



Tonight's message by Pastor Pacer is entitled **The Prodigal** and this story is especially for you. The Prodigal Son is a well-known story. Many Christians will know the story in its entirety. But today as we look at this story with fresh eyes, we get a glimpse in a deeper revelation of just how much God loves us, cares for us and wants us to return to Him so as to have a right relationship with Him.

A man had two sons. As a father, if your son comes to you before you die and you are still alive and healthy and he wants his inheritance now, what will be the first words from your mouth? It is indeed incredibly shameful for a son to go to a father and demand his inheritance now. It is as if the son is cursing his parent and it is a complete disrespect for his father. It is interesting that the father in this story agreed to give his younger son the share of his inheritance. It must have broken the father's heart because it is as if the son did not love him! Nonetheless the father divided the property between his two sons. Most likely, the younger son would get one-third of the inheritance because the other son, being the older one, would get a larger share which was two-thirds. The prodigal son in this story is the typical irresponsible, unreasonable and unlikable person. He is the guy everyone loves to hate. Whereas the father in this story is someone that everyone loves. He was the victim pining for the son to come back. He was the one that adored his children and tried his best to take charge of his household. But sad to say, he had such a disrespectful and disobedient son.

The Bible says very clearly that the prodigal son did not stay in the same country. He wanted to stay as far away as he could and squandered all his inheritance on wine, women and song. There was a severe famine in the country he was living in and he was in need. He probably

owed bankers and finance companies and fair-weather friends too. During a famine, food prices rocketed and not only was he in great debt, he was also living a desperate life. Desperate enough to be a pig herder! He must have realized that the pigs were treated better than him. What an awful state for him to be in! He who was once so high and mighty had sunk so low, once so prideful had now become crestfallen, and once so rich had now become poor. He had sunk down to the lowest point of humanity.

How would you want this story to end? Many would want the son to crawl back to the father, beg for forgiveness and show the father great love. But some would want the son to perish because of the hurt he had caused his father. But Jesus had a different way of ending this story and it sounds so strange to us. Even though the father was the victim and so badly disrespected, he was going to welcome his evil son. That is the shocker in the story. The biggest part of the story is not the way the prodigal son went out and squandered his money, but the response of the father. Even though the father knew that the son had lived a decadent, wretched, dark and immoral life and had shamed his family's name, his response was not as expected. When you understand the father in this story, you will understand the Heavenly Father's love for you. Even if you have disrespected and belittled God, disdained His name and disobeyed Him, there is a Father God beckoning, welcoming and inviting you home with open arms. The church is a spiritual home. We come broken in our frailties and weaknesses, but we are not a victim where God is concerned. God is the victim. This is because we are like the prodigal son. The problem is we ignore a good God that blesses us and has given us a precious life. The story of the prodigal son shows us that no matter how far or how wicked or evil we have been, we still have a God in heaven that welcomes us. His Son, Jesus Christ, has died for our sins and will cleanse us of our unrighteousness.

This son finally realized that he had taken his father for granted, the same way as we have taken God for granted and realized

that there is nothing better than knowing God the Father. That our God has more than enough and that we have been looking at Him wrongly; that we have been ignoring Him and trying to run away from Him. Coming to a full realization, the younger son said he would arise and go to his father and tell him he was wrong and that he had sinned against heaven and before him. The son realized he had absolutely no right to be called a son because he had disowned his father and ties had been severed. All he wanted was to be treated as a hired servant. The son returned to his father disheveled and in a mess. His clothes smelled of pigs' feces and his body was covered in mud. While he was walking back to the father, he prepared in his mind what he would say to his father, that he had wronged him and to make him a hired man. The father saw the son from a distance and felt compassion for him. The father ran out. According to Jewish culture, older men do not run to receive someone younger. The father saw the son coming home in this story and he abandoned protocol, accepted him and brought him home. This awesome scene shows God the Father when we come back to Him. He rushes out to meet us. He is more excited to see us come home than we are excited to be home. That is the love of God. The father asked the servants to bring in the best robe for his son and put a ring on his finger and shoes for his feet; to kill a fattened calf and hold a celebration to celebrate the return of his son. When we come before God, we feel a sense of emptiness and dread, but can we see the Father clothing us with the best robe of heaven? The father was going to lavish amazing, unquenchable love on his son because he was back. The Bible says we are so deep in our sins and so wretched in our past. That literally means that we have no hope in ourselves. You can be rich in finance, but poor in spirit. It is not what you have on the outside but what you do not have on the inside. When we see ourselves like the prodigal son, we can understand the love of God. The love of God shows that despite you being a sinner, He will love you so much that He will come down to die for you. That is the story of the Gospel – the love of God shown at the

