

CABC Connect

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES

1st Service:	9:00 am
2nd Service:	11:00 am
Children's Church:	11:15 am
Evening Fellowship:	5:00 pm

WEDNESDAY PRAYER HOURS

Morning Prayer:	9:30 am
Evening Prayer:	7:00 pm

WINTER 2012 VOLUME 5 ISSUE 1

**"A family is a place where principles are hammered
and honed on the anvil of everyday living."**

– CHARLES SWINDOLL





Pastor Elbern Latorilla

“HOMELAND SECURITY:”
Keeping Our Homes Safe

After the horrific attack on the Twin Towers in New York City on September 11, 2001, an umbrella term for security efforts to protect states from terrorist activity has come into existence. This is known as “homeland security”. The term arose following a reorganization of many U.S. governmental agencies in 2003 to form the Department of Homeland Security. This agency is primarily responsible in leading the concerted national effort to prevent terrorist attacks within the USA, reduce American vulnerability to terrorism and to minimize the damage and recover from attacks that occur. “Homeland security” tries to insure that the tragedy of 9/11 will not be repeated at all cost possible. This is the main reason for the screening, the body searching, and the what-have-you in most vulnerable areas like airport terminals. The safety of people and of places is, of course, the object of all these. Surely, we can’t fault a government that makes all effort to guarantee the protection of its constituents and their properties from destruction and mayhem. Perhaps we may even disparage leaders who overlook, inadvertently or otherwise, to secure the safety of their people during these troublous times. It will be a grave mistake on their part if they would neglect this task.

When governments make extra efforts to protect their land and people from being harmed, whether from without or within, shouldn’t we replicate such moves to provide safety and peace in our homes? But why should we? Because the enemy has become more belligerent than ever to destroy marriages and families. He is on the warpath bristling with all kinds of ammo to bring to an end, if he could, the first institution God created. The Creator, however, will never allow the enemy to prevail. And He desires that we who make up our homes be involved in every way possible to insure that our families remain intact, healthy, strong and safe.

Many will contend that they protect their homes already. One realizes though that home protection to them is referring to the use of gadgets, technological devices and other similar equipment to deter home burglaries, detect fires and untoward incidents to insure the safety of all in that house. I don’t say that these are unnecessary or unimportant. However, what is more urgent and needed today is the safety of family members from the temptations and wiles of the devil. God desires that husbands, wives and children who comprise a home strive to keep themselves from harm’s way—morally, ethically and spiritually. But how can this be done?

There is one Bible character who I want to use as our example of what we must do to provide “homeland security” to our families. Job is more known, I guess, for his patient endurance of a sore trial that God allowed him to experience. What many miss in his story is the fact that Job was a father and a husband who made sure that his family was spiritually healthy and safe all the time. Job 1:5 says, “So it was, when the days of feasting had run their course, that Job would send and sanctify them (his children), and he would rise early in the morning and offer burnt offerings according to the number of them all. For Job said, ‘It may be that my sons have sinned and cursed God in their hearts.’ Thus **did Job regularly.**” (emphasis mine). What were the tools he used?

The very first verse of the book that bears his name says, “There was a man..., whose name was Job; and the man was blameless and upright, and one who feared God and shunned evil” (Job 1:1). In his commentary, John MacArthur writes, “It appears from the language that Job had put his trust in God for his redemption and faithfully lived a God-honoring, sincere life of integrity and consistency - personally, maritally and parentally.” No, Job was not perfect or sinless, but his faith in God was expressed in no unclear way to his family first and foremost. He had such a fear of or reverence for God that he maintained a life of blamelessness and uprightness before them. It made him shun evil. The way he faced his trial later proves the vitality and vibrancy of that faith. I am sure that he wanted to leave the legacy of faith to his children more than anything else. He modeled it before them. I am convinced that Job challenged them to individually place their trust in God also and live it out as sincerely as they could even as he did.

Not only did Job trust God absolutely, but he also obeyed God’s word and will consistently. How did he learn to “sanctify his children and offer burnt offerings” in their behalf? Most Bible scholars believe that the Mosaic law was still unwritten during Job’s time. God must have revealed it to him personally then. The word “sanctify” means “to make holy”, “to set apart”, “to dedicate” for the worship and service of the LORD. And “to offer burnt offerings” was the means of purifying and cleansing them from sin. Job learned the principle well and practiced

it conscientiously. I am sure that he surrounded his children with prayer and encouragement to stay true to God and serve Him as faithfully as they could. When they sinned, Job wanted them restored to God rightly and immediately. He wasn’t remiss on his spiritual duty to them.

