



## Welcoming the Year of the Ox



With one month of 2021 over, we have another chance at a new start in February as we usher in the lunar new year on the 12th. Lunar new year typically revolves around family gatherings and visits to extended families and friends. 2021 will be a lunar new year like no other, with strict restrictions of 8 visitors per day.

The reaction from people in Singapore is that this may not be a bad thing. The vaccine is still not available to the majority, and new, deadly strains of more infectious viruses are popping up all over the place.

At this time of writing, there are no community infections in Singapore, and no critical cases in hospitals. The total death toll remains at 28, all of whom were older victims.

Here are some ways that we can stay safe as we welcome the year of the ox.

1. Stay protected. When you do your spring cleaning this year, put in an extra effort to sanitize and disinfect thoroughly. Check the corners and hidden areas behind cupboards and under the bed. Some may even want to engage a professional cleaner for this once-a-year routine.

2. Keep it homely. Decorate your home to your heart's content. It could be simple or elaborate, but a splash of red will remind us of the new year with its attendant blessings.

3. Take it easy on the goodies. With just 8 persons who will come knocking at your door each day, there is no need to hoard food and delicacies to feed an army.

4. Take a well deserved rest. You have probably been working hard, even tiring yourself getting ready for the new year. It is a good Chinese tradition not to pick up the broom on the Chinese new year.

5. Enjoy family. Friends come and go, but families are forever. With the restriction on 8 visitors, chances are that your guests are your extended family. Prepare ang paws for each one with a traditional package of pork jerky which will be much appreciated.

6. Factor in the Lord as you take each and every step in the new year, beginning with the first day. Have you been neglectful in the past year? Plan to do better!


7. Finally, and most important, what are you going to do differently in 2021? Recount the past year, and as you do, do what the MRT constantly reminds us, "mind the gaps". Sometimes it is not the big things that floored us, but the little omissions that slipped through.

In 5 days, the ox will be here! Are you ready?



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## Introduction

12<sup>th</sup> February 2021 will usher in the lunar year of the Ox

There was no animal held in higher esteem than the ox

Oxen were used for ploughing and treading out corn -  
 Deuteronomy 22:10  
 1 Samuel 14:14  
 Deuteronomy 25:4  
 Hosea 10:11

Usually yoked in pairs as beasts of burden  
 Numbers 7:3  
 1 Samuel 6:7

Used in the sacrifices; meat eaten; cows supplied milk, butter, etc - Deuteronomy 32:14  
 2 Samuel 17:29  
 Isaiah 7:22  
 1 Chronicles 12:40  
 Deuteronomy 14:4  
 1 Kings 1:9

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## Valuable

Job 24:3  
*They drive away the donkeys of the orphans; They take the widow's ox for a pledge.*

Proverbs 14:4  
*Where no oxen are, the manger is clean, But much revenue comes by the strength of the ox*

Exodus 20:17  
*"You shall not covet your neighbour's house; you shall not covet your neighbour's wife, or his male servant, or his female servant, or his ox, or his donkey, or anything that is your neighbour's."*

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## Clean

Deuteronomy 14:4  
*These are the animals which you may eat: the ox, the sheep*

1 Chronicles 21:23  
*Ornan said to David, Take it to you, and let my lord the king do that which is good in his eyes: behold, I give you the oxen for burnt offerings, and the threshing instruments for wood, and the wheat for the meal-offering; I give it all.*

2 Chronicles 7:5  
*King Solomon offered a sacrifice of twenty and two thousand oxen, and an hundred and twenty thousand sheep: so the king and all the people dedicated the house of God.*

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Introduction  
 Valuable  
 Clean  
 Worthy

## Worthy

Deuteronomy 25:4  
*You shall not muzzle an ox when it is treading out the grain.*

1 Timothy 5:18  
*For the Scripture says, "You shall not muzzle the ox while he is threshing," and "The labourer is worthy of his wages."*



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Introduction  
 Valuable  
 Clean  
 Worthy

## Future

Isaiah 11:6-9  
*The wolf shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the young goat, and the calf and the lion and the fattened calf together; and a little child shall lead them.*

*The cow and the bear shall graze; their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.*  
*The nursing child shall play over the hole of the cobra, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the adder's den.*

*They shall not hurt or destroy in all my holy mountain; for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea.*



