

3rd April 2022



100 Days to our 5th Anniversary



With 100 days to go before our 5th Anniversay, the best way we can prepare for it is to bring someone to our new premises by then.

Look around and see who is missing. Some members and visitors who were affected by the long pandemic have yet to return, or have only done so occasionally. Is there someone among them that we can encourage to return for regular worship?

Clockwise: first worship on 16th July 2017, potluck fellowship, baptism of Paul Poon.





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Introduction

Already 2 sermons from the book of Job

Tonight final sermon

Last 5 of 10 lessons

Last Sunday

- God is there for Us
 We can be a Comfort
- 3. Do not Accuse 4. Only God Knows
- 5. Easy to Give Up



Introduction

6. The Devil Doesn't Have Your Best Interests at Heart

Job 1:9-11 Then Satan answered God, and said, "Does Job fear God for nothing? Haven't you made a hedge around him, and around his house, and around all that he has, on every side? You have blessed the work of his hands, and his substance is increased in the land.

But put forth your hand now, and touch all that he has, and he will renounce you to your face.

Job 2:4-5 Satan answered God, and said, "Skin for skin. Yes, all that a man has will he give for his life. But put forth your hand now, and touch his bone and his flesh, and he will renounce you to your

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6. The Devil Doesn't Have Your Best Interests at Heart

Did his evil worst

- - Livestock
 - Servants - 10 Children
 - Job's health

The devil will uses

- Family
- Friends
- Third party

Don't play play

5





Introduction
6. The Devil doesn't have your best interest

7. Family Members May Not Stand by You

When you suffer, it affects family members

What if Job's wife said this:

Job 1:21 "Naked I came out of my mother's womb, and naked shall I return there. The Lord gave, and the Lord has taken away. Blessed be the name of the Lord."

Instead of this:

Job 2:9 Then his wife said to him, "Do you still maintain your integrity? Renounce God, and die."

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Introduction
6. The Devil doesn't have your best interest

7. Family Members May Not Stand by You

Seen so many families fall apart eg. Go through hard times

On the other hand...Families that stay together, overcome anything



8



Introduction
6. The Devil doesn't have your best interest
7. Family members

8. Even Good Friends Can Turn Against You

Job 2:11-13 Now when Job's three friends heard of all this evil that had come on him, they each came from his own place... and they made an appointment together to come to sympathize with him and to comfort him.

When they lifted up their eyes from a distance, and didn't recognize him, they raised their voices, and wept; and they each tore his robe, and sprinkled dust on their heads toward the sky.

So they sat down with him on the ground seven days and seven nights, and none spoke a word to him, for they saw that his grief was very great.

Job had 3 good friends
- they accompanied him for more than 7 days and nights



Introduction
6. The Devil doesn't have your best interest
7. Family members

8. Even Good Friends Can Turn Against You

All 3 friends accused Job of sin

Zophar implied that Job deserved even greater punishment

Through it all, Job maintained his innocence

Must be difficult, when everyone doubts you



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Introduction
6. The Devil doesn't have your best interest 7. Family members may not stand by you 8. Even good friends can turn against you

9. Sometimes A Third Party Can Give New Insight

A younger man, Elihu enters the conversation

- Assumes Job is wicked
- Gives God the praise

Job 32:2-22 Now Elihu had waited to speak to Job, because they were elder than he..." I am young, and you are very old; Therefore I held back, and didn't dare show you my opinion... Therefore I said, 'Listen to me; I also will show my opinion.'... Yes, I gave you my full attention, But there was no one who convinced Job, Or who answered his words, among you... And I also will show my opinion... Please don't let me respect any man's person, Neither will I give flattering titles to any man. For I don't know how to give flattering titles; Or else my Maker would soon take me away.

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have your best interest
7. Family members
may not stand by you
8. Even good friends
can turn against you

Sometimes A Third Party Can Give New Insight

Always good to have second opinion Eg. Health matters

Elihu the younger man was not right, but gave new insights to the discussion

Today we hear voices of youth everywhere Eg. Climate change – Greta Thunberg





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have your best interest
7. Family members
may not stand by you
8. Even good friends
can turn against you
9. Sometimes a Third
Party can shed
insight

10. Hear and See

Important to hear and reflect to really see

Job 42:3-6 "Therefore I have uttered that which I did not understand, Things too wonderful for me, which I didn't know...

I had heard of you by the hearing of the ear, But now my eye sees you.

Therefore I abhor myself, And repent in dust and ashes."

