

Follow God's Call

Throughout

Scripture, we read of people like Ezekiel and Daniel who courageously followed God's call, even when faced with rejection, fire, or lions. Today, God still guides – through His Word. When we seek Him through His Word and prayer, the Holy Spirit will lead us step by step until our desires align with His perfect plan. This new year, let us resolve to delight ourselves in the Lord and ask God to help us walk in His will!



by Mrs Edelweiss Ling

Hear Me When I Call

Keep Thine Own

Jesus made this prayer before His death. He was praying that the disciples God the

Father had given

Him, would be united and not leave their faith. All Christian parents would want their children to be kept in the faith.

Have you ever wondered how your parents feel when you are rebellious, disobedient or deliberately sinning against God? Just as God is grieved when we sin against Him, they will be sad. If you learn that a loved one has strayed from God, pray for that person thus:



Dear God, xxxx left the church for the world. Please speak to him in your still, small voice and convict him of his sins. Help him to repent and return to You. Give him the grace to overcome his sins. In Jesus' Name, Amen!

by Mrs Yeo Hieng Wah

Vacation Bible School



Children@Camp



Christmas Skit



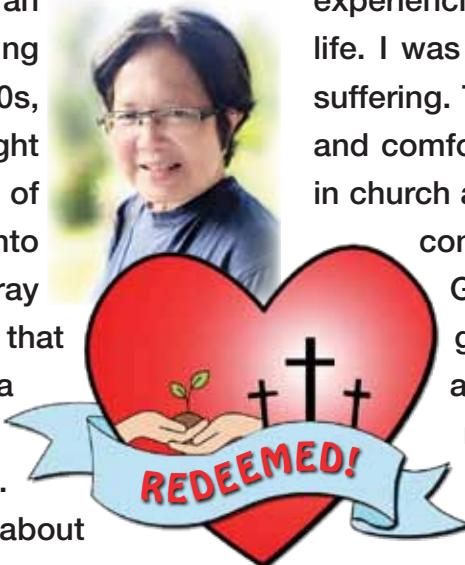
Gem Story

Testimony of Mrs Tan from Ipoh JSM. I was from an idol worshipping family. In my 20s, I even brought the Goddess of Mercy idol into my home to pray for peace. At that time, I lived in a small village of unbelievers.

No one knew about Christianity. Later, I met some Christian friends and was invited to church to hear the gospel. I came to know the true God. The church members were fervent and filled with love.

During this time, I was experiencing a low point in my life. I was filled with sorrow and suffering. The Lord strengthened and comforted me. The brethren in church also encouraged me to continue to look to Jesus.

God has given me many gifts. He often guides and examines me, helps me confess my sins and repent. He gives me strength and courage to do His work. Now, I find peace and joy in the Lord! I want to thank and praise God for enabling me to be a blessed child of God! I am redeemed by Christ at a great price.



**And they that know thy Name
will put their trust in Thee:
for Thou, Lord,
hast not forsaken them that seek Thee.**

Psalm 9:10

Envy vs Contentment

Envy is a feeling of jealousy — a resentful desire for the possessions or traits of someone else. We may envy others when they possess more wealth, achieve greater success, or receive recognition we long for. Envy is linked to insecurity and low self-esteem, often arising from comparison or personal shortcomings. It begins in the heart and mind and can cause us to desire or even do evil to others.

For example, Cain murdered Abel out of envy because God accepted Abel's offering and rejected his. King Saul sought to kill David because the people praised David more than him. James 3:16 warns that “where envying and strife is, there is confusion and every evil work.” Proverbs 17:5 reminds us that those who rejoice at another's



downfall will be punished. We must not let envy rule our hearts. Instead of becoming bitter, choose love — rejoice with our neighbours over their blessings and advancement. God gives different gifts to each person; the gift we possess may be what someone else desires! If we count our blessings, stop comparing, and work diligently for God's glory, envy loses its place. **“Godliness with contentment is great gain”** (1 Timothy 6:6), while **“envy rots the bones”** (Proverbs 14:30). If we become the target of envy, respond like Hannah — not with retaliation, but with prayer and faith in God.

by Mrs Lee Meow Jong



History Of The Church

Reformation onwards

AD

1558 – 1642

The Puritans ➤➤➤➤➤



Protestants returned to England from self-exile in Europe, convinced that only those who had experienced God's redeeming grace could be saved. A group, later known as Puritans, sought to reform the Church of England. They believed

- ❖ the covenant of grace between God and man required the believer to live according to the Scriptures, and after God's plan
- ❖ Christians should shape society according to biblical principles.

