

FBC TODAY

UNLEASHING THE GOSPEL

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ARTICLE

Baptized, At Last After 30 Years!

**Prayer Spotlight
Privilege of Believers**



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MAIN SERVICE

| Physical & Youtube |

Sundays 8:45am / 11:15am

YOUTH SERVICE

| ZOOM | Sundays 9:00am

SUNDAY SCHOOL

For Ages 3 to 12

(Preschool to std 6)

Physical Classes

8:45am / 11:15am

Baptized, At Last after 30 Years!



As the water in the pool covered the boy's face, I saw his hands flinch under the surface of the water. The footage was captured instantaneously, magnified, and projected on a large white screen for all to see. The congregation watched in silence, as a voice in my head muttered, "Oh, de-de dear me!" It was over in a while, and the disoriented boy stood up to go while the next in line stepped into the pool. I watched, transfixed, my mind digesting the

nitty-gritty of the solemn ceremony. This happened years ago at a large church in USJ 12.

Max, my husband, and I accepted Christ as our Saviour more than thirty years ago but were never baptized. We attended pre-baptism classes twice at two different churches but did not feel enough fervor to proceed with baptism. We saw obstacles ahead, or perhaps there was 'something' missing.



Pulpit Program
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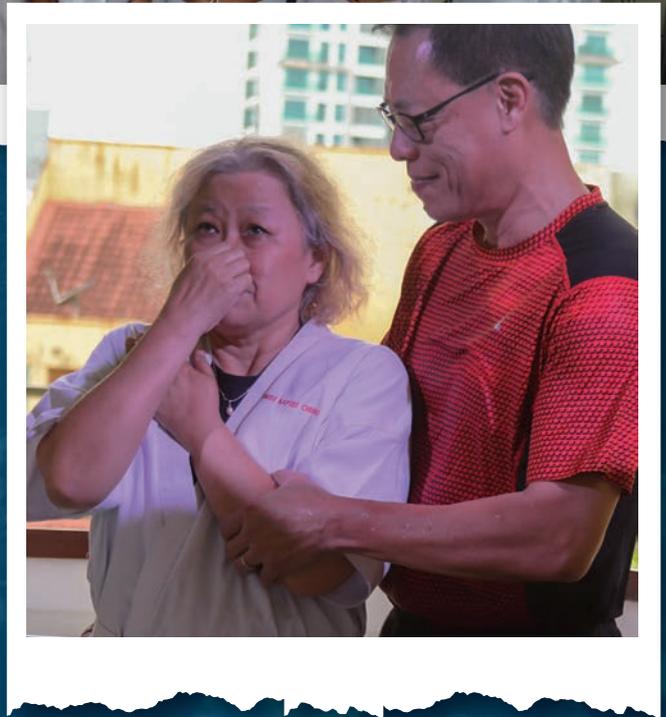


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Having attempted baptism three times, we finally realized that baptism is a privilege. So, Father God, if You are up there listening to all this, thank You for this privilege."

After our second baptism attempt failed, dampened and low in spirit, I ruminated over the issue during quiet moments with my Father in Heaven. "Am I being too anxious, Father? Am I getting ahead of myself?" The reverberating silence that ensued had a calming effect on me. Several ruminations later, three words resonated in my head - in God's time. By His grace and mercy, I understood. The time was not right for us. We thus waited, allowing God to lead while we followed. There would come a time when all the pieces would fall in place, and the path ahead becomes clear. When that day comes, we would know that we have God's blessing to proceed. Fast forward to early 2020, oft we wondered if it was serendipity or God's will that led us to First Baptist Church. We found ourselves attending the worship service regularly until the dastardly Covid-19 virus put an end to our attempt to settle into a new spiritual home. But thanks be to God for the subsequent Zoom platform, which allowed us to continue to grow to be a part of this



community of God's people. And what a delightful bunch of characters they were.

On 28th May 2022 the years of waiting finally bore fruit. There was no anxiety, and if there were any obstacles, they were invisible to us. We found ourselves bobbing along joyfully into the baptismal pool. Knowing that quiet hands were behind the scene doing God's bidding to make this possible, we were thankful to our Father God for His many 'angels', namely Ivy, Lammy, John, and their team.

On that memorable day, each of us was asked to prepare a short testimony before the actual dunking process. Max and I did not plan to say much, as what had to be said happened too long ago. But when we saw the



Dear God in Heaven, the long wait was worth every anxiety. Thank You for this experience of baptism. Thank you, brothers and sisters, vessels of God doing His work. Thank you, FBC.

number of pages the other candidates prepared for their testimony, we felt at once that we had not given this event the respect it deserved. We whispered urgent prayers to the Master of the House (God) and waited for our thoughts to gather. Looking up, my eyes settled on the big screen in front. One word flashed from the displayed list of the baptism candidates, and it drifted towards me. I obeyed the Holy Spirit's bidding and decided to end my testimony with that word – privilege!

What followed was the dunking part of the ceremony. Where it appeared before to be a solemn heart-in-your-mouth experience, it was now a joyful occasion. Shouts of jubilation followed each dunking. I was initially apprehensive, as I am prone to vertigo and anxiety attacks that come with heart palpitations. When my turn came I asked Brother Lammy if I could be spared the backward immersion. He replied with compassion that exceptions to the general rule could always be arranged. This was the trait I had envisioned in God's church and God's people.

And thanks to Brother Lammy's compassion, I decided to cast my fears at the face of the Devil, and in a leap of faith, let myself fall backwards into the water. "Let all the pieces fall in their place, for I know, Lord, You are right there to arrange the best finale for me." I heard the loud rush of the water sweeping over my ears. Strong hands lifted me up and I broke the water surface. I held tightly to the edge of the pool as my bewildered eyes surveyed the surreal world around me. "Wow! I did it! I'm still me," I whispered softly to Brother John who was standing near the pool. As I walked up the slippery steps, a bountiful joy burst from within my soul and I exclaimed, "I survived!" A round of joyful cheers erupted in unison from the witnesses on the upper floor. It gave me the impression that God's angels were cheering in jubilation. What a wonderful experience.



By Carol Lim Kui Hong
Carol attends Sisters-in-Christ, and together with Max attends weekly Karis Ministry meetings and Sunday Life Group.



PrayerSpotlight

Privilege of Believers

1. Give thanks that you who believed in the saving work of Jesus Christ, is not condemned but have been become a child of God, receiving eternal life.
2. Pray that you will be encouraged by the Holy Spirit to continually approach the throne of grace in prayer to receive mercy, forgiveness of your sins, and the grace to help you in times of need.
3. Pray that as you serve the King of kings, you will experience His grace that enables you to serve in joy and with perseverance amidst difficulties and discouragements.
4. Pray for opportunities, courage and wisdom to share the good news of Jesus Christ with your family, friends, colleagues and communities. Pray that you may be able to testify of God's grace, mercy and goodness to you.