



less pawns and hostages of fate. Cognitively, we realise that. However, it's not always that easy or convenient to translate that promised heritage into a practical and genuine Christian life-style.

Our old nature and pattern of life are resistant to change. Like a wild beast, it can't be naturally domesticated. It fights any attempts to modify its behaviour or subdue its wild instincts. We therefore find ourselves surrendering to the dictates of our old thought life and depraved instincts more often than successfully cultivating the fruit of the Spirit.

We don't acknowledge this readily or willingly. It's hard to face unpleasant truths especially when they expose our weaknesses. We would rather defend and explain our failures and defeats than admit them – usually through blame. It's convenient and uncomplicated to use. After all, we're products of imperfect parenting, teachers, systems and environment. It's not too far fetched to believe that what we are now could be partially attributed to their influences. Blaming absolves us from personal responsibility.

However, blaming is a waste of time. It doesn't shed light on your condition, nor does it provide you with any solution. No matter how much fault you find with whatever aggravating factors, and regardless of how much you castigate them, blaming will not change you. The only thing blame does is to keep you focussing on the externals and the peripherals.

Let's face it – there's no way which we can rewrite our past. But we can always learn from it, and even reinterpret it. The past can give us an insight and understanding of our defence mechanisms.

But there's a greater reality we mustn't forget: our old nature is tainted with sin. It affects every part of us, including my minds. Because the sin nature remains unchanged and totally stubborn even after trusting Christ, we continue to have thinking problems. An indispensable and integral part of the sanctification process, the developmental purifying process, is changing our minds. A changed mind will affect our attitude – which is the key to any meaningful change. Our thought pattern determines how we live.

Practically, we've to put on the new self. A critical aspect of it involves learning. Paul, in addressing the Ephesians against indulging the old ways of living, reminded them "You, however, did not come to know Christ that way" (Ephesians 4:20). Sharpen your ability to set your mind on the right things. It's fundamental to the Christian life – a right mind determines a right life. Cultivate it well as a lifestyle. If you keep learning from Jesus, you'll grow into His likeness!

**Pastor Song Cheng Hock**

DO NOT FORGET TO SWITCH OFF YOUR HANDPHONES!



**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**WE WELCOME all guests who have come to worship with us this morning.** If this is your first visit, please fill in the Visitor Form so that we can keep in touch with you.

**SUNDAY BIBLE SCHOOL**

**Two classes are conducted upstairs every Sunday morning from 9.15 - 10.00a.m. before Worship Services.**

**Basic Christian Living** classes are for new believers or believers who wish to hone their Christian Living. **Facilitator:** Sister Chiew Eng.

**Discipleship Class:** For believers who wish to deepen their Christian Life. Studying the book of Philippians. **Facilitator:** Pastor Song.



**OUR NEXT EVANGELISTIC MEETING:**

November 29th 2009 at 10.30am.

**PRAY, PREPARE PARTICIPATE.** Pray without ceasing. Pray specifically for someone to bring. Pray for salvation for friends and family. **Prepare** to see many come to know Christ. Be an usher, a counsellor or just a helper (*contact Bro. Henry Lee or Sister Chiew Eng*).

**Participate** in our evangelistic effort. Share a testimony, a song item or contribute a dish for the lunch. Let's unite in our effort to win souls for our Lord.

Fill in the attached form and pass them to the ushers or one of our prayer intercessors.

**Our evangelist will be Pastor Daniel Teh.**

**NEXT YEAR'S THEME**

Our theme for next year will be **"Equipping God's People for the Ministry."** In line with this theme, we have invited speakers to conduct training courses by **Dr Suraja Raman** (during the 9.15a.m. Adult Bible Class.) Four weeks starting January 2010.

**The Gift of Teaching** - Romans 12:7

- a) January 10th: **The Ministry of Teaching in today's world**
- b) January 17th: **The Teaching-Learning Dynamics**
- c) January 24th: **Creative Bible Teaching?**
- d) January 31st: **Issues for Christian Nurture...**

These studies are especially planned for those who wish to be in the ministry of teaching such as youth leaders, Sunday School Teachers and cell group leaders.

Following this there will be Training Classes on subjects such as: a. Discovering our purpose. b. Fulfilling our purpose. c. Discovering our gifts. d. Understanding your gifts. e. Spiritual gifts discovered. f. Discovering your calling. g. Understanding Your Calling etc.

**PRAYER PAGE**



1. Please pray for **Pastor Song** as he brings God's Word to us this morning. Pray for ourselves too that we may not be hearers of the Word only but doers too.

2. Pastor Song will be leaving us at the end of this year. Please pray that God will provide for us a new person of His calling to lead our congregation. Pray for the Directors as they meet to decide on the new leadership of the church.

3. Brother **Yook Siong's mother** needs our prayer. She has advanced stage cancer. Please pray for the Lord's strength to be with her and God's guidance to the family and doctors as they continue to care for her.

4. Please continue to pray for **sister Alice**. She had to have a blood transfusion last week. Do pray for God's strength to be with her and **sister Catherine** as she cares for her sister.

5. Pray for **students** who are studying for their final exams, that the Lord will guide, strengthen and bless them with success as they try their best. Pray too for parents of the students that they may trust the Lord and commit their children to Him.

6. Continue to remember **Brothers Byju, Wai Chan** and sister **Chiew Eng** studying in E.A.S.T and the Singapore Bible College. They too are having their exams this month. Please pray for them as they study to be fit servants for our Lord.

7. **Pray for families** - for oneness, growth and love in Christ. Remember families that are torn and wounded by strife.

8. In 1 Corinthians 12, we are reminded that we are part of one body with Christ as our head. Let us pray for the health and well-being of this body, that we may fulfill our roles and responsibilities in unity and harmony.

**CHURCH OF GOD**

**Income and Expenditure Report**

Month ending: October 2009

|             | Bldg.Fund         | Gen.Fund        | Missions         | Total             |
|-------------|-------------------|-----------------|------------------|-------------------|
| Income      | \$5,306.04        | 11,944.89       | 2,720.54         | 19,971.47         |
| Expenditure |                   | -11,546.36      | 2,751.43         | 14,297.79         |
| Income/Exp  | <u>\$5,306.04</u> | <u>\$398.53</u> | <u>\$(30.89)</u> | <u>\$5,673.68</u> |

**Memory Verse:**

**Last week's:** *We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. - 2 Corinthians 5 : 20*

**This week:** *God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. - Psalm 46 : 1*