



21-DAY PRAYER & FAST

WEEK 3

13 . 04 . 2019



19 . 04 . 2019

EVERY OPPORTUNITY COUNTS

I was travelling in a car with a colleague when we passed a building with a cross. He asked me if it was a church, and our conversation led to me asking him if he knew what the cross meant. He didn't, so I shared the Good News with him that night.

Despite my limited Cantonese, I did it anyway because I couldn't allow the open door to pass me by. Even the apostle Paul taught the church to pray for open doors to proclaim the Gospel, making the most out of every opportunity.

Sharing the Good News may seem difficult at first, because we often think of the outcome. We are worried if the person isn't interested or never receives Jesus in the end. But let's think positively – what if he does? God is going to get all the glory! If he or she doesn't, why should we take the blame?

Only God can bring salvation and it is ultimately the Holy Spirit who convicts hearts. We are merely bearers of the Good News, so let's take every opportunity to share the Gospel with someone we care about today.

**HOW CAN WE BE MORE INTENTIONAL IN
OUR CONVERSATIONS SO THAT WE CAN SHARE
THE GOOD NEWS WITH SOMEONE TODAY?**

PRAYER FOCUS

CAMPUS:
TO LIVE RADICALLY
AND COURAGEOUSLY
IN THEIR FAITH
FOR CHRIST

JUSTIFIED WITH GOD

“How then can man be righteous before God?” (Job 25:4a). Whenever I read this verse, I always think of the good deeds that I’ve done, and how I have religiously observed God’s laws and code of conduct He has set for us Christians.

But will I ever be good or religious enough to be in right standing with God all the time? This doubt and lack of assurance confirms my belief that it is not my good behaviour that makes me justified with God. Rather, all I need is to simply have faith in Him as prescribed in Romans 3:27-28.

If we have faith, our focus is on God’s good deed on the Cross. We can never boast of doing anything on our own to be righteous before Him. Christ died and paid the penalty of the law, therefore those of us who put our faith in Christ are brought into a living relationship with Him. God then fills our heart with a love that compel us to fulfill the law.

Because the law was established for good, those of us who have faith in Christ will keep the law by doing good works and deeds.

**ARE WE SAVED BY WORKS, OR SAVED
FOR GOOD WORKS IN CHRIST JESUS?**

PRAYER FOCUS

**YOUNG WORKING
ADULTS:

TO BE A POSITIVE

INFLUENCE IN THE

MARKETPLACE**

DON'T SHY AWAY FROM SHINING

Being saved for good works is something we're honoured to do as God's children... until it starts to exhaust us, we're taken for granted, and the needs come non-stop. Slowly, we find ourselves holding back. Even the brightest of lamps run out of oil.

Yet, Jesus says to simply "Shine." He is not concerned about self-preservation or conserving resources. But Jesus, can't you see that I'm tired? Well, He knows of a secret source, a hidden fountain that never runs dry for believers whose hearts will flow rivers of living water (John 7:38).

How it works exactly may not make sense, but when you depend on Him and don't hold back, He will give you an endless supply of joy and energy. Think about the widow whose flour and oil never ran out (1 Kings 17:7-16) or the boy's five loaves and two fish that fed over 5,000 hungry men (Matthew 14:13-21).

Jesus is the light of the world and the Father of Lights. When we stay connected to Him, we are plugged into the source of light itself. So shine on, and trust that God will supernaturally refill your life to the brim.

**WOULD YOU POUR THAT LAST DROP
OF "GOOD" OUT OF YOUR LIFE?**

PRAYER FOCUS

**FAMILY:
STRONG MARRIAGES
AND UNITY IN
FAMILIES TO ENRICH
THEIR NEIGHBORHOOD**

PEOPLE, NOT PROGRAMS

There are two common pitfalls when we find solutions to challenges faced by a community we intend to reach and bless. Despite our good intentions, we can make the following mistakes:

First, we often quantify results and reduce the solution to numbers. “We fed 30 people, led 10 to the Lord and built two new houses.” But very often, numbers don’t necessarily reflect if people’s hearts have changed or if communities have transformed.

Second, we often provide an ‘obvious’ solution without understanding a situation fully. “Oh, they can’t speak English? Let’s run an English program!” Perhaps a discussion with the ground team would identify that it’s not English they need, but a love for learning.

People are not problems to be fixed by programs. Instead, changing lives is a process that is only possible with the Gospel. The question should not be “How effective were we?”, but “Were we serving Christ whole-heartedly and loving those around us like He would?”

Let’s spend time asking God how we can be a blessing to our communities, by using us as vessels to deepen relationships and be tangible proof that God is real.

