

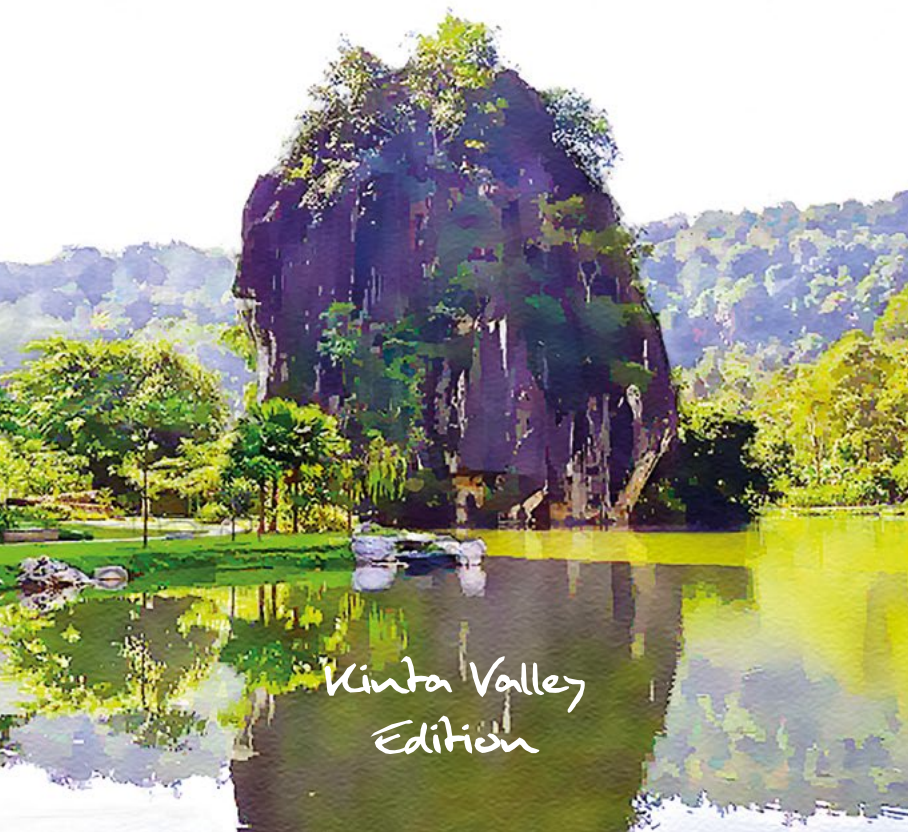


FULL GOSPEL BUSINESS MEN'S FELLOWSHIP
INTERNATIONAL MALAYSIA

MALAYSIAN

VOICE

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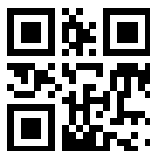
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SEED TODAY, FRUIT TOMORROW



Nobody likes to be tagged a 'Jail-Bird', a 'Drug-Addict', or a 'Gangster'. When the person walks past people, they whisper behind his back... "This fella was involved with the 'huk-sei-wui' (which in Cantonese means the 'dark society') and all that goes along with its clandestine activities.

Well, I have been at the receiving end of all kinds of remarks and labels. The brickbats hurled at me were

deservedly made if I were to tell you what I had been up to since I was only 15 years old. Looking back at all those years, I can now see God's invisible hand protecting me all the way while I was in the wrong company. He was patiently waiting for the right time to deliver me from that situation. He was there sitting by my side in the dark, dirty and gloomy cell in Taiping. I can now say that He called me out of the 'Darkness' into His Marvelous Light and Glory.

Wherever you turn in Ipoh town, you can find great food. The famous aromatic white-coffee originated from my home town. However, lurking in the dark alleys and living in the old wooden houses and villages are activities that will send shivers down your spine. Yes, Ipoh is also infamously known for its involvement in illegal drugs, drug addiction and gangsterism. We had some hard-core gangsters born and bred here.

