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## MIRROR - the Reflection of God's Word

The redeemed child of God is governed by a Book written by his or her Creator. It is a sacred duty and joy to do Bible reading daily and benefit from it. By God's grace, one should be purposeful and diligent in our study of the infallible, inspired and sufficient word of God. There are many rich metaphors used in the word of God to describe the word including the hammer, the sword, light or lamp, milk and meat and others Consider this useful acronym **MIRROR** used by James in Jas 1:23 (though in a negative sense) to guide us prayerfully as we meditate and study God's Word daily.



### **M: Magnify or Marvel**

What does this text reveal about the attributes of our sovereign almighty God and his Majesty that causes me to exalt Him in His glory? It should fill you her with praise and adoration to reverently worship and uplift our great God. (Psa 103 :1-5)

### **I: Instruct, Inform or Ingest**

The Word of God has the right content and commandments doctrines about Christ and man and salvation and warning to all of us What does this particular text show me that inspires me to learn to do something or not to do in my life that I have not known or applied before? (Psa 119:105)

### **R: Revive or Repent**

When you read the word, does it berate or admonish or exhort us to do or not to do something.? Is there any iniquity in your heart or known

transgression of the law.? What does this text reveal to you that prompts you to confess your sins to God and to forsake or repent of them. (1Jn1:9)

### **R: Reconsider or Rehearse**

There are rich lessons that we can learn from the prophets and the apostles and the teachings of Christ in the gospels that we should consider. What do I learn in this passage that will guide me to improve in my devotion, prayer, service, for change and commitment etc.? (Hag 1:5)



### **O: Oblation or Overcome**

The OT has memorable lesson on the sacrifice of Christ prefigured in the sacrifice of the lambs and calves to God in the temple. How does this particular text demand me to obey God's revealed will and to do right or to make sacrifices in my life to honour Christ? (Lk 9:23)

### **R: Return or Reconsecrate**

As we learn of the many lessons, we need to prayerfully ponder and contemplate what it means to us. What must I do to respond dutifully to Christ in faith and humility to this passage and how will it impact or transform my life?

**There are profound and practical lessons and applications from the reading of the words of everlasting life in the Bible.** Something to think about and act upon the Word of God as the Holy Spirit leads and guides us. (Psa 85:6)

*Jack Sin*



## Are these Statements True?

1. This statement, “**God accepts us the way we are**” is not true at all as correctly said by Prof Sinclair Ferguson who is biblically and doctrinally sound. Be careful that in our zeal to reach out to people, we may say things that may not be accurate or sound though with a good intention.

To say that God accepts the way we are, then there is no need for the cross and conversion. This is

especially so in the context of our recent concerns in this country. God accepts us based on what Christ has done for us on the cross despite what we are. We are fallen and sinful and God does not accept a depraved person within true evangelical repentance and the blood of Christ. (Prov 28:13, Mt 3:8)

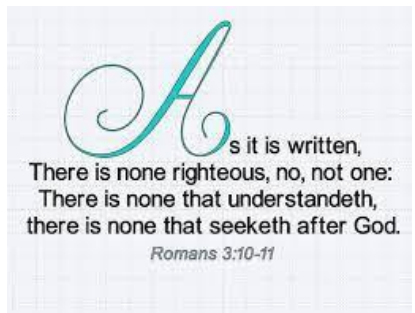


2. Another common erroneous phrase is this, “**The Bible says that God helps those who help themselves.**” While I understand what the good intent the person can have but this is wrong on 2 fronts:

- First, the Bible never says this, and I would like to see someone quote me a verse on this verbatim from the Word of God.
- Secondly, in salvation, the opposite is true. God helps those who cannot help themselves in the biblical doctrine of total depravity. (Rom 3:10-12). If you want to encourage someone to work hard, ie. on their studies, you can say that God is sovereign in all things but in this particular regard,

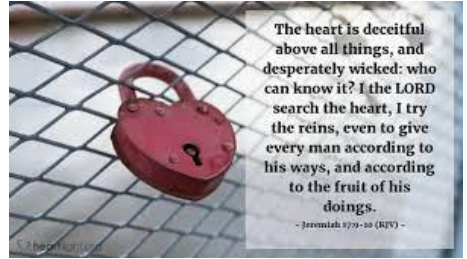
He also requires us to be responsible to do our part in studying hard as well, depending always on Him for his strength and wisdom.

Spurgeon says, “**if I have to add a stitch to my garment of salvation, I am totally damned.**”



So be careful with statements that may sound good externally but are actually fallacious or even misleading or deceitful even though we may not intend that to be.

3. Another common phrase that is often given as counsel to young people as some may say, "**Follow your Heart,**" the favourite advice given often on The American Idol show. That is the last thing you want to say to any one because of Jer 17:9-10 as the prophet



Jeremiah warns us of the wickedness of our hearts and who can know it (some can even deceive themselves in their hearts in self-deception). Rather, Study and Follow the Word of God or the will of God and pray as you wait patiently upon the Lord is a better and sound counsel and not follow a capricious or a depraved heart that is easily affected and that is often deceitful above all.

