



What makes a person desirous to destroy other people and also himself? There must be a motive. It is all in the belief system deep in the heart. We can believe in the head and never translate it into heart and action. But what we believe deep in our hearts about something will be translated into action. Tonight's message is entitled **The Condition of Your Heart**. The condition of the heart ultimately determines the destination of the person. It is not just in a person, but in the mind and deep in the heart. If a person just wants to live a life of fun and pleasure, to be a workaholic or to be deeply religious, it is deep in the heart. If the person just wants to destroy others and themselves, it is also in the heart.

Jesus talks about the condition of the heart in the Parable of the Sower. The sower goes to sow his seeds and some of the seeds fall on **hard ground** referred to as the wayside. Before anything can happen, the birds will come and gobble up the seeds. So the seeds will never germinate. Some hearts are very hard. The Word of God can never penetrate into that heart because it is closed. It has been hardened for years. Unless something softens his or her heart, that person is going to a destiny of destruction. Some seeds fall on **stony ground**. Since there is not much earth, it could not sustain the growth of the seeds. Other seeds fall among thorns. On the **thorny ground**, there is no room for the seeds to grow. The thorns will choke out the seeds in the end. The fourth kind of soil is **good ground**. The heart is soft, pliable and fertile. When Jesus spoke

about the Parable of the Sower, many could not understand it. Later, the disciples asked Him the meaning of this parable. Jesus then explained it to them. (Matthew 13:18-23)

There are four kinds of hearers and four kinds of hearts. The Word of the Kingdom is the Bible. When you hear the Word of God and choose not to respond, it would have no effect on you. Seeds that fall on stony ground do not have fertile soil. You can hear and believe from a stony ground, but it has no roots in itself. The seed of the Word of God cannot germinate in the stony heart. People may come to a meeting and receive Christ, but when something good comes along, they grab it. Then, when difficulty comes along, they will blame it on God and will stop attending church. Jesus has never promised that once you become a Christian and be His disciple, there will be no trouble. Instead, He says that as long as you live in this world, there will be problems, but He will never leave nor forsake you.

The thorny ground is the situation where the heart is distracted by the things of this world – the worldly fun, pleasure and entertainment. If the hearts are thorny, they give scarce thought of eternity. Spiritual activity does not excite them anymore and there is no desire to go deeper into the things of God. They become overly concerned about worldly life. They are not interested in winning souls and they have become like the world. But the seeds that are on good ground have fertile

hearts and they are always thinking about God and eternity. They set their affections on things above. For a heart to be in that condition, you have to be in touch with God and Jesus on a daily basis – reading, devouring and partaking of the Word of God. Those who hear the Word of God and understand it are not distracted by worldly means. They produce fruits and do not allow the world to squeeze them into their molds.

**Declaration of Prayer:** *Dear Jesus, plough through my heart, break up the hardened soil, soften my heart, make it pliable, fertilize the soil of my heart, and make it receptive to Your Word. Let my heart grow in faith and live in Jesus. Let my whole life be changed. I have a good heart. I have a fertile heart; and by the power of the Holy Spirit, I receive the Word of God in Jesus' Name. Amen.*

Here is the Gospel message. The sower sows the seed, which is the Gospel message, to four types of hearers. They are the hard ground, stony ground, thorny ground and good ground. However, only hearts that are softened will be receptive to the Gospel. God longs for every person to be saved. Jesus died for you before you were born so that the price is paid and the offer is made good for you to receive. If your heart does not have the right condition, you will never come to full realization and be connected with Jesus Christ. When you hear the Gospel message, the Spirit of God will woo you and you are drawn to Him. In the epistle of Paul to the Philippians, Paul says that when you pay attention to and believe in Jesus, your mind will think like Him. You begin to see life from the perspective of God. But if you set your affection on earthly things, you will always be puzzled by the maze of events. But if you believe in Jesus, your spirit will be elevated to a high plane whereby you can see through the maze and know the way out.

The Bible tells us there are three distinct persons in the Godhead – God the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. Though He was God, Jesus became a man and was locked in time and space. It was because of the love of God that He became a man. The Architect of the whole universe condescended to become a man. He was born in a stable, of all places. That is the level of His love that knows no height or depth. Because of our sins, He humbled Himself to become mortal for a while. The Uncreated One became a man to die for humanity. That is the foolishness of the Cross which is wiser than the wisdom of man. How could we not receive Him? How could we ever reject a love like this?

Tonight, many experienced the reality of God's healing touch and saving power. Here are some testimonies to encourage you.

Sandy Don had **a fall that sustained a big swelling on the back her head**. Praise the Lord, the swelling and giddiness subsided after prayers.

