



Truth and Power

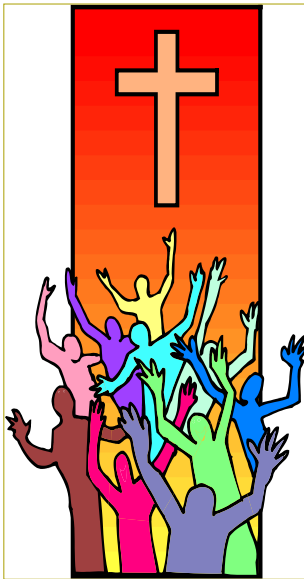
KEEPING THE FAITH

dec
2008

RAPHAH NEWS

a newsheet of Raphah Ministries Malaysia for private circulation only

vol 5. no 3



JESUS CHRIST came to give new life, and life more abundantly: a Christian cliché to the unbelieving, but the sure and steadfast word of God to those who would believe. Yet, as the days become weeks, and weeks become months, belief and confidence in this word of truth is increasingly being tested as economic, social, political, and environmental issues

of global proportions impact on the believer and his or her world. And if the reports of the pundits and the media are to be believed, this storm is not going to diminish any time soon, but instead will come in waves, one after another.

One reason for this gathering storm is because men and women in many nations are abandoning those very time-tested values and principles of morality and spirituality that have been the bedrock of decisions made at all levels of life. God-fearing—in many situations—has been replaced with a careless and casual disregard for God and His ways. In the words of a Christian writer, “where there is no fear of God, there is no respect for man.”

The only real way that Satan is able to strike and attack the people of God—to kill, steal and destroy—is when His hand is lifted from us, resulting in a space between God and us. This space increases as we distance ourselves from Him and His ways.

Christian teacher, author, and founder of Streams Ministries International, John Paul Jackson, summed this up well when he said, “Anytime there is an increased distance between God and humanity, it leaves room for attack to come and for principalities and powers of the air (rulers of darkness) to take up residence. The longer dark powers reside over an area, the more the people begin to call right wrong and wrong right.”

As the storm brews on the horizon, how are we to protect ourselves and our loved ones from further storm damage?

By keeping the Faith.

We need to return to *knowing God and His ways*—to an active, dependent relationship with Him—and not just knowing about Him intellectually. We need to guard against replacing power with programmes, revelation with administration, and the Father’s heart of love with organizational skills.

We also need to *contend for the Faith again*—returning to a love of God’s Word and the belief that it is the absolute and final authority in all matters of faith and practice.

For lack of knowledge of God’s truth and a half-hearted obedience to His commandments, many have become weak, lost their resolve, and so fall away easily when crisis is not at hand. Missing from many lives also is the witness that convicts others and demonstrates that God is a personal, caring, compassionate, healing God in a very impersonal, hedonistic, and self-seeking world.

Many in God’s Kingdom are hurting and wounded today because of wrong choices made. Walking in God’s ways brings blessings and fullness of life, while walking in the ways of the “god of this world” will bring decay, destruction, deterioration and death. Sadly, many are reaping the fruit of a history of wrong choices.

Yet despite the gloom of the gathering storm, there is good news and hope.

When the people of God return their hearts to Him, keep faith, and cry to Him, He hears and takes action! 🙏

“Then you will call upon Me and go and pray to Me, and I will listen to you. And you will seek Me and find Me, when you search for Me with all your heart.”

Jeremiah 29:12-13 NKJV

*A Very Blessed Christmas
& Happy New Year to all
our Readers & Friends!*



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Training & Equipping:

Raphah Centre Ipoh Materializes!

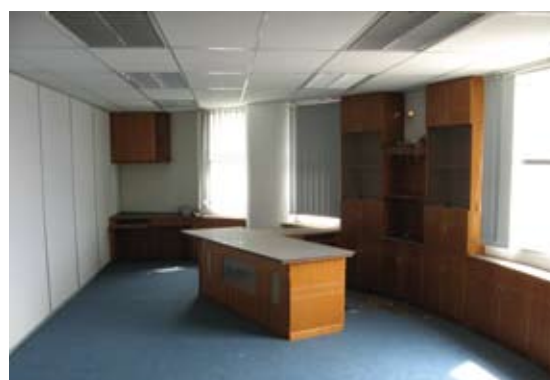
WOW! Amazing! Praise the Lord! God is just great! How quickly He has answered our prayers!

