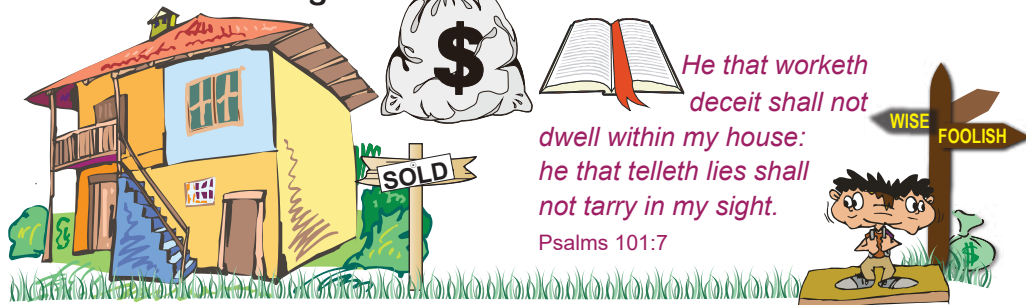


Choices

My wife and I lived in the time of the early churches and were believers of God. Seeing our fellow brethren selling their properties and donating all the proceeds to believers in need, we decided to do the same. After selling our

land, we kept some of the money for ourselves. However, when I passed the money to apostle Peter, I pretended that I had given everything.

Did we do the right thing? Read on in Acts 5:1-11.



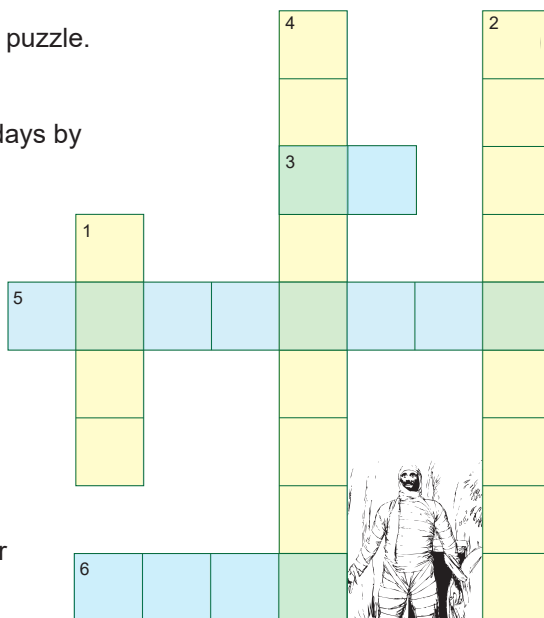
Brought Back to Life

John 11:1-45

Use the following clues to complete the puzzle.

Clues

- Lazarus was already dead for ____ days by the time Jesus arrived.
- Jesus said "whosoever liveth and _____ in me shall never die".
- This miracle proves Jesus ____ God.
- Jesus has the power to give physical and _____ life.
- All things are _____ with God.
- We must learn to trust God to answer our prayers according to His ____.



Bright Gems for His crown

OCTOBER-DECEMBER ISSUE 2019
JESUS SAVES MISSION CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Saved to share

What a lot there is to celebrate in the next three months! While celebrating Children's Day in

October, may our children be reminded of

Christ's great love and be saved. When they celebrate Grandparents' Day in November, may they share that knowledge with their grandparents.

Finally, may the celebration of Christmas in December be a reminder of how Christ was born to die for our sins, and prompt us to tell that good news to everyone we know.

Ms Wendy Wong

Miracles

Brought Back to Life

John 11: 1-45



Lazarus, brother of Martha and Mary, was already dead for four days when Jesus finally came. Martha told Jesus

that if He had been there, Lazarus would not have died. Jesus comforted her with the words: "I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet he shall live: And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die." At the grave Jesus cried, "Lazarus, come forth" and he came forth alive again.

This miracle proves Christ's claim that He is God, that He has the power to give life (John 11:25). The Jews and Martha were truly puzzled why Jesus had not come earlier, before Lazarus's death. With his death, they thought it was too late to do anything. However, we must learn to trust God to answer our prayers in His own perfect timing and in His own way. Only then can we see God's glory.

by Mr Benjamin Yeo

Comparisons

Luke's account of Jesus' visit to the house of

Mary & Martha

by Mr Jerry Teng

two sisters makes us think of our Christian priority. Mary was always looking forward to listening to Jesus explain God's Word and learning more about God. In contrast, Martha was always busy with the food preparation in the kitchen and thoughts of how to make the most delicious dinner to please the Lord.

