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## The Turning Point Newsletter – March 2014

***"If anyone serves me, he must follow me. And where I am, there my servant will be also. If anyone serves me, the Father will honor him."***

***-John 12:26 (ESV)***

In the Broadway of life, we constantly undergo a process of change and adaptation to its intermittent exigencies and emergencies. In my case, I did not want to merely drift along but be acutely aware of an intentional journey with God. I believe we can do so by tenaciously holding on to His promises, consciously listening to His promptings and constantly checking our bearing as we navigate through our journey.

To live intentionally is to be acutely aware of our responsibilities and pro-actively developing our inner life. I desire to live this fully intentional life! I was looking for a new way of serving the community following my graduation from Singapore Bible College in May last year with a Master of Arts in Counselling.

In His choice of Labourers, Scripture tells us that the Lord has an appropriate word for each person He comes across...

To the one who had never followed Him, He issued a calling...Come, follow Me! Mt 4:19. To the one who volunteered, He spoke of counting the cost...Cost of discipleship! Lk 14:28. To the one who was hesitant to follow, He spoke of letting the dead bury the dead...Let go & let God! Mt8:22. To the one who wanted to follow Him, He spoke of bearing the cross ...Give up self-will and embrace God's will, no matter the cost ! Mt 16:24.

Whether a person comes to the Lord with a seeking heart or a try-it-out attitude, the Lord knows what is in his heart. Following Him arise above all other allegiances in a fully intentional life. "Search me Oh God & know my heart today!"

I am now the latest addition to the team of God's labourers at The Turning Point wherein, we take on an eternal perspective of God's greater things to come through our intentional working out of the sum of our individual parts... "I planted, Apollos watered but God gave the growth" 1Cor 3:6.

Let us step into our designated places at The Turning Point where HE is and live an intentional life. " And whoever does not take his cross and follow me is not worthy of me." Mt 10:38. The call to endurance for the Saints who heed God's call, keeping God's commandments and their faith in Jesus, are blessed at death with rest from their labours.Rev 14:12-13.

Whether we heed His calling, volunteering, hesitating or following, He, in His mercy and grace, meets us and shapes us according to His will. One of our ex-residents has here her testimony to share about **the miraculous power of our Lord Jesus in her life.**

*Good morning everyone, my name is Paige. I was born in a broken family without mother's love and I lived in a Buddhist oriented family when I was very young. At the age of 12, I dropped out from school and began to mix with the wrong company, thus picking up the habit of smoking, drug and other bad habits. Thereafter, my life turned from bad to worse as this vicious cycle of unhealthy lifestyle became a chain of bondage. My late father tried to dissuade me from my addictions but I was too stubborn to heed his advice and chose to go on the path of no return.*

*In 1997, I was sent to the Toa Payoh Girls' Home for committing my first drug offence. It was the first time I came to know and accepted Jesus through one of my counsellors. But due to my wavering faith in God, I totally forgot about Him in no time after my release. Based on my own wisdom, I thought my life could change for the better once I settled down with my late husband, but nothing changes except for more struggles in my marriage, drug addiction, and finances. Without seeking the daily guidance from God, I went back to my old ways and ended up in Changi Women Prison in 2004. I was utterly disappointed with life and blamed everything that I could. Never did I ever reflect on my past deeds, until I began to read the Bible and allowed the Word to renew my mind and take root in my heart.*

*In 2008, the turning point of my life came when my dad passed away. I felt so lost and lonely that I began to turn to drugs again. This time, I was given a tight slap by the LTI sentence as a wakening call. During remand, a verse kept coming to my mind in John 14:27, "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you, I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid." In my heart-brokenness, helplessness and hopelessness, I felt the perfect peace of God embracing me, holding me in His loving arms and urging me to take the step of faith in returning to Him again.*

*Indeed God is faithful even when I am faithless. It was a blessing in disguise as I allowed God to lead me to The Turning Point Halfway House. I am so blessed to know my personal mentors and all the sisters who have been giving me much support and encouragement. Of course, my life is still very challenging today, but as I gave myself to Him and He started moving people, places, and things from my life. I'm still at work in a progress mode..but glad that God has moved me away from my unhealthy lifestyle like clubbing, drugs, smoking, and vulgarity . My hope for the future is to share what Jesus has done for me through my life, sharing my story and telling others about Christ..*

*Please continue to support the ministry by ordering our cookies, handmade by the residents. We are also praying for more volunteers to come and befriend the residents. Please email to us at [turningp@singnet.com.sg](mailto:turningp@singnet.com.sg) or call us at 62578364. Thank you.*

Together in His Service,

**Coreen Chong**

Case Manager, The Turning Point

**A note to our donors:** *All donors are required to provide their full names and tax reference numbers(NRIC/FIN/UEN) to The Turning Point in order to be given tax deduction for their donations. IRAS will no longer accept claims for tax deduction based on donation receipts we sent you. Our staff will submit information on your donations to IRAS through a special portal they have created for this purpose so please let us have your full name and the tax reference numbers for our submission.*

**Current Staff Workers:**

Case Manager : Coreen Chong Ann Foong, Amazing Grace Presbyterian Church

Administrator : Violet Lim Siew Kiak, Trinity Christian Centre

Social Worker : Khew Swee Ling, Glory Presbyterian Church

Operations & Admin Executive : Sharon Law Lay Choo

Programme & Aftercare Executive: Tay Lee Leng, Full Gospel Church

Night Duty Staff : Emily Chua Bee Choon, Evangel Family Church

Night Duty Staff : Wong Youk Kheng, Faith Community Baptist Church

Staff Support: Wong Kim Huay