



CELL GUIDE 2015

Theme	Jubilee – Year of Celebration of the Lord
Topic	Celebrate Our Nation
Speaker	Elder Lok Vi Ming
Date	7 th & 8 th February 2015

Message Summary

Spiritual Objective: Acknowledging God's blessings over our nation and adhering to God's call to stand in the gap for our nation

The year of Jubilee is a time for celebration, for reflection and resetting, for counting of blessings and looking ahead. Last week, we celebrated the Lord's protection over His people. This week, the speaker brought us through the topic on celebrating God's blessings over our nation and understanding what God calls His people to do for the nation.

Singapore is immensely blessed and God is behind it!

The speaker ran through a series of facts and statistics about our nation, Singapore. Singapore is ranked 4th in terms of life expectancy, 3rd in terms of GDP per capita in 2013 and 2nd in terms of Index of Economic Freedom score in 2014. Singapore ranked higher than other more prominent and established nations like the US, UK and South Korea. By looking at these statistics alone, we can see that Singapore is indeed very blessed.

What did Singapore do right? Was it because of the various national policies that the Government instituted that resulted in Singapore being one of the best in many aspects of society? The speaker firmly believed that it was God who worked through the government by putting in their heads various national initiatives and policies that would bring about success to the nation. Singapore's success is not man-made and not accidental. God is behind it!

The speaker quoted Alexis de Tocquville who said "America is great because she is good, and if America ever ceases to be good, America will cease to be great." He attributed the success of America to the state of righteousness of the American society. *Look at America today; do you think that what Tocquville said back in the 19th century is true?*

Proverbs 14:34 states clearly that righteousness exalts a nation but sin condemns any people. Righteousness refers to positional standing of believers and high moral behaviour that God expects of His people. Singapore prospers as a nation because of the prayer giants that came before us. God was working through the people who established how our nation should be run and how the people should live. The speaker reminded us that even the Brethren community in Singapore came a long way back 150 years ago. He cited examples of Godly community who played a part in nation building through the Christian-based education that they established in Singapore. Many of the present leaders in Singapore, both in public and private sectors, came from the schools ran by various Christian communities.



CELL GUIDE 2015

God's call for His people

The state of righteousness that contributes to the success of Singapore is not accidental but it is taught and passed on from generation to another. *What are we teaching our children? Are we imparting Godly values and righteousness to the next generation?*

2 Chronicles 7:14 teaches us the principle that as believers, we have the locus standi (standing/right) to stand in the gap for our nation and plead her case before the Lord. Not only we have the right but we have the responsibility to do so. Believers can exalt a nation by:

- a. Having exemplary character
- b. Raising obedient Children
- c. Walking honourably
- d. Sharing compassion
- e. Exercising charity
- f. Facing life triumphantly

How do gaps appear in society? Ezekiel 22:23-29 illustrate the cascading effects of corruption in society and degeneration of all levels of society from the princes (rulers), priests, officials, prophets and the people. In this example, Ezekiel 22:30 mentions that the Lord could not find any believer to stand in the gap. *Will this be the story of our family, BBTC or Singapore?* The Lord is looking for a special group of intercessors, guardians and prayer warriors. The story of Gideon (Judges 7) illustrates the force of 1% principle. Gideon's army was reduced to 300 from 32,000 after a series of test commanded by God. We can say that the 1% who passed the test were the special group that God selected to stand in the gap for the nation. *Will there be only 1% of BBTCians who will rise to the calling to stand in the gap for our nation?*

These are some things we as believers can do to stand in the gap for Singapore:

- a. Change the moral tone of the nation
- b. Strengthen the home front
- c. Fortify marriage
- d. Put sex in proper perspective
- e. Give purpose/ ambition to our young people
- f. Imbue a high sense of destiny to our nation
- g. Set prisoners free

Conclusion

The speaker cited a prayer by Uganda's president who interceded and pleaded before God on behalf of the nation. Singapore is a secular nation and we cannot expect our leaders to intercede on behalf of Singapore. *Will we then as His people rise up to stand in the gap for Singapore?*



CELL GUIDE 2015

Questions

What are two or three things about Singapore that you can thank God for?

(Fill In Answer Here)

What can be attributed to Singapore's success? What roles can we play as believers to ensure her continual success?

(Fill In Answer Here)

What is one specific act that you can do to stand in the gap for our nation?

(Fill In Answer Here)