



## 2020 Oasisflec Newsletter

The Covid19 pandemic may have turned the world upside down but God enabled us to make good use of the privilege of working at home to prepare for many new challenges as Oasisflec began our 2<sup>nd</sup> decade of ministry this year. We praise God that after we had conducted a training course for a group of young students from Shaoxing in the province of Zhejiang at our training centre, we could rush back to Singapore on the night the shutdown of Malaysia and Singapore was announced.



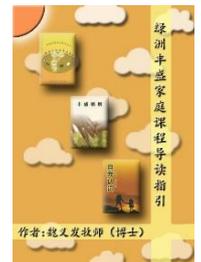
Classes in SG in January include theological students & new immigrants from China

## New working style

God has been so good to us. He prepared a newly renovated home for us to stay and work safely in, since 18<sup>th</sup> March. We adapted to a new working style. We provided counseling and teaching through WeChat and WhatsApp. We are inspired to make good use of the Internet for training and counseling ministry in years to come. We will certainly be enabled to monitor our training process without much physical movement.

## New Books were written

Working at home not only kept us safe but also effective. We modified and revised the **Guide Book for the study of the basic Family Life Enrichment Courses** in order to facilitate our interns to do their course assignments more effectively. It will be published as a tool book for the interns to conduct their courses at home. Every topic of the course will have a 30-minute lecture on our training website. If it is the Lord's will, we will prepare and upload our more than 70 lectures to our training website next year. It will expedite our interns' completion of their assignments and, hence readiness to attend the Oasis Family Therapist Training Course.



God faithfully led me to write the **Oasis Family Therapy Handbook**, which will be used as the textbook for the Family Therapists Training. Although there are many approaches to family therapy in the world today, all of them are humanistic approaches. However, I was greatly inspired by the word of our Lord which says, "The Kingdom of God is within you." (Lk.17:21) and "It is like yeast that a woman took and mixed into a large amount of flour until it worked all through the dough." (Lk13:21)



## ***New approach to Family Therapy***

Through years of experience in the work of family therapy I have found that a family may just need a proactive member in the family to change the structure and empower the functioning of a family system. It is therefore possible to equip and empower an individual who comes to seek help from the therapist to restore his dysfunctional family.

Moreover, we believe that the family is a microcosm of the body of Christ. The inquirers must therefore be taught how they can receive the healing of their inner beings and be convinced that building their families is an act of building the body of Christ. They must regard their family as a body which cannot fall sick and become dysfunctional. Our approach to family therapy has therefore become a means of imparting the healing and saving grace to the inquirers and their families. The book has shown how a marriage and family can be healed as a body system with a follow up support system established by the therapist. The process of family therapy is basically a matter of appropriating the structure of the family, adjusting interacting patterns, enlightening family members with the understanding of the differences in personality traits of the family members, and managing conflicts from the perspective of accommodating the differences in the individuals' traits respectfully. It is a comprehensive and easy to use guide for our trainees. It will be published at the beginning of 2021 as a milestone to mark the entry into the 2<sup>nd</sup> decade of our ministry.

## ***A New Beginning in 2021***

The Lord miraculously converted an abandoned Methodist Clinic in Sitiawan into the Manjung Methodist Centre to be used for Family Ministry. We will use it from 2021 as the **Oasis Family Therapy Centre** to provide the following services:



**Manjung Methodist Centre at Sitiawan**

### ***a. Marriage and Family Therapy***

This is a practical faith-based family therapy that focuses on empowering inquirers to transform their marriage and family into a functional healthy body systems by building their beliefs and understanding, of their role in changing their transactional patterns, reforming their family structures and managing the strengths and weaknesses of family members.

### ***b. Equipping Youths for Enhancement of their Self-Esteem and EQ***

This course aims to help course participants understand their inner being in the light of Sigmund Freud's theory of personality and their strengths and weaknesses according to William Marston's theory of human behaviors with some modifications from Biblical wisdom and truth. Most participants have come out of the course with self-confidence, skills in interactions and hope for themselves.

### ***c. Week-end Marriage Enrichment Camp***

This course aims to help couples to enrich their marriage by accepting and complementing their unique inborn natures respectfully, so that they may be empowered to function in their respective positions as members of one body. This will serve to make their marriage purposeful and fulfilling. Couples have often walked away after attending the camp, joyfully holding each other's hands.

#### **d. Intern of Family Life Educator Training**

This is a 5-day intensive training Course on listening and course facilitating skills for the conduct of the basic Family Enrichment Courses with the help of online lectures. It is a programme to equip the interns for the Oasis Family Therapist Training Course.

#### **e. Online Family Enrichment Course in Chinese**

Interns of a family life educator will facilitate the studies of the Basic Beliefs of Family Life Ministry, Self-Awareness, and Marriage Enriching Courses with a 30-minute online lecture for every topic of the course. An intern who has successfully facilitated the studies of the three basic courses with at least 7 students will be qualified to attend the Oasis Family Therapist Training Course.

