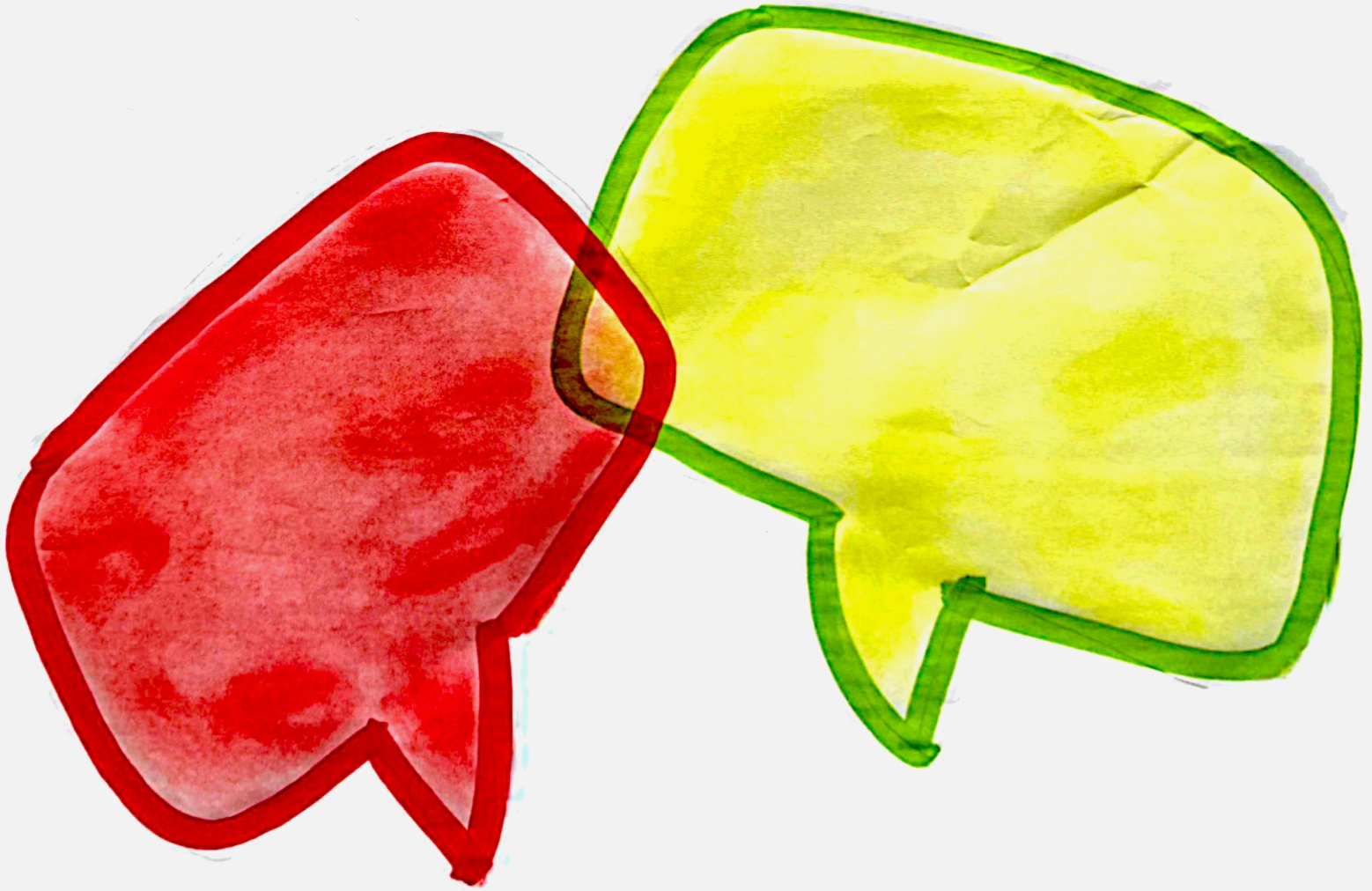





# **CELEBRATING THE GENERATIONS**





16 Jun  
2023

# GOD OF GENERATIONS

His  extends to all generations

Every generation **Precious**  
in His sight



Answers to our varied challenges  
- not in our strength



suicide!  
youths,  
elderly

Stagnating  
Percent of  
Christians

We have grown complacent.  
soon, surely decline -  
unless we do something

2 Tim 1:14

Guard  
the good  
deposit

treasure  
the Treasure!



**1** lest we  
lose our  
FAITH

(2 Tim 1:1-5)

Heritage and legacy;  
not losing salvation

Do we possess  
a sincere faith?

