

Newsletter Through Email

Our newsletters are now available via email. If you prefer to receive emails rather than hardcopies, please send us an email with the subject, Email Newsletter, along with your name and address as stated on the newsletter address label to admin@hidplace.com.sg

Sis Christina's Update

Sister Christina is keeping well. She is encouraged by the visits from friends and former residents. She is also thankful to supporters who pray and give to her needs.

The vacuum therapy dressing for her bedsore is working well. The doctor has recommended that she continues with it. The vacuum therapy costs \$2325 for 10 weeks of treatment. Her monthly expenditure is about \$1000 for medical consultations and supplies.

The Board of Directors would like to thank each of you for your prayers and financial giving towards Sis Christina's needs.

~ Samuel Chua, Chairman, The Hiding Place Board of Directors ~

EXISTING NEEDS OF THE HIDING PLACE

We are thankful and appreciate your support in prayers and giving to the ministry through the years. Many have been affected financially by the Covid pandemic. If you feel led to give, we are thankful.

NO	Item	Amount	PLS.TICK
1	General Fund (A/C 1)		
2	Hong Leong Loan 41 of 300 mths paid (A/C 2)	\$4131.79	
3	Shades for air-con compressors (A/C 2)	\$10,000.00	
4	Passenger & goods van	\$57,800.00	
5	Tables and racks for kitchen	\$1200.00	

NAME:..... TEL:

ADDRESS: POSTCODE:

Kindly make cheque payable to "THE HIDING PLACE (CHRISTIAN HOME MISSION) LTD and mail to 5A Jalan Haji Salam Singapore 468746 or PayNow to UEN 198301684WAC1 (General Fund) PayNow to UEN 198301684WAC2 (Building Fund).



THE HIDING PLACE

...as long as we live we will open our door to anyone who knocks.

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MCI (P) 040/02/2021 (RCB NO:198301684-W)

July / August 2021

Letter from Pastor Tan Hock Seng

Wisdom for Daily Living

"But if any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all men generously and without reproach, and it will be given to him." - James 1:5

Knowledge consists of facts and information, but these are useless apart from Understanding. Understanding is knowing the minute details of Knowledge. However, having Knowledge and Understanding is still insufficient, for both are useless apart from Wisdom.

When I was in Tung Ling Bible School in the 1980s, I learnt 10 definitions of Wisdom from Dr Costa Deir. These 10 definitions remind me of how in order to do God's Will, there is a timing (Isaiah 60:22b, Ecclesiastes 3:1-4):

Wisdom is...

Doing the right thing, at the right time, in the right place, with the right help, in the right way, with the right motive, in the right attitude, with the right spirit, for the right purpose, with the right approach

...all according to God, to get the right results.

Those who seek help from Hiding Place have many problems. Besides the surface problems like drug addiction, alcoholism and inhalant abuse, they also carry other deep-seated problems such as an indifferent attitude, anger issues, resistance towards correction, etc. We begin by solving these issues one at a time, if they are willing. There is a method to this: First, identify the correct problem. Then, find a solution. If the people who come to us learn this process well, it will help them throughout their lives.

The Peter Principle describes how unsolved problems affect us in the workplace: As an employee solves problems, he gets promoted until he faces a problem he

cannot solve. At that point, the employee remains in his post, and his promotion stops. There is an important parallel here for our spiritual life: As we solve our inner struggles with God's help, we will grow. We will keep growing until we face a problem we cannot overcome, then all spiritual growth stops.

Very often, drugs, alcohol, and gambling are not the problem. The real problem is much deeper within, so it is important to ask the right questions and examine the man in the mirror. Hiding Place has helped an alcoholic before whose real problem was loneliness. I advised him to set goals even though it may be difficult for his age, but he did not learn. While he was in Hiding Place, he stayed sober because we became his family and he had things to do. But when he left, he went back to drinking.

I also know of another man who had thought drugs were his problem, but found out it was something much deeper - so deep he had not known what it was. It was by the Holy Spirit, through the reading of the Bible, that he realised selfishness was his real problem. The man repented and told the Lord, "I am my brother's keeper". He has walked with the Lord ever since.

The Hiding Place's ministry of problem-solving is God's work, needing God's Wisdom. But we also cannot do it without the support of God's community. We at the Hiding Place are very grateful for all the help you provide, for the generous gifts and packet meals you all send to us. Thank You!

House News

A) RESIDENTS' UPDATE

We have 15 residents currently. Roy and Henry joined us recently and they are adjusting well to the programme.

B) FAREWELL TO EDWIN

We are thankful to Edwin for 14 years of faithful service. We wish him God's riches blessings as he moves on to a new season of his life.

C) HIDING PLACE KITCHEN (HPK)

We are thankful for the support of Tung Ling Bible School, Prison Fellowship, Faith Methodist Church and others for our bento sets. Our new bento menu will be up in the HPK website soon. Please keep a look out for it and support us.

Ryan's Testimony

My name is Ryan. I am 52 years old, and I battled with drugs for the most part of my life. My first puff of heroin at the age of 13 caused me to spend more than 20 years of my life in and out of prison. I never spent more than 6 months outside of prison. I was a nightmare for my family and caused them much pain, but my mom never gave up on me. Whenever I was locked up, I would always tell myself and my family members that I will mend my ways. Upon my release, however, I would go back to my old friends and habits. I chose to satisfy my craving for drugs and forgot all the promises I made in prison.

I knew about God through Sunday School, but I was never serious with God, choosing to live my life my way. My last imprisonment for 6.5 years was in 2009 for drug offences. I was released and given a 6-month work programme in a halfway house in 2013. I began to get serious with God as I was sick of my life. I cleaned myself up and performed well during the programme, I was offered a supervisor position. I experienced God's goodness in my life, He provided for all my needs, but I did not treasure it and again fell back to my old ways. Eventually, I left the halfway house. Within a year, I was hospitalised twice for drug overdose, but God in His mercy sustained me. In 2018, my church pastor, Pastor Ivan Lim, brought me to Hiding Place. They opened the door for me even though there was no vacancy, living up to its motto: As long as we live, we will open our door to anyone who knocks.

Before entering the Hiding Place gate, I asked myself, "What is my purpose of coming here? To give up my addiction or surrender my life to God?" At that moment, I decided to surrender my life entirely to God. God began to mould my character and I grew spiritually through daily devotions, Bible reading and prayer. The staff showed me love and care and acted as role models for me. There are ups and downs living in a community, rubbing shoulders with one another. I have learnt to deal with conflicts in a godly way by choosing to forgive and love others as we are one family in Christ. God has blessed me. I am reconciled back to my family and treasure my time with them. I have peace and joy in my heart and no longer need to play hide-and-seek with God. After completing my one-year programme, I decided to stay on and serve as a helper. I am now a kitchen staff in the Hiding Place Kitchen. I am thankful and grateful for this opportunity, and I will treasure this second chance in life. I thank God and Hiding Place for injecting hope into my life again.