



THE
BIBLE COLLEGE
OF WALES

DREAMERS

Autumn Term 2025



DREAMERS

PSALM 126

When the Lord brought back the captivity of Zion, we were like those who dream. ² Then our mouth was filled with laughter, and our tongue with singing. Then they said among the nations, "The Lord has done great things for them." ³ The Lord has done great things for us, and we are glad. ⁴ Bring back our captivity, O Lord, as the streams in the South. ⁵ Those who sow in tears shall reap in joy. ⁶ He who continually goes forth weeping, bearing seed for sowing, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him.



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FROM THE *Directory*

**Congratulations to the
graduating students
of Batch 20, School of
Ministry, Fall Term 2025.**



I am thrilled that you chose to come to The Bible College of Wales and I pray these three months have had many defining moments for many of you. As you graduate, I strongly encourage you to keep pressing upward, onward, and toward the goal of the high call of God in Christ Jesus.

You have chosen an appropriate theme for your graduation, “DREAMERS” from Psalm 126:1 “When the LORD brought back the captivity of Zion, we were like those who dream.”

Allow me to look at this subject from the angle of the dreams we receive from the Lord because if we are ever going to be a prophetic people, then we will need to have an understanding of our dream life.

I begin with a story. In 1972, Reinhard Bonnke, the famed German Evangelist was 32 years old, and he was in Lesotho. There was very little fruit in his ministry, and he recounted how he travelled a whole day to speak to five people in a faraway village and at the end of the meeting, not one of them responded. He was deeply discouraged and said, “O Lord, this cannot be it”.

It was a very difficult season for him, but one night, he had a dream that changed everything. He saw a gigantic map of the African continent and as he watched, it was washed in the precious blood of Jesus from north to south, east to west and then he heard a mighty voice cry, “From Cape



Town to Cairo, ALL Africa shall be saved”. He woke up and was startled by the dream but he thought to himself, how in the world is this going to come to pass seeing he was such a failure in the mission field. He had the same dream for four consecutive nights and in response to the dream, “Christ for All Nations” was birthed and the battle cry, “All Africa shall be saved”. They have seen to date over 100 million recorded salvations and that came about because of a dream.

It is interesting that the word for “create” and the word for “dream” is the same Hebrew word in the Bible. The power to create begins with the ability to dream. The moment you lose your ability to dream; you lose the power to create. You were created to dream; it’s in your DNA. You have a dreaming nature which you inherited from your FATHER.

All of us get dreams, some more regularly than others. Most of us, when we dream, often make the grave mistake of disregarding our dreams. Oftentimes, we think, “it is just a dream”. We tend to relegate our dreams as nothing more than just an overactive mind or a vivid imagination, or that maybe we ate too much pizza the night before. Who knows how many angels had to fight their way through to get that dream to you, like they did for Daniel. Take your dreams seriously, because so often, they are the title for the next chapter in the scroll that God is writing in your life.

Right throughout the Bible, we see the Lord speaking to His servants through the avenue of dreams. He is still doing that today. In Job 33, Job explains that God



I started recording my dreams as early as 1991 and what a blessing it has been to me. My dreams have been a constant source of encouragement and a roadmap for the future as well. Without those dreams and prophecies, I would have certainly lost my way.

speaks to us in a variety of ways, yet man does not perceive. Clearly, one of the ways He speaks to us is through the avenue of dreams – but not all dreams are from the Lord. Some dreams do originate from the

soul, and we must learn to discern which is which. Ecclesiastes 5:3 says a dream can come through the result of much activity. The mind, which is part of the soul, can, because of over activity, produce dreams.

Now, I am uncertain if dreams can originate from the demonic. I think we sometimes give them more credit than we ought to. They do not have the power to create dreams in us, but they can affect our souls, which in turn, can affect our dream life. So, don't underestimate the power of dreams. If you just treat a dream as a dream, then you will never go to war and you will never take a leap of faith. But if you will learn to enter the dream stream, sleep each night can be an adventure. You have no idea what God has in store for you.

The great prophet-dreamer in the Bible is the prophet Daniel. In Daniel 7:1-2, "In the first year of Belshazzar, King of Babylon, Daniel had a dream and vision of his head. Then he wrote down the dream, telling the main facts..." There are a couple of things to note in this passage-

The first thing is, Daniel wrote down the dream. One of the most important lessons in dream interpretation is the need for us to



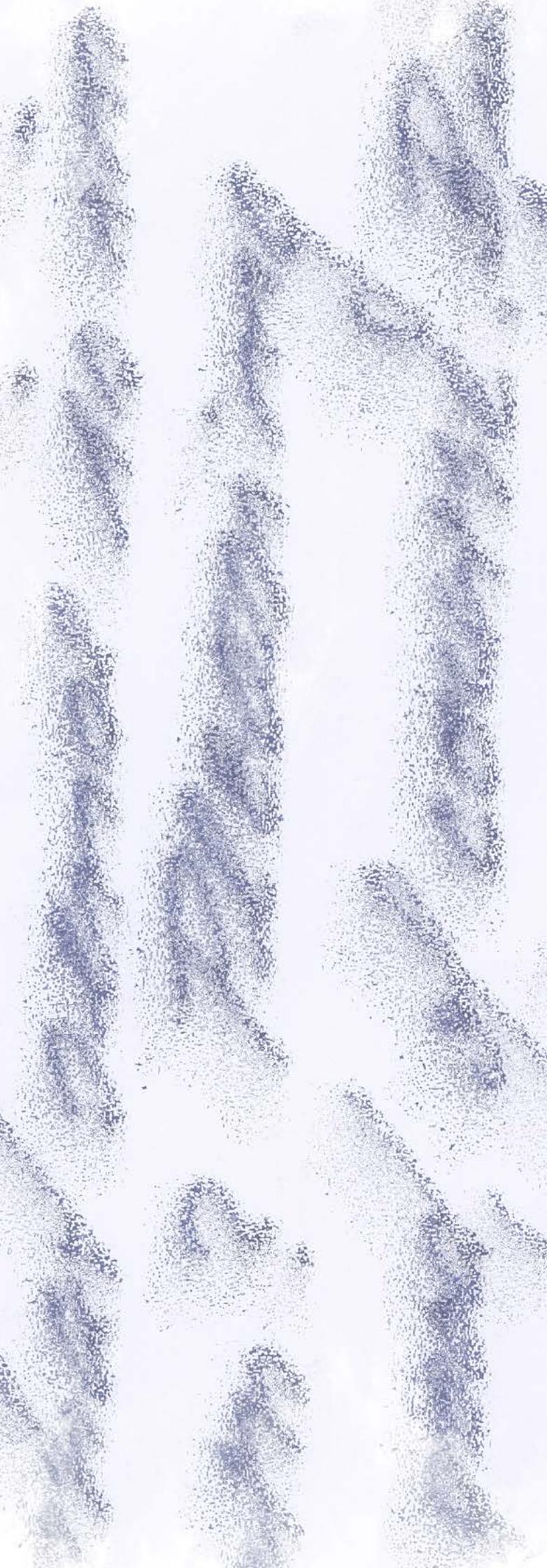
record the dreams we receive. Trust me, if you don't, you will forget the details and details are important.

Jesus said something significant in Mark 4:24, "Take heed what you hear. With the same measure, you use, it will be measured to you; and to you who hear, more will be given." When we take our dreams seriously, more will be given to us. The more we hear, the more will be entrusted to us and the more proficient we become. If we want to receive more in our dream life, then we must give more attention to our dreams. If you will be faithful in small things, God will entrust you with more. If you don't take them seriously, you might just be missing out on a very powerful dimension of Spirit communication.

Maybe the reason I dream a lot is because I take them seriously. I record them diligently. I pray over them. I think it is a good practice to have a voice recorder by your bedside, something to help you recall the main facts of a dream. How many of us have had significant dreams that we knew was from God, didn't record it, and then woke up and totally forgot what the dream was? Record your dreams and start taking them more seriously.

Secondly, verse two says, Daniel recorded the main facts. I have learnt after many years that there are main facts and there are the irrelevant stuff. Wisdom and experience will





teach you how to separate the wheat from chaff and silver from dross. Not every detail in a dream has a meaning so learn to discern the main facts. Daniel had the gift of dream interpretation and in the same way, we can grow in this area.

Numbers 12:6, “Hear now My words: if there is a prophet among you, I, the Lord, make Myself known to him in a vision; I speak to him in a dream”. The Lord spoke these words to Miriam and Aaron when they challenged Moses’ authority as God’s spokesman to Israel and He said, “When I speak to a prophet, I speak through a vision or a dream...”. The point is that God uses the avenues of both visions and dreams to communicate with His prophets. Is this just limited to prophets or does He speak to everyone like this?

Joel 2:28 is the promise of the Father that He will pour out His Spirit on ALL flesh and we shall all be prophetic. Dreams and visions are the language of the Holy Spirit. In the Old Testament, God poured out His Spirit on selected flesh – kings, priests and prophets. In the New Covenant, all His children are recipients of the Holy Spirit.

God has always used dreams to communicate to His people. The first recorded dream is in Genesis 15, when God visited Abraham in a dream and this continues all the way into the New Testament.

The thing is God doesn’t just speak to His children in dreams, but also to the pagan people. He spoke in dreams to Abraham, Joseph, Solomon, Daniel, yet He also

spoke to Abimelech, Nebuchadnezzar, Pharaoh, the Butler, the Baker, Laban, and many others. In the New Covenant, He spoke to Joseph, Mary's husband, the magi, Paul, Pilate's wife etc.

In Genesis 28, we find Jacob is on his way to see his uncle Laban. On the way, he comes to a certain place, halfway between Beersheba and Haran and there he rested, fell asleep and had a dream. Remember, this was in the middle of nowhere, and Jacob didn't even have a pillow to lie on, so he used one of the stones from that place.

*He will
pour out His
Spirit on all
flesh and we
shall all be
prophetic*

At that point in Jacob's life, his head was probably as hard as that stone. Whatever you rest your head on, you are going to dream. Jacob rested his head on the rock, which was a type of Christ and he had an amazing dream.

In the dream, he sees a ladder set up on earth, its top reached into heaven and angels were ascending and descending on that ladder. The Lord stood above the ladder and spoke to Jacob and gave him some powerful promises.

When Jacob awoke from his sleep, he was shaken. He just had an encounter with God and said, "God is in this place". Then he said, "how awesome is this place. This is none other than the house of God, the gate of heaven". What Jacob did not know was – he had stumbled upon a portal of heaven, a place where heaven could be accessible. God established this portal where His purposes can be channelled through and it was through a dream that Jacob had this amazing encounter God.



When Solomon was a young king, about 30 years of age, the Lord visited him in a dream. In the dream, the Lord said to him, “Ask anything you wish for and I will do it for you”. This was a blank check. Whatever Solomon desired and asked for, He would receive. Essentially, what the Lord was asking Solomon was, what is the one thing you cannot live without?

I personally believe that all of us, in our walk with God, will at one time or another, encounter this question from the Lord. What is it that you want Me to do for you?

In this encounter, Solomon asked for wisdom and understanding and that thing pleased the Lord. 2 Chronicles 1:11 “Then God said to Solomon: “Because this was in your heart...” Solomon asked for this because it was already in his heart. He could have asked for all the other things a king normally would – riches, wealth, honour, life of his enemies or long life, but he didn’t. Why? Because those things weren’t in his heart.

When Solomon awoke from his sleep, he realized that what just transpired was a dream. So, Solomon made a covenant with God because of a dream in the night. Here’s the point – in a dream, your true nature will speak and it will reflect your true spiritual

state, where you are standing spiritually. And God knew the inclinations of Solomon’s heart.

Finally, dreams are like spies that go ahead of us into the promised land to show us the future. I think there is nothing more exciting than getting a sneak preview of what God had ordained for us in the future.

In Genesis 37: 5-12, Joseph had 2 dreams and, in both dreams, he sees his brothers and even his parents bowing down to him. Essentially, Joseph had a glimpse into his future, that he would be in a position of rulership. But in between the dream and the fulfillment was a long period of time, about 13 years, and Joseph had to endure terrible hardships and was left forgotten in an Egyptian prison, waiting to die. Then the fullness of time comes, God shows mercy to Joseph and he is promoted to be the Governor of all Egypt. The famine comes to all the earth, but only in Egypt, there’s grain. So, Joseph’s brothers come to Egypt to buy grain and in one of the most poignant moments in the scripture, when his brothers bowed before him, in that moment, we are told in scripture that Joseph remembered the dream.

