



# RaphahNews

A Quarterly Newsheet of Raphah Ministries

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## A TIME TO REBUILD!

**J**ust before the Chinese New Year in early February, the Leadership team of Raphah Ministries went away for their annual Team Retreat. It turned out to be a meaningful and fruitful time as the different members sought the Lord, ministered one to another, reaffirmed the core vision of the Ministry, and renewed their commitment to the task.

After twenty months, and numerous testimonies to the goodness and faithfulness of the Lord, the agreement and unity of vision, purpose and commitment of the Leadership meant that the work of Raphah Ministries could now shift to a higher gear, embrace a wider scope of ministry, and believe God for a greater move of His Spirit in touching hearts and rebuilding lives!

The Leadership came away from their Retreat firmly convinced that the Ministry's tagline, "Touching Hearts, Rebuilding Lives," was not an accident but a divinely inspired word that aptly summed up the central focus and heart of the Ministry.

The anticipation of exciting and challenging days ahead was prompted in part by a prophetic word and two devotional readings from Haggai the prophet.

The prophet Haggai had been raised by God to preach a single message with intense passion: *It is time to rebuild the house of the LORD!*

The children of Israel had returned from their exile in Babylon with hearts and minds set to restore the city of Jerusalem, in particular the Temple, which King Nebuchadnezzar had destroyed decades ago.

With gusto they set about re-laying the foundations of the Temple and repairing its altar; only to be met with persistent and even violent opposition from their neighbours, especially the Samaritans.



Leadership Team members at lunch during their Retreat



Participants & helpers from the 2nd Intensive Ministry Team Training Course : January 2004

In the face of this mounting opposition, the children of Israel despaired, hung up their hammers and chisels, and returned to their homes. For the next fifteen years, the people abandoned the task of restoring the Temple and its altar, and the foundations of the Temple stood standing: unfinished and an eyesore!

*"Consider how you have fared . . . Is it a time for you to dwell in your panelled houses, while this house lies in ruins?"* the voice of the prophet thundered (Haggai 1:5 RSV).

Haggai declared that Israel's sorry situation during those fifteen years – their material and spiritual poverty; their barrenness and lack of lasting fruit, despite all their best efforts – was the direct consequence of the people neglecting the Lord, and the restoration of His House. This would change if the people returned to the Lord!

God assured them that those who set their hearts to rebuild His Temple and altar would experience:

1. The blessing of His PRESENCE.

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# News and Events

The night of Saturday, 11 December 2004 was a wet, wet evening. But that did not stop a crowd of a hundred or more supporters and friends of Raphah Ministries from turning up at *Beit Raphah* to celebrate God's goodness and faithfulness, and to give thanks for yet another amazing year of ministry! Beginning with a warm word of welcome by LINDA TANG, emcee, the programme for the evening quickly unfolded as guests were treated to a sumptuous mix of buffet dinner, Christmas carols, personal testimonies and a slide presentation of highlights from the year's ministry. IRENE, a long time supporter of Raphah Ministries from out of town, testified to the Lord's powerful healing of her son. The young man had suddenly developed uncontrollable spasms in the neck following a personal crisis. Medical treatment brought some measure of physical relief but the spasms continued.

Sensing that there might be a spiritual root to the young man's condition, a ministry team member led him in a fresh affirmation of the Lordship of Jesus over every area of his life. Even as he finished the prayer, right before the eyes of the ministry team, the spasms ceased completely! Next to testify was MARTIN, a believer of less than six months, who shared how he and his family together had found faith, strength and hope in God in the midst of a family crisis.

Attending a Healing Service at *Beit Raphah* soon after his conversion, he had been deeply convicted of the need to put his spiritual house in order. As he and his family members were ministered to in prayer at *Beit Raphah*, Martin and his family experienced the reality of God's healing for spirit, soul and body, and came away much stronger in faith and desire for God.

Rounding up the time of testimony, FIONA, a regular ministry team member at *Beit Raphah* told the story of her roller-coaster journey from being a mere observer at healing events to a regular prayer counsellor for Raphah Ministries. Those present heard from her of the crucial ingredient that eventually helped her gain confidence to pray healing into people's lives and situations: biblical teaching and understanding of healing ministry on the one hand, and practical hands-on experience on the other.

