

FBC TODAY

UNLEASHING THE GOSPEL



 First Baptist Church
Subang Jaya

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 First Baptist Church
Subang Jaya

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World Refugee Crisis



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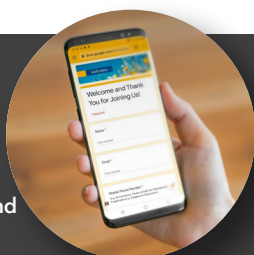
As of the middle of 2020, UNHCR estimates that there are about 80 million people who are forcibly displaced worldwide – that's almost 3X the total population of Malaysia! And of the 80 million, an estimated 30 – 34 million of them are children. Almost 67% of people displaced across borders come from just 5 countries: the

Syrian Arab Republic, Venezuela, Afghanistan, South Sudan, and Myanmar.

People are displaced for many reasons – persecution, violence, war, and natural disasters – and most can't return home or are afraid to do so. Displaced people fall under 4 major categories.

NEW?

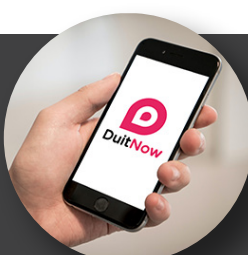
CLICK to send us your details so we can welcome and connect with you!



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Social Concern
Initiative




First is the **Internally Displaced Person (IDP)** who is forced to flee home but not to a different country (i.e. no crossing of international borders). IDPs are the largest group that UNHCR assists to date, but they are not protected by international law nor are they eligible for many types of aid because they are legally still under the protection of their own government.

The second and third categories are those who are forced to flee overseas – **asylum-seekers** and **refugees**. Persons who flee their country and seek sanctuary overseas apply for asylum, therefore becoming an asylum-seeker. Asylum-seekers need to demonstrate that their fear of persecution in their own country is well-founded before they can be granted the right to be refugees and receive legal protection and material assistance.

And lastly, there are the **stateless**, or persons who are not a citizen of any country. Citizenship is a legal bond between a government and an individual, and there are several decisions or oversights that can cause a government to not recognize certain individuals – even though the Universal Declaration of Human Rights underlines that “everyone has the right to a nationality.”

In Malaysia, there are around **178,920 refugees and asylum-seekers** registered with UNHCR as at the end of March 2021, and 52% of them are here in Selangor and Kuala Lumpur. 86% of the displaced people in Malaysia are from Myanmar – there are 102,560 Rohingyas, 22,430 Chins, and 29,350 are from conflict-affected areas or are fleeing persecution in Myanmar. Although refugees are recognized by the UNHCR, the protection they have is still subject to what the Malaysian government offers them. Many refugees and asylum-seekers are often victims of discrimination and extortion. They are unable to keep long-term or justly-paying jobs, and are also unable to receive formal education.

Today, we will be hearing from 2 refugee families who worship with us in FBC. Our prayer is that through their stories, we will have a better understanding of the plight of refugees, and take on the challenge to pray for and be a blessing to the refugee communities around us. May we be encouraged by Jesus’ words in Matthew 25:40, which says: “Whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for Me.” 

A Testimony of God's Faithfulness and Goodness in Times of Need

Imran & Cathy

Imran, a Christian from Pakistan, met his wife Cathy while he was serving in Christian missions in the Philippines. However, he was forced to flee to Malaysia in 2015 when he was framed for a tragedy that hit the town he was serving in. Because of the dangers of returning to Pakistan or the Philippines, Imran, and later Cathy, became refugees in Malaysia.

Dealing with harassment and extortion even though they have the UNHCR card and papers, they struggle to find justly-paying or long-term jobs, and the struggle to make ends meet are a part of their daily lives. Cathy also struggles with her health, and she has limited access to healthcare services as well as little grounds to claim for malpractice. But what keeps them going? As they reflect on their journey, they see that God was with them every step of the way. Being displaced is tough and their options are significantly limited, but this has also led them to rediscover why God is integral to life.

Having been in Malaysia for more than 5 years now, they've decided to regard Malaysia as their home - so long as they are here. However, this doesn't remove the longing to be reunited with their families. And living from day to day brings its share of fear and anxieties. They often have close to nothing, yet still have to financially support family members back in their hometowns. But God has always provided in their times of need.

God has blessed them with churches in Malaysia who have accepted them, even though they are of a different ethnicity, social standing, and denomination. Because of the church, they feel less lonely though they are far from

family. They have found not just a community, but a church family who embraces them, is quick to pray for and with them, and extends help to them in their times of need. God has been with them in their darkest times and has given them the strength and hope to persevere. God has also proven time and time again that He is a God who hears prayers. And although His answers may not always be at the timing or in the manner that they asked for, His answers have always been for the better.

They do not have a lot, but they know they have enough. They are thankful for the people they meet and get to minister to because of where God has placed them. They have the opportunity to talk about their faith with fellow Filipinos and their work colleagues, the opportunity to translate for a Pakistani church and, because of the Covid-19 pandemic, the opportunity to join Alpha, Gamma, and the nightly 9pm prayer on Zoom with FBC.

They ask the church to join them in prayer for the following:

- Pray that their families in the Philippines and Pakistan will hold strongly to their faith in God.
- Pray for the faithfulness of ministry workers in the Philippines and in Pakistan.
- Pray that Pakistanis and Filipinos will encounter God and live their lives for Him.
- Pray that God will bless the work of their hands and, in His time, lead them to a country where He has a mission for them. 🙏

Surrendering to and Trusting in God's Sovereignty

The couple has asked to remain anonymous



Marriage is a beautiful celebration of the union of 2 people. With it comes the romantic dream of a happily ever after. But little did Rohaan and Nadia (not their real names) know, they would need to leave their home because of religious persecution.

