

SERMON NOTES

THE PARADOX OF THE CHRISTIAN FAITH

Scripture: 2 Corinthians 4:7-18 • Speaker: Dr Violet James

Introduction

Many Christians do not believe that suffering is part of the Christian life. If a Christian suffers sickness, or is stricken by adversities, it is because he or she must have sinned against God and is being punished by Him! Paul explains to us in 2 Corinthians 4:7-18 that suffering is God's way of growing us. In fact, without suffering there will be no glory and without suffering there can be no growth. In order to help us grasp this truth, Paul uses a literary term called paradox, to convey this powerful truth.

A paradox is an apparent contradiction. If we were to take the words apart, they will become opposites. But when we bring them together, one idea flows into the other and adds richness to the words by magnifying the truth.

A. Ordinary Yet Extraordinary (4:7)

1. Paul was ordinary like a jar of clay.
2. Paul had a 'treasure' that made him extraordinary

B. Weak Yet Strong (4:8-15)

1. Paul used paradoxes to describe his testimony - (verses 8-9)
2. Paul used paradoxes to explain Jesus in him – (verses 10-12)

C. Decaying Yet Renewing (4:16-18)

1. 'Slight' and 'momentary' in comparison to 'weight(y)' and 'eternal' gains
2. Focus is on the 'unseen' and 'eternal', not the 'seen' and 'transient'

Conclusion

The story of Tami Fisk, missionary to China - *Lord I have given my life to missions. Now I offer my 'mission' to you. You are the only one I want to serve and worship with the whole of my heart. My life belongs to you.*

Senior Pastor:

Rev Chua Yeow San

English Congregational Pastor: Pastor John Loke

English Congregation Pastor: Pastor Karol Lee



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7 June 2020

11:30am

Blessed
to
Bless

WELCOME to the English Congregation Worship Service!

(Online Streaming: www.youtube.com/c/gracescchurch)

Opening Prayer
Worship in Praise
Responsive Reading
Worship in Offering

Scripture Reading

Sermon:

Speaker • *Dr Violet James*

The Paradox of the Christian Faith

2 Corinthians 4:7-18

Response Song

Meditation

Benediction

Pastor/ Deacon On Duty • *Pastor Karol Lee*

Kindly switch all mobile devices to silent mode during service

OUR COMMUNITY

Breakfast Fellowship	1st, 3rd Sundays, 10:00—11:15am Rooms 106, 108
Children's Sunday School	Sundays, 11:30am—1:15pm N1-N2: Rooms 404 K1-K2: Room 406 P1-P2: Room 502 P3-P5: Room 505
Youth Worship Service	Sundays, 10:00am Rooms 507-509
Grace Youth Ministry (GYM)	Sundays, 11:30am—1:15pm Rooms 407, 408
Cell Groups	Kindly contact EC pastors

GRACE (S.C.C.) CHURCH

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EMAIL: GRACESCC@SINGNET.COM.SG

WEBSITE: WWW.GSCCC.ORG.SG

CHURCH NEWS

YOUTH WORSHIP

Speaker: Pastor May Kwan
 Title: Be the Antioch in the Worldwide Panic
 Text: Acts 11: 19-30

TEMPORARY CLOSURE

Due to the current COVID-19 situation, our church will remain closed to the public after the easing of circuit breaker on 2 June. Please stay at home to worship together online which can be accessed by one of the following:

1. Enter the Church's mobile app Menu and click on "Livestream" icon; or
2. Visit www.youtube.com/c/gracescchurch; or
3. Enter the Church's website at www.gsgcc.org.sg and click on "YouTube Channel" under the resource tab.

And: Should you have any enquiries, we remain contactable during office hours at **6337 7144** (Mon-Fri: 9am-5pm; Sat: 9am-1pm). If outside office hours, you can still SMS us the details at **8182 7531**. We will try to reply you as soon as possible.

SPECIAL OFFERING

Thanks be to the Lord. A total of \$35,396 special offering was received. The Love and Care Department will donate it to SGAGHC to help those migrant workers in need.

ACCOUNTS DEPARTMENT

Church Financial Year will end on 30 Jun. Please submit all outstanding claims with scanned invoice copies to Sis Chloe Zeng (Finance Executive) via email at chloe.zeng@gsgcc.org.sg latest by 5 Jul 2020, so she could make accrual for such claims before the Year End closing.

