



### Stewarding the Things from God

Elder Koh Yeok Soon

#### How It Began

##### Spiritual Journal

There was a time when I felt the Lord was bringing me into a deeper communion with Him. And I thought to myself that I should write my experiences, reflections and studies down so that I could ponder over them for a deeper understanding. Although I was not so good in my grasp of English, I tried to write as best as I could and the computer software made the task easier. So, I started writing in 1996 and soon I began to compile my spiritual journal.

Often, I would share what I have written with my wife Wai Yee. She commented that I should not keep them to myself and encouraged me to share them so that others could benefit from them too.

##### Spiritual Legacy

During the COVID-19 pandemic last year when we were forced to stay home, our church fathers' fellowship group organized a talk and dialogue session on "Live and Leave Well" via virtual meeting on 2nd May 2020. Besides talking about how our loved ones are able to access our financial legacy, we also touched on the spiritual legacy we would leave behind, and whether we would receive the commendation of being honoured as a "good and faithful servant" when we meet the Lord.

*Welcome!*

*During this unusual time when we cannot all come together for worship, we can still be part of a worshipping community. We invite you to join our live-streaming services online via our website <https://www.cplink.org.sg/>. We hope you can also connect with our Life Groups. Please contact one of our Pastoral Staff if you like to join a Life Group. We are still meeting and connecting through various digital platforms.*

Worship Time	
English Services	10.30am
Chinese Service	9.00am
Sri Lankan Service	2.00pm
Children	10.30am

*We want to grow in Christlikeness through devotion and delight in God, nurturing devotion and delight in God, nurturing relationships and intentionally multiplying disciplemakers.*

## How Will It End?

### Be Found Faithful

Recently, I was led to reflect on one's calling in life and recalled Matthew 25:14-30 – The Parable of the Talents. I felt that one should:

***“Ask not to achieve great things for God but ask to be faithful in the things God has given.”***

For the things to be given or added to a person is the Lord's prerogative (Mt 25:15, 21b, 23b & 28) but being faithful in the things given is the person's responsibility (Mt 25:21a & 23a).

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*<sup>14</sup>“For the kingdom of heaven is like a man traveling to a far country, who called his own servants and delivered his goods to them. <sup>15</sup>And to one he gave five talents, to another two, and to another one, to each according to his own ability; and immediately he went on a journey. <sup>16</sup>Then he who had received the five talents went and traded with them, and made another five talents. <sup>17</sup>And likewise he who had received two gained two more also. <sup>18</sup>But he who had received one went and dug in the ground, and hid his lord's money. <sup>19</sup>After a long time the lord of those servants came and settled accounts with them.*

*<sup>20</sup>“So he who had received five talents came and brought five other talents, saying, ‘Lord, you delivered to me five talents; look, I have gained five more talents besides them.’ <sup>21</sup>His lord said to him, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant; you were faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord.’ <sup>22</sup>He also who had received two talents came and said, ‘Lord, you delivered to me two talents; look, I have gained two more talents besides them.’ <sup>23</sup>His lord said to him, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord.’*

*Matthew 25:14-23 (NKJV)*

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### The Things in My Hands

These verses reminded me that I must not hide in my closet whatever things the Lord has placed in my hands but share with others to edify the body of Christ. And this is my motivation in sharing freely. In so doing, I hope that I will be able to answer my Lord when He asks **what has happened to the things that He put in my hands.**

## When the Clay Sets

A few days later, my wife shared with me a Scripture verse she came across, which incidentally tied in with what I have been hearing – Ecclesiastes 9:10.

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*<sup>10</sup>Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with your might; for there is no work or device or knowledge or wisdom in the grave where you are going.*

*Ecclesiastes 9:10 (NKJV)*

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The first half of the verse fitted well with “*the things in my hands*” while the second half of the verse struck another chord in me. I recalled a sermon Dr. Ed Pousson preached during our leaders’ retreat in 2017. His sermon was based on the Scripture text taken from Jeremiah 18:1-12 – The Potter and the Clay. Dr. Ed’s fifth and final point was: **The clay sets when one’s life is over and death fixes us at where we are.**

## An Opportune Time

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*<sup>4</sup>I must work the works of Him who sent Me while it is day; the night is coming when no one can work.* <sup>5</sup>*As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.”*

*John 9:4-5 (NKJV)*

*<sup>3:1</sup>There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens:*

*Ecclesiastes 3:1 (NIV)*

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At the back of my mind are two Scripture verses always reminding me that there is an opportune time for everything and we are not to miss it. One of the verses is from Christ Jesus who spoke to His disciples that He must do the works of the Father while it is still in the day, for the night is coming when no one can work (*Jn 9:4*). The other verse is from Ecclesiastes saying that there is a time and season for everything (*Ecc 3:1-8*).