When I was about 13 or 14 years old, I was intrigued by the carefree lifestyles of the people I grew up with in Menglembu, Perak. They seem to have an endless supply of cash. It's a little village just at the end of Lahat Road. Along that same road is located Anglo-Chinese School (ACS, Ipoh) my alma mater. I left school in Form 3 after sitting for the Public Examination that year. Then began my life sliding down a slippery slope which ended with me being incarcerated when I was

caught with illegal drugs and other substance abuse.

One of the worst things that could happen to anyone is to be an illegal drug peddler and drug-user at the same time. Well, that was me! I tried to kick the habit many times before but to no avail. Each time I failed, I went back to an even deeper level of addiction. The condition inside in Taiping Jail (I sincerely pray and hope, that none of you would go down that same road I took a long time ago) was bleak and it was darkness, with no hope in sight. The end of my life's tunnel was even darker than where I was sitting in jail.

I had nothing to cling to until one day something happened. My mother who never gave up hope on me, asked a Christian sister from KL to visit me in Taiping. She said to me, "You've broken every promise that you made to your mum. NOW this is the last chance to change your life. You must promise to break from your addiction. Give

us your word and let us help you, then we will offer bail to begin a new journey with you!”

The first lesson is never to put addicts back into their original environment because the ‘brothers’ will come knocking on their door. This Christian sister and my mother then decided to move me to Kuala Lumpur. I was admitted into the first Centre in Old Klang Road for my rehabilitation but unfortunately six months thereafter, they had to close down for some reason. I was then moved to the second place called ‘Christian Care Centre’ which is under the Full Gospel Assembly in the New Subang Village.

Under the loving care of both Ps Steven and his brother Ps William Yip, I was encouraged me to fight the battle of the ‘cold-turkey’ process. It was the hardest thing I’ve ever experienced in my life. While other drug rehab centers might say, it’s just to throw us into a room and lock the doors, we will beat the addiction... well, without someone’s loving care to encourage

us, it would be very hard to overcome the fight! What gave me the encouragement and determination to kick the habit was that in the Christian Love Centre, many of the helpers were former addicts like me. Coupled with the pastors’ constant love and prayer, I made it with God’s strength and love. I was admitted in November of 1986 and it was only in November 1989 that I walked out of the Centre freed from my addiction.

It was in 1986, that Pastor Steven and his brother William shared the love of Jesus with me. They said that Jesus will see me through my struggles; He will give me strength to fight the temptation of drugs and He will lead me to a brighter future to glorify His Name! It was also during the Praise and Worship sessions that I could sense the presence of God, holding me and touching my life, saying to me He loves me. I was 21 years of age then.

After leaving the Centre, I went back to Ipoh to start a new life. My family encouraged me to start something new

and I ended up operating a Coffee-Shop and also a Dried Meat business. It was not easy as many of my 'old-buddies in crime and addiction' came visiting me. With Christ as my strength, I told all of them that I will not join them and will not go back to my old lifestyle. I will not give them money and I will not embrace their habits but I certainly will be their friend because I wanted to share my Jesus with them.

I started to go to the local Baptist Chinese Church in Menglembu. Rev Yong was my pastor. I served and helped in the Church. It was not until 10 years later that God impressed upon my heart to start a Rehab Centre in Ipoh. God saved me from my past to set up 'Victory Life Training Centre' and He opened doors for even the National Ministry from the Government to support our work in Ipoh. Thanks to the support from Rev Yong, Elder Lai and my brothers Ah Kam; Ah Soon; Yee Fah and Titus who work together to reach out to the people and now we can give them Hope to break free from their struggles.

Our hearts would leap with joy and we would give all praise and glory to Jesus whenever we see the graduates being released back into society. It is our hope and prayer they will impact the lives of people in their community who will see the love of Christ in their lives. No doubt they will face many challenges and daily temptations but with prayer and trust in our Lord, they can stand up strong in their faith. Our simple slogan 'Seed Today, Fruit Tomorrow' constantly reminds us of the hope Jesus gives.