IMPACT:

- ★ 'creating' the Westminster confession of faith (a systematic summary of core Christian doctrines)
- ★ beginning of the Baptist movement
- ★ sought to create a new society in the New World (America), influenced by their belief in a 'nation under God'
- ★ inspired later evangelical Christianity

1540 – 1648

Wars of religion
one faith ➤ ➤➤➤territorialism ➤ ➤denominationalism



After the Reformation, Reformed and Catholic rulers fought for their faith to be the universal one. With no winner, in 1555, both sides agreed to individual territories practising the faith of its ruler. But fighting continued, ravaging the continent and cooling religious zeal. The nation-states that emerged from the fighting supported the co-existence of different denominations and faiths. The state could govern diverse religious populations without being tied to one specific faith.

IMPACT:

- ★ more tolerance of diversity in how personal faith was expressed
- ★ separation of state from church

Translating the Bible into English



Wycliffe's Bible (late 1300s, England)

The first complete translation of the entire Bible into English was by John Wycliffe.

The Geneva Bible (1560, Switzerland)

This was the Bible of choice for the English Protestants who left for America.

Tyndale's New Testament (1526, England)

William Tyndale's translation of the New Testament was the first English version to be distributed using the new printing press.

The King James Version (1611, England)

The KJV was commissioned by King James I to create a version that could be accessible and acceptable to most English-speaking audience.

Types of Bible Translation

Word-for Word	Thought-for Thought
Focus is on achieving word-for-word accuracy	Focus is on conveying the meaning of thoughts or ideas
NASB - New American Standard Bible	NIV - New International Version
ESV - English Standard Version	NLT - New Living Translation
KJV - King James Version	MSG - The Message
NKJV - New King James Version	

1722: Pietism ➤➤➤➤➤➤➤



The Protestant church became divided when its scholars focused on theoretical debates. Many German Lutherans turned to Pietism which stressed

- ◆ the need for personal experience of God's grace
- ◆ the use of small groups to encourage personal Bible study and spiritual growth
- ◆ individual responsibility in spreading God's Word
- ◆ pastoral visitation to care for souls

IMPACT:

- ★ increased focus on the spiritual growth of the individual by small fellowship groups
- ★ the Moravian church under Count Zinzendorf, became the first large-scale Protestant missionary force.

1720: Great Awakening ➤➤➤➤➤➤➤



The 16th Century showed people they could think and reason for themselves instead of unquestioningly obeying what authorities said. Colonists in the New World disliked the rigid rules of the existing Protestant institutions. They responded enthusiastically when preachers like Jonathan Edwards and George Whitefield preached passionately about sin and the need for repentance.

IMPACT:

- ★ more acceptance of religious diversity
- ★ institutions eg Princeton University were founded to reflect evangelical ideals and train ministers
- ★ personal spiritual transformation [being 'born again'] became a core component of modern evangelical Christianity.
- ★ laid the groundwork for American Revolution by promoting self-determination and challenging established norms
- ★ sparked major reform movements - abolitionism, women's suffrage, the temperance and asylum reform.



CHURCH MUSIC

The German-speaking Lutheran church sang hymns during worship. The English-speaking Anglican church sometimes allowed the singing of psalms, but generally did not include music in the service. The English-speaking Baptists were open to hymn-singing. Isaac Watts, to meet the needs of his congregation, started writing hymns to reflect the Christian's praise, wonder and adoration of God. Look at the following list of hymns and their composers. How many of these hymns have you sung? Do you know what they are about?