#### **f. Oasis Family Therapist Training**

This is a 10-day intensive course, equipping participants for the teaching of the Parenting course, Courting Couple Course and working professionally as an Oasis family Therapist. They will be certified as Oasis Family Therapists after completing at least 100 hours of practical work after attending the course.

**\*\*Interested parties may register for the above courses and they will be informed of the schedule and other course details soon after their registration \*\***



**Sitiawan 26<sup>th</sup> Educator Training Class**

## **The Biblical Foundation and purpose of the Oasis Family Life Ministry**

### **1. The Image and likeness of the three in one God**

God made known the true picture of Himself through the incarnation of His eternal Son about 2000 years ago. We know that the Virgin Mary was conceived by the Holy Spirit and brought forth the Son of God into the world, named Jesus as the Son of man. Therefore, if we know Jesus fully well, we should be able to know God. Since the Scripture says, "God said, 'Let us make man in our image and in our likeness... So, God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him male and female he created them" (Gen.1:26-27) However, God is Spirit. He cannot have a visible image and likeness. That is why the Scripture says, "No one has ever seen God, but God the one and Only who is at the Father's side has made Him known" (Jn1:18) Thus, through Jesus we came to know that God is one but in three persons, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. The three persons function through an organismic relationship as a body. Therefore, it is appropriate for us to conclude that the image of God is the result of an organismic relationship of three in one. To maintain such a condition, they must interact and work together by empowering one another harmoniously. It is so that when Adam was animated by the breath of God out of the dust, he actually functioned with the Spirit monitoring the soul and the flesh as a living person reflecting the image and likeness of God. Thus, the personality of the son of God should have the structure of the spirit leading the soul and the flesh within his inner being. They work as invisible dynamics working and interacting harmoniously reflecting the image and the likeness of God within our inner beings. In the meantime, the husband and the wife should also interact and work harmoniously by empowering each other to function in their respective designated positions in the fear of God. In other

words, not only does man as an individual bear the image of God within his inner being, but in a community, the husband and wife relationship should also be likewise. That was why Jesus had prayed, "I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one." (Jn.17:22)

## **2. *Conforming to the Image of Christ***

Thus, the Apostle Paul believed that those who had been saved by Grace of God should restore the image and likeness of God within the inner beings as God's Children.

Likewise, we should conform to the image of His Son, Jesus. He, therefore, boldly declared, "For those God foreknew He also predestined to be conformed to the likeness of His Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers." (Rom.8:29)

## **3. *Grow in the fullness of grace and truth***

We know that Jesus was born in a simple family, yet He was growing in a family with fullness of grace and truth until he was 30 years old attaining the full measure of manhood. He went through 40 days and nights of fasting and praying in the wilderness. Though He was tempted by Satan, He did not yield to the corruption of His flesh. He was then prepared Himself to face the challenges of the corrupted and sinful world dominated by the power of darkness. He was also ready to accomplish the will of God by saving those who believed in Him.

## **4. *Imitating His life***

He then began to do the will of God throughout the journey of His mission. For He said, "For I have come down from heaven not to do my will but to do the will of Him who sent me." (Jn.6:38) Besides commanding His disciples to follow His example of sacrificial love, He said, "For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for

many." (Mk.10:45) In other words, whatever we do should always be concerned about God's business. That is to manifest a spirit-led personality of being sons of God.

## **5. *Taking a bold step***

It is imperative for us to protect Christians today from being confused and misunderstanding the significance of the salvation of Christ by various kinds of gospel found from the Internet. We must also clear away the doubt caused by the different teachings of faith by different denominations and sects that keep churches from being united in faith. We must therefore think of taking the bold step of moving forward. "Therefore, let us leave the elementary teachings about Christ and go on to maturity, not laying again the foundation of repentance from acts that lead to death, and of faith in God, instruction of the dead, and eternal judgement." (Heb.6:1-2)

## **6. *Leaving the childish state***

Debating the understanding of the elementary teachings about Christ is in fact a childish behavior of the church. That is why the Apostle Paul said, "When I was a child, I talked like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I become a man, I put childish ways behind me." (I Cor. 13:11) We need to leave the childish state of our spiritual condition. We, therefore, should modify the strategies of making all nations Disciples of Christ. We should emulate the shepherding model of Christ. He said, "I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full. I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep." (Jn.10:10-11)

## **7. *Begin from Home***

That is why, I have deeply sensed the church today must be able to propagate the Gospel more than what can be found on the Internet. We have to advocate what the Son of God,

Jesus had demonstrated as our strategies that is to receive the fullness of grace and truth at home; inculcate the virtue of servanthood; promote the life giving model of shepherding; and ensure that the believers have the life and have it to the full.

