

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
SUBANG JAYA

    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)

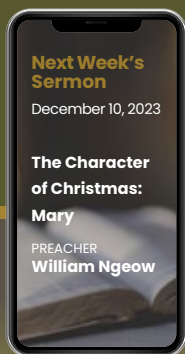
Physical Classes
8:45am / 11:15am

Coping with Grief

Several months after my beloved husband, Joseph Chin, went Home to be with our Lord, a friend remarked, "Jackie, I'm proud of you, you're so strong and coping well." My external demeanor belies the inner numbness and heartache. I could only shed a few silent tears in reply.

Joseph was diagnosed with non-Hodgkin lymphoma in September 2021, and after only 5 months, despite all the

prayers of the family, church, and friends, my strong man was gone. I was devastated. As in 2 Chronicles 20:12b, all I could think of was: *O God, we do not know what to do, but our eyes are on You.* I cried out to God. Like Jeremiah, I lamented. Like Habakkuk, I questioned. *Why God, did You take away my husband, such a good man, after he had done so much for my family? It's so unfair!*



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Despite my grief, I acknowledged that God is sovereign, and He has a plan, although I did not understand.

Jeremiah 29:11 took on new meaning: For I know the plans I have for you, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

Later, the thought came to me – God knew that Joseph was going to get sick, so He orchestrated it so that my elderly mother fell seven months earlier in my hometown of Penang. My mum sustained a hairline hip fracture and was in hospital, then rehab for five months. The maid left, leaving my severely mentally challenged brother in my care in Penang. Joseph and I drove my brother down to Subang Jaya and checked him into a nursing home, not an easy task at all, as my brother had not stepped foot outside the house for over 40 years. Later, we cleared the spare room for my mother and then moved her to our house in Subang Jaya. This was in 2021 – the height of the pandemic.

Shortly after, three different persons said the same thing – it was God’s timing that all those important things were done before Joseph became sick.

The first year without Joseph was the hardest. Two dear Christian sisters came alongside me on separate occasions – one was a good friend from Singapore. She flew up to KL, and we drove to Penang as she wanted to pay her respects at Joe’s final resting place. The other friend was a lady whom I had not met for a long time. This friend pointed out to me that if Naomi

had not lost her husband and two sons, David would not have been born, and Jesus had to come from the line of David. What a sober thought. I’m still trying to get my head around that one. We went on a few walks, sharing our life stories. I was greatly relieved to pour out my woes to these two friends. Various friends and ex-colleagues also invited me for meals and outings.

I discovered a love for walking. Just looking at God’s creation – the green trees, blue skies, and listening to the birds – while singing a praise song in my heart, is very therapeutic. Keeping busy with my two dear children, going on short holidays, looking after my mum and brother, and continuing with Bible Study Fellowship and Life Group are all essential. Life has to go on.

Through the hard lesson of Joseph’s departure, I learned to depend on God fully, continue to trust Him, be willing to comfort others, and long for heaven. Indeed, in the weeks after Joseph left, I eagerly read up whatever I could about heaven, Jesus’ Second Coming, and the End Times. I have the peace and assurance that Joseph, as a believer, is safe with Jesus; no more pain and suffering. Cultivating thankfulness to God for all His blessings helps to lighten the sadness.

In closing, I would like to record my thanks to FBC, the pastors, elders, SS17 LG, the worship and AV teams and others too numerous to mention, for facilitating the wakes, and the Boys Brigade 2nd Subang Jaya Company for helming the Homegoing Service for Sir Joseph. The many testimonies about Sir Joseph will always be treasured. God bless you all.

Because of the Lord’s great love, we are not consumed, for His compassions never fail. They are new every morning, great is Your faithfulness. – Lamentations 3:22-23



Written by Jackie Tow

Jackie attends the SS17 LG and serves in the Bible Study Fellowship



Filipino Ministry

1. Praise and thank God that we can gather together as a community in FBC.
2. Please pray for our Filipino brothers and sisters who have been serving faithfully in the ministry every Sunday.
3. Please pray for a full-time pastor for our Filipino congregation and a good turnout for our Christmas evangelistic service this December 10.

A Prayer for the First Sunday of Advent

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.