

Weekly Prayer Letter

Week of 23 August 2020

A Devoted Servant Of God

Luke 1: 26 – 38

This passage begins with Gabriel the messenger of God appearing before Mary with the message that she would conceive a child through the power of the Holy Spirit and she would name Him Jesus, the promised Messiah of Israel. Mary was chosen because she had found favour in the sight of God to have a role in His salvation plan for mankind. Mary could not understand how it would come to pass but she understood that the outcome would bring anguish to her. Being pregnant with a child before a marriage, Mary would be accused of fornication, suffer the shame of being labelled as a promiscuous woman, having her betrothal nullified and even being ostracized by her family.

However, Mary was willing to face the consequences; she was more concerned about how she could fulfil the role of a mother to the Son of the Most High and how through her submission, the name of God be glorified. Mary was truly a servant of God and because of what she did, a Saviour was born. Mary was recognized as the most blessed woman of women – to be called the mother of Jesus Christ.

A servant of God must count the cost; must be fully devoted to God; must be faithful to the task given in order to bring glory to God. And the reward will be the affirmation of the Lord - “Well done, good and faithful servant. Enter into the joy of your master.” Let us emulate the example of Mary to be a devoted servant of God.

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(Parish Leader, Mandarin Ministry, Prayer, Hospitality)

Prayer Pointers

1. Pray for our Faith Pastors, Parish Leaders, Small Group Leaders, and Ministry Leaders to grow in their faith and to exercise their spiritual giftings for works of service in the building of the church and kingdom of God.
2. The Methodist Church of Singapore will convene the 12th General Conference from 7–11 Sep 2020 and 2–4 Dec 2020 at MCS Headquarters. Pray for the election of a new Bishop and office bearers.
3. The new cabinet of Singapore has been assembled and it is time to serve the people and lead Singapore into the next phase of nationhood during this critical time. Ask God to bless our Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong, his new Cabinet, and the entire Parliament with divine counsel, wisdom, and courage for all decision-making and policy considerations. Pray that they will continue to lead and govern our nation in righteousness, justice and integrity.
4. Israel is under threat from all the neighbouring nations; wars could be easily flared up and peace has been a forgotten entity. She is also undergoing the 2nd wave of the Covid-19 infection and the economy is greatly affected. Pray for God’s peace, provision and protection over Israel.
5. Pray for God’s mercy on the world as calamities struck various parts of the world with greater ferocity:
 - Climate changes raising world temperatures melting the polar ice caps. Pray for governments to co-operate to counter this threat.
 - Floods hitting countries like South Korea, China, India and Bangladesh. Storms destruction in the Americas and the Pacific. Pray for the victims that help comes speedily to alleviate their suffering. Pray for authorities to respond fast to the needs.

- A massive explosion in the port city of Beirut that killed at least 200; injured more than 5,000; displaced 300,000 and brought a great tragedy to the livelihood of the people. Pray for the rebuilding of lives and the city.
- Covid-19 devastation to human lives and the global economy. Pray for God's mercy and deliverance. Pray for safe vaccine development; provision for the poor and needy, least and the last.

We Are Here For You!

- Perhaps you are going through a challenging time, and you need someone to pray with you, our pastoral team is here and ready to journey with you.
- Even though we may not be able to be with you in person, we can still reach you via telephone and other means.
- You may submit any Prayer Requests online via our church website at <https://www.faithmc.sg/care-help/prayer-requests/>.