However, another Scripture verse popped out at me at this time – Mark 14:7. When Christ Jesus was in Bethany, Mary came and anointed Him with her alabaster flask of very costly fragrant oil. Jesus’ disciples were indignant and remarked that the oil could have been sold and the money given to the poor. Jesus, however, blessed her for preparing His body beforehand for burial saying that they always have the poor with them but not always have Him (*Mk 14:3-9 & Jn 12:1-8*).

This time round, Mark 14:7 took on a different personal meaning that I had not previously seen. There are always needs around me that I can offer my help, but I should take on those prompted by the Lord, which ultimately serve Him.

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<sup>7</sup>For you always have the poor with you, and whenever you want, you can do good to them; but you do not always have Me.

Mark 14:7 (NASB)

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### Making Sense of My Reflections

Putting together these incidents, I felt that the Lord is speaking to me at this moment of my life:

1. To look into what the Lord has personally put in my hands.
2. To use and pass them to others as spiritual legacies.
3. To be faithful in doing these things.

What about you? What are the things the Lord has entrusted into your hands?

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The mission collection for July 2021 we are collecting for **Sri Lanka Mission**. Closing date is 11 July 2021. Please refer to the bank details below for Mission giving.

## MISSION COLLECTION

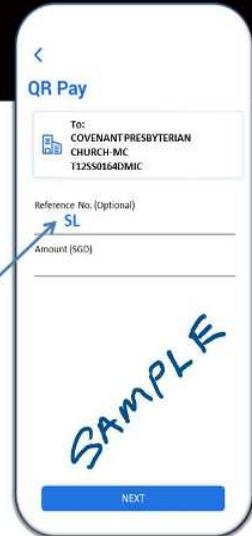
For JULY 2021 – SRI LANKA MISSION

Cheque Payable to : **COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH-MC**  
UEN Number: **T12SS0164DMIC**  
Bank Account: **025-905374-0**



Please indicate **ONLY** the Mission Collection Code here:

**SL**



## **July 2021 Mission Collection is designated for the “Suffering Sri Lankan Returnees and Pastors under Covid-19 Lockdown”**

Because of the Covid-19 lockdown in Sri Lanka, Elder Richard Tean highlighted that many livelihoods have been affected. Just to quote some cases that Ps Sudarman, Ps Susantha and brother Steven Neo are following up on our Returnees and Pastors facing financial challenges currently.

1. Rohini (Madampe) contracted Covid-19 and had to close her shop which has remained shut until now.
2. Ajantha has been working as daily-wage labourer, is currently unable to work because of the lock-down.
3. Delan, was in our SLM SG worship team and involved in our SLM returnees camp worked as a tourist driver. The tourism industry collapsed since last year and he had resourcefully worked as renovation/ construction worker but now homebound because of lockdown and has a family to feed.
4. Deepani worked in a hotel and had lost her job as tourism collapsed.
5. Shantilatha, whom we helped to set up a food stall, could not operate and her husband's renovation business shut, affecting their sustenance.
6. Arusha, who was with our SG worship team, lost his job in ME last year. His wife has a beauty hair salon to sustain the family but is also shut now.
7. Rishani returned to SL after her contract expired 2 years ago, started Ginger Restaurant with her husband but had to shut because of lock-down.
8. Kamala retired back to SL and is now suffering Parkinson's disease.
9. Jeewanthi, a worship leader in SG and her husband, Indika, recently started business after Indika returned to SL, now affected by the lockdown.
10. Many pastors are affected because of reduced contributions.

