TODAY

UNLEASHING THE GOSPEL









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

Telephone:

+03 5621 2623

fbc.subangfamily@gmail.com

Website:

www.fbc.com.my

"God's salvation does not come in response to a changed life. A changed life comes in response to the salvation, offered as a free gift." - Timothy Keller



By Joy Apacible

Joy serves on FBC's Mission Working Group and is a member of GG LG.

Why are you a Christian? How did you become a Christian? Each one of us has unique stories to tell, but we are often hesitant to share them because we feel like our stories are not worth telling. What has caused us to compare our stories with those of other Christians? Why are our stories often limited to that one moment that "changed our lives forever", or that moment when we did something extraordinary for God?

We are God's witnesses. We see and experience God's goodness and greatness, and it is our privilege to share it with others. Our stories are not just about what we've done, what we've gone through, or how we've dealt



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+6011 5788 4805



with happy or troubling times. This is because God is with us - He has been, He is, and He will be for all eternity - whether or not we feel it or had things turn out the way we want.

David, in Psalm 62:7, declares: "My salvation and my honour depend on God; He is my mighty rock, my refuge." This is also what we declare.

A common thread in each of our narratives is how a just and Holy God welcomes sinners to Himself. He does not just leave us to sort things out for ourselves. God Himself made it possible for us to be with Him, at the expense of His Son's life. God is also the One who gives us faith and the One who empowers us to live renewed lives through His Spirit. How can our stories not be worth telling, when it testifies of such a great and loving God?

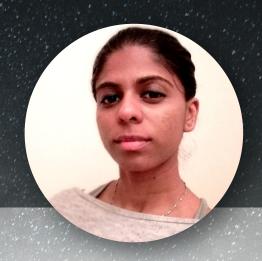
Four members from our congregation would like to share their stories. You will hear from two of them today and two next week. We pray that their testimonies will help us see God's faithfulness in our own lives. And as we share in their joys and their burdens, may this also encourage us to be confident and proactive in sharing our own stories.

Sharing stories of God at work in our lives is pointing people to Jesus.

Conversation Catalyst:

- Practice sharing your story in your Life Group or with a family member.
- What are some things that hinder you from sharing your story?

Rubina Rubeca Visuvanathan is currently pursuing a postgraduate in Astrophysics. From being born into a Hindu family, to being an atheist, to becoming a believer in Christ, she prays that God will use her to bring the Gospel of Jesus Christ to all, that all may taste and see His goodness.



I was born into a semi-staunch Hindu family. My dad was a staunch Hindu while my mom was a believer in Christ. Love brought them together and it was the love for the family that kept them together. Mom did not have much support when she married dad.

When I was a month old, I was dedicated to the pagan goddess. This was to signify the birth of the first-born. When I turned six years old, I was sent away to live with my grandmother. She was extremely staunch in her beliefs because our family was known to initiate construction of temple buildings, and I was trained in the arts of Hindu worship and philosophy; a temple child to say the least. Though I studied in a convent, it was made sure that I would not stray away from my Hindu background.

I remembered asking a lot of questions as I was growing up but sadly, my family never had any answers for me. After four years of living with my grandmother, I was sent back home to live with my parents. It was here, at the plantation where I got to know the Lord.

My mother introduced a video on the journey of Christ, and I remembered crying hysterically watching it. I was ten and my statement to mom sounded like this, "If the Son of God had to die a painful death for mankind, then we are the vilest of beings!" It was then she

asked whether I wanted to accept the Lord and I said, "Yes!" I hid this secret from my dad for eight years until he received an offer to work in Indonesia. In hindsight, I truly believe that this was God's way of allowing us to go to church to experience fellowship with fellow Christians.

But though I went to church, I was having a very difficult time. I had many scientific questions that could not be answered. I then became an atheist and did not want to have anything to do with Christianity. It was during this time that I began to do a lot of soul searching.

I was in a mess, the relationships in my life were in utter turmoil, my identity was shattered, and my spirit almost dead. And in this journey, I met a few Christians who were scientists, and they were very patient in allowing me to question and provided answers that were Biblically sound. It then struck me how God our Creator is so marvellous and amazing in His ways. It was in that moment that I decided to turn back to the Father!

In hindsight, it was only God who saw me through and is still seeing me through my life's journey. All glory and praise to the Creator of the Universe!



Jacie was in Shanghai with her husband and children, and met the Lord there through her friends. She is now back in Malaysia and has been worshipping in FBC since the end of 2014. She is a librarian at the Logos Library, and is a member of the Sisters in Christ Life Group.

During my school days, singing hymns and praying every morning were part of the daily routine. I did not give much thought to them but deep inside I was always curious about God and wondered why we pray to Him daily. Although the hymns were soothing, my curious thoughts were tucked away as the years went on.

When my family moved to Shanghai, I was busy with the kids but the Word of God kept popping up. As there were only a few bookstores with English books, I learned to order from Amazon online. I bought a book titled "Catholic for Dummies". I thought this book could enlighten me but it did not help much and my search went on.

My teenagers began to have problems with their studies and school life. On top of that, my husband was super busy and experienced a lot of stress with his job. But I had a group of friends who were always prepared to give a helping hand. It was during one of the trying times that a friend shared her journey with God and the learning of His Word.

