

ST PAUL'S CHURCH

*And he said, "The kingdom
of God is as if a man should
scatter seed on the ground.
He sleeps and rises night
and day, and the seed
sprouts and grows; he
knows not how.*

Mark 4:26-27

12 & 13 June 2021

Trinity Two

Lord God our Father, through our Saviour Jesus Christ you have assured mankind of eternal life and in baptism have made us one with him. Deliver us from the death of sin and raise us to new life in your love, in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, by the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

Contemporary Service

Saturday, 5pm, via Zoom

Scripture Reading

Hebrews 13:15-16

Sermon Topic

Priority of Praise

by Pastor Leroy Mortimer

Sunday Service

8.45am, Main Sanctuary

Scripture Readings

First Reading: Ezekiel 17:22-24

Gospel Reading: Mark 4:26-34

Sermon Topic

Root of Restoration

by Pastor Leon Stewart



Amid Seasons, A Deep Rooted Life

Article by Winn Collier,
www.intouch.org

It was our first October in Colorado when my wife Miska and I drove up from Denver into the Rockies to feast on autumn's colors. Summer had given way, and winter would soon be upon us. The lines of tall white aspens stood at attention, like a disciplined battalion prepared for a change of guard. Aspen-white never looks so vivid as when the trees erupt in fire and gold. We reveled in the crisp air, the rugged ridgelines, the wild beauty.

These changes of season are beautiful, though common and routine, having switched like clockwork every three months for a very long time. But when winter yields to spring, when a cooling summer whispers fall's arrival, nature tells us a story of the God who is always creating, constantly remaking, forever crafting new beginnings. No matter how bitter the winter death, new life always waits around the corner. It's only a matter of time.

We had moved to Denver so my wife could pursue graduate school—an intense, two-year program preparing her for work in the art of counseling and spiritual direction. Before we loaded up the moving truck in Florida, we didn't have many essential details in place—like where we would work or how we would eat—but we knew this was a journey we needed to take. The move to Denver wasn't about a change in geography but a change of the soul.

Those two years were beautiful and painful. Miska's coursework led her to cry many tears, good ones. Wounds that had never properly mended reopened, and old lies bared their fangs. But my wife allowed good friends and the power of truth to push past her walls to her places of hiding. Miska opened her heart wide. She let grace deeply pierce her.

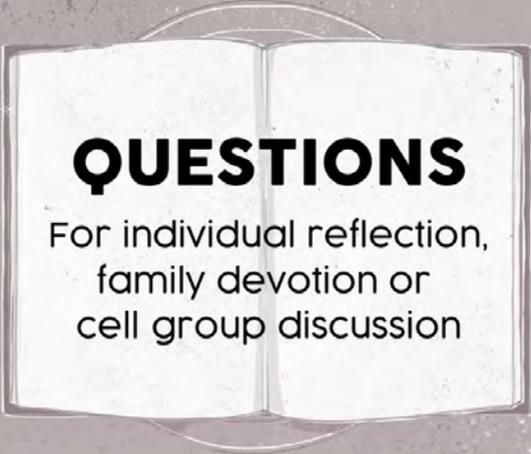
Sometime during those days, I remember telling her how I felt I was seeing her blossom, as if she were coming to life. I was madly in love with the Miska I married, but the Miska she was becoming—this was a woman intriguing and compelling in wholly new ways.

From Scripture's first pages until the final word, we find God creating and redeeming. Genesis gets right to it, showing God coaxing newness and life out of death and chaos. When Jesus arrives on the scene, He brings redemption, not ruin. Revelation offers a picture of God's good end, and here we find everything new, a full restoration. No more scarcity or lack. No more sorrow.

Yet, we often miss God's activity because we are looking in the wrong

place. We assume God to be most concerned with exactly what we are most concerned with—the relationship we want fixed or the career we're clamoring to get on track or the life-vision we demand. A new January comes and resolutions take shape, but by April, little has changed ... and we believe God has done nothing. However, God is up to something far more dangerous, far more radical than what we envision. G. K. Chesterton reminds us how "[t]he object of a New Year is not that we should have a new year. It is that we should have a new soul." God is making us into a deep-rooted tree. God is busy bringing our heart to life. It's crazy how easily we miss it. Which makes me thankful for the one time I didn't, when I witnessed that miracle. I saw my wife come to life.