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Introduction  
 Valuable  
 Clean  
 Worthy  
 Future

## Conclusion

So much more we can say

The purpose of this lesson is to set the tone for the new year of the ox

Like the ox, we are valuable, created in God's image

We can be clean, devoted and useful for service in sacrifice to God

Our efforts are worthy of recognition by God and will be duly rewarded

No matter what we are undergoing, we have hope and a future

*For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." - Jeremiah 29:11*

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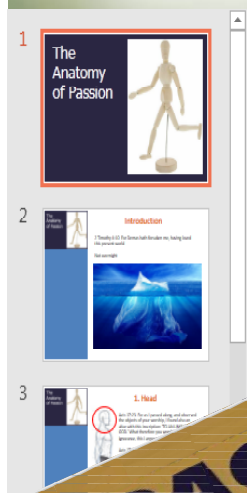
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**14th February 2021**

## Rebuilding the Church

At the end of last month, I sent a mass text via WhatsApp to HoF members and supporters with a 5-question survey on how the Covid-19 restrictions to not assemble have affected us. This survey is reproduced on right column. It is clear that everyone missed the joy of worship and the warmth of fellowship. A few mentioned that they were not disciplined and have neglected their faith and weekly giving.

We are very concerned by the response and are making immediate arrangements to address these needs.

While it is difficult to feel the pulse of the church during this period of Covid-19 restrictions, even as we try to keep in touch, we believe that our members have been badly affected.

As a result, we have followed up the survey with a text to members individually, seeking your preferences to assembling together again. A letter was also be sent to every member by our postal service.

When the responses come in, we will know how to further meet the needs of our members. We will need the support of faithful members as we encourage those who have not been doing well.

There is more that we need to do, especially with children Bible classes that have been halted and Care teams not meeting.

Let us improve, one step at a time. In the words of Nehemiah 2:20, *The God of heaven, He will prosper us; therefore we His servants will arise and build.*

### We would like to Hear from You

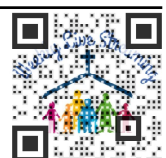
If you have not responded to this text last month, please let our minister know your thoughts on these matters.

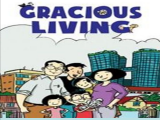
1. What do you or did you miss when you were live stream worshipping?
2. What are some things which may be done as well live streaming as in assembling?
3. What are some things which just cannot be replicated live streaming?
4. Do you know of Christians who may have become discouraged and dropped because of live streaming? If so, what can be done to get them back?
5. In what ways were you affected spiritually by worshipping via live stream rather than in person?

*Edited and modified from a survey by Truitt Adair, Sunset International Bible Institute*



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## Introduction

How are you doing in 2021?

Singapore has been blessed with so many good things

Examples: Home ownership, safe and green city, employment opportunities, religious freedom...

Luke 12:48 *To whoever much is given, of him will much be required; and to whom much was entrusted, of him more will be asked.*

Best response is to live well – gracious living

Best example is Jesus - 1 Peter 2:21 *For to this you were called, because Christ also suffered for us, leaving you an example, that you should follow his steps,*

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## What is Gracious Living?

Not talking about rich and famous – in fact, most are ungracious

Bible gives an example in Proverbs 31:10-31

*The heart of her husband trusts in her.  
Gives food to her household, And portions for her servant girls.  
She opens her arms to the poor; Yes, she extends her hands to the needy.  
Strength and dignity are her clothing. She laughs at the time to come  
And doesn't eat the bread of idleness  
But a woman who fears Yahweh, she shall be praised. Give her of the fruit of her hands!  
Let her works praise her in the gates!*

1 Peter 2:21 *For to this you were called, because Christ also suffered for us, leaving you an example, that you should follow his steps*

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## 1. Time for Everything

Everyone has the same amount of time but some people are more busy than others

To get everything done is not to do everything but to have a clear sense of priority

Jesus is very clear on this – accomplished everything in 33 years

John 4:34 *Jesus said to them, My food is to do the will of him who sent me, and to accomplish his work.*

What is your absolute priority?

Do it each day; others will fall in place

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Introduction

Here is a man who was born in an obscure village... where He worked in a carpenter shop until He was thirty, and then for three years He was an itinerant preacher.

He never wrote a book. He never held an office. He never owned a home... He never did one of the things that usually accompany greatness.