COMPOSERS	HYMN TITLES
Isaac Watts	O God, Our Help In Ages Past; When I Survey the Wondrous Cross; Joy to the World
Charles Wesley	O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing; Love Divine, All Loves Excelling; Hark! The Herald Angels Sing
John Newton	Amazing Grace; Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken; How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds
William Cowper	There is a Fountain Filled with Blood; O for a Closer Walk with God
William Bradbury	Just As I Am; Sweet Hour of Prayer; Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us
Fanny Crosby	Blessed Assurance; Pass Me Not, O Gentle Savior; All the Way My Savior Leads Me
Frances Havergal	Take My Life, and Let It Be; I Gave My Life for Thee; Who Is on the Lord's Side?



Faith of our Fathers

Ann Preston

Ann Preston (1810-1906), also known as Holy Ann, had an extraordinary journey that greatly impacted the Christian faith. Born in Ireland, she conquered early struggles with illiteracy, when dismissed from school after just one week. After she was saved, through prayers, she could read the Holy Bible.

As a housekeeper in Canada for the Reids family, Ann faced a spiritual awakening after Mrs. Reid's passing. Overwhelmed with responsibilities, she grappled with anger and temper in her spiritual backsliding. A family worship session led by a young man on Psalm 34:16, sparked her joy and victory over these struggles through fervent prayers, earning her the title 'Holy Ann.' Trusting completely in the Lord, Ann lived in perfect peace and



submission to divine authority. Her intimate relationship with God resulted in miraculous answers to her prayers, including a dry well near her home based on Isaiah 41:18

& 21. Through faith and prayers, the well never ran dry again. Holy Ann's life teaches us about the profound impact of faith and prayer, revealing the transforming power of God's grace. Her journey from illiteracy to spiritual understanding illustrates how strong faith can bring about amazing miracles when we truly trust in the Lord.



**I will open rivers in high places,
and fountains in the midst
of the valleys:
I will make the wilderness
a pool of water,
and the dry land springs of water.**

Isaiah 41:18

by Mrs Liow Peck Lian



Fermentation

by Ms Johannah Soo

In Galatian 5:9, Paul says “**A little leaven leaveneth the whole lump.**” He was reminding us that just as a little bit of leaven can cause the lump (dough) to rise, a little wrong teaching or thinking can corrupt our minds and in turn, the whole church.

Yeast is a kind of leaven. It makes dough light and fluffy by a process called ‘fermentation’. Only a very small amount of yeast (1% the weight of the flour) needs to be mixed with sugar into the flour. Water at the correct temperature is added and the flour-water-yeast mixture

is thoroughly mixed or kneaded to spread the yeast and sugar evenly throughout the flour. Yeast which are actually single-celled fungi, will break down the sugar into carbon dioxide. When the dough is being baked, the carbon dioxide expands and pushes on the surrounding dough. The result is the light and springy texture of bread.



Yeast can be bought, but it is also naturally present in the air. Just mix water and flour and then expose it to air. Once the mix starts breaking down, you will have a sourdough starter that can be used to make sourdough bread.

**Then when lust hath conceived,
it bringeth forth sin: and sin,
when it is finished, bringeth forth death.**

James 1:15



Keep Thine Own

Fill in the blanks with words from the 'Wordsearch' box.

D	F	U	P	G	I	X	S	V
D	Z	E	P	E	A	D	E	Q
F	N	S	S	U	E	J	L	L
O	A	C	W	T	J	K	P	A
D	X	I	I	S	O	C	I	N
U	U	N	T	X	H	B	C	E
H	U	Y	P	H	N	T	S	V
U	R	E	H	T	A	F	I	I
N	L	O	S	T	H	B	D	G

_____ prayed this
before his death, that his
_____ be _____
as one, and that they be not
_____, but be kept
in the _____.

17:11b

Holy _____, _____ through thine own name
those whom thou hast _____ me,
that they may be _____, as we are.

Seek & Solve

Ezekiel 37:4-10



Bible
Riddles

God told me to speak to dry bones,
And they stood up on their feet!
Who am I, who saw this
mighty feat?

Write your answer here.