Cross of Jesus Christ. His crimson blood was shed so that all our sins can be wiped away. What a Savior!

Tonight many received their healing and here are some of their testimonies. For a long period of time, Danice Chong had been having **heavy menstrual** flow monthly and would result in her being anemic. It became even worse despite a surgical procedure done to correct it. It was so bad that she could not attend the Miracle Service last Saturday so she watched it online and something miraculous happened. As she knelt down at home, she felt God's touch on her and she applied a certain medication passed to her by her sister. One and a half days later, the bleeding stopped completely and from that point on she felt restored.

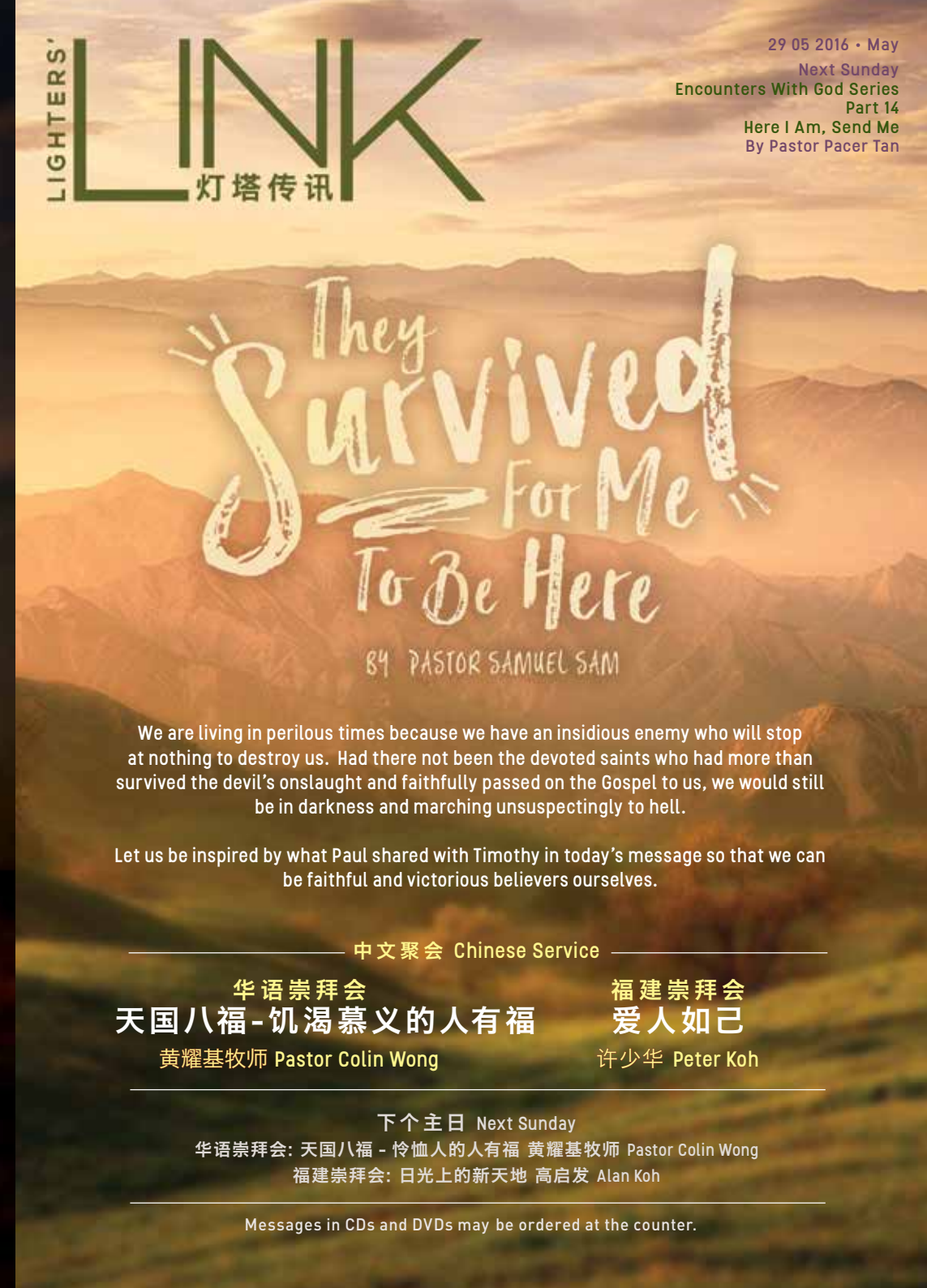
Doris Toh received a phone call from her son in London last Wednesday that he **lost his luggage** and he only had whatever he was wearing. Deeply troubled, she could not sleep or eat. Last Saturday, a Gospelighter prayed for her and told her nothing is impossible with God and He is going to bring the whole luggage back. Praise the Lord, the next day which was a Sunday, she received a call from her son to say that they managed to trace the luggage in Edinburgh. On Tuesday, it was returned to her son.