I close with a powerful dream God gave me on the 13th Apr 2000, In the dream, I saw an



*It is these dreams
that give us
tenacity to hold on
in difficult times.*

English Manor and a man standing at the door. I asked him if he was willing to allow us to use the facility for a bible school. He didn't say a word but all I knew from the dream was – he was a Scotsman. And so, I recorded all this in my journal, that God would pave the way for us to be established in the United Kingdom. That dream didn't come to pass until 12 years later.

I had kept this in the back burner till our trip to Wales in 2011. We had plans to visit The BCW and to pray there, but we got there, our hearts sank because of the dilapidated condition the estate was in. But the Holy Spirit bore witness to my heart that it is His will to see the college redeemed.

When we got back to Singapore, we started to negotiations. About 6 months into the negotiations, we hit a roadblock and the deal was almost scuttled. At that same thing, we were hosting our Kingdom Invasion conference and one of the speakers was Bill Johnson.

On the 2nd day of the conference, Bill preached an amazing sermon on supernatural courage. Toward the end of the message, Bill spoke about Shammah,

one of David's three mighty men. In a conflict with the Philistines, the Philistine army had formed themselves in a troop and the Israelites were in retreat. They came to a field of lentils and Shammah, who obviously understood and knew of the historic value of the field, stood his ground right in the middle of that field.

His singular act of courage so inspired Israel that they turned from their retreat and came back to the battle front and on that day, God gave a great victory to Israel and Shammah's name was recorded in eternity as one of the most courageous men in history.

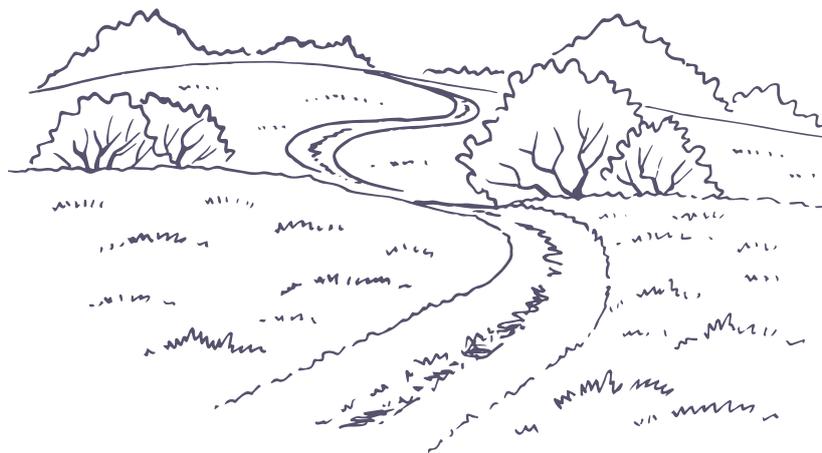
I had always pondered over the significance of that field. Why would a man risk his life to



defend a field? And then Bill said something very significant. He said the field of lentils was the very same field where David slayed Goliath. So Shammah was defending a field that had revival history. That field represented the past victories of God's people and to God, it carried important historical significance.

As Bill said that, the Lord said to me, "Redeem My field of lentils" and a mantle came upon me. I could feel it. I started weeping and in about 10 seconds, a man comes up to me, in the midst of over 4,000 people, and says, "The Lord says to buy The Bible College of Wales".

The next day, I called the owner and told them that we would pay full price and by



December 2012, we were the new owners of The BCW. But it was the dream that held me to the promise that one day, God would give us an inheritance in the Land of Hope & Glory.

So as you graduate from The Bible College of Wales to enter into the next season of your life, my prayer for you is that you have access into the dreamworld of the Holy Spirit, and may you never lose the wonder of who Jesus is.

Pastors Tuck Yoong and Daphne Yang
Directors, The Bible College of Wales
Senior Pastors, Cornerstone Community
Church, Singapore

From the Dean

You are the dreamers.

A remnant of 17 students propelled into a life of dreaming His dreams in your own journeys and for your nations.

When we look at noteworthy dreamers in the bible we may think of some of these brothers:

Jacob

He dreamed of a ladder to heaven with angels ascending and descending, reaffirming Gods covenant.

Joseph

Experienced prophetic dreams foretelling his rise to power and interpreted pharaohs dreams, which saved Egypt from famine.

Daniel

He was gifted by God with the ability to interpret dreams and visions, revealing Gods plan for the earthly kingdoms.

Joseph (Husband of Mary)

Received divine guidance in dreams to protect Jesus from danger, fleeing Egypt from Herod.

The Wise Men

Warned in dreams not to return to King Herod after visiting Jesus.



We see here a handful of men who dreamed God dreams 'literally' and the result was the pouring forth of God's guidance, protection, revelation, covenant, and favor. What a mighty and faithful God.

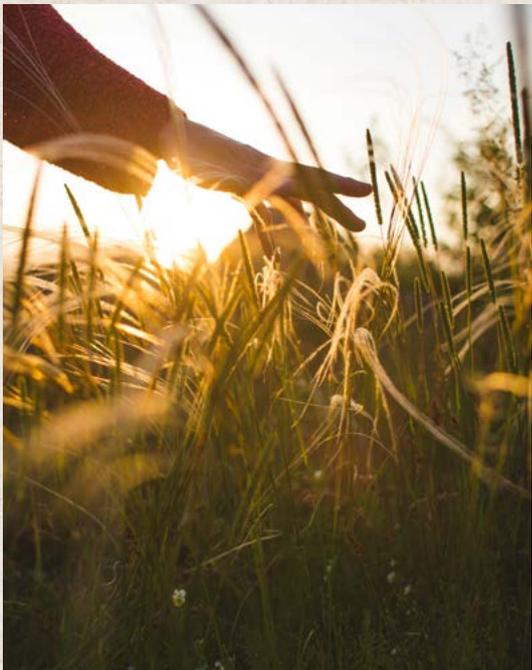
Yet, as we have been on this 12-week pilgrimage I think we have realized that this literal dreaming is only a part of the picture. We are called to dream God dreams. Revelations of His 'logos' and 'rhema' words that see His Kingdom come in our lives on earth. God dreams often come a size or two too big so that we can grow into them in His strength.

My heart's prayer for all of us staff and students as part of this Batch 20 moment, is that our dreams, more than anything, are HIS dreams lived out through us as vessels. In our culture, deep wants fuel our dreams, values fuel aspiration and love fuel longings. Maybe we should

never accept our dreams at face value but always bring them before the Lord and Saviour of our soul.

Jesus is the ultimate example of this. Jesus shared the dreams of God because His desires aligned with the Father's. But in Gethsemane, these desires were sorely tested. Jesus endured an unfathomable agony of horrific anticipation. As He stared into the cup the Father was giving him to drink, the cup of propitiation, the cup of sins condemnation - not of Jesus sins, but ours. Every part of His humanity recoiled, and He found himself deeply desiring for the cup to pass from Him. BUT deeper still

was a spiritual desire that His dreams would be submitted to His Father's will. Jesus trusted that the Father's desire would result in the greatest glory of the triune God and the greatest joy for the saints - God's one great dream.



I pray for us all - that whatever it takes,
“Lord, align our desires with Yours, so that my dreams align with Your purposes. Let Your will be done through me.”

To dream Kingdom dreams is to do what the Father does.

What if Jesus is the dream? As we recognize afresh the abundant delights of the gospel of the Kingdom. The gospel is an old old story becoming a new new

wonder. The ever true is the ever new. It is no longer an oft repeated tale, too familiar to startle us, but it is a dream come true as the gospel lives, thrills, glows and flames in our daily lives, in both the mundane and the magnificent. **He** is the dream of dreams.

“Lord, may we seek first Your kingdom, righteousness, and dreams which far outweigh any other seeking or dreaming. It is Your story and Your glory that matters the most Jesus, not ours. May we be dreamers who recognize the bounty of a forgiven past, a present standing in grace and a future of unimaginable wonder.”

Cath Woolridge
Dean of Students

THE DREAMERS



The Lord is our light and salvation
Whom shall we fear?
He has restored our lives
He's the Giver of dreams,
our hearts desire

The Lord has opened our eyes
To see new things
He has restored our hearts
He has made us glad,
filled us with laughter again

We have faith
We will see His goodness
The overflow
Is our forever address

We sing for joy
We praise forever and ever,
He is victorious
the wonderworking God
And He is good
He has done great things for us,
we are the dreamers
We are forever glad, let's sing for joy

We will taste and see
We will come and dwell
We will drink from Your wells, O God
Our eyes are watching
Hearts undivided
We want to see Your face of God

Student Testimonies

The following testimonies include theme words that the students were asked to come up with. These words, specific and personal to each individual, characterises what God was doing in them during their time at the college.



I AM A PRECIOUS PEARL



Agnes Faith Wong

SINGAPORE

CORNERSTONE COMMUNITY CHURCH SINGAPORE

Breakthrough. A divine encounter with God changed everything. He spoke clearly, “Let go of chasing money; I can give and take away.” In obedience, I retired from my secular job in April 2025. Step by step, He answered my prayers and opened the way for me to study at The BCW. This is more than a new season—it is a sacred calling to prepare for His next purpose. I am ready to walk closely with Him and fulfil the destiny He has written for me. I am no longer retired, but “re-tyred”—renewed to run with Him.

I AM ANDREW



Andrew Kumaresan Ramaiah

MALAYSIA

JESUS MY KING CHURCH

Coming to The BCW has been a divine turning point. It has ignited in me a deeper hunger, not just for theological knowledge, but for a true, living relationship with the Holy Spirit. Each lecture, worship session, and moment of community has been an invitation to go deeper. I've come to understand that to encounter God is not just a one-time moment at an altar, but a daily pursuit, a continual drawing near to the heart of the Father.

I AM PURE NARD OIL



Denise Wing Lui Wong

HONG KONG

GOSPEL CHURCH (UK)

Learning to abide in the presence of God is my stated purpose. As the journey continues, I have become aware of my shallow spiritual life, and developed a deep desire to know Jesus more profoundly, like I have never known Him before. The journey goes deeper, the Holy Spirit encourages me to dream big and to pursue His will for my life as a Hongkonger originally, now residing in the United Kingdom. Dear Lord, with all my heart, I want to glorify and bless You with my life, have Your way in me, to do whatever You want to. Hallelujah!

I AM PRECIOUS



Liz Mseka

ZIMBABWE

GATEWAY CHRISTIAN CENTRE - WEST BROMWICH

The phrase God gave me for my time at The BCW is intimate fellowship. Over these weeks; I've been awakened to His Word and drawn deeper into His presence, hearing His voice more clearly and discovering His purpose for humanity in incredible ways. This season has stirred a deep longing to walk more closely with Him, respond when He calls, and reveal the visions He entrusts with boldness. I believe He has so much in store, and I'm expectant that this time of deep communion will shape my future, guiding every step and decision with His presence and power.

I AM FOLLOWER OF CHRIST



Christine Ng

SINGAPORE

CORNERSTONE COMMUNITY CHURCH SINGAPORE

Disbelief to Belief. I've a Christian background and childhood, I've never left my faith but here at The BCW, I've discovered new aspects of my faith! This is testament as to the Word being of living water. There is no end to uncovering and discovering a relationship with God. I've heard of physical healing, tongues, prophecies and vision but in my childhood church, it was a concept of "gifts reserved for the Elders". At The BCW, I personally experienced physical healing (my gas-y gut) and see a pattern with prophecies received since 2018 to date. When I first stepped into Vietnam, I was convicted of my faith and activation. Along the way, doubt seeped in and I lost conviction. I came to The BCW to find that conviction again and I did. Especially if my disbelief is converted to belief, taking me deeper into His living water. That if God calls me, He will provide the resources (2 Corinthians 9:8).

I AM PETER SOLOMON



Philip Gill

IRELAND

CORNERSTONE SLIEVE BLOOM

I have come to 'seek the Lord' as I have a longing in my heart for Him, to hear Him and know He is speaking to me. I want to desire His Word and have the words lift off the page and speak straight into my heart. I want to find His purposes for my future and though God is the one thing that defines me, I have struggled to be consistently seeking him. However, I have seen Him guide me or protect me throughout many difficulties in my life. I hope that The BCW will be catalyst which will help me become the man of God that God wants me to become.

I AM HIDDEN



Esther Jordan

ENGLAND

VICTORY CHURCH CWMBRAN

Expansion – that's the word that the Lord gave me for my time at The BCW. The welcome induction said it all – whatever you can imagine, God can do more. My faith has been enlarged – faith to persevere even when I see no evidence. I know that I am stepping into the abundance of the faithfulness of those who have gone on before. We are but halfway through, but I can see that my prayer life has deepened, my perspective is so much wider and there is an excitement and expectancy that goes higher than I have ever imagined. I am enlarged.

