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UNLEASHING THE GOSPEL



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First Baptist Church Subang Jaya

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Christian Fatherhood



In many cultures, a father's role in parenting is often considered to be of secondary importance. Men are typically encouraged to embrace their roles as breadwinners, and this often results in the responsibility of raising children being left in full to mothers. Consequently, while everyone has a biological father, not everyone grows up experiencing a father figure in their life. Pope John XXIII once remarked, "It is easier for a father to have children than for children to have a real father."

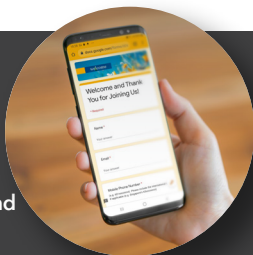
There are many types of fathers out there- some present, some absent. But we know that those who step

into their God-ordained role to be faithful to their families and live uprightly will create a home that is a blessing to their children. Proverbs 20:7 says, "The righteous who walks in his integrity- blessed are his children after him!"

Believers and non-believers alike, fathers play a distinct role in modeling God's love through the way they show up for and engage their families. Some delight in playing with their children at the park. Some go out of their way to bring home family-favourite snacks. Some enjoy travelling with their families. Some fill the house with laughter and their

NEW?

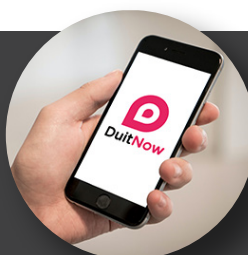
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"dad jokes". Some love to tuck their children in at night and read them a bedtime story after a long day. Some work overtime and give their all to provide for the family. All these examples, and so much more, display a father's love.

Well then, what is it about Christian fatherhood that is different?

As Christian parents, we want the gospel of God's grace to shape our values, our ways of operating, and our identities. And it is God who has directed fathers to lead their families in His ways. In Genesis 18:19a, God said about Abraham: "For I have chosen him, so that he will direct his children and his household after him to keep the way of the Lord by doing what is right and just..."

Indeed, the most powerful influence a father can have on his children is having a heart that is deeply rooted in the truth of God's Word. This is developed through the purposeful determination to spend time reading the Word and praying, not just on his own but also together with the family. The evidence of a father's personal relationship with Jesus will show in his life—especially in his willingness to trust God in all things, even in adversity.

My (Rachel) dad used to call the family together for devotions. We would read a passage together and everyone had to pick a verse or two to share. I didn't particularly enjoy being prodded on during devotions because I had to be vulnerable in front of my parents, but it is an initiative that I have grown to appreciate. Quite often, my dad would also share with us the challenges we were facing as a family. We would then be given the opportunity to pray about it and pray for my parents too. I realized early on that it wasn't something "normal" parents did. Not many fathers or parents share openly and honestly with their children. But involving me and my brothers so closely in their journey with God is one of the best decisions my parents made. As a child, I always saw where God was leading my dad and, consequently, where my dad was leading us as a family. That helped build my faith.

It is as important for a father to lead his family in God's ways as it is for him to live by example. This takes a good measure of honesty and humility, which can be shown in one's willingness to acknowledge when they have erred. Fathers are reminded in Colossians 3:21 and Ephesians 6:4 not to provoke their children, but to "bring them up in the instruction

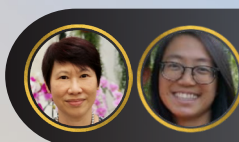
and discipline of the Lord." When a father is willing to admit dependence on God and seek forgiveness, he sets a powerful example for his children. After all, how can children learn about forgiveness if there is little forgiveness in the family?

Children who see their parents forgiving one another will do likewise. Equally powerful is parents seeking forgiveness from their children. The willingness to say "I am sorry" builds bridges, restores relationships, and allows parents to set a godly example. Ultimately, it reflects a willingness to take a step back and go back to God. Naturally, some wounds take longer to heal, but the rewards that come with loving our children in a way that honours God will make the long journey worth our while.

