

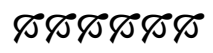


# SHALOM MONTHLY

## The Pastor's Desk by Pastor Wee

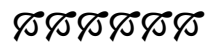
This past month had been an eventful month in the perfect will of God – the delayed return of **Pastor Christian** due to compression of nerves in his neck and the pain therapies he had to undergo to lessen his pains before he can travel back. We see the hand of God in this whole episode, and we deeply

appreciate the men in the church who preached in the absence of the pastors – bro Joel, Andy, Chris, Bryan at the pulpit, and bro Denzil who did the heavy lifting in the Sunday School. We were all blessed and edified by their teaching and preaching.



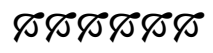
It is not just these men but also the many brethren in the church who took upon themselves to be around and to personally minister to the folks in church – like the Filipino brethren who looked after sis Lourdes, a recent visitor, whom I had the

privilege to invite to church before I left for Australia or the staff who kept a close tab on those in need. While here in Gold Coast, I had the privilege to lead a Filipino man Herbert to the Lord and to connect him with Pastor Ameriel in Dumaguete Philippines.



The **Church Camp** is around the corner and this year we have a record number of 170 plus campers heading to Pulau Spring in JB this December. Many are looking forward to this annual camp where we can enjoy and appreciate the fellowship, bonding, food, laughter, and above all, the solid, systematic

teaching of the Minor Prophets – God in the Ruins. Let us come with an attitude of learning and to enlarge our friendship as we avail ourselves to genuinely love the brethren. The lessons will be livestreamed and those watching can get a feel of what church camp is like.



It is said that the church either evangelizes or fossilizes, and we are called to be fishers of men and not keepers of aquariums. As much as we struggle with our challenges in life or enjoy the fellowship of the brethren, let us continue to keep an eye on eternity – let us not go home empty handed. There

are souls heading to a Christless eternity and let us reach out to them while the night cometh not. There are the Friend's Sundays, the Christmas' Evangelistic Sunday, and our **40th Church Anniversary** for us to prayerfully invite someone to hear of the gospel.

It is said that *what is everybody's responsibility usually ends up with nobody's responsibility* – perhaps for once, let us be that someone whom the

Lord said, 'Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, **"Whom shall I send? And who will go for us? And I said, "Here am I. Send me!"** (Isa 6:8-9)



On a personal note, Janet and I are glad to be back earlier than planned due to the pressing needs of the church. We look forward to continuing to be a

blessing to the brethren. Let us put our hands to the plough. There is a great future for Shalom. To God be the glory!

## **Combined Sunday School (September to December at LT1)**

Topic: **Baptist Polity**

Teacher: **Pastor Christian**

### **Baptism (24 Nov)**

Baptismal Candidate: Matthew Ye

Please contact the pastoral staff if you are planning to be baptized.

### **Friend's Sunday (10 Nov)**

Let us have a prayerful pause to remember the lost in our orbit - our family, loved ones, and friends. Let us be reminded of this poignant letter entitled 'My Friend by D. J. Higgins':

My Friend, I stand in Judgment now,  
And feel that you're to blame somehow.  
Never did you point the way.  
You knew the Lord in truth and glory,  
But never did you tell the story.

My knowledge then was very dim;  
You could have led me safe to Him.  
Though we lived together on the earth,  
You never told me of the second birth,  
And now I stand this day condemned,  
Because you failed to mention Him.

You taught me many things, that's true.  
I called you "friend" and trusted you,  
But I learn now that it's too late,  
You could have kept me from this fate.  
We walked by day and talked by night,  
And yet you showed me not the Light.

You let me live, and love, and die,  
You knew I'd never live on high.  
Yes, I called you "friend" in life,  
And trusted you through joy and strife.  
And yet on coming to the end,  
I cannot, now, call you "My Friend."