Matthew 13:15 For this people's heart is waxed gross, And their ears are dull of hearing, And their eyes they have closed; Lest haply they should perceive with their eyes, And hear with their ears, And understand with their heart, And should turn again, And I should heal them.

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insight

10. Hear and See

Job was too occupied defending his innocence to see the purpose or presence of God

Finally God appears in a whirlwind and asks a series of rhetorical questions

Job 38:1-4 Then the Lord answered Job out of the whirlwind, "Who is this who darkens counsel By words without knowledge? Brace yourself like a man, For I will question you, then you answer me! "Where were you when I laid the foundations of the earth? Declare, if you have understanding.

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Party can shed insight 10. Hear and See

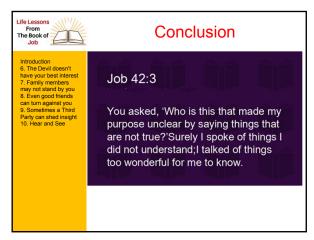
Conclusion: God Knows Best

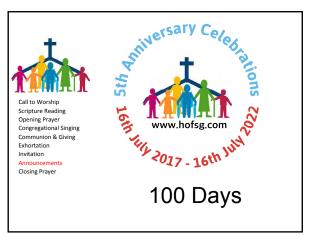
Job 42:4-6 You said, 'Listen, now, and I will speak; I will question you, and you will answer me.' I had heard of you by the hearing of the ear, But now my eye sees you. Therefore I abhor myself, And repent in dust and ashes."

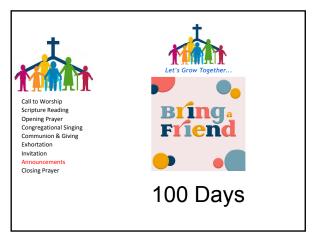
Job realised the limitations of human knowledge and the power of God

Job interceded for his 3 friends' foolishness

God restored Job's health, blessed him with property, children and long life







BACK PAGE NEWS







Bringa Friend Clockwise: Guest songleader, brother Kok Shing leading praises; Men's Care team - now up to 10 in a group permitted; Kok Shing teaching our songleaders - these sessions will continue for another 3 weeks with sister June.

Left: Let's all plan to bring a friend, visitor or family member before our 5th Anniversary in July.



Poon Paul 12th April Kong Henry 16th April Goh Sarah 23rd April



10th April 2022



First Year at the Household of Faith



As we continue to count down towards our 5th Anniversary, we are pleased to present highlights from our first year (2017-2018).

HoF had a good start, well supported by friends and members. A basic website was launched at Wordpress.com and an active Facebook group was created with over 850 members. Care teams, a children's Bible class and worships were conducted on Sunday evenings at the spacious double halls at the Hillview Salvation Army.



On the Good Friday holiday of 2018, we conducted our first Missions retreat. Speakers for the occasion came from China, Malaysia and Indonesia. On the left is a group photograph of all who were there.

Left: baptisms of Eric and his wife, Kang Hwei on 6th March 2018. Photo on the back page was taken on our first Anniversary.

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Introduction

Series of sermons from O.T. books of Poetry
This evening look at the Book of Psalms





New Living Bible

You keep track of all my sorrows. You have collected all my tears in your bottle. You have recorded each one in your book.

My enemies will retreat when I call to you for help. This I know: God is on my side! I praise God for what he has promised; yes, I praise the LORD for what he has promised. I trust in God, so why should I be afraid? What can mere mortals do to me? I will fulfill my vows to you, O God, and will offer a sacrifice of thanks for your help.

For you have rescued me from death; you have kept my feet from slipping So now I can walk in your presence, O God, in your life-giving light.



Introduction New Living Bible

Tears in Your Bottle

You keep track of all my sorrows. You have collected all my tears in your bottle. You have recorded each one in your book.

What a lovely concept: think about it

- God has a jar for everyone

Recall moments when you were

- Alone
- Misunderstood
- Sad
- 1 God keeps track of all your sorrows
- 2 God collects all your tears in His bottle 3 God records each one in His book.



Introduction New Living Bible Tears in God's Bottle

Hagar's Tears

Genesis 21:14-20

Abraham rose up early in the morning, and took bread and a bottle of water, and gave it to Hagar, putting it on her shoulder, and gave her the child, and sent her away.

She departed, and wandered in the wilderness of Beersheba. The water in the bottle was spent, and she cast the child under one of the shrubs. She went and sat down opposite him, a good way off, about a bow shot away. For she said, "Don't let me see the death of the child."