My (Rachel) dad is a man of few words. If there was any way for me to count, I wouldn't be surprised to find that he has said more to God in prayer than he has to me, my brothers, and my mom combined! And though his words were few, he did not stinge on apologies. I can recall the times when he's said sorry to my mom and us, either directly or through his prayer during family devotions. I know it was the work of the Holy Spirit through years of sanctification, as it is for all of us. But when a father is willing to take a step back and bring himself before God's throne of grace, God's love and renewal will wash over his family. I must say, a sincere apology goes a long way, especially when it comes from a parent! Sure, they/ we will make the same mistakes again, but I have learned from my relationship with my parents that humility is an evidence of love, and it builds precious, lasting bridges. God honours every father who trusts His wisdom in leading the family God has given him.

Billy Graham once said, "A good father is one of the most unsung, unpraised, unnoticed, and yet one of the most valuable assets in our society." Fatherhood is a wonderful privilege and a huge responsibility that comes with a lot of unknowns. But what is certain is God will provide the grace, the love, and the wisdom to the father who lives by faith in His Son. To him, God will say "well done."

Happy Father's Day to all the fathers in FBC! 🎉



By Phyllis Yew and Rachel Lee

Phyllis is the Deacon for FBC's Support Services and Rachel is the Chief Editor of the Newsletter Team.

Father's Day Special

By Salt of Subang



Jonique

Thank you for always making me smile.



Rebecca

Love dad very much :")



Jason

Happy Father's Day!



Kenneth

Dear Dad, thanks for everything you have done for this family.



Natalie

No one in this world can love a girl more than their dad. Happy Father's Day!



Becky

Hey Dad, I seldom say this to you, I love you from the bottom of my heart and thanks for everything you've done for me ♡



Amanda

My partner in crime, my movie-binge buddy, my hiking and breakfast friend. Blessed Father's Day dad, thank you for all the love and knowledge you've given me.



Jane

Hi Da, I think MCO placed more responsibilities on you cuz you have to work from home. Despite being busy, you still never fail to tapau lunch for us, to be willing to wash the dishes whenever we can't, and be willing to drive out when we don't feel like it. Thank you for tolerating our nonsense hehe.

Ministry Corner: Featuring

KARIS Ministry

Tell us about KARIS.

KARIS is a community comprising of seniors who are brothers and sisters in Christ. We are all part of God's great family.

Our mission is to provide spiritual and social support to seniors within and outside our congregation. The KARIS ministry's goal is to provide continuous support to our seniors in their commitment to seek a closer relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ. As an outreach to seekers, we help seniors seek spiritual growth in community. Many KARIS members have been encouraged to join FBC's Alpha, Beta, and Gamma programs because ultimately, the purpose of this ministry is to love, obey, and proclaim Christ Jesus.

Share with us what "KARIS" means.

The word KARIS is significant to us. *Karis* is of Greek origin, meaning "grace". In biblical terms, it is "the love and mercy given to us by God because God desires us to have it, not necessarily because of anything we have done to earn it". It is an attribute of God that is most manifest in the salvation of sinners.

KARIS is also an acronym that stands for:

- K** - Show **Kindness** and concern for one another (caring).
- A** - **Available** for each other.
- R** - **Reach** out to family, friends, and neighbours.
- I** - Be **Instructed** in His word.
- S** - Be available to **Serve**.

What do KARIS members do when you meet?

Our fellowship meets every Wednesday. Together, we pray, worship, study, learn, consume good food, and enjoy each other's company. During the pre-pandemic time, we organized day trips each year to different places of interest, as well as overnight retreats to different holiday resorts. And besides our regular weekly programs of worship, prayer meeting, and devotion by invited speakers, we also had activities such as guitar lessons, Sudoku sessions, board games, and line dancing.

How has KARIS adapted to the new normal?

In the past year, although we could not meet physically, we thank God that we were able to meet virtually through Zoom. We are grateful for the opportunity to meet and make new friends in the breakout rooms. As we continued to meet weekly, we have become closer and more willing to share with one another. To enable worship and fellowship to continue during the pandemic, our Committee set up our first Zoom meeting on 1 April 2020. The initial attendance was low because many members were unfamiliar with the Zoom App. However, with encouragement and coaching, more and more members began to log in as the months passed. As members became more familiar with using Zoom, they even started inviting their friends, and we have been delighted to see new faces. All glory to our Almighty God!