Since July last year, Karen Phoon had **respiratory problems**. Despite seeking medical help, her condition did not improve. Since December, she had been coming for prayers and her condition miraculously improved. And after last week's prayer, she felt the difference as the tightness in her lungs was loosened.

Last year, Catherine Sing **found traces of blood in her urine**. The normal index was 0-3, but her blood count was 20. She came to be prayed for several times. Last Saturday, she was prayed for and yesterday, her test result was 0. Praise God!

Mavis Kwek prayed for **a part-time job**. God answered her prayer, and the timing of the job suits her well.

**HALLELUJAH!**



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09 04 2017 - April  
 Next Sunday  
 Resurrection!  
 By Pastor Pacer Tan

**APPLICATION AND APPROPRIATION**  
 BY PASTOR RONY TAN

The key to learning is application. Without it, nothing is really learned.  
 Many Christians are still roaming the wilderness, going round in circles, hopping here, there and everywhere, because they are mere hearers and not doers of the Word. They love hearing but loathe doing.  
 However, all vital lessons of life demand application. Application means obedience. Often, obedience means doing the necessary things we don't like.  
 Jesus asks, "Why do you call Me Lord, if you don't do as I say?" (Luke 6:46)

中文聚会 Chinese Service  
 华语崇拜会 福建崇拜会  
**信心系列(一)信心的重要性** 门徒之路(九)荣耀之名  
 黄耀基牧师 Pastor Colin Wong 田乘田牧师 Pastor Desmond Tian  
 下个主日 Next Sunday  
 华语崇拜会: 信心系列(二)信心的障碍 黄耀基牧师 Pastor Colin Wong  
 福建崇拜会: 耶稣哭了 高启发 Alan Koh

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

### 緬懷其苦！默思奇恩！

基督徒都知道来临星期五的耶稣受难节是一个特别的日子。但或许对更多人而言却只是个愉快的假日，一个在星期五可以放假，可以轻松逛街或安排与家人出国度假的公共假日。整两千年前的这一天到底发生了什么事都很少人要过问！

圣经记载那一天发生了一件惊天动地，震撼人世的奇迹，而且影响人类千代历史甚至跨越永恒的事件。由于涉及整个人类历史，所以世上的每一个人都必要知道这件事。

人类历史年代的计算都以主耶稣为根标，即主前多少年或主后多少年。耶稣降世于我们当中行神迹奇事，教导群众，传扬天国福分。我们现在尝试通过圣经的四福音书，好比通过录像般的来看耶稣上十字架前的一些感人片断。马太福音记载耶稣被自己日夜跟随的门徒为了钱给出卖。当下，十二门徒里有一个称为加略人犹大的，去见祭司长，说：“我把他交给你们，你们愿意给我多少钱？”他们就给了他三十块钱。从那时候，他就找机会要把耶稣交给他们。

耶稣的另一个门徒彼得也曾经向耶稣夸口说：“众人虽然跌倒，我总不能。”当耶稣在公会前受审时，有人指定彼得和耶稣是同一党的。可是彼得却发咒起誓地说：“我不认得你们说的这个人！”立时鸡叫了第二遍，彼得想起耶稣对他所说的话，“鸡叫两遍以先，你要三次不认我。”思想起来，就哭了。

兵丁把耶稣带进衙门院里，叫齐了全营的兵。他们给他穿上紫袍，又用荆棘编做冠冕给他带上，就庆贺他说：“恭喜，犹太人的王啊！”又拿一根苇子打他的头，吐唾沫在他脸上，用手掌打他，屈膝拜他。

戏弄完了，就给他脱了紫袍，仍穿上他自己的衣服，带他出去，要钉十字架。

到了一个地方，名叫髑髅地，就在那里把耶稣钉在十字架上，又钉了两个犯人：一个在左边，一个在右边。兵丁就拈阄分他的衣服，也戏弄他，上前拿醋送给他喝，说：“你若是犹太人的王，可以救自己吧！”

那时约有午正，遍地都黑暗了，直到申初，日头变黑了。殿里的幔子从当中裂为两半。耶稣大声喊着说：“父啊！我将我的灵魂交在你手里。”说了这话，气就断了。

圣经告诉我们三天后，耶稣复活了！这是整个人类的盼望，基督徒信仰的根基！耶稣战胜了死亡，叫我可以因着他得着永恒的救恩！今天，当我可以因此高声欢呼时，我要静默在主的十字架下，继续得着恩典与怜悯，继续得着遮盖，时时认罪悔改，缅怀其苦，默思奇恩！