She sat over against him, and lifted up her voice, and wept.

God heard the voice of the boy.



Hagar's Tears

Genesis 21:14-20 God heard the voice of the boy.

The angel of God called to Hagar out of the sky, and said to her, "What ails you, Hagar? Don't be afraid. For God has heard the voice of the boy where he is.

Get up, lift up the boy, and hold him in your hand. For I will make him a great nation."

God opened her eyes, and she saw a well of water. She went, filled the bottle with water, and gave the boy drink.

God was with the boy, and he grew. He lived in the wilderness, and became, as he grew up, an archer.



Introduction New Living Bible Tears in God's Bottle Hagar's Tears

Elijah's Tears

1 Kings 19:9-18 He came there to a cave, and lodged there; and, behold, the word of Yahweh came to him, and he said to him, What are you doing here, Elijah?

He said, I have been very jealous for Yahweh, the God of hosts; for the children of Israel have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and slain your prophets with the sword: and I, even I only, am left; and they seek my life, to take it away.

He said, Go forth, and stand on the mountain before Yahweh. Behold, Yahweh passed by, and a great and strong wind tore the mountains, and broke in pieces the rocks before Yahweh; but Yahweh was not in the wind: and after the wind an earthquake; but Yahweh was not in the earthquake: and after the earthquake a fire; but Yahweh was not in the fire: and after the fire a still small voice. It was so, when Elijah heard it, that he wrapped his face in his mantle, and went out, and stood in the entrance of the cave.



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Elijah's Tears

1 Kings 19:9-18

Behold, there came a voice to him, and said, What are you doing here, Elijah?

He said, I have been very jealous for Yahweh, the God of hosts; for the children of Israel have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and slain your prophets with the sword; and I, even I only, am left; and they seek my life, to take it away.

Yahweh said to him, Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus: and when you come... Yet will I leave me seven thousand in Israel, all the knees which have not bowed to Baal, and every mouth which has not kissed him.



Bible Tears

Jeremiah 20:18 Why did I ever come out of the womb to see trouble and sorrow and to end my days in shame?

Job 30:15-17 Terrors overwhelm me; my dignity is driven away as by the wind, my safety vanishes like a cloud. And now my life ebbs away; days of suffering grip me. Night pierces my bones; my gnawing pains never rest.

Isaiah 53:3 He was despised and rejected by mankind, a man of suffering, and familiar with pain. Like one from whom people hide their faces he was despised, and we held him in low esteem.



Conclusion

Does Jesus care when my heart is pained Too deeply for mirth and song As the burdens press and the cares distress And the way grows weary and long

Does Jesus care when I've tried and failed To resist some temptation strong When for my deep grief I find no relief Though my tears flow all the night long



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Bible Tears

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Does Jesus care when my heart is pained Too deeply for mirth and song
As the burdens press and the cares distress And the way grows weary and long

Does Jesus care when I've tried and failed To resist some temptation strong When for my deep grief I find no relief Though my tears flow all the night long

Oh, yes He cares, I know He cares His heart is touched with my grief When the days are weary, the long nights dreary I know my Savior cares

Psalm 34:18 The LORD is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit.



At Household of Faith last Week: Top: Sister June sharing a 3-week Song Leader session with our youth. Below: Good to see more members and visitors returning for inperson worship.

Bottom: Members, supporters and visitors celebrating our first anniversary.





17th April 2022



Looking Back at our Second Year



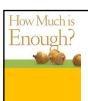
After the first year setting up the Household of Faith, the second year allowed members to reach out to their families resulting in the baptism of David's father and Annie's mother (pictured below).

It was also a time for us to honour our mothers and celebrate our anniversary, together with annual events such as our Missions Sunday.





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Introduction

This evening look at the Book of Proverbs on the subject of Contentment

Proverbs 30:8-9 Give me neither poverty nor riches, but give me only my daily bread. Otherwise, I may have too much and disown you and say, 'Who is the LORD?' Or I may become poor and steal, and so dishonor the name of my God.

Such a sensible prayer. But is it practical?





1. Greed

Greed is an "intense and selfish desire for something, especially wealth, power or food." It comes from the Old English graedig, or 'voracious,' which means 'always hungry for more'

So much Greed





Luke 12:15 Then he said to them, "Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; life does not consist in an abundance of possessions."

