

## MIRACLE SERVICE

On June 03, 2017 • Reported by Edward Lam

Matthew 8:2-3 (ESV)

<sup>2</sup> And behold, a leper came to him and knelt before him, saying,

“Lord, if you will, you can make me clean.”

<sup>3</sup> And Jesus stretched out his hand and touched him, saying,

“I will; be clean.” And immediately his leprosy was cleansed.

This evening, Pastor Rony preached an insightful message entitled **Spiritual Leprosy**. It helps us to understand that leprosy of the heart is far worse than physical leprosy because it will lead us to eternal destruction.

Leprosy is a dreadful disease because it slowly eats away the flesh leaving the person disabled and disfigured. In the advanced stage, the leper looks like a walking dead because he has the color of death. Open sores appear all over his body and some parts of his body are missing.

Leprosy destroys nerve endings resulting in loss of sensation. This is dangerous because the warning system of pain has collapsed. Suppose a blind person is moving toward a fire. As he gets closer to it, he feels the heat, realizes that he is in danger and pulls away immediately. However, if a leper is suffering from advanced leprosy, he would have lost all sensation in his hands and feet. Therefore, he is in no position to realize that he is near a fire.

Many lepers in poor countries sleep on the floor. Sometimes, they wake up in the morning only to discover that their fingers or toes are missing. How did it happen? When they were sleeping peacefully the night before, hungry mice came and gnawed their fingers or toes undisturbed because they had lost all sensation. How dreadful leprosy is!

However, there is a type of leprosy that is far worse than physical leprosy. We term it “spiritual leprosy” or “leprosy of the heart”. It is a heart that does not know God and recognize the need to know Him. It is also a heart that has conformed to the standards of this world.

There are stories about babies being given up for adoption. When they grow up and realize that they are adopted, they desperately try to find their biological parents. And when they have successfully found and reached out to their parents, an emotional reunion would occur. Besides probing questions asked and life experiences shared, there would be weeping and wailing.

If we don't have leprosy of the heart, we desire to know God because He is our Creator and Heavenly Father. However, if we suffer from spiritual leprosy, we don't care whether we are heading toward destruction or not. We don't even believe that there is an afterlife, a Heaven to gain and a hell to shun. This is because sins have invaded and captured our hearts.

In olden days, victims of leprosy were treated as outcasts. Little was known of this disease and everybody was fearful of them, including their loved ones. They were forced to live in leper colonies so that they would not infect others. And the law required them ▶

◀ to shout “Unclean! Unclean!” when they saw another human being walking toward them.

The leper, recorded in Matthew 8:1-3, realized that he was suffering both physical and spiritual leprosy. When he went to Jesus, he had a desperate need to be whole again not only outwardly but also inwardly. So he took a great risk by appearing in public and going to Him. He had no doubt that Christ had the means and power to save and heal him, but he was not sure if Jesus would answer his cries for help. This was due to the intense pain that he experienced from ostracism and rejection by society. Nevertheless, he cried out, “Lord, if You are willing, You can make me clean.”

The crowd saw the leper. They were afraid of him, but their curiosity as to what Jesus would do overpower their fear. To their amazement, Jesus walked closer to the leper and touched him. The latter was shocked. For the first time in many years, he felt the touch of a healthy person. Then he heard Jesus saying to him, “I am willing; be cleansed.” Immediately, he was healed of leprosy.

Jesus placed on record in the Bible that any soul seeking salvation or healing should have absolutely no doubt that He would save and heal. Even a leper, who was shunned by society, would be accepted wholeheartedly and healed by Christ. Though healing of the body is a wonderful miracle, it will only last while you are on earth. But the greatest miracle of all is the salvation of the sin-sick soul, which will last through all eternity. Welcome Jesus Christ to take up residence in your heart so that you will see Him face-to-face in Heaven one day.

This night, the Holy Spirit was moving powerfully to reach out to the unsaved and heal the sick and diseased.

More than 18 years ago, Jane Poh came to the Miracle Service to **pray for a second child**. A few months later, she conceived. She gave birth to her daughter, Grace, who is now 17 years old.

Jane was born with **irritable bowel syndrome (IBS)** and would frequently suffer constipation and diarrhea. This resulted in painful stomach cramps. Two years ago, the church was praying for those afflicted with IBS at the Thursday Upperlight in Lighthouse Woodlands. That night, while the prayer leader was praying fervently for those with the condition, she suffered an attack. She withstood the pain, which was growing in intensity, and resisted going to the toilet because she believed that God would heal her. She felt a warm sensation and the pain gradually subsided and went away. But shortly after, when another wave of cramps started, she left for the toilet to purge. From then on, whenever she suffers an attack, she would pray in the name of Jesus to take the pain away. Thereafter, she would purge but did not experience intense pain.

Since February last year, Jane and her family had been praying hard for her son to **gain admission into one of the local universities**. Recently, he received not just one but two positive replies from two universities.

**SURELY, GOD'S GOODNESS AND GRACE IS IMMEASURABLE!**  
**THANK GOD FOR HIS FAITHFULNESS!**



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Next Sunday

Let Peace Begin With Me

By Pastor Samuel Sam

LIGHTERS LINK  
灯塔传讯

CREED IN-DEED SERIES - PART 10

# GREAT COMMISSION

BY PASTOR PACER TAN

It is a privilege for all believers to be called to participate in the Great Commission. God's plan to reach the world with the gospel is through us!

Today's sermon will challenge us to live for what God has intended for us, His church.