### **My legacy**

During the last half a century, God has been faithfully leading me to understand His will through the ministry I have been doing. I hope that before the expiry date of my life I will be able to empower this Oasis Family Life Enrichment Centre to advocate the life building model of shepherding by doing the following:

1. Advocate the understanding of the image and likeness of the triune God which is manifested in the way the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, work and interact harmoniously by empowering one another through their organismic relationship. This is so that the image of God is referred to as the function of oneness of the members in a body system and the likeness is referred to as the pattern and process that enhance oneness among the members through their organismic relationship.

2. Promote the Christian personality and marriage in the light of the image and likeness of the triune God. It is so that the spirit, the soul, and the flesh of our inner being interact and work in the likeness of the Father, the Son, and the holy spirit. Similarly, husband and wife work with each other under the headship of Christ as a body system as well.

3. Integrate grace and truth into the spousal as well as the parent and child relationship so that the parents and children will grow toward maturity in the fullness of grace and truth through their family life cycle.

Through that believers will experience God lives within our hearts as well within our marriage and family lives. We may therefore impart our faith from generation to generation and grow towards perfection, attaining the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.

It will also fulfill the prophecy of Jeremiah, who said, **“I will put my law in their minds and write it on their hearts, I will be their God, and they will be my people. No longer will a man teach his neighbor, or a man his brother, saying, ‘know the Lord,’ because they will all know me from the least of them to the greatest. ‘declares the Lord. “(Jer.31:33-34)**

<i>Oasisflec Financial Statement (Dec19-Nov20)</i>		
<b>Income:</b>		
1. B/F from 2019	S\$	1,268.12
2. Support fr friends & family		60,876.00
3. Income from Course fee		6,105.00
4. Government subsidy		7,168.00
5. Director’s Honorarium & tithes		<u>5,603.00</u>
		Total: <u>81,020.12</u>
<b>Expenditure:</b>		
1. Operation cost (SG)	S\$	63,528.75
2. Operation cost (Sitiawan)		<u>17,000.00</u>
		Total: <u>80,528.75</u>
		C/F to 2021 : <u>\$491.37</u>

### **Acknowledgement:**

***We sincerely thank God and all those who partner with us in our ministry with their prayers, gifts and voluntary services, in spite of the challenges we encountered this year.***

## Introduction to the Manjung Methodist cum Oasis Family Therapy Centre

The Manjung Methodist Centre actually originated from the Methodist Clinic which was built in 1961 as a headquarters for the Methodist medical mission with the support of medical doctors and nurses sent by mission societies in Norway, USA and South Korea. I served there as a medical dispenser from 1966-71. I could remember that I had to prepare several mixtures made with chemicals and water for dispensing to several villages each week. Unfortunately, the mission ceased to operate some-time in 1976, due to the shortage of doctors and funds. The building was then abandoned.

One early morning in July 2018, I had a dream that a woman brought her teenage daughter to the centre for treatment. She told me that the daughter was addicted to pornography. I told her that she might need a family therapist instead of medical doctor. I therefore, tried to bring them to a room for a family therapeutic session. However, I found that all the rooms were horribly damaged. I was then awakened by my alarm clock.

When I woke up, I recalled that when I was serving there about 50 years ago, I had met several patients suffering from mental illness. That prompted me to think of developing a family counselling centre to promote healthy families as a means of preventing people from getting such illness. My alarm clock seemed to have awakened my memory of the vision that I had some 50 years ago. I immediately wrote a proposal to Rev. Lei Rui Jian, the District Superintendent of Manjung District to convert the Methodist Clinic into a Family Therapy Centre.

In Jan 2019, the DS told me that the building had been deemed to be a dangerous building; however, there was a reserved fund of 200,000 ringgits in the District treasury. If the cost for the repair of the building was not more than that amount of money, he would endorse the project. The following morning, I was amazed to meet a contractor who had come to visit my nephew. I was prompted to ask him to do a survey of the building and give an estimation of the cost of repairing the whole building. After examining the conditions of the building, he

told me that we might only need less than 200,000 ringgits to transform the building into a safe and useful building. It might also become a valuable historical building for Manjung Methodist Church.



**Manjung Meth Centre was dedicated on 14.9.2020**

Subsequently, the lay leader of the Manjung District, Mr. Liu Bi Quan took charge of the project. Within one and a half years, it was turned into a beautiful and grand building with strong fencing and green lawn around the building. In 14, September 2020, it was dedicated as the Manjung Methodist Centre for the mission of Family Therapy and Youth Training. Although the cost of the project eventually came to about 235,000 ringgits., we are indeed grateful to Mr. Liu Bi Quan for generously paying to cover the short fall in our fund.

Pray that the centre will be well furnished in time for the start of operation by the middle of 2021.



*Merry  
Christmas  
&  
A Blessed  
New Year !*



*Francis & Karen Ngoi  
Dec 2020*