"Say not ye, There are yet four months, and then cometh harvest? behold, I say unto you, Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest." (Jn 4:35)

## Mission Projects

|  |                             |
|--|-----------------------------|
| Pastor Thaug Lian – orphanage, Myanmar                 | \$6,000 (Sent)              |
| Pastor Thaug Lian - orphans' education needs           | \$500 (Sent)                |
| Pastor Tran - Saigon Faith Baptist Church              | \$1,000 (Sent)              |
| Pastor Antoro - Purworejo Baptist College, Indonesia   | \$1,000 (Sent)              |
| Pastor Juan Empleo - Church School, Vietnam            | \$1,000 (Sent)              |
| Pastor Yakub - health, Indonesia                       | <b>\$1,000 (\$750 sent)</b> |
| Pastor Srim Sara - Church rentals, Laos                | \$1,000 (Sent)              |
| Pastor Rodero - Bible School, Laos                     | \$1,500 (Sent)              |
| Pastor Rodero - Church building, Laos                  | \$1,000 (Sent)              |
| Pastor Kit Jamandron - truck repairs, Cambodia         | \$500 (Sent)                |
| Pastor Jarmin Rodero – daughter's (Jael) medical needs | \$1,000 (Sent)              |
| Pastor John Sumatra - Bible School, Philippines        | \$1,000 (Sent)              |

*You can give to the Mission Projects by sending your money to the Faith Mission Fund (Shalom Baptist Church / OCBC: 518-075775-003)*

## Church Funds

|                          |                      |
|--------------------------|----------------------|
| General Fund (GF)        | OCBC: 518-075775-001 |
| Building Fund (BF)       | OCBC: 518-075775-002 |
| Faith Mission Fund (FMF) | OCBC: 518-075775-003 |

*Offering boxes for our giving are also available in the church (LT 1)*

*Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: **for God loveth a cheerful giver.** 2 Cor 9:7*

## Membership

English – 253  
 Chinese – 30  
 Total – 283  
 Newly added members (baptism): Nil  
 Newly added members (transfer): Nil

## Average Attendance

Oct 2024  
 English : **179**  
 Chinese : **31**  
 Children : **39**  
 Total : **249**

# December Church Camp

Theme: **God in the Ruins**  
 Date: **16 - 20 Dec**  
 Venue: **Pulai Springs Resort Johor**  
 Attendees: (to-date) **170** adults, including children & toddlers

*Please review your booking and fill up the transport column if you are traveling by the coach*

\*Note: Payment is DUE.

Do check your camp fees before paying via **internet** to:  
**SHALOM BAPTIST CHURCH / DBS 006-013396-7**

(INDICATE NAME & NO. OF PAX PAID FOR. WHATSAPP BRO JAMES THE INFO)

| Type of Room                                  | Deluxe & 1 Bedroom Apartment |              | 2 / 3 / 4 Bedroom Apartment |              |
|---|------------------------------|--------------|-----------------------------|--------------|
|   | Single                       | Twin Share   | Single                      | Twin Share   |
| Adult   | <b>\$470</b>                 | <b>\$310</b> | <b>\$460</b>                | <b>\$300</b> |
| <i>Children (4-11) Based on DOB on 16 Dec</i> |                              |              |                             |              |
| Type  | Twin Share                   | Extra Bed    | No Bed                      | -            |
| Child   | <b>\$250</b>                 | <b>\$230</b> | <b>\$150</b>                | -            |

Please approach Bro James if you require any genuine financial assistance (strictly in confidence & up to 50%)

## Camp Lessons *(do read the books before the camp)*

|                 |                |                  |
|-----------------|----------------|------------------|
| 16 Dec Mon (pm) | <b>Malachi</b> | Pastor Christian |
| 17 Dec Tue (am) | <b>Joel</b>    | Bro Joel         |
| 17 Dec Tue (pm) | <b>Amos</b>    | Bro Denzil       |
| 18 Dec Wed (am) | <b>Obadiah</b> | Pastor Wee       |
| 18 Dec Wed (pm) | <b>Jonah</b>   | Bro Andy         |
| 19 Dec Thu (am) | <b>Micah</b>   | Pastor Ter       |
| 19 Dec Thu (pm) | <b>Nahum</b>   | Bro Chris        |

