

FBC TODAY

U N L E A S H I N G T H E G O S P E L

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FBC

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
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    YOUTH

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MAIN SERVICE

| Physical & Youtube |

Sundays 8:45am / 11:15am

YOUTH SERVICE

| Physical |

Sundays 9:00am

SUNDAY SCHOOL

For Ages 3 to 12

(Preschool to std 6)

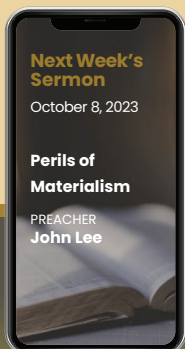
Physical Classes

8:45am / 11:15am

God Hath Not Promised Skies Always Blue

My sharing today goes beyond just a testimony but an expression of gratefulness and thanks to our Lord Jesus Christ. The past few years have been quite a journey of faith, especially during the Covid- 19 period. I was suffering pain in my lower abdomen for almost a year, and my father was diagnosed with third-stage nasal cancer. 2020 was a difficult year for me.

I was constantly in pain. I consulted at least two gynecologists and a few other doctors, taking different courses of antibiotics prescribed by the doctors but none of them were able to diagnose the root cause of the pain. There was a time that my gynecologist even told me that I might have pelvic inflammatory and adenomyosis, which could cause infertility as a result.



Pulpit Program
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Although it has always been a part of my plan to have a child after getting married, I never actually took it seriously, thinking that I still had time. Deep down I was also fearful of the changes in lifestyle which I had to compromise and sacrifice after having a child. Sometimes, I even prayed to God, asking “Why do I have to get married and give up my career in Hong Kong?” Just a brief background of myself, I came from Hong Kong and was married to Christopher who is a local Malaysian, and moved to Kuala Lumpur in mid-2017. I got myself a job here for about 8 months. However, I decided to quit even though my company did not ask me to leave. It was due to my work visa being disapproved by immigration twice, and I felt that it was unrighteous to work without having a legitimate work permit. So, I questioned God’s plan for me to give up everything and move to Malaysia without proper planning. But the news of my pain and my dad’s condition really gave me a wake-up call. I prayed to God once again and I finally realized that it was never about my career or the “happening” life I used to have, it has always been about family.

During that time, I returned to Hong Kong and accompanied my father with regular visits to the hospital during the peak of the Covid-19 period. Each visit was not easy due to the severity of the outspread. I remember having countless nights of insomnia due to stress from worrying about my father’s condition as well as my own. I felt helpless and I could not help but think: “What if it was fated that I would not be able to conceive and bear my own child?”

I started resuming my daily bible reading, I had an unquenchable thirst for His words, and I was desperately looking for comfort, peace, and encouragement from God.

I prayed earnestly, and almost always ended in tears during my prayers. And there was one time I heard the Holy Spirit talking to me. This does not happen to me often, I could only recall this happening once when I was young, and that was the second time. The conversation was long, about an hour or so. I threw all my questions to God, and He answered them one by one. I know it may sound a bit ridiculous and unbelievable, but it was very real to me. In short, I received a promise from God, not particularly in healing, but in salvation. (I would love to share in future articles because this would lead to another story.)

He said to me through Philippians, “Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.” (Philippians 4 : 6-7)

On one night four months after the prayer, I was admitted to the hospital because of the excruciating pain in my lower abdomen. I was immediately hospitalized by the doctor’s decision, and they performed a CT scan. The results showed that I had appendicitis, but it was in a chronic way, which meant that it was a chronic appendicitis. That was why they could not find out what happened to me before. Due to the COVID-19 restrictions at the time, I had to go through the entire procedure and even surgery by myself. It was truly an unforgettable experience!



My situation improved after the surgery, and I really thanked God for giving me such a valuable lesson. I learned not to complain but to be grateful for all that was given to me. He taught me to put my eyes on Him and not the world. My father also completed his radiotherapy and chemotherapy under God's protection. I knew at some points that there could have been many unpredictable situations during the 2 months of his treatment. My father's immune system was weak and was worsened if he caught Covid at that time. Although the recovery process was harsh and difficult for both my father and my family, I really thank God for His mercy for saving my father.

Daily bible reading was life-changing, even a few verses each day would help to strengthen my relationship with God. I know that there will be many more challenges ahead, but my only prayer is that God will be with me and help me through the hardships like He did three years ago.

My health condition was complicated. Apart from the lower abdomen pain, I was also diagnosed with PCOS (Polycystic ovary syndrome). I was told that it is very common in women, and the condition would cause difficulty in conceiving due to irregular periods and inconsistency of ovulation. But a miracle happened, I was pregnant in May 2022 and glory to our Lord, my baby Elizabeth is now 8 months old. This is all from God, and I truly thank Him for His unfailing love, blessings, and guidance during the past 3 years.

I would like to end this Thank-You Letter by sharing a hymn named "God hath not promised skies always blue". It is recorded in Hymnary, written by Annie Johnson Flint (1866-1932). Here are the lyrics:

***God hath not promised skies always blue,
Flower-strewn pathways all our lives through;
God hath not promised sun without rain,
Joy without sorrow, peace without pain.
But God hath promised strength for the day,
Rest for the labor, light for the way,
Grace for the trials, help from above,
Unfailing sympathy, undying love.***

***God hath not promised we shall not know
Toil and temptation, trouble and woe;
He hath not told us we shall not bear
Many a burden, many a care.***

***God hath not promised smooth roads and wide,
Swift, easy travel, needing no guide;
Never a mountain, rocky and steep,
Never a river, turbid and deep.***

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty!



Written By Yan Law

Yan volunteers in Creative and Communication Ministry as well as the Social Media Ministry



PrayerSpotlight

Prayer for Women in FBC

1. Pray for the women of all ages and in all seasons of their life - working women, single women and married women, that they will experience more of God's loving presence to be inspired to deepen their faith.
2. Pray that women who are in difficult relationships to live with greater hope, peace and joy in their circumstances.
3. Pray for women who are recently widowed that they will continue to remain steadfast, and trust God for strength to carry them through their loneliness and loss.
4. Pray for women to seek the Lord and claim His promise that He will not forsake them but be with them and help them to endure their pains during medical treatments.



Special Announcement

Dear members of FBC, here are some upcoming important dates to note:

- 1) **For the Assembly of Leaders (AOL)**
22 October 2023 10.30 am
Item: AOL Meeting (**PHYSICAL ONLY**-Main Hall)
•Approve Board Nomination
- 2) **Annual General Meeting**
29 October 2023 at 2.00pm
Item: Annual General Meeting (**HYBRID**-Main Hall)
•Financial report
•Constitution amendment
•Election of Office Bearers

(Note for Zoom: Login starts at 1.45 pm for registration, please use Full IC name for your Zoom ID)