While still a young man, the tide of public opinion turned against Him. His friends ran away. One of them denied Him. He was turned over to His enemies.

He went through the mockery of a trial. He was nailed to a cross between two thieves.

When he was dead He was taken down and laid in a borrowed grave through the pity of a friend. Nineteen wide centuries have come and gone and today He is the centerpiece of the human race and the leader of the column of progress.

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Introduction

I am far within the mark when I say that all the armies that ever marched, and all the navies that ever were built, and all the parliaments that ever sat, all the kings that ever reigned, put together have not affected the life of man upon this earth as powerfully as has that One Solitary Life.

- JAMES ALLAN FRANCIS

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Introduction  
1 Time for Everything

## 2. Wait on the Lord

Too often we are too distracted up to think clearly

If you can keep your head when all about you  
Are losing theirs and blaming it on you,  
If you can trust yourself when all men doubt you,  
But make allowance for their doubting too;

If you can wait and not be tired by waiting,  
Or being lied about, don't deal in lies,  
Or being hated, don't give way to hating,  
And yet don't look too good, nor talk too wise:

- Rudyard Kipling

Too eager and rush into action

Too impatient/faithless to wait on the Lord

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Introduction  
1 Time for Everything

Lamentations 3:25 *The Lord is good to those who wait for him, to the soul that seeks him.*

1 Samuel 13:11-14 *Samuel said, What have you done?*

*Saul said, Because I saw that the people were scattered from me, and that you didn't come within the days appointed...*

*Now will the Philistines come down on me to Gilgal, and I haven't entreated the favour of the Lord: I forced myself therefore, and offered the burnt offering.*

*Samuel said to Saul, You have done foolishly; you have not kept the commandment of the Lord your God, which he commanded you*

*But now your kingdom shall not continue... because you have not kept that which God commanded you.*

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Introduction  
1 Time for Everything

John 11:1-6 *Now a certain man was sick, Lazarus from Bethany, of the village of Mary and her sister, Martha. It was that Mary who had anointed the Lord with ointment, and wiped his feet with her hair, whose brother, Lazarus, was sick. The sisters therefore sent to him, saying, "Lord, behold, he for whom you have great affection is sick."*

*But when Jesus heard it, he said, "This sickness is not to death, but for the glory of God, that God's Son may be glorified by it." Now Jesus loved Martha, and her sister, and Lazarus. When therefore he heard that he was sick, he stayed two days in the place where he was.*

John 11:40-45 *Jesus said to her, "Didn't I tell you that if you believed, you would see God's glory?"... Therefore many of the Jews, who came to Mary and saw what Jesus did, believed in him.*

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Introduction  
1 Time for Everything  
2 Wait on God

### 3. Focus on Others

Luke 16:19-21 *"Now there was a certain rich man, and he was clothed in purple and fine linen, living in luxury every day. A certain beggar, named Lazarus, was laid at his gate, full of sores, and desiring to be fed with the crumbs that fell from the rich man's table. Yes, even the dogs came and licked his sores."*

Luke 15:12-13 *The younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me my share of your property.' He divided his livelihood between them. Not many days after, the younger son gathered all of this together and travelled into a far country. There he wasted his property with riotous living.*

Luke 12:19 *I will tell my soul, "Soul, you have many goods laid up for many years. Take your ease, eat, drink, be merry."*

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Introduction

1 Time for Everything

2 Wait on God

Luke 10:30-35 *Jesus made answer and said, A certain man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho; and he fell among robbers, who both stripped him and beat him, and departed, leaving him half dead.*

*And by chance a certain priest was going down that way: and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. And in like manner a Levite also, when he came to the place, and saw him, passed by on the other side.*

*But a certain Samaritan, as he journeyed, came where he was: and when he saw him, he was moved with compassion, and came to him, and bound up his wounds, pouring on them oil and wine; and he set him on his own beast, and brought him to an inn, and took care of him.*

*And on the morrow he took out two shillings, and gave them to the host, and said, Take care of him; and whatsoever thou spendest more, I, when I come back again, will repay thee.*

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Introduction

1 Time for Everything

2 Wait on God

John 4:9 *The Samaritan woman therefore said to him, "How is it that you, being a Jew, ask for a drink from me, a Samaritan woman?" (For Jews have no dealings with Samaritans.)*