中文聚会 Chinese Service

华语崇拜会  
信心系列(六) 试炼与信心  
黄耀基牧师 Pastor Colin Wong

福建崇拜会  
重树希望  
田乘田牧师 Pastor Desmond Tian

下个主日 Next Sunday

华语崇拜会: 信心系列(七) 试炼与顺服 黄耀基牧师 Pastor Colin Wong  
福建崇拜会: 无名小卒 许美玉牧师 Pastor Rachel Koh

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

# 聚會動態 Chinese Service ANNOUNCEMENTS



## 长青团契居塞羊场一日游

共有51位弟兄姐妹参与中文聚会长青团契于5月19日(星期五)所举办的居塞羊场一日游。感谢主所赐的美好天气! 大家扶老携少的往目的地出发! 团员个个乐呼呼的品尝鲜奶, 喂饱自己后也忙于喂养羊群牲畜, 对以往的农村生活起着一番回味。大家不仅度过难忘的一天, 也满载而归的把当地土产给带回新加坡, 期待的更是下一回的类似外出活动!



## THURSDAY UPPERLIGHT (PRAYER MEETING) 8.00 PM @ LET & LEW

June 22, 2017  
Prayer Items

- Miracle Service and Sunday Services
- Youth Service (Every 4th Saturday)
- Children's Uperlight Highlight @ LET
- Children's Uperlight Highlight @ LEW

## HAPPY FATHER'S DAY



Dad, you have given me the best things in life: your time, care and love. I am truly grateful to have you in my life. Happy Father's Day!

### KNOWING YOUR BOUNDARIES

Some 6,000 years have passed since then, yet Satan is still using the same trick to get us to compromise our godly convictions. This time it is not a serpent but a human being who is an engaging conversationalist. Sometimes, just one heart-to-heart talk with the wrong person can shift our heart's desires.

Consequently, things of the world can become more appealing, and things of God can become unappetizing. We should learn to be discerning of people who have the propensity of patronizing us.

In our fellowship and conversation with one another, we ought to be very careful. There are certain boundaries we mustn't cross. There are certain issues we mustn't discuss and certain things we mustn't touch. Should a careless soul cross a certain line, as a Christian you ought to know the dangers. Simply change the subject! It's just like that fruit from the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil. Adam and Eve were not supposed to touch it, let alone partake of it. They ought to know better.

### DON'T TOUCH IT

I know many theologians make a great fuss over Eve's statement that they were not supposed to touch the forbidden fruit. Many claim that Eve was exaggerating and adding to the Word of God, that's why she got herself into trouble.

Now I want you to think a little deeper. Supposing you had a bottle of poison in your home, what would you say to your children? Obviously, you would say to them, "Don't drink it." But what else would you say? Won't you say, "Don't you even touch it!"? You know very often, Scripture doesn't spell out everything in the passage; however, more is being revealed in subsequent passages pertaining to the same subject.

It is true that in Genesis 2, we do not have the recorded words of God telling Adam not to touch the fruit of the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil, but that doesn't prove that He didn't say it at all. In the spirit of the Word,



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**CONVICTIONS TO LIVE BY**  
WRITTEN BY PASTOR RONY



it is probable that God said, "Don't even touch it." I would not be surprised if God had said, "Don't even look at it."

Jesus said that if you look at a woman with lust in your eyes, you have already committed adultery. You don't even have to touch, it's already a sin. No wonder the Bible says, "Flee from youthful lusts." The first look is not a sin, but the second look can evoke lust in the heart.

So don't look at it, don't touch it and don't partake of it. What I'm trying to emphasize here is that there are certain areas in our conversation we mustn't touch or else the devil will gain, first a toehold, then a foothold, next a stronghold and finally a stranglehold. In fact, there are certain individuals with whom we mustn't be engaged in a long-drawn fellowship and conversation.

Sometime ago, through a costly misjudgment, I allowed a certain individual into a position of great influence in my church. He was a complex man, highly sensitive and critical of virtually everything and everyone. His eloquence enabled him to sow seeds of discord among the staff and members of the church, but only for awhile. He was unusually obliging to those who gave him a listening ear, and terribly abusive to those who didn't agree with him.

One of my elders said this of him, "My wife and I knew something was wrong the first time we fellowshiped with him. He slandered everyone and we were troubled; yet we like to talk to him because he has captured our hearts."

Like this elder, a number of my key leaders were almost swayed by him. The spirit of dissension in that man was being exposed and a potentially explosive situation had been averted. Thank God that not one person crossed away from the boundary of safety to follow him.

Eve crossed the boundary of her safety and was so engrossed in the evil conversation with the devil. And that's the common cause for misunderstanding to arise. That's how we get sucked in and carried away by the wrong spirit. The only proper words that Eve should have said to the devil are, "Get thee behind me, Satan!" That would thwart the devil's plan for man's Fall. Perhaps, that would have saved the world untold sorrows.

## SPEEDLIGHT SERVICE 2017 *New Beginnings*

Speedlighters! We will be kickstarting our all new Speedlight Service this coming Saturday, June 24 in the Multi-Purpose Hall of Lighthouse Woodlands!

Come prepared to worship, receive a powerful Word and fellowship amongst your peers, as you grow in faith and maturity.

Service starts at 3.00 pm and we will be providing free busing from Tampines to Lighthouse Woodlands.

### BUSING INFORMATION:

1. Pick-up point to LE Woodlands @ 2.00 pm: The open space in front of Western Union at Tampines MRT station
2. Pick-up point from LE Woodlands @ 5.30 pm: The open space near the fountain of Lighthouse Woodlands

### REGISTRATION PROCEDURES:

1. You may register online at <http://tinyurl.com/speedlightbusing> or call the church office at 67881323.
2. You can choose one-way journey from Tampines to Lighthouse Woodlands or from Lighthouse Woodlands to Tampines, or two-way journey to and fro Lighthouse Woodlands.
3. Registration closes on Tuesday, June 20, 5.00 pm.
4. You need to call to cancel your registration if you cannot make it to the service. This will help us regulate the number of buses we need to book.