Reading between the lines, I can add a third dimension to the security that Job placed around his family—his love for them. His fatherly love caused him to go to such length that his children would have that hedge of protection surrounding them at all cost. One cannot but notice that when Job took care of the spiritual needs of his children, he did so “according to the number of them all”. There were ten (10) of them, you know. This means that no one was missed or overlooked. He wasn’t playing favorite or trying to disregard the one who perhaps was more prone to wander or stray. He was fair in treating them individually. What a safety net that was!

The Bible tells us that Job was a very rich man. He could have used his wealth as his leverage to guarantee the safety and security that his family needed. For sure he provided for them materially in an adequate way, but his focus was on their moral and spiritual protection. His strong faith in God, his obedience to God’s word and his love for them were the key “walls” that Job set up to keep his family spiritually intact. We, too, can do the same. These may sound simple but they are truths that all of us can emulate. Our faith should enable us to “walk in our house with a blameless heart” (Psalm 101:2).

*I will be careful to lead a blameless life—
when will you come to me?
I will conduct the affairs of my house
with a blameless heart.
- PSALM 101:2-*

In obedience to God’s word, we will surround our family with our prayers setting them apart for God and His service as well as for His protection and blessing daily. We must make every effort to instruct them “in the way they should go” (Proverbs 22:6). Finally, our love for them must be so unconditional that they will know that what we do for each of them is for their good. Let them see that we honestly care for them.

AND PRAY IN THE SPIRIT ON ALL OCCASIONS WITH ALL KINDS OF PRAYERS AND REQUESTS.

WITH THIS IN MIND, BE ALERT AND ALWAYS KEEP ON PRAYING FOR ALL THE LORD'S PEOPLE.

EPHESIANS 6:18



A Family that Prays Together...

By Paul Bertrand

Prayer is a vital aspect of church life. Weekly, names of church family members, leaders and missionaries are placed in the bulletin. Admittedly sometimes we don't know how to pray for one another. Listed below are points we can interject into our prayers.

God pour out Your Spirit upon our brothers and sisters in Christ

Develop a heart for God, His Word and His ways

Grow in wisdom, discernment and revelation

Seek and find freedom, restoration and wholeness

Understand God's purpose for their lives (destiny)

Work successfully and have financial stability

Have a sound mind and a right attitude

Resist evil influences and destructive behavior

Avoid sexual pollution and temptation

Experience good health and God's healing

Experience a successful marriage and raise godly children

Maintain strong and fulfilling relationships

Be protected and survive tough times

Walk into the future that God has for them

Pray for your (children, parents) brothers and sisters. Keep your eyes open. Keep each others' spirits up so that no one falls behind or drops out.



DOXA ELEVATION RETREAT JANUARY 6-8

The S.A.Y. attended DOXA Toronto's Annual Winter Retreat at Ontario Camp of the Deaf, Parry Sound, with other youth from several Scarborough churches. The 22 young people, accompanied by Pastor Jim Wright, enjoyed winter sports, worship, and a series of messages called The Story of God.

PRAYER MEETING FOR FAMILIES FEBRUARY 1

A prayer meeting was held at CABC focused on the family. It revolved around "Homeland Security" recognizing the fact that the family that prays together and strengthened by faith can make a difference in this world, one step at a time.



CNU WINTER RETREAT FEBRUARY 24-26

The CNU group went on their first ever winter retreat at Lake St. George, Richmond Hill, ON. There were 16 young people and 6 youth leaders who went to the camp and enjoyed team-building games and activities, devotionals, worship time, and an evening hike around the lake.

YOUNG AT HEART PRAYER BREAKFAST MARCH 10

The Young at Heart group spent a Saturday morning for prayer and fellowship over breakfast. A special message given by Pastor Quirino Calura encouraged everyone to strengthen one's prayer life. Prayer time was for our church missionaries and mission agencies and the needs of our church.

30-HOUR FAMINE MARCH 16

The CNU and S.A.Y. held their second annual 30-hour famine fundraising event which began Friday, March 16, 12:00 AM to Saturday, March 17, 6:00 AM. The 35 young people who participated fasted for the whole 30 hours to raise awareness and funds for the needs of other children in impoverished countries.

The funds raised will go to World Vision, to finance programs that will provide clean drinking water to areas all over the world where it is greatly needed.

THANKSGIVING PRAYER RALLY MARCH 28

To wrap up Missions month, members and adherents joined in prayer on the last Wednesday evening of the month to give back the glory to God for His empowering each of our guest speakers.