## Regular Church Programs

|                           |   |
|---------------------------|---|
| Combined Service          | Every 4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month                     |
| Lord's Supper             | 27 Oct  |
| Decentralized Tracting    | 7 Dec   |
| Men's & Ladies Fellowship | <b>23 Nov</b>   |
| Youth Ministry Outing     | <i>Upcoming youth camp in Dec</i>                             |
| Young Adults Ministry     | <b>16 Nov, 14 Dec</b>   |
| Seniors Fellowship        | Every Wednesday @ 7.30am                                      |
| Friend's Sunday           | Every 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month                     |
| Prayer Meeting            | Every last Sunday of the month                                |
| In-house Lunch            | Every 2 <sup>nd</sup> and 4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month |

## 2024 Programs

|                            |                                       |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Children's Holiday Outing  | <b>21 &amp; 28 Nov, 5, 12, 26 Dec</b> |
| Youth Camp                 | 9 – 12 Dec                            |
| Church Camp (Pulai Spring) | 16 – 20 Dec                           |
| Christmas Service          | 22 Dec                                |
| Watchnite Service          | 31 Dec                                |

## 2025 Programs

|                                |                        |
|--------------------------------|------------------------|
| 40th Church Anniversary        | 23 Feb                 |
| Children Outing                | 20 Mar, 26 Jun         |
| AGM                            | 23 Mar                 |
| Children Overnight Camp        | 18 – 19 Apr            |
| Resurrection Sunday            | 20 Apr                 |
| Sydney Mission Trip            | 1 – 10 May             |
| Vietnam Mission Trip           | 5 – 13 Jun             |
| Children VBS                   | 18 – 20 Jun            |
| YA Camp                        | 21 – 24 Jun            |
| Children Games Day             | 20 Oct                 |
| Church Camp                    | 8 – 12 Dec (tentative) |
| Children Christmas Gathering   | 25 Dec                 |
| Christmas Evangelistic Service | 28 Dec                 |
| Watchnight Service             | 31 Dec                 |

# Happy Birthday

Lim Ren Miah

Robert Tan

Khong-Tay Siew Khim

Enoch Turk

Erica Tan

Dai Xina

Cheok Chee Tek

Caleb Wee

Poh-Low Tze Hui

Boaz Yu

Lam-Toh Jocelyn

Koo Bee Yong (Yvonne)

Jonathan Tan

Zacarias Elisha Encinas

Jessemine Khor

Benedict Tan

Margaret Lim-Loh

Faith See

Richard Tan

Chin Ah Kau

Tong Ah Hiong





SHALOM BAPTIST CHURCH YOUTH CAMP 2024

# BUT CONTINUE THOU

2 TIMOTHY 3:14

**Camp Fees: \$70/pax**  
**9 - 12 Dec 2024 at Johor, Malaysia**  
Registration is open from 8 Sep to 27 Oct 2024!

**IC: Bro. Gabriel and Bro. Alden**

For more information, please call 6463 7910 or visit <https://www.shalom-baptist.org>.