Luke 10:35 *And on the morrow he took out two shillings, and gave them to the host, and said, Take care of him; and whatsoever thou spendest more, I, when I come back again, will repay thee.*

Follow up is so important to make an impression

Matthew 28:19-20 *Therefore go, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I commanded you. Behold, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Amen.*

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Introduction

1 Time for Everything

2 Wait on God

3 Focus on Others

## Conclusion

Gracious living is not about how well you live – dress, eat or do

It is a life that is fulfilling, exemplary and productive

Job

King David

Barnabas

Jesus Christ

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# HOUSEHOLD OF FAITH

## *News & Notes*

Photographs on this page sent by Herbin Simanjuntak on the distribution of rice and essential food to church members in Duri and Pekanbaru in Batam, Indonesia sponsored by HoF's missions gift of \$1000.







## Roster for March 2021



8 members have responded to my text in January and letter in February. Below are their preferences. If you are among the 12 others (besides the live stream crew and Poon family) who have yet to respond, I am looking forward to hearing from you.

1. For those who prefer to be on a monthly rotation basis: June Dhanabalan and Doreen Cheang.
2. Those who prefer to attend every week when slots are available: Lilian Yeo, S. Selvarajah and Paul Quek.
3. Those who prefer to continue live streaming: Sunny Chen, Kong Lay and Amy Song.

We welcome all who will respond, and will factor them in according to their preferences. For the month of March, the roster is as follows:

7th: Lilian, Selvarajah, Paul, June and Ramesh.

14th: Lilian, Selvarajah and Paul.

21st: Lilian, Selvarajah, Paul and Doreen.

28th: 14th: Lilian, Selvarajah and Paul.

Please note that there are only 8 visitors allowed in a house. We have a crew of 3 - Barnabas Thng, Annie Koh and Henry Kong. As such:

7th March is fully subscribed.

14th March has room for 2.

21st March has room for 1 more.

28th March has room for 2.

If you have not responded and want to fill any of these slots in March, please text or call me. Do not show up if you have not received a confirmation from me by Friday. We will not entertain any requests after Friday and will focus on giving our best on the live stream effort.

If any of the members rostered are not able to attend for any reason, please let me know by Friday if possible. Since the Stirling location is linked to the Queenstown MRT by an overhead bridge, there is no reason for anyone to be late, unless there is a breakdown in train services. Plan to arrive by 5:45pm.

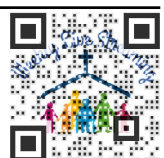
We take the weekly live stream worship very seriously and put in our best effort. We look forward to your participation and support.


Since we started live streaming a year ago, the number of views continues to grow. However, our goal is not the growth of viewership but the percentage of participation of HoF members.

We look forward to adding every member into the rotation roster, and if the restrictions are relaxed, to include visitors as well. Let me know if you have any comments, questions or suggestions.



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The  
Anatomy  
of Passion


## Introduction

2 Timothy 4:10 *For Demas hath forsaken me, having loved this present world*

Not overnight



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The  
Anatomy  
of Passion


## 1. Head

Acts 17:23 *For as I passed along, and observed the objects of your worship, I found also an altar with this inscription: 'TO AN UNKNOWN GOD.' What therefore you worship in ignorance, this I announce to you.*

Acts 17:32 *Now when they heard of the resurrection of the dead, some mocked; but others said, "We want to hear you again concerning this."*

Romans 10:17 *So faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.*



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The  
Anatomy  
of Passion



## 1. Head

Mark 4:14-19 *The farmer sows the word.*

*These are the ones by the road, where the word is sown; and when they have heard, immediately Satan comes, and takes away the word which has been sown in them.*

*These in like manner are those who are sown on the rocky places, who, when they have heard the word, immediately receive it with joy. They have no root in themselves, but are short-lived. When oppression or persecution arises because of the word, immediately they stumble.*

*Others are those who are sown among the thorns. These are those who have heard the word, and the cares of this age, and the deceitfulness of riches, and the lusts of other things entering in choke the word, and it becomes unfruitful.*



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The  
Anatomy  
of Passion



Introduction  
1. Head

## 2. Hands

Acts 2:42-47 *And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers...*

*And all that believed were together, and had all things common; And sold their possessions and goods, and parted them to all men, as every man had need.*

*And they, continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, did eat their meat with gladness and singleness of heart, Praising God, and having favour with all the people.*