Over the years I have discovered that the more I do, the greater the joy I receive. This is hard work but seeing the fruit we labour on. Today we have brothers in Sitiawan; Taiping and Alor Setar working alongside with us. All glory to our God and Saviour Jesus Christ. Our prayer is that we can do more in the Lord to help many more lost brothers who need to know Jesus and to give the assurance that we are here for them. I am glad to be helping out with ACTS – a

Christian Drugs Centre and the New Creation Lutheran Centre in Menglembu, too.

My parents have seen the wonders of the Lord Jesus Christ and how He had transformed my life. He saved me from the deadly clutches of hell. They, too, gave their lives to Jesus and today, they are with Him in His Glory. Without a shadow of doubt, one day I shall see them

face to face again. Finally, to my dear wife, Ong Foo Khuan, I am eternally grateful for her love and support in my work and ministry. The joy we both share together is beyond our comprehension. Thank you for dedicating your life to take care of Zhong Xuan and Rou Xuan, our precious God-given son and daughter who are 12 and 10 respectively.



Derick Chan

General Superintendent of Rumah Victory, Northern Region.

Chairman of ACTS (Christian Drugs Centre).

Chairman of LCM of New Creation Lutheran Menglembu.

A member of FGB Ipoh Chinese Chapter.

The family worships at Baptist Chinese Church in Menglembu.

Jesus is here for you

I am a relatively young believer. It was back in 2015 that I became a Christian. Life for me then was easy and smooth. When I had completed my studies, I started my own business and was doing well. Soon I began to spend more time engaged in my business than being at home with my family. I was also too preoccupied chasing after material goods – branded goods and other expensive items.

Quite often, in the name of doing business and striking deals, I would end up so drunk that I would be vomiting all over. Night after night would find me in entertainment outlets drinking the night away. Even with all the things that money could buy; with the people I hung out with each

night, yet there was loneliness and emptiness in my life. I began to feel it and started to ask myself: “Is this all life is about? Make money; spend money and get drunk?”

A few years ago, while I was still in this dark and lost stage of my life, my girlfriend, who is now my wife, suddenly told me she wanted to find a Church to attend. She also wanted me to accompany her to Sunday service. My immediate response, of course was in the negative. I refused to go, fearing that she may be ‘brain-washed’ by those ‘religious freaks’ in Church. However, after giving it a serious thought I reluctantly decided to go along to make sure she would not be pulled into the faith.

Strangely, after going with her for three or four times, I caught myself watching people in the congregation singing; standing; sitting; reading the Bible; followed by someone who would go up to the pulpit to share. It was then I thought to myself that even with such boring lyrics; long prayers; and lengthy sermons by the preacher – yet the people were visibly moved. I saw some people laughing while others even had tears welling up in their eyes. Such moving reactions and emotions made me surmise that they look emptier and lonelier than me. But they said, they had an ‘experience with the Lord!’. When I heard that it was like a ‘joke’ to me, I find it hard to accept.

I tried praying to their God but nothing changed in my life and I did not feel anything at all. One night, I was so overwhelmed by all my problems that I became very anxious and I could feel my heart becoming more and more troubled. Right at that

moment, I remembered the pastor of that Church who had said, “You must confess your sins and repent, and pray in the Name of Jesus. He will surely hear and help you.” I did just that - I said a prayer, called out to Jesus, asking for forgiveness for my sins and wrongdoings. I kept praying but nothing seemed to happen though strangely, I felt a peace in my heart as I prayed and also my anxieties were lifted. I just cannot explain it.

That Sunday I went to church (after the anxiety attack with all my troubles and problems). When the worship started, it was nothing extraordinary and the reading of the Scriptures and Psalms was like before. Pastor’s sermon sounded faint and plain but every sentence he said, came through like a hand pulling out the needles one by one from my heart. I felt the pain removed and taken away from me and I started to cry uncontrollably with tears streaming down my cheeks I just cried and cried. I was totally unaware

of my surroundings nor did I care that I might be watched. That Sunday I gave my life to Jesus and took the first step to believe and accept Him as my Lord and Saviour.

