It is clear that Abram's life is radically different after God meets him. His destiny, his name, his place of stay, his heritage and more.

Have you met God? In this series, we will be seeking and praying that the Lord will make His presence known indelibly in our lives.

Messages in CDs and DVDs may be ordered at the counter.

Next Sunday
The Secret To
Financial Freedom
By Dr. Andrés Panasiuk

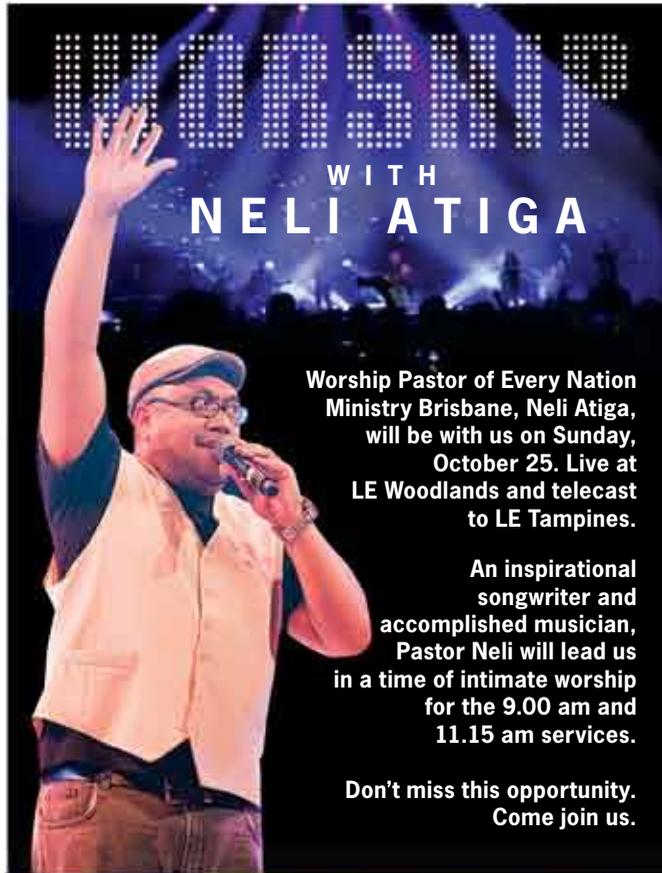
**TODAY'S
PRE-SERVICE UPPERLIGHT
PRAYER ITEMS**

1 MIRACLE SERVICE
– Lighters to actively bring pre-believing or afflicted relatives and friends
– God's kind of faith to come upon all sick folks

2 THE HAZE PROBLEM
– Wisdom upon our government to manage this problem and divine protection upon all Singaporeans
– Divine intervention to stop the forest fires burning in Indonesia

**OCTOBER 15
THURSDAY UPPERLIGHT
PRAYER ITEMS**

- Miracle Service
- Healing of Body Aches
- Sunday Services and Weekdays' Activities
- Overcoming Bitterness
- Music and Drama Department
- Abusive and Violent Families



WOW SHIP
WITH
NELI ATIGA

Worship Pastor of Every Nation Ministry Brisbane, Neli Atiga, will be with us on Sunday, October 25. Live at LE Woodlands and telecast to LE Tampines.

An inspirational songwriter and accomplished musician, Pastor Neli will lead us in a time of intimate worship for the 9.00 am and 11.15 am services.

Don't miss this opportunity. Come join us.

AN EXTRACT FROM THE BOOK

The Seven Trumpets

Written By Pastor Rony Tan



Church, but amazingly, the Gospel still spread like wildfire through the apostles and early believers.

From the turn of the 20th century, with modern technologies, especially in the areas of travel and communication, the Gospel has begun to reach the remote tribes in the far corners of the world. Furthermore, the Bible has been translated into more and more languages. However, we know that not everyone will receive Jesus as the Lord and Savior of his or her life.

One of the signs of Christ's Second Coming is that the Gospel will be preached in all nations (or people groups). Somehow in the last few decades, people are more receptive to the message of Jesus Christ.

Even in Singapore, it is not uncommon for entire families to embrace Christianity within a short period of time, especially in our Miracle Service. Then these young converts begin to impact their relatives and friends. I believe that this spirit of receptivity to the Gospel has something to do with the soon Coming of Jesus Christ.

**2nd Sign of Christ's Second Coming
The 6,000 years of mankind**

Genesis 2:1-2

God created the heavens and the earth in six days. On the seventh day, He rested. Here God is trying to communicate with us in a language that we humans can understand. God doesn't need any rest, but we do. However, out of this

concept, the Sabbath rest for us is being derived.

2 Peter 3:8

God's sense of time and ours are totally different. To Him, a thousand earth years is but one day. He has ordained for man to work six days and rest on the seventh day – one day of rest per week. I believe that will bring about optimum productivity.

Now, God has been dealing with men for some 6,000 years already. Those are tumultuous years. In God's reckoning, it is only about six days. Do you see a parallel here?

So far, man's history has encompassed about 6,000 years. The next earthshaking event is the Second Coming of Christ and then the Millennium, which represents rest. In other words, we are entering into the seventh day of rest soon.

In the Millennium, the animals would be at peace with one another. The Bible says that the lion and the lamb shall lie down together. This sign of mankind's 6,000 years tells us that Jesus Christ is coming soon.