JANUARY

FEBRUARY

MARCH

PRAISE AND WORSHIP SEMINAR JANUARY 21

About 25 members of the Praise and Worship team attended the seminar held at the CABC sanctuary with Pastor Emmanuel Palisoc as key speaker. Glorifying God as the heart of worship was re-emphasized. The event included fellowship and election of new officers for 2012 with Bernel Latorilla as President and Marc Labayen as Secretary.

CABC CELEBRATES FAMILY SUNDAY FEBRUARY 19

The teamwork of the 'Homebuilders' and 'More than Love' groups made Family Sunday a special day as it was celebrated with songs and prayers. "God is the Best family Builder" was the message powerfully delivered by guest speaker Pastor Dan Magcalas.

MISSIONS MONTH KICK OFF PRAYER RALLY FEBRUARY 29

An evening of prayers for all the missionaries and mission agencies that CABC supports was held during the Wednesday prayer meeting.

It was also a night to dedicate and lift in prayer our month-long Missions celebration in March.

MISSIONS MONTH THROUGHOUT MARCH

It's Missions Month! Under the leadership of the Mission Task Force, the cultivation of the gospel continues!

With mission-centered prayer rallies, various guest speakers every Sunday and a mission exclusive course called Perspectives, CABC lives up to its theme "Blessed to be a blessing!"

God's Grace

D’KFC bible study group is presently studying Charles R. Swindoll’s “Joseph: A man of Integrity and Forgiveness.” As Joseph extended his grace, instead of vengeance, to his ten brothers, the group was inspired to express their concept of God’s grace through the acronym GRACE.

Unearned Love

Give me the grace to care without neglecting my needs
Remind me always about Calvary where you have paid it all
Accept human feelings without experiencing shame
Compassion to give freely without giving myself away
Eternal salvation is mine for I know I have been saved by grace

(by Eumee Mendoza)

God
Reaching
Abounding
Caring
Eternally

(by Cynthia Pascual)

God’s goodness
Redemption
Acceptance
Compassion
Easy = Free

(by Alex San Diego)

Grace is ...

... a Gift undeserved—God’s gift is His love that never stops giving, forgiving and transforming anyone who receives it.
... a Reminder of His faithfulness and His promises in our day to day living.
... the Abundance of His blessings. It is God’s unending provision to us; His grace is the ultimate answer to all our needs, for His grace is sufficient for us.
... our Comfort—by His grace we are comforted knowing He has compassion for us in our sufferings.
... the Essence of God—grace is God’s possession that He allowed us to inherit from Him.

(by Philip Manalastas)



MORE THAN LOVE

Small Group Feature

The More Than Love small group was revived on January 21, 2012. Original group organized in 2002, Neal and Maritza Salangsang, have been helping to reinstate the group, but will soon pass the baton to the next leaders, Rudy and Estelle Sia.

The group consists of couples who have been married for 15 years or longer.

Every third or last Saturday of the month, the couples meet in the church’s “L-shaped” room presently studying ‘More than Love Book’ inspired by Rev Will and Jacquie Chevalier with the topic: Divine Blueprint.

The aim for this study is “to build godly marriages rooted in the infallible Word of God.”

There are currently seven couples in the fellowship. If you are interested in joining, contact Rudy/Estelle Sia or Julian /Airene Laude.

Linsanity with the Lord

By Alex Camaya
(Christian testimony of basketball player Jeremy Lin)

*“It is not about me,
it is about Him!”*

A few months ago, fans all over the world were treated to the "Tebowmania" (in reference to National Football League Quarterback Tim Tebow), who amazed the adoring public with his quarterbacking skills and unimaginable poise during crunch time. Fast forward after the Football season another mania emerges, captivating people from all walks of life as he shines from the unknown unto the spotlight and become known as the new hope for people who defies the odd in achieving greatness in the name of the Lord. The new sensation has been dubbed as the “Linsanity.”

“Linsanity” is in reference to the rise to stardom of a virtually unknown Harvard graduate Jeremy Lin. Lin was born in Los Angeles, and raised in a Christian family in the San Francisco Bay Area city of Palo Alto. His parents, Lin Gie-Ming and Shirley Lin, emigrated from Taiwan to the United States in the mid-1970s. He graduated from Harvard in 2010 with a degree in Economics and a 3.1 grade-point average.