After that day, I destroyed all the amulets and talisman that I had been carrying around for years. I used to depend on those things for protection and blessings. I have now stopped praying to unknown gods. My life has changed.

I have committed myself to follow Jesus and I have also joined the FGB brothers to fellowship with them and start to learn to encourage one another for the Lord. Since then, I depend every moment of my life on God and the Holy Spirit to lead and guide me. Many miracles (big and small) have happened in my life and I have seen God's hand upon me!

It is my fervent hope that my family and friends will receive the same blessings too. I just want to share with you that

Jesus loves everyone. He loves you, regardless of what you have done or how bad you might have been. As long as you sincerely seek Him, He is at your doorstep. Call on Him, like I did and find that peace that would come upon you, as He reaches out and touches your heart. Amen.



Loh Ker Jiah is a member of FGB Ipoh Chinese Chapter. He and his wife, Chia Swee Yee worship at First Assembly of God in Ipoh.

There is **Hope in Christ Jesus**

My name is Ken Chong and I hail from Beruas, a very small village in Perak. I come from a traditional Chinese family where folklore practices and Taoist beliefs are common.

Both my mother and grandmother were very religious. In fact my mother was called 'Xian Gu' by the people in our village. Ever since I was a young boy, I always witnessed the quarrels and fights between my Mom and Dad. I could not understand their constant fights. Years later, my mother told me about my Dad's past. He was the main owner of a logging company. There was a time when our family was very comfortable and we had more than enough

financially. However, when his business failed, he would lose his temper often and started to smoke heavily, not to mention his constant swearing.

With the influence by my parents I was very keen to venture into entrepreneurship with a wish to help the family stabilise and improve our financial standing. Immediately after my studies, I ventured into many different business trades and not surprisingly, had many failures. I started off as a Lead for a Travel Agency Company, then I moved to be a Wholesaler for toys, then I embarked on a Pyramid Scheme followed by handling healthcare products. I even got involved

in an illegal underground business processing health-care products. I did manage to make some money but I was swindled of my hard earned money by my then partners. My entire savings got almost wiped out. Since then, I vowed that I would never again trust another businessman. They were all a bunch of 'sharks'.

In 2001, I started to attend church with my elder sister and my wife. I gave my life then to Jesus Christ to be my Lord and Saviour. I took the step of obedience and faith to be baptised in 2004. But my faith and foundation was very shallow, and when I found success again in my business, I backslided.

I left Jesus at home whenever I went out to my work place and office. I gave in to the world and all her demands, e.g. wine, women and song. On top of that, my traditional Chinese family upbringing, taught me that men's responsibility was to make money, while women

should care for their families. How wrong I was! At that period in my life, I treated my customers and friends better than my own family members. I was away more often than at home, thinking that that was the way it should be. As much of my business dealings were in China, I made frequent trips there. I was often well received by the local Officials in the cities that I visited. for business ventures. I really felt great and felt appreciated by my business associates there. There was plenty of entertainment; - wine, women and song again.

Soon the pressure from work, business and family mounted. They all came like a tsunami drowning me. The business was running at a loss and my relationship with my wife was almost over. The strain was difficult to bear. We would have constant quarrels and disputes over the slightest things. In 2009, my wife had enough of my nonsense and she asked for a divorce. She warned me that

she would take our children with her. That was the darkest moment in my life.

But praise the Lord for His divine timing. My good friend, Brother Derick, Head of Ipoh's Victory House, would always pop into my office to chat, and to encourage me. He was the only person who knew my struggles and pain. He also taught me how to pray and to ask God for help. He then invited me to a FGB banquet held in Ipoh. Looking back, I am glad that I had agreed to go along. I was so encouraged by the many testimonies shared by the brothers that evening, each of them telling how God led them through their struggles. They were just like me! Their businesses failed but God led them back into the black. It was their turning to God that made the all the difference. God gave them hope! After returning home that night, I sincerely confessed to God and repented and asked God to pity and help me through the dilemma.