Fired up inward + out

Pattern/habits  
of life?



conscious  
decisions/choices:  
thoughts, feelings, activities  
easy to COMPROMISE,  
BE CORRUPTED!



## 2 lest we lose our MESSAGE (2 Tim 1:8-11)

Be careful about swinging to extremes: neither Prosperity Gospel nor Pharisaiacal

Saved **from** God  
Saved **by** God  
Saved **for** God

  
more sinful + flawed than we dared believe,  
more loved + accepted than we dared hope  
(Tim Keller)

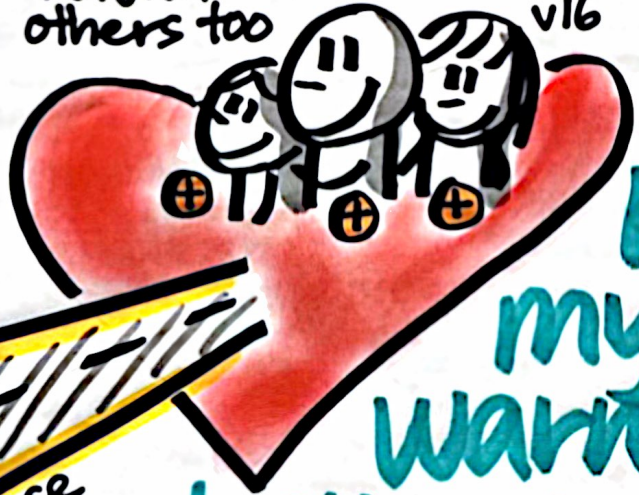
in Jesus Christ



## 3 lest we lose our TESTIMONY (2 Tim 1:15-18)



Be "profit bearing"  
-not just self-transformed;  
others too v16



What's going in?

What do we lose along the way?

Lord, keep my heart warm and testimony bright, whatever fires come...

Track well  
inside-out intimacy with Jesus



17 Jun  
2023

# DISCIPLINING OURSELVES

Moving from North to South,  
we lost the message...

We can't blame  
anyone for  
our own  
spiritual lives

is it irreparable and irreversible  
that we are

spiritually  
superficial?

Just cruisin'?! 

Matthew 14:22-33  
(NLT)

## 1 It's easy to MISS JESUS

He intentionally got them into  
the boat. Was Jesus **cruel**?  
False ideology: God will keep us  
from trouble. ← This is a **lie**

"I will be with you"  
He is sovereign +  
faithful

→ what He  
does

↘ who He is

Decision: "From this  
point, I will trust Him  
all the days of my  
life..."

"Who do you say  
I am?"

Trust His heart



2

# It's easy to PLAY SAFE!

"Lord, if it's really you, tell me to..."

Jesus **immediately** reached out

"Why did you doubt me?"

→ Jesus spurting Peter on



little faith



great faith



(no faith)

We don't really know Jesus

Are we **risk averse** in Kingdom matters, plans, priorities?

[ Disciples - little faith  
Gentiles - great faith  
- matt 8, 6, 14, 15, 16 ]

Pray, give God a chance to speak to you

- Pray, reach out to the most unlikely person?
- Be faithful in daily devotional?
- Weekly/monthly fast?
- Join a silent retreat?
- Loving, forgiving someone who has wounded you?
- Spiritual breakthrough in bondage/addiction?
- Step up to a new responsibility?
- **Be out of your depth**
- Generous towards a financial need?
- And/or...?

Step out of the boat



Lord, confirm my calling

"Will you love me?"

You really are the Son of God!



17 Jun  
2023

# DISCIPLING ONE ANOTHER

John 17:6-18

Virtual - good for connection,  
but it can't replace community

We gather  
that we  
might  
scatter

Mark 3:14

"WITH HIM" ↔ "FOR HIM"

John 17:4

What is the "work"? Accomplished!

The time Jesus spent with His disciples

1

## Revealing the FATHER'S HEART

John 17:6

"He loves you,  
waits for you, will  
embrace you"

Welcome home!