If you ever want to use the heart in your advice, follow the psalmist counsel and ask God to examine and search our hearts and know us and try us that we walk in the way everlasting. (Psa 139:23,24)

**Beware of worldly unsound advice that is being commonly passed around and we pray for godly discernment which is sadly lacking in the last days.**

Jack Sin

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A promotional poster for a Christian service. The top left features the GLFI logo with the tagline "Gospel Light for Indonesia". The top right features the GAES logo with the tagline "GLOBAL ASSEMBLY ENGLISH SERVICE". The main title is "Strategies FOR Effective Christian Service" in large, bold, black letters. Below the title is "Nehemiah 4". On the right side, there is a photograph of Dr. Jack Sin, a man with glasses wearing a light blue shirt, speaking into a microphone. Below the photo, it says "Speaker: Dr. Jack Sin (Singapore)". At the bottom left, it says "SUNDAY, 11TH Sept 2022 4 PM, JAKARTA". At the bottom right, it says "We Have QUIZ VIA ZOOM Zoom ID : 891 5079 3793 Passcode: GAES". The bottom of the poster has social media icons and links: "www.glfiministry.org", "glfiministry@gmail.com", "Terang Injil-GLFI Channel", and "Gospellight for Indonesia".

# GODLY COUNSEL FOR PILGRIMS & STRANGERS (STUDIES IN 1 PETER)

LORD'S DAY PROGRAMME FOR JUL-SEP 2022

## JULY

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- 3 Our Salvation & Eternal Hope (1 Pet 1:1-12)
- 10\* Sojourning in the Fear of God (1 Pet 1:13-25)
- 17 Of Lively Stones & Royal Priesthood (1 Pet 2:1-10)
- 24 Of Pilgrims & Strangers (1 Pet 2:11-25)
- 31 Guide for The Believers Domestic Life (1 Pet 3:1-9)

## AUGUST

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- 7 Christian Apologetics in Practice (1 Pet 3:10-15)
- 14\* Keeping a Good Conscience (1 Pet 3:16-22)
- 21 Godly Demeanour in Afflictions (1 Pet 4:1-8)
- 28 How to be Faithful Stewards of God (1 Pet 4:9-11)

## SEPTEMBER

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- 4 When We Suffer for Christ (1 Pet 4:12-19)
- 11\* Models in Meek Service (1 Pet 5:1-7)
- 18 Sober and Vigilant Stand Against Evil (1 Pet 5:8-14)
- 25 Seeking Reconciliation with God (2 Cor 5:11-21)



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# SEEKING RECONCILIATION WITH GOD

25 September 2022, Sunday 10:00 am

**Speaker: Rev Dr Jack Sin.**



**Come and find out - "How"**

## **VENUE:**

Sovereign Hope BPC  
160, Paya Lebar Rd, 04-06,  
Orion@Paya Lebar, S (409022)

Those interested to come please contact Dn Yue Kay at 97450311

## Memory Verse

1 Pet 5:5      Likewise, ye younger, submit yourselves unto the elder. Yea, all of you be subject one to another, and be clothed with humility: for God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble.

## Announcements

1. Welcome to our Sunday Worship Service! For our visitors, do leave us your contact numbers in our guest book before you leave. There will be evangelism at Macpherson Estate after Sunday School and lunch. Do inform Dn Yue Kay if you able to join the team.
2. Pastor speaks this morning on “**Models in Meek Service**” (1 Pet 5:1-7), the quarterly series on **Godly Counsel for Pilgrims and Strangers (studies in 1Peter)**.
3. Pastor speaks next Sunday on “**Sober and Vigilant Stand Against Evil**” (1 Pet 5:8-14).
4. Sunday School classes continues after worship service:
  - Westminster Confession of Faith – Pastor
  - Studies in Deuteronomy – Dn Kwong Leen
  - Addressing Objections to the Gospel – Joseph Wee
5. Chinese Fellowship meets on Sunday night at 7pm via Zoom with both local and overseas brethren. Included in the programme is a video study on Fundamentals of Theology on alternate Sundays. Join us for a time of profitable learning.
6. Do send your prayer items to Pastor and join us for Church Prayer Meeting on Wed at 8pm via Zoom. The prayer list is available in church.
7. Monthly Neighbourhood Bible Class will next meet on **Fri 7 Oct 2022, 7.30pm in church** on the study of 2 Samuel. Come and join us!
8. Do kindly observe the safety measures of the church and assist with the weekly cleaning of the premises.
9. Love gifts, Offering and Tithes to the Lord can be given in the following ways:
  - **Cheque** payable to **Sovereign Hope Bible Presbyterian Church** and mail to church address. (Kindly write the full name of the church as indicated.)
  - **Fund transfer** to Church **UOB** Account **392-308-825-1**
  - **PayNow** to Church UEN: **T19SS0116FSOV**

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