



utilitarian level.

Blaming is easy. You don't have to go through an intensive training course to master it. All you have to do is to point your finger in any direction. Some potential scapegoat will come your way. If you're desperate enough, anything or anyone can be your object of blame - genes, parents, spouse, government, luck, fate or whatever is timely and fitting.

However, some, like Adam, recklessly take it to another level - blame God! When confronted, Adam piteously moaned, "The woman you put here with me..." Compare this with his earlier proclamation when God brought the woman to him — "This is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called 'woman,' for she was taken out of man"! (Gen 2:23). He could barely conceal his excitement! He was so grateful. But not when he got into trouble.

It's an indicative commentary of our fickleness and utilitarian mindset isn't it? One day we can be totally grateful to God for His special gift, and the very next, we can be grumbling to Him about it.

Eve was a fast learner. She saw how simple blaming works. So she immediately repeated the pattern — "The serpent deceived me, and I ate." From then on, this cycle of blame becomes an integral part of our psychological constitution. For some, blaming has become a way of life. If we don't consciously audit and monitor our speeches, we can slip into this blaming pattern impulsively:

- "It wasn't me. They were the ones who messed it up for me!"
- "I've no choice. The situation demands it!"
- "You are the cause of it!"

Blaming is a maladaptive strategy that destroys relationships and that keeps people from becoming closer. People who blame others or situations without taking responsibility for their contribution to the problem are operating from a victimised mode. By refusing to see their own errors, they lose the opportunity to change the very aspects of themselves that keep them stuck.

God wants us to be honest with Him. We can live as free children of His as our punishment has already been meted out on the cross. Jesus is our scapegoat. Stop blaming. Start confessing and you'll experience endless blessings of a free life!

(Next week, we shall consider the subject of blaming God).

**Pastor Song Cheng Hock**



**DO NOT FORGET TO SWITCH OFF YOUR HANDPHONES!**

## 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.

### CALLING ALL COUPLES



Pastor Neville would like to extend a special invitation to all married couples to come and enjoy a special DVD show called "**FIREPROOF**."

*"We watched this show when we were in Brunei and we were truly touched by the story. It is the story of God's miracle restoring broken marriages, breaking evil bondages of that some of us may be experiencing."* - Pastor and Anne Tan

Please do reserve this date and come and join us at church.

**Saturday, Sept 26th at 7.30p.m. Supper will be provided.**

### CONDOLENCES

**Our Sincere Condolence to bro. Steven and sister Lee Lee Goh. Steven's brother was called home early last Sunday morning. He succumbed to an attack of pneumonia.**

### MISSION Cambodia

Pastor Neville and Anne will be collecting used clothings and supplies for our mission station in Veal Sbov village, Kandal Province, Cambodia. They will be away from September 29th to October 2nd 2009.



If you wish to make a contribution or have good used clothes to donate, especially for children aged 5-16, please see sister **Soo Lin** as soon as possible. Thank you.

### VISITORS NEXT WEEK

We will have some visitors from North America next week. A team of five from **Christian Broadcasting Hope**, a Christian broadcasting ministry from Church of God Ministries in Anderson, Indiana, will be visiting us next week.

Check up their website at: <http://www.cbhviewpoint.org/>

They will be sharing their ministry at Ps. Song's Adult Sunday School class and also at our morning service. The team will be staying at the Pasir Ris P.A. flats. They will be here from Friday 11th to Tuesday 15th.

## PRAYER PAGE



1. **We praise God** for the wonderful response at our Evangelistic Outreach last Sunday. We had many guests, friends and even one walk in friend. There were also several positive responses to the altar call.

Please pray for those who accepted the Lord last week that they will commit themselves to join the discipleship class. Pray also for those who made commitments that they will continue to walk closely with the Lord.

**Pray and participate** in our next Evangelistic Outreach on November 29, 2009

2. Pray for **our speaker this morning. Rev. Dr. Eric Tan** will be speaking on the subject "**Buildings & Peacebuilding**" (**2 Cor. 5 :17**). Please pray too for ourselves that we may be responsive to the Holy Spirit's prompting as we hear the message.

3. Continue to pray for **Pastor Song**, who had been down with flu (cough & body ache) last week. Pray that God will completely heal him.

4. Pray also for the Lord's blessing of strength and good health for **Pastor Neville**. He and Auntie Anne will be travelling to J.B. to speak there this evening.

5. Please pray for the **Youths and for Brother Lam Wai Chan**. He will be meeting with the current leaders this afternoon to work out a new program for our youth. Please pray also for the possibility that he will accept the challenge to be our first youth pastor.

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

## CHURCH OF GOD

### Income and Expenditure Report

Month ending: August 2009

|             | Bldg.Fund  | Gen.Fund     | Missions | Total      |
|-------------|------------|--------------|----------|------------|
| Income      | \$5,902.99 | 13,181.49    | 3,745.37 | 22,829.85  |
| Expenditure |            | -14,324.14   | 3,186.74 | 17,510.88  |
| Income/Exp  | \$5,902.99 | \$(1,142.65) | \$558.63 | \$5,318.97 |

### Memory Verse:

**Last week's:** And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. - **2 Corinthians 5: 19b**

**This week:** No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. - **Romans 8 : 37**