The list goes on.....**This July's Mission Collection is targeted to provide relief to many of our Returnees and Pastors with a one-time gift of LKR 10,000 (S\$70.00) and to assist those with medical or other needs. More for those with pastoral oversight.**

So please give generously to support our own Sri Lanka brethren. Thank you!

So good to bless others!

***Ps Mui Fong & Missions Committee***

# GIVING

Kindly take note of the separate bank accounts for Tithe and Offering.

## TITHE



*Please key in your tithing number at the reference section. If you are unsure of or do not a tithing number, you may drop us an email at the church website. under “Request” tab and we will get back to you.*

### INTERNET TRANSFER

DBS Current Account: **025-905375-8**

Cheque payable to: **Covenant Presbyterian Church - Tith**

UEN no. **T12SS0164DTTH**

## OFFERING



*Please key in only the alphabet at the reference section as follows :*

*“E” for English Service*

*“C” for Chinese Service*

*“SL” for Sri Lankan Service*

### INTERNET TRANSFER

DBS Current Account: **033-016873-0**

Cheque payable to : **Covenant Presbyterian Church**

UEN no. **T12SS0164D**

# ANNOUNCEMENTS



✝ **CPC Prayer Meeting (Fresh Fire) on 9 Jul (Fri) @ 8pm**  
via Zoom, the details as follow:  
Meeting ID : 961 9706 7682 Password: 881688

✝ **Welcome back!**  
Re-opening of CPC On-site English Worship Service  
starting **11 July** at this NEW timeslot:

Sunday **11.00am** (for 50 pax)

Pre-registration to attend the on-site service is via our  
Church's website: <https://cplink.org.sg>. Please do  
register early. (On-line registration starts every Monday  
@ 8pm).

✝ **Notice on access & usage of CPC facilities at Level 2.**  
In view of the current COVID-19 situation, the  
government and MCCY had issued safe distancing  
guidelines which the church is required to comply with for  
the safety of our members who are on premise,  
especially with regards to the inter-mingling of people  
who are engaged in different activities.

Kindly take note of the following:

- **ALL** the rooms on Level 2 will **not be available** for  
other use **ONE** hour before and **ONE** hour after any  
planned services using Level 2
  - \* Chinese worship service (Sundays 9.30am –  
10.30am)
  - \* Sri Lankan worship service (Sundays 2.00pm –  
4.00pm)
  - \* Any other planned meetings conducted by the  
church
- Usage of any of the rooms outside of the unavailable  
times must be done at least **ONE** day in advance  
through the church office (either Hope or Hazel).
- The host **MUST** ensure that all users (including  
himself/herself) perform the mandatory SafeEntry  
check-in process **BEFORE** proceeding to **ONLY** the  
specific room(s) booked.

110 Race Course Road,  
Covenant House S(218578)  
Tel : 6293 4394 Fax : 6293 4981  
Email: members@cplink.org.sg  
Website: <http://cplink.org.sg>  
Church Manager : Hazel Lau  
Admin/Accts.Ex: Salinas J. Hope

## Pastoral Staff

Rev Keith Lai  
Rev Abel Lee  
Rev Dr Henry Wong  
Rev Christina Ong  
Ps Lai Mui Fong  
Pr Chin Yoke Fen  
Pr Lionel Neo  
Ps Susantha

## Sri Lankan Service

Rev Christina Ong / Ps Susantha

## Chinese Service

Rev Abel Lee / Pr Chin Yoke Fen

## CareWorks Community Services

Rev Dr Henry Wong

## Gladiolus Place

Michelle Tan

## Ministry Team Leaders

### Creche

Kong Soh Lian

### Children

Pr Lionel Neo

### Youth and Young Adult (YaYA)

Ps Michael Low  
Aruneeporn Ng, Jasmine Tan  
Audrey Wong

### Young Working Adult & Young Married

Rev Dr Henry Wong

### Adults & Seniors

Rev Keith Lai/ Ps Lai Mui Fong

### Hospitality

Jenny Ho

### Worship

Arthur Lim

### Missions

Ps Lai Mui Fong

### Prayer

Rev Dr Henry Wong

### Freedom & Wholeness

Alfred & Jenny Koay

### GB / BB

Pr Lionel Neo

### Chinese Seniors Alpha Course

Pr Chin Yoke Fen

### Day Alone with the Lord

Ps Lai Mui Fong