




A
Simple
ACT OF
Kindness
GOES A
Long Way
PAY IT FORWARD

NAME:

bible reading for Jan

			
JAN 1	Luke 1	Genesis 1-2	Proverbs 1
JAN 2	Luke 2	Genesis 3-4	Proverbs 2
JAN 3	Luke 3	Genesis 5-6	Proverbs 3
JAN 4	Luke 4	Genesis 7-8	Proverbs 4
JAN 5	Luke 5	Genesis 9-10	Proverbs 5
JAN 6	Luke 6	Genesis 11-12	Proverbs 6
JAN 7	Luke 7	Genesis 13-14	Proverbs 7
JAN 8	Luke 8	Genesis 15-16	Proverbs 8
JAN 9	Luke 9	Genesis 17-18	Proverbs 9
JAN 10	Luke 10	Genesis 19-20	Proverbs 10
JAN 11	Luke 11	Genesis 21-22	Proverbs 11
JAN 12	Luke 12	Genesis 23-24	Proverbs 12
JAN 13	Luke 13	Genesis 25-26	Proverbs 13
JAN 14	Luke 14	Genesis 27-28	Proverbs 14
JAN 15	Luke 15	Genesis 29-30	Proverbs 15
JAN 16	Luke 16	Genesis 31-32	Proverbs 16
JAN 17	Luke 17	Genesis 33-34	Proverbs 17
JAN 18	Luke 18	Genesis 35-36	Proverbs 18
JAN 19	Luke 19	Genesis 37-38	Proverbs 19
JAN 20	Luke 20	Genesis 39-40	Proverbs 20
JAN 21	Luke 21	Genesis 41-42	Proverbs 21
JAN 22	Luke 22	Genesis 43-44	Proverbs 22
JAN 23	Luke 23	Genesis 45-46	Proverbs 23
JAN 24	Luke 24	Genesis 47-48	Proverbs 24
JAN 25	Acts 1	Genesis 49-50	Proverbs 25
JAN 26	Acts 2	Exodus 1-2	Proverbs 26
JAN 27	Acts 3	Exodus 3-4	Proverbs 27
JAN 28	Acts 4	Exodus 5-6	Proverbs 28
JAN 29	Acts 5	Exodus 7-8	Proverbs 29
JAN 30	Acts 6	Exodus 9-10	Proverbs 30
JAN 31	Acts 7	Exodus 11-12	Proverbs 31

33

No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever
wasted - Aesop Fables

January 2018

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1 <i>New Year's Day</i>	2	3	4	5 Corporate W&I	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13 Bilingual Healing Service
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24 All Leaders Meeting	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

bible reading for Feb



FEB 1	Acts 8.....	Exodus 13-14.....	Psalm 1.....
FEB 2	Acts 9.....	Exodus 15-16.....	Psalm 2.....
FEB 3	Acts 10.....	Exodus 17-18.....	Psalm 3.....
FEB 4	Acts 11.....	Exodus 19-20.....	Psalm 4.....
FEB 5	Acts 12.....	Exodus 21-22.....	Psalm 5.....
FEB 6	Acts 13.....	Exodus 23-24.....	Psalm 6.....
FEB 7	Acts 14.....	Exodus 25-26.....	Psalm 7.....
FEB 8	Acts 15.....	Exodus 27-28.....	Psalm 8.....
FEB 9	Acts 16.....	Exodus 29-30.....	Psalm 9.....
FEB 10	Acts 17.....	Exodus 31-32.....	Psalm 10.....
FEB 11	Acts 18.....	Exodus 33-34.....	Psalm 11.....
FEB 12	Acts 19.....	Exodus 35-36.....	Psalm 12.....
FEB 13	Acts 20.....	Exodus 37-38.....	Psalm 13.....
FEB 14	Acts 21.....	Exodus 39-40.....	Psalm 14.....
FEB 15	Acts 22.....	Leviticus 1-3.....	Psalm 15.....
FEB 16	Acts 23.....	Leviticus 4-5.....	Psalm 16.....
FEB 17	Acts 24.....	Leviticus 6-7.....	Psalm 17.....
FEB 18	Acts 25.....	Leviticus 8-9.....	Psalm 18.....
FEB 19	Acts 26.....	Leviticus 10-11.....	Psalm 19.....
FEB 20	Acts 27.....	Leviticus 12-13.....	Psalm 20.....
FEB 21	Acts 28.....	Leviticus 14-15.....	Psalm 21.....
FEB 22	Romans 1.....	Leviticus 16-17.....	Psalm 22.....
FEB 23	Romans 2.....	Leviticus 18-19.....	Psalm 23.....
FEB 24	Romans 3.....	Leviticus 20-21.....	Psalm 24.....
FEB 25	Romans 4.....	Leviticus 22-23.....	Psalm 25.....
FEB 26	Romans 5.....	Leviticus 24-25.....	Psalm 26.....
FEB 27	Romans 6.....	Leviticus 26-27.....	Psalm 27.....
FEB 28	Romans 7.....	Numbers 1-2.....	Psalm 28.....

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Kindness is the language which the deaf can hear
and the blind can see. - Mark Twain

February 2018

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2 Corporate W&I	3 Blessing Campaign 2018 (Feb 3–Mar 4)
4	5	6	7	8	9	10 Marriage Mentoring Training Bilingual Healing Service
11	12	13	14	15	16 Chinese New Year	17 Chinese New Year
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25 DTC 2 & 3	26	27	28 DTC 2 & 3			

Bible reading for Mar

MAR 1	Romans 8.....	Numbers 3-4.....	Psalm 29.....
MAR 2	Romans 9.....	Numbers 5-6.....	Psalm 30.....
MAR 3	Romans 10.....	Numbers 7-8.....	Psalm 31.....
MAR 4	Romans 11.....	Numbers 9-10.....	Psalm 32.....
MAR 5	Romans 12.....	Numbers 11-12.....	Psalm 33.....
MAR 6	Romans 13.....	Numbers 13-14.....	Psalm 34.....
MAR 7	Romans 14.....	Numbers 15-16.....	Psalm 35.....
MAR 8	Romans 15.....	Numbers 17-18.....	Psalm 36.....
MAR 9	Romans 16.....	Numbers 19-20.....	Psalm 37.....
MAR 10	Matthew 1.....	Numbers 21-22.....	Psalm 38.....
MAR 11	Matthew 2.....	Numbers 23-24.....	Psalm 39.....
MAR 12	Matthew 3.....	Numbers 25-26.....	Psalm 40.....
MAR 13	Matthew 4.....	Numbers 27-28.....	Psalm 41.....
MAR 14	Matthew 5.....	Numbers 29-30.....	Psalm 42.....
MAR 15	Matthew 6.....	Numbers 31-32.....	Psalm 43.....
MAR 16	Matthew 7.....	Numbers 33-34.....	Psalm 44.....
MAR 17	Matthew 8.....	Numbers 35-36.....	Psalm 45.....
MAR 18	Matthew 9.....	Deuteronomy 1-2.....	Psalm 46.....
MAR 19	Matthew 10.....	Deuteronomy 3-4.....	Psalm 47.....
MAR 20	Matthew 11.....	Deuteronomy 5-6.....	Psalm 48.....
MAR 21	Matthew 12.....	Deuteronomy 7-8.....	Psalm 49.....
MAR 22	Matthew 13.....	Deuteronomy 9-10.....	Psalm 50.....
MAR 23	Matthew 14.....	Deuteronomy 11-12.....	Psalm 51.....
MAR 24	Matthew 15.....	Deuteronomy 13-14.....	Psalm 52.....
MAR 25	Matthew 16.....	Deuteronomy 15-16.....	Psalm 53.....
MAR 26	Matthew 17.....	Deuteronomy 17-18.....	Psalm 54.....
MAR 27	Matthew 18.....	Deuteronomy 19-20.....	Psalm 55.....
MAR 28	Matthew 19.....	Deuteronomy 21-22.....	Psalm 56.....
MAR 29	Matthew 20.....	Deuteronomy 23-24.....	Psalm 57.....
MAR 30	Matthew 21.....	Deuteronomy 25.....	Psalm 58.....
MAR 31	Matthew 22.....	Deuteronomy 26-27.....	Psalm 59.....

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Remember there's no such thing as a small act of kindness. Every act creates a ripple with no logical end.
- Scott Adams (American Cartoonist, Dilbert Comic Strip)

March 2018

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2 Corporate W&I	3 RTF Batch 1 (Teach-in) Pre-marital Course Batch 1
4 DTC 2 & 3	5	6	7 DTC 2 & 3 All Leaders Meeting	8	9 Alpha Course (Mar 9 to Jun 3)	10 Pre-marital Course Batch 1 Bilingual Healing Service
11 DTC 2 & 3	12	13	14 DTC 2 & 3	15	16 Evidence that Demands a Verdict by Josh & Sean McDowell (16-17 Mar)	17 RTF Batch 1 (Ministry Day) Pre-marital Course Batch 1
18 DTC 2 & 3	19	20	21 DTC 2 & 3	22	23	24 RTF Batch 1 (Ministry Day) Pre-marital Course Batch 1
25 DTC 2 & 3	26	27	28 DTC 2 & 3	29	30 <i>Good Friday</i> Good Friday Service	31 Pre-marital Course Batch 1

bible reading for Apr



APR 1	Matthew 23	Deuteronomy 28	Psalms 60
APR 2	Matthew 24	Deuteronomy 29-30	Psalms 61
APR 3	Matthew 25	Deuteronomy 31-32	Psalms 62
APR 4	Matthew 26	Deuteronomy 33-34	Psalms 63
APR 5	Matthew 27	Joshua 1-2	Psalms 64
APR 6	Matthew 28	Joshua 3-4	Psalms 65
APR 7	1 Corinthians 1	Joshua 5-6	Psalms 66
APR 8	1 Corinthians 2	Joshua 7-8	Psalms 67
APR 9	1 Corinthians 3	Joshua 9-10	Psalms 68
APR 10	1 Corinthians 4	Joshua 11-12	Psalms 69
APR 11	1 Corinthians 5	Joshua 13-14	Psalms 70
APR 12	1 Corinthians 6	Joshua 15-16	Psalms 71
APR 13	1 Corinthians 7	Joshua 17-18	Psalms 72
APR 14	1 Corinthians 8	Joshua 19-20	Psalms 73
APR 15	1 Corinthians 9	Joshua 21-22	Psalms 74
APR 16	1 Corinthians 10	Joshua 23-24	Psalms 75
APR 17	1 Corinthians 11	Judges 1-2	Psalms 76
APR 18	1 Corinthians 12	Judges 3-4	Psalms 77
APR 19	1 Corinthians 13	Judges 5-6	Psalms 78
APR 20	1 Corinthians 14	Judges 7-8	Psalms 79
APR 21	1 Corinthians 15	Judges 9-10	Psalms 80
APR 22	1 Corinthians 16	Judges 11-12	Psalms 81
APR 23	2 Corinthians 1	Judges 13-14	Psalms 82
APR 24	2 Corinthians 2	Judges 15-17	Psalms 83
APR 25	2 Corinthians 3	Judges 18-19	Psalms 84
APR 26	2 Corinthians 4	Judges 20-21	Psalms 85
APR 27	2 Corinthians 5	Ruth 1-2	Psalms 86
APR 28	2 Corinthians 6	Ruth 3-4	Psalms 87
APR 29	2 Corinthians 7	1 Samuel 1-2	Psalms 88
APR 30	2 Corinthians 8	1 Samuel 3-4	Psalms 89