She invited me to join Bible Study Fellowship (BSF) on a weekly basis. I told her I am not a Christian, but she assured me that it was alright to explore. I jumped at the chance since I was eager to know what was in the Bible. I began my learning with the gospel of Matthew. It was like an explosion of His Word. Every Word from Matthew 13 fuelled my eagerness to know more about the Bible.

As I attended the classes weekly, I felt more and more excited to learn about the parables and found them easy to understand. I wanted to know more, so my friend introduced me to a Christian parenting

group. They were learning how God's Word helps in coping with their struggles as parents. They shared their problems, helped each other with their experiences and, most importantly, prayed for one another. I, too, began learning to pray for my children. My faith grew as I read more of His Word.

Soon, I began attending Sunday service with my friend at the International Church of Shanghai. As the days went by, I felt I wanted to be a child of God. Reading His Word and listening to gospel songs brought peace and calmness on unsettling days.

On one typical Sunday, after service, I felt an inner voice calling out to reach for the Lord. I frantically looked for my parenting group leader to share that I want Christ to be my Saviour. We looked for a quiet place to say the sinner's prayer. She also reminded me that the day was a special day - it was Pentecost day. I was filled with joy that I finally found what I desired most, my God. He is my strength, my refuge, and my rock. Hallelujah, blessed be His name!

Upon returning to Malaysia, I was worried about finding a church. My BSF group leader suggested I try out her church or the BSF's host church. I attended Sunday service at FBC and met some wonderful people whom I became close to. I was encouraged to attend Baptism classes although my schedule was tight with family commitments. The late sister Chee Siong offered her home for an individual class with flexible timing that suited my needs. Eventually, I finished all the classes and had my baptism in FBC.

Thank you, Lord, for Y<mark>our abundant love, grace, and Your faithful servants in FBC! ©</mark>

FT3C O ZOOM ONLINE WORSHIP

SUNDAY WORSHIP on OZOOM

Every Sunday From

14 March Onwards
8:45am & 11:15am

Zoom ID: 997 9121 6144 Password: fbc

Zoom Meeting opens 30 minutes before service begins.
Please login early.

Zoom Worship Service Order

- Pre-Service Meditation
- Song of Preparation
- Call to Worship + Greeting
- Song of Praise / Adoration
- Responsorial Psalm
- Song of Confession / Lament / Assurance
- Song of Thanksgiving
- Prayer of Illumination
- Scripture Reading
- Sermon
- Response Song / Communion
- FBC Together
 - Offering
 - Prayers of the People
 - Announcements
 - + Special Segments
- Benediction + Sending
- Breakout Groups

Over the past year, the way churches worship has been affected drastically by a new norm. The current environment has changed our worship patterns, practices, and even paradigms. Some for good, some for the worse. However, the Word of God remains the same, and God's terms for our community worship and gathering is essential to our Christian life.

Over the next few weeks, we will be reminding ourselves of the PURPOSE of our worship through a series of articles on the 4-fold pattern of worship:

GATHERING - WORD - TABLE - SENDING.

The first article on *Gathering* is now available on the FBC website. **CLICK HERE** to read the full article!

| Pulpit Program

March 7, 2021 (Mission Sunday)

The Norms of the Kingdom:
Salt and Light of the Earth

(Matthew 5:13-16)



PREACHERPs. Massimo Gei

March 14, 2021 (Zoom Service)

The Presence of God in Church

(Isaiah 6:1-6)

PREACHER Arnold Lim

March 21, 2021

The Norms of the Kingdom: **Jesus and The Law**

(Matthew 5:17-20)



PREACHERDr. Peter Ng

March 28, 2021

Palm Sunday

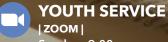
(Matthew 21: 1-9, Luke 19: 37-44)



PREACHER <u>David & Suzanne</u> Adams

| Worship with Us





Sundays 9:00am





Call office to know more: 03-5621 2623



1. Thank the Lord for His goodness and faithfulness in our lives, as well for the people who have encouraged us along the way.

- **2.** Confess the times we have omitted God from our stories.
- **3.** Pray that God will continue to reveal Himself to us, and open our eyes to see how He is in all things, at all times.
- **4.** Pray that God will open a way and give us the boldness to share our stories, especially to our non-believing family, friends, and colleagues.

| **Upcoming Events**



Zoom Clinic 7 March (Today)

10:45am to 11:45amZoom ID: **997 9121 6144**Password: **fbc**



How to Share Your Story in 3 Minutes with David & Suzanne Adams

7 March (Today) 2:00pm to 3:30pm Zoom ID:

942 2620 4215
Password : FBCMission



Is There More to Life Than This?

Every Wednesday 8:00pm to 9:30pm

CLICK to register



Insights For The Persevering Disciple Study on The Book of Revelation

Link: https://fbc.com.my/gamma Password: fbcgamma



Daily Prayer Meeting Every Saturday to Thursday 9:00pm

Zoom ID: **929 735 694** Password: **pray**



Monthly Prayer Meeting 27 March (Saturday) 2:00 to 3:30pm

Zoom ID: **875 6527 9132** Password: **pray**

More Information on Upcoming Events



Congratulations!

We rejoice with

Desmond Yong & Michelle Cheong

on the arrival of their newborn baby boy, **Adriel Yong Qian Le** on 24 February 2021.

Children are a gift from the Lord; they are a reward from him. – Psalm 127:3