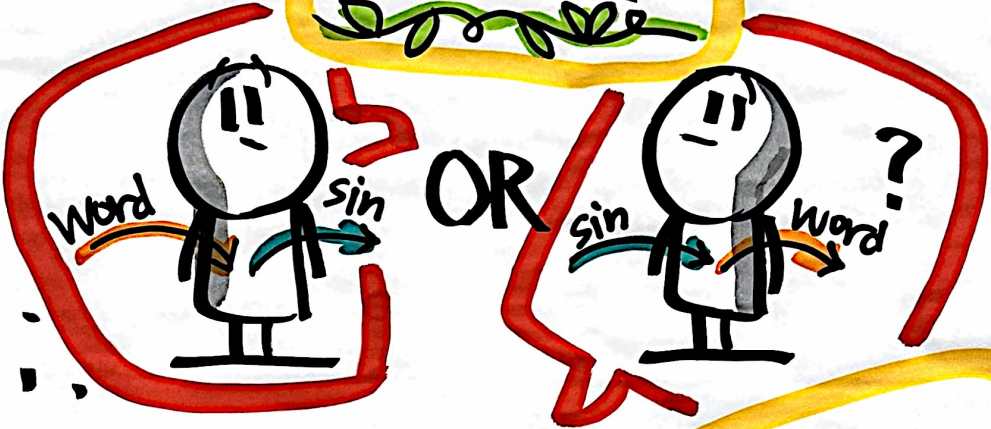


# 2 IMPARTING THE SCRIPTURES

John 17:8,14

for them to become self-feeding Christians

Words of eternal life



# 3 PRAYING

for them John 17:9

I have your back covered

mentor as many as you can - so long as you can pray for them

when you come back again...

# 4 GUIDING

them John 17:12 demonstrate by example



# 5 SENDING

them John 17:18 to face onslaught, stand firm fulfilling God's mission in all vocations

To be there in the world to make a difference





18 Jun  
2023

# DISCIPLINING THE FAMILY

Genesis 18:17-19

I Daily Mature in Christ  
I Daily Multiple through Christ

where you  
can't hide  
your

TRUE  
SELF

1

We are **CHOSEN**  
by the Lord

Gen 18:19a

"For I have chosen him"

Abraham went  
forth in faith, because  
God said so

↓ "know"

But do you  
and I  
know Him?

**FRIEND OF GOD**

friends  
know plans



God puts unique persons  
together, to form families

And choose  
Him?

Model Jesus, even in  
weakness, to our family



# 2 ... to **COMMAND**

Our children + family  
to keep the way of the  
Lord by doing righteousness  
and justice

Gen 18:19

"train"

≠ authoritarian

Live **KINDLY, GENEROUSLY,  
FAIRLY**



Love your neighbour  
as yourself

I don't know  
where to start/  
how to sustain it

I'm not that  
spiritual; my  
spouse is more  
spiritual

building relationship  
and trust

The most  
important part  
of spiritual life=  
to know where  
we are not

My children  
no longer  
attending  
church/  
walking with  
the Lord

What must  
I do to move  
from 6 to 10?

Ask  
questions  
weekly/regularly

listen without  
becoming offended

God loves our children  
even more than we do

Faith &

- Parents
- emotional bonds (warmth; especially with father)
- grandparents
- age (prodigals do return)
- spirituality (↑ with age)

God is  
merciful. His  
truth will last

Do you want  
**Compliance**  
or  
**change of heart?**



...to **CHANNEL**

**3**

God's blessing to the nations

Gen 18:19c "shall be blessed in him"

INCREDIBLE  
PATIENCE +  
KINDNESS

INCREDIBLE  
ROLE



**MAJOR IN FAMILY, FAMILY IS MAJOR**



19 Jun 2023

# KEEP GROWING

2 Peter 1:5-9

When hunger to grow stops, the discipleship journey stops also

growth devt. plan

## 1 HOW CAN WE GROW?

Am I conforming to the image of the Son?

develop habits

2 Pet. 1:5 Privileged resources from God, so

make every active effort ①

Sanctification: a work of God in which believers

**COOPERATE**

② supplement (add)

Live for the eternal, spiritual, there & then  
Don't be confused & deceived

又真 (Hokkien resource)  
又活的生命

Keep sowing - the day will come, even if at the last moment





# 2 What we need to grow in

2 Pet. 1:7

8 characteristics,

## INTEGRATIVELY

### Faith

### Love



i True and living, anchored in Jesus?



viii Express sacrificially, esp outside the faith?

ii Seek to glorify God?

vii Drawn to fellow believers, serve them?

iii Practical knowledge + wisdom?

iv Self-discipline + self-restraint?

vi Piety + devotion, God is priority?

v Give up easily and blame God?



Christian living is NOT a roller coaster!!!

Beware what grows on you!

# 3 Why we must grow

2 Pet. 1:8-9; Rev. 3:17-18

Deeper **INTIMACY** with Jesus  
close knowledge + relationship

Deeper **GRATITUDE** to Jesus

Who am(nesia) I?  
spiritually blind → forgetful → not thankful

"Help me to be like You"

"see, really see"