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Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved,
compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness and
patience - Colossians 3:12

April 2018

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 DTC 2 & 3 Resurrection Sunday Baptism Service	2	3	4 DTC 2 & 3	5 Pre-parenting Course Batch 1	6 Corporate W&I	7 Pre-marital Course Batch 1
8 DTC 2 & 3	9	10	11 DTC 2 & 3	12 Pre-parenting Course Batch 1	13	14 Pre-marital Course Batch 1 Bilingual Healing Service
15 DTC 2 & 3	16	17	18 DTC 2 & 3	19	20	21 Core Leaders Conversation
22 DTC 2 & 3	23	24	25 DTC 2 & 3	26	27	28 Cell Leaders Training 1
29 DTC 2 & 3	30					

bible reading for May

MAY 1	2 Corinthians 9	1 Samuel 5-7	Psalm 90
MAY 2	2 Corinthians 10	1 Samuel 8-9	Psalm 91
MAY 3	2 Corinthians 11	1 Samuel 10-11	Psalm 92
MAY 4	2 Corinthians 12	1 Samuel 12-13	Psalm 93
MAY 5	2 Corinthians 13	1 Samuel 14-15	Psalm 94
MAY 6	Mark 1	1 Samuel 16-17	Psalm 95
MAY 7	Mark 2	1 Samuel 18-19	Psalm 96
MAY 8	Mark 3	1 Samuel 20-21	Psalm 97
MAY 9	Mark 4	1 Samuel 22-23	Psalm 98
MAY 10	Mark 5	1 Samuel 24-25	Psalm 99
MAY 11	Mark 6	1 Samuel 26-27	Psalm 100
MAY 12	Mark 7	1 Samuel 28-29	Psalm 101
MAY 13	Mark 8	1 Samuel 30-31	Psalm 102
MAY 14	Mark 9	1 Chronicles 1-2	Psalm 103
MAY 15	Mark 10	1 Chronicles 3-4	Psalm 104
MAY 16	Mark 11	1 Chronicles 5-7	Psalm 105
MAY 17	Mark 12	1 Chronicles 8-10	Psalm 106
MAY 18	Mark 13	2 Samuel 1-2	Psalm 107
MAY 19	Mark 14	2 Samuel 3-4	Psalm 108
MAY 20	Mark 15	2 Samuel 5-6	Psalm 109
MAY 21	Mark 16	2 Samuel 7-8	Psalm 110
MAY 22	Galatians 1	2 Samuel 9-10	Psalm 111
MAY 23	Galatians 2	2 Samuel 11-12	Psalm 112
MAY 24	Galatians 3	2 Samuel 13-14	Psalm 113
MAY 25	Galatians 4	2 Samuel 15-16	Psalm 114
MAY 26	Galatians 5	2 Samuel 17-18	Psalm 115
MAY 27	Galatians 6	2 Samuel 19-20	Psalm 116
MAY 28	Ephesians 1	2 Samuel 21-22	Psalm 117
MAY 29	Ephesians 2	2 Samuel 23-24	Psalm 118
MAY 30	Ephesians 3	1 King 1-2	Psalm 119:1-88
MAY 31	Ephesians 4	1 Chronicles 11-12	Psalm 119:89-176

66 Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends - 1 Cor 13:4-8a

May 2018

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1 <i>Labour Day</i>	2 DTC 2 & 3	3	4 Corporate W&I	5 RTF Batch 2 (Teach-in) Cell Leaders Training 1
6 DTC 2 & 3	7	8	9 DTC 2 & 3 All Leaders Meeting	10	11	12 Bilingual Healing Service
13 DTC 2 & 3	14	15	16	17	18	19 RTF Batch 2 (Ministry Day)
20	21	22	23	24	25	26 RTF Batch 2 (Ministry Day)
27	28	29 <i>Vesak day</i>	30	31		

bible reading for Jun

JUN 1	Ephesians 5	1 Chronicles 13-15	Psalms 120
JUN 2	Ephesians 6	1 Chronicles 16-17	Psalms 121
JUN 3	Philippians 1	1 Chronicles 18-19	Psalms 122
JUN 4	Philippians 2	1 Chronicles 20-22	Psalms 123
JUN 5	Philippians 3	1 Chronicles 23-24	Psalms 124
JUN 6	Philippians 4	1 Chronicles 25-26	Psalms 125
JUN 7	Colossians 1	1 Chronicles 27-29	Psalms 126
JUN 8	Colossians 2	1 Kings 3-4	Psalms 127
JUN 9	Colossians 3	Songs of Solomon 1-3	Psalms 128
JUN 10	Colossians 4	Songs of Solomon 4-6	Psalms 129
JUN 11	John 1	Songs of Solomon 7-8	Psalms 130
JUN 12	John 2	1 Kings 5-6	Psalms 131
JUN 13	John 3	1 Kings 7-8	Psalms 132
JUN 14	John 4	1 Kings 9-10	Psalms 133
JUN 15	John 5	2 Chronicles 1-3	Psalms 134
JUN 16	John 6	2 Chronicles 4-5	Psalms 135
JUN 17	John 7	2 Chronicles 6-7	Psalms 136
JUN 18	John 8	Ecclesiastes 1-2	Psalms 137
JUN 19	John 9	Ecclesiastes 3-5	Psalms 138
JUN 20	John 10	Ecclesiastes 6-7	Psalms 139
JUN 21	John 11	Ecclesiastes 8-9	Psalms 140
JUN 22	John 12	Ecclesiastes 10-12	Psalms 141
JUN 23	John 13	2 Chronicles 8-9	Psalms 142
JUN 24	John 14	1 Kings 11-12	Psalms 143
JUN 25	John 15	1 Kings 13-14	Psalms 144
JUN 26	John 16	2 Chronicles 10-11	Psalms 145
JUN 27	John 17	2 Chronicles 12-13	Psalms 146
JUN 28	John 18	2 Chronicles 14-15	Psalms 147
JUN 29	John 19	2 Chronicles 16-17	Psalms 148
JUN 30	John 20	2 Chronicles 18-19	Psalms 149

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But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace,
patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness,
self-control; against such things there is no law.
- Galatians 5:22-23

June 2018

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1 Corporate W&I	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9 Bilingual Healing Service
10	11 Church Camp	12 Church Camp	13 Church Camp	14 Church Camp	15 Hari Raya Puasa	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

bible reading for Jul



JUL 1	John 21	1 Kings 15-16	Psalms 150
JUL 2	1 Thessalonians 1	1 Kings 17-18	Proverbs 1
JUL 3	1 Thessalonians 2	1 Kings 19-20	Proverbs 2
JUL 4	1 Thessalonians 3	1 Kings 21-22	Proverbs 3
JUL 5	1 Thessalonians 4	2 Chronicles 20-21	Proverbs 4
JUL 6	1 Thessalonians 5	2 Kings 1-2	Proverbs 5
JUL 7	2 Thessalonians 1	2 Kings 3-4	Proverbs 6
JUL 8	2 Thessalonians 2	2 Kings 5-6	Proverbs 7
JUL 9	2 Thessalonians 3	2 Kings 7-8	Proverbs 8
JUL 10	1 Timothy 1	Obadiah 1	Proverbs 9
JUL 11	1 Timothy 2	2 Chronicles 22	Proverbs 10
JUL 12	1 Timothy 3	Joel 1-3	Proverbs 11
JUL 13	1 Timothy 4	2 Kings 9-10	Proverbs 12
JUL 14	1 Timothy 5	2 Kings 11-12	Proverbs 13
JUL 15	1 Timothy 6	2 Kings 13-14	Proverbs 14
JUL 16	2 Timothy 1	Jonah 1-4	Proverbs 15
JUL 17	2 Timothy 2	Amos 1-2	Proverbs 16
JUL 18	2 Timothy 3	Amos 3-5	Proverbs 17
JUL 19	2 Timothy 4	Amos 6-7	Proverbs 18
JUL 20	Titus 1	Amos 8-9	Proverbs 19
JUL 21	Titus 2	2 Chronicles 23-24	Proverbs 20
JUL 22	Titus 3	2 Chronicles 25-26	Proverbs 21
JUL 23	Philemon 1	Isaiah 1-2	Proverbs 22
JUL 24	Matthew 1	Isaiah 3-4	Proverbs 23
JUL 25	Matthew 2	Isaiah 5-6	Proverbs 24
JUL 26	Matthew 3	2 Chronicles 27-28	Proverbs 25
JUL 27	Matthew 4	2 Kings 15-16	Proverbs 26
JUL 28	Matthew 5	Isaiah 7-8	Proverbs 27
JUL 29	Matthew 6	Isaiah 9-10	Proverbs 28
JUL 30	Matthew 7	Isaiah 11-12	Proverbs 29
JUL 31	Matthew 8	Isaiah 13-14	Proverbs 30

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Let not steadfast love and faithfulness forsake you;
bind them around your neck; write them on the tablet
of your heart. - Proverbs 3:3