To complete the evening's celebrations and thanksgiving, the Rev. VINCENT LAU, Coordinator for Training and Ministry at Raphah Ministries, walked the guests through an audio-visual presentation of some of the key highlights of ministry for the year 2004. As the evening's function drew to a close, supporters and friends of the Ministry were invited to join with the Leadership yet again to look to the Lord for a more fruitful and exciting year of ministry in 2005.



## MINISTRY RESUMES!

Ministry in the new year 2005 kicked off with a Healing Service on Monday, 10 January, and was immediately followed in the same week by a 5-day intensive Ministry Team Training Course at *Beit Raphah*. Attended by 12 participants from different congregations, and from as far away as Ipoh, it was the first time the Training Course was conducted over five consecutive days. While the consecutive nature of the

Course was good for learning purposes, participants felt that the Course could have been made personally more fruitful and enriching if they had had more time to fellowship and get to know one another outside the classroom setting. These, and similar comments from previous trainees, have prompted the Leadership to begin looking into the possibility of a week-long *Residential Training School* in the second half of the year. Booking forms for this Residential School would be made available once details of venue and costs are confirmed. ✨

## CHURCH VISITS

At the invitation of the leadership of the Prayer Ministry at Petaling Jaya Evangelical Free Church (PJEFC), Raphah Ministries conducted, in January, a one-day *Restoring Your Wholeness in Christ Seminar* for about 70 plus leaders and members from two of their congregations. Supported by members of the Leadership team, the Seminar leaders taught over four sessions into the *Woundedness of the Church; the Nature of Biblical Wholeness; Vital Ingredients for Wholeness and Health*, and *Essential Keys to Restoring Wholeness*. Raphah Ministries is grateful to God for the opportunity to partner with PJEFC in stimulating awareness of the Christian healing ministry, and its potential in helping believers break free from the snares of destructive emotions and into the fullness of their destiny in God.

Early March saw another team from Raphah Ministries leading a *Healing Through Deliverance Seminar* with the Wesley Methodist Church, Sitiawan. Invited by the leadership to equip the church's Cell Leaders and Interns with a biblical framework and practical guidelines in ministering deliverance, participants were taken through teaching on *Understanding the Spiritual Realms; Demonization, Entry Points and Demonic Control; Freedom from Generational Iniquity*, and *Releasing the Captives: Healing Through Deliverance*. Over the course of the weekend and in-between teaching sessions, members of the congregation were able to receive personal ministry as arranged by the church leadership. The team came away from the church grateful for the visit. ✨

## Equipping The Saints

### MINISTRY TEAM TRAINING: INTENSIVE COURSE - MAY 2005

*"This Course has helped and given me a handle to counsel and minister with greater confidence. ... The first hand experiences (cited) for illustration were especially helpful and powerful."*

K.S. Tan

*"It was an eye-opener for me in many ways and the lectures and the passion in which they were delivered has encouraged me to do what I can to help hurting people."*

Esther

*"This Course has provided a more in-depth knowledge and understanding of the biblical approach to dealing with life-problems in daily living and relationships. ... essential for victorious Christian living and successful reconciliation and restoration of relationships."*

W.P. Tan

The Ministry Team Training Course is a full 36-hour equipping course which brings together both biblical teaching on issues related to healing, as well as helpful, practical guidelines on how to minister into various areas of problem in human lives. The Course covers such topics as:

- *Biblical Foundations of the Healing Ministry*
- *Healing the Broken-Hearted*
- *Releasing the Captives: Deliverance*
- *Honouring Sex and Sexuality*
- *Integrative Model of Ministry*
- *Qualities and Role of a Prayer Counsellor*
- *Keys to Lasting Healing and Wholeness*
- *Making a Prayer Ministry Assessment*
- *Guidelines for Ministry, Healing and Ministry After-Care*
- *Ministering into Emotional Damage*
- *Ministering into Sexual Sin/Abuse*
- *Ministering into Abortion*
- *Ministering into Generational Iniquity*
- *Ministering into Marriage and Family*
- *Group Work: Case Files*

The fee for the whole Course is RM200 per person, and is inclusive of cost of workbook, meals and refreshments.