THE PEOPLE WE MEET ARE NOT PROBLEMS TO BE SOLVED, INSTEAD THEY ARE PEOPLE TO BE KNOWN.

PRAYER FOCUS

NATION:

PRAY FOR OUR
PRIME MINISTER AND
CABINET MINISTERS TO
BE SURROUNDED BY
WISE AND GODLY
COUNSEL; MEN AND
WOMEN OF MORAL
INTEGRITY WHO SEEK
FOR THE GOOD
OF OUR NATION

THE LIGHT IN GOOD WORKS

A wise person once said that people will read your life first before they read your Bible. This is in the context of witnessing and evangelising to others, and I believe it's true.

In John 14:12, Jesus said that those who believe in Him will do greater works than He to glorify God, and that He will send the Holy Spirit to empower us to be effective witnesses (Acts 1:8). When we have fellowship with the Holy Spirit living inside us, there is power for transformation to be better than our previous selves. This also leads to having a stronger will, and becoming a better disciple through obedience.

In John 8:31, Jesus said that we are His disciples when we obey His words. Being a disciple is to be a light in a dark world. Lights cannot be hidden and are only effective in darkness. Likewise, we Christians cannot hide from our community. God expects us to shine through our good works so that others can see Him. There is power in you to do good works, and our good works must be seen in order for God to be glorified.

**WHAT IS ONE GOOD WORK YOU WOULD
LIKE TO DO MORE OF THIS YEAR?**

PRAYER FOCUS

ALL ACTS
CHURCHES
(LOCAL AND
INTERNATIONAL)
TO EXPERIENCE
GOD'S REVIVAL FIRE

ENDURE AS HE DID

Discipline is key when it comes to being a good disciple. Not that we all have it down as experts, but all of us can try. Hebrews 12 speaks about the discipline of God as He deals with us as His sons and daughters.

Discipline is good for us because it “yields the peaceable fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it.” Discipline also “strengthens the hands which hang down, and the feeble knees, and make straight paths for your feet.”

In the race called life, we will get tired and lose focus. Our spirits will get disheartened from time to time, which is a reality of this life. But God’s word encourages us to take confidence in Him.

Lift your hands and bend your knees in prayer. Strengthen that which is weak to endure the race. Then, take position to walk in that which He has called you to. Once we endure the training, we’ll have the confidence to keep trying.

Throughout the process, may He give us a good testimony to encourage others to keep running the race.

**WHAT ARE YOU DOING TODAY THAT
WILL HELP YOU ENDURE TOMORROW?**

PRAYER FOCUS

EVERY HOMES
(SMALL GROUPS) TO
GROW; EVERY PARTNER TO
ROOT DOWN; CONNECTED
AND TO SERVE ALONGSIDE
ONE ANOTHER IN GOD'S
HOUSE AND TO REACH
OUR COMMUNITY WITH
GOD'S LOVE

YOU'VE GOT ENOUGH!

When Jesus's disciples asked Him for more faith, His response was, "You don't need more faith. You need to put whatever faith you have into action." In other words, Jesus was telling them that however 'big' or 'small' their faith was, it was powerful enough.

Then, He talked about the mulberry tree. Mulberry trees have deep and wide roots, yet with faith, it could be uprooted if you asked it to! It's not the size of your faith (which needs to be only as tiny as a mustard seed) that makes it happen, but the fact that you asked it to.

Mulberry roots represent things that stop us from being good disciples, such as unforgiveness, bad habits, lack of discipline or fear. What are the mulberry roots in your life? Do you need to take action in uprooting them, instead of waiting for something to happen?

Remember that your discipleship journey is not all about you. It's meant to be a blessing and inspiration to others. If you've learnt something from reading His word, overcome a bad habit, or finally plucked up the courage to share the Gospel with a workmate, then share your experience!

**WHAT'S STOPPING YOU FROM
BECOMING A GOOD DISCIPLE?**

PRAYER FOCUS

**BLESS ISRAEL
AND PRAY FOR
THE PEACE OF
JERUSALEM**

YOU MADE IT!

*PRAISE GOD YOU HAVE COMPLETED THIS
YEAR'S ANNUAL U-TURN, 21 DAYS OF
PRAYER & FAST INITIATIVE. TRUST IT HAS
BEEN A FRUITFUL PERSONAL TIME SEEKING
THE LORD AND READING HIS WORD.
MAY YOU CONTINUE TO HAVE GREAT
DEVOTIONAL TIMES WITH THE LORD!*

***SHARE YOUR
TESTIMONY
WITH US***

CLICK HERE