Luke 12:16-19 He spoke a parable to them, saying, "The ground of a certain rich man brought forth abundantly. He reasoned within himself, saying, "What will I do, because I don't have room to store my crops?' He said, 'This is what I will do. I will pull down my barns, and build bigger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. I will tell my soul, "Soul, you have many goods laid up for many years. Take your ease, eat, drink, be merry."

Proverbs 1:19 So are the ways of everyone who is greedy for gain. It takes away the life of its owners.



2. Covetousness

Moving one level higher – Covetousness: wanting what others have

One thing to desire to have more; another to desire what another person have

The grass is greener on the other side





Exodus 20:17 You shall not covet your neighbor's house. You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, nor his man-servant, nor his maid-servant, nor his ox, nor his donkey, nor anything that is your neighbor's.

James 4:1-2 What is the source of quarrels and conflicts among you?

Is not the source your pleasures that wage war in

You lust and do not have; so you commit murder.

You are envious and cannot obtain; so you fight and quarrel.



3. Cheating

- Greed self
 Covetous others
 Cheating deprive others wrongfully

Exodus 20:15 You shall not steal.

Proverbs 12:22 Lying lips are an abomination to the Lord, but those who act faithfully are his delight.

Proverbs 10:9 Whoever walks in integrity walks securely, but he who makes his ways crooked will be found out.

Thieves



Amos 8:5 "When will the New Moon be over that we may sell grain, and the Sabbath be ended that we may market wheat?"— skimping on the measure, boosting the price and cheating with dishonest scales

Mark 11:15-17 They came to Jerusalem, and Jesus entered into the temple, and began to throw out those who sold and those who bought in the temple, and overthrew the tables of the money-changers, and the seats of those who sold the doves. He would not allow anyone to carry a container through the temple. He taught, saying to them, "Isn't it written, 'My house will be called a house of prayer for all the nations?' But you have made it a den of robbers!"



How Much is Enough?

Covetousness
 Cheating

Robbing

Cheating – stealing possessions Robbery – instilling hurt

Isaiah 61:8 For I, the LORD, love justice; I hate robbery and wrongdoing. In my faithfulness I will reward my people and make an everlasting covenant with them.

Amos 8:4 Listen to this, you who rob the poor and trample down the needy!

Luke 10:30 Jesus answered, "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.

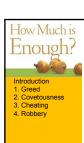


3. Cheating

1 Kings 21:2-15 Ahab said to Naboth, "Let me have your vineyard to use for a vegetable garden, since it is close to my palace... But Naboth replied, "The LORD forbid that I should give you the inheritance of my ancestors."...

Jezebel his wife said, "Is this how you act as king over Israel? Get up and eat! Cheer up. I'll get you the vineyard of Naboth the Jezreelite."...

So she wrote letters in Ahab's name, placed his seal on them, and sent them to the elders and nobles who lived in Naboth's city with him... So they took him outside the city and stoned him to death... As soon as Jezebel heard that Naboth had been stoned to death, she said to Ahab, "Get up and take possession of the vineyard of Naboth the Jezreelite that he refused to sell you...he got up and went down to take possession of Naboth's vineyard.



5. Invasion

Isaiah 2:4 He will judge between the nations and will settle disputes for many peoples. They will beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks. Nation will not take up sword against nation, nor will they train for war anymore.

Matthew 5:9 Blessed are the peacemakers for they shall be called sons of God.

Cheating – stealing possessions Robbery – instilling hurt Invasion – killing lives

How Much is	
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Enough!	
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- Introduction
 1. Greed
 2. Covetousness
 3. Cheating
 4. Robbery
 5. Invasion

Conclusion

Philippians 4:11 I have learned, in whatever circumstances I am, to be content

John Wesley

£30 - 28 = 2; £60 - 28 = 32

£120 - 28 =92

Chuck Feeney - lives in a two-bedroom apartment given away roughly \$9 billion anonymously

Warren Buffet - lives in same old 5-bedroom house donated \$108 billion

Mahatma Gandhi - The possession of anything became a troublesome thing and a burden.

Godliness + Contentment

1 Timothy 6:6-12 But godliness with contentment is great gain. For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it. But if we have food and clothing, we will be content with that.

Philippians 4:11-13 Not that I speak from want, for I have learned to be content in whatever circumstances I am. I know how to get along with humble means, and I also know how to live in prosperity; in any and every circumstance I have learned the secret of being filled and going hungry, both of having abundance and suffering need. I can do all things through Him who strengthens me.