I AM BELOVED



Esther Teo Theng Yee

AUSTRALIA

NATIONS CHURCH

The word God spoke over my time at BCW is Realignment. He has brought me back to rest – not striving, but breathing again in His rhythm. Dreams once forgotten are being remembered. Callings once buried are being raised. He is realigning my heart, my posture, my identity – daughter first, always. Like a gentle chiropractor of the soul, His hands press and shift what has drifted out of place. It's not always comfortable, but it is good. Beyond The BCW, I want to function from that place of rest – to speak as my Father speaks, move as He moves, and walk in alignment with Heaven.

I AM BELOVED



Fanni Lehto

FINLAND

SUHE

One year ago I prayed a simple yet weighty prayer: "Lord, I need more faith." That prayer started a whirlwind of a journey that led me to Wales and will lead me beyond. Actually, it was only a day after I prayed that I learned about The BCW. Heaven just said: "gotcha!" I came to be set on fire and to drink from deep wells. That has happened and even more! I've met God in deep ways and drank from Him! I've been bent and re-shaped, and it has been more than worth it, because He is worthy. Faith is substance!

I AM LIGHT



Gianluca Alarcon

UNITED STATES
OF AMERICA

LA MISION CORNERSTONE

A word God has given me while I was here was “mountains”. He has showed me multiple times how He wants to bring me up the mountains for His purpose. Also showed me to not look back and not get comfortable, reaching the top of the mountain. I've seen how God is bringing me to higher and higher places and giving me the strength and wisdom to not look back but to reach what He has for me. I see this as an example to not look back but look forward into what God has for everyone of us.

I AM FREEDOM



Gina Nyaradzo Makusha

ENGLAND

GATEWAY CHRISTIAN CENTRE - WEST BROMWICH

The word God has given me for this season, including my time at The BCW, is *Come Alive*. This year the Lord has been expanding that word by reviving my hunger for Scripture. Central to coming alive has been the Word. I began reading through the Bible in a new, sustained way and The BCW's deep, Scripture-rooted teaching has continued that work. The truths I am learning are propelling me forward into fresh life and service. I am excited to see how God will reveal this renewal as I practise rest and patience along the journey.

I AM BELOVED



Heather Hibbs

UNITED STATES
OF AMERICA

NORTHWEST GOSPEL CHURCH

The word God has given me is, Hungry for more of Jesus. Different seasons in my life have stirred hunger in me: A troubled marriage, struggling kids, an inward call to press in. I believe that at this juncture, the hunger I have for Jesus is going to thrust me into a new place of vision and purpose and commissioning. I don't know what it is yet, but I am certain I will know by the end of term.

I AM GRACE



Charis Koo Yen Ee

MALAYSIA

CORNERSTONE COMMUNITY CHURCH, SINGAPORE

The word God placed on my heart for this season was “Deeper.” And indeed, it has been a season of digging deeper, uncovering things I thought were long buried, and breathing life into dreams I believed were dead. Through this time of both challenge and rest, I've learnt to grow deeper in dependence on God and deeper in intimacy simply by sitting at His feet. Though this chapter comes to an end, I know the journey is far from over. I am expectant for all He will continue to reveal and do in the seasons ahead.

I AM TERESA



Lindy Soh Li Cheng

SINGAPORE

FAITH METHODIST CHURCH

“Surrender” has shaped my journey at The BCW. Leaving my job and stepping into the unknown taught me to trust God’s perfect plan. “God’s revelations” showed me that trusting Him has allowed me to receive spiritual gifts through the Holy Spirit including speaking in tongues and that growing through prayer, service, and community has strengthened, enriched, and united me. As I move forward beyond The BCW, “Christ’s faithfulness” will guide me to follow His calling, trust His plans, and I will remain steadfast in obedience, confident that His ways are higher, His plans greater, and God’s purposes will always prevail.

I AM GOD’S GIFT



Nathanael Yan Zhi Ming

SINGAPORE

CORNERSTONE COMMUNITY CHURCH, SINGAPORE

Rest and Restoration. God showed me that salvation is not dependent on what I do to earn more of His acceptance, but that I stand on a place of approval, not for approval, through Jesus. I can do anything at all in this life for His glory, from a divine place of rest in Him. In the same beautiful measure, I have become a son in my Father’s house. May my mind be renewed into the mind of Christ, and as I learn what it means to be His son, may my heart learn to walk in step with my Father.

I AM PEACE



Todd Hensel

UNITED STATES
OF AMERICA

EDGE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

I believe the word I received was to attend The BCW. The battles began the Sunday before the first class, and it’s been a deeply exhausting journey. Yet, through it all, God has been using this time for His glory. When I first arrived, I wasn’t entirely sure why God had brought me here. But over time, I’ve come to understand—it was to break me. To remove every source of comfort and support, every familiar place of safety, so that He could begin stripping away the things that have been hindering my growth. I trust that He has a purpose for me—something greater than I could have imagined. I should have known, considering He brought me halfway around the world for this. Even with all I’ve endured, I’m excited to be clay in His hands. God, I surrender.

I AM HUMBLE



Teo Qiu Rong Tricia

SINGAPORE

CORNERSTONE COMMUNITY CHURCH SINGAPORE

Before coming to The BCW, the phrase that God gave me is “Immerse & Emerge in His Presence.” During my time here, I have experienced Him revealing Himself in unexpected places and inviting me to flow with the Holy Spirit, whether in giving a word or expressing worship through dance. At times, the convictions were so strong that I felt almost torn apart, yet they deepened my surrender. Beyond The BCW, I believe the Lord will continue to draw me deeper into His Presence so that I may emerge with greater boldness, revelation, and the fullness of His Spirit for the journey ahead.

LEGACY *of our* INHERITANCE

ESTHER JORDAN

I would like to become ever more sensitive to the moving of the Holy Spirit in my own personal life. I want to be so in tune with Him that I do not hesitate and doubt, and then miss the moment. The move of the Holy Spirit is not head knowledge. It is spirit to spirit. I need my life to reflect more and more the life of Christ and for this, I need to die to self, dig deeper, allow my mind to be changed, not just for a moment but it is an ongoing process. The key is prayer.

I have always wanted to go deeper but never really got there. What is missing is the consistency and continuance even when it seems that nothing is happening. It's all too easy to look at what others are doing, and say, "I'm doing okay compared to others." But I have always known that God measures us to the standard of His word and the convictions that He has given in our hearts.

What tangible change would you like to see in your relationship and interaction with the Holy Spirit?

I can purposefully and, intentionally, choose to walk in the atmosphere of heaven by asking God to make me more aware of His presence, continually through the day. I can wake up in the knowledge that God is good and actively work on cultivating the Holy Spirit by not grieving Him and being obedient in the smallest of instructions as well as the big. In doing so, I must guard my heart against disappointment and frustration - - these will always be present -- but I can instead, focus on what the Lord is speaking to me, and not allow my flesh to be distracted.

In this lecture, I learned that being afraid is situational and only momentary. The fear of the Lord is what gives us the wisdom and courage to obey.

*The key
is Prayer*



Where do you see the Lord apprehending your life in this season or in a past season?

ESTHER TEO THENG YEE

One past season that marked me was in 2015. While being prayed for, I heard the words “asah shama”. I had never heard them before. When I asked the lady who prayed for me if she had spoken them, she said no. Later, I discovered it was Hebrew for “hear and obey.” That moment became a turning point. It started me on a long and hard journey of learning to trust and surrender. I realised I was often good at hearing, but not so good at obeying – usually because of fear of man or fear of rejection.

That phrase still echoes in my life. It taught me that obedience is not optional. Acts 26:19 shows Paul saying he was not disobedient to the heavenly vision. I want to learn the same – to respond to God quickly and wholeheartedly. This is easier said than done!



In this current season, I sense I am in transition. The Holy Spirit hasn't revealed everything yet, but I believe He is slowly unfolding His plan. It feels like Abraham in Genesis 15, hearing God's promise of descendants while facing natural impossibility. Or like Hebrews 12:1-2, running the race with endurance even when the finish line isn't clear.

The lecturer's reminder that “vision breathes life; life leads to purpose” encouraged me to wait for His vision, not rush into my own. Just as Mr. Rees Howells guarded his place of abiding, I need to do the same. Right now, God is apprehending me to return to the call of “asah shama” – to hear and to obey.



LINDY SOH LI CHENG

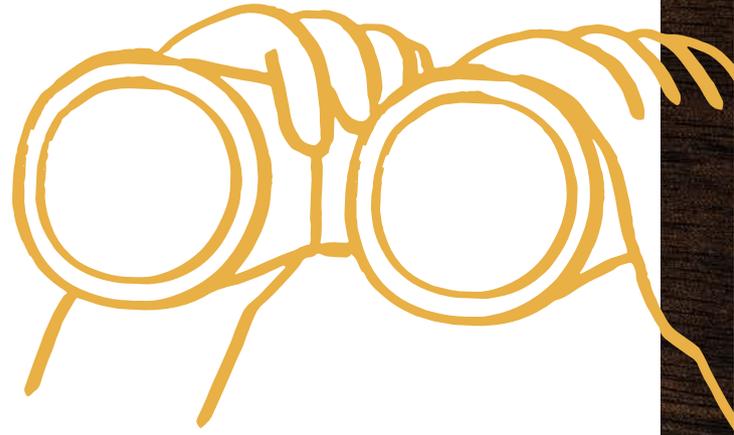
Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, “Whom shall I send? And who will go for us? And I said, “Here am I, Send me!” (Isaiah 6:8)

Isaiah showed no hesitation and responded to the divine commission with readiness and surrender. It is a reminder for my divine calling, and I questioned myself that when am I ready to study in The Bible College of Wales?

The Hospitality Team Leader in my church shared with me about his study in The BCW during my mother’s wake on 13th May 2023. At the beginning, I was very keen and started to look into the details, but I left it aside due to work commitments.

Last Christmas, I asked Jeffery again for prayers for my work stress. He asked me, “Lindy, when are you putting God as your first priority in your life? You have been asking for prayers for your work, When? then? Are you ready for God?”

“And Jesus answered and said to her, ‘Martha, Martha, you are worried and troubled about many



How can you align your life with God’s vision?

things. But one thing is needed, and Mary has chosen that good part, which will not be taken away from her” (Luke 10:38-42).” Jesus did not blame Martha for being concerned for household chores. He was only asking her to set priority. Listening to Christ’s teachings was even more important than food preparation.

I must be honest with myself. Am I putting my personal relationship with God first, or am I allowing other aspects of my life to come before the worship of the one and only true God? Finally, I decided to put God first! Hence, I submitted my online applications on May 2025 and here am I in The BCW with all the God’s blessings.



WORSHIP *and* *intercessory* WORSHIP

How should *our daily life* reflect our worship of God?

NATHANAEL YAN ZHI MING

One aspect I believe makes a huge difference in our daily lives reflecting our worship of God is how we treat the people around us. If my attitude and posture during worship in church does not match the way I treat the people around me, it would not be pleasing to God, and I would be a bad example of a believer. In addition to treating others well as a faithful Christian, the way I live my life can be a living testimony of God. I could unknowingly and potentially soften someone's heart for Jesus to enter theirs.

I thought it right to mention how hard it has been to raise up my daily routine as worship to God. It feels strenuous to constantly be in the mindset of committing everything as worship to Him. What I have learnt however, is that a deep and personal work has to be done by God, in me, such that a daily life of worship is attainable. If I tried to work it out by my strength I would burn out. Hence, may God do a life-lasting work in me, such that my days would be completely devoted to Him.

As of now, my idea of someone whose daily life reflected his worship of God would be Brother Lawrence. To comprehend right now how he managed to involve Jesus in his thoughts and everything he did is beyond me. His life is, however, an inspiration, and a testimony as to what is possible in the grace of God.

AGNES FAITH WONG

It is to seek Him with a heart fully surrendered. Worship is more than outward expression; it is sacrifice and obedience that often stretches us beyond our comfort zones. Zacchaeus, in his desire to see Jesus, climbed a tree. When Jesus called him down and chose to stay at his house, it revealed that true worship is welcoming Christ's presence with humility and joy.

Abraham also demonstrated worship when he offered Isaac on Mount Moriah. His obedience showed complete trust in God, and there on the mountain, the Lord provided the ram. Revelation followed his surrender, teaching us that true worship trusts God to provide grace, wisdom, and strength even in testing.

What does it mean to worship the Father in *Spirit and truth?*

Worship means bowing in reverence and submission, giving God our whole heart and soul. To worship in Spirit is to let the Holy Spirit lead us into genuine devotion, beyond ritual or form. To worship in truth is to align with God's Word and live in obedience to His will. Spirit and truth together form worship that pleases the Father.

