

# FBC TODAY

UNLEASHING THE GOSPEL



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# A God Who Comforts Those Who Grieve



Losing someone we love is one of the most heart-wrenching experience anyone can go through. It may seem like the world around us is carrying on while the emptiness in our hearts will remain for a long time.

There is no promise in the

message of Jesus Christ that His followers are exempt from pain and sorrow but the Bible prepares us for times like this - God's people can expect to suffer sickness and eventual death. Our faith allows us to grieve deeply. Sadness and tears do not reveal a lack of faith. Take heart from the



**Address :**  
38 Jalan SS17/1D, 47500 Subang Jaya, Selangor, Malaysia.

**Telephone :**  
+03 5621 2623

**Email :**  
fbc.subangfamily@gmail.com

**Website:**  
www.fbc.com.my

## NEW?

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**BT76**

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**+6011 5788 4805**



words of the Old Testament book of Ecclesiastes which tells us that there is a time for everything including a time to weep and a time to mourn. In the New Testament book of Matthew 5:4 we see Jesus publicly declare

**“Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted”.**

Jesus went on to demonstrate his personal grief & sorrow when He wept at the tomb of His friend Lazarus. This story is recorded in the book of John 11:35.

Weeping for a dearly beloved and missing him/her in countless ways, is normal. But grieving also makes room for us to see more clearly that our Heavenly Father grieves too. Out of His great love and desire to save and restore mankind, He sacrificed his son, Jesus who suffered, was crucified and died on the cross for our sins. In the shadow of the cross, we begin to see that we are never alone in our pain. Our loss is God's loss too and so we are reminded that in the midst of our grief and loss, we can find the comfort we need in the enduring promise that our God is the Father of compassion and He is the God of all comfort. He is always with you and will be with you in your loss (2 Corinthians 1:3-4).

When death takes those we love, it seems like joy is lost forever. But time patiently teaches our grieving hearts that it's okay to allow joy to re-enter our lives. While there are moments when sadness will still overwhelm happiness, it's possible for joy and sorrow of the deepest kind to exist side by side within our heart. Christians with faith in our Sovereign God do not deny grief. However even in our darkest hours, we borrow God's strength. In our tears and pain we cling to Him believing that He will never let us go. When you are shaken and you know that life will never be the same again, you can trust and not be afraid. You can live in hope with the sturdy confidence that God will dry your tears one day and put you on your feet again.

We can all identify that being separated from a loved one in this life is hard – it creates a sense of loss that won't be made right until we are united with them. When the new believers at Thessalonica wondered about such losses, the apostle Paul wrote in 1 Thessalonians 4:13, “Brothers and sisters, we do not want you to be uninformed about those who sleep in death, so that you do not grieve like the rest of mankind, who have no hope”. He explained that as believers in Jesus, we can live in expectation of a wonderful reunion – together forever in the presence of Christ.

Even though the tears of loss stay with us today, the Bible assures us that we are part of a larger story where it's not going to remain this way. In the words of Jesus in John 16:22, He told his disciples before his departure “Now is your time of grief but I will see you again and you will rejoice and no one will take away your joy”. How reassuring it must be for the disciples – these words are also for us today.

The New Testament boldly declares that when Jesus comes back, all who have died and belong to Him will be raised to life again. Jesus' return will also trigger a time of new beginnings – the hope of God's new day. It is the hope of a reunion and the happiest of endings, which is really a new beginning as in Revelations, the last book of the bible, chapter 21: 4-5, “God will then wipe every tear from the eyes of His people and there will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away”. Indeed, we rest in this promise of eternal hope.



By Pearly Yeoh  
(Pearly co-leads the Women's Ministry)

## | Pulpit Program

January 30, 2022

### Where Heaven and Earth Overlapped - Building Kingdom Values in the Family

 **PREACHER**  
Arnold Lim

February 06, 2022

### The Gates of Hell Shall Not Prevail Against You:

The Key to Victorious Living  
(Matthew 16:13-23)

 **PREACHER**  
John Lee

February 13, 2022

### The Cross Shaped Life

(Matthew 16:24-28)

 **PREACHER**  
Pastor Joash Chan

February 20, 2022

### The Transfiguration

(Matthew 17:1-13)

 **PREACHER**  
Dr. Peter Ng

## | Worship with Us

 **MAIN SERVICE**  
| ZOOM |  
Sundays 8:45am

 **YOUTH SERVICE**  
| ZOOM |  
Sundays 9:00am

 **SUNDAY SCHOOL**  
for Ages 0-12yrs  
| ZOOM |  
Sundays

 Call office to know more:  
03-5621 2623

## PRAYER SPOTLIGHT

### Prayers for a Grieving Heart



#### 1) Pour out your grief.

"Be merciful to me, Lord, for I am in distress; my eyes grow weak with sorrow, my soul and body with grief" (Psalm 31:9, NIV). My heart is broken, my mind exhausted. I cry out to you and hardly know what to ask. Have mercy, gracious Lord

#### 2) Ask for comfort.

Jesus, You said, "Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted" (Matthew 5:4, NIV). I am mourning; send me Your comfort now. Wrap Your arms around me and hold me tight. Send your comfort on me through those around me.

#### 3) Ask for healing.

O God, come to my assistance. Please take the consuming anguish from me and hold me in Your arms. Heal my broken heart and bind up my wounds (see Psalm 147:3).

#### 4) Ask for peace.

Lord, I need Your peace. I need "the peace of God, which transcends all understanding" to guard my heart and mind (Philippians 4:7, NIV)

#### 5) Ask for hope.

Lord, help me not to grieve like those who haven't discovered Your kindness and mercy, who have no hope (see 1 Thessalonians 4:13); lift me up and give me hope once more. Help me to believe that tomorrow will be better, and the next day will be easier, and that a day will come when I will feel excited for what You are doing and where You will take me. Amen.

Taken from

[www.guideposts.org/prayer/prayers-for-strength/5-prayers-for-a-grieving-heart](http://www.guideposts.org/prayer/prayers-for-strength/5-prayers-for-a-grieving-heart)

## | Upcoming Events



**Romans**  
From Wretchedness  
To Righteousness  
Every Wednesday  
For more information,  
contact Church Office  
at 03-5621 2623



**Is There More  
to Life Than This?**  
Alpha 21 will begin on  
6 January 2022.  
Every Thursday  
8:00pm  
[CLICK HERE](#) to register  
for the next Alpha program.



**Daily Prayer  
Meeting**  
Every Saturday  
to Thursday  
9:00pm  
Zoom ID: 929 735 694  
Password: pray

## More Information on Upcoming Events