# Shalom Baptist Church

November 2024

| Sunday   | Monday    | Tuesday   | Wednesday  | Thursday  | Friday   | Saturday  |
|--|-----------|---|--|---|--|---|
| <b>27</b>  | <b>28</b> | <b>29</b>                                       | <b>30</b>  | <b>31</b>   | <b>1</b>   | <b>2</b>  |
| <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">11:00am Combined Sunday Service</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">7:30pm Prayer Meeting</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">In-House Lunch</div> |           | 7:45pm Discipleship<br>7:45pm Through The Bible | <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">7:30am Senior's Outing</div> 7:45pm Shalom Bible Institute | 10:30am Online Chinese Bible Study<br><div style="background-color: yellow; border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">DEEPAVALI</div> | 8:00pm BSC: Bt Batok, Bt Batok 2, CCK, Jurong, Yio Chu Kang & Chinese Ministry | <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">11:00am BSC: Bedok</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">3:30pm YA BSC</div> 7:30pm Bukit Timah |
| <b>3</b>   | <b>4</b>  | <b>5</b>  | <b>6</b>   | <b>7</b>  | <b>8</b>   | <b>9</b>  |
| <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">11:00am Sunday Service</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">Lunch at 7 Stars</div>  |           | 7:45pm Discipleship<br>7:45pm Through The Bible | <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">7:30am Senior's Outing</div> 7:45pm Shalom Bible Institute | 10:30am Online Chinese Bible Study  |  |   |
| <b>10</b>  | <b>11</b> | <b>12</b>                                       | <b>13</b>  | <b>14</b>   | <b>15</b>  | <b>16</b>   |
| <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">11:00am Sunday Service - Friends' Sunday</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">In-House Lunch</div>  |           | 7:45pm Discipleship<br>7:45pm Through The Bible | <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">7:30am Senior's Outing</div> 7:45pm Shalom Bible Institute | 10:30am Online Chinese Bible Study  | 8:00pm BSC: Bt Batok, Bt Batok 2, CCK, Jurong, Yio Chu Kang & Chinese Ministry | <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">11:00am BSC: Bedok</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">3:30pm YA BSC</div> 7:30pm Bukit Timah |
| <b>17</b>  | <b>18</b> | <b>19</b>                                       | <b>20</b>  | <b>21</b>   | <b>22</b>  | <b>23</b>   |
| <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">11:00am Sunday Service</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">Lunch at 7 Stars</div>  |           | 7:45pm Discipleship<br>7:45pm Through The Bible | <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">7:30am Senior's Outing</div> 7:45pm Shalom Bible Institute | 10:30am Online Chinese Bible Study<br><div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">CHILDRENS' HOLIDAY OUTING</div>           |  | <div style="background-color: #e6e6ff; border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">4:00pm Mens' &amp; Ladies Fellowship</div>   |
| <b>24</b>  | <b>25</b> | <b>26</b>                                       | <b>27</b>  | <b>28</b>   | <b>29</b>  | <b>30</b>   |
| <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">11:00am Combined Sunday Service</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">7:30pm Prayer Meeting</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">In-House Lunch</div> |           | 7:45pm Discipleship<br>7:45pm Through The Bible | <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">7:30am Senior's Outing</div> 7:45pm Shalom Bible Institute | 10:30am Online Chinese Bible Study<br><div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">CHILDRENS' HOLIDAY OUTING</div>           | 8:00pm BSC: Bt Batok, Bt Batok 2, CCK, Jurong, Yio Chu Kang & Chinese Ministry | <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">11:00am BSC: Bedok</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">3:30pm YA BSC</div> 7:30pm Bukit Timah |



ABC Clearinghouse U702 Manila Luxury Condo., Pearl Drive Cor. Gold Loop, Ortigas, Pasig City

**Le Thanh Tuan Da Lat, Vietnam**

## Abounding in the Work

“Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord.” 1 Cor 15:58

We praise and thank God for the victory of our 2nd church anniversary with the theme “Abounding in the Work.” It reminds us to do more for the Lord because we know we don’t have much time and saving souls is an emergency task. We’re glad to report to you what the Lord has done in the last quarter of 2024.



**University ministries.** The Lord gave us 20 university students to minister. We are teaching them English and influencing them little by little. Whenever we have a pastor or missionary visit us. We let them share English and God’s Word for them. Last month, Pastor Ter Yinho, his wife, and his daughter were able to do so. We plan to share the Goodnews with them this Christmas. Praying that they will open their hearts for Christ.



**Christian School-Victory Life** The school year started on August 5 with 12 students. Last month, The Lord added 2 more students. This is a wonderful ministry because we are able to teach the Biblical principles in the life of every child. It provides the workers and a place for the church. We thank God for his protection and provision for this ministry. By God’s grace, I was able to graduate the master in theology of Piedmont College under Singapore Bible Baptist Church.



## 2<sup>nd</sup> Church Anniversary.

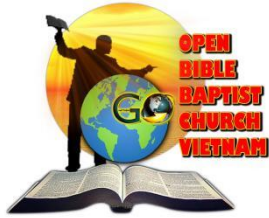
Our church just celebrated our 2nd anniversary. It was the first time we held in at the hotel for safety reasons. God provided 2 wonderful guest speakers— Missionary Nguyen Ba Quy and Missionary Joe Frank Gella; 40 attendees; 2 souls decided to be baptized. God has given us a new worker from the Philippines—Mam Terisa. She has been serving the Lord for more than 25 years. It’s a great blessing for us to have her. TO GOD BE THE GLORY!