Heart fully surrendered



NATHANAEL YAN ZHI MING

To worship the Father in Spirit, I believe, is following the direction of the Holy Spirit instead of following the whim of personal feelings. It is easy to get caught up in the worship band on stage, or the monotony of a personal devotion. However, may I learn by His grace to be in careful obedience to the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

To worship the Father in truth, I think, is perhaps either or both things—to worship in alignment with the Word, and to come as we are. To worship in alignment with the Word would be to worship God for who the Word says He is. What is His nature? Do the words we sing fall in line with who He is? Lastly, I think coming as we are worshipping the Father in truth. Not to come into His presence acknowledging our pain and our struggle, but to look to Jesus as the target of our worship despite our issues.



LIZ MSEKA

I want to build on the image of the “Bag of Songs and the Seeker”. Together, they paint a picture of laid-down worship, responding with praise and intentionally pursuing God.

The “Bag of Songs” reminds me that worship is both spontaneous and strategic. It helps us to be spiritually prepared; packed and ready, so praise becomes our first response, not our last resort. Colossians 3:16 tells us that we’re not only created to sing, but commanded to sing. There’s a song for every situation i.e joy, sorrow, warfare, etc. Worship shifts atmospheres, breaks chains, and ushers us into His presence. It’s not just an emotional expression, it’s spiritual alignment.

Then came the “Seeker”, someone who doesn’t settle for surface level faith but climbs higher, like Zacchaeus, desperate to see Jesus. His curiosity led to an encounter. Jesus didn’t just pass by, He stopped and stayed. That moment of intimacy changed Zacchaeus. James 4:8 reminds us that seeking leads to transformation.

This session didn’t just teach me, it equipped me to pursue God with intention & surrender. I want to build my “Bag of Songs” and, like Zacchaeus, be desperate to see the King until He sees me and stays!

AGNES FAITH WONG

From this lecture, I desire to build on the call to live a life of laid down worship. At this stage of my life, I am ready to give all my time to the Lord. From the age of 65 onwards, I see every day as belonging to Him. Truly, God is good all the time.

I have been blessed to attend the internship program at Cornerstone and am now continuing my journey at The BCW. The Lord has also placed me in two ministries within CSCC— Prophetic Evangelism and the Altar ministry. These opportunities have taught me to surrender myself more deeply to His purposes and to be sensitive to the leading of the Holy Spirit.

Looking ahead, I long to serve the Lord in the mission field, whether for three to six months or even longer, as He directs. My heart is waiting on Him for guidance, for I know that true worship involves listening and obeying His call. In this journey of worship and surrender, my prayer remains simple: “Lord, here I am. My life belongs to You. Use me for Your Glory.”



a life of laid down worship?

My Waiting

In the quiet, I wait.

In the stillness, I wait.

What do I wait for?

*I watch and wait for my Father
to come and walk with me.*

In the busy, I wait.

On the heights, I wait.

In the valley, I wait still.

In desert places, I wait —

*For my Father meets me there
with living waters of revelation.*

Where You lead, I will follow.

Where I hide, You will find me.

*What You speak, I will obey —
asah shama: to hear and to do.*

Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is One.

*Here in the stillness I wait.
Here, in the lowly place, You are.
Here I will hear; here I will know;
here I will see; here I remain.*

Selah.

Peace.

——— A Poem by Esther Teo Theng Yee

PSALM OF WORSHIP IN THIS SEASON

*All my life I've wandered,
Not lost but to seek.
I've moved countries for love & men
Yet there was no belonging.
Took me all these years,
I've finally moved for the one true Groom.
In Him I belong,
Found my place.*

————— Poem by Christine Ng

Rees Howells INTERCESSOR

What is one most significant chapter of the book and elaborate how it has impacted you?

ANDREW KUMARESAN RAMAIAH

This chapter carries into the most intense and dramatic moments in Mr. Howells' intercessory work, when he and his intercessors prayed fervently for the safety of the soldiers, country and outcome of World War II. Specifically, it deals with his prayers for the defeat of Hitler and the protection of Britain. Howells speaks of the overwhelming burden he felt to intercede for the nation and describes how his intercession literally became a battle between the forces of good and evil. I also love the way he ends the prayer with such confidence that God has done it.

During a critical moment in March 1936, when Hitler marched into the Rhineland, Mr. Rees Howells declared, "Prayer has failed. It must be intercession." That marked a shift: from general praying to an intense, sacrificial intercession—a spiritual battle that followed scriptural models like Isaiah's call for an

intercessor (Isaiah 59:16) and Ezekiel's plea to stand in the gap (Ezekiel 22:30).

This chapter is critical because it shows how intercession is not just a personal matter but can have far reaching effects on the world stage. Mr. Howells demonstrates the incredible power of intercession on behalf of entire nations and how, through prayer, believers can have an impact on global events. It also highlights the concept that intercession involves standing in the gap spiritually on behalf of others and even entire nations, fighting against evil forces in the unseen realm!



Africa

Revivals in



GINA NYARADZO MAKUSHA

Perhaps for more personal reasons, not least my African heritage, this chapter was explosive for me. Reading about revival in Gazaland, I recognised some of the old names of these places. I was filled with joy in realising that there had been revival in Rusitu – a mission station in modern-day Zimbabwe! God did it before – He can certainly do it again! Lord send revival in Zimbabwe, send revival in Africa again!

I was struck by their constant “praying and waiting.” The Lord was faithful and came through time and again, and in greater ways than before! For 15 months, they held revival meetings twice daily and meetings all day on Fridays.

So much in those six years which they described as the happiest of their lives! The Howells had paid a high price; leaving their son. The rewards were astronomical and eternal:



- **Victory over sickness and death**
- **Many saved from influenza through their hands and their faith**
- **Two years of travel, over 11,000 miles, five countries**
- **10,000 souls saved. Many Africans converted to Christianity.**





TEO QIU RONG TRICIA

When I read Chapter 14, Mr. Rees Howells shared that the strength of the Holy Spirit within us is greater than anything we face. He explained that before we are entrusted with a burden to intercede for others, we ourselves will be tested, and sacrifices of our own desires are postures desired before the Holy Spirit. As intercessors, we are called to stand in the gap for sinners and their needs. He also emphasized that the blessing of the needy and the transformation of God's servant come when every selfish motive and thought is dealt with by the Spirit.

In Chapter 32, Mr. Howells reminded us of the need to devote ourselves to prayer and to remain conscious of God's presence in every circumstance. Even when we cannot see Him physically, we can still meet Him face-to-face through spiritual eyes. He pointed out the difference between surrendering our lives into God's hands and God Himself living His life through our bodies. Often, we tend to lower the standard of the Word to match our experience, when instead we should bring our experience up to the standard of His Word.

These two chapters deeply challenged me in my walk with Jesus. They made me realize how inconsistent I can be, almost like a lukewarm Christian—touching only the surface of God's waters instead of diving deeper. Even though I long to know Him more, I often stop short of complete surrender. Reading these chapters has stirred a greater hunger in me to pursue consistency and discipline in my devotion. I feel compelled to build a new altar of surrender, laying down my fleshly desires so the Holy Spirit can cleanse my heart. I believe that as I surrender more fully, God will shape me into someone who carries His fire and truly represents Him.





What is one principle of intercession you have learned from your reading and how you would apply that during times of intercession.

TODD HENSEL

Pray unending until I know that God has heard and answered my prayers. Get alone with God and seek Him. I must learn to abide in the Lord. More so than just reading the Word, praying, and community with believers. If I want to enhance my prayer life, and see more success, I abide more in the Lord and have the Word abide more in me.

God has three answers to prayer: yes, no, and not now. A lot of my prayers are the wait and see which answer God gave. If I am to know, through personal experience, that John 15:7 ("If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you.") is true, I need to step up to the plate and get serious. I believe every word in the Holy Bible is true and God-breathed. I just want to be able to speak to some of these verses with authority adding to my testimony. We all have different spheres of influence, and opportunities to share our testimony. As God puts those opportunities in front of me, I would like to be more equipped to share the glory, the love, the faithfulness, and the mercy of my Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

PHILIP GILL

While I was tempted to go with believing that the Holy Spirit that victory had been achieved and ceasing in praying, I would go back to the start and choose asking the Holy Spirit what He thinks.

Time and time again we see an issue arise and Mr. Rees Howells heads off to be alone with the Holy Spirit to consult with Him about His thoughts on the situation and what he should do or should be done to rectify the current predicament or concerns. I find this a great encouragement to slow down and take time to ask God what He would have me pray for, and to find out from the Holy Spirit what I should be focusing on. Instead of focusing on what comes to my mind, which can be quite limited, I could go more regularly to the Holy Spirit first to guide my prayers to be more productive knowing that I am praying effectively and targeted prayers instead of vaguely praying for the same situation or person.

HEATHER HIBBS

Faith is a progression.

Brother Lawrence taught me that faith is the foundational stepping block to love. Mr. Rees Howells taught me that the prayer of faith for intercession begins personally, then grows locally, nationally, and then internationally.

This concept has helped me tremendously in prioritizing my prayer life. I often feel scattered in prayer because there is so much to pray for! Now I have an understanding that I always need to begin at the personal level in prayer. Do I have victory over doubt, fear, unforgiveness, idolatry, etc? Am I living a life of clean hands and a pure heart? Are there compromises in my life? Am I loving my neighbour? Is there an offense? The Lord cannot work through a vessel that has two masters. It is Him or me, but one of them must go. After this, I move to interceding for my family as they are the ones given to me to steward. I often question the Lord, "if my own family cannot live a life of transformation, how can I believe it for others? If my own backyard needs cleaning, how can I help clean the yard of my neighbor?" After family, I move in intercession to extended family and friends, my community and church, my nation and then the world.

With this order in place, and learning to let the Spirit guide me, this concept of faith personally first and then moving outward has brought shape and power to my inner prayer life.



DYNAMIC LEADERSHIP

Luke 2:52

TODD HENSEL

People can experience reactive growth or active growth. Reactive growth means you grow when something happens to you or around you. This is usually a slower process of growth. It also tends to be a more unpredictable or random type of growth. Meaning you are not necessarily in control of why you grow or how much you grow. It just happens to you. Active growth or deciding to grow is more targeted and purposeful. It also tends to be faster. For example, I want to learn to fly a plane. If I make this decision to fly, I would likely start by doing research, finding a good school/instructor. I have made a decision and am actively pursuing it. If I just wait around for something to happen to me that will teach me how to fly a plane, it might be a while.

DENISE WING LUI WONG

When growth is a decision, the process of growth becomes intentional and continuous. The growth is intentionally getting somewhere; it is a deliberate action. The growth is not a passive by-product as time passes. When growth is a decision, the routine and boring process become meaningful, the process of learning, training and practices thrive off. This decision motivates us to grow, encourages us to embrace our responsibility, and our attitude to growing postures in a godly way. Dr John illustrated the growth of Jesus was continuously with direction and purpose, Jesus grew in 4 dimensions of human development intentionally. He grew in wisdom, in stature, in the favour of God and men. As a result, the unseen 18 years growth brought Jesus to ready for his ministry at age 30.

How can an understanding that growth is a decision transform our attitude to growing?

NATHANAEL YAN ZHI MING

Personally, an understanding that growth is a decision gave me a mental on-off switch. It is up to me to take a step back when necessary and acknowledge that I have room for improvement in key areas of my life.

I believe a positive mindset towards weaknesses is key towards eventual growth. In football, the need for improvement was very physically apparent when I first started playing. It took boring and repetitive steps to improve basic skills that showed little significant results for themselves. In life there are many things that lead to growth, but are repetitive, unglamorous, and non-instant-gratifying. There was a silent gap for 18 years of Jesus's life. 18 years of doing the mundane faithfully, waiting patiently upon the call of the Lord.

My biggest challenge in staying consistent with growth is when results take time to show. The world online has saturated me with things quick and satisfying and now it is difficult to work in small steps towards big goals. I resonated strongly with the statement that 'Growth thrives off Purpose'. A strong 'Why?' when one is doing something would set their sights ahead instead of searching for instant results.

Why is growth in the area of emotional intelligence so important for someone called to leadership or ministry within the Church?