Winnie Tang suffered from **chest pain** for two weeks and was breathless. Her two X-rays confirmed that she had white scars on both of her lungs. The doctor ordered a CT scan to confirm her condition. She was being prayed for at the Miracle Service and also at her cell group. Last Wednesday, the results of her CT scan showed that everything was clear. Winnie also had **ingrown nails on both her feet**. She had a surgical procedure to correct the right ingrown toe nail. Praise the Lord, the growth of her left nail with the same problem has changed direction after prayer. She has no need to go for a surgical procedure. Hallelujah!



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LIGHTERS' **LINK** 灯塔传讯

29 05 2016 · May
Next Sunday
Encounters With God Series
Part 14
Here I Am, Send Me
By Pastor Pacer Tan

They Survived For Me To Be Here
BY PASTOR SAMUEL SAM

We are living in perilous times because we have an insidious enemy who will stop at nothing to destroy us. Had there not been the devoted saints who had more than survived the devil's onslaught and faithfully passed on the Gospel to us, we would still be in darkness and marching unsuspectingly to hell.

Let us be inspired by what Paul shared with Timothy in today's message so that we can be faithful and victorious believers ourselves.

中文聚会 Chinese Service

华语崇拜会
天国八福 - 饥渴慕义的人有福
黄耀基牧师 Pastor Colin Wong

福建崇拜会
爱人如己
许少华 Peter Koh

下个主日 Next Sunday
华语崇拜会: 天国八福 - 怜恤的人有福 黄耀基牧师 Pastor Colin Wong
福建崇拜会: 日光上的新天地 高启发 Alan Koh

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

2016 “破茧而飞” 中文聚会青少年团契活力营

今年6月15-17日, 我们中文聚会将举办以“破茧而飞”为主题的青少年团契活力营, 欢迎所有年龄在12-22岁的青少年会友参加。为期三天两夜的活力营将在圣约翰岛St. John Island举行, 田牧师和来自吉隆坡的陈振亿传道将做为营会讲员。营会中我们设计了许多丰富多彩的节目和游戏, 如: 经历圣灵充满、圣经教导、团队建造、寻宝游戏; 我们的后勤团队也预备了丰富的餐食和夜宵! 报名费用(补贴后) 每人40元。鼓励所有适龄青少年参加, 也请家长鼓励孩子们参加我们营会, 在教导和游戏中被圣灵充满, 追寻神的道路。有意者请在聚会后于柜台报名, 具体事宜也可询问青少团契总负责蔡美凤姐妹(Chris Chye)、兀兰会所协调员张敬坤弟兄(Teoh Kean Koon)、淡滨尼会所协调员纪瀛姐妹(Kee Ying)、谭翔燕姐妹(Sephrenia Tham)。

