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Testimonies from Church Camp II (7-10 Jun 2023)

Thanksgiving & Sharing by Camp Commandant – Dn Yue Kay



*“..... Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit,
saith the LORD of host.” – Zech 4:6*

When I was first tasked to lead the 4th Church Camp Committee, I earnestly sought the LORD for guidance & direction. God reminded me with this verse in Zechariah 4:6 not to rely on my human

might, ie physical stamina or on my own ideas & wisdom, but to rely on the abundant supply of the power of the Holy Spirit & earnestly seeking in prayer for His wisdom and leading in all aspects of the camp preparation works and camp programme & activities.

Camp Preparation

We thank God for the 34 campers who attended this year's 4D3N retreat at Pulau Springs Resort, Johor, Malaysia. I thank God for the camp committee which comprised Pastor Jack (advisor), Paul Tan (2nd in-charge), Paul Kong (Logistics), John Wong (treasurer) and Albert Ang (programme).

Prov 16:9 *“A man's heart deviseth his way: but the LORD directeth his steps.”*

Throughout the planning & execution process, I saw the LORD's hand in directing our steps in getting all the administrative & logistics work done so smoothly and without any obstacles & challenges, from hotel liaison & rooming, transportation arrangement, preparation of camp manual, selection of hymns and even grouping of campers for discussion & sharing session.



Camp Experiences

On a personal note, my take home lessons from the camp focused on 2 main issues which I will constantly ponder over in the days ahead as I journey my walk of faith in Christ.

Firstly, the camp speaker spoke very much on the Second Coming of Christ, and secondly, the Gospel of Jesus Christ for the Salvation of our Souls.



I need to constantly remind myself of the following:

- “Am I prepared to meet my God?” (Amos 4:12h)
- “Am I ready for the coming of the LORD & what am I doing at the time of His Return?”

I need to continue to be diligent & fervent in my journey of faith, growing in true righteousness and holiness (Eph 4:24) while I await the soon coming of my LORD & Saviour Jesus Christ, for I know not what hour my LORD will come. I must also be actively doing the LORD’s business while it is day, the night cometh when no man can work (John 9:4 / Heb 12:14/ 1 Cor 15:58).

When I heard the Gospel of Jesus Christ again at the camp, it truly reminded me of two important aspects regarding my personal assurance of salvation and the need to share this good news to my loved ones who are so dear to me.



If you think you could lose your salvation, you will lose it. This is because you do not know what our salvation is based on. Our salvation is not based on who we are or what we do to be saved.

Eph 2:8 & 9 tell us clearly that “*For by grace are ye saved through faith and that not of yourself; it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast.*” Also, “*salvation*

is of the LORD” (Jonah 2:9b).

In fact, God does command us to seek certainty about our salvation:

“Wherefore the rather, brethren, give diligence to make your calling and election sure: for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall.” (2 Peter 1:10)

As for the salvation of my loved ones, my wife and my children, my heart’s desire and prayer to God for them is that they might be saved (Rom 10:1). May the LORD grant me wisdom from above to testify the grace of God and with boldness when every opportunity arises to share the Gospel to them which is the power & wisdom of God unto salvation to everyone that believe (Romans 1:16).

Thanks be to God and All Glory to His Name for this provision, His protection and His presence with us throughout the 4D3N retreat.

Thanksgiving by Paul Tan



The Camp theme this year, ***Exercise unto Godliness in an Ungodly World***, is indeed a timely one. Nowadays we are in danger of being drawn into the world of internet and social media whose views are very much contrary to Christian values. It was timely to hear our camp speaker, Rev Heng, touched on topics on separation from sin, pursue personal holiness and how we are to respond to moral and spiritual declension around us. Our group had a good discussion on the issue of LGBTQ and I have

gained a better understanding of the biblical view on this.

Besides spiritual food, we are thankful to be treated to many rounds of sumptuous Chinese dishes. The concern of not able to see my toes while standing up on the last day did cross my mind.

Church camp usually brings more understanding and foster closer fellowship among campers as we studied, shared, interacted and lived together for a time.

This camp is no exception. The ice is easily broken as I learned more about our church members and other guest participants.



As a member of the organising committee, I am thankful to God for His guidance in all aspects of the camp. I am thankful also for His protection of His children that we have all returned safely though there were some anxious moments.

Lastly, in one session the speaker asked what Bible verse we would live by. I leave you with Micah 6:8, *“He hath shewed thee, O man, what is good; and*

what doth the LORD require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?”



Testimony by Peng Ha (Hope BPC, Adelaide, Australia)

It is by the grace of God that I came to attend the Sovereign Hope BPC Camp this year. This is my first Overseas trip since the pandemic. I planned to visit my siblings in Malaysia for 4 weeks.

As my Pastor Okman Ki at Hope BPC in Adelaide was conducting a Mission trip to Batam from 1st to 5th of June and the Sovereign Hope BPC Camp was running from 7th to 10th June, I took the opportunity to attend both the events.