GIANLUCCA ALARCON

Growing in emotional intelligence is incredibly important for anyone called to leadership or ministry in the Church. Ministry often places leaders in emotionally intense situations, grief, conflict, crisis, or unexpected interruptions. Without emotional awareness and control, it's easy to become overwhelmed or react poorly. But emotional intelligence helps leaders stay calm, listen well, and respond with wisdom and compassion. We see a powerful example of this in Mark 5:21–43. Jesus is on His way to help Jairus, whose daughter is thought to be dying, when a woman who's been suffering for 12 years reaches out and touches His cloak. Despite the urgency of Jairus' need, Jesus stops. He doesn't rush or ignore her. Instead, He gives her His full attention and lovingly restores her. Moments later, He continues and raises Jairus' daughter from the dead. Jesus shows us what it looks like to lead with emotional intelligence. He stays calm under pressure, reads the emotions of those around Him, and responds in a way that brings healing. He's not driven by the chaos around Him, but by compassion and clarity. For anyone in ministry, this kind of presence is necessary. Emotional intelligence helps us handle tough conversations, care for hurting people, and manage our own reactions. It helps us lead like Jesus not just doing the right things, but doing them in the Holy Spirit. When we grow in emotional intelligence, we grow in our ability to love and lead well, even in the messiest moments.



ESTHER JORDAN

Emotional Intelligence is very important for leaders in the church because the church is the people not the building. Since actions are built on what we know and how we choose to respond to it, emotions flow from what we feel. A leader in ministry should be in touch with his emotional intelligence where they have the ability to recognise and manage their emotions. This is important because not everything we feel is truth. Our feelings might be real, but it may not be the truth and the leader must know and understand the difference. When they are able to make that distinction, they can then recognise it and manage it in others. Emotional intelligence is shaped by our personality and character. A leader must be one prepared to love all and that love must be consistent towards all. Jesus liked people and spent time with those marginalized by society, the poor and sickly and even publicans and tax collectors. He knew how to deal with people on their level and angled his stories and parables to the every day scenario of his time. Jesus grew in wisdom, stature and favour. We must as well, if we want to relate to others in a healthy way

LINDY SOH LI CHENG

Growth in emotional intelligence is important for anyone called to leadership or ministry within the Church. Ministry is not just about tasks or vision; it is about people. Emotional intelligence helps us manage our emotions, extend empathy, and keep Christ at the centre of our service.

In *Mark 5:21-24*, Jesus responded to Jairus's desperate plea for his dying daughter with both gentleness and urgency, showing how a heart led by empathy can touch lives powerfully. When He arrived, He brought the girl back to life, fully restoring her and returning her safely to her mother. His calm presence, attentive listening, and compassionate eye contact revealed not only divine power but also deep human love, especially for children.

Similarly, in *John 21:15-24*, Jesus restored Peter after his failure, not with condemnation but through relational grace. By asking Peter three times, "*Do you love Me?*", Jesus demonstrated both understanding and an invitation to his renewed purpose. Jesus already had a plan for Peter, including a life of service that would mirror His own sacrificial path. This illustrates that emotional intelligence is not only about empathy but also about guiding others wisely toward God's calling.

Emotional intelligence turns knowledge into action. By serving with empathy, gentleness, and vision like Jesus, leaders reflect His heart, guiding others to experience grace, restoration, and God's purpose. For leaders in ministry, emotional intelligence transforms knowledge into lived truth.

*Nothing is truly taught until
it is learned, and nothing is
truly learned until it is lived.*

JEWISH ROOTS

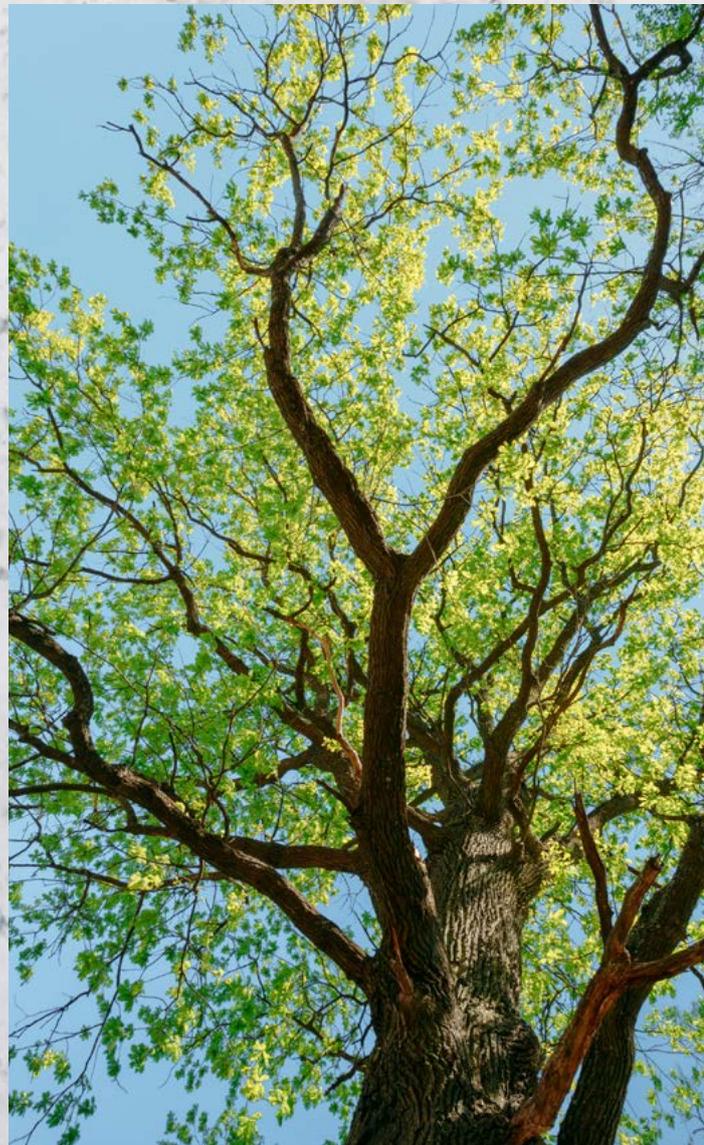
TEO QIU RONG TRICIA

I would describe my relationship with Israel as that of a long-distance sibling. We share the same forefathers—Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob—and we worship the same triune God. Yet at times, it feels as though we are siblings from different mothers: the Jews are focused on the Law, while we Gentiles live under grace. However, because we share the same Father, there remains a deep spiritual connection.

I thank God that through Israel's temporary rejection, we as Gentiles have been blessed and brought into covenant through Christ. As Romans 11:17 says, we are like wild branches grafted into the rich olive tree of God's promises. There are times when I feel led to pray for Israel, and I sense the Lord's pleasure when I intercede for His people, fulfilling Genesis 12:3—"I will bless those who bless you."

Praying for Israel has helped me see what God is doing both in Israel and in the Church today. The physical events happening in Israel often mirror what God is stirring in His Body worldwide. This revelation pushes the Church to watch, discern, and intercede more fervently, aligning with His redemptive plan.

I still hold hope that one day Israel and the Church will come together in full unity under God's purpose. My prayer is that the Church will awaken from the false belief that we have replaced Israel, and instead embrace our shared inheritance as one family under Christ—Jew and Gentile together, fulfilling God's eternal covenant and bringing glory to His name.



How would you describe your relationship with Israel as a Christian?

PHILIP GILL

I would describe my relationship towards Israel as pleasant. I am an interested observer. I have known for a good chunk of my life that Israel was special, as it is clear in the Bible that it is so, and that Israel still has some part to play in the future.

Obviously, it is hard to see this as it feels as though the nation is constantly pressed from all sides and receives condemnation globally for its actions most notably in the current war with Hamas. Prior to coming to The BCW, I was sympathetic to Israel knowing it was God's plan to revive Israel somehow, but I think the lectures with Joel Baker have helped me see how God is fulfilling his promises to Israel despite the opposition, which is helpful. It is also beautiful to see how hungry Israeli people are for God, and the fact that pop songs can be very popular with such overt lyrics about God is refreshing and incredible.

When Paul says about how much more wonderful it will be when they are grafted back in again, I feel like this is so evident from all the symbolism in the meals and feasts which are part of their heritage. That it feels like it will be such a joy when they finally see what has been in front of their faces.

GINA NYARADZO MAKUSHA

Israel is God's chosen people. As Gentile believers, we are grafted alongside the original branches to become co-heirs of the covenant (Romans 11:17-18). Throughout history, Christians persecuted Jews; at the helm of or complicit with their persecution. The relationship has been fraught with mistrust, despise and even hatred. Anti-Semitic sentiment and teaching within the Church continues through "Replacement Theology" which teaches that the Church has replaced Israel. Jesus however, a Jew Himself –affirmed that **"Salvation is from the Jews"** (John 4:22).

Paul lists God's promises to Israel – adoption, glory, the covenants, giving of the law, worship – which are irrevocable (Romans 9:4-5). The Christian faith is built on these foundations. With sound teaching one learns of God's eternal purposes for all mankind and the role of Israel. They are God's chosen people and God does not change. He has not forgotten His people whom He foreknew (Romans 11:2). Paul further writes that through their trespass, salvation has come to the Gentiles, so as to make Israel jealous (Romans 11:11).

As the Father loves Israel, so too must the Church love her. As the in-grafted, "younger brother" of Israel, the Church owes Israel compassion, solidarity and prayer. We ought to confess the sins of the Church fathers, seek reconciliation and build trust with Israel.

The Church today ought to thank God for Israel, and pray for their salvation. We should unite with our brother and not be among those fuelling

their persecution, especially in the ongoing conflict regarding the physical land of Israel. We see the concept of the older "serving" the younger repeatedly in Scripture – in the same way Israel's disobedience or unbelief has paved the way for the Gentile believers to be adopted into God's family. The Church really ought to be humble and deeply grateful to God for our adoption and also for Israel – to whom the promise of redemption was first given. Praying for Israel ought to be a permanent agenda item on our prayer "lists" as we await God's timing for the restoration of His beloved people.



How is the Law (Torah) relevant to you as a Believer?

TEO QIU RONG TRICIA

The Law is relevant to me because the New Testament is built upon the Old; grace cannot exist without the Law. As John 1:17 says, “For the law was given through Moses, but grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.” The word “but” in English suggests contrast, yet in Greek, it is an addition—showing that grace fulfills the Law rather than replaces it. As a believer, I need to understand the Law to truly appreciate the depth of grace and truth that Jesus came to give.

In my walk with God, the Law reminds me of His holiness and my need for constant dependence on His grace. The more I understand the Law, the more I see how much I fall short on my own. Yet, instead of condemnation, I now see it as an invitation to draw nearer to Christ, who has fulfilled the Law on my behalf. The Holy Spirit often uses the Law to convict my heart—not to shame me, but to refine me and shape my character into Christlikeness.

In today’s world, the gospel is often shared as comfort without correction, but the Law teaches me that God’s love is also righteous and just. As Galatians 3:24 says, the Law was our tutor to lead us to Christ, so that we may be justified by faith. And Romans 10:4 reminds me that Christ is the end of the Law for righteousness to everyone who believes. When I read the Scriptures, I don’t just

see rules anymore; I see God’s heart behind them. The Law shows me who He is—holy, faithful, and merciful. It teaches me to live in reverence, to walk humbly, and to depend daily on His grace through the Spirit of Truth.

PHILIP GILL

I understand the purpose of the Law is to bring us to Jesus and how we don’t match up to the law or have any hope of fulfilling the law thus it makes me aware of my need for the Saviour. Until I was 25, I struggled with God the Father as I struggled with my earthly father and I have been bit by bit changing my views of God the Father in my heart. The problem with this struggle is I have contended with what I felt was a sharp difference between the old and new testament. I was more comfortable with an angry vengeful God than I was with a Father God who loves me with an everlasting love, regardless of my sin through Christ. In this way, the teaching about the Torah = God’s Character= the fruit of The Spirit, a new study of the Torah is probably needed to consciously see or look for God’s Character and the fruit of The Spirit throughout the book. Although my views of God the Father have softened and I have a greater understanding of my faith, I think reading the Torah looking for fruits of the Spirit would be a useful exercise.

The Law shows me who He is

GINA NYARADZO MAKUSHA

To see why the Law matters, we must know what it is and why God established it.

- The root word for Torah; “Yarah” means to teach.
- It is God’s intimate instruction “to teach, guide, and shape.”
- More than legal code – it is a way of life calling us to “hit the mark” of His holiness – contrasting with missing the mark in sin.

● God’s Purpose

“Mosaic” law reveals the character of God. The Law served to expose our sin (Romans 3:20) and function as a tutor until Christ’s advent (Galatians 3:24).

● Fulfilled in Christ

- The ceremonial laws and temple worship rituals were completely fulfilled in Jesus’ life, death and resurrection. He also emphasised that He had not come to abolish the Law but to fulfil it (Matthew 5:17-18).
- Jesus affirms that “doing unto others what we wish they would do unto us” sums up the Law and Prophets (Matthew 7:12). The “Golden Rule” encapsulates the Torah’s moral heart.

