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UNLEASHING THE GOSPEL



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First Baptist Church Subang Jaya

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FASTING

Reflections on Matthew 4:1-11



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Why did Jesus fast?

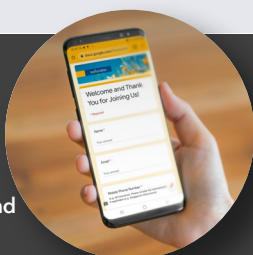
Even though He is God's Son and He and the Father are one, Jesus fasted. Why?

It is because Jesus knew that, as a man, He would face every difficulty that man would face, and He fasted to show man the

strength needed to overcome every situation. Jesus fasted to show us that we don't have to be controlled by our appetites. He fasted to be an example on how to overcome, regardless of what we might face in life. Fasting for 40 days and 40 nights is not an easy task, but our Lord was prepared by His Father for His mission.

NEW?

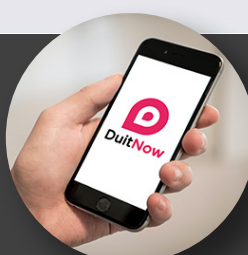
CLICK to send us your details so we can welcome and connect with you!



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+6011 5788 4805



Fasting presents us with an endurance challenge. Some of us fast as part of a weight loss program; and there are many other reasons why we fast. In Matthew 4, we see our Lord Jesus fasted to the point where His flesh was at its weakest, but He didn't give in. Fasting was the spiritual tool Jesus used to draw strength from His Father during times of temptation. It was also through fasting that He was able to experience the weakness of the flesh and thus identify with us.

It is recorded in scripture that Adam and Abraham failed their tests; but not Jesus. Jesus was in the wilderness, and after 40 day of fasting, He still didn't give in to temptation. He is the role model for us believers in many ways! In our moments of weakness, it is important to remember that the tempter will use all means possible to justify his (the tempter's) actions.

When temptation comes, it is often very subtle and beyond our control. We could be surrounded by the best conditions and still fail- like Adam who was in the Garden of Eden, and yet he failed.

When everything is going well in our sight, whether in the area of family, finances, career, or ministry, our vision is easily blurred by the influences of Satan. Satan will attempt to influence us to think that we are well and good. He will tempt us to act independently and not rely on God. He will put thoughts in our hearts and minds that draw us away from God.


Jesus said that man must not live on bread alone, but by the Word of God (Matthew 4:4). We hold a godly perspective when we are able to admit that we don't have the wisdom to handle our problems. When we courageously affirm that we will trust the Lord and put Him in charge, we will start to see things from His point of view.

Satan will attempt to sensationalise our lives and influence us with pride. I recall the time when I was at a crossroads after my retirement from Military services. We did not know where we would live and whether my small military pension was enough for us; there were many anxieties. I looked for employment and a golden opportunity arose when I was offered to be a shareholder in a company. It was a very tempting offer, with the luxury of having expensive cars and opportunities to travel.

I pondered and prayed, and laid it before God. I asked myself, "Will accepting this offer cause me to sell my soul?" In the end, I declined the offer and decided that my family and I will boldly trust the Lord instead. The pride of life was very tempting, but I realized that it would cause nothing but sorrow for me and my family.

Adam and Eve abdicated the position God gave them; Satan gave them the world. Satan loves to see us abdicate God's way and take the easy road.

Temptation is a trial whereby man has the free choice of being faithful or unfaithful to God. Satan encouraged Jesus to deviate from the plan of His Father by misusing His authority and privileges. But Jesus used scripture to resist all temptations.

May we spend time fasting (if there are no medical issues or other related matters) and praying, whether it be for family decisions, our career, or ministry work. May the Holy Spirit guide us. 



By Pastor Moby Noah
Pastor Moby is FBC's honorary pastor.



Life Group Splash: Featuring Tanamera

Describe Tanamera in 3 words.
Diverse. Caring. Inclusive.

Tell us more about Tanamera.
We started in December 2006! Today, we are a Life Group of 16 adults in our 30s to 70s. We meet fortnightly, every first and third Friday of the month. Prior to MCO, we met in members' homes at Tanamera, Subang Jaya, Taman Bukit Saga, and Shah Alam.

What does being part of a Life Group mean to Tanamera?
We come with the objective to be disciples, so that we may also disciple others, in obedience to Christ's Great Commission.

What do Tanamera members enjoy the most about LG?
The diversity in terms of age, ethnicity, social status, and stages of life make it fun, educational, and even exciting when real life experiences are shared.

How has being part of a Life Group made a difference for Tanamera members?
It has been a blessing to have a big family of brothers and sisters, uncles and aunties, to turn to for advice, assistance, and encouragement to live a more Christ-like life. Also, knowing that there are others praying for us is one big reassurance and brings so much peace during adversity.

Being in an LG encourages us to grow in our faith. We are more prayerful, and show more care and concern not just amongst ourselves but also to those outside of our LG, and are spurred toward good works. We are also more conscious of our actions and behaviours as we are accountable to each other.