July 2018

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 40-Day Season of Prayer (Jul 1–Aug 9)	2	3	4	5	6 Corporate W&I	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14 Cell Supervisors Training Bilingual Healing Service
15	16	17	18 All Leaders Meeting BBTC AGM	19	20	21 Cell Supervisors Training
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

bible reading for Aug

AUG 1	Matthew 9	Isaiah 15-16	Proverbs 31
AUG 2	Matthew 10	Isaiah 17-18	Psalms 1
AUG 3	Matthew 11	Isaiah 19-20	Psalms 2
AUG 4	Matthew 12	Isaiah 21-22	Psalms 3
AUG 5	Matthew 13	Isaiah 23-24	Psalms 4
AUG 6	Matthew 14	Isaiah 25-26	Psalms 5
AUG 7	Matthew 15	Isaiah 27-28	Psalms 6
AUG 8	Matthew 16	Isaiah 29-30	Psalms 7
AUG 9	Matthew 17	Isaiah 31-32	Psalms 8
AUG 10	Matthew 18	Isaiah 33-34	Psalms 9
AUG 11	Matthew 19	Isaiah 35-36	Psalms 10
AUG 12	Matthew 20	Isaiah 37-38	Psalms 11
AUG 13	Matthew 21	Isaiah 39-40	Psalms 12
AUG 14	Matthew 22	Isaiah 41-42	Psalms 13
AUG 15	Matthew 23	Isaiah 43-44	Psalms 14
AUG 16	Matthew 24	Isaiah 45-46	Psalms 15
AUG 17	Matthew 25	Isaiah 47-48	Psalms 16
AUG 18	Matthew 26	Isaiah 49-50	Psalms 17
AUG 19	Matthew 27	Isaiah 51-52	Psalms 18
AUG 20	Matthew 28	Isaiah 53-54	Psalms 19
AUG 21	Hebrews 1	Isaiah 55-56	Psalms 20
AUG 22	Hebrews 2	Isaiah 57-58	Psalms 21
AUG 23	Hebrews 3	Isaiah 59-60	Psalms 22
AUG 24	Hebrews 4	Isaiah 61-62	Psalms 23
AUG 25	Hebrews 5	Isaiah 63-64	Psalms 24
AUG 26	Hebrews 6	Isaiah 65-66	Psalms 25
AUG 27	Hebrews 7	2 Kings 17	Psalms 26
AUG 28	Hebrews 8	2 Kings 18-19	Psalms 27
AUG 29	Hebrews 9	2 Chronicles 29-30	Psalms 28
AUG 30	Hebrews 10	2 Chronicles 31-32	Psalms 29
AUG 31	Hebrews 11	Hosea 1-3	Psalms 30





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Do all the good you can. By all the means you can. In all the ways you can. In all the places you can. At all the times you can. To all the people you can. As long as ever you can.
- John Wesley (Founder of Methodist Movement)

August 2018

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3 Corporate W&I	4 RTF Batch 3 (Teach-in) Pre-marital Course Batch 2
5 Baptism Service	6	7	8 Day of His Power Prayer Concert	9 <i>National Day</i>	10	11 Pre-marital Course Batch 2 Bilingual Healing Service
12	13	14	15 DTC 3	16	17	18 Pre-marital Course Batch 2
19 DTC 3	20	21	22 <i>Hari Raya Haji</i>	23	24	25 RTF Batch 3 (Ministry Day) Pre-marital Course Batch 2
26 DTC 3	27	28	29 DTC 3	30	31	

bible reading for Sep

			
SEPT 1	Hebrews 12.....	Hosea 4-5.....	Psalms 31.....
SEPT 2	Hebrews 13.....	Hosea 6-7.....	Psalms 32.....
SEPT 3	James 1.....	Hosea 8-10.....	Psalms 33.....
SEPT 4	James 2.....	Hosea 11-12.....	Psalms 34.....
SEPT 5	James 3.....	Hosea 13-14.....	Psalms 35.....
SEPT 6	James 4.....	Micah 1-2.....	Psalms 36.....
SEPT 7	James 5.....	Micah 3-4.....	Psalms 37.....
SEPT 8	Mark 1.....	Micah 5-7.....	Psalms 38.....
SEPT 9	Mark 2.....	2 Kings 20-21.....	Psalms 39.....
SEPT 10	Mark 3.....	2 Chronicles 33-34.....	Psalms 40.....
SEPT 11	Mark 4.....	Zephaniah 1-3.....	Psalms 41.....
SEPT 12	Mark 5.....	Nahum 1-3.....	Psalms 42.....
SEPT 13	Mark 6.....	2 Chronicles 35.....	Psalms 43.....
SEPT 14	Mark 7.....	Habakkuk 1-3.....	Psalms 44.....
SEPT 15	Mark 8.....	Jeremiah 1-2.....	Psalms 45.....
SEPT 16	Mark 9.....	Jeremiah 3-4.....	Psalms 46.....
SEPT 17	Mark 10.....	Jeremiah 5-6.....	Psalms 47.....
SEPT 18	Mark 11.....	Jeremiah 11-12.....	Psalms 48.....
SEPT 19	Mark 12.....	Jeremiah 26.....	Psalms 49.....
SEPT 20	Mark 13.....	Jeremiah 7-8.....	Psalms 50.....
SEPT 21	Mark 14.....	Jeremiah 9-10.....	Psalms 51.....
SEPT 22	Mark 15.....	Jeremiah 14-15.....	Psalms 52.....
SEPT 23	Mark 16.....	Jeremiah 16-17.....	Psalms 53.....
SEPT 24	1 Peter 1.....	Jeremiah 18-20.....	Psalms 54.....
SEPT 25	1 Peter 2.....	Jeremiah 35-36.....	Psalms 55.....
SEPT 26	1 Peter 3.....	Jeremiah 13, 22.....	Psalms 56.....
SEPT 27	1 Peter 4.....	Jeremiah 23-24.....	Psalms 57.....
SEPT 28	1 Peter 5.....	2 Kings 22-23.....	Psalms 58.....
SEPT 29	2 Peter 1.....	2 Chronicles 36:1-8.....	Psalms 59.....
SEPT 30	2 Peter 2.....	Daniel 1-2.....	Psalms 60.....

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Wherever there is a human being, there is an opportunity for kindness
— Seneca (Roman Philosopher)

September 2018

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1 RTF Batch 3 (Ministry Day) Pre-marital Course Batch 2
2 DTC 3	3	4	5 DTC 3	6 Pre-parenting Course Batch 2	7 Corporate W&I	8 Pre-marital Course Batch 2 Bilingual Healing Service
9 DTC 3	10	11	12 DTC 3 All Leaders Meeting	13 Pre-parenting Course Batch 2	14	15 Pre-marital Course Batch 2 Core Leaders Conversation
16 DTC 3	17	18	19 DTC 3	20	21	22 Cell Leaders Training 2
23 DTC 3	24	25	26 DTC 3	27	28	29 Cell Leaders Training 2
30 DTC 3						

bible reading for Oct

OCT 1	2 Peter 3	Daniel 3-4	Psalm 61
OCT 2	Luke 1	Daniel 7-8	Psalm 62
OCT 3	Luke 2	Daniel 5-6	Psalm 63
OCT 4	Luke 3	Daniel 9-10	Psalm 64
OCT 5	Luke 4	Daniel 11-12	Psalm 65
OCT 6	Luke 5	2 King 24-25	Psalm 66
OCT 7	Luke 6	2 Chronicles 36:9-10	Psalm 67
OCT 8	Luke 7	Ezekiel 1-3	Psalm 68
OCT 9	Luke 8	Ezekiel 4-6	Psalm 69
OCT 10	Luke 9	Ezekiel 7-8	Psalm 70
OCT 11	Luke 10	Ezekiel 9-10	Psalm 71
OCT 12	Luke 11	Ezekiel 11-12	Psalm 72
OCT 13	Luke 12	Ezekiel 13-14	Psalm 73
OCT 14	Luke 13	Ezekiel 15-16	Psalm 74
OCT 15	Luke 14	Ezekiel 17-18	Psalm 75
OCT 16	Luke 15	Ezekiel 19-20	Psalm 76
OCT 17	Luke 16	Ezekiel 21-22	Psalm 77
OCT 18	Luke 17	Ezekiel 23-24	Psalm 78
OCT 19	Luke 18	Ezekiel 25, 29:1-16	Psalm 79
OCT 20	Luke 19	Ezekiel 26-27	Psalm 80
OCT 21	Luke 20	Ezekiel 28, 30:20-26	Psalm 81
OCT 22	Luke 21	Ezekiel 31-32	Psalm 82
OCT 23	Luke 22	Ezekiel 33-35	Psalm 83
OCT 24	Luke 23	Ezekiel 36-37	Psalm 84
OCT 25	Luke 24	Ezekiel 38-39	Psalm 85
OCT 26	1 John 1	Ezekiel 40-41	Psalm 86
OCT 27	1 John 2	Ezekiel 42-43	Psalm 87
OCT 28	1 John 3	Ezekiel 44-45	Psalm 88
OCT 29	1 John 4	Ezekiel 46-47	Psalm 89
OCT 30	1 John 5	Ezekiel 48, 29:17-30:19	Psalm 90
OCT 31	2 John 1	Jeremiah 45, 25	Psalm 91