主耶稣，我本不配得着的恩典你却赐给我，我本应得着的刑罚你却为我担当！

高启发撰文

### THURSDAY UPPERLIGHT (PRAYER MEETING) 8.00 PM @ LET & LEW April 13, 2017

- Prayer Items
- Miracle Service
  - Healing Of Alien Growths
  - Easter Sunday and Weekday Activities
  - The Discouraged, Demotivated and Depressed
  - Good Friday & Lighthouse 39th Anniversary On April 16

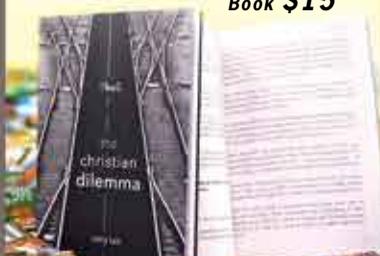


### MEMBERSHIP CLASS

The upcoming Membership Class is scheduled for **Saturday, April 22 at 2.00 pm in Lighthouse Woodlands**. Attending this class is a prerequisite for church membership.

To sign up for the class, fill out the application form and complete an assessment based on the book *Sure Foundation*. Registration closes on Sunday, April 16.

Book \$15



### AN EXTRACT FROM THE BOOK THE CHRISTIAN DILEMMA

WRITTEN BY PASTOR RONY TAN

### UNDERSTANDING GOD'S RIGHTEOUSNESS IN CHRIST THAT OPERATES IN OUR LIVES

There are two aspects of the righteousness of God in Christ. They are positional righteousness and practical righteousness.

Abraham believed in the promises of God and his faith was therefore accounted to him as righteousness. Righteousness was imparted to him because he believed God. His positional righteousness gave him direct access to God so that he could learn to draw strength from the Lord to walk in practical righteousness.

What are the main promises of God to him? Essentially, he was told to leave his homeland so that God could direct him to a new Promised Land. God's plan was to set apart a people specially for Himself. He began with Abraham and his family. Moreover, God promised him a son, in his old age, from whom a great nation would be birthed.

The ultimate promise God made to him is also ours: the promise of an everlasting city or a homeland forever. With that promise in mind, we must evaluate things and live our lives in the light of eternity.

### HEBREWS 11:10 (NKJV)

Positional righteousness gives us the legal right to approach God whenever we need Him. Just as God took Abraham through a process of sanctification so that he could cultivate practical righteousness, we are also in the same process.

Preachers of distorted grace argue, "There's no such thing as positional righteousness and practical righteousness. You're either righteous or not."

Those are nice-sounding but empty words. This clever but untrue statement is only true if we, Christians, do not fall into sin after being born again. If we are honest with God's Word and with ourselves, we will concur that we do sin against God in thoughts, words and deeds after being saved. However, by God's grace and power, we have also noticed that we are improving.

Let's review the two critical verses quoted in the last chapter regarding sin and repentance. Let's look at them in the context of the two aspects of righteousness.

### 1 JOHN 1:8-9 (NKJV)

The positional righteousness gives you access so that you can receive grace and power in the process of practical righteousness or sanctification. To put things in perspective, let me ask two pertinent questions. Do we have to be righteous after being saved? Does God expect practical righteousness from us? The obvious answer is a big "yes".

TO FIND OUT MORE, YOU MAY WANT TO PURCHASE A COPY OF THE BOOK FROM THE FAITHLIGHT COUNTER.

### SPEEDLIGHT PARENT-AND-CHILD BONDING DAY

On March 18, 2017, families took a break from their busy schedules and gathered at Lighthouse Tampines for the first Parent-and-Child Bonding Day, planned and organized by the Speedlight Programs Team. There were more than 70 participants of all ages who spent a meaningful day with their loved ones and friends.

The event started off with the building of terrariums. This was followed by popiah-making which everyone enjoyed eating right after.

The highlight of the day was an inspiring talk by Pastor Dinah Lee from Focus On the Family. She shared ways to communicate and strengthen the parent-teen bond. It was a wonderful, God-filled time that developed deeper connection and understanding within the family circle.

### AND HERE IS WHAT THE PARTICIPANTS SAID:



The speaker elaborated a very fundamental key family lifestyle for successful living and Christ-centered generational blessing. Thank you for organizing this event. - RUTH HOE

We enjoyed this event greatly, especially the terrarium-making. Even though we made terrariums in school before, it was a whole new experience making it with our father. - EVAN LEE, 9 AND JOEL LEE, 11

It was a great bonding session and opportunity for me to spend time with the boys. My wife was so happy and touched when the boys brought home a popiah specially made for her. - MARK LEE, 48

I enjoyed the whole program thoroughly and it is indeed a positive step towards building up a stronger family bond. The terrarium session, popiah-rolling experience and the family talk by Pastor Dinah were all very meaningful and relevant to us, parents and children. - MAGDALENE TAN, 59



REPORTED BY MINDY TAN