Share a memorable Life Group event.
There have been many fun, memorable events but one stands out. Last Christmas when everyone was starved of in-person fellowship, the LG gathered to respond to the church's call to show unity and love through placards, and proceeded afterwards for fellowship over coffee and tea.

Describe Tanamera using a movie or show.
The sitcom Seinfeld describes us best! Just like the main protagonists Jerry, Kramer, George, and Elaine, we meet for meals or tea with no other reason than just to say hello and see how each other are doing. And, as demonstrated, we are there for each other when adversities strike.

What would Tanamera say to someone who's not yet in a Life Group?
No man is an island. We need each other's support, encouragement, and exhortation to grow in our Christian walk. And in times of trials, we need one another to keep our faith strong. ☺

[Join A Life Group Today](#)

Baptism

We rejoice with sister Linda Law Mei Hwa and brother Roger Ling Bee Ang on their baptism on 28 March 2021. [Click here](#) to watch a video of their baptism.



Linda Law

It is a privilege to be part of First Baptist Church and to be able to go through baptism, especially during these difficult times. I am very thankful and grateful to all who shared with me in this joyous and meaningful time of my life. Why did I decide to be baptised? My daughter actually asked me, "Why get baptised now?" The reason is because it is what Jesus wants me to do. He said, "Go and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit." (Matthew 28:19) I also realised that in order for me to share what the Lord has blessed me with, I first want to be baptised.

I was baptised as a child; that was my parents' decision. Today, it is my decision to make. I thank everyone who shared in this lovely time with me, because it is about a community of saints and because we are of one faith and one God, who is the Father of us all. Please pray that I will always walk in God's purpose and be found in His will. Pray that I will continue serving the Lord together with FBC's community of believers. 🙏

Roger Ling

I'm so glad that I have gone through this process of baptism, which I think is long overdue! This is a public declaration of my faith in Jesus Christ who has died for my sins. I am ready to continue walking faithfully in this journey with Christ. I hope that my brothers and sisters at FBC will constantly look out for me and keep me accountable to Christ. I really want to praise the Lord Jesus who died and resurrected three days later so that I can have eternal life. Because of His great love for us, I believe that we have to also respond in love for Him.

As a member of the body of Christ, I would like my brothers and sisters in Christ to pray for me, that I may stay strong in my journey with Jesus Christ and continue to be strong in my faith. Also, do pray that I may be part of the work to expand the kingdom of God and be bold in sharing the gospel. Praise the Lord! Amen. 🙏

Do you desire to be baptised?

The next Pre-Baptism Class will commence on
6 May 2021 at 8:00 pm.

To register, please contact Lammy Tan at 012-386 8460
or the church office at 03-5621 2623.

Remembering Titus Laxa


6 February 1955 – 29 March 2021

Eulogy by Chan Wah See
Chan Wah See is a staff at FBC.

Our brother Titus Pantig Laxa went home to be with the Lord on 29 March 2021. He leaves behind his beloved wife Elizabeth, children Kristine, Lalaine, and Titus Jr, and son-in-law Ronald.

Titus came to Malaysia in July 1991 and joined First Baptist Church, Pantai Centre (FBC) as a member. He answered God's calling to be a tentmaker and founded the Filipino Christian Ministry in FBC. Since then, he has been serving actively and tirelessly in various ministries for the Lord.

In January 2003, when Titus completed his working contract in Malaysia, he answered God's call to serve full-time in his homeland, the Philippines. He founded the Kapatid Ministry and became the external missionary partner of FBC. He served the poor and the marginalized communities in the Philippines, and started various ministries such as Child Sponsorship, Feeding Program, Out of School Youth Program, Overseas Workers Families, and Livelihood and Calamity Assistance. (You can find out more information at www.kapatidministry.org.)

We give thanks for our brother Titus' life, partnership with FBC, and faithful service unto the Lord. Let us remember his family in prayer. May the Lord's peace and comfort be upon them as they grieve the passing of a loved one. 

"I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith."

2 Timothy 4:7



My Father and FBC

Eulogy by Titus Jr Laxa and Kristine Laxa
They are Titus' children.

First of all, I would like to thank First Baptist Church Subang (FBC) for your partnership in the ministry of the Gospel in the Philippines with my father, Bro. Titus Laxa. It is with utmost difficulty that I write this about him who passed away on March 29 due to a cardiac arrest. Many know him as Bro. Titus, or sis. Vicky Chan's older brother (or some say, father). Some know him as the Filipino who reports to FBC once a year about some mission work in the Philippines, particularly the sponsored children. Yet, others may not know who he is. This letter is written both as a narration of who my dad is, and how FBC has been instrumental in my father's lifework here in the Philippines.

My father has been a mission partner of FBC since 1991, doing ministry first in Malaysia among Filipino workers, and then in the Philippines among marginalized communities and children. The partnership began when he arrived in Malaysia in 1991 to work and attended FBC in PJ after being invited by his General Manager from Soon Seng. Driven by his passion to reach out to his fellow Filipinos, after a few Sundays of attending the church, he spoke with the senior pastor Tan Soo In and inquired if there were any Filipino domestic helpers that he can minister to. What initially started with one attendee eventually multiplied to more than 30 attendees. He then requested to operate in KL to expand and the Lord blessed the ministry by increasing the number of Filipinos who came to know Jesus as their Lord and Saviour.

