

## **Children's Ministry Report** (12 May 2020)

Our Sunday School teachers have been working hard to minister to our children during the circuit-breaker period through digital or online means. Here is a sharing of what they have done with the children thus far.

### **Nursery / Kindergarten Department** Chew Ying

For the past 3 weeks, I had online sessions with Luc, Isaac, Bethany, Ezekiel and Lydia once a week.

I would record a Bible story video each week and WhatsApp to the mothers before the lessons. Every Monday morning, I would video call Luc and Ezekiel and go through the lessons, reinforce key points and ask them questions. On Tuesday mornings, I would call Isaac and Bethany and Lydia. We would also pray and sing together and learn a Bible verse each week.

So far, the lessons I have covered are taken from 1 Samuel.

Lesson 1: 1 Sam 8, The People Asked for a King (Bible verse Proverbs 12:15)

Lesson 2: 1 Sam 12–13, The First King of Israel (Bible verse Psalm 119:11)

Lesson 3: 1 Sam 15–16, A Man after God's Own Heart (Bible verse Proverbs 4:23)

I thank God for the experience. The kids and mothers are very supportive. Although such online contact cannot be compared with physical classes, prayerfully, they would still remind the children to continue to stay close to God by reading the Bible and praying every day during this period of time that the church cannot meet.

### **Nursery Children's Worship** Yee Fong

The Nursery Children Worship Class began on April 18 and 19 with 4 and 7 preschoolers respectively via WhatsApp or FaceTime video call. By God's grace, we have been meeting every Saturday evening and Sunday afternoon at the usual time for one-on-one lessons. Each session which lasts approximately 25 minutes, usually includes the singing of 2–3 songs, opening prayer, lesson, memory verse recitation, craft explanation and 1–2 songs followed by closing prayer.

The children have been learning the life of Elijah, how God has led the prophet, provided all of his needs and answered his prayers to the glory of His Name. Thank God for the provision of digital visuals and craft (to be printed if possible) which have been sent to the parents before the scheduled lesson time so that the preschoolers could hear God's Word being taught and follow the lesson as closely as possible through the visuals.

Though having online video lessons are not ideal for children of such tender age, I am thankful to God for very supportive parents (and even grandparents) who sang along with their children, encouraged them to listen to God's Word and to recite memory verses. The earnest and joyful responses of the children is especially uplifting.

*"But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus."*  
(Philippians 4:19)

## **Lower Primary Department**

Jean Koh

There are 6 children—Nathan, Joash, Hadassah, Koen, Cherie, and Aaron. Since the start of the Circuit Breaker period, there have been 2 sessions with the children with a third session this Sunday, God willing.

The individual sessions with the children last for about 20 minutes (via WhatsApp video using parent's hand phone). With the exception of 1 child, the remaining children appeared keen to have the video sessions. Each session begins with encouraging the children to talk about what and how they have been doing. Thereafter, I read with and explain to them a Bible verse(s)\* followed by them reciting their memory verses from the SS Memory Verse Book. We pray together at the end of the sessions. The siblings of the children have also joined these video sessions.

\*For the first session, we did Philippians 4:6–7 as the children had expressed their fears concerning the virus at our last SS lesson together in church. The 2 verses served to remind the children not to worry as God is looking after us, that even if we get the virus, God is with us and that the virus can only attack us physically; what is more important is for us to believe in the Lord Jesus Christ and be saved spiritually. For the second session, we did Romans 12:11—this verse was chosen as it was soon after the Government announced that the Circuit Breaker Period would be extended and that school holidays would begin as early as 5 May 2020. This verse was used to teach the children that they are to use their holidays wisely and that even though they have to stay home, they can serve the Lord. God willing, for the third session we shall do Lamentations 3:25 and Hebrews 11:6 (“Seeking the Lord”).

It is very heartening to know that the children make the effort to learn their memory verses during this time and that they have godly parents who encourage them to attend the online Worship Service despite their young age.

## **Lower Primary Children's Worship**

Mabel Koh

The Lower Primary Worship caters to children from K2 to P2. During this circuit breaker period, we are reaching out to children who are not in Sunday School so that every child in church will have a familiar teacher to follow up with him or her and looking after their spiritual well-being. We hope the children will continue to read the Bible and pray every day even if they cannot come to church for worship every week. We plan mini Bible lessons on a weekly basis and have started the series on the parables of Jesus. We use WhatsApp video call so that we can see each other and better engage the child. We do the call individually as some children are shy whilst others are really happy to share and chat.

A typical lesson takes about 20 minutes (maximum half an hour if the child has much to share or have more questions). We usually catch up with parents first, sharing from the kids, prayers, Bible reading and then the mini lesson. The parents are encouraged to use the lesson to talk to their children too. Thank God it has been going on quite well for the past weeks. It has been a blessing as we are able to talk to the parents and get to know them better.

Recently, we had a lesson on the “Parable of the Lost Sheep”. A mother later shared with the teacher, “I remember praying with Pearlyn to ask Christ to be her Saviour. Yesterday, after telling her about the parable of the lost sheep, I asked her if Jesus is in her heart, and she said

yes—she wants Jesus in her heart. She chose the hymn, ‘In the Cross’, and after that I prayed with her.” Our hearts rejoice and we are encouraged to hear such a good testimony. Thank God for godly parents who nurture their children lovingly at home on spiritual matters. We continue to uphold the children and their families in our prayers and look forward to having all the children come together again in church for our Children’s Worship.

### **Upper Primary Department**

Mei Lan

When worship services were suspended the last Sunday in March, we had to submit to the authorities and stay home to stay safe; yet knowing all the time that God was in control. Truly He remembers us and did not forsake us, but made a way for us to meet. Not in person, but through writing. Thank God for the pen of technology; a Sunday School Letter was written and sent out to the children via WhatsApp the last week in March. Since then, six weekly Sunday School Letters have been written and shared, with the seventh underway.