### **Prayer requests:**

God’s protection and provision for my family and the teamwork; Opening the English Club for a soul-winning program; pray for a song leader for the church. Visa and working permit for Mam Jho and Mam Terisa.

**Thank you so much for your prayer and support. God bless you more !**



# THE JALANDONI'S

September 2024



Dear Pastor Yan Wee and Shalom Baptist Church Family,

Another great encouragement in our ministries, is the ministry of Orphanage, it was a great joy when we were with them last month, When these orphans knew we were coming again, they waited us early morning with excitement, during arrival they all jumped and ran to meet us all. So much of their joy and happiness waited of their present, gift and waited to be ministered with the new story from the Bible, we also help them with our new program, by teaching them English in 4 different classes and levels. There are 32 of them praying and believing Jesus Christ as their Lord and Personal Saviour, though they heard the gospel of Jesus Christ already for many times but still they want more and they are hunger in hearing about the life and works of Jesus Christ and how Jesus Died and Paid for their sins for the redemption of their souls. Our hearts were truly overwhelm with joy, when each of them came to every teachers and workers and wanted to be cuddle and sat in our lap, talk about many things, they need love from their parents and we knew they missed so much their parents, and siblings. Their facilities is not enough and they are planning to build additional 2 rooms for they are cannot contain in 4 rooms. Please pray for us that we can able to help them to build the additional 2 rooms and some electric fans. During our visit the church and some parents from center was able to give more than 12 sacks of rice, Milks, groceries, school materials, Toys, and cash with the amount of 500 Usd for food, budgets and for workers. Our next visit for them is on December, we are planning to bring them in the Church if the Lord will permit us where they can be with our people.



Week after weeks we do soul winning, discipleship, witnessing and follow up to our Vietnamese children, juniors, teens, young people and adult about the good news of the Lord Jesus Christ, there are more than 87 in 3 months who professed themselves by believing and receiving Christ Jesus as their Lord and Savior and one of the great news we encountered last week, where 2 young people and one mother after they had heard the gospel, they started to asked questions about God, and about the person of Jesus Christ and they asked us if we can give them a bible, they said they want to learn and to study the Bible which brings an interest to them when they heard. For 3 Sunday in a row, this 2 young people attended in our church, we are praying that God will continue to work in their hearts as they continue to learn and study Gods word. I invited a Belarusian teacher which is very strong Orthodox from Russia, and we thanked God she is with us last Sunday, we are praying that she will understand the true gospel and the works of Jesus Christ for her salvation and the works of Jesus Christ for her redemption. Her name is Lizveta.



We are asking your prayer as we start another extension of congregation in the other village, my wife, me and my interpreter went last week and we met our contact inside of that area but unfortunately we hardly finalize the contract of the building that they demand due to the High price, we saw 4 building prospect, but they don't want to lower the price. Pray that God will give us a right place where we can start to minister in that area and we can start another church.



The church is faithfully doing great by the grace of God, and we have another 2 prospects that are faithfully attending and never missed the church service, we pray that God will help them to grow and to follow the Lord.

Special Request:

1,500 Usd for additional building a 2 rooms in orphanage

We love you all and we keep praying for you all.  
God bless you and We love you in the Lord.

Yours for the Souls in Vietnam,  
Bro Melvin, Julie Ann, Kezia Pauline and Erika Emerald  
The Jalandoni

Support Received: ( Love gift:) Year 2024 : 51,387.49 Peso

JUly : 0 Pes / 0 Usd

Aug. 0 Pes / 0 usd

sept : 0 Pes / 0 usd

**Personal Info:** Email: [Melvin.4vn@gmail.com](mailto:Melvin.4vn@gmail.com)

**Sending Pastor/Church:** **Pastor Ferdinand Magallanes / Crown Bible Baptist Church**  
6th Puentebella Subd. Brgy., Taculing Bacolod City, Negros Occ. Philippines. 6100

**Support Address:** ASIAN BAPTIST CLEARINGHOUSE  
P.O. Box 14231 Ortigas Center CPO, Pasig City 1605, Philippines  
**Email: [abclear@abclear.org](mailto:abclear@abclear.org)**