66

The LORD is righteous in all his ways and kind in all his works. -Psalm 145:17

October 2018

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3 DTC 3	4	5 Corporate W&I	6
7 DTC 3 National Day of Prayer	8	9	10 DTC 3	11	12	13 Bilingual Healing Service
14 DTC 3	15	16	17 DTC 3	18	19	20
21 DTC 3	22	23	24 DTC 3	25	26	27
28 DTC 3	29	30	31 DTC 3			

bible reading for Nov

NOV 1	3 John 1	Jeremiah 46-47	Psalm 92
NOV 2	John 1	Jeremiah 48-49	Psalm 93
NOV 3	John 2	2 Chronicles 36:11-21, Jer. 27 ...	Psalm 94
NOV 4	John 3	Jeremiah 28-29	Psalm 95
NOV 5	John 4	Jeremiah 50-51	Psalm 96
NOV 6	John 5	Jeremiah 30-31	Psalm 97
NOV 7	John 6	Jeremiah 32-33	Psalm 98
NOV 8	John 7	Jeremiah 21, 34	Psalm 99
NOV 9	John 8	Jeremiah 37-38	Psalm 100
NOV 10	John 9	Jeremiah 39, 52	Psalm 101
NOV 11	John 10	Jeremiah 40-42	Psalm 102
NOV 12	John 11	Jeremiah 43-44	Psalm 103
NOV 13	John 12	Lamentations 1-2	Psalm 104
NOV 14	John 13	Lamentations 3	Psalm 105
NOV 15	John 14	Lamentations 4-5	Psalm 106
NOV 16	John 15	2 Chronicles 36:22-23	Psalm 107
NOV 17	John 16	Ezra 1-2	Psalm 108
NOV 18	John 17	Ezra 3-4	Psalm 109
NOV 19	John 18	Haggai 1-2	Psalm 110
NOV 20	John 19	Zechariah 1-3	Psalm 111
NOV 21	John 20	Zechariah 4-6	Psalm 112
NOV 22	John 21	Zechariah 7-8	Psalm 113
NOV 23	Jude 1	Zechariah 9-10	Psalm 114
NOV 24	Revelation 1	Zechariah 11-12	Psalm 115
NOV 25	Revelation 2	Zechariah 13-14	Psalm 116
NOV 26	Revelation 3	Ezra 5-6	Psalm 117
NOV 27	Revelation 4	Esther 1-2	Psalm 118
NOV 28	Revelation 5	Esther 3-4	Psalm 119:1-88
NOV 29	Revelation 6	Esther 5-6	Psalm 119:89-176
NOV 30	Revelation 7	Esther 7-8	Psalm 120

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Kindness is a language which the dumb can speak,
the deaf can understand
- C.N. Bovee (American Writer)

November 2018

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2 Corporate W&I	3 RTF Batch 4 (Teach-in) BBTC 32nd Anniversary
4 DTC 3 BBTC 32nd Anniversary	5	6 <i>Deepavali</i>	7 DTC 3	8	9	10 Bilingual Healing Service
11 DTC 3	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21 All Leaders Meeting	22	23	24 RTF Batch 4 (Ministry Day)
25	26	27	28	29	30	

bible reading for Dec

DEC 1	Revelation 8	Esther 9-10	Psalms 121
DEC 2	Revelation 9	Ezra 7-8	Psalms 122
DEC 3	Revelation 10	Ezra 9-10	Psalms 123
DEC 4	Revelation 11	Nehemiah 1-3	Psalms 124
DEC 5	Revelation 12	Nehemiah 4-5	Psalms 125
DEC 6	Revelation 13	Nehemiah 6-7	Psalms 126
DEC 7	Revelation 14	Nehemiah 8-9	Psalms 127
DEC 8	Revelation 15	Nehemiah 10-11	Psalms 128
DEC 9	Revelation 16	Nehemiah 12-13	Psalms 129
DEC 10	Revelation 17	Malachi 1-2	Psalms 130
DEC 11	Revelation 18	Malachi 3-4	Psalms 131
DEC 12	Revelation 19	Job 1-2	Psalms 132
DEC 13	Revelation 20	Job 3-5	Psalms 133
DEC 14	Revelation 21	Job 6-7	Psalms 134
DEC 15	Revelation 22	Job 8-10	Psalms 135
DEC 16	2 Corinthians 4	Job 11-12	Psalms 136
DEC 17	Hebrews 10	Job 13-14	Psalms 137
DEC 18	Hebrews 11	Job 15-17	Psalms 138
DEC 19	Hebrews 12	Job 18-19	Psalms 139
DEC 20	Philippians 1	Job 20-21	Psalms 140
DEC 21	Philippians 2	Job 22-24	Psalms 141
DEC 22	Philippians 3	Job 25-26	Psalms 142
DEC 23	Philippians 4	Job 27-28	Psalms 143
DEC 24	Luke 1	Job 29-31	Psalms 144
DEC 25	Luke 2	Job 32-33	Psalms 145
DEC 26	Luke 3	Job 34-35	Psalms 146
DEC 27	Luke 4	Job 36-37	Psalms 147
DEC 28	1 Corinthians 15	Job 38-39	Psalms 148
DEC 29	Colossians 3	Job 40-41	Psalms 149
DEC 30	2 Timothy 3	Job 42	Psalms 150
DEC 31	Ephesians 4	Psalms 1, 63	Psalms 103

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How beautiful a day can be when kindness touches it!
- George Elliston (American Journalist)

December 2018

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1 RTF Batch 4 (Ministry Day)
2	3	4	5	6	7 Corporate W&I	8 Bilingual Healing Service
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25 <i>Christmas Day</i> Christmas Day Baptism Service	26	27	28	29
30	31 Watchnight Service					

LIVING *Generously*

This devotional was written by Mike DeVries

I will make you into a great nation, and I will bless you. I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you and whoever curses you I will curse; and all the peoples on earth will be blessed through you. — **Genesis 12:2-3**

In today's Scripture, we read that God makes an astounding statement to the patriarch Abraham. God lays upon Abraham an incredible blessing. Yet, with the blessing also came a tremendous responsibility.

Perhaps we've been trained to see the word "blessing" and automatically think of it as being directed toward our personal being. God "blesses"; we receive the "blessing."

Yet if we look more closely at what God says to Abraham, it quickly becomes apparent that blessings are always something to be given away. We have not been blessed in order to enjoy them for ourselves, as if we were hoarding the last piece of birthday cake long after the party is over. No, in fact we have been blessed in order to be a blessing.

Take a quick look at **Genesis 12:2-3** once again. Notice that only once does God tell Abraham that He will bless him, while three times God tells Abraham that others will be blessed through him. God does not bless us in order for us to feel good about ourselves or merely because He wants us to enjoy His blessings for ourselves. This misses the point completely. God blesses us so that we in turn can bless others.

In other words, to live generously is to fully live in tune with the heart of God. Receive, so that you can give. Live generously, because this is the way God lives.

Apparently, living generously has a far greater impact than we might ever know. When we choose to live generously – giving, loving, blessing, encouraging, lending, and mending that which is broken – we leave a legacy for the next generation. When we model generosity, we instill in the next generation that generosity is a value to be embraced. As we are a blessing to others, our children see this value and will more readily embrace it as their own. We ensure that the cycle of blessing continues.

In a society that far too often is absorbed in self – self-advancement, self-promotion, even self-blessing – what kind of legacy are we leaving for the next generation? Is it one that is saturated in self, or is it one that sees the blessing of others as central to the message of God?

You have been blessed. Now it's your turn.

FURTHER READING:

Psalms 37:25-40; Matthew 6:19-24, Matthew 25:31-46; Luke 21:1-4

Going Deeper

What would it look like for us to live generously? What would we value?

How might that change the way we live?

What are some ways in which you can live generously this week?

PAY IT FORWARD

By Joel Meeker

POPULAR CATCHPHRASES CAN BE SHALLOW AND TRITE. BUT THE CONCEPT OF 'PAYING IT FORWARD' ACTUALLY HAS AN AMAZING HISTORY AND A POWERFUL POTENTIAL TO DO GOOD.

It's a very old and intriguing idea. Benjamin Franklin believed and practiced it. Ralph Waldo Emerson wrote of it. Science-fiction masters Robert Heinlein and Ray Bradbury illustrated it in their work.

Some believe it actually dates from the Greek playwright Menander in the 300s B.C. In reality the concept is much more ancient than that; it has existed since the beginning of time.

More recently it was made popular in a 1999 novel by Catherine Ryan Hyde and a popular film released the next year. Both bore the title that crystallizes the concept: *Pay It Forward*. This phrase encourages us to do a good deed for people in need and, when thanked, to ask them to repay the good to someone else.

DOING "A DEAL OF GOOD"

Benjamin Franklin's practice is found in a letter to Benjamin Webb in 1784:

"I send you herewith a Bill for Ten Louis d'ors [French gold coins]. I do not pretend to *give* such a Sum; I only *lend* it to you. When you shall return to your Country with a good Character, you cannot fail of getting into some Business, that will in time enable you to pay all your Debts. In that Case, when you meet with another honest Man in similar Distress, you must pay me by lending this Sum to him; enjoining him to discharge the Debt by a like operation, when he shall be able, and shall meet with another opportunity. I

hope it may thus go thro' many hands, before it meets with a Knave that will stop its Progress.

“This is a trick of mine for doing a deal of good with a little money.”

Encouraging those we help to *pay it forward* can indeed multiply the good we practice.

Several “pay it forward”-oriented foundations now encourage the practice in various ways. One sells plastic bracelets with the motto inscribed as a wearable reminder to look for opportunities to do good for others. The bracelets are intended to be passed on to a beneficiary as a reminder to keep the chain of good deeds unbroken.

THE ORIGIN OF GOOD GIFTS

This idea, whether in its modern adaptations or its ancient applications, actually has an older and more important source than any human history: God created it, and He has practiced it since “the beginning.”

We see this in **James 1:16-17**: “Do not be deceived, my beloved brethren. Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning.”

Everything good we experience in life is a gift from God, where good starts. He doesn't owe anyone anything; He has no debts to repay. He doesn't practice “random acts” of kindness; His blessings are all significant and serve the transcendent purpose of human life.

Whatever good we are capable of doing is only possible because God gave us the means, starting with the breath of life: “In Him we live and move and have our being” (**Acts 17:28**).

THE GOLDEN RULE

The Bible enjoins upon Christians the necessity of passing on to others

the good God has done to them. Jesus' simple statement is now often known as the Golden Rule: "Therefore, whatever you want men to do to you, do also to them, for this is the Law and the Prophets" (**Matthew 7:12**).

Doing good in this way sums up God's relationship principles in the Bible.

We should strive to do good deeds wherever we can. No one should be excluded, though fellow Christians deserve extra attention. "And let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart. Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all, especially to those who are of the household of faith" (**Galatians 6:9-10**).

The Bible, then, encourages us to reflect on the good God has done in our lives and to pass it on to others.

WHAT GOOD DOES THE BIBLE SAY WE SHOULD PAY FORWARD?

1. LOVE

"We love Him because He first loved us. If someone says, 'I love God,' and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen, how can he love God whom he has not seen? And this commandment we have from Him: that he who loves God must love his brother also" (**1 John 4:19-21**).