These words, and gasps of amazement, wonder and praise to God, tumbled freely and spontaneously from the mouths of the small band gathered to pray at St. Peter's Church, Ipoh on the evening of Monday, 17 November.

There, for the first time, these prayer supporters for the ministry had been told the good news that a Christian couple in Ipoh had very kindly offered—free of rental—a large, vacant, never-occupied-before office unit in a strategic location in the city to be used as Raphah Ministries' base in Ipoh!

When furnished and fitted out, the office unit on the second floor of the building would provide rooms for ministry, office, and seminar seating for 40-50 participants.

The provision of this space for a training and ministry centre in Ipoh is a confirmation and encouragement to Raphah Ministries that it is very much in the heart of God for His healing balm to be taken beyond the Klang Valley to the other parts of this nation.



Exterior and Interior Office Views of the future Raphah Centre Ipoh

We praise and thank God for the love, support and partnership of this couple in the work of touching hearts and rebuilding lives!

The next task is the furnishing and fitting out of the centre. Friends and supporters who would like to contribute toward this can earmark their gifts for this work. God-willing, the centre should be operational before the next newsletter! 🌱

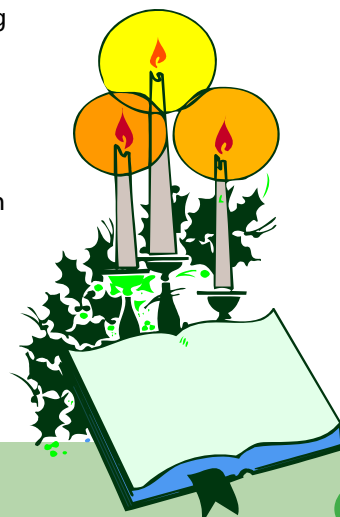
Pioneer Batch Completes Basic Equipping!

Heartiest congratulations to the pioneer batch of trainees who successfully completed the 36-hour "Touching Hearts, Rebuilding Lives" Prayer Counselling Ministry Training Course conducted in Ipoh from August through October!

Praise God for the dedication and commitment of these individuals in availing themselves to be equipped as people helpers and as ministry team members for Raphah Centre Ipoh. 🌱



First the acknowledgement of hard work put in, then the refreshments and celebration to top it off.





Partnering Churches: Stepping Out

BROAD SMILES on faces as they posed for a class picture could not hide the nervousness and apprehension in the hearts of the participants as the grave responsibility of ministering healing into broken lives began to slowly sink in.

Moments before, pastor Soon Lee of FGA Kepong—and initiator of the equipping project with Raphah Ministries—had enthusiastically commended them to God and challenged them to step out believing in Him to guide, but also believing in themselves to be able to minister healing and restoration to wholeness.

Our congratulations to all eighteen students of the class of October 2008, FGA Kepong, as they step out in faith in the service of the Kingdom! Already reports have reached Raphah Ministries of small breakthroughs and advances made in healing ministry since then. 🌱

Projector Gift

Teaching and learning at Beit Raphah will take on a fresh and more colourful dimension from now on with the gift of an LCD Projector through the generosity of two friends of the ministry. On behalf of all at Raphah Ministries: Thank You! 🌱



Learning through Practice



Ministering through Prayer



Ready to Serve! The class of October 2008, FGA Kepong

Thanksgiving Celebration

A big “Thank You” also to all our donor friends, churches, fellowships and organizations for extending their hand of fellowship and partnership, kind words and support during the past year.

A Thanksgiving Celebration will be held on Saturday, 6 December at Beit Raphah to give thanks to God for His goodness and provision, as well as to recognize, pray for and commend the new work in Ipoh. 🌱

Join Us!

Do you desire to bring good news to the poor? To heal the broken-hearted? To bring freedom to those in prison? To proclaim that the time has come for the Lord to save His people? To give joy and gladness to those who mourn? To give a song of praise instead of sorrow? So that they can become like trees that the Lord Himself has planted. So that cities can be rebuilt that have been in ruins. So that God will be praised.

Then come and join us as a volunteer at Raphah Ministries in Petaling Jaya or in Ipoh!

Opportunities abound for volunteers to serve as admin staff, ministry team members, maintenance crew, technical team and graphic designers.

To know more about the opportunities for service and ministry, kindly call or visit our training and ministry Centres in Petaling Jaya or in Ipoh.