● Relevance to Believers

Understanding the oneness of God and His unchanging nature – we learn that the Law is not only relevant but foundational in the Christian faith. The whole Bible is the inspired word of God, providing His complete counsel, and single plan concerning His family.

Paul, a devout and learned Jew, understanding the law, having also encountered Christ radically, states emphatically:

- One is justified by faith only, not by works of the Law,
- God is One, and justifies both Jews and Gentiles,
- “Do we then make void the law through faith? God forbid: yea, we establish the law.” (Romans 3:28-31)

Helping us to move in the ways of God and become more like Him, the Torah is about transformation. The Law was given to correct our path, ultimately leading us to Jesus. He calls us to be holy, as our Father is.



With reference to the Sedar Meal, what was one aspect correlated to the Messiah that spoke most to you?

TEO QIU RONG TRICIA

The one that spoke to me the most was the Karpas, the eating of green herbs dipped in salt water. It resonates deeply with me, especially when I think about how often we give in to sin and our own desires. It reminded me of how we sometimes enjoy short-term pleasures that eventually destroy us, instead of trusting in God's long-term plan and purposes (2 Timothy 3:4). It is sweet at first but turns bitter as we continue chewing, making it hard to swallow – just like sin that seems pleasant but leaves a bitter taste in the end.

The salt water reminded me of my past traumas that felt like oppression, keeping me trapped in a mindset of fear and striving to please others. Even after being saved, it took time for me to move away from that old way of living. Letting go of the familiar was painful, but I realized that the Lord was calling me into new habits, healing, and freedom in Him (Isaiah 43:18-19).

Partaking in the Karpas also showed me more about Jesus' redemptive work. It reminded me of the moment when Jesus was forced to drink vinegar – the bitterness He took upon Himself so that I wouldn't have to face the same judgment. I could feel the discomfort and helplessness that He went through for me, and it made me grateful for His sacrifice and the peace that now fills my soul.

PHILIP GILL

The standout piece of the meal was the fact that Judas had the seat of honour beside Jesus thus validating Jesus' teaching that you should love your enemies. Then the powerful symbolism of Jesus giving Judas the matzah, maror, and haroseth with a declaration of love, an offering of forgiveness, and a warning not to repeat the offence. This is significant to me, that I can be do stuff to hurt Jesus but He is there offering me a seat beside Him, saying He loves me and that He forgives me, just repent. Judas knew Jesus, he did miracles in Jesus' name and lived with Him for three years. I suspect he loved Jesus as his actions afterward would suggest great grief. It is really incredible to see Jesus' mercy to Judas just before he betrays him, offering him a way out.



GINA NYARADZO MAKUSHA

The “Matzah” – unleavened bread is a key element of the Seder meal. Made with no raising agent. This points to Christ as He is the One without sin.

The stripes on the bread are reminiscent of the forty stripes Jesus endured and the holes of the piercing of His hands, feet and side during His crucifixion. The piercing was foretold concerning the Messiah by Isaiah (Isaiah 53:5) and Zechariah (Zechariah 12:10) and also recorded in the accounts of the crucifixion of Jesus. Isaiah also spoke concerning “the stripes” and this was also affirmed in 1 Peter 2:24 that “by His stripes we were healed.”

Interestingly, in the Seder meal one piece of the Matzah is broken and hidden to be retrieved later during the meal. In the last step of the meal, the “Tzafoon” -- the hidden piece that was broken and concealed is retrieved and eaten as the final food of the evening - - also known by its Greek name Afikomen, it means “I came.”



The meal uses powerful imagery and names which all point to the Messiah - - including the fact that:

*He came, and also that
He is “hidden”*

Paul indeed teaches of temporary hardening or blindness that was put upon Israel to enable the inclusion of Gentiles into the citizenship of Israel (Romans 11:7-8).

The Passover is filled with rituals and elements that all point to the Messiah, cementing the fact that Christ is central to God’s plan for salvation.



PSALM 23

A CREATIVE PATHWAY TO

Prayer

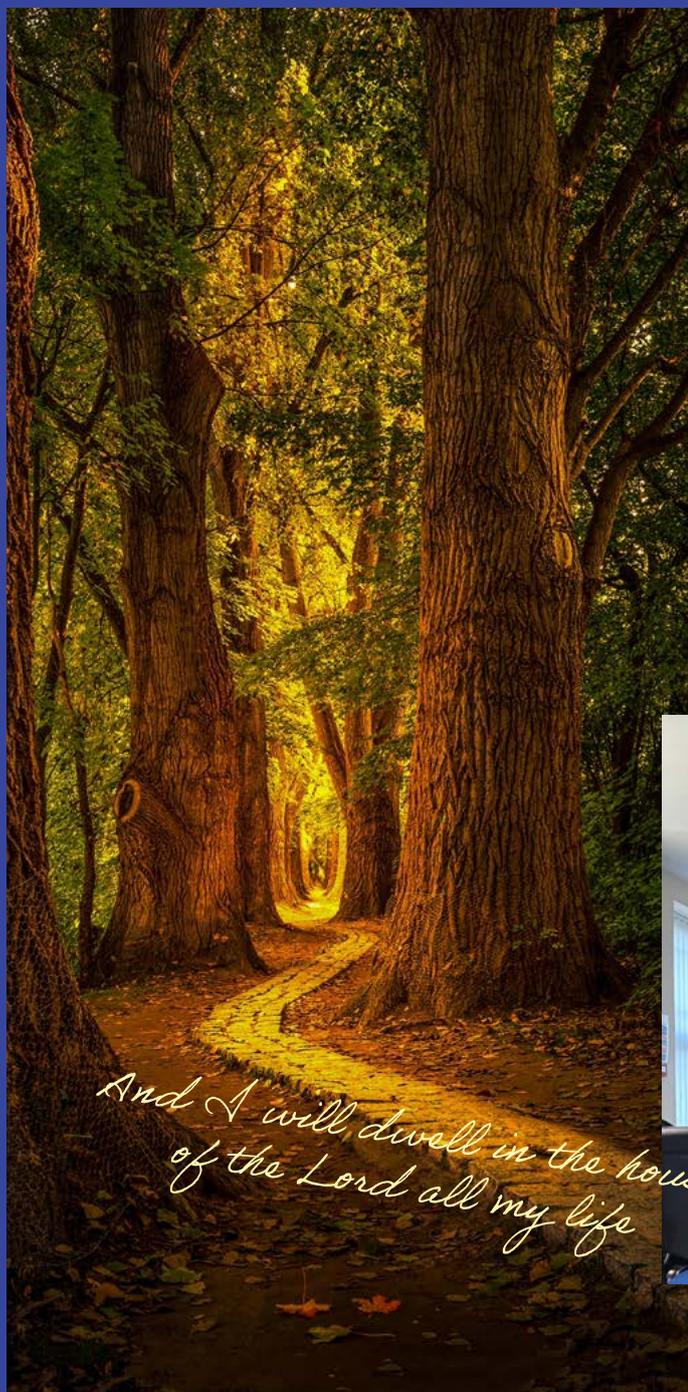


*What moment
or verse from
Psalm 23 resonated
with you most deeply, and
why did it speak to you the most?*

FANNI LEHTO

Psalm 23:6: “And I will dwell in the house of the Lord all my life” was a surprisingly deep hit! God started speaking of His house to me through a vision and a kind of child-like realization. I’ll write it here:

In my Father’s house there’s a lot of rooms. I am allowed to roam around, to seek and to find. It’s my home, after all. The house has a lot of secrets, in rooms and closets I’ve yet to discover. I haven’t seen even half of it yet. My Father invites me to dwell in His house with Him, to spend time, to roam around, to run and to play. Like a child playing hide-and-seek or a treasure hunt. He has hidden treasures just for me in those rooms and hidden closets. “What’s behind this door, my dear? Shall we open it together?”



*And I will dwell in the house
of the Lord all my life*



CHARIS KOO YEN EE

“Your rod and Your staff they comfort me” station spoke most to me. As I reflected on how He led me through some of life’s hardest moments, the word “Jireh” immediately came to mind. I have witnessed His provision in the most miraculous ways over the past year.



As I pondered His faithful provision, I was reminded of His deep love and thoughts toward me. Psalm 139:17-18 became a rhema as I held a pinch of sand in my palm: “How precious to me are your thoughts, God! How vast is the sum of them! Were I to count them, they would outnumber the grains of sand — when I awake, I am still with you”. I realised how tiny and countless the grains were, impossible to number even in a pinch. If His thoughts toward me outnumber the grains of sand, how infinite they must be!



The lyrics “Who am I that You are mindful of me, that You hear me when I call. Is it true that You are thinking of me, how You love me, it’s amazing” came to mind. I am humbled that my heavenly Father, the great I AM, would love and provide for me. Truly, His rod and staff have been a constant comfort and guide, reminding me of His steadfast love for me.

ANDREW KUMARESAN RAMAIAH

Psalms 23 is one of the most beloved and comforting passages in the Bible, often providing peace and assurance to those who read it. For me, it resonates deeply in a few ways. It’s not just about God as a shepherd guiding and protecting, but also about trust, peace, and provision in times of uncertainty. The imagery of “green pastures” and “still waters” gives a sense of rest, of being cared for in a world that can often feel chaotic.

The line “The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want” is especially powerful. It reminds me that even when I feel like I’m lacking or uncertain, there’s a deeper, spiritual provision that assures me I am not alone in my journey.

The “valley of the shadow of death” part also strikes a chord; it’s so human. We all go through dark times, but the assurance that God’s presence is there with us, offering comfort and protection, makes the valley feel less daunting.

Your rod and staff, they comfort me.



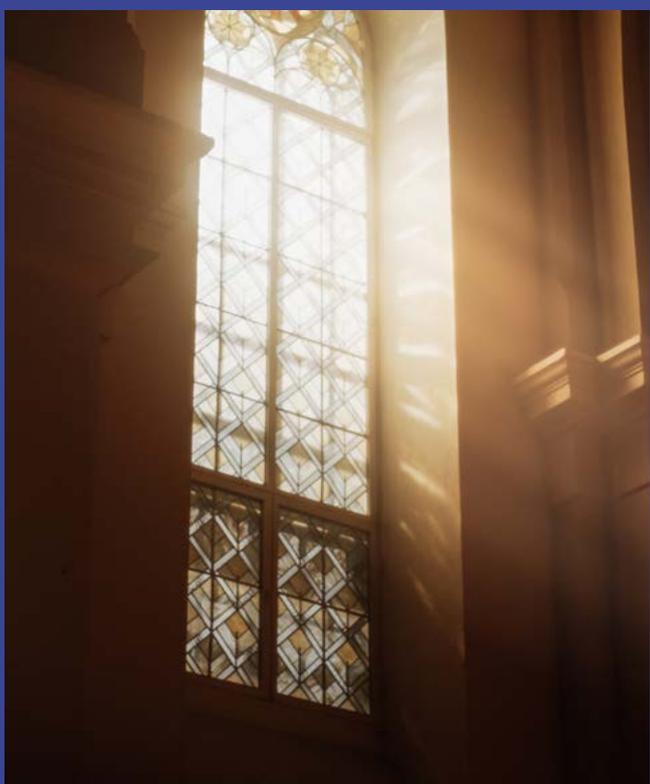


Did you sense God highlighting an area of your life where He is inviting you into greater trust, surrender, or restoration?

FANNI LEHTO

Yes! “My cup runs over” was a hilariously funny reminder of God calling me into deeper trust, to see that He truly fills my cup and His measurements are not stingy, quite the opposite:

I wrote a couple of phrases on my cup, one I can remember was “If you ask me where I’m living? I’m living in the overflow” and the other is something like “Let the overflow in my life be a blessing to others”, and decided that I want to fill it with blue ribbon, since it reminded me of water. I started pulling out the ribbon, thinking it would only be a little short piece. But no! The ribbon just kept coming, like a scarf from a clown’s sleeve. Whenever I thought this must be it, there was more blue ribbon coming out. I pulled and I pulled, and at this point was laughing real hard. I felt God truly highlighting that sentence “I’m living in the overflow” in such a funny way: when I think this must be enough, He’s only starting. And there was so much ribbon that I could start filling other, emptier cups around mine, “to bless them.”



CHARIS KOO YEN EE

I felt God drawing me into a deeper surrender, particularly over my life plans, and paradoxically, a surrender of the ‘pain of surrender’ itself. I am coming to understand that I do not need to have all the answers, but can simply rest in Him.