*And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved.*

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The  
Anatomy  
of Passion



Introduction  
1. Head  
2. Hands



Hebrews 10:23-25 *Let us **hold** fast the confession of our hope unyieldingly.*

*For he who promised is faithful. Let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good works, not forsaking our own assembling together, as the custom of some is, but exhorting one another; and so much the more, as you see the Day approaching.*

*What we do with our hands indicate the passion of our faith*

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The  
Anatomy  
of Passion



Introduction  
1. Head  
2. Hands



Proverbs 31:13-31 *She seeks wool and flax, And works eagerly with her **hands**...*

*With the fruit of her **hands**, she plants a vineyard...*

*And her **hands** hold the spindle. She opens her arms to the poor; Yes, she extends her **hands** to the needy...*

*Give her of the fruit of her **hands**! Let her works praise her in the gates!*

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The  
Anatomy  
of Passion



Introduction
1. Head
2. Hands



### 3. Feet

Romans 10:15 *As it is written: "How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the Gospel of peace, Who bring glad tidings of good things!"*

Where do your feet bring you to outside work?

Psalms 122:1 *I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the LORD.*

Isaiah 6:8 *I heard the Lord's voice, saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" Then I said, "Here I am. Send me!"*

Mark 16:15 *He said to them, "Go into all the world, and preach the Gospel to the whole creation."*

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The  
Anatomy  
of Passion



Introduction
1. Head
2. Hands
3. Feet



Micah 6:8 *He has shown you, O man, what is good. What does Yahweh require of you, but to act justly, To love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God?*

John 8:12 *Again, therefore, Jesus spoke to them, saying, "I am the light of the world. He who follows me will not walk in the darkness, but will have the light of life."*

Colossians 4:5 *Walk in wisdom toward those who are outside, redeeming the time.*

1 John 1:6-7 *If we say that we have fellowship with him and walk in the darkness, we lie, and don't tell the truth. But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ, his Son, cleanses us from all sin.*

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The  
Anatomy  
of Passion



Introduction
1. Head
2. Hands
3. Feet



### 4. Heart

Finally, the most important part of the anatomy – the heart

3 areas

1.The word of God

Psalms 119:11 *I have hidden your word in my heart, That I might not sin against you.*

Psalms 119:105 *Your word is a lamp to my feet, And a light for my path.*

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The  
Anatomy  
of Passion



Introduction
1. Head
2. Hands
3. Feet
4. Heart



### 2. The Prayer Life

Luke 18:1 *He also spoke a parable to them that they must always pray, and not give up*

1 Samuel 12:23 *Moreover as for me, far be it from me that I should sin against the Lord in ceasing to pray for you: but I will instruct you in the good and the right way.*

1 Thessalonians 5:17 *Pray without ceasing.*

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The  
Anatomy  
of Passion



Introduction
1. Head
2. Hands
3. Feet
4. Heart



### 3. Caring one for another

1 John 3:17 *But whoever has the world's goods, and sees his brother in need, and closes his heart of compassion against him, how does the love of God remain in him?*

Galatians 6:2 *Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.*

Galatians 6:10 *So then, as we have opportunity, let's do what is good toward all men, and especially toward those who are of the household of the faith.*

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The  
Anatomy  
of Passion



Introduction
1. Head
2. Hands
3. Feet
4. Heart



## Conclusion

Our passion does not change overnight

Be aware of the many danger signs:

1. Head – losing interest
2. Hand – no longer serving
3. Feet – not walking in the light
4. Heart
  - Reading God's word
  - Prayerful?
  - Giving priority to service?

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Most of us have certain preconceived ideas about what the Bible teaches on the subject of giving. You may be surprised by these 7 things that the Bible says about giving.

**1. It is not compulsory for anyone to give to God.** The Bible says in 2 Corinthians 9:7 *Let each man give according as he has determined in his heart; not grudgingly, or under compulsion; for God loves a cheerful giver* (World English Bible).

You should never feel forced to give to God because God will only accept a gift that is offered through freewill, cheerfully.

**2. No one should tell us how much to give.**

2 Corinthians 9:7 *Let each man give according as he has determined in his heart; not grudgingly, or under compulsion; for God loves a cheerful giver* (World English Bible).

**3. God wants you to give only from what you have.**

2 Corinthians 8:12 *For if the readiness is there, it is acceptable according to what you have, not according to what you don't have* (World English Bible).

