



PRESCRIPTION

A Singapore Nurses' Christian Fellowship Newsletter

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Nurses and Spirituality

I suspect there are several Christian nurses who are the envy of many, as people who claim to have "found their calling". Nursing may not be listed among the professions in Ephesians 4: 11, but I do believe nursing to be among "works of service" that will help "...build up the body of Christ toward unity and faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of the Christ" Ephesians 4: 12-13. For those of us who thought we chose nursing, we might want to consider this "In Him we were also chosen, having been predestined according to the plan of him who works out everything in conformity with the purpose of his will, in order that we, who were the first to hope in Christ, might be for the praise of his glory." Ephesians 1:11. Indeed, God chose us to be nurses, He has plans for us to glorify Him through nursing. Question is, how much do we revere Him and are intimate enough in our relationship with Him to know His will?

I use REDISCOVERING REVERENCE – THE PATH TO INTIMACY (MATT RAWLINS 2005) as my main reference to share about the basis of our spirituality.

The Fear Of The Lord And Destiny

Let's differentiate a 'healthy' fear of the Lord from the 'fight or flight' type of fear. The latter type of fear is instinctive. God has given us the capacity to sense danger and darkness. When we intuitively feel something out of the ordinary and uncomfortable approaching us, or manifesting within us, our bodies will automatically react by fighting or taking flight. This physical capacity is an important buffer protection. Sometimes this fear also arises from an inadequacy of our trust in God, for example, when we fear failure, embarrassment, and rejection. Our physical defence

mechanism also serves as an emotional buffer, and in the same way, we fight or take flight.

Matthew 10:28 reminds us "*and fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul; but rather fear him, which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell*". Jesus has given us the reassurance that He is looking out for us all the time: "*And even the hairs on your head are all numbered. So don't be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows*". Matthews 10:30 – 31

If we believe that God love us so much and desires to give us the nations as part of our inheritance and destiny, are we in excited anticipation when we think of our life and destiny?

Moral Leadership

As Christian nurses, we are often challenged in our loyalty toward God in the midst of our work. Jesus taught us to acknowledge that He is God, and then love Him and other people (Mark 29-31). When we know who God is, we will revere him as Lord and Saviour.

Our faith must be rooted in the two pillars of God's greatness and goodness. Believing that "He is", presupposes that God is powerful and all encompassing, believing that 'He is rewarder' points to our belief that He will bestow goodness and justice.

The Psalmist beautifully portrays the dual tenets of God:

"But as for me, by Thine abundant lovingkindness I will enter Thy house. At Thy holy temple I will bow in reverence for Thee" Pslam 5:7.

**SNCF
MOTTO**

One In Christ

**SNCF
MISSION
STATEMENT**

SNCF seeks to bring Jesus Christ to nurses, equipping and helping them find meaning and purpose in their work.

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God desires a healthy combination of reverent intimacy. As we understand His greatness, we then discover how to relate to Him. Out of the reverent intimacy we discover our destiny in God. He is big enough for any situation we face and good enough to bring life out of any of our struggles.

Battle For Context

The society pushes certain values on the individual. Hardly a week goes by when we are not challenged to find our value in what we have, where we are. Who we are friends with, or what we look like. If we will truthful with ourselves, our deceitful hearts will place value in things around us and to the degree we buy the lie, to that degree it will be our downfall. The higher degree bring us value, but the higher degree also bring us headaches beyond measure because we have to battle with having to continually validate ourselves through academic recognition.

There are many perspectives but only one 'context'. The context gives understanding to the meaning of the words. When you get the context, you can then understand the emphasis and intention of the words. You can have different perspectives on the meaning of words, but when you know the context for the words you will then, and only then, be able to understand the intent.

As it is with words, so it is with our lives. A context for our lives will give us an indication of what is valuable. In a world with millions of voices and perspectives and attractive possibilities, what do we use to tie together all of the different perspectives? Who defines what the context is?

Matt Rawlins exhorted the reader to take heed: *The fear of the Lord will give us the context for which we should base our lives. It is the foundation for us to reach our destiny, and to glorify God. In each situation you find yourself, in each relationship you are involved with, in each job, sport or whatever the expression, unless God is invited to define the context – and your personal role in the context – there is no fear of God. Without God's context, your work will be lifeless, and it has no value in God's eyes. The fear of God is the only foundation that our work should be built on to last forever. Each of us must live our lives in the context of the presence of an Almighty God.*

God knows what is best for us and wants us to walk in the fullness of His beautiful design as released through our destiny. Desire God to create your context. If God hates backbiting, jealousy, envy, stealing, strife and all expressions of selfishness, then we want to hate these things as well.