## Command, Control, Communications & Christ-Centered (C4)

**Command:** “Target at 120 degrees, 9 nautical miles, approaching at 30 knots. Swing starboard 090 to engage. Prepare MK2 launch.” The commands above are given by the Commanding Officer (CO) of a frigate protecting its nation. Any obedient naval officer will follow the commands of the



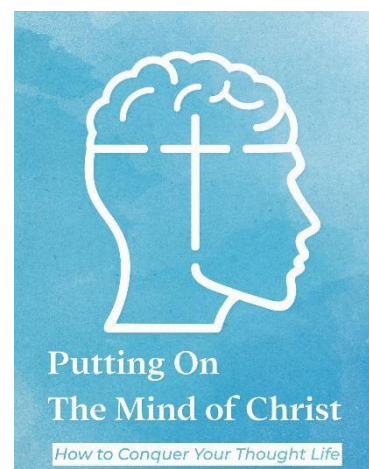
CO. Every sailor on a warship has an important role to play. To ensure the safety and mission success of every warship, commands must be obeyed and executed promptly. The church is likened to a warship, every member must fight the good fight (1Tim 6:12) to ensure the mission success of the church (Matt 28:19-20).

Do you know that there are many “one another” commands in the New Testament? “Love one another”, “Bear one another’s burden” , “Forgive

one another” – The “one another” commands appear 100 times in 94 NT verses. 47 of these were Jesus’ instructions to His followers. The Apostle Paul wrote about 60% of these “One another” commands. (Source: [overviewbible.com/one-another-infographic/](http://overviewbible.com/one-another-infographic/)) Worthy to note that these commands could only be obeyed and executed if members get actively involved in the weekly church service, fellowship in person throughout the week and render help to one another in times of need. Digital greetings through WhatsApp, etc, no doubt can show concern but they are not as effective as physical meetings. In the Book of Acts, many were saved through the physical meeting and ministry of God’s people. Gal 6:2, Eph 4:32, James 5:16, 1 John 3:17-18, are good verses to begin with to help us develop a Christ-centered attitude in our daily living.

**Control:** Just this week, an honest new believer asked me, how to overcome the lustful habits he had acquired before accepting Jesus Christ as his Savior. I replied to him with confidence: Internalize **Ephesian 4:30 “And grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption.”** Well, the Holy Spirit is not a mere force (like in Star Wars; May the Force be with you). In reality and theologically, the Holy Spirit is a Person (a part of the Triune God – Father, Son & Holy Spirit); the Holy Spirit has a personality. He can be grieved. Therefore, if we choose to sin wilfully, we will grieve the Holy Spirit. Likewise, the Holy Spirit rejoices when we submit to His leading. We can choose to let Satan or God control our lives. “Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and **bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ;**” (2 Cor 10:5). Every day, our minds are our battlefields, therefore, we must be deliberate in our intention to control our thought life, otherwise we will be controlled by ungodly and evil thoughts. Consider a simple prayer when you are struggling with a thought:

*Dear God, my thoughts often trick me into a corner where I’m afraid, hiding, or sinning. Help me to take them captive and line them up in [obedience](#) with Christ. I’m weak but you are strong, your Word is my strength and hope. You have given me the will to choose who to follow, God or Satan. Help me to choose God and to focus on what is “true, noble, right, pure, lovely, and admirable” as you have taught me in [Philippians 4:8](#). Cleanse my every thought, Lord, and knock down the things I think about that are not from you. In Jesus’ name, Amen.*



In a warship, the Fire Control pre-set the coordinates to guide the cruise missile to neutralize the threats. Likewise, to secure victory in our Christian life, we must also memorise the correct bible verses to neutralize the Devil. Remember, Jesus used the same tactic in quoting scripture when he was tempted by Satan in the wilderness. Moreover, Jesus was physically and emotionally weak from his 40 days of fasting.