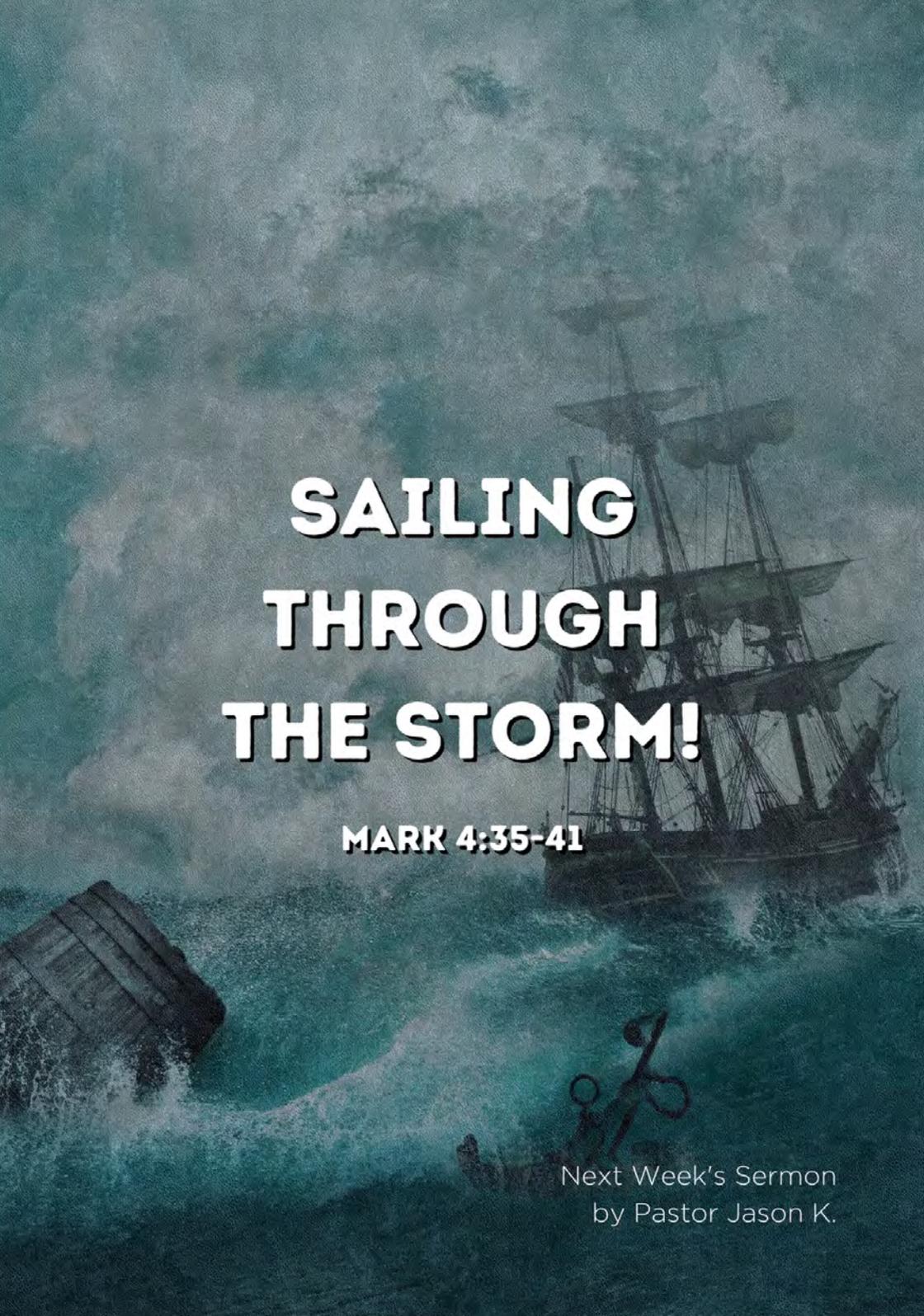
A couple of years ago, a friend painted Miska a picture. It is a tree, fiery golden, sturdy and alive. It isn't an aspen, but it tells the same story as those autumn-drenched ones. I don't know if our friend knew this, but for Miska, a tree symbolizes the work God is doing in her, of bringing beauty and life into her world, of planting her in firm soil and calling her to blossom. The picture hangs in our living room, and it is a reminder that God is always creating, forever crafting new beginnings. Every season. Every year.



