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PRAYER SPOTLIGHT
Sound of Subang

## The Mulberry Story A Journey About Faith, Trust and Love

I described my faith journey as related to the life of a Mulberry plant. Yes, my entire journey of a Christian life was challenging like a roller coaster. My faith equates to trusting the Lord no matter what life throws at me. A Mulberry plant could still survive despite many 'deaths'. Each time it sprouts a branch it grows stronger and healthier. I did not know how to grow a mulberry plant, after it died, I just wanted to get rid of it. To my surprise, a new branch sprouted from the existing branch. This plant just requires simple care, enough sunlight water with soil and it will grow with











mulberries. This plant could withstand any weather conditions. Scientific research has proven that mulberry is packed with health and nutritional benefits.

I reflect this in my own life and faith journey as a Christian. Recalling back the moment of accepting Christ, it was so zealous and fiery. I accepted Christ when I was 9 years old during VBS.

The journey was incredible. I owe it to my Sunday School teachers who taught me when I attended Subang Jaya Baptist Church. Growing up in a Baptist church taught me to be spiritually firm in the foundation of reciting and memorizing bible verses. I was like a baby milking and yearning to learn about God. I owe it to my 'spiritual father' who brought me to church and made me fall in love with God. It was John 3:16 -For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son that whosoever believe

in Him shall not perish but have an everlasting Life". I was yearning for Love but truly it can never be found in the world and only through Christ.

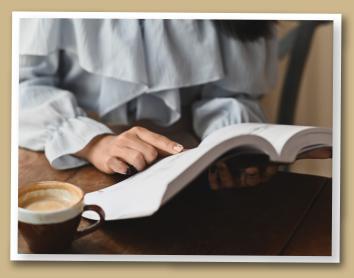
As I grew up to be a teenager, I faced challenges like friendship, studies, and relationships. Although I continued to serve God in various Ministries but encountered burnt out in serving and I drifted away. My spiritual life just 'died' and I backslide. I did not grow and eventually I 'died'. I was angry with God, I blamed God for all the frustration I had. I realized I did not follow God's instruction to live according to His ways but it was according to my way. This has continued on till my 20s and into the working world. I strayed away like a lost sheep.

Until one day, I broke down and cried asking God "What is the purpose of living a frustrating life?" I felt hopeless in life until I entered Pantai Baptist Church and heard the sermon on The Parable of the Lost Son preached by Elder Brother Arnold Lim. I was indeed the 'lost son who went astray' when I returned to my Father, He welcomed

faith to keep me growing in Him, every of my life. It was the turning point in

I have attended FBC Subang Jaya again since 2011 with my son through Sunday School and until then he could let me go. Praised God I finally did get to attend all the weekly Sunday service faithfully. God gave me a gift of discernment in every weekly sermon. My next step was getting back into society, and having fellowship with people in church.

My love for the word of God grew, and same time, I started serving the Boys Brigade as a helper and then as a teacher. God restored me in faith step by



into depression and anxiety due to my problems.

fellowship, and bonding with other blessed to be who I am today. I felt so blessed despite all the challenges that I had to face. I took the bold step of faith by trusting and surrendering my whole life again to God. Knowing a trusting Him that He will always make a way where there seems to be no way. At times, I could not understand how I could overcome each challenge and trial but deep in my heart I knew God had been there for me all the time.

God has pruned me to be more resilient to life's challenges and the transformation of my understanding and knowledge of God made me closer each day to Him.

The following verses spoke to me clearly in my heart and I want to encourage those who are going through tough times to remember these verses:

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

- Jeremiah 29:11

Ecclesiastes 3:1-8, meant a lot in my life because it reflects the different seasons in my life and I learned to embrace and accept this time with peace and an open heart.

"There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens: a time to be born and a time to die, a time to plant and a time to uproot, a time to kill and a time to heal, a time to tear down and a time to build, a time to weep and a time to laugh, a time to mourn and a time to dance, a time to scatter stones and a time to gather them, a time to embrace and a time to refrain from embracing, a time to search and a time to give up, a time to keep and a time to throw away, a time to be silent and a time to speak, a time to love and a time to hate, a time for war and a time for peace."

Throughout my life trials, I will remember these verses Proverbs 3: 5-6 Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; 6 in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

Isaiah 40:31 but those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.

Philippians 4:13 says I can do all this through him who gives me strength. Yes, I cannot live by my own flesh and strength but through Christ who carried me through every stage of my life



## **By Chew Chong Lei**

Chong Lei is currently a committee member serving in the Family Life Ministry and also a member of the EQUIP cell group



## **Prayer for Sound of Subang**

- Pray that more youth and young adults from the church will come together to serve as a united team, each contributing in different roles with one heart.
- Pray for those we will reach out to, especially the young people. May God prepare their hearts and bring them to this event, so they can come to know Him more deeply.
- 3. Pray for the musicians, that they may serve with humility and unity, all for the glory of God and the advancement of His kingdom.
- 4. Pray for the preparation process, from stage performance to behind-the-scenes work (such as hospitality, sound and audio, and marketing). May God grant us wisdom and strength in managing every aspect.

