



ARTICLE

A JOURNEY OF DISCOVERY AND TRANSFORMATIVE EXPERIENCE WITH ALPHA

PRAYER SPOTLIGHT

PRAY FOR ALPHA 27

FBC Today

UNLEASHING THE GOSPEL



A JOURNEY OF DISCOVERY AND TRANSFORMATIVE EXPERIENCE WITH ALPHA

Faith journeys are deeply personal, often involving moments of doubt, discovery, and transformation. Dr. Goh Ni Kol's story offers a compelling reflection on how questions, reason,

and open heart can lead to a profound relationship with God. Her journey, which unfolded during a recent Alpha program, highlights the power of seeking truth and finding it in Christ.

NEXT WEEK'S SERMON
 26 January 2025
 Preacher **Leong Yew Lum**
 As For Me and My House
 Joshua 24:15

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FROM DOUBT TO CURIOSITY

Coming from an agnostic family where belief in a higher power was abstract and undefined, Dr. Ni Kol grew up without a clear concept of God. Her perspective on sin was shaped by a common notion -

IF SHE HADN'T COMMITTED ANY "SERIOUS" WRONGS LIKE THEFT OR MURDER, WHY WOULD SHE NEED TO WORRY ABOUT SIN?

This mindset remained unchallenged for many years.

Her turning point came when she met a wonderful friend with whom she shared a love of books. He challenged her to confront fundamental questions about life, death, truth, and faith. Through his encouragement, she was introduced to Lee Strobel's *The Case for Faith* and was invited to join the Alpha program. Week after week, he accompanied her to the Alpha program. She found the weekly topics engaging and thought-provoking, and this marked the start of her journey to a deeper understanding.

SEEKING TRUTH THROUGH EVIDENCE

For Dr. Ni Kol, faith had to be grounded in logic and reason. One Alpha session, which explored the archaeological and historical evidence supporting the Bible, left a significant impression on her. As someone with a scientific mindset, she valued this evidence-based approach. Her curiosity grew, prompting her to do her own research. She delved into Lee Strobel's writings and investigated the historical and literary authenticity of the Bible. To her surprise, she discovered that despite being written over 1,500 years by 40 different authors from diverse backgrounds, the Bible's message remained unified. This realisation strengthened her conviction and laid an intellectual foundation for her faith.

She set out to find answers but realised that faith isn't about having all the answers. It's a choice - saying, *"I believe - please help my unbelief."* She discovered that her real struggle wasn't intellectual, but fear of facing the consequences of her shortcomings. In learning about God, she found that His holiness and love are reconciled in Jesus' sacrifice, showing her that faith is about trusting God, even with doubts.



BEYOND FEELINGS: A DEEPER FAITH

One of the most anticipated sessions in Alpha is the Holy Spirit session, where participants often expect a powerful emotional experience. Dr. Ni Kol's experience was different. She did not feel any grand emotional surge, but it was precisely in that quiet, ordinary moment that she recognised something profound – her faith was not dependent on fleeting feelings but on enduring truth. She realised that while some people experience emotional encounters with God, others, like her, are called to trust in God's unchanging nature. This realisation brought her peace and clarity, reinforcing that God's love is consistent and not dependent on human emotion.

A NEW LIFE IN CHRIST

Dr. Ni Kol's journey did not end with intellectual understanding alone. As she learned more about God's holiness, justice, and love, she also came to see her own need for God's grace. Her intellectual pursuit transitioned into a personal relationship with Jesus. No longer held back by misconceptions about sin or the need for "good behavior" alone, she embraced the transformative love of Christ.



A CALL TO ACTION

Dr. Ni Kol's story serves as a powerful reminder that seeking truth is a process that can lead to transformation. Her story encourages anyone who has questions, doubts, or a hunger for truth to explore Alpha as a pathway to discovery.

"You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart."

— Jeremiah 29:13

"Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened to you."

— Matthew 7:7

Alpha is a place where questions are welcomed, doubts are acknowledged, and seekers are met with patience and love. If Dr. Ni Kol's story resonates with you or someone you know, consider joining the next Alpha program. It's a space where the search for truth is met with conviction, understanding of God's revelation, in the presence of community leading to a life transformation to being more Christ like.



By Dr. Goh Ni Kol

Dr. Goh attended the recently concluded Alpha 26 program, and following her transformative journey, she was baptized at FBC on December 14, 2024



PRAYERSPOTLIGHT

ALPHA 27

As Alpha 27 begun on 9 January 2025, please continue to keep the FBC (E) Alpha Ministry in prayers:

Pray for the team helping organise Alpha including the hosts and helpers that they would be filled with the Holy Spirit and have the gift of wisdom and the ability to make everyone feel welcomed.

Pray for the Lord to prepare the hearts and minds of those attending on site and online - so that each group would have an open ended, open minded and open hearted pressure free conversation.

Pray that the Lord would help all guests to attend each session in spite of rain and traffic after work hours

Pray against anything that may prevent their attendance, such as illness or scheduling conflicts including host and helpers of Alpha 27.

Pray that over the duration of the course that each guest would have an encounter with the Holy Spirit and that they would make a decision to follow Jesus Christ. Praying for those who are new in faith and exploring to be touched and enlightened as they journey along in the group.