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24th April 2022



Big Changes in Our Third Year



As we look back at our third year, there were big changes that took place. For the first two years, we started well and enjoyed an average of over 20 and 30 in attendance respectively. We were hoping to get registered by the third anniversary when attendance would have reached over 40 weekly.

However, half way to our third year, the pandemic hit and we were not allowed to meet for worship. We immediately switched to live streaming and reach out to our members and providing a comphrensive webpage, more communication through social media and delivering communionware and sending bulletins by mail.

Clockwise: Celebrating woman's day in March 2020; Temperature taking in the early days of the pandemic; one of our last worships at the Metropolitan YMCA.





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Introduction

So many good things from the Psalms.

Tonight look at a short passage – Psalm 37:3-8

Many clear instructions but the key is verse 7 – to rest in the Lord

Such a timely, much needed lesson for all of us today

Visitors to Mexico



Psalms 37:3-8 Trust in God, and do good. Dwell in the land, and enjoy safe pasture.

Also delight yourself in God, And he will give you the desires of your heart.

Commit your way to God. Trust also in him, and he will do this: He will make your righteousness go forth as the light, And your justice as the noon day

Rest in God, and wait patiently for him.

Don't fret because of him who prospers in his way, Because of the man who makes wicked plots happen.

Cease from anger, and forsake wrath. Don't fret, it leads only to evildoing.



1. Trust in God

Trust in God, and do good. Dwell in the land, and enjoy safe pasture.

Basis of our relationship with God

If we trust in God, we will obey His commandments, i.e. do good

Trust is never passive eg. mental assent



2. Delight in God

Also delight yourself in God, And he will give you the desires of your heart.

Many who trust God, do it legalistically

God wants our heart, not rituals

John 4:23-24 But the hour comes, and now is, when the true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such to be his worshippers. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.

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2. Delight in God

Luke 15:29-31 But he answered his father, 'Behold, these many years I have served you, and I never disobeyed a commandment of yours, but you never gave me a goat, that I might celebrate with my friends. But when this, your son, came, who has devoured your living with prostitutes, you killed the fattened calf for him.'

He said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours.

If you delight in God, He will give you the desires of your heart.



Introduction 1. Trust in God 2. Delight in God

3. Commit to God

Commit your way to God. Trust also in him, and he will do this: He will make your righteousness go forth as the light, And your justice as the noon day sun.

Commit: Pray for God's will to be done in your life

James 4:14-15 For what is your life? For you are a vapor, that appears for a little time, and then vanishes away. For you ought to say, "If the Lord wills, we will both live, and do this or that."



Introduction 1. Trust in God 2. Delight in God

3. Commit to God

Trust also in him

heaven.

Repeat from verse 3: *Trust in God, and do good.*

Commit and put your trust in God - He will make your righteousness go forth as the light, And your justice as the noon day sun.

Matthew 5:16 Even so, let your light shine before men; that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in

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4. Rest in God

Rest in God, and wait patiently for him.

Mark 4:37-40 There arose a great wind storm, and the waves beat into the boat, so much that the boat was already filled.

He himself was in the stern, asleep on the cushion, and they woke him up, and told him, "Teacher, don't you care that we are dying?"

He awoke, and rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, "Peace! Be still!" The wind ceased, and there was a great calm.

He said to them, "Why are you so afraid? How is it that you have no faith?"



Introduction 1. Trust in God 2. Delight in God 3. Commit to God

4. Rest in God

When you trust, delight and commit to God you can rest in God

No matter what the situation e.g. pandemic

- Steady growth up to 3rd anniversary
- meeting for live stream
- members leaving even my PPCoC office unavailable
- like Job, God has blessed us more

Rest in God, and wait patiently for him.

He will make all things beautiful in His time



Conclusion

Cease from anger, and forsake wrath. Don't fret, it leads only to evildoing

Easy to distrust God when bad things happen

Hard to keep going when all the odds appear to be against us

Galatians 6:9 Let us not be weary in doing good, for we will reap in due season, if we don't give up.

BACK PAGE NEWS



At the Household of Faith last Sunday: Members and visitors are returning to inperson worship with room for many more. Screenshot below taken from our active Facebook groiup - Household of Faith Supporters and Friends.















Left: Brother Barnabas setting up live stream at the home of the Alfred Poons. Right: Brother Alfred leading worship from his home. After a few weeks, we moved to brother Henry's office. We praise God for His protection, guidance and blessings admist the uncertianity.