Later, with the encouragement of Brother Derick, I joined the FGB Chinese Chapter in Ipoh. That was the second beginning to a new start to my life. My God of a second chance is leading me slowly but surely out of my problems.

After many years of being involved in FGB I began to understand the Vision and Mission that drives the brothers, giving priority to building the Kingdom of God. My concept and approach to my family began to change too and soon my business began to turn around. I have learned the most precious of lesson: that in business I am a humble servant, a steward of my Lord Jesus, who is my Boss and the real Owner of my business. He is first in all that I do now.

I am full of thankfulness and joy that my God, my Heavenly Father loves me and has healed my wounds of all those years of unforgiveness. The pain that I went through, the lies and deceit thrown at

me; and the money I lost – all these are behind me now. He has given me a heart of confidence in Him. I now can forgive; release and no longer struggle with myself. Today, I can offer a helping hand to others who are like me before and even brothers who are struggling with their families. I share my life experiences with them about the joy I found in Jesus Christ my Lord and Saviour. I am glad with my experience I am able to share the pain that I went through and the newfound joy in Christ to many who are struggling like I did. These brothers are now with us in our FGB family and together we strive to work for the Kingdom of God.

All glory goes to God and in Him I trust and obey. I am most happy to tell you that my brother, my second sister and my younger brother have given their lives to Jesus and accepted Him as their Savior. Now my two brothers are active members of FGB.

Together with all my brothers of FGB Ipoh, we are committed to share the Good news and to share our lives with many others who need Jesus!

Glory to our Father Almighty!



Ken Chong (on the left) with his siblings is a leader of FGB Ipoh City Trailblazer and worships at LCMS Church in Menglembu Ipoh.

My GOD is Great!

One can say that my life was mundane and routine. Everything was moving at a normal pace. Nothing unusual or noteworthy was happening and it was a rather common kind of existence. Then in the 1980's, I met this living God who impacted my life and got me so excited about my very existence. Now I can't stop talking and sharing about Him to everyone.

After graduating from my studies in Canada, I came back to Malaysia and started my business in the construction industry. The timing was just right and it took off almost immediately at a very fast pace. I must say I became a

successful entrepreneur even though I was 'new kid' on the block.

With a business doing very well, what more can a young man ask for but a relationship with a young lady who would be his wife someday. When I met Christine, the first thing she did was to give me a Bible as a gift to read. Being a 'free-thinker', I did not give much thought to it. In fact, I never got around to reading it until she insisted me to do so. I read the Book of Genesis and found it interesting but treated it as just a mere godly story.

Out of my interest to pursue and win Christine's heart, I even

got baptized and attended Church. I just wanted to please her and each Sunday my body was present in Church but my heart was elsewhere. Then something happened. Even though my business 'grew' it faced with a huge financial deficit. The deficit was growing and eating away my retained earnings.

Like a pack of cards, my business came tumbling down. I could not collect from my customers and they were dragging their payments. The current economic condition of the market was getting from bad to worse. One morning, I was loading 20 bags of cement onto the pick-up truck, it dawned upon me that I should not be in such dire straits. I said to myself, "Why am I doing this? I am a successful business man, I am a graduate with a degree to my name ... I am not a 'mud-water-worker' (direct translation from Cantonese) – a construction site worker!"

The struggle went on for nine years. I must mention that during the period, my wife

Christine remained calm and stood by me as I went through the turmoil and struggles in my business. I did not know it then but I found out later that my good wife had been praying every day for me. She was praying for God to turn my business around and to bless me.

One evening, she invited me to (actually 'insisted' to be precise) accompany her to a prayer meeting. I had never been to prayer meetings before nor was I interested to go then, but somehow I went along. The Pastor of the Church asked that night, "Is there anyone here who is feeling very heavy hearted and your problems have not been solved?" I unashamedly went up to him and told him about my struggles for the last nine years.