When we realize how much God loves us, and how many good things He is doing for us now and will do for us in the future, we love Him in return. And when that happens, we have a responsibility to love our fellow human beings. That divine, selfless, altruistic love that we receive from our Father in heaven must be paid forward to His other children.

One of the concepts in the novel *Pay It Forward* is that good deeds are more powerful if done for people we don't know or wouldn't naturally want to help. This, too, is a reflection of God's character and His will for us. When God begins to work with us, doing good to us, we're not good.

When we realize how much God loves us, and how many good things

He is doing for us now and will do for us in the future, we love Him in return. And when that happens, we have a responsibility to love our fellow human beings.

“But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him. For if when we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life. And not only that, but we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received the reconciliation” **(Romans 5:8-11).**

God shows mercy to us when we are still “enemies,” living in violation of His will. Jesus was willing to die for people who were opposing Him.

We must pay forward this kind of love. Jesus stated, “I say to you, love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you, that you may be sons of your Father in heaven; for He makes His sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust” **(Matthew 5:44-45).**

2. RECONCILIATION

“Now all things are of God, who has reconciled us to Himself through Jesus Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation, that is, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not imputing their trespasses to them, and has committed to us the word of reconciliation. Now then, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were pleading through us: we implore you on Christ’s behalf, be reconciled to God” **(2 Corinthians 5:18-20).**

Through Christ’s sacrifice, God reconciled us to Him. That is, He healed and restored our relationship, which had been broken by our sins. Now we are told we have a ministry (service) of

reconciliation, to do what we can to help people be reconciled with God and with each other. Working collectively to proclaim the way to reconciliation with God is part of the mission of the Church. We should also individually seek ways to help restore fractured friendships and heal wounded family relationships.

3. HOPE

“But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear” **(1 Peter 3:15)**.

The world is growing increasingly dark and forbidding. Fears of wars and terrorism, crime, disease epidemics, religious persecution, economic crises and other ills are causing many people to doubt there can be a bright future. Some live in despair.

Christians live in the hope of God’s promises that, though the planet will traverse a very dark time, the world will finally see the ultimate happy ending. And those who walk with God can be assured of His care and protection even in the most difficult circumstances **(Hebrews 13:5-6)**.

We need to be prepared to share that hope with others who ask about our faith and confidence. This will become more important as the days further darken. We should be prepared to pay forward the hope that God has given us.

4. THE GOSPEL OF THE KINGDOM

Jesus chose 12 disciples and sent them out on a mission. He said, “And as you go, preach, saying, ‘The kingdom of heaven is at hand.’ Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out demons. Freely you have received, freely give” **(Matthew 10:7-8)**.

He told the disciples that they had been taught the truth of God without charge, and they were to pay that forward to others without cost. This is the reason *Discern* has no subscription cost. We who produce this magazine learned the truth of the gospel of the Kingdom of God for free, made possible by the contributions of those who supported the work of God in the past. We now pay this forward to you without obligation.

We hope that if you feel thankful for learning these biblical truths, you will become involved in continuing this work and help make it possible to pay it forward to others.

While we are told to be ready to share this hope with those who ask us individually, sharing the gospel is mostly a collective effort.

DO YOUR PART

Passing on good deeds may seem like a modern idea, but it is as old as the work God is doing with humanity. He has given us life and everything else we need to achieve our potential—eternal life in the family of God. Let's take the good things God has done for us and do our part to pay them forward.

Question for Reflection

What has God put in your hands?

[illegible]

FIVE DISCOVERIES

That Empower Evangelism

By Steve Sjogren

“I took my first stab at premeditated kindness by organising a free car wash while starting a new church in Oslo, Norway. The first customer was a member of the Socialist Agnostic political party, whom our Norwegian friends felt incapable of talking to her for fear of difficult questions. Even though I spoke Norwegian with a noticeable accent, I engaged our customer in conversation. “Hi, we’re going to wash your car for free.”

“Okay, but why?”

“We want to show you God’s love in a tangible way. His love is without monetary value and so is ours!” I said.

When we finished washing the car, the lady was weeping to the amazement of our Norwegian friends. She rolled down the window and said, “I am fifty years old and have lived in a so-called Christian nation all my life. I’ve heard people talk and talk about God for a long time and have opposed them. I determined a long time ago they weren’t real in their love and so God must not be real. But today, this is the first time I have experienced any of God’s love. What I have seen here is real!”

As she pulled away, two Mormon missionaries drove up. As we washed their car, these missionaries were also surprised we wouldn’t take their money.

“Why are you doing this?” they asked.

“Just to show God’s love in a practical way!” I had never met a speechless Mormon missionary. They were dumbfounded because we had demonstrated the reality of God that no verbal comeback could match.

We went back to our hometown at Cincinnati, Ohio, a year later after gaining new insights from Norway. We thought Cincinnati would be more welcoming of what we had to offer but we were wrong.

Cincinnati is friendly, but in a skeptical way. New ideas do not catch up quickly here. Mark Twain wrote over 100 years ago, "When the end of time comes, I want to be in Cincinnati because everything happens ten years later there."

Not only was the weather unwelcoming, the people were skeptical of the ideas we presented. Our new fellowship grew at a snail's pace. From my early Christian days as part of the Jesus Movement, I was conditioned to think my job was to open the Bible and automatically large crowds would assemble. I was wrong.

I found myself at a point in my own life, stuck in a mode of perpetual preparation - acquiring equipment for spiritual warfare that would never be used unless I go out of the castle walls. As a leader I was very focused on the idea of getting the people properly prepared. My life's motto could have been phrased, "Ready, aim... Ready, aim..." I was stuck in perpetual readiness and never got to "fire".

"Fire" meant stepping out to change. Like many Christians, I was afraid of obeying the Lord - afraid of change, failure and disappointment if things did not go well. I would have never admitted to resisting the forward progress of God's kingdom, but my fearful attitude towards change serve as a continual blockage. As low as our numbers were, I was fearful of losing the little that we had accumulated.

The changing point for me came when I felt the Lord spoke to me, "If you will befriend my friends, I will send you more people than you will know what to do with." I had no idea who God's 'friends' were, but those words proved to be a turning point in my heart and our fledgling church. Over the next few weeks, I searched the scriptures, prayed and asked, "Who are God's friends?" I noticed that Jesus loves everyone and enjoyed some more than

others. His heart especially went out to the poor, the sick, and the lost. Even the twelve men he chose as his disciples (with the exception of Judas Iscariot), were from Galilee, the poor section of Palestine.

I knew that my job was to minister to the hurting but I did not know how. People were more skeptical of the church than ever. After all, hadn't I already received several hundred rejections to my new fellowship?

Then, a new idea began to form. If the church could meet people on the basis of serving our way into their hearts, maybe we could catch people's attention. The idea worth pursuing was much more central to the heart of God: to bring the kingdom of God to this city through acts of love and mercy. Everything in the Christian life flows out of the first commandment: to love God with all our heart, soul and mind (**Matthew 22:37-38**). The vertical love, from God to us, lays the foundation of any love. Horizontal love for our neighbour is made possible through the love of God. Let me share with you five discoveries that empowered me to bring Christ to others.

1. PEOPLE LISTEN WHEN I TREAT THEM LIKE FRIENDS

The project that we did in Oslo was repeated in Cincinnati and it bore fruit immediately. We displayed several banners saying "Free Car Wash - No Money Accepted". The team began washing, cleaning windows and tires, vacuuming and sharing why we were doing this. Many people drove by with a jaded look on their face as if to say, "Right. Nothing is really for free. There's got to be a catch".

Our first customer was a haggard looking, single mom in an old station wagon. We could see in her eyes that life has been hard on her. We gave her a cold drink and explained our project to her while we washed her car. Before leaving she asked for prayer and cried as we asked God to begin to show himself to her. This mother left with a smile. It was clear that our small gift of service had turned her day around.

The second car that pulled in was a stainless steel sports car whose gray haired driver was a wealthy Cincinnati. "How much?" he asked.

“It’s free,” we answered. The man nodded slightly with a quizzical look.

As we finished, he asked, “To whom shall I make out my check?”

“No, sir, we really aren’t taking any money for washing your car. We did this just because God loves you.” He repeated himself and began to show some irritation that we were so slow in understanding his simple question. For the third time, I told him we would not take his money because it is a free car wash. To my surprise, tears welled up in his eyes. This man was very touched.

Many other people were strongly touched that afternoon in way mere talk could not accomplish. We ended our time with prayer and thanksgiving for God’s favour. Someone commented, “Jesus was right, it is really more blessed to give than to receive.” That day we began to see and feel the pain of those we served. We sensed our hearts being enlarged and looking more like his than when we’d begun. Most important, we had made a lasting discovery: people respond to the message of the church when we approach them as friends.

Jesus’ love and acceptance includes everyone, we all need to be constantly striving to increase the capacity of our hearts to the degree that we accept and love the way God loves. Our hearts are never static; they are either growing or shrinking. The mark of an expanding heart is one that is unoffendable by those who are different. To keep our hearts growing, we must talk in the agape or unconditional love Jesus showed us in the miracles he performed, and ultimately, demonstrated on the cross.

2. WHEN I SERVE, HEARTS ARE TOUCHED

As Christians, it is our nature to serve. We are indwelt by the Holy Spirit who lived in Jesus while he walked the earth. Paul describes Jesus’ life and ministry in terms of a servant. “Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.” (**Philippians 2:5-8**).

When we come to Christ, God grants us a new nature which is different from our old self-centred nature. As we encounter the life of God, we grow to have the same nature as Jesus. As we live out that nature by serving others, we are able to influence the lives of others.

The call of God is in direct opposition to our cultural conditioning. Growing up, I grew to see the poor, the sick and the lost as people who were getting what they had deserved. My oversimplified view of life told me that my family did well because we were wise and hardworking.

John 13 records the events of the Last Supper, a clear example of the priority Jesus placed on serving. Gayle Erwin explores the significance of this meeting in his book, *The Jesus Style*:

Imagine Jesus, biceps bulging beneath a seamless robe with flowing cape, reclining at supper with his disciples. The forces of evil have been collecting for months and are about to kill him, but don't worry, all the power ever created is coursing through his body. He gets up - this man surrounded by overwhelming evil forces - walks over to the disciples and with all this incredible power... begins to do what? He "rose from supper. He laid aside his outer garments, and taking a towel, tied it around his waist. Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel that was wrapped around him." (**John 13:4-5**). So that is what he does with power! He washes feet.