Dear nurses, I'd like to conclude with a prayer which I hope will be yours too:

Father, I need to know you in a new way..... Teach me to see you with eyes that discover the reality of who you are and in that sight, to be forever changed. To represent you as you are before a world that does not know you is the desire of my heart. Thank you that your Word says that if I ask for this, you will give it to me. I stand in awe of you and I love you. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Ms Tan Wee King
SNCF Secretary

ANNOUNCEMENT

Monthly Prayer Meeting at two locations, namely at Central & Western Region

Time : 7.30 pm monthly
Venue : Central region on every 1st Monday at SNCF Workbase
: Western region on every 2nd Tuesday at Blk 106, Bukit Batok Central, #04-221, S650106

Prayers items can be submitted to Ng Kim Choo at kimchoo.ng@ncf.org.sg or call 97379041

10th PACEA NCF Regional Conference

Date : 27 Sept- 1 October 2010
Venue : National Women's Education Centre, Japan
Theme : Revisiting and revitalizing NCF: The way forward
Conference Fee : Yen 35,000 (About US \$350-400)
The fee includes room and board
Registration dateline : 20 June 2010
Contact : Kim Choo at kimchoo.ng@ncf.org.sg

BOOK REVIEW *by Ms Lo Mun Fun*

The Pursuit of God by A W Tozer

The Pursuit of God by A W Tozer is a book that tells of a Christian who hungered to know God for the sole purpose of experiencing Him in his daily life. As God revealed Himself to A W Tozer, he in turn was galvanised to live a life that was completely pleasing to God.

Matthew 5:6 says, "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled." As we practice following hard after God, what will we be filled with? We will be filled with God, the Holy Spirit, our Protector and Provider. We have no need for anything else because we are filled with the Sovereign Lord. In the deep heart of man according to A W Tozer was a shrine where none but God was worthy to come. In other words, God's rightful place is within us and external materials things were gifts showered upon us by God for our sustenance and delight.

However, sin introduced complications. We have exchanged God for material things. They occupy our hearts, our time and possess us such that God no longer direct our lives. Because of this explained Tozer, we now no longer have peace within our hearts. We are now overcome by an unquenchable desire to possess and covet. According to Tozer, this is evident through our constant use of pronouns like *my* and *mine*.

How do we stop this downward slide to destruction? In addition to receiving Lord Jesus Christ as our Saviour, Tozer mentioned that we also need to reinstate God to His rightful place in our hearts. We do this by breaking the tyranny of things over our lives and following hard after God. Tozer shows us how by referring to Matthew 16:24-25, "If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me. For whosoever will save his life shall lose it; and whosoever will lose his life for my sake shall find it".

Tozer cited another example by referring to the story of Abraham offering Issac for a burnt offering, his only son whom he loved. The act of slaying his son showed Abraham's determination to remove Issac from the temple of his heart and possess in there nothing but God. By doing so, Abraham had placed his love for Issac external to him and also had Issac safe by his side.

Begin your Pursuit of God by asking Him to root from your heart all those things which you have cherished for so long and have become an integral part of yourself, so that the Lord Jesus Christ may enter and dwell there without a rival.

Only then will you be free from being weighed down by anxiety, restlessness, dissipation and idolatry.



Welcome on board SNCF Executive Committee 2010

SNCF is 50 years old

To celebrate the event, SNCF is hosting a celebration on **9 October 2010** Saturday from 4 to 6pm. Please keep this date in mind. Further update will be given in the next newsletter.



The Holy Alphabet

A lthough things are not perfect
 B ecause of trial or pain
 C ontinue in thanksgiving
 D o not begin to blame
 E ven when the times are hard
 F ierce winds are bound to blow
 G od is forever able
 H old on to what you know
 I magine life without His love
 J oy would cease to be
 K eep thanking Him for all the things
 L ove imparts to thee
 M ove out of "Camp Complaining"
 N o weapon that is known
 O n earth can yield the power
 P raise can do alone
 Q uit looking at the future
 R edeem the time at hand
 S tart every day with worship
 T o "thank" is a command
 U ntil we see Him coming
 V ictorious in the sky
 W e'll run the race with gratitude
 X alting God most high
 Y es, there'll be good times and yes some will be bad, but...
 Z ion waits in glory...where none are ever sad!



So when life throws you a curve, remember my beloved,
 that the shortest distance between a problem and a solution,
 is the distance between your knees and the floor.

After all, the one who kneels to the Lord
 can STAND UP to anything!

Amen.

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Gifts through cheques to be
 made payable to:

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 Christian Fellowship**

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