Jeremy comes into the 2011-2012 National Basketball Association (NBA) season without any permanent team. Lin was released by his former team, the Golden State Warriors, due to his injury and the team needing to clear some salary space. That did not discourage Lin as he continued to strive and work on his game in hopes of getting another shot at the big league. Due to players lockout, the season started later than usual giving time for Lin to play on Chinese basketball league as well as tryouts for other teams. Jeremy was picked up by the Houston Rockets before the training camp started but also released him before the regular season begun due to their carrying a lot of Point Guards. (Lin’s position as a player). Rejected and unwanted, Jeremy refused to give up, “I know I will have a hard time making any rosters in the league since everybody wants to show they belong here. I just need to focus on getting better and trust in my skill that the Lord has given me in moving forward.”

Jeremy’s prayers didn’t go unanswered. Just before the start of the regular season, one of the New York Knicks, the much historied and maligned franchise of the league, suffered some injuries on their roster which led them to the decision of giving Lin a chance to fill up the void. After



a few more stints on the Knick’s Developmental league team, Lin was finally given a chance due to another injury on starting point guard Baron Davis. “I was blessed to have this chance and I will do all to help the team win,” said Lin upon learning about the promotion. From then on the “Linsanity” mania was born as Jeremy put up amazing numbers since he was given the reign as the starting point guard by the Knicks. After his first starting game against the New Jersey Nets, Lin tweeted about having to stay with his teammate Landry Fields when his brother had company. Still, he thanked God for the opportunity to do so. “God is good during our ups and downs! Glad we got the win,” Lin tweeted. “Thanks to Landry Fields for letting me crash on his couch last night!”

From then on Jeremy’s outstanding continues as he put up great numbers against the Utah Jazz, Washington Wizards and the perennial powerhouse Los Angeles Lakers. Lin torched the Lakers with 38 points outduelling one of the greatest players of all time All-Star Guard Kobe Bryant. On an erlier interview Kobe argues with a reporter who ask him if he will guard Lin on the court, “Look I dont even know who he is, I don’t think he’s done enough to warrant me to guard him.” But after the game Kobe was all praise for Lin. “Players playing that well don’t usually come out of nowhere. It seems like they come out of nowhere,

“I OWE ALL OF IT
TO GOD; HE GIVES
ME THE CHANCE,
THE SKILL TO PLAY.”

but if you can go back and take a look, his skill level was probably there from the beginning. It probably just went unnoticed.” Lin finishes the week with a game winning shot against the Toronto Raptors which secures him being named the NBA Player of the Week honors. “I owe all of it to God; He gives me the chance, the skill to play. It is not about me, it is about Him!” said Lin humbly.

Lin’s rise to stardom doesn’t come without the usual mocking and doubting by the public. It was more magnified with Jeremy due to his religious beliefs and Asian roots which makes it unusual to be successful in the league of the giants. Still, Lin chose to use the love of Jesus to combat the heckler who chose to tweet a racist comment to the athlete. “This is happening in 2012,” Lin tweeted to the individual who wrote the slur. “Jesus loves you bro and I do too.” One ESPN writer was fired due to his racial headline of Lin which reads, “Chink in the Armor” detailing Lin’s sudden rise and eventual fall. The public adamantly demanded apology from Anthony Federico. After a little over a month, Lin's family reached out to Frederico and invited him to lunch with the Knicks guard. The former ESPN employee called Lin wonderful for doing so. “The fact that he reached out to me, the fact that he took the time to meet with me in his insanely busy schedule...He’s just a wonderful, humble person. He didn’t

have to do that, especially after everything had kind of died down for the most part.”

Jeremy’s star might fade one day just like every athlete who performed before him. He might not deliver to the insane hype that the media demands. He tasted failure before, but one thing is certain for the humble Harvard kid who just wants to play ball, “I just want to share the passion, the skill that the Lord has given me. I might succeed, I might fail but in the end I just want to enjoy this and to help my family and the fans that believe in me.” Indeed his rise to stardom isn’t at all means complete. But Jeremy continues to amaze and touch lives not only with his knowledge and skill but with the humbleness and compassion with letting people know that all is from God... that nothing will ever be impossible with the Lord.

For those who want to watch Jeremy Lin’s Testimony:
Part 1: <http://www.glennvon.com/2012/02/jeremy-lin-as-christian-awesome.html>
Part 2: <http://www.godtube.com/watch/?v=KP6KD7NX>

SOURCES:
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jeremy_Lin
<http://www.christianpost.com/news/ny-knicks-jeremy-lin-thanks-god-for-sleeping-on-teammates-couch-69123/>
<http://blogs.independent.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2012/03/jeremy-lin.jpg>



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