

Elijah, Jeremiah or one of the prophets. These were impressive names, highly regarded by the populace for their spiritual greatness. But when pressed for their own conviction, they remained speechless. Only Peter had that awesome insight.

Perhaps that emboldened Peter to exercise his new found status and censure his master. He had become the leader of the pack. That didn't alter his perception about his role in the group. It reinforces it even more. That's the frightening part.

Peter had that "Messiah Complex." He saw himself as the rescuer, the problem solver and the answer to every problem and predicament. When Jesus predicted their abandonment, he gallantly declared, "Even if all fall away, I will not" (Mark 14:29). He was certain of his role.

Everyday we take on many roles, sometimes out of social necessity and obligation. We are a parent, a sibling, a child, an employee, a cell-group member and a friend all rolled into one package. And we know how to adapt and change according to the social configuration and equation we're involved in. There's no hypocrisy in that. These external roles are necessary for social order and harmony.

But there are those "hidden" ones that we ought to be wary of. These are the adaptive strategies that we've accumulated, modified, adapted or developed over the years to cope with our insecurities and wounds. The more insecure you are, the bigger your repertoire of defensive roles. That list includes playing the blame game, adopting the "poor me" victimised mode, addicted to fatalistic thinking and subscribing to a messiah or even martyr complex.

Most common among these is the Messiah complex and the victimised mode. We do it all the time when relating to others. Those with the Messiah complex feel that need to take charge, to give more than they receive and to set the pace. They don't know or don't wish to set boundaries as they feel overly responsible for the needs of others.

Then there are the victims who are predisposed to being manipulated by others, though they themselves could be manipulative. They look to the messiahs to make decisions for them. Actually, both the messiah and the victim are co-dependents, needing each other. When you're co-dependent, you're too intimately enmeshed with another to the point of dysfunction.

How do you relate to others and to the Lord? Peter thought he was strong enough to bail the Lord out. When you feel exceptionally close to the Lord, remember to keep your eyes on Him and remain humble. Some feel the closeness till they erroneously think they're super anointed. Once we fall into that, that messiah complex will rear its self-righteous head. Our Lord countered Peter's overconfidence with this: "Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; you do not have in mind the things of God, but the things of men" (Matthew 16:3). We too need to take heed!

Pastor Song Cheng Hock

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WE WELCOME all guests who have come to worship with us this morning. If this is your first visit, please fill in the Visitor Form so that we can keep in touch with you.



DO NOT FORGET TO SWITCH OFF YOUR HANDPHONES!

Volunteers Needed

This Christmas the Church will support Prison Fellowship Singapore by giving hampers to ten families of the inmates. We need volunteers to help deliver these hampers to them who are all living in the Bedok Reservoir area. Those who would like to help, please see **Bro. Henry Lee**. This would also be an opportunity for us to reach out to the inmates' family members and befriend them. Thank you.

PRISON MINISTRY

Association of Christian Halfway Houses (ACHWH) have invited us to participate in their program to care for ex-offenders completing the HWH Service Model program (or released directly from prisons). The Church based After-Care program will help ex-offenders reintegrate back into society and become members of the Church.

We have three members already involved in the Prison Ministry but there is still need for more volunteers.

THOSE INTERESTED TO SERVE AS VOLUNTEERS may contact Brother Vincent Tan for more details.

Asst. Treasurer needed.

We thank God for the services of Sister Beng Hwee who has faithfully served as assistant treasurer for the past years. Sister Beng Hwee will be leaving us to join her family in Australia next month and we need to find someone to replace her. If you would like to serve in this ministry, please see our Church Treasurer, sister Desmonda for more details and duties.

FRIDAY NIGHT PRAYER MEETING

We would like to encourage all to come and join the Prayer Meeting every Friday at 7.45 p.m. Pastor Song is now teaching **1 Corinthians**.



PRAYER PAGE



1. **Please pray for Pastor Song**, as he brings us God's Word this morning. Pray that we will all be responsive to God's word and to the prompting of the Holy Spirit.

2. Pray for the **Worship Team**, the **audio/visual support group**, as well as the **ushers**. Pray that God will continually refresh them as they experience deeper worship themselves, leading others to worship God in spirit and in truth and to encounter Him, to the end that their lives be transformed to His glory.

3. **We praise God** for the response at our Evangelistic Outreach last Sunday. There were some guests, a few of whom came up to request for prayers for healing, while others wanted to pray for the salvation of family members. We also want to praise God for one guest who accepted Jesus as Lord & Saviour.

Please pray for each one of them, that they will trust the Lord for deliverance and continue to walk closely with Him.

4. **Please pray for the various ministries in our congregation**, for the children's ministry, the teachers and helpers, the youth and their leaders, the young adults and for ourselves that we may be used by the Lord to serve Him and one another.

5. Continue to uphold **sister Alice** in prayer. Pray for God's grace and strength to be with her and **sister Catherine**.

6. Please pray for **Pastor Neville & Sister Anne** as they travel to our JB Church this afternoon.

PASTORAL PRAYER. *Should you or someone you know need prayer, please speak to the pastor or send your email to chggod@churchofgodsg.com.*

CHURCH OF GOD

Income and Expenditure Report

Month ending: November 2009

	Bldg.Fund	Gen.Fund	Missions	Total
Income	\$5,880.90	13,859.49	3,277.37	23,017.76
Expenditure		-16,189.31	2,143.95	18,333.26
Income/Exp	\$5,880.90	\$(2,329.82)	\$1,133.42	\$4,684.50

Memory Verse:

Last week's: "I have come into the world as a light, that no one who believes in Me should stay in darkness." - **John 12 : 46**

This week: Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God; trust also in me. - **John 14 : 1**