**Communications:** Prayer is our direct line to God. Prayer is primarily seen as a two-way dialogue between you and God. It's not just about making requests but expressing gratitude, confessing sins, and simply connecting with God in worship and adoration. Talk to God is a natural way, as if you are having a conversation with a friend during a hike in the nature reserve. *"Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God."* (Phil 4:6) Express your sincerity and humility to God. He cares more about your heart than your eloquence. Fancy words or public displays aren't necessary. Pray authentically, humbly, and from

the heart. (See Matt 6:5-8). I am very thankful to see so many joyful members of Shalom attending the monthly prayer meeting. If you have not attended our prayer meeting and missed many sessions, then you have missed out a lot through these lines of communication. God uses His people to preach His word through our Sunday Schools, Services, BSC, Prayer Meetings, these are important channels of Comms that we should be thankful for and be responsive in obedience.

Seamless integrity of **Command, Control and Communication** are critical for mission success in the military. Don't forget we are called to be Christian Soldiers. What if I am handicapped or living with a thorn in the flesh? Well, listen to Psalm 84:11 *"For the Lord God is a sun and shield: the Lord will give grace and glory: no good thing will he withhold from them that walk uprightly."* Look, the bible verse did not say *"no good things will he withhold from them that are handicapped, or slow in learning or shy, etc. Walk uprightly, means to live a righteous life. "Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap."* (Gal 6:7) In addition, *"For there is no respect of persons with God."* I see this verse from two perspectives, firstly, even if you are the PM of SG as a believer, you are expected to confess your sin to someone if you have offended the person. Secondly, even if you are handicapped or living in rougher condition, you are expected to honor your parents. I will elaborate on these 2 perspectives in the future.

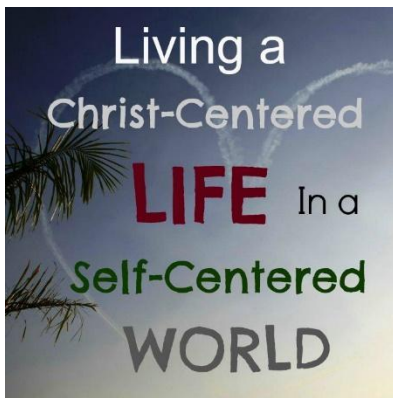


**Christ-Centered:** Shalom is entering her 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary in about 111 days from the publication of this article. The Land Ship Tank (LST), the largest mission support ship of the Singapore's Navy is able to sail around the world in 111 days. Incidentally, Bro. Chris has been a senior commander in the LST as he and his team trained many naval officers over the years. I wish to pay tribute to him at this junction for his

distinguished service to our nation and more importantly to our church in mentoring many people, young and old. And even myself have benefitted from his personal counsel. The success of

Shalom is not by chance. At one time, there were SAF Colonel and LTC in the Army, Navy and Air Force, serving in Shalom's core ministry. Personally, I believe by the grace of God and through the sound leadership of Pastor Wee, we are what we are today. However, we cannot be complacent and prideful. Instead, we should continue to be humble and accept our noble responsibility as onward Christian soldiers to fight the good fight till our Great Commander returns. *"Thou therefore endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ. No man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of this life; that he may please him who hath chosen him to be a soldier."* (2 Tim 2:3-4).

Hereby, I also challenge the youth to consider a career as an officer with the SAF or the Home Team, as the leadership skills which you develop can be very useful (but not necessary) to lead the people in Shalom to navigate through the more stormy years ahead (the world will become worse not better). Thankful that my son, Boaz, will be serving as an officer in the RSAF. Appreciate your prayer for him as he goes through very demanding training in the flying academy. Prayerfully, he will be able to serve God faithfully to where he is posted to.



This year, I have overcome my comfort zone as I submitted my will and fear to live a Christ-Centered life. Surrendering my family and business to the Lord, as His still small voice led me to minister to the child whose mum's family is suffering in the Russia-Ukraine War, to minister to the saints in Shanghai, Penang and Ipoh. The year 2024 seems to have moved faster than I have experienced, perhaps age is catching up (due to slower human performance output), or the excitement as we move closer to the Rapture?

***"I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing."* (John 15:5)**

Come 2025, will be a year of greater challenge. But with Christ sailing with us, we can smile at the storm. **Remember RSS Shalom is a Warship, not a Cruise ship. We must be Operationally Ready, not Merrily Happy.**

*Contributed by Bro. Howard Yu, with thanksgiving for 2024. My only newsletter contribution in 2024. Dated 1<sup>st</sup> Nov '24.*