At the church camp I only knew Rev. Jack Sin & Sister Angie and had some correspondence from the Camp Commandant Deacon Tan Yue Kay prior to the start of our camp. On arrival I met so many faithful believers and leaders of the church from 3 other countries and 7 other churches besides myself from Australia.

Our Camp speaker Rev. Heng gave 4 messages on the Theme: Exercise into Godliness in an Ungodly World. He emphasized on the Danger of Worldliness and how we should strive for Personal Holiness in our daily walk with God. We are to speak Truth about God, Heaven & His word. During our discussion time the campers in his group learnt valuable lessons from Rev. Heng about his testimonials and how he has brought people from all ages to accept the Lord as their Savior. We were given many Bible references in each of the topics he presented.



We also received instructions on Knowing God's Will & to be aware of the temptations of the world which may lead us away from God. It is so important for us to continue to pray for our unsafe Family members.

There was a very topical and relevant Workshop on coping with Stress with Biblical Resources in Anxious time delivered by Rev. Jack Sin.



Besides receiving the rich spiritual food which is not easy to digest, we are treated with special banquet daily at Qing Restaurant and the generous brothers & sisters from Johore provided extra local delights for our afternoon teas & suppers.

I find great joy in listening to the testimonies from Sister Roska and her 2 widow companions sharing their testimonies and talents in Singing.

The warm friendship and caring fellowship of our campers is a true blessing for this Camp.

There are lots of notes for us to read after the Camp and share what we have learnt.

We know that our God is Good. He knows our needs.

Proverbs 3: 5 &6. *Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding, In all they ways acknowledge him and he shall direct thy paths.*



***Thank God for the fellowship with our Johor brethren at the Camp
- Tea, Girlie, Kelly, Teng & Ngik***



My Camp Reflections with Much Thanksgiving to God **- Sharon Ng -**

- ❖ Safety and protection along the way to Pulau Springs and back home to Singapore.
- ❖ Thanking God for His Hedge of protection over the campers. During the camp period, we saw a few falls and a breakfast table smashed into smithereens. Thankful no one was seriously hurt or injured.
- ❖ Rejoicing as we heard the heartwarming testimonies and sharing of trials and God's faithfulness during first camp night 's Prayer Meeting. Praying Philippians 1:6 "being confident of this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in you will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ;"
- ❖ Much "spiritual food" through Rev Philip Heng and the workshop by Pastor Jack on "Coping with Stress with Biblical Resources in Anxious Times ". Much to digest and reflect on.



- ❖ Authentic sharing during our group discussions and uplifting & encouraging inputs from discussion mates. (Thank you, Brother Paul for facilitating, asking insightful questions and thoughtful sharing.)
- ❖ Thanking God for the camp committee & appreciating the camaraderie & unity of the camp committee members as they executed their duties cheerfully.
- ❖ On a personal note, thanking God for His Healing Hands upon me that I could travel "overseas" for church camp this year after "being grounded" for the past two years and recovering well from a medical situation.
- ❖ As camp comes to a close, I am reflecting on this verse: - Ephesians 2:10 "*For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.*"
- ❖ With a heart of thanksgiving: Praising God from whom all blessings flow.

Memory Verse

John 14:6 Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.

Announcements

1. Welcome to our Lord's Day Sunday Worship Service! If you are here for the first time, do leave us your contact numbers in our guest book before you leave. Those who share the church vision to acquire a place of worship in due time, may designate your offerings to the SHBPC Church Building Fund.
2. Today is Gospel Sunday and Preacher Mok brings us God's Word on "***Who will or will not be in Heaven? (Rev 20:10-15, Heb 12:22-24)***".
3. Pastor and Angie are away in the US from 13 June – 7 Jul to minister at Cub Hill BPC, Maryland on 18 June and attend and speak at the 21st ICCG World Congress 21-28 June. Do uphold them in prayer for safety in travel, good health and a profitable time of learning and fellowship.
4. Rev Koh Hock Heng of Jesus Saves Mission will preach on next Sunday, being Missions Sunday, on "***Fellowship with God in the Light (1 John 1:1-10)***".
5. Sunday School classes will follow the after the worship service:
 - Westminster Confession of Faith/ Book of Acts Combined Class – Pr Mok
 - Studies in 1 Chronicles – Dn Kwong Leen
6. For pastoral assistance from Jun 13 - Jul 7 when Pastor is away, kindly contact **Preacher Mok (hp: 80623408)**.
7. Chinese Fellowship meets on every Sunday night at 7pm via Zoom with both local and overseas brethren. We have systematic studies on Basic Theology, and the Parables of Jesus. Join us for a time of profitable learning. [Zoom ID:883 9662 4157 Passcode:625551]
8. 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. [Zoom ID:863 7527 5431 Passcode:218178]
9. We need willing hands and hearts to assist in the weekly cleaning of the premises. Do let Dn Yue Kay if you are available to serve in this area.
10. 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**

Kindly indicate "**Church Building Fund**" if you would like to designate towards this cause.