God does not expect you to borrow to give to Him or to 'give by faith'. If you have the readiness or willingness to give, just give what

you can. I like the way the Common English Bible (2011) translates 2 Corinthians 8:12 - *A gift is appreciated because of what a person can afford, not because of what that person can't afford, if it's apparent that it's done willingly.*

**4. You should give because you want to.**

There should not be a reason or a need to cause you to give. Again, we refer to 2 Corinthians 9:7 *Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver* (KJV).

For the Christian, we give on a weekly basis as the Lord enables us. There is no need to justify our giving in order to find a reason to give or stop giving.

**5. God is not as much interested in how much we give, but at how much we have left over.**

Luke 21:1-4 He looked up, and saw the rich people who were putting their gifts into the treasury. He saw a certain poor widow casting in two small brass coins. He said, *"Truly I tell you, this poor widow put in more than all of them, for all these put in gifts for God from their abundance, but she, out of her poverty, put in all that she had to live on."*

**6. We should grow in our giving.**

2 Corinthians 8:7 - *But since you excel in everything--in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in complete earnestness and in the love we have kindled in you --see that you also excel in this grace of giving* (NIV).

**7. God will enable us to keep giving.**

2 Corinthians 9:10 *Now may he who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food, supply and multiply your seed for sowing, and increase the fruits of your righteousness* (WEB).





## Live Streaming Move to a New Location Delayed



We are making arrangements to shift the location of our live streaming from my office at Pasir Panjang to the home of the Alfred Poon or some other place by June 2021. Our first targetted date of March 2021 has been delayed. This is to allow us time to look at all possibilities before making the important move to regroup and rebuild the Household of Faith, including considering at other locations.

We want to be sure of getting everything ready, whether it is in the home of the Poon or at a new location. This may take another month or two.

Starting with this issue, we will stop posting our newsletter, Fidelity on our website and will only circulate hardcopies to members through the Sing Post. This is to prevent misunderstanding by others about our live streaming situation.

Since this is a new endeavour, it may be a little messy at the start, but I am confident that things will begin to purr along as the weeks roll by.

Again, I want to encourage members to keep up with your daily devotion and Bible study. Use the WhatsApp men and ladies group to keep in touch. Our plan is to get as many members to sign up for the monthly rotation.

Together, let us regroup and rebuild the Household of Faith while abiding by the current restrictions.

**We will continue using my office  
at Pasir Panjang for live  
streaming until further notice.**

### Household of Faith respond to emergency medical aid to brother Hendry Yosva of India



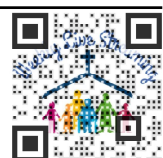
Some of us are familiar with brother Hendry, a church worker in India who has been to Singapore several times. He was involved in a motor accident on the 21st February and requires immediate surgery to save his left foot at the Kerala hospital in India.

The Household of Faith has sent him S\$1,000 to help pay for the operation which is estimated at S\$2,000.

Please uphold him in your prayers.



Fidelity is published weekly by the Household of Faith, Singapore, currently live streaming every Sunday at 6pm at <https://tinyurl.com/HOFstream> until we are allowed to assemble back at the Metropolitan YMCA, Stevens Road, Singapore 257854. Check our website - [www.hofsg.com](http://www.hofsg.com) for the latest updates. Postal address: Pasir Panjang P.O. Box 27, Singapore 911121. Website: [hofsg.com](http://hofsg.com). For more details, contact the minister. Henry Kong at [henry.kong@yahoo.com](mailto:henry.kong@yahoo.com). Mobile: +65 9326 0669. Scan QR Code to go to our website (left) or our FB Live Stream (right).