How privileged we are to attend Church freely every Sunday. It is the only day of the week we gather with the saints and let our hearts and spirits sing and praise God. The question is do we come to seek God in our hearts? Or do we come to church to catch up with friends? Our thoughts may be on other things during worship and we are anxious to go home or somewhere else to do those things. Like Martha, we are faced with many

Martha distractions
erry Teng such as
 surfing the
 Internet, browsing Facebook ,
 watching YouTube or even
 school work.

The Lord Jesus stopped Martha when she wanted Mary to help her. He told her that Mary had chosen what was more important than service - worship. As Christians, our priorities are to find time to read the Bible and let God's Spirit fill our thoughts, speak to God in prayer asking Him to strengthen the inner man and learn to trust Him more . When we let God's Spirit take control, we will find peace and joy and actually find it easier to carry on with our daily routine.

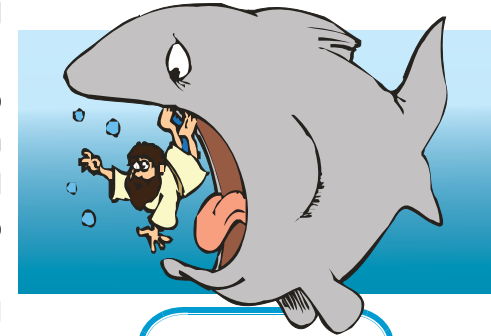


Prophets

I am Jonah. Most people would know me as the one who was swallowed by a huge fish while trying to run away from God. God had instructed me to go to Nineveh in Assyria to tell them to repent so He would not destroy them. But why would I go there so that they could be saved? The Assyrians were Israel's enemies. So, off I went in the opposite direction. Enroute there was a big storm. Chosen to be the sacrifice, I was prepared to be drowned because I knew it was my punishment that God wanted to give me. Instead He sent a huge sea creature to swallow me. I spent three days and three nights in the blackness of the creature's belly reflecting on my

Jonah

by Ms Claudia Soh



**The LORD is
gracious,
and full of
compassion;
slow to anger,
and of great
mercy.**

Psalm 145:8



repenting of my sin. After I was spat out, off I went to Nineveh to deliver God's message. I was so surprised when the Ninevites repented and mourned for their sins. I watched over the city, hoping it would be destroyed. Destruction didn't come but God rebuked me again by sending a bug to kill the vine that was shading me. I had forgotten that God's sovereignty and control is absolute. My vengeful spirit was broken and I finally accepted His will.

Objects in the Bible



Crown of Thorns

Matthew 27:29 mentions the crown of thorns. This 'crown' was made from the thick, thorn covered stems of a desert plant. The Jews had rejected Jesus as the promised Messiah and wanted Him to be crucified. The soldiers placed the 'crown' on Jesus' head and put a reed in His hand to mock His claim to be the Son of God and shame Him.



John Paul Stanley / YoMinistry.com.

Diadem

Isaiah 62:3 mentions the diadem. It is a type of crown or ornamental headband made of precious metals like gold and silver and decorated with jewels. It was worn as a badge of royalty and an expression of wealth. The verse describes how God would use it to honour His people.



Both the Crown of Thorns and the Diadem are crowns but they stand for very different things. Christ wore the mocking crown of shame so that those He saves can wear the shining crown of glory.

Thou shalt also be a crown of glory in the hand of the LORD, and a royal diadem in the hand of thy God.