The mothers of the children were informed first at the start and they readily agreed to receive the weekly Sunday School Letters and share them with their children. Thank God for God-fearing mothers who were without doubt instrumental in ensuring their children received the communication and helping also to explain the Bible truths to their children.

Sunday School Letters are written in multi-colour and an easy-to-read font. They contain Scripture verses which the children are encouraged to memorise, words of exhortation to keep daily devotions in reading the Bible and praying every day, and even songs to sing. A Bible lesson from the Sunday School curriculum is shared and revised each week. This week saw an additional resource in the form of a Colouring Page from Trinitarian Bible Society, featuring a Bible verse, to encourage our children in memorising God’s Holy Word. “These pages are suitable for young and old and we hope that the young artists will reflect on the verses on these pages.” (TBS)

During this Covid-19 crisis, Sunday School may not be visible, but is surely not out of action, because we have a God Who neither slumbers nor sleeps (Ps 121:4), Who by His grace can help our children keep on growing in the knowledge of God, that they might be kept and preserved from all evil.

### **Upper Primary Children’s Worship**

Joycelyn Chng

By the grace of God, the Upper Primary Children’s Worship class (P3 to P6) resumed on Easter Sunday (Apr 12), with a short video lesson on the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Since then, we have continued with weekly lessons on the Ten Commandments, picking up from where we left off before the suspension of physical church services. The video lessons are prepared in a format that encourages parents and children to read and learn God’s Word together. We thank God for the parents who have been supportive.

Parents are sent a video lesson via WhatsApp every week, and they will go through the lesson with the children. Thereafter, we make individual phone calls to the children who are not in Sunday School via their parents on Sunday afternoons to follow up and keep in contact with them. For this, we coordinate with the Sunday School class so that each child in the department is being reached out to by a SS or CW teacher. Our aim is for all the children to be reached out to in one way or another, so that they may be reminded to keep close to God.

I thank God for my fellow teachers (Katherine, Whee Kheng and Herbert) who co-labour in reaching out to the children in our class. During our calls to the children, we check if they have understood the lesson, answer any questions they may have, and have a time of sharing and prayer. Our hearts have been greatly encouraged by the enthusiastic response of the children to the video lessons, and their sharing of the lessons they have learned. We are very grateful to the Lord for making it possible for us to include all of the children in our class who come from non-Christian families in this teaching and outreach effort. May the Lord be pleased to use this ministry to build the children up in the faith, till we get to meet physically again.

### **Teens Department**

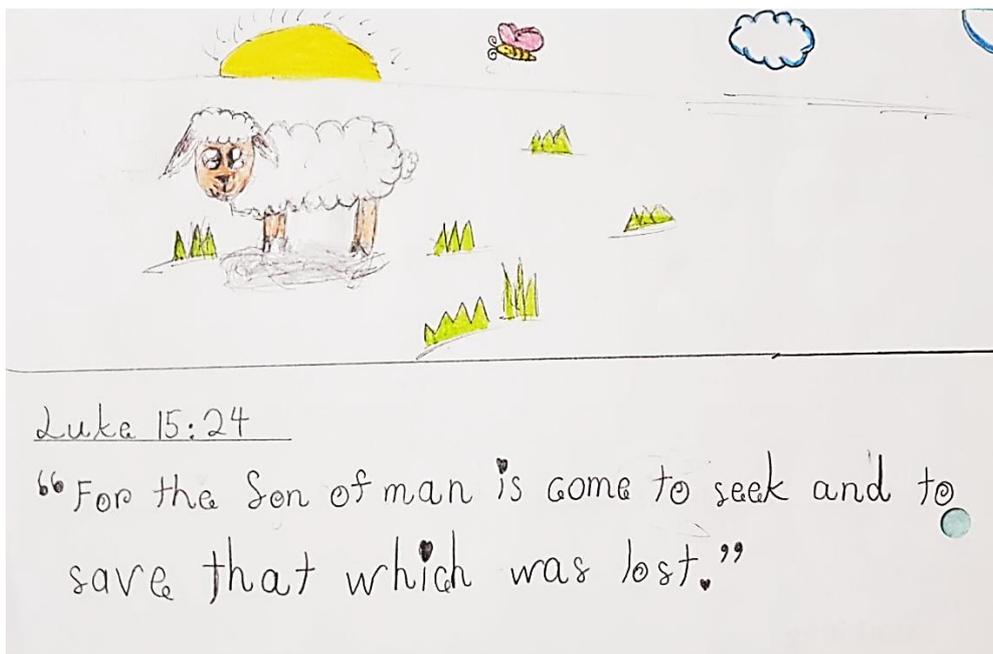
Jenny Kan

Thank the Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ that the Teens Sunday School has been able to continue with the lessons from the book of Ephesians. Thank the Lord for His leading through the discussions among the Sunday School teachers.

The Sunday School lessons were recorded and then sent as a voice recording to the Teen Sunday School WhatsApp Chat group. A simple lesson plan accompanied each lesson so that the Teens would be able to follow the lesson and refer to the different Bible verses. We have been having Sunday school this way since 19 April 2020. We keep in touch through WhatsApp and I praise and thank the Lord that many of the teenagers have been following the lessons faithfully and for their desire to be able to worship the Lord together as a church again.

The teenagers have expressed their thankfulness to God for the messages from Pastor and that Sunday school can continue in this way. They have also been keeping their quiet time and reminding themselves not to be distracted but to walk closely with the Lord.

To God be the glory!



*Drawing by Jazzlynn Lee  
(P2 student in the Lower Primary Children's Worship class)*