In 2003, he went back to the Philippines and continued the mission there, starting an organization called Kapatid Ministry, intending to minister to underprivileged children and communities. Sis. Doreen, one of the most ardent supporters of Kapatid Ministry, asked what their plans were in the Philippines; it was to minister to Overseas Filipino Workers (OFW) families and underprivileged children. She then suggested that they write to FBC and said, "Let's see whether they will support you or not." That's when the partnership with FBC began, through the urging of Sis. Doreen. Around the year 2003-2004, a team from FBC went on a mission trip to the Philippines and saw the underprivileged children, and the Lord instilled in them the heart to sponsor these children. The idea behind the sponsorship program came from this initial FBC mission trip. What started as an idea has now blossomed into a program that is supporting almost 200 children in their education, from kinder to college.

Reflecting on the partnership of FBC and my father, bro. Titus Laxa, I have learned three important things. First, I have learned that missions work is done by people for God's honour and glory. I thank God for the FBC Subang family, for trusting God and also trusting my dad by partnering with him in a ministry that, at the end of the day, gives glory to God and none to us. Your years of unflinching support in the Child Sponsorship Program has been a great encouragement for my father to continue to serve underprivileged children in



the Philippines. We always thank God for you and for your prayers and support for the Kapatid Ministry.

Second, I have learned that relationships among brothers and sisters in Christ are the most treasured. My father has forged meaningful and lasting friendships with some of our brothers and sisters in FBC. Whenever I accompanied him to FBC, I could always see the eagerness and joy on his face when he meets you. There are too many of you to be named, but know that my father treasures his relationships with you and has great joy every time he gets to meet you.

Finally, I have learned from my dad that the most important thing in life is a genuine relationship with God through His Son Jesus Christ. Since I was young, my father had instilled in us that it is good to have great careers, wonderful families, good health, but most importantly, that it is good to have a right relationship with God and live a life of obedience to His calling. Since October 26, 1976, he has been united with God in Christ and continually sought to serve Him in whatever ways he was called. Until his last night, he was still in a Zoom Bible Study among ex-Overseas Filipino Workers, praying for them and calling them to continue to trust the Lord. The words of Apostle Paul to Timothy, a favourite of my dad, has truly been evident in his life: "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith." 2 Timothy 4:7

Thank you, FBC family, for your partnership

and the love and support that you have shown to our family. I pray for those who knew my dad, that you will finish the race that God has set for you just as he did. I also pray for those who did not know my dad. Though you did not know him, the most important thing is that you know my dad's Lord and Saviour. His name is Jesus and He alone is our hope, in this life and even in death. 🙏



| Pulpit Program

April 11, 2021

Dealing with Anger

(Matthew 5:21-26)



PREACHER

Pastor Leon Lim

April 18, 2021

The Christian & Relationships

(Matthew 5:27-32; Matthew 19:1-11)



PREACHER

Dr Peter Ng

April 25, 2021

Integrity & Transforming Love

(Matthew 5:33-48)



PREACHER

Alex Tan

May 2, 2021

The Lord's Prayer

(Matthew 6:9-15)



PREACHER

John Lee

| 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

Online VBS



1. Pray for the Vacation Bible School (VBS) team in their preparation for online VBS 2021.
2. Pray for the VBS team to have a spiritual understanding of the VBS content, creativity to engage the children, wisdom in planning, preparing, and teaching, and protection from distractions, temptations, and accidents.

3. Pray for God to provide dedicated and willing volunteers, and for a positive attitude of excitement and enthusiasm among all who are serving.
4. Pray for the VBS team and volunteers, that their personal relationship with God will be strengthened. Pray that they will form a supportive relationship with one another and for unity in the advancement of God's kingdom.
5. Pray that the VBS team and volunteers will have a God-honouring relationship with their spouse and family, and that they will develop a good relationship with the parents of enrolled children at the online VBS 2021.

| Upcoming Events



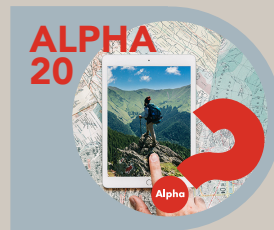
What is the Gospel?
With Dr. Kyle Essary

11 April (Today)
2:00pm to 3:30pm

Zoom ID :

953 4151 3914

Password : FBCMission



Is There More to Life
Than This?

22 July to
7 October 2021
(Every Thursday)

8:00pm to 9:30pm

[CLICK HERE](#) to register



Insights For The
Persevering Disciple
Study on The Book
of Revelation

Gamma 16 has ended
View past lessons here:

Link: <https://fbc.com.my/gamma>

Password: fbcgamma

Stay tuned for more information
on Gamma 17.



Daily Prayer
Meeting

Every Saturday
to Thursday
9:00pm

Zoom ID: 929 735 694

Password: pray



Monthly Prayer Meeting

24 April (Saturday)

2:00 to 3:30pm

Zoom ID: 869 8003 5137

Password: pray

[More Information on Upcoming Events](#)