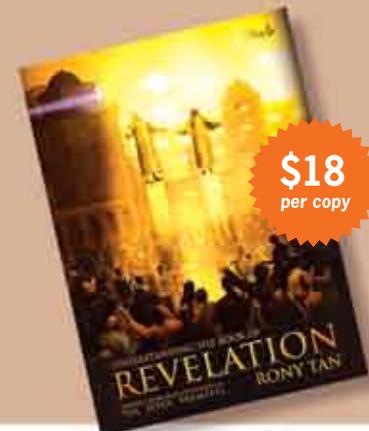
**1st Sign of Christ's Second Coming
World evangelization**

Matthew 24:14

The end of the Age is preceded by the Second Coming of Christ. When the Age of Lawlessness ends, the last age of man's rule has ended and the two phases of Christ's Coming would have already taken place. They are the Rapture before the Great Tribulation and His Glorious Appearing (at the tail end of the Great Tribulation) during the Battle of Armageddon.

According to Jesus, the end of the Age will not come unless and until the Gospel of the Kingdom is being preached in all the world. So even during the Great Tribulation, when conditions are extremely unfavorable for the spreading of the Gospel, God will use people like the 144,000 Jewish evangelists and the two witnesses who are endowed with special powers to preach the Good News to the dying world. By then, the Gospel would have been carried to the furthest corners of the world. Then the end shall come.

Since the birth of the Church, Christians have suffered horrendous persecutions. Satan tried to utterly destroy the early



A Fresh Encounter With

G O D

By Charles Stanley

Isaiah 6:1-9 (ESV)

- 1 In the year that King Uzziah died I saw the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up; and the train of his robe filled the temple.
- 2 Above him stood the seraphim. Each had six wings: with two he covered his face, and with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew.
- 3 And one called to another and said: "Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory!"
- 4 And the foundations of the thresholds shook at the voice of him who called, and the house was filled with smoke.
- 5 And I said: "Woe is me! For I am lost; for I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; for my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts!"
- 6 Then one of the seraphim flew to me, having in his hand a burning coal that he had taken with tongs from the altar.
- 7 And he touched my mouth and said: "Behold, this has touched your lips; your guilt is taken away, and your sin atoned for."
- 8 And I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for me?" Then I said, "Here I am! Send me."
- 9 And he said, "Go, and say to this people: "Keep

on hearing, but do not understand; keep on seeing, but do not perceive."

We live in busy times. For many Christians, sadly, church is an item on their checklist, and they think attending a service fulfills their "spiritual duty." As a result, God seems distant, so they feel unexcited about His work in their lives and lack compassion for the unsaved. Such believers find it easy to start acting in a worldly manner.

But the Heavenly Father desires an intimate relationship with His children. As in Bible times, He still has personal encounters with His people – sometimes to comfort or encourage, at other times to guide or convict of sin.

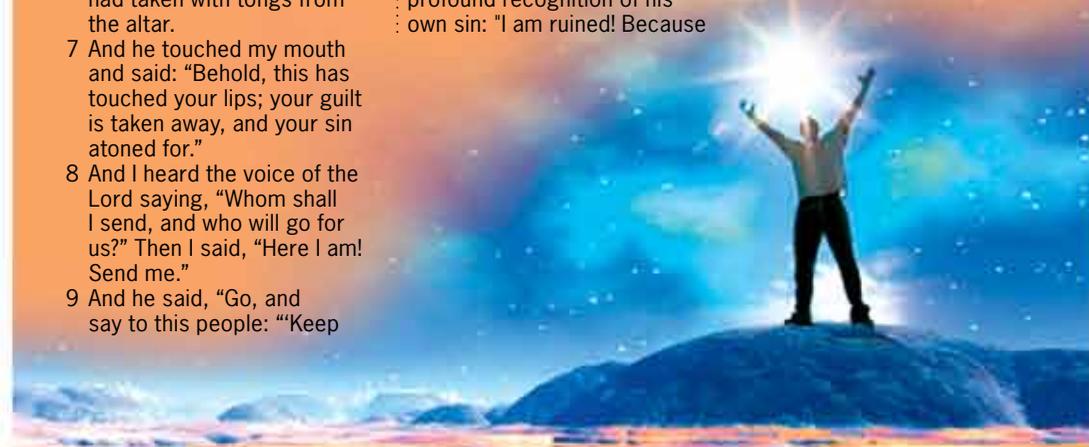
In today's passage, the prophet Isaiah wrote of such a meeting with the Lord. His reaction to the holiness of God's presence was a profound recognition of his own sin: "I am ruined! Because

I am a man of unclean lips...; for my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts" (v.5).

As the prophet experienced, when God reveals His presence to us, we are likely to be overwhelmed with awe and a sense of our unworthiness. Then, as we humbly respond in repentance or obedience, we, too, will know that our sins have been forgiven (v.7).

We cannot manipulate or create divine encounters, but we make them possible by being available to God. Are you spending time with the Lord, praying and reading His Word? Or has life become too busy and your spiritual walk too mechanical?

Ask God for a personal encounter with Him. Spend time praising the Lord, confessing sin, and surrendering all areas of your life to Him. Then expectantly watch for Him.



**MANDARIN
7.00 PM
SERVICE
ON OCTOBER 11**



BE GRATEFUL

Today, we will have Rev Oh Beng Khoo (胡民气牧师) with us at the 7.00 pm Mandarin service. He will be preaching on the subject *Be Grateful*. Rev Oh is a highly-regarded and well-respected pastor who preaches with simplicity and humor. Come and be blessed by him!

**SPECIAL
DIALECT
SERVICES**

ON SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25

Former MediaCorp actress Ji QiuXiang (纪秋香) will be with us at the 11.00 am and 3.00 pm Dialect services on Sunday, October 25. She will be sharing her life story and how our Lord Jesus healed her. QiuXiang had acted in quite a number of Chinese drama series and hosted the children's programs.

Pick up the phone and invite your Hokkien and Cantonese-speaking friends to join you at the service. See you in the Chapel of Lighthouse Tampines!