Find out how you can pray for KARIS in the Prayer Spotlight section on Page 6!

The KARIS ministry has since held a full Zoom worship program every Wednesday, from 10am to 12pm. The average weekly logged in devices is 48. We even held a Zoom Special for Christmas and Chinese New Year where we saw more than 60 devices logged in. This is equivalent to slightly more than 70 persons, since many of the devices are shared between spouses.

What is something KARIS is thankful for in the past year?

Praise the Lord that feedback has been very encouraging and positive. The format of our Zoom meetings is now more focused; the intercessory prayers and the breakout sessions are well-participated. Members have expressed that Zoom has fostered a closer bond among them compared to when they were meeting physically. They find that they are more open to share during the breakout room sessions, and enjoy time spent meaningfully and effectively in learning God's Word.

Under our current circumstances, meeting virtually is one of the most practical ways that seniors, some of whom are living on their own, can communicate and be in community with fellow brothers and sisters in Christ. It is also a blessing that many have volunteered in the areas of worship song leading, prayer, scripture reading, and sharing of testimonies.

What is something KARIS is looking forward to this year?

Scripture has much to say about old age. Job 12:12 says, "Wisdom is with the aged, and understanding in length of days." And Proverbs 16:31 says, "Gray hair is a crown of glory; it is found on the path of righteousness."

Moving forward, we seek to reach out to more seniors to join us in this spiritual journey and spread the gospel. This year, despite the constraints, we have been able to recruit some talented members who are now helping in worship and corporate prayer. Also, due to the demand for online guitar lessons, we will be adding an extra beginner's class. There will also be a new beginner's group of Sudoku students. Getting old should not stop us from being active and living life to the fullest!

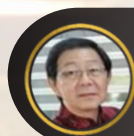
How can FBC worshippers get involved with KARIS?

We welcome FBC worshippers to join our KARIS Worship every Wednesday. We have weekly devotions led by invited speakers, worship, and intercessory prayer. Come and get to know us better. For young worshippers, you can encourage your parents to Zoom in! 🎧



How to get in touch with KARIS.

Ivy Chin (KARIS Membership) - 012 351 0293
Gerty Chow (KARIS Secretary) - 017 263 0886



By Ricky Lee
Ricky is the ministry leader of KARIS.

| Pulpit Program

June 20, 2021

Judging Others

(Matthew 7:1-6)



PREACHER
Ps. Joash Chan

June 27, 2021

The Church As Sacred Space

(Exodus 40)



PREACHER
Arnold Lim

July 4, 2021

Persistence in Prayer -

The Golden Rule

(Matthew 7:7-13)



PREACHER
John Lee

July 11, 2021

Two Ways to Live

(Matthew 7:15-29)



PREACHER
Alex Tan

| 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



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PRAYER SPOTLIGHT

KARIS Ministry



1. Thank God for all our members. Thank God for those who have stepped up to serve and minister to others.
2. Pray for God's presence, peace, and comfort to touch those who are lonely and depressed.
3. Pray for members who face health and other challenges, and are unable to share their needs. Pray that God will hear their cries and attend to their needs.

4. Pray for God's guidance upon the KARIS ministry. Pray that we will continue to grow in strength and stay focussed on our goal.

Condolences

We would like to extend our heartfelt condolences to our sister Khor Lee Lin on the passing of her beloved mother, Madam Soon Poy Yong @ Soon Puey Yong, on 11 June 2021.

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

| Upcoming Events

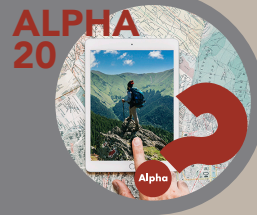
CHURCH BASED THEOLOGICAL STUDIES

Understanding the Book of Ezekiel

10-week Study
With Dr Leong Tien Fock

Every Monday

[CLICK HERE](#) to register



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

WEBINAR ZOOM INSIDE COVID-19

Real Life Experiences By Doctors and Patients

3 July (Saturday)
2:00pm to 4:00pm

[CLICK HERE](#) to register

[More Information on Upcoming Events](#)