I am reminded of the safeness, the joy, the peace, and the quiet assurance that comes when I hold His hand. Even when the path ahead is unclear to me, He sees it. As long as I keep holding His hand, I am safe and secure. Time and again, I am reminded that my purpose is not to accomplish a hundred and one goals, but to love Him with all my heart.

May I, like Mary, choose to sit at His feet and rest in His presence. As Jesus said in Luke 10:42, “But one thing is needed, and Mary has chosen that good part, which will not be taken away from her”.

God is more than enough. May I keep learning how to enjoy Him fully in the present, letting go of past pain and resisting impatience for the future. May I always be found resting in His embrace, trusting Him completely.

ANDREW KUMARESAN RAMAIAH

That's a beautiful and deeply reflective question. The area of "surrender" for me would be the space between control and trust.

Psalms 23 is all about letting go of the need to orchestrate everything and allowing myself to be led. In many people's lives and figuratively for me, there's a strong impulse to know everything, I would plan every outcome, to predict every turn in the valley. But the Psalm is an invitation to say,

"You don't have to map out the green pastures or still waters. Just follow the Shepherd."

If I imagine myself living that out, the area I'd be called to surrender is the pressure to have all the answers. To stop clinging to the illusion of total control, and instead trust that provision, guidance, and protection are already being worked out, even when I can't see it yet.

It's that shift from "I must figure this out" to "I can trust I'm being led." That's a hard surrender but also the one that brings peace, which is what Psalm 23 embodies.

What new understanding or experience of God's presence did you encounter during this journey?

CHARIS KOO YEN EE

At the "Even though I walk through the darkest valley" station, I had written "uncertainty" and "surrender" on my balloon as areas for breakthrough. As I blew up the balloon, I knew He was breathing His breath of life into those very places of uncertainty and surrender.

I am reminded that the valley is not my final destination, I am merely walking through it. There is a beautiful path ahead if I keep walking forward. So, I laid the balloon at His feet, trusting that He is with me and will lead me through.

Later as I was helping to pack up, I began popping the balloons with a pen, without paying any particular attention. But as I walked to the bin to discard the popped balloons, I felt prompted to take a second look at my deflated balloon. To my amazement, the balloon had burst in such a way that only the words "certainty" and "render" remained visible!

In that moment, I felt God speak so personally to me, that He would turn my uncertainty into certainty as I render my heart to Him. It was a gentle reminder that even in the smallest things, He is near, speaking life and assurance.



FANNI LEHTO

He reminded me that He doesn't judge my pleas. He wants to hear them all. It's not a new thing, but something I tend to forget when I feel like judging myself, for my "small minded prayers" or selfishness. Even though in these past weeks God has reminded me that actually those certain prayers are anything but selfish, and something He wants to hear. What if I stopped prejudging myself and just blurted out all my needs to God? What if the things I'm afraid to ask are the important things, not just for me but for many?

Writing those prayers and declarations and planting them on the ground was a refreshing experience. It took me surprising courage to put some things down, but I desperately want to see God doing a new thing, and I don't want to miss it!

ANDREW KUMARESAN RAMAIAH

The feeling of a full surrender, and where trust is being asked of myself,

What's weighing me down?"

I started by thinking about areas in your my life that felt heavy or stressful. It might be my relationship, my job, my health, or even my personal goals. Often, when I feel stuck, it's because I am holding onto something that doesn't align with where I need to be.

The Fear of the Unknown.

Sometimes, the hardest thing is letting go of the need for certainty. In my relationship with my close ones, where it has always given me a feeling of unease and where I was not sure what's coming next, but my heart knows I can't stay in that situation. Simply letting go of expectations and trusting a decision I've made.

Trust in the Process.

Many times when I had to trust a process or outcome, even though I couldn't see the whole picture. The Psalms imagery of walking "through the valley" reminds me that trust often means moving forward in faith, even when things are unclear.

The Stillness.

Think about the moments when you felt peace or calm amidst chaos. What were you doing when you felt the most at peace with yourself and the world?

Letting Go of Expectations.

Finally, I have examined my expectations. Certain outcomes and timelines made us surrender these and trust that something else, something better is unfolding.



How might you carry what you have received today into your daily rhythms of prayer, reflection, and discipleship?

CHARIS KOO YEN EE

I will carry what I have received by resting in the truth that He is my Shepherd, who leads, comforts, and provides for me. Even in challenges, I can trust His goodness, knowing it surpasses my circumstances.

I will not operate from a posture of striving, but from one of surrender, intentionally pausing daily to recognise His guidance, and laying my plans and burdens at His feet. In my secret place, I will cultivate a heightened awareness of His workings in both the ordinary and difficult moments, trusting Him for courage when faith is needed.

My life is not my own, it is consecrated for Him. I will seek to walk intentionally in love, obedience, and rest, allowing His abundance of grace and joy to shape my daily rhythms.

Pause in His Presence!

FANNI LEHTO

“Father, what do you want me to look into today? What rooms and closets shall we find?” I want even more childlike wonder into my life. The stations reminded me of being more playful and just having fun in my prayer, worship and devotions. There’s this lie of adulthood, a religious corset if you will, that wants to stifle us and deny us the freedom that belongs to us as children and heirs.

Another thing I want to carry is just simply sitting down and doing nothing. Just meditating on His goodness and plans, maybe doing something with my hands. (Tying those two strings together was amazingly meditative, I was surprised by that!) Selah – Pause in His presence!



ANDREW KUMARESAN RAMAIAH

Start my prayers by consciously releasing control. I would surrender what's weighing me down. I need to practise daily to sit in stillness for minutes. Asking God for His, guidance on releasing myself from what I can't control. I surrender these things to His leadership.

I will use scripture reflection, other, themed scriptures like:

Matthew 6:25,

"Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing?"

Proverbs 3:5,

"Trust in the LORD with all your heart and do not lean on your own understanding."

When praying for something specific, like guidance, healing, provision, I close each request with a surrendered heart. I want to bring surrender into conversations with my discipleship group. I will not just talk about spiritual growth but to name the areas where surrender is hard. This normalizes surrender as a shared journey, not just an individual burden.



Practice OF THE PRESENCE OF GOD

TODD HENSEL

“Brother Lawrence had formally been a servant to the treasurer of the monastery and had been very clumsy. He believed that in order to be saved, he would have to be punished for his clumsiness.” Though this is not scripturally accurate, it gives us hope. Even though he got it wrong, God still loved him and spent a tremendous amount of time with him. When we get it wrong, this example lets us know God is still willing to spend time with us and love on us. I believe this is because He sees the heart and we know that God is the same yesterday, today and tomorrow. Where the world saw a clumsy man with bad doctrine, God saw a man so in love with the Lord. This should give us all hope, by giving us a glimpse into the greatness of God. Regardless of our issues, regardless of what the world thinks of us or our potential, if we earnestly seek after God, we will be in a good place. There are no 10 steps to being with God. Brother Lawrence wanted to spend time with God, and he found a way to do it. Despite his bad doctrine, he got it right when doing his chores. Colossians 3:23, “Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters.” Brother Lawrence nailed it where it counted for the Kingdom of God.

What is one quote or paragraph from the book that inspires transformation in your daily devotion to Christ?

DENISE WING LUI WONG

In the Seventh Letter, Brother Lawrence said “Do not always scrupulously confine yourself to certain rules or particular forms of devotion. Instead, act in faith with love and humility.” This paragraph spoke to my heart. I am quite a routine person, lacking creativity and used to following rules and forms. My devotion is somehow formatted, and the routine makes my thoughts wander away from God easily. However, if I am not following the devotion steps, I feel the devotion is not completed, and when I feel like I am not doing a proper devotion, and I may not be close to God.

This book inspires me that though the forms and routines of devotion are good in themselves, they are only means to attain a habit of the practice of the presence of God, so I can do my devotion all the ways my spirit can invent. Like the last lesson on the Psalm 23 creative prayer pathway exercise, I immersed in His love and grace, there was a deep desire to know Him more and to seek His presence, and I communicated with the Lord my thoughts and my struggles, and the Lord whispered back to me.

Now, I can feel a freedom in my devotion, I know and have confidence that God accepts my devotion when my thoughts are with Him. Sometimes, I look up at the sky and praise Him for His greatness for half an hour. Sometimes, I pray in tongues and converse with God when I am doing my duties. Sometimes, I follow the steps of devotion I used to have. James 4:8, Draw near to God and He will draw near to you.

ESTHER JORDAN

“By practicing God’s presence and continuously looking at him, the soul familiarises itself with him to the extent that it passes almost its whole life in continual acts of love, praise, confidence, thanksgiving, offering and petition”.

This quote is from the chapter, the blessings of the presence of God. I like that Brother Lawrence mentioned looking at Him (God/ Jesus). I am reminded that we are to keep our eyes up, not on earthly affections (Colossians 3:2). When we look upon Jesus, we become more like Him, for we shall see Him as he really is (1 John 3:2).

I’m really beginning to see that this scripture is not just speaking about a future time. It is also fitting for now also. When we look to Jesus, we see His life being reflected through us, and He is able to transform us there.

As Brother Lawrence says, “the soul familiarises itself with Him”. There is an intimate connection of knowing God and experiencing His presence that our very soul is changed and we are compelled to engage in His love, by loving. We are drawn to His peace by being at peace. Praise and thanksgiving keep us in God’s favour, keep us joyful and and keep us joyful so we have the strength and confidence to continue in prayer. Prayer is not something we do from duty, but is a continuation of all our conversations from the day. When we can approach God’s throne confidently, then we are able to ask anything in Jesus’ name.

I would like to build my devotion on this quote because I see that the practice of the presence of God is possible for all Christians. This is a practice that ought never to cease until Christ’s return.

Did this book make you think differently about anything? Did it introduce you to a new point of view or new concepts?

TODD HENSEL

The concept of being in the presence of God at all times was mind blowing. I knew about doing your work unon to the Lord. I knew we should talk to Jesus like He is a friend. I would have never thought to put them together and have these conversations all the time. I wonder if Brother Lawrence had these conversations out loud? If I did that today in America, they would lock me up. If I talked out loud to myself in Wales, they would say I must be an American. Or they would ask my friends if I were ok -- which did actually happen to me the other day.

I have tried to incorporate some of brother Lawrence's habits shortly after finishing the book. Those pre-habits have been forgotten with the busyness of our schedules. I was reminded of the relationship I would like to have with God. If I am to look at God as my Father, and Jesus is His son, that makes Jesus my Big Brother. I never had a big brother, someone I could lean on when I needed help. Maybe this is why I have always been a protector or big brother (when I was younger) to so many others, and a dad figure now that I am older. Because I do not want anyone else to go through feeling alone with no one to lean on. Having a similar relationship with God and Jesus (making it my own) would hopefully help me to not feel like I have to carry everything myself. At least spiritually.

DENISE WING LUI WONG

In the Eleventh Letter, Brother Lawrence's perspective on sickness gives me new inspiration. He saw sickness as a favour from God, pain and suffering would be a paradise to him. And his only consolation would be to suffer something for God's sake. Instead of grief and distress, if people consider sickness as coming from the hand of God, out of His mercy and as the means He uses for their salvation, commonly find sweetness and consolation in it.

I understand it would be easier and happier to deal with the sickness, if people could wholeheartedly trust their life in God's hand. The faith in God would walk them through the deadly valley and believe their goodness is nothing apart from God (Psalm 16:2). Their hope and reliance are no longer in the doctors or never-ending treatments but resign themselves entirely to the providence of God. However, most of my friends and church members don't see their sickness in this perspective. Sometimes, they regard sickness as the punishment from God. Then I realize it is important for them to learn and to practice how to pursue the presence of God in their lives. If they taste the genuine and compassionate love from God and pray to God for strength to endure all the pain and sufferings, the sickness may not hinder their relationship with God.





ESTHER JORDAN

I first heard about Brother Lawrence's book around 29 years ago. But I thought it was, "Practice in the Presence of God." I had no idea what the book was about other than the title.

So I took that to mean, wherever you are, whatever you do, do it as in God's presence. It made me think about the patriarchs of old. They did not stop what they were doing to talk to God. They spoke to Him in the moment, as they were doing life. And so that is how I took it to mean, practising in the presence of God.

Now that I have read the book, I see that I was not too far off. It is about staying in God's presence, in all we do and say.

I have always used the phrase at my home cell group. When I ask people to read scripture or pray, I remind them that God is there and that there are no mistakes, even though we may stumble on our words. Practicing is what helps us to grow and get confidence, but we must do so humbly. When we are asked to do something in front of an audience, we tend to get shy or think that we are not good enough. But whatever we do, we should do it with intention and with purpose.

I also used to speak of it when having worship practice. Even though we are just rehearsing, God is still there. We worship in His presence so it should always be in spirit and in truth as He is our most important Audience.