儿童祷告会 (以英语进行)

好消息! 各位家长。教会在来临六月的学校假期, 为孩子们举办儿童祷告会。

日期: 6月2日、9日和16日
(星期四)

时间: 晚上八点

地点: 兀兰会所B2和平室

这是一个好机会让您的孩子学习如何祷告和培育他们的灵敏度。不要错过这个有史以来的属灵操练儿童祷告会。请带您的孩子一同来参与。



On June 02 Thursday Upperlight PRAYER ITEMS

- Miracle Service
- Healing of Endometriosis, Ovarian Cysts and Fibroids
- Sunday Services and Weekday Activities
- Sparklight Servers
 - A New Zeal and a Fresh Spirit
- Sparklighters
 - Attentiveness
 - Catch the Spirit of Prayer
- Lighters' Family in Disunity



Miracle Service

On Saturday, June 4

This coming Saturday, Pastor Rony's sermon at the Miracle Service will be interpreted from English to Hokkien. Seize the opportunity to invite your pre-believing Hokkien- and English-speaking loved ones and friends to the service and see them experience the saving and healing touch of our Lord.



Marriage Preparation Seminar

On Friday, June 17

Good news for all couples who are planning to get married. The next **Marriage Preparation Seminar** is scheduled for Friday, June 17. This one-day seminar will be conducted by our pastors at Lighthouse Tampines from 9.30 am to 5.30 pm.

To register for this seminar, please email to lightev@singnet.com.sg or call the church office at 67881323.

Wait On The Spirit BY MAX LUCADO

Wait on the Spirit. If Peter and the apostles needed His help, don't we? They walked with Jesus for three years, heard His preaching, and saw His miracles. They saw the body of Christ buried in the grave and raised from the dead. They witnessed His upper room appearance and heard His instruction. Had they not received the best possible training? Weren't they ready? Yet Jesus told them to wait on the Spirit. He said in Acts 1:4-5, "Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised...the Holy Spirit."

Learn to wait, to be silent, to listen for His voice. You don't need a thing - you've got it all! All God's gifts are right in front of you as you wait expectantly for our Master Jesus to arrive on the scene.

Flexilight Gathering

At Sun Plaza Park

REPORTED BY CYNTHIA TAN

At the break of dawn, 140 Flexilightees gathered for our Flexilight Gathering at Sun Plaza Park. We have much to thank the Lord for giving us the discipline to spend time to keep fit.

Immediately, after a thanksgiving prayer, we dived straight into an hour of nonstop, exuberant Aerobics, Toning and Dynamic Praise & Stretch pacing with beautiful music beats.

After the series of holistic fitness exercises, we had our breakfast. We were also blessed with a door gift. The day ended with a fun-filled game which bonded us together and brought us much laughter.

It is an encouragement to see Flexilightees coming together with one accord and unity from start to end. Indeed, Jesus has been and will always be at the center of all Christ-directed activities. Glory to Him!



“中文聚会特别领袖策划会议”和“团契烧烤会”报告

中文聚会在5月15日(星期天)在淡滨尼会所举办了一年一度的领袖策划会议, 大约四十多位领袖出席当天的会议, 大家一起分组, 以“脑力激荡”的方式一同讨论中文聚会未来发展的方向, 如何把我们中文聚会做得更好, 更有效的服侍我们的会友和商讨策划明年的活动与聚会, 共有六组呈现他们的计划, 作为未来的发展方向档案。当天也按立两位新兴起的领袖。为了回馈领袖们这些年日的劳苦功高, 策划会议过后, 领袖们在会所的后停, 大家共聚一堂, 一起享用烧烤会晚餐, 彼此沟通、交流、建立美好的团契。谢谢所有的领袖, 因为你们的付出, 因为你们的配搭, 才能使中文聚会更上一层楼, 愿你们手中所行所做的一切, 蒙主保守, 恩上加恩, 力上加力! 让我们同心一起迈向美好的未来。愿一切颂赞, 尊贵, 荣耀归于主耶稣基督永恒的王! (撰文: 许少华弟兄)

