

FBC TODAY

UNLEASHING THE GOSPEL

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MAIN SERVICE

| Physical & Youtube |

Sundays 8:45am / 11:15am

YOUTH SERVICE

| Physical |

Sundays 8:45am

SUNDAY SCHOOL

For Ages 3 to 12

(Preschool to std 6)

Physical Classes

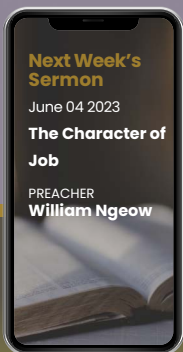
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The Journey to *Kepoh* for God

The days of my childhood and youth have never escaped from a "Christian environment" and I had a fair share of friends who occasionally laugh at my "parent's religion". My hometown (Bahau) church, being pentecostal by nature or by definition, gave a lot of emphasis on the works of the Holy Spirit and prophetic life.

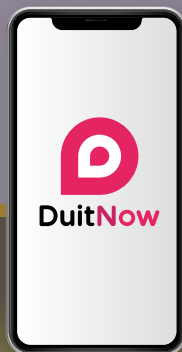
Back then, the occasions that hit me hard were during youth camps where

there would be altar calls during worship sessions. For 2 years, I had church friends who had experiences that my pastor would define as "slain by the Holy Spirit". They would fall backward as though something special happened to them. Well, it didn't happen to me. And so I thought I wasn't chosen to be in God's kingdom or receive that special favor/moment, and grew to have some grudges in the corner of my heart.



Pulpit Program

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Moving on to university life and having been exposed to some amount of apologetics materials during that time, I chose to cling to Christianity as I was convinced that truth resides in the content of the Holy Bible. And since truth is objective (black and white), I would be making a grave mistake or even stupid to overlook or go against it. And so, my attitude towards God was like, "Ok, even though you didn't make me feel special during those youth camps, and because of that I'm not sure if you love me or not, I will still worship you cause you created everything and you deserve that worship".

I joined the campus Christian Fellowship (CF) and a local church in Malacca. I was taken care of by my seniors and then down the road, I had to share some of the responsibilities to take care of juniors too. My involvement in CF, the worship team, and Orang Asli mission trips, has helped me to understand I've been wanting God's love the wrong way. I have totally missed the point by holding on to a very self-centered thought that "unless God approaches me in a vision, or gives me a pentecostal experience, I am nobody in His eyes". Apart from the recursive reminder that was put forth during sermons that God's love is right there, Jesus crucified on the cross, I realized that His love continues to be active in our midst as we keep being hospitable to each other and the people we serve.

Fast forward to today in FBC, I've been in the H2O life group for almost 4 years now. In H2O, I found the same realization and recognized the same patterns, that for God's love to shine through hospitality, His people must be willing to sacrifice their own comfort. H2O may have been recognized as a comfort zone for introverts or young adults who are able to meet on a scheduled basis but not much on the spontaneous

side. And quite often, bible studies will get more lively when we have attendees who like to ask questions or throw out differing opinions. And probably you'll know it when you see Desmond, our leader, scratching his head trying to break the awkward silence (HAHA). As an introvert with an engineering background, I could easily be stuck in a me-time doing my own DIY, and not looking to hang out with anyone. I think my friends in H2O have various versions of it too. And therefore, I was sure of one thing, we've made quite the effort to set things aside and make time to come together when it's time to meet.

It's from the H2O life group experience that I see that joining a life group is pretty an essential part of the walk of faith. Yes, a life group is a good place for us to study God's word together, with discussions and all. Yet, it is also a place that contains people to be loved, and being in a life group challenges us to love the people. How often do we ask about each other needs? If they are really okay or not? (apart from the ones that we are already obligated to care for such as immediate family members). One may say we probably run along the line of convenience most of the time, but I think we should be prepared to be inconvenienced to love.

It took me out of my introverted comfort zone to start *kepo*-ing others in love and to ask them how they are. And although there's no guarantee that you won't meet a difficult person in the life group, joining a life group is a good starter pack, a training ground for us to *kepo* in love.

(p/s: *kepo* = busybody)



Written By Jerome Liew

Jerome attends H2O LifeGroup, Worship Ministry, and crafts wood projects for the kids in Vacation Bible School



Prayer for Mothers with Adult Children

1. Thank You for all her years of love and sacrifice for her children. Now that they are adults, grant her the joy of tasting the fruit of her labour.
2. If she has regrets, help her find peace in You. Remind her that her identity and value was met with Your sufficiency through the years, and let her trace Your faithfulness as she reflects on her journey as a mother.
3. If there are broken relationships, grant them the grace to come together in humility to forgive and heal. May mutual love and respect flourish, and laughter fill their home and hearts again.
4. If she is an empty nester, make known to her Your sweet presence, especially when she misses her children. Help her cultivate a vibrant relationship with You and discover a new purpose in this season.
5. When the family gets together, bless them with a newfound appreciation for one another. May her presence in her children's lives serve as an anchor and encouragement to them as they navigate through adulthood.