Top Row

Fabian Tang ^(SOM STAFF), Nathanael Yan Zhi Ming, Andrew Kumaresan Ramaiah, Todd Hensel, Fanni Lehto, Liz Mseka, Pastor Yang Tuck Yoong ^(DIRECTOR), Gina Nyaradzo Makusha, Heather Hibbs, Denise Wing Lui Wong, Philip Gill, Gianluca Alarcon

Autumn Term 2025



Bottom Row

Lindy Soh Li Cheng, Charis Koo Yen Ee, Esther Jordan, Teo Qiu Rong Tricia,
Pastor Daphne Yang ^(DIRECTOR), Christine Ng, Agnes Faith Wong,
Cath Woolridge ^(DEAN OF STUDENTS), Esther Teo Theng Yee

The Kingdom. The Church. The City Transformation

How can the Church in your community act as a catalyst for social and spiritual transformation?



HEATHER HIBBS

In the city, for the city and with the city. The church should know its demographics. Who are the people in the community, what challenges do they face economically, emotionally, spiritually, where are they thriving etc. Knowing the demographics is important because it shows how to communicate and reach out in effective ways. Jesus for example, used analogies of agriculture when preaching in northern Israel because the demographic was poor and agricultural in nature. He spoke about wealth and influence in the south because it was the rich part of the country. Knowing the audience and the people we are connecting with is essential. Understand every sector of the community. The leaders, policies, other churches, businesses, families, culture.

We must be a church FOR the city as well. Gunning for God's goodness and mercy and grace. Pleading to God on behalf of the city for its physical, emotional and spiritual needs to be met and meeting the community's needs in practical

ways. Providing shelters for the homeless or food drives if in an impoverished area, providing foster care and helps for orphans, reaching out to broken homes and especially those without fathers to disciple, train, and support. We can also work proactively to not just pull people out of the pit of destruction, but to influence change in behaviour to prevent falling into the pit in the first place!

A church WITH the city is a church that works side by side its constituents. Nehemiah was a great example of this. He worked alongside the people building the wall while at the same time leading, directing, prophesying, fighting against the enemy. He encouraged and taught, but he also worked alongside. Jesus modelled this beautifully for us as well. He ate what the people ate, He lived, walked and interacted with people right where they were.

CHRISTINE NG

The Church is called to embody Christ's mission, to reconcile people to God and to one another (2 Corinthians 5:18–19). Transformation happens when the Church moves beyond its walls and lives out the Gospel in tangible ways not just feeding spiritual hunger but also meeting the social, emotional & relational needs of the people. I love the Alpha Course, which began as a small ministry in a local Anglican church in London and has since become a global movement influencing millions worldwide. The Alpha Course anchors on hospitality (every session begins with a free meal), conversations without judgement, the holy spirit & empowerment of local churches (with facilitator notebooks & resources freely provided). Through Alpha Course, a local church became a global agent of transformation — not by imposing religion, but by creating spaces for honest conversation and authentic connection.

LIZ MSEKA

The Church in my community can act as a catalyst for social and spiritual transformation by first discerning the specific needs of the area. This begins with prayer, asking God to reveal where His love and justice are most needed in line with Jeremiah 33:3. Prayer must lead to action. The Church can reach out to local leaders, such as MPs or other community leaders, to ask how it can support existing efforts, whether through food banks, help for single mothers, or youth outreach etc.

Transformation happens when the Church becomes present and active, not just offering

Bibles and prayer, but meeting physical (practical) needs with compassion. Jesus modelled this in Matthew 14:16–20, when He fed the five thousand. He didn't send the hungry away after teaching; He met their tangible need. This shows that spiritual impact often begins with practical care.

The Church must also reflect Christ's heart in everyday places, schools, workplaces, and homes, living out values of mercy, integrity, and servant leadership Matthew 5:16. By being visible, approachable, and responsive, the Church becomes a living expression of the Kingdom of God. When we love in action, we make room for God to move spiritually and socially.

One example of the Church positively impacting society was when our local congregation hosted a Christmas meal and party for elderly residents. Many of them are often left alone during the holidays, a time that can feel isolating and painful. By offering food, fellowship, and celebration, the Church turned loneliness into joy. It was a simple act, yet deeply effective—it reflected the love of Christ in a tangible way.

Jesus Himself understood the importance of meeting physical needs. In Matthew 14:16–20, He fed the multitudes rather than sending them away hungry. This teaches us that spiritual transformation often begins with practical compassion.

The lesson I draw from this is that the Church doesn't need elaborate programs to make a difference. When we see people, respond with love, and meet real needs, we become the hands and feet of Jesus, bringing light into dark places, one meal or moment at a time.

AGNES FAITH WONG

The Church is the heart of God's presence on earth—a place where lives are healed, restored and transformed. It is called to be a light that shines in the darkness, influencing both spiritual and social aspects of our community, and plays a vital role in bringing hope, teaching truth and demonstrating the love of Christ through action and compassion.

Spiritual transformation begins when believers draw near to God through worship, prayer and the Word. Matthew 16:18, "And on this rock I will build My Church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it." The Church stands firm on Christ, reaching out to the lost, nurturing believers and strengthening families. Worship and life groups create a safe space for people to grow together, encouraging one another in faith.

Social transformation happens when the Church steps outside its walls. It brings God's Kingdom principles into daily life—feeding the hungry, comforting the broken-hearted and standing up for justice and righteousness. As Isaiah 2:2 declares, the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established, and all nations shall flow to it. The Church must rise to model love, forgiveness, integrity and generosity so that the world can see the heart of God reflected through His people.

In my community, I have witnessed how unity and compassion bring real change. During times of crisis, believers came together to support families in need—providing food, care, and prayer. Through these acts of kindness, hearts were softened and many experienced God's love personally. It reminded me that transformation begins not with grand programs but with hearts surrendered to Jesus and hands willing to serve.

The lesson I draw is that the Church must continue to carry the heartbeat of heaven. When we align ourselves with God's Word, depend on the Holy Spirit and act in obedience, we become a powerful force for both social renewal and spiritual awakening. As Matthew 11:12 says, the Kingdom of God advances forcefully. I believe the Church today is called to rise in faith and unity—bringing heaven's influence to earth, one soul and one act of love at a time.



CHARIS KOO YEN EE

The Church exists to serve the purpose of the King and the Kingdom. It is not self-fulfilling, but instead remains connected to the King, advances the agenda of the Kingdom, and opposes the agenda of hell. In doing so, the Church acts as a catalyst for transformation, demonstrating God's love in both spiritual and social spheres.

An example from my local context is the yearly Women's Conference held at church. Over the years, the conference has impacted women from many churches across the nation. Its influence has also expanded to over 20 nations through live broadcasts. Interestingly, these conferences became more than just a time and place for women to gather. They served as catalysts for nurturing Godly relationships, fostering spiritual growth and wisdom, and bringing healing and freedom. Many powerful testimonies emerged of God's restoration of individuals, marriages, family, and physical health.

Beyond the work of restoration, I could see that God was raising up leaders, instilling Kingdom values, and equipping women to impact other spheres and nations. The conference created a multiplying ripple effect as the impacted participants returned to influence their respective spheres within the nation as well as abroad.

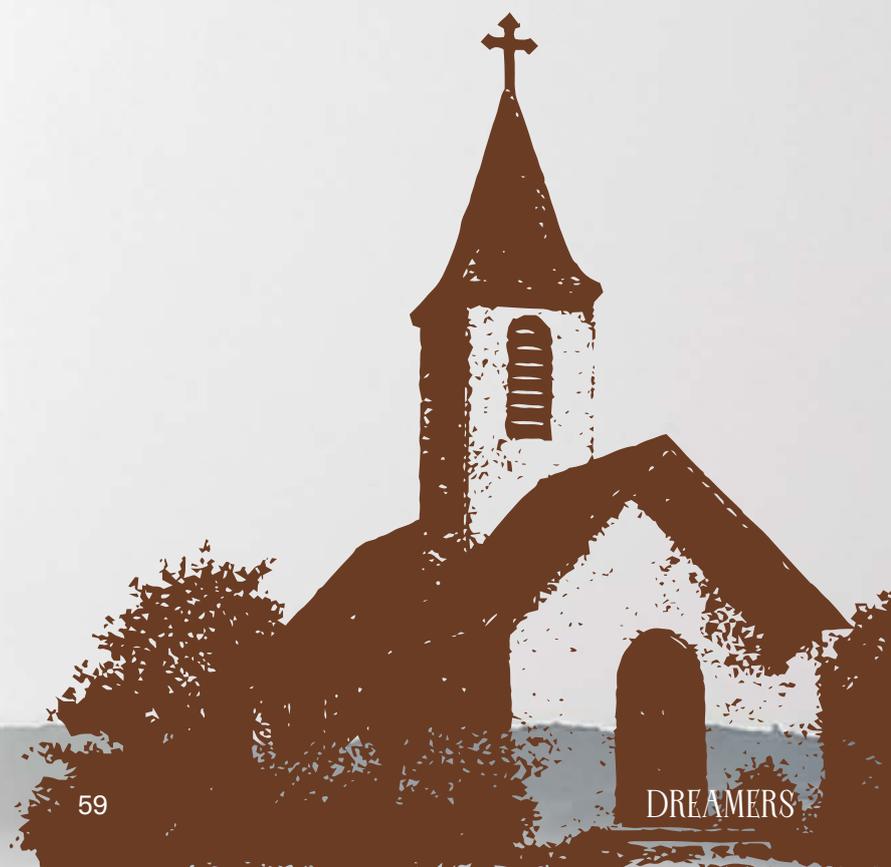
Reflecting on this, I recognised how deeply interconnected we are in advancing God's Kingdom. Each person has a sphere of influence, each church has a sphere of influence, and each nation contributes to the broader work of God's Kingdom. During the process, our efforts may seem small or insignificant, but as the bigger picture unfolds, it becomes clear that God has a greater purpose in mind.

FANNI LEHTO

The Church in my community has huge potential in making change, but it has chosen not to use that potential. What a shame! We have given space for Satan to reign in politics, culture and even in charity, which is a Christian virtue at its core! I think it is high time to wake up and start acting again. The community my church is planted in is a broken one. There are so many things to do it seems daunting and hopeless at times, but we must do something. Our church lives in an area where there's substance abuse, homelessness, violence, sex trafficking, spiritual mixture and general hopelessness. It's an area full of young people, students and artists. The church can not only clothe and feed people (which we already do, at least a little), but start to give opportunities to a better life. Sometimes people just need a shower. Or maybe make a warm meal to those in need of it. Raise up a new generation of leaders who want to see true change and revival in this area. We are not without hope and power, we have the gospel. We are called to pray and intercede for the area we are in. I believe there could be a blooming community, with hope and joy everywhere, an example for the city and nation. It just needs a handful of people whose heart is broken and who start doing something.

The Finnish church used to have a heart for missions. We sent a lot of missionaries around the globe, and took care of aiding them and the local missions they started working in. My childhood church was sending out a missionary worker to India, who started an orphanage. This orphanage saved a lot of girls from horrifying destinies, educated them and gave them a chance in life. The heart of many churches was not only to bless but to send, too. And when we sent, we did it with our full ability: missionary bake sales etc, prayer meetings, magazines, thrift shops. And a constant remembering of missions in every meeting.

And there truly was a positive change the missions had. In Namibia Finnish missionaries focused on education and healthcare, and people like Martti Rautanen made significant contributions, such as creating a literary form of the Ndonga language and translating the Bible. This work led to major cultural and architectural changes. This is something I long to see again; the heart for missions, not just an occasional lukewarm blessing but a heart that leads to action. A church that truly sends!



Student *Life*



Autographs

Congratulatory Note

COMMIT TO THE LORD
WHATEVER YOU DO, AND HE
WILL ESTABLISH YOUR
PLANS.”

— PROVERBS 16:3

FOR I KNOW THE PLANS I HAVE
FOR YOU,” DECLARES THE LORD,
“PLANS TO PROSPER YOU AND
NOT TO HARM YOU, PLANS TO
GIVE YOU HOPE AND A FUTURE.”

— JEREMIAH 29:11

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*on your graduation from
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Congratulations Charis!

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Ps Aileen, Ps Bernice, Carmen, Jeremy & Constance



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My time at the BCW has been absolutely amazing. It took a leap of faith to come, and it was truly a leap into the deep end of God's immeasurably more for our lives. Immersed daily in the river of God, I have seen a deeper surrender to the Holy Spirit, healing of past pains, used as a vessel to minister His love, stirred by powerful messages, the gospel going forth, intercessions released and seeds of revival sown.



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