Rohaam and Nadia had to flee to Malaysia soon after their marriage in Pakistan in 2014, and life has never been the same since. It's been more than 7 years now, but it hasn't gotten any easier. Having to leave their homeland and become refugees was a big challenge. They miss home dearly. Pakistan is home, and it will always be home. It is where their freedom, family, friends, relatives, and church are.


For the past 7 years, their greatest challenges in Malaysia have been the lack of freedom and peace of mind. Despite holding documents from UNHCR, Malaysia does not recognise their refugee status. They face many challenges, such as access to basic services like education, healthcare, livelihood, and even banking services. Dealing with uncertainties and anxieties and having to live from day to day have significantly been harder for them because of the Covid-19 pandemic.

They have often prayed and asked God why this happened to them. Yet, it was in the middle of their darkest days that they understood the sovereignty of God. God knows them and has plans for them. Though it is difficult to submit to God's will under such circumstances, they rest knowing that God is with them

and He is the One in control of everything. God also spoke to them through their circumstances, through their fears and uncertainties. He showed them a different perspective on life. They can now see that God has led them into this life to understand the pain and suffering of refugees.

God has blessed them with two lovely children, as well as caring friends inside and outside the church. Church for them has been an especially wonderful blessing from God. The warmth and love of the church has made it possible for them to feel connected, and they have been able to make a living through the generosity of Christian business owners who have provided them with job opportunities. They are thankful to God for His blessings and hope to be in the position to help other refugees one day.

As they think about the refugee community in Malaysia, they ask the church to join them in prayer for the following:

- Pray for those who have lost their homes because of conflicts and religious issues.
- Pray that Malaysia will have proper infrastructure for refugees.
- Pray that refugees may live peacefully here.
- Pray that the church will shine and lead displaced peoples to Christ. 

Here are 3 simple things you can do to engage with God on this crisis:

1. **Pray** for:

- Refugees;
- Governments and authorities;
- Organisations providing assistance to refugees; and
- Countries rife with conflict that are contributing to the global refugee crisis.

2. **Learn** more about the refugees in Malaysia and around the world.

- How Refugees Live In Malaysia: Debunking Prejudices (CNA Insider)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DnKAiOmsvQQ>
- A Familiar Nightmare': Issues Faced by Refugees and Migrants in Malaysia during the MCO (Annabella Ching, ElShaddai Centre Berhad)
<https://ecb.org.my/2021/02/10/a-familiar-nightmare-is-issues-faced-by-refugees-and-migrants-in-malaysia-during-the-mco/>
- KNOW THE MYTHS FROM THE FACTS: Nine Things About the Refugee Issue in Malaysia (UNHCR Malaysia)
<https://www.unhcr.org/en-my/news/latest/2021/4/606563ac4/-know-the-myths-from-the-facts-nine-things-about-the-refugee-issue-in-malaysia.html>
- UNHCR's Refugee Population Statistics Database
<https://www.unhcr.org/refugee-statistics/>
- Covid-19 and Refugees (UNHCR)
<https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/95cc3b65d9264cf3b80ffef0daa0358>

3. **Volunteer** to teach refugee children. If you are interested, contact Pari at 012-396 6844.

| Pulpit Program

June 6, 2021

Church Discipline

(1 Corinthians 5)



PREACHER

Ps. Massimo Gei

June 13, 2021

Handling Anxiety

(Matthew 6:25-34)



PREACHER

Dr. Peter Ng

June 20, 2021

Judging Others

(Matthew 7:1-6)



PREACHER

Ps. Joash Chan

June 27, 2021

TBA



PREACHER

Arnold Lim

| Worship with Us



MAIN SERVICE

| ZOOM |

Sundays 8:45am & 11:15am



YOUTH SERVICE

| ZOOM |

Sundays 9:00am



SUNDAY SCHOOL

for Ages 0-12yrs

| ZOOM |

Sundays



Call office to know more:

03-5621 2623

PRAYER SPOTLIGHT



Find out how you can pray for Imran and Cathy, Rohaan and Nadia, and the world refugee crisis on pages 3, 4, and 5.

Condolences

We would like to extend our heartfelt condolences to our brother **Sam Leong** and sister **Eve Leong** on the passing of their beloved mother, Madam Lim Geok Lam @ Lim Lay Tin, on 29 May 2021.

Let us pray for God's peace and comfort to be with the Leong family during this difficult time of loss.

| Upcoming Events

CHURCH BASED THEOLOGICAL STUDIES

Understanding the Book of Ezekiel

10-week Study
With Dr Leong Tien Fock
Beginning on
7 June 2021
Every Monday

[CLICK HERE](#) to register

ALPHA 20

Is There More to Life Than This?

22 July to
7 October 2021
(Every Thursday)
8:00pm

[CLICK HERE](#) to register

GAMMA 17

The Pastoral Epistles Study on The Book of

1 Timothy, 2 Timothy and Titus

Every Wednesday
8:30pm

Meeting ID: 830 3462 5458
Passcode: fbc

[CLICK HERE](#) to view the video lessons.
(Password: fbcgamma)

DAILY ZOOM PRAYER MEETING

Daily Prayer Meeting

Every Saturday
to Thursday
9:00pm

Zoom ID: 929 735 694
Password: pray

MONTHLY ZOOM PRAYER MEETING

Monthly Prayer Meeting

26 June (Saturday)
2:00pm to 3:30pm

Zoom ID: 869 8003 5137
Password: pray

[More Information on Upcoming Events](#)