Your ministry can make a huge difference in someone's life! 🌱



Raphah ministries' Jan-Jun 2009 calender

jan

PJ CENTRE

- 05 (Mon)** Leadership Meeting
02 (Mon) Healing Service #66
19 (Mon) Prayer Support Group*

IPOH CENTRE

- 19 (Mon)** Prayer Support Group **

feb

PJ CENTRE

- 02 (Mon)** Leadership Meeting
09 (Mon) Healing Service #67
21 (Sat) HEALING FROM ACCIDENT & TRAUMA SEMINAR
23 (Mon) Prayer Support Group

IPOH CENTRE

- 14 (Sat)** BREAKING FREE FROM OCCULT BONDAGE SEMINAR
16 (Mon) Prayer Support Group

mar

PJ CENTRE

- 02 (Mon)** Leadership Meeting
07 (Sat) UNDERSTANDING & OVERCOMING DEPRESSION SEMINAR
09 (Mon) Healing Service #68
16-21 (Mon-Sat) "UNDERSTANDING CHRISTIAN HEALING: THE ISSUES" MINISTRY TRAINING COURSE #15
26-28 (Thu-Sat) ANNUAL TEAM RETREAT #2
30 (Mon) Prayer Support Group

IPOH CENTRE

- 14 (Sat)** UNDERSTANDING & OVERCOMING REJECTION SEMINAR
16 (Mon) Prayer Support Group
26-28 (Thu-Sat) ANNUAL TEAM RETREAT #2

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PJ CENTRE

- 04 (Sat)** HEALING THE HUMAN SPIRIT SEMINAR
06 (Mon) Leadership Meeting
13 (Mon) Healing Service #69
18 (Sat) UNDERSTANDING CHRISTIAN HEALING SEMINAR (in Chinese)

PJ CENTRE

- 25 (Sat)** BREAKING FREE FROM OCCULT BONDAGE SEMINAR
27 (Mon) Prayer Support Group

IPOH CENTRE

- 18 (Sat)** HEALING FAMILIES & GENERATIONS SEMINAR
20 (Mon) Prayer Support Group

may

PJ CENTRE

- 01 (Sat)** EMBRACING YOUR IDENTITY & DESTINY SEMINAR
04 (Mon) Leadership Meeting
06-09 (Wed-Sat) PRAYER COUNSELLING MINISTRY SKILLS TRAINING COURSE #15
11 (Mon) Healing Service #70
23 (Sat) A COMPREHENSIVE APPROACH TO CANCER SEMINAR
25 (Mon) Prayer Support Group

IPOH CENTRE

- 16 (Sat)** UNDERSTANDING & OVERCOMING DEPRESSION SEMINAR
18 (Mon) Prayer Support Group

jun

PJ CENTRE

- 06 (Sat)** OVERCOMING GRIEF & LOSS SEMINAR
08 (Mon) Leadership Meeting / Healing Service #71
20 (Sat) MAKING SENSE OF YOUR EMOTIONS SEMINAR
16-21 (Mon-Sat) "UNDERSTANDING CHRISTIAN HEALING: THE ISSUES" MINISTRY TRAINING COURSE #15
27 (Sat) PJ Ministry Team Building Day #9
29 (Mon) Prayer Support Group

IPOH CENTRE

- 13 (Sat)** A COMPREHENSIVE APPROACH TO CANCER SEMINAR
15 (Mon) Prayer Support Group

* Prayer Support Meetings in PJ are held at Beit Raphah, PJ
 ** Prayer Meetings in Ipoh are held at Raphah Centre Ipoh

For the latest information of events in Ipoh or in Petaling Jaya, kindly contact Raphah Ministries Office at 03-78770035. Or you can email to raphah@streamyx.com

Please note that the Ministry Office is closed on Sundays and Mondays.

Raphah ministries' needs

Raphah Ministries is a faith ministry, trusting in God for its needs. But we welcome support from friends of the Ministry and invite you to pray along with us. The following are some of our short-term and long-term needs:

Staff: Additional full-time Ministry Staff and volunteer Associate Ministry Team Members.

Partners: Individuals who are in agreement with the Ministry and willing to be *Partners in Ministering* (prayer counsellors), *Partners in Praying* (intercessors & prayer supporters), and *Partners in Giving* (financial supporters).

Note: All payments and donations are to be made to 'Life Rebuilders (M) Sdn Bhd'. Official receipts will be issued in acknowledgement.

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