<https://tinyurl.com/H0fstream>  
Every Sunday @6pm

Welcome to the Household of Faith!  
28 February 2021

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**Forgiveness' Four Facts**

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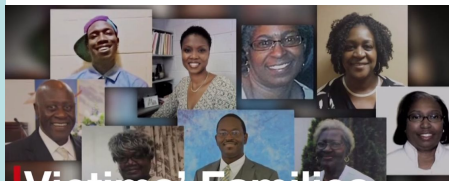



### Introduction

So many things can be said about forgiveness

For some people it is so hard – even a little thing e.g. road rage

For others, it is so inspiring e.g. Dylann Roof shooter in N. Carolina



**Victims' Families Address the Killer** 

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## 1. What Bible Says

Matthew 6:9-15  
*"This, then, is how you should pray: 'Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, 10 your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. 11 Give us today our daily bread. 12 And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. 13 And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.' 14 For if you forgive other people when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. 15 But if you do not forgive others their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins."*

Colossians 3:13  
*Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you.*

Luke 6:37  
*37 "Do not judge, and you will not be judged. Do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven."*

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## 2. What God Does

Isaiah 43:25-26  
*"I, even I, am he who blots out your transgressions, for my own sake, and remembers your sins no more. 26 Review the past for me, let us argue the matter together; state the case for your innocence."*

Micah 7:18-19  
*Who is a God like you, who pardons sin and forgives the transgression of the remnant of his inheritance? You do not stay angry forever but delight to show mercy. 19 You will again have compassion on us; you will tread our sins underfoot and hurl all our iniquities into the depths of the sea.*

Luke 23:34  
*Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing."*

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## 2. What God Does

Luke 15:17-24 *But when he came to himself he said, 'How many hired servants of my father's have bread enough to spare, and I'm dying with hunger! I will get up and go to my father, and will tell him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven, and in your sight. I am no more worthy to be called your son. Make me as one of your hired servants."*

*"He arose, and came to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him, and was moved with compassion, and ran, and fell on his neck, and kissed him. The son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven, and in your sight. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.'*

*"But the father said to his servants, 'Bring out the best robe, and put it on him. Put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet. Bring the fattened calf, kill it, and let us eat, and celebrate; for this, my son, was dead, and is alive again. He was lost, and is found.' They began to celebrate.*

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### 3. People Who Forgave

Genesis 50:17-21 *"So you shall tell Joseph, 'Now please forgive the disobedience of your brothers, and their sin, because they did evil to you.' Now, please forgive the disobedience of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. His brothers also went and fell down before his face; and they said, "Behold, we are your servants." Joseph said to them, "Don't be afraid, for am I in the place of God? As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good, to bring to pass, as it is this day, to save many people alive. Now therefore don't be afraid. I will nourish you and your little ones." He comforted them, and spoke kindly to them.*

Acts 7:57-60 *But they cried out with a loud voice, and stopped their ears, and rushed at him with one accord. They threw him out of the city, and stoned him. The witnesses placed their garments at the feet of a young man named Saul. They stoned Stephen as he called out, saying, "Lord Jesus, receive my Spirit!" He kneeled down, and cried with a loud voice, "Lord, don't hold this sin against them!" When he had said this, he fell asleep.*

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### 4. What If We Do Not Forgave

Ephesians 4:31-32 *Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.*

Luke 17:3-4 *So watch yourselves. "If your brother or sistersins against you, rebuke them; and if they repent, forgive them. Even if they sin against you seven times in a day and seven times come back to you saying 'I repent,' you must forgive them."*

Matthew 6:14-15 *For if you forgive other people when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive others their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins.*

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### Conclusion

1 John 1:9 *If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.*

Acts 3:19 *Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord*

Daniel 9:9 *The Lord our God is merciful and forgiving, even though we have rebelled against him*

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2. What God Does
3. People Who Forgave
4. What If We Do Not Forgive

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Call to Worship  
Scripture Reading  
Opening Prayer  
Congregational Singing  
Communion & Giving  
Exhortation  
Invitation  
Announcements  
Closing Prayer



Coming in March:  
7-week series on  
the Churches of Asia

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Hebrews 10:25 - Not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.

Matthew 18:20 - For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them.

Colossians 3:16 - Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God.

Acts 2:42 - And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

Hebrews 10:24-25 - And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.

Matthew 6:33 - But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

Acts 20:7 - On the first day of the week, when we were gathered together to break bread, Paul talked with them, intending to depart on the next day.

Hebrews 3:13 - But exhort one another every day, as long as it is called "today," that none of you may be hardened by the deceitfulness of

sin.

1 Thessalonians 5:11 - Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.

Acts 2:41 - So those who received his word were baptized, and there were added that day about three thousand souls.

John 4:23-24 - But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth."

Matthew 7:21-23 - "Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven.

Acts 2:47 - Praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.

Acts 11:26 - For a whole year they met with the church and taught a great many people. And in Antioch the disciples were first called Christians.