The arena of the heart. We can choose to approach people in the arena of the mind or the heart. For the most part, traditional approaches to evangelism go head to head instead of heart to heart. We assume that if we would just get unbelievers to think straight, then we would see them come to Christ.

The mind certainly plays a part in coming to Christ, but the will is central in what Scripture frequently refers to as the heart. The *Evangelical Dictionary of Theology* defines 'heart' in the biblical sense as meaning "the centre or focus of man's personal life, the spring of all his desires, motives and moral choices". Thus, when we touch the heart, we have touched a person at a deep level.

The good news is that the heart is not unreachable. Our experience has

shown that a person's heart is most quickly touched by acts of service. As we touch the heart, which is the decision making centre of a person's life, we make a lasting impact. If the human heart is the ultimate target of our evangelism, why not target it from the very start?

3. AS I SERVE, I REDEFINE THE PERCEPTION OF A CHRISTIAN

A leader from my church told me about his experience in front of a local donut shop. His group was washing windshields in the parking lot when they noticed several customers watching them. A customer walked forward and said, "We've been watching you from inside the shop washing our windshields and were just wondering why you're doing this."

The leader answered, "We're showing God's love to you by cleaning your windshields for free." The customer went and told others back in the shop. From the smiles of the customers' faces, this group knew they had succeeded in redefining what it meant to be a Christian.

Serving is a catalyst for the kingdom of God to go forward into the world. Our credibility grows as we walk in servanthood and the greater our authority, the more the world will listen to our message. Jesus was empowered precisely because he came as a servant. **Philippians 2:9-11** tells us the end result. "Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father". As the ultimate servant, Jesus received ultimate authority from the Father. Because he had authority in the lives of those he served, Jesus was able to call people to repentance. When you serve, you influence.

Mother Teresa has been one of the most influential people on the earth because she has served perhaps more than anyone. Tony Campolo describes Mother Teresa's appearance at a Harvard University chapel service. At one point she said, "I understand there are many students here who are displeasing God... I have a message for you: Repent, turn away from what you are doing".

The result of her exhortation was amazing. The entire auditorium rose to their feet and applauded thunderously for several minutes. They gave this woman a standing ovation for calling them into repentance! Her credibility as a servant gave her authority as a speaker.

When people express a desire to love as Jesus does, I usually ask them if they are willing to serve without regard for the response. When they are willing, then I know they are beginning to move in the love of God.

4. DOING THE MESSAGE PRECEDES TELLING THE MESSAGE

Our church has offered free Christmas gift wrapping services as an outreach at nearby malls. We managed to talk to Claire, a recent divorcee. Impressed that we would not take her money, she took our fellowship's card, thanked us and left. Shortly after she left, Claire visited our church. After service she told me that she had thoroughly enjoyed herself, left and did not return for nearly 18 months. When she returned, she has been attending our fellowship meetings on a regular basis. Only a few weeks ago, Claire stood in front of the congregation and spoke of her experience of how she had come to our fellowship.

"I first learned about this church two years ago when I had my gifts wrapped. Due to the things that had gone on in my past, I was fearful of Christians and churches in general. If you attempted to tell me anything about Jesus then, I would have run away. Instead, you wrapped my presents for me, asked how my shopping was going, and you let me see that you cared about me. You did all that without asking for anything. When I saw that, I didn't need to be afraid anymore"

By serving this woman, we opened a door for the Lord to begin working in her heart. The sowing went for over a year, until she was 'ripe' for harvesting. Claire now has a personal relationship with Jesus and is growing from regular fellowship with other believers.

For too long, we have been insensitive to people's readiness to embrace

Christ. We have tended to treat everyone as though they are equally open to the idea of becoming a Christian. That is not true. Have we roughshod over Claire at the wrapping booth, she would have chalked up another negative experience with overly excited Christians.

At one time I thought the person with the best argument was declared the winner. After speaking to many non-Christians, most arguments about the gospel do not go very far in bringing people to Christ. It is perceived to be unloving and harsh. Those few unbelievers who enjoy arguing are typically going to believe what they want to believe, no matter how persuasive an evangelist might be.

I believe the process of coming to Jesus Christ is similar to the concept of falling in love with the person you'll eventually marry. The metaphor of the Church (bride) as Jesus (bridegroom) runs throughout the whole New Testament. I have not known anyone who met someone, fell utterly in love, and then married that person all in the space of fifteen minutes. Such a notion of marriage sounds silly to us, but that picture is not too different from what we have assumed in much of our evangelistic efforts.

The traditional approach involves telling the message and having a call to response. This typifies most tracts and gospel messages in our day. Evangelists have believed that if we tell the gospel more clearly, we will be more effective. I believe we are partly right, but by and large have oversimplified the process of leading others to Christ.

A great shortfall of this approach is that it cuts out a strong weapon: the kindness of God. It is one thing to tell the gospel and another to communicate the love of God. We have been guilty of sending the message from our methods than exemplifying Jesus' approach, from individual to individual and from heart to heart.

Evangelism messages often apply **2 Corinthians 6:2b**, "Now is the day of salvation". Now is the day of salvation if that happens to coincide with God's timetable for that particular person. What is the Spirit of the Lord doing in

the hearts of those we encounter? As Jesus said in **John 6:44**, “No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws him. “ Applying human pressure on someone is likely to do more harm than good. I no longer expect that each person that I encounter will necessarily agree with the gospel on the spot. I do expect that something significant is taking place in people’s hearts, whether they accept Christ at that moment or not.

Our aim has been to make evangelism a part of everything we do. We’ve found out that where a spirit of evangelism is welcomed, people come to Christ in the most random of events, whether evangelism programs are going on or not. From the beginning, our aspiration has been to launch a style of evangelism that would become part of our everyday lives in practical ways. We have discovered over again that as we come with a heart to serve people instead of a heart to tell or talk down to them, they are very receptive.

At Cincinnati, thousands of seeds of service and love have gone around. Each act of service has touched someone’s life - someone who usually goes on to tell others about what was done for them in the name of the Lord. In short, when we touch the lives of people where they really live, those people who have been served go on to becoming walking advertisements for the kingdom of God.

More people than ever are hungry for God. But if we come to unbelievers with a message of “Get right with God or get left,” we are forcing them out of the kingdom, it may take some time to make the transition. Too often we try to make people decide for or against the Lord far too early in the process. What should be considered a ‘working in progress’ is often labelled as ‘rejection’.

Certainly, there is a time and place for a verbal presentation of the gospel. As Paul says, “How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching?” (**Romans 10:14**). Nevertheless, I believe we have reversed the natural order of evangelism. We are to love with actions first, then preach the gospel. Of course we must bring the message of the good news, but confining that message to words alone is a huge mistake.

St. Francis said it best, “Wherever you go, preach the gospel, and if necessary, use words.”

5. FOCUS ON PLANTING, NOT HARVESTING

A woman was led in the prayer of repentance for six times in two years by a person called Keith. Some might ask, “Why pray the same prayer so many times when only once is necessary?” The woman prayed the same heartfelt prayer, but for some reason, did not ‘take’ until they prayed on the seventh occasion.

Most Christians I know would have taken the woman to scriptures and encouraged her to believe in God’s truth. To quote a famous tract, she should get the train of ‘faith-fact-feeling’ aligned properly. Keith was instinctive enough to keep on planting seeds of faith and love. Most importantly, Keith realised that God is the one doing the real work of evangelism.

Planting a seed, not closing a deal. Paul was one of the best educated men of his generation. His intellect was challenged by the rich, famous and well-bred intellectual set of Athens (**Acts 17**). When he spoke, things usually happened. Yet Luke describes the less than enthusiastic response to Paul’s preaching: “So Paul went out from their midst. But some men joined him and believed” (**Acts 17:33-34a**). A few is better than none, but Paul was not used to such a meager response. As he left for Athens for Corinth, this great preacher was shaken to the core by his experience. Later he wrote, “And I was with you in weakness and in fear and much trembling, and my speech and my message were not in plausible words of wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power” (**1 Corinthians 2:3-4**). Paul’s entire view of evangelism changed. Paul no longer put his trust on finely crafted words, but in the dependence on the power of the Holy Spirit for his success in ministry.

Paul clearly perceived an important truth: only the Holy Spirit can bring a person to faith. Evangelism is a process: “I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. So neither he who plants nor he who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth.” (**1 Corinthians 3:6-7**). Human beings can

play a crucial role in bringing the good news to others, but it is God alone who wins the hearts.

When we talk about evangelism, we do not usually talk about the planting-watering-harvesting cycle that Paul describes. We mean the results - harvesting alone. This has tainted our approach to bringing others to Christ.

When I would pray with someone to accept Christ, I used to say that, "I led the person to the Lord." I no longer use that inaccurate phrase. We are incapable of bringing anyone to Christ whom the Holy Spirit is not already drawing.

Evangelism is a process that begins with planting along the lines of what Paul did. He and others make it an ambition to preach the gospel, not where Christ has already been named, lest they build on someone else's foundation (**Romans 15:20**). Some would listen to the gospel and some would not. The process continued with the ministry of people like Apollos who watered and nurtured the already planted seed. At some point, God would eventually reap a harvest as someone came to faith in Christ Jesus.

In today's world, we desire instant gratification. I fear our cultural values of instant response and the bottom line have produced a distinctly American form of evangelism. When was the last time you heard someone get excited about planting seeds of God's love? Our evangelistic efforts are too often met with the question, "How many people have prayed to receive Christ?" If the numbers are low, we often get discouraged.

Paul had a different attitude. The general response to Paul's message in Athens was lackluster. If he evaluated the fruit of his ministry on the response on that particular day, he probably would have given up. But Paul was able to see evangelism as a process - one which God himself is overseeing in each case. Paul also recognised his own vital and distinct role, even if he did not get to see each planted seed come to fullness of faith.

When we rightly understand evangelism, we recognise that it is both a miracle and a mystery how any of us come to know Christ. I would have felt

somewhat guilty if I did not get people to say the sinner's prayer during every outreach. The pressure is not there anymore because I know God himself is overseeing this process, not me.

