

# FBC TODAY

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

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

### ARTICLE

Against the Odds

PAGE 1-3

### Pulpit Program

PAGE 4

### Prayer Spotlight

Haven Ministry

PAGE 4

### Upcoming Events

PAGE 4



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH  
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## Against the Odds

In 2016, I was drafted into the Audio Video (AV) Ministry by my dear brother Malcolm Anderson. My duty was to manage sound during Sunday service once every 3 weeks. When I received the duty roster for the first time, I was amazed at how few of us are serving in the AV Ministry for a church this size.

Four years later in September 2019, I was asked to lead the Creative &

Communications (C&C) Ministry. The main challenge was always to recruit volunteers. Most people I asked were either not interested, too afraid to serve, or too busy to serve. There were times where I had to depend on the few faithful brothers and sisters who offered their services. Six months later, in March 2020, Movement Control Order (MCO) came.



### NEW? CLICK

to send us your details so we can welcome and connect with you!



### GIVING

Business ID:

# BT76

How To Give?



### Need To Talk To Someone?

Whatsapp or Call **TalkToUs** at  
**+6011 5788 4805**



Suddenly the enormous task of producing the weekly Sunday service online fell to C&C Ministry and Worship Ministry. All of us had neither the experience nor know-how on how to begin. At the same time, some volunteers withdrew from both C&C and Worship Ministry to focus on their families due to the pandemic. With a lot of prayers and discernment, we began to put the pieces together with whatever limited manpower and resources that we had.

Looking back to the last 2 years, I think we did reasonably well even though there were many hiccups and obstacles due to the lack of manpower. Praise God! I reflected on the events of the last 2 years, sometimes asking why God did not send more volunteers and resources when we needed them. As I revisited a sermon on the story of Gideon, it all began to make sense.

Gideon was a military leader, judge, and prophet whose calling and victory over the Midianites are recounted in the book of Judges 6–8. He won a decisive victory over the Midianite army despite a vast numerical disadvantage, leading a troop of 300 men against over 100,000 Midianites.

Initially, Gideon had gathered over 30,000 men but God said Gideon had gathered too many. With so many men, there would be the reason for the Israelites to claim the victory as their own instead of acknowledging that God had saved them.

This was exactly what happened to us. God reduced the number of our volunteers and resources when we needed them most. This was to remind us that we cannot claim the success of the online Sunday service as our own and to acknowledge that it was God who made it successful. All glory to Him and Him alone.

**God not only reduced the number of volunteers, but He also made sure that those who are left were the right people for the task. This was also reflected in the story of Gideon.**

God did it in two stages. Firstly, God instructed Gideon to ask those who were afraid to go home. 22,000 men left leaving 10,000 men. Then God told



Gideon there were still too many and instructed him to bring them to the water. The number of those that lapped up the water raised to their mouths by hand was three hundred, but all the rest of the troops knelt down to drink water.

On a battlefield, soldiers had to be alert constantly to their surroundings as the enemy may launch a surprise attack. Drinking by raising the water to their mouths was a sign that they were alert as they could react quickly if the enemy attacked. Whereas, drinking water by kneeling down was a sign they had let their guard down as they had to stand up in order to repel the enemy attack. Then the Lord said to Gideon,

**“With the three hundred that lapped I will deliver you, and give the Midianites into your hand. Let all the others go to their homes.”  
(Judges 7:4–7)**

The 300 that drank by raising the water to their mouths were the right people for the task ahead. Divided into three companies, Gideon and his 300 men marched on the enemy camp. He instructed them to blow the trumpet, give a battle cry, and light torches, simulating an attack by a large force. As they did so, the 100,000 Midianite armies fled.



To those who are serving in ministries, please do not be discouraged if you are having difficulty recruiting volunteers. Learn to trust God. Also, appreciate and encourage those who are serving with you right now, God put them there because they are the right people for the task.

Our Lord Jesus had only 12 disciples yet there are more than 2 billion Christians around the world today. That is roughly 1:16,000,000. Virtually impossible for man but never for God. God always pits us against impossible odds so that we will learn to depend on Him. God also always put the right people at the right time for the task.

Praise Him forever and ever!



**By John Goh**

John is the head of the Creative and Communications Ministry





## Pulpit Program

May 29, 2022

### The Parable of the Tenants

(Matthew 22:33-46)



PREACHER  
**David & Suzanne Adams**

June 5, 2022

### The Wedding Banquet

(Matthew 22:1-14)



PREACHER  
**Dr Peter Ng**

June 12, 2022

### The Greatest Commandment

(Matthew 22:33-46)



PREACHER  
**Lee Yee Dian**

June 19, 2022

### Twin Plagues of the Church Hypocrisy and Legalism

(Matthew 23:1-36)



PREACHER  
**Leong Yew Lum**



## Prayer Spotlight

### Karis Ministry

1. Thank God for bringing more seekers and leading good people, our members, who are ever willing to serve in the ministry.
2. Provide guidance and wisdom upon the Karis Committee members.
3. God to bless and grow the ministry and its members and to reach out to more unbelievers and "lost souls" to join the ministry.
4. God's constant protection to keep members healthy as they journey with the Lord.
5. Pray for our members who are sick and unwell. God Father, powerful Healer, we ask for Your mercy and love to heal and make them well again.



## Upcoming Events



**Alpha 22**  
The next Alpha program will start from 14 July 2022  
**Every Thursday 8:00pm**  
[CLICK HERE](#) to register for the next Alpha program.



**Gamma 19**  
**Guide to Godly Living Despite Being in a Pluralistic Idolatrous Society**  
**Every Wednesday 8.30pm-10.00pm**  
Starts from 18 May-8 Jun, 2022 (4-week study)  
For more information, contact Church Office at 03-5621 2623



**Daily Zoom Prayer Meeting**  
**Every Monday to Thursday 9:00pm**  
Zoom ID: 929 735 694  
Password: pray

## Worship WITH US



### MAIN SERVICE

| Physical & Youtube |

Sundays 8:45am



### YOUTH SERVICE

| ZOOM | Sundays 9:00am



### SUNDAY SCHOOL

for Ages 3-12yrs

| Physical | 8:45am

Except preschool, std 1&2 on Zoom

| Zoom | 11:15am

For more information kindly contact the church office



Call office

to know more:

**03-5621 2623**

**More Information on Upcoming Events**