The next Course of training will be held over 5 full Saturdays beginning 7 May 2005 from 9.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m. each Saturday.

Those who are interested to know more about this Course, or to book their places on the Course, are kindly requested to call MICHELLE at Raphah Ministries' Office. Alternatively, you can write in to Raphah Ministries at their email address: [raphah@streamyx.com](mailto:raphah@streamyx.com). ✿

**R**estoring Your Wholeness In Christ Seminar: This one-day seminar would be held on Saturday, 26 March at *Beit Raphah* from 9.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m. Closing date for registrations is Wednesday, 23 March.

**H**ealing Through Deliverance Seminar: A one-day seminar, this would be held on Saturday, 23 April at *Beit Raphah* from 9.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m. Closing date for registrations is Wednesday, 20 April.

The fee for each Seminar is RM40.00, and includes cost of workbook, lunch and refreshments. Register with MICHELLE at Raphah Ministries' Office. ✿

## Healing Service



Every second Monday evening of the month (except in the month of December), from 8.00 p.m. to 10.00 p.m., Raphah Ministries hosts a Healing Service at its Centre, *Beit Raphah*, in SS 2/2, Petaling Jaya. This Service is open to the Christian public and all are welcome. A typical Service begins with a time of praise and worship, followed by a short exhortation from Scripture, after which an invitation is usually given for those who have come to receive prayer ministry from members of the Ministry Teams at *Beit Raphah*. Dates of the upcoming Healing Services are given in the Calendar of Events on page 4. ✿

## About Raphah Ministries



Raphah Ministries is a non-denominational Christian healing and discipleship ministry with a vision to touch wounded hearts with the Father-heart of God, and rebuild lives hurt and damaged in the course of living out our God-given destinies.

The Ministry is committed to work alongside the wider body of Christ to equip and resource the local church to carry out this task, and its mission is founded on the Scripture in Isaiah 61:1

*"The Spirit of the Lord God ... has anointed me to bring good news to the afflicted; He has sent me to bind up the broken-hearted, to proclaim liberty to captives and freedom to prisoners."*

Raphah Ministries had its beginnings in a local prayer support group and grew out of the desire of a number of alumni of the *Ellel Ministries International Schools of Evangelism, Healing and Discipleship* to establish a local ministry and training centre where believers could come and learn, receive teaching and ministry, be trained and equipped to serve the Body of Christ.

The ministry is registered in Malaysia as *Life Rebuilders (M) Sdn. Bhd.* and has its Centre in Jalan SS 2/2, Petaling Jaya. ✿

### WHO'S WHO IN RAPHAH MINISTRIES?

Raphah Ministries is served by a Leadership Team comprising the following:

- ◆ Rev. Vincent LAU  
- Training & Ministry
- ◆ Pastor JayZee LAU  
- Resource, Research & Development
- ◆ Pastor Irene LEE  
- Personal Ministry
- ◆ Dr. Florence WANG  
- Prayer Support
- ◆ Ms. Linda TANG  
- Networking & Publicity
- ◆ Ms. Kathryn TAN  
- Finance & Administration
- ◆ Ms. Mae LEE  
- Hospitality & Facilities

## A Time To Rebuild!

(Continued from page 1)

“... take courage ... work, for I am with you ... My Spirit abides among you; fear not” (Haggai 2:4, 5 RSV)

### 2. The blessing of His PROVISION.

“ ... I will shake all nations, so that the treasures of all nations shall come in, and I will fill this house with splendour, says the Lord of Hosts ... ” (Haggai 2:7 RSV)

The LORD, who is Lord over all wealth and resources on earth, will surely ensure that the work of rebuilding will never suffer any lack.

Nevertheless, this “end time transfer of wealth” alluded to in Haggai needs to be rightly understood and appreciated within the context of *rebuilding God’s Kingdom*. God’s resources are not meant to be spent in luxuriating ourselves with the pleasures of this world. Rather, His resources are to be invested in Kingdom business and devoted to the pursuit of Kingdom agendas. Indeed, God’s heart today is for the rebuilding of people and lives (1 Corinthians 3:16).