Strangely, he said, "Let them go! The money does not belong to you. You are only a steward who cannot manage the funds well." Then he quoted a scripture verse to me (at that time, I did not know

the verse, but now I do- it was Matthew 11:28) ‘Come to Me, all you who are weary and are burdened, and I will give you rest.’ I knew there and then it was Jesus speaking into my life, so I responded by literally releasing the worries and concerns to Him. I went home and I slept like a baby that night

I obeyed the Pastor. He told me to release, to ask forgiveness from God for not managing well the money given to me. I was able to even forgive those who owed me money and let them go too. It was a very difficult decision to forgive my debtors, who owed me quite a huge amount of money, but I did, I forgave and I let go!

In the next six months, I began to see things happening. It cannot be out of nothing, I could see God answering my prayers. During that period of time, I began to rebuild my confidence, not as before in my business acumen but in God. I took charge of my business (as though I was representing God) I tendered for new

projects. It was completely by faith because I did not have seed money anymore. Guess what? We were awarded a project in 1995 which we completed within two years. The economic situation in our country had taken a turn for the worse and many businesses were hit badly. I got on to my knees in prayer and asked God for help. In retrospect, I can confidently say that the Lord saw us through that year.

Another miracle was when the paymasters kept to their agreement and our payment came through promptly without a hiccup. The amazing part was that at the end of the fiscal, we found out that we made enough to cover all the bad debts incurred over the past 9 years! My friends, it is not coincidence but all credit and Glory to the Almighty God to whom I had released my worries, anxieties and even my bad debts.

Till today, I can see God’s faithfulness and love for my wife and me. He has blessed me with a loving and

longsuffering wife who has been with me through it all. We are enjoying His love and blessings. I also thank God for our children Stefan and Ann who have completed their studies now. We serve Him wherever He calls us to go, may it be in a Church or a fellowship meeting. He has placed me in the Full Gospel Business Men's Fellowship to impact lives and to share my life experiences with many

businessmen who may be facing similar struggles that I have been through.

I am also now teaching Bible Studies together with Christine. My own life has been changed greatly by this study and now we are passing it on to others. I now cling on to Joshua 24:15 which says 'as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord!'



Ricky Lee is the Group Coordinator for the FGB Ipoh Chinese Chapter, Teluk Intan Chapter and Teluk Intan Tamil Chapter. He is married to Christine Leow and they have two children. The family worships at First Assembly of God Church in Ipoh.

FROM GANG LEADER TO BUSINESS LEADER

The background of the page features a stylized illustration. It shows the silhouettes of three men. The man on the left is holding a baton or stick. They are positioned in front of a large, light-colored flag that has a circular emblem in the center. A barbed wire fence is also visible in the background, running horizontally across the middle.

I grew up in a single-parent family. As a youth, I was the head of a group of gangsters, and was often involved in gang fights. Our gang grew from 30 to 60 members in a very short period. At one time during the 'peak', my gang comprised more than 500 members. I was also involved in many other illegal activities and was eventually arrested by the police. After I was released from detention, I made the decision to stop getting involved in those undesirable activities.

Before accepting Christ, I worshipped idols and believed in Feng Shui. They were my resources whenever things did not go on smoothly. My roller coaster life gave me no peace. When I was doing well, I felt happy. However, when things

got bad, I fell into a rut and was unhappy. Those cycles that happened repeatedly caused me to go into a state of severe depression.

One day, I thought I should end my life. During that crucial moment I was browsing through Facebook and noticed that a specific video kept popping up. It was the video of Bro. Tan Koon Swan speaking in an interview. I watched the video attentively and found that he had gone through things in life similar to mine, just that the 'figures' involved were different. My debt was in the region of millions whereas his was in billions. At the end of the clip, the host of the interview program issued the following invitation: "For those who are watching

this, regardless of where you are now, those who plan to hurt yourself, those who are undergoing afflictions in the kingdom of darkness, please stop a while. Only trust the Lord, do not be afraid..." I felt so hopeless and thought that there was no way I could get out of my mess.