SEMINARY GRADUATE THIS YEAR

Trinity Theological College 70th Graduation Ceremony will be held on 13 June (Sat). MC member Bro Cai Yu is graduating this year

and will be awarded the Master of Divinity. May God lead him in his future ministry.

SUMMARY OF OFFERING MODE :

- a) **PayNow** (is now available to ALL funds) **UEN S61SS0111H** or QR code.
 Please refer to the Church Website or Mobile App for the bank references.



- b) **Mail crossed cheque to church** (New)
- Envelope with prepaid postage will be available upon request
 - Please call Finance Executive at 6332 6836
- c) **Online Banking** (New)
 THE GRACE (S'PORE CHINESE CHRISTIAN) CHURCH
 DBS Bank A/C No.: **033-022323-4**

RECRUITMENT NOTICE

- **Mission Pastor/ Mission Executive**
 - **Mandarin Congregation Pastor**
- Please refer to the Church website for details. Interested applicants may contact Sis Lisa Chan at 6332 6833 or lisa.chan@gsgcc.org.sg.

MISSION NEWS

47TH MISSION CONVENTION (26-28 JUNE 2020)

VIA ONLINE STREAMING

- Main theme: Keep in Step with God's Mission
- Theme speaker: Bishop Emeritus Dr Robert Solomon of The Methodist Church

47TH MISSION CONVENTION ONLINE ADULT WORKSHOP ON 27 JUNE 2020

Workshop One

Reporting Missionary: Michael Wan (Wycliffe)
 Time: 10:00-11:30am
 Topic: Understanding Trauma Healing

Workshop Two

Speaker: Eric Lee (SG Accident Help Centre)
 Time: 2:00-3:30pm
 Topic: Care for the Forgotten Brothers

To register, please log in to: <https://tinyurl.com/47MCWorkshop> (by 21 June 2020)

47TH MISSION FAITH PLEDGE

After much prayerful deliberation, the Deacon Board, upon recommendation by the Mission Committee, has approved the 47th Mission Budget at **S\$1,290,000**. The budget caters to existing ministries as well as new ministries approved in-principle. Due to the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic, the faith pledge target will be set at **S\$1,000,000**. The remaining **S\$290,000** will be provided for by the mission fund surplus. The details of the new mission budget and Faith Pledge form will be mailed to you in the coming weeks.

CHILDREN MISSION CONVENTION

Praise God 64 children attended the Children Mission Convention last weekend.

- **Consolidation of piggy bank offering**
 With the offering from the children for the 45th Mission Year, we bought 15 goats to help 15 needy families and support 12 children for cleft palates surgeries. The collection of the 46th Mission Convention children's offering ended in May 2020. Parents, we seek your help in counting and reporting the amount in your child's piggy bank by 14 June to Boon Jee (EC). Meanwhile, help your child keep the money safely until the church can meet again, and recycle the piggy bank for your child's offering for the 47th Mission Year.

- **Distribution of new piggy banks to all**

primary 1 children

A new piggy bank will be distributed to all Primary 1 children when church reopens. Before that, we seek parents' help to prepare a temporary piggy bank for them.

EC NEWS

APPLICATION FOR BAPTISM

Worshippers seeking to be baptised on 15 Aug (Sat) may approach Pastor John Loke or Pastor Karol Lee for registration. Closing date for the registration is 14 Jun.

OUR FAITHFULNESS (31 MAY 2020)

No. of livestream worship units(max): 103
 EC Offering (Overall): \$8,184
 General Offering (May): \$18,612
 Love Offering (May): \$9,545
 Mission Fund Offering (May): \$22,590
 Building Fund (May): \$1,870
 Cell groups: 33

MEETINGS

Mission Com Meeting
14 June (Sun) | 1:30pm | Online Meeting
DB cum CLC Meeting
18 June (Thu) | 7pm | Online Meeting

	14 June 2020
Speaker	Bro Mark
Title and Scripture	<i>Critical Pregnant Pauses and Turning Points</i> Mark 8: 27-31
Pastor on Duty	Pastor John Loke
Worship Leader	Cheok Ru-Sern