Accordingly, the Leadership at Raphah Ministries has purposed to look to God for a greater release of spiritual and material provision - finances, resources and personnel - for the work we believe God has assigned to the Ministry for 2005.

It is our hearts’ desire and prayer that as the work grows and expands, God will strengthen our vision, and provide the Ministry with bigger and more permanent facilities for residential training courses, personal ministry, etc.

Stand with us as we look to the Lord to lead this work and to provide for its various needs. If you can help to make this a reality soon we would be happy to hear from you! (See Response Slip below). ❀

## PRAYER SUPPORT GROUP

Undergirding the work of Raphah Ministries with spiritual zeal and empowerment is the *Prayer Support Group* (PSG): a gathering of friends and supporters of the Ministry who meet every last Monday of the month from 8.00 p.m. to 10.00 p.m. at *Beit Raphah*.

Prayer Support Group meetings are opportunities to praise and worship together, to hear reports and updates of the work, and to rejoice in answered prayer.

They are also times to pray together for upcoming events; for the needs of the ministry; for the Leadership and ministry staff, as well as a place for challenge, mutual encouragement, and fellowship. Raphah Ministries is able to come so far, despite having started only so very recently in July 2003, primarily because of persevering prayer. Without prayer, nothing that the Ministry sets out to do or to fulfil will be accomplished.

We invite you to be a part of this vital spiritual link for Raphah Ministries! For further details, kindly contact the Coordinator for the PSG: Dr. FLORENCE WANG, or the Ministry Office. ❀



## NECF MEMBERSHIP APPROVED

Raphah Ministries is pleased to announce that it has successfully applied to the National Evangelical Christian Fellowship (NECF) for ordinary membership with effect from 2005. Raphah Ministries will be represented at the NECF by its Chairperson, LINDA TANG and alternate Dr. FLORENCE WANG. ❀

## Calendar Of Events 2005

### JANUARY

- 3 Leadership Meeting
- 10 Healing Service #23
- 22 Church Visit: Petaling Jaya Evangelical Free Church
- 29-31 Leadership Team Retreat
- 31 Prayer Support Meeting

### FEBRUARY

- 14 Healing Service #24
- 26 HONOURING SEX AND SEXUALITY SEMINAR
- 28 Prayer Support Meeting

### MARCH

- 4-6 Church Visit: Sitiawan Wesley Methodist Church
- 7 Leadership Meeting
- 14 Healing Service #25
- 19 Prayer Counsellors Training Day
- 26 RESTORING YOUR WHOLENESS IN CHRIST SEMINAR
- 28 Prayer Support Meeting

### APRIL

- 3 Ministry Team Training: DUMC, Petaling Jaya
- 4 Leadership Meeting
- 10 Ministry Team Training: DUMC Petaling Jaya
- 11 Healing Service #26
- 17 Ministry Team Training: DUMC, Petaling Jaya
- 23 HEALING THROUGH DELIVERANCE SEMINAR
- 24 Ministry Team Training: DUMC, Petaling Jaya
- 25 Prayer Support Meeting
- 30 Apr - 2 May Leaders’ Retreat: Canning Garden Baptist Church, Ipoh

*These dates and events are correct at time of printing, but are subject to change as situations and subsequent developments warrant. ❀*

- ◆ Do you wish to be kept informed of events and happenings at Raphah Ministries?
- ◆ Do you wish to make a gift towards its work and ministry?
- ◆ Do you wish to pray regularly for Raphah Ministries?

If your answer is YES! then kindly complete this Response Slip and return it to:

Life Rebuilders (M) Sdn. Bhd.  
35 Jalan SS 2/2, 47300 Petaling Jaya  
Selangor Darul Ehsan, MALAYSIA

### CONTACT DETAILS

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\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Tel: (H) \_\_\_\_\_ (O) \_\_\_\_\_

(F) \_\_\_\_\_ (H/P) \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Church: \_\_\_\_\_

### RESPONSE

Please put me on your Mailing List

I wish to give MONTHLY, a sum of RM \_\_\_\_\_ beginning with the month of \_\_\_\_\_ 2005

Enclosed is a gift of RM \_\_\_\_\_ as a one-time gift to the Ministry.

Enclosed is a gift of RM \_\_\_\_\_ as a gift to the Raphah Centre Fund