Isaiah 62:3

by Shermyn Leong



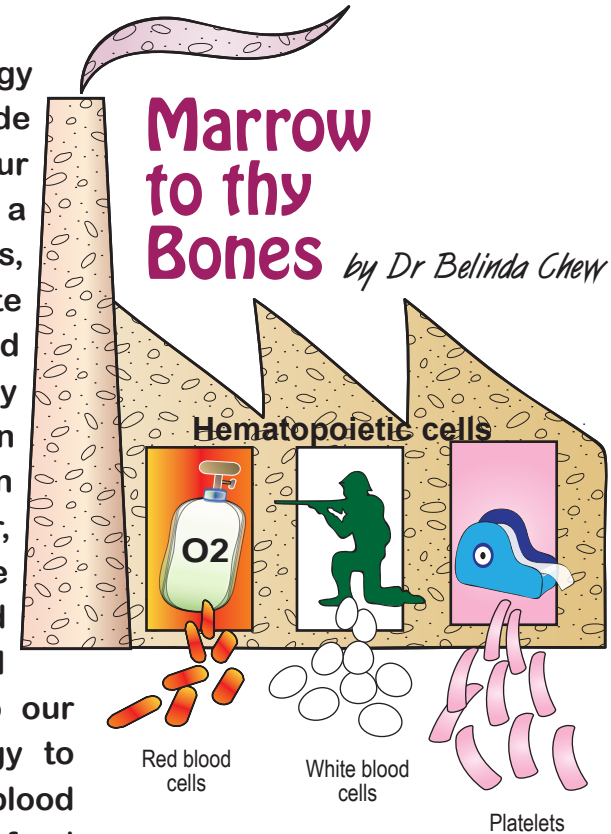
Seeing God in nature around us

BIOLOGY

Bone marrow is a spongy tissue that is found inside some of the bones in our bodies. It functions as a factory. Millions of platelets, red blood cells and white blood cells are produced every single day. These tiny cells are important in keeping us healthy. When we get a cut on our finger, platelets function like glue to close up the wound and stop bleeding. Red blood cells transport oxygen to our organs, to give us energy to study and play. White blood cells act like soldiers to defend our bodies from bacteria so that we do not fall sick easily. As bone marrow is vital to good health, so is the fear of the Lord to healthy spiritual life.

Marrow to thy Bones

by Dr Belinda Chew



To be healthy Christians, we must walk in the fear of God by "hating evil: pride, and arrogance, and the evil way, and the forward mouth" (Proverbs 8:13).

**Be not wise in thine own eyes:
fear the LORD, and depart from evil.
It shall be health to thy navel, and marrow to thy bones.**

Proverbs 3:7-8

Story of Missionaries

Eric Liddell



God made me fast,
and when I run, I feel
His pleasure.



Eric Liddell grew up excelling in sports, especially short distance running. While training to represent Scotland in the 1924 Paris Olympics, he refused to run the 100m sprint, his strongest event, as it was to be held on a Sunday. God honoured him (1Samuel 2:30) as he came in first place in the 400m race.

Following the footsteps of his missionary parents, Eric Liddell returned to China. He taught at a British-run Chinese college. When the Japanese invaded

China, he had to dodge gunfire while helping transport the sick and wounded Chinese to the hospitals. Captured by the Japanese and dumped into a prison camp, Eric Liddell used it as an opportunity to spread the gospel. He organized church services, schooling for the children and sporting activities, as well as cared for the sick. His faithfulness and resilience won him the respect of many in the camp. Eric Liddell never left the camp - he died after suffering a stroke. Just as he always put God first in his life and fought the good fight, may God help us to do the same!

by John Ong

JULY 1924

...for them that
honour me I will
honour,
and they that
despise me shall
be lightly
esteemed.

1Samuel 2:30

GemSTORY

How often do we give thanks for what we receive? To take things a step further, do we thank God for things that are not in our favour?

Auntie Peck Yoke and Uncle Kok Tong are an example of faith and thankfulness in the face of unfavourable circumstances. When Shu Yi, their second daughter, was only 17 weeks old in the womb, the doctors diagnosed her with hydrocephalus (build-up of liquid in the brain) and advised Auntie Peck Yoke and Uncle Kok Tong to abort their child. However, not wanting to be forever haunted by a guilty conscience, they continued with the pregnancy, filled with peace from God. They had the confidence that if God willed, He would heal (Matthew 21:22). When Shu Yi was born, her head was normal-sized and the dilation had stopped. God had answered their prayer! Another challenge was finding



out that Shu Yi had Down's Syndrome. They found comfort in knowing that although they didn't know about what the future held, they knew the One who holds the future.

They were also encouraged by a book to view their handicapped children not as a 'punishment' or a 'cross' to bear, but rather a gift of God's loving providence. Proverbs 10:22 was a verse which

The blessing
of the LORD,
it maketh rich,
and He addeth
no sorrow with it.

Proverbs 10:22



encouraged Auntie Peck Yoke greatly. She testifies that while God has not given them a rose, the daisy He gave is not less beautiful. Let us likewise be faithful, trusting in the Lord no matter what happens, and be thankful, giving thanks to God for all things.