Am I disappointed when people do not respond? Hardly ever, because I know from many experiences that each person I meet is being worked on by the drawing power of the Holy Spirit. My joyful task is simply to bump them forward a notch or two through practical acts of love and service.

Question for Reflection

What are your feelings if people do not reciprocate when you share the gospel with them? How has this article provided some insights as to how God brings people to Him?

How has this article helped in shaping your beliefs about evangelism?

Where is God calling you to serve in with your giftings and portion in this season?

THE MISSIONARY

Says a Bad Word

By Mildred A. Martin

“Alfredo was just six years old and he was terribly frightened. Under the thin, ragged shirt he wore, his heartbeat fluttered against his ribs. Brown eyes wide, he stared at the big boy who was speaking.

“It’s true!” the older boy repeated with a mocking grin. “Pepe heard the principal talking. You little boys are going to be sent to the foreign missionaries’ Home, because you’re too small to live in the Observatory. Those foreigners are Gringos, white people from the United States. And you know why they have pale white skin instead of brown skin like ours?” The big boy leaned closer, and hissed, “It’s because they eat children! They will fatten you up until you’re nice and plump and then -” the boy drew a finger across his throat and rolled his eyes horribly - “they will eat you!”

Alfredo was too scared to reply. He stared mutely, eyes bright with unshed tears, as the big boy walked away laughing to join his friends. I wonder if Pedro is going to like that place, too? He thought. He is little like me!

Alfredo has never known much love in his short life. He had no idea where his parents were, or whether he even had any parents. He could just barely remember being brought to town several years before, by a man who had disappeared, leaving him all alone on the city street. Could that man have been Alfredo’s father? If so, why had he left him behind? Alfredo didn’t know. He had cried himself to sleep on the sidewalks and stolen food to eat when he was hungry, until at last a policeman had picked him up and brought him to the Boy’s Observatory. About 300 boys lived in the Observatory, penned up behind a large chainlink fence. Most of them were much older than Alfredo,

thieves and other young criminals who needed to be imprisoned. Life was tough inside that fence with hundreds of cruel, wicked big boys. But it's better than being eaten up, Alfredo thought with a shiver.

One tear slipped down his thin brown cheek as he scampered off to tell Pedro the bad news.

Roman Mullet, the missionary, whistled a happy tune as he walked down the street. As usual, a crowd of ragged boys followed at his heels, hoping that this kind-faced American would give them something. Roman loved children, and his heart went out to these poor young beggars on the streets of San Salvador. He had always had a kind word and a pocketful of coins to give them, but that seemed like so little. At last, Roman thought as he stopped at the heavy iron gate of the Boy's Observatory, at last our new Children's Home is ready! Now we can take home some of the poor orphans in this city and give them proper love and care.

"Here are the boys you are to take today," the principal of the Observatory said to Roman. "They are too young to live here, learning bad habits from our older boys. They will have much better care in your Children's Home. I don't know why they look so scared! Come on, boys," he scolded. "Be brave and behave yourselves!" This Gringo will take good care of you."

But Pedro and Alfredo did not smile. Their eyes were full of fears as they were placed in the missionaries' car. "My name is Roman Mullet, but you can call me Papi, and this lady will be your Mami," said the missionary. "We are so happy you are coming home with us!" he smiled broadly.

Alberto looked at the missionary's teeth and shivered.

"Poor little boys," Roman said softly to his wife Amanda in English. "They look so frightened! But we will soon cheer them up."

These white Gringos can't talk very well, Alfredo thought. They mix up their words like babies who are just learning to talk! Alfredo was right. Romans and Amanda Mullet had only been in El Salvador for a few years, so they were still learning how to speak Spanish.

When the two little boys arrived at their new home, they found it very different from the Observatory in the city. A pleasant, comfortable-looking house was ready for them, with clean soft beds, new clothes and even some toys to play with! Outside the house there was a big grassy yard and an orchard, with long rows of orange and lemon trees.

The Mullets already had a little girl named Rosa at the Children's Home, a beautiful brown-skinned toddler whom the police had found sitting alone on the sidewalk in a cardboard box. Then there was Jorge, a Salvadoran man who worked at the Home. His face was brown, too, and he spoke good Spanish! Alfredo felt a little bit better after he met Jorge.

Everyone at this new Children's Home was so kind and there was so much good food to eat! Little by little Alfredo and Pedro's fears slipped away. "Papi and Mami aren't going to eat us!" Pedro said boldly to the others one afternoon. "Those big boys were lying. It's much nicer here than at the Observatory!"

The boys grew happy and healthy, and sometimes they got into mischief.

"Senor Roman," Jorge complained to the missionary one day, "these boys use terrible language. We must teach them not to say such bad words! They must have learned them at the Observatory."

"What bad words are they saying?" Roman asked in surprise. "I don't understand enough Spanish to catch them. I guess."

"Words like this," Jorge replied, and he mentioned a word which good children in El Salvador never use.

The word sounded strange to Roman's ears. As he walked away, he repeated it silently over and over to himself, so that he would not forget. I must talk to the boys about this, the missionary thought soberly.

That evening when he gathered the children together for family worship, Roman tried to explain to Alfredo and Pedro, why God wanted them to have clean hearts and clean speech. "The Lord is not pleased when we swear and use bad words," he told them. "We do not want you to say bad words like this

any more, and we will try to help you break the habit. If you use such words again, we will need to punish you.”

Alfredo rolled his eyes meaningfully at Pedro. They had already learned that “Papi Roman” kept a small strap hanging in his office and used it to spank boys who did not obey. “Yes, Papi,” the boys agreed dutifully. “We won’t say that word anymore!”

But in their hearts, the boys did not understand the seriousness of bad language. Using swear words made them feel big and tough, so they did not stop. During the next few days, there were several times when “Papi” needed to use the strap on boys who said bad words.

As Roman Mullet listened to the boys at their play, he kept watching out for that bad word Jorge had warned him about. He had repeated it in his mind so many times that he knew it by heart! Patiently he kept on trying to teach the children to use clean language and clean habits.

That Saturday, “Papi” and “Mami” took some of the children into town to do some shopping. “You ladies can buy your things, then wait for us in the park,” Roman told his wife. “I’ll take the boys to get new pants and then we will meet you there.” Amanda, Rosa, and Carmen, a new girl at the Children’s Home, climbed out of the car and disappeared among the crowd.

Pedro and Alfredo followed “Papi” into the shop where they were to buy new pants and then into a few more stores. Finally, laden with packages and bags, they walked back to the mission car. Laughing and talking, the two boys bounced around the back seat as Roman drove carefully down the crowded streets. In their excitement, they forgot to wonder where “Mami” and the girls were!

Roman, too, had forgotten about his wife. Whistling cheerfully, he guided the car along the highway leading out of town. Suddenly, as he stopped at the red light, the truth dawned upon him. He had left Amanda and the girls behind!

In his shock and confusion, Roman said the first thing that came to his mind. Unfortunately, that thing was the very same bad word, which Jorge had

taught him, the word he had tried so hard to remember! By repeating it over and over, he had fixed the word in his mind. Now, in his time of trouble, the word had slipped from his tongue! The missionary had said a bad word, and two little boys had heard him say it.

There was a strange silence in the car as Roman turned it around and headed back into the city. "Lord, what shall I do now?" he prayed desperately.

Amanda and the girls were patiently waiting in the park. Roman helped them into the car and began the homeward trip once more. As he drove, he told his wife what had happened. Speaking softly in the language the children didn't understand, he asked, "What shall I do about it? Is my bad example going to ruin everything I've tried to teach these boys?"

"Better be honest with them," Amanda advised softly. "Talk about it, and let them see how sorry you are. Perhaps this will help them see how serious bad language is."

The two boys were very subdued when they reached their Children's Home. After all the bundles had been carried in from the car, Roman called them into his office.

"Boys," he began sorrowfully, "do you know why we are here?"

"No!" exclaimed Pedro, but he did not look at the missionary.

"We didn't do anything," Alfredo chimed in uneasily.

"Did I do something?" Roman questioned.

Pedro shook his head, looking only at the floor.

But Alfredo was more honest. "Papi, you said that bad word," he answered.

"That's right, I did," Roman said sadly. "I said that bad word you boys must never say. I didn't mean to, and I'm very sorry because God doesn't like us to talk that way. Now, you boys must punish me."

"How Papi?" Alfredo asked fearfully.

“You must take that strap and spank me, while I kneel down here,” Roman replied.

“Oh no, Papi!” “No Papi! We couldn’t do that!” the boys cried out in horror.

“Then what shall we do?” asked the missionary soberly.

All at once the two little boys flung their arms around Roman. “Let’s pray for you!” Alfredo cried tearfully. “Yes, Papi, Jesus will help you not to do it again,” Pedro wept, as he hugged Roman tightly.

“All right, boys, we will ask Jesus to forgive me and help all three of us,” the missionary agreed. Tears were running down his own cheeks as they knelt together.

This was the day Pedro and Alfredo learned their lesson. The bad word, which had seemed so tough and smart when the boys said it, had sounded so very ugly when it came from the lips of their kind and godly Papi. The Mullets never heard either of the two boys use it again.

HISTORICAL NOTE:

This story happened in El Salvador in 1972. Roman and Amanda Mullet spent six and a half years in El Salvador. They founded a children’s home called Nueva Vida Y Esperanza, which means New Life and Hope. Rosa, Alfredo and Pedro were the first children to live there. Over the years many more children have been given loving care and Christian teaching in Nueva Vida Y Esperanza Home.

Roman Mullet, a minister, lives in Ohio today.

Question for Reflection

Roman and Amanda gave their lives to the Lord as missionaries.

How do you think they have understood what it means to be a blessing? Explain.

What means did Roman and Amanda use as missionaries? Can Alfredo and Pedro repay them?

Assuming that Alfredo and Pedro were touched and changed by the Lord, how do you think that they would pay it forward?

OIKOS LIST

In Acts, the gospel spread through natural relational networks. The basic relational network in the 1st Century world was the household. Oikos is the Greek for household. So we use the word Oikos for relational network to remind us that the gospel spread most readily and fruitfully through already existing relational networks.

