

# FBC TODAY

UNLEASHING THE GOSPEL



 First Baptist Church Subang Jaya

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 First Baptist Church Subang Jaya

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# God's Grace Sustains Everything

At the 1992 Barcelona Olympics, British sprinter Derek Redmond had qualified for 400m semi-finals with the fastest time in his heat. He was looking strong when he suddenly straightened up! His hamstring had torn. Instead of falling to the ground, Redmond continued to limp towards the finish line. Redmond was determined to finish the race

despite the pain and tears, but his agony of pain held him back. Surprisingly, Redmond's father, Jim, ran to his son from the stands, waving off the security guards. With tears in both eyes, his dad sustained him and "the Redmonds" finished the race together. We may have heard of this heartwarming story which has since become a powerful

## NEW?

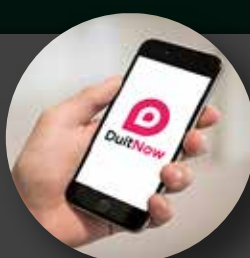
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**+6011 5788 4805**





motivational tool for many. Consider this word "sustained." Jim had sustained his son, Redmond. He held him up. He enabled him to do what was needed to be done. That's what grace does for us.

**"When you run alone it's called Race but when God runs with you and in you, it's called Grace."**

**- Racheal Mensah**

But the comparison is not exact. As Jim held his son, he exemplified grace, but it was Redmond's determination that got him to stand up and finish the race. This initial strength came from Redmond, not his father. Grace, on the other hand, is not like that. Everything in the Christian life is sustained by grace. It keeps the agony at bay. It provides upper-body strength. It strengthens his resolve. It eliminates other impediments. It is what keeps his heart beating. It keeps his gaze fixed on the finish line. Everything in the Christian life is sustained by grace.

As Paul said, "But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace to me was not without effect. No, I worked harder than all of them - yet not I, but the grace of God that was with me." (1 Cor.15:10, NIV). If you only read the words "I worked harder than all of them," you might think grace is like Jim supporting Redmond so he can show off his upper-body strength and finish the race. But that isn't going to work in this context due to the following two reasons:

1. Paul says, "But by the grace of God, I am what I am." In other words, Paul claims that all he has become and his extensive ministry are the result of God's grace. So, despite the fact that he is working hard to preach the gospel, his enablement is entirely a work of grace.
2. Paul added, "Yet not I, but the grace of God that was with me." Paul is pursuing holiness, righteousness, sharing the Gospel, and working with the gifts God has given him, but he is humble enough to recognize that even his hard labor is the result of God's grace in him.

So does that imply that success and reaching heaven would necessitate some sort of collaborative effort, with God taking some of the credit and Paul taking some of the credit? Obviously not, as Paul cautions against this interpretation with the words, "Yet not I." Grace denotes the benevolent character quality that leads a benefactor, God, to bestow an unmerited favor on another. Grace has such an all-encompassing, all-influencing, all-sufficient, and all-necessary effect that when it has finished its work, you can say, "I worked, yet not I." It clearly implies that we do work, but that all of our work is the result of enabling grace. Paul elaborates by exhorting us to:

**"...continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God who works in you to will and to act in order to fulfill his good purpose." (Philippians 2:12b-13, NIV)**

So, brothers and sisters in Christ, when we say here at the end of our spiritual journey that we are "sustained by all his grace," we do not mean that Jim sustains his son Redmond while we do our own independent work. We mean that everything on this spiritual journey is sustained by God's grace. As Paul said, "For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith - and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God - not by works, so that no one can boast." (Ephesians 2:8-9, NIV)

Let him therefore that serveth do it by the power which God giveth (which is grace), that God may be glorified in all things through Jesus Christ, to who be the glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.



**By Peter Raj**

*Peter is a member of FBC and Saujana Life Group*



# Zo Community Christmas Party!

On December 5<sup>th</sup>, several members of FBC joined the Zo refugee families for a Christmas celebration! Most of the twelve families supported by the FBC Life Groups were in attendance. We sang Christmas carols and listened to music and dance performances by the ladies and children. Pastor Khai presented his first sermon in English so the FBC members could understand. We played games with the children and presented them each with a Christmas gift. The evening ended with lots of pictures around the Christmas tree, eating a home-cooked Burmese dinner, and fellowship.

What blessed me the most from this event was seeing the joy radiate from the families as they sang, danced and played games. I know it has been a long and difficult season for this community and I was so encouraged by their unity and love for one another.

Hear about what some others have to say about the celebration:

**Pastor Khai:** "Christmas celebration with FBC was so much fun and most importantly blessed



the people. Thanks to Nichole, the families are still talking about the games and how creative and enjoyable it was. It was easy for all age levels to participate. This is the first time ever that a group of local Christian brothers and sisters came together to celebrate Christmas and eat like us. Thank you everyone for providing the food, decorating the church, singing together with us and bringing gifts."

**Linda Law:** "I enjoyed sharing with new friends through songs, dance and taking photos, and sharing the happiness of the children with their red balloons blessed all our hearts."

**Pearly:** "What a blessing it was to finally meet the families whom we have been praying for—especially befriending and chatting with the young lovely children."

**Johena** (10-year-old girl from the Zo community): "My favourite part of the party was the games."



**By Sarah Searle**  
Sarah is a member of GG LG

## | Pulpit Program

### December 19, 2021 They Will Live Securely Under King Jesus

(Micah 5:14)



**PREACHER**  
Dr Kyle Essary

### December 25, 2021 Christmas Message



**PREACHER**  
Arnold Lim

### December 26, 2021 Christmas Message



**PREACHER**  
Arnold Lim

### January 2, 2021 TBC



**PREACHER**  
Leong Yew Lum

## | 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

### Zo Community



1. Pray for the Zo Community as they need God's guidance for their children's education as it is not easy for refugee children to get access to proper school.
2. Pray for quick restoration of civilian government as Myanmar is under Military Coup and over 1300 people have been killed by the military including pastors with more than 5 churches burnt down.

## CONDOLENCES

We would like to extend our deepest condolences to our Sister **Carrine** and Brother **Malcolm Anderson** on the passing of Carinne's father, **Mr Wee Kin Beng** who has passed on 14th December 2021.

Both Carrine and Malcolm Anderson are members of FBC and have been faithfully serving in their respective ministries in FBC. Let us pray for God's comfort to be with them and their family during this difficult time of loss.



## | Upcoming Events



### Open for Registration

Every Sunday  
8:45am (1 Service)  
Kindly go to [www.fbc.com.my](http://www.fbc.com.my)  
to register or [CLICK HERE](#)



### Christmas Celebration

Join us on ZOOM  
19 December, Sunday  
2:00pm - 4:00pm  
Zoom ID: 977 1270 6227  
Password: fbc



### FBC Subang Jaya Christmas Service

Join us in-person or on ZOOM  
25 December (Saturday) &  
26 December 2021 (Sunday)  
8:45am



### 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