QUESTIONS

For individual reflection,
family devotion or
cell group discussion

1. Reflecting on your own life, what may have taken root in your life that has been challenging and how has the Lord helped you to overcome it and bring about restoration?
2. In your process of overcoming it, what was the defining moment that helped you overcome it? Do discuss and share with your cell members or family.
3. What lessons can you share with your cell and family members to help them bring about restoration from issues that have been hard for them to break free from?



SAILING THROUGH THE STORM!

MARK 4:35-41

Next Week's Sermon
by Pastor Jason K.



MORNING OFFICE

in the Month of June

Be shaped, edified and cleansed by developing a daily pattern and rhythm of life through the Psalms, Prayers and the Word of God.

Time: Mon to Fri, 7.30am to 7.50am

Zoom: tinyurl.com/dailyofficezoom

YouTube: tinyurl.com/dailyofficeYT

More info at

<https://cathedral.org.sg/morning>



Hello PRIMARY ONE

2021 PRIMARY ONE REGISTRATION EXERCISE FOR ADMISSION TO PRIMARY ONE IN 2022 (PHASE 2B)

PHASE 2B : For children born between 2 January 2015 and 1 January 2016 (both dates inclusive) and who are Singapore Citizens or Singapore Permanent Residents whose parents are Anglican Church Members. Foreign students are not eligible for Phase 2B.

Registration is now open. Parents who are interested to register their children, please see the details and the endorsement form at www.stpaulschurch.org.sg.

The completed form for Vicar's endorsement should be emailed to Joanna at joanna@stpaulschurch.org.sg as soon as possible.

Online Registration on MOE's website will be via the online FormSG using SingPass from 9am on Monday, 26 July 2021 to 4.30pm on Tuesday, 27 July 2021

Kindly contact Joanna at 81610926 if you have any enquiries.

Fightings Within, and Fears Without

Learning with
Rev Dr Tan Siang Yang
and other practitioners
via Zoom

How to better
help families and
those struggling
with anxiety,
depression,
addictions, and
those ageing

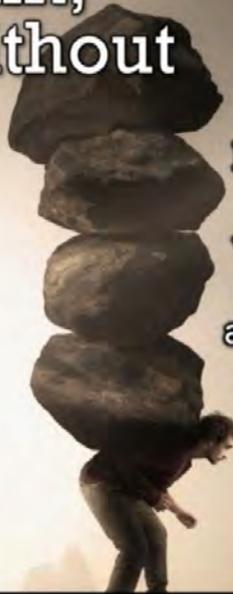
Jul 1-10, 2021

Organised by



There is hope.

Eagles Mediation & Counselling Centre Ltd



Click the link for more details and to sign up
for this Zoom workshop series: <https://bit.ly/3wiPOXw>



About our speaker

Previously a native of Singapore, **Siang Yang** is now Senior Professor of Clinical Psychology at Fuller Theological Seminary in California and Senior Pastor of First Evangelical Church Glendale. He is a licensed psychologist and Fellow of the American Psychological Association. He has published numerous articles and books, including major texts such as *Counseling and Psychotherapy: A Christian Perspective*. He is Associate Editor of the *Journal of Psychology and Christianity* and serves or has served on the editorial boards of the *Journal of Consulting and Clinical Psychology*, *Professional Psychology: Research and Practice*, *Journal of Psychology and Theology*, *Christian Psychology: A Transdisciplinary Journal*, and *Journal of Spiritual Formation & Soul Care*.

A grayscale photograph of a person with long, wavy hair, seen from behind. Two hands are placed on their shoulders, one on the left and one on the right, suggesting a comforting or supportive gesture. The background is softly blurred, showing other people in a group setting.

Pastoral Care

For those who require prayer or pastoral care, do drop us an email at contact@stpaulschurch.org.sg or contact the respective pastoral staff directly.

Rev Jeremy: 9477 5476

Pastor Leon: 9199 3815

Pastor Leroy: 9710 2900

ST PAUL'S CHURCH

ONLINE GIVING



INTERNET BANKING

St Paul's Church

DBS Current Account No. : 023-000684-7



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USING BANK APP

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Please indicate "S2 or CS" under Reference No. The code "S2" refers to the Sunday English Service and the code "CS" refers to the Contemporary Service. Other information like specific giving (e.g. mission, building, etc.) as needed. Names are optional.



GIVE BY CHEQUE

Made payable to "St Paul's Church" and mailed to our Church address - 843 Upper Serangoon Road Singapore 534683. Kindly indicate CS or S2 at the back of the cheque.