Every Christian has a web (an Oikos) of familial and social relationships. Who is in your Oikos? A Greek Oikos, or household, was not only a nuclear family but also relatives, close friends, and nearby servants' families. Our Oikos includes those with whom we share kinship (blood or marital ties), interests (work, recreation, community), and proximity (neighbors, coworkers). Every Christian shares some space with people who have not heard the Gospel or seen it lived out in an authentic way.

If you take a blank piece of paper and actually draw out these three networks, I believe you will be shocked to see how many people you interact with on a regular basis—and how many of them don't yet know Christ as Savior and Lord. Without fear of overstatement or presumption, I can tell you that these are the souls God wants you to reach for Him. If you don't reach them, who will? Who else has what they need—the Gospel—and has the relationships established that will grant them access.

Use the chart below to list all the names of people you are connected to who are not Christ followers. Be generous and put all the names you can think of in each box. Once this is done, begin to pray for your Oikos list. Think about how you can be a blessing in their lives.

Co-workers

Neighbours

SAMPLE PRAYERS

Inner Peace

Our Father in Heaven
You are God Almighty
You are the God of Peace
Thank You for this previous prayer moment with

I know this is not a coincidence
This is a divine appointment
You long to show your favour to _____
You want to meet his felt need today
_____ desires your inner peace
Come, still the storm in him
Free him from anxiety
Flood his soul with your peace
Awaken his heart to your fatherly love
Reveal Jesus: Emmanuel, God with us
Draw him near to make peace with you
Move his heart to make peace with others, especially
those who are giving him a hard time
Whenever he feels confused, restless or troubled, cause
him to remember you
Anytime he calls on you, answer him with your peace
Help him to fix his thoughts on you and on things that
are true, good and beautiful
In Jesus' name, amen

Good Health + Healing

Our Father in Heaven
You are God Almighty
You are the God of miracles
You are the God of signs and wonders
There is no one like you
Nothing is impossible for you
I am excited to pray for _____ today
Honour his humble request
Favour him with supernatural healing
Let your healing power flow
Touch this body from head to toe
Heal him of _____ (name the health condition
/ sickness)
Boost his immune system
Restore his body in ways that will astound both him
and his doctors
Give him a deep desire to know you and to seek your
help
Reveal Jesus as the Great Physician
Let him experience total healing in spirit, soul and body
– so that he can tell his family and friends the wonderful
things you have done for him
Favour him with excellent health
Favour him with long life
A full and meaningful life of loving you and serving you
In Jesus' name, amen

Harmony at Home

Our Father in Heaven

You are God

You are the Awesome One

You founded the Family so that humanity would flourish
from generation to generation

I cherish this moment of prayer with _____
for him and his family

Favour him because he values Family and Harmony
at home

You know the issues

The conflicts

The challenges

The raw emotions

The painful memories

Visit the family

Reveal Jesus, the Prince of Peace

Bring reconciliation

Bring healing to this home

Begin with _____

Make him an instrument of your peace

Where there is hatred, let him sow love

Where there is injury, pardon

Where there is doubt, faith

Where there is despair, hope

Where there is darkness, light

Where there is sadness, joy

May this home be a haven of peace filled with faith,
hope and love

In Jesus' name, amen

Freedom from bad habits

Our Father in Heaven
You alone are God
You are the God of mercy and might
You give strength to the weak
You give hope to the hopeless
You have helped me over and over again
So I welcome this opportunity to favour _____
in your awesome presence today
You know exactly what he needs
You know the habits and hang-ups that are making him
feel lousy about himself
You see the history of failures in all his attempts to
quit his bad habits
This is the Year of the Lord's Favour
Today is a new day of hope for _____
Show him the power of your love
Exchange his weakness for your strength
Reveal Jesus as the Great Deliverer
Work your mighty miracle in him
Help him break every bad habit in his life
Because of what Christ has done for him on the Cross,
put faith in his heart to believe you for a new beginning
A new life of victory
A new life of self-control
A new life of good habits
In Jesus' name, amen

Protection from harm

Our Father in Heaven
You are Almighty God
You are our shield and our defender
Without a doubt, my meeting with _____ today
Is according to your timing and plan
You are moved by his request for protection from harm
Indeed, we live in an unsafe world
The headlines trouble us: violent crimes, senseless
terrorism, air crashes, freak accidents, natural disasters,
wars and rumors of war
In the midst of danger and crisis, you are in total control
Today, reveal yourself to _____ as the ever-
present and all-powerful God
Open his heart to entrust his life to your protective care
Come what may, cause him to turn to you and call
upon you
Let him experience your presence, power and peace
Let no harm overtake him
Let no disaster come near his home
For you command your angels to guard him – on land,
at sea and in the air
In Jesus' name, amen

Courage to right the wrong

Our Father in Heaven

You are Almighty God

You are the Righteous Judge

You are a good God

You are incapable of evil

You stand with the pure in heart

You weep with those who grieve because of the evil they
see around them

Today, I am honoured to meet _____

Thank you for giving him such a soft heart and a tender
conscience

Thank you for his strong sense of right and wrong, good
and evil

Reveal Jesus, the ultimate Champion of Justice and Mercy

Give _____ courage to stand up for what he
knows is just and right in your sight

Rally strong support for him as he courageously acts to
right the wrong

Be it at home, school, at work or in society at large

Keep him physically strong

Keep him mentally sharp

Keep him emotionally fit

Favour him with success

Fulfill your awesome promise in his life:

When a man's way pleases the Lord,

He makes even his enemies to be at peace with him

In Jesus' name, amen

IDEAS OF HOW TO Be a Blessing

Ideas of how to be a blessing	
1	Pray a general blessing
2	Pray for specific needs
3	Pray for healing
4	Buy a gift
5	Do a favor when asked
6	Do a favor when not asked
7	Write an encouragement card or email or text
8	Praise Someone for something he/she has done well
9	Spend time with elderly
10	Serve the poor
11	Share a testimony of God's goodness
12	Share personal testimony
13	Invite someone to church
14	Giving of Blessing Ang Bao
15	Volunteer to serve in some church ministries (eg KFC, YC, PA, Worship, etc) or BCCSC services

APPENDIX D

5 REASONS WHY REFLECTION IS *Essential for Meaningful Learning*

Imagine you were busy playing Candy Crush on the train and you missed your stop.

How would you make sure it didn't happen again? To learn from this experience so you don't miss your stop again the next day, you would need to reflect on the experience.

For instance, you would think to yourself: *"I missed the train because I was too engrossed playing Candy Crush"*.

It would likely lead to conceptualisation: *"If I stopped playing at least one stop before my own, I won't miss my stop again"*

Your future experimentation and experience would then be: *"I stopped playing Candy Crush one stop before my own and got off at the right place!"*

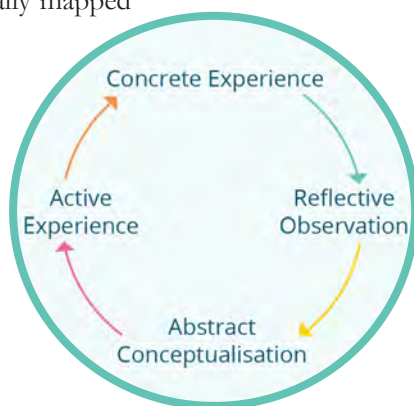
This is how learning happens every day, whether we're out in the world or completing an online course. It's actually mapped out in Kolb's Learning Cycle.

REFLECTING ON OUR EXPERIENCES IS KEY TO THE LEARNING PROCESS.

Prominent American education reformer, John Dewey, said,

"We do not learn from experience, we learn from reflecting on the experience."

Let us explore how making time for reflection after a Blessing Event can be helpful for us.



**KOLB'S CYCLE OF
EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING**

HERE ARE 5 ESSENTIAL BENEFITS WHEN WE TAKE TIME TO REFLECT ON OUR EXPERIENCE:

1. REFLECTION MAKE OUR EXPERIENCE MEANINGFUL.

We are not just trying to busy ourselves in doing good works. By allowing us to reflect upon the experience, it allows us to make sense of the experience and build shared memories together as a cell.

2. REFLECTION HELPS MEMBERS TO TAKE CHARGE OF THEIR OWN GROWTH.

As disciples of Christ, we are to grow to be more like Jesus. Making time for reflection help us to process the event (information, feelings, actions etc) and allows us to make necessary changes in our lives for personal growth.

3. REFLECTION GIVES ROOM FOR IMPROVEMENT THUS LEADING TO GREATER SUCCESS.

Upon reflection, we can get to know what we did right, what we have possibly done wrong and improve for the next time we bless others.

4. REFLECTION GIVES OPPORTUNITIES FOR CELL MEMBERS TO SHARE THEIR THOUGHTS AND INTERACT.

Body life requires bonding. By having a shared experience together, we can build memories together as a cell and develop deep friendships together as we share our thoughts.

5. REFLECTION GIVES US THE AVENUE WHERE GOD CAN SHARE HIS HEART TO US.

It all about who God is and His heart to bless. Reflecting upon our experiences allows us to gain insight to His ways and thereby align our hearts to do that which is on His heart.

As American sociologist and educator, Jack Mezirow, said,

“A defining condition of being human is that we have to understand the meaning of our experience.”

WHEN WE ALIGN OUR LIVES TO THE WORD OF GOD AND SEEK TO BE A BLESSING WHEREVER WE ARE, GOD WILL GIVE US A SENSE OF PURPOSE AND MEANING IN OUR LIVES AND TAKE US ON AN ADVENTURE WITH HIM.

Source: Adapted from: <https://www.openlearning.com/blog/5ReasonsWhyReflectionIsEssentialForMeaningfulLearning>

Question for Reflection

Question: "What is the Lord showing you through this experience?"

The question above is a sample suggestion for us to use when we are done with our blessing event. The purpose for the reflection is to facilitate a time of reflection so that we can (i) understand God's heart, (ii) understand ourselves, (iii) consolidate learning, (iv) look at ways we can improve.

Alternately, you can use the 4Rs of facilitation to process your group learning:

Recap (What have we done together as a cell?)

Reflect (What is the Lord showing you?)

Restate (Share your learning in your own words)

Respond (Respond to God by prayer, making applications in your life).

As we set out to be a blessing, let us trust that the Lord will also change/mould us to be more like Jesus through the whole process.

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