After I had finished watching the video, I received a message from a friend (Bro. Loh Ker Jiah) who was seldom in contact with me. That WhatsApp message ended with the words "You need to trust, do not be afraid". Those were the same words mentioned in the video. I felt tired and soon fell asleep. Then in my dream, I saw a bright light and heard a voice that said, "You need to trust, do not be afraid" repeatedly. When I woke up, the words kept ringing in my ears. I asked myself whether I was imagining things.

Regardless of what I had experienced, I was still in doubt. A month later, I went to a church and the pastor spoke

those same words "To trust and do not be afraid". Again, I was still in doubt. A few weeks later I attended service in another church. Again, the same words came from a Korean pastor who was preaching that Sunday.

Soon after, miracles began to happen in my life. Different suppliers started to supply goods to me again. In the past they had stopped doing business with me due to my financial constraints. In addition, new projects materialised. I started to trust God and submitted myself to Him. At this point in time, I was still facing cash flow problems. I prayed for solutions. Soon another miracle happened, an investor appeared from nowhere and funded my business (the amount was almost a million Ringgit Malaysia). This was the breakthrough I needed and my business was in the black again.

After I accepted Christ as my LORD and Saviour, my life

changed dramatically. My habits changed, my temper diminished and I refrained from uttering profanity. My pride slowly vanished too. I was transformed into a new man.

Other afflictions and obstacles in business came by after I accepted Christ into my life but the Lord always sent helping hands. Some people have asked me out of curiosity: "Everyone knows that your business had collapsed, yet

you managed to bounce back!" I always responded: "Do you believe in LORD Jesus?" Now, I have Jesus Christ in my life upon whom I can trust and rely. With His presence, all obstacles and problems will not stay for long. I believe my life ahead is a wonderful one.

I continuously pray for strength to overcome all obstacles in life. I want to move forward. All glory to the LORD, Hallelujah! Amen.

Chew Hon Keat is a member of FGB Ipoh City Trailblazers. He worships at First Assembly of God in Ipoh.



6 STEPS TO SALVATION

1. ACKNOWLEDGE – “For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God” (Romans 3:23). “God be merciful unto me a sinner” (Luke 18:13)

2. REPENT – “Except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish” (Luke 13:3). “Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out” (Acts 3:19)

3. CONFESS – “If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness” (1 John 1:9). “If thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.” (Romans 10:9).

4. FORSAKE – “let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; and let him return unto the Lord ... for he will abundantly pardon” (Isaiah 56:7).

5. BELIEVE – “For God so loved he world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.” (John 3:16). “He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.” (Mark 16:16).

6. RECEIVE – “He came unto his own, and his own received him not. But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name.” (John 1:11,12).

Why not make your eternal decision now:

“Lord Jesus, I believe You died for my sins and I ask Your forgiveness. I receive You now as my personal Saviour and invite You to manage my personal life from this day forward. Amen.”



WHO WE ARE

Full Gospel Business Men's Fellowship International was founded in 1952 by the late Demos Shakarian to reach men for Jesus. One year later, God gave him a vision of the people of every continent, revealing that the ministry of the Fellowship would result in people everywhere being brought to Jesus and linked in loving community.

That vision is becoming a reality through the Fellowship's ministries, now touching one hundred and thirty two nations and transcending denominations, racial and cultural barriers.

MISSION STATEMENT

1. To reach men everywhere for the Lord Jesus Christ.
2. To call men back to God.
3. To train and equip men to fulfill the Great Commission.
4. To help believers to be baptised in the Holy Spirit and to grow spiritually.
5. To provide an opportunity for Christian Fellowship.
6. To bring a greater unity among all people in the body of Christ.