



fountain

winnipeg chinese christian fellowship



volume 7

THE FOUNTAIN is published once every six weeks. It publishes articles both expository and evangelistic in nature, testimonies, and news of Christian groups. The magazine is supported by free-will offering from Christian friends who have the burden to see the Word of God reach as many as possible. We depend on the all sufficient grace and providence of the Lord to meet our every need.

OUR AIM is to unite all Christian brothers and sisters who have the same burden to preach the Gospel unto all nations. We preach none other than Jesus Christ and Him crucified.

WHAT WE BELIEVE: The Bible is the basis of our faith. We believe that the whole Bible, every chapter, every verse as originally given is inspired by God.

"You (Jesus) are the Christ, the Son of the living God." (Matthew 16:16)

"Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners." (I Timothy 1:15)

"And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved." (Acts 4:12)

"For by grace you have been saved through faith; and this is not your own doing, it is the gift of God - not because of works, lest any man should boast." (Ephesians 2: 8,9)

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"Not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit, says the Lord of host."
(Zecharias 4:6)

"When He saw the crowds, He had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then He said to his disciples, 'The harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few; pray therefore the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers into His harvest.' "
(Matthew 9:36-38)

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Fountain

The moment a man is out of
Communion with God,
Even the professed child of God,
He wants to hide away from Him.

- D.L. Moody -

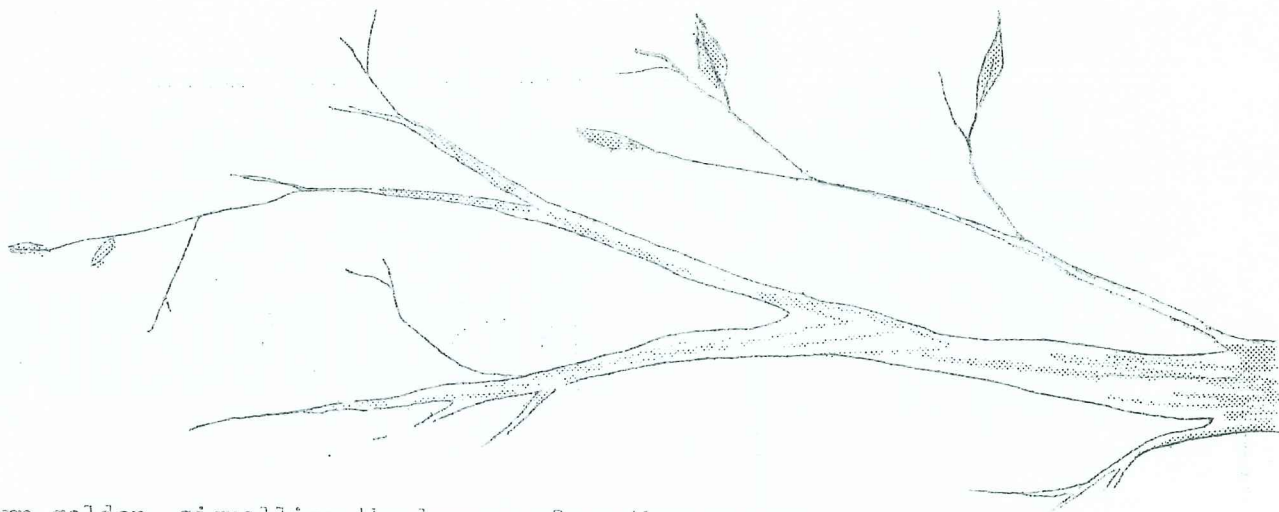
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INFORMATION : WINTER CONFERENCE



Leaves turn golden, signalling the bygone of another summer.
Falling leaves, rustling branches, churned up by the September gust.
The chill, a premonition of the not-too-distant winter,
Intimidates a stranger to this new soil.

It is still early to hail the coming of the October General.*
Halloween is one month away yet.
One month is a duration long enough to capture
The golden fields before the envelopment of the snow.



Spring grass, summer sun, autumn leaves, winter snow are the invariable parts
Of the life of any Winnipegger. It means times to stay out,
Times to stay in. Except those that have reached the seniority
Of their age, not many would care
About the vicissitude of seasons. There is no apathy - only that
People accept life as it is.



Aliens of the land may have a different feeling. In front of him,
Is a new place. A place that has caught his fancy before his arrival.
He could be thrilled with the new environment he is encountering.
There might be a new joy, an ecstatic feeling, hardly be said
In words. Yet, at the very same moment, the unfamiliar scenery always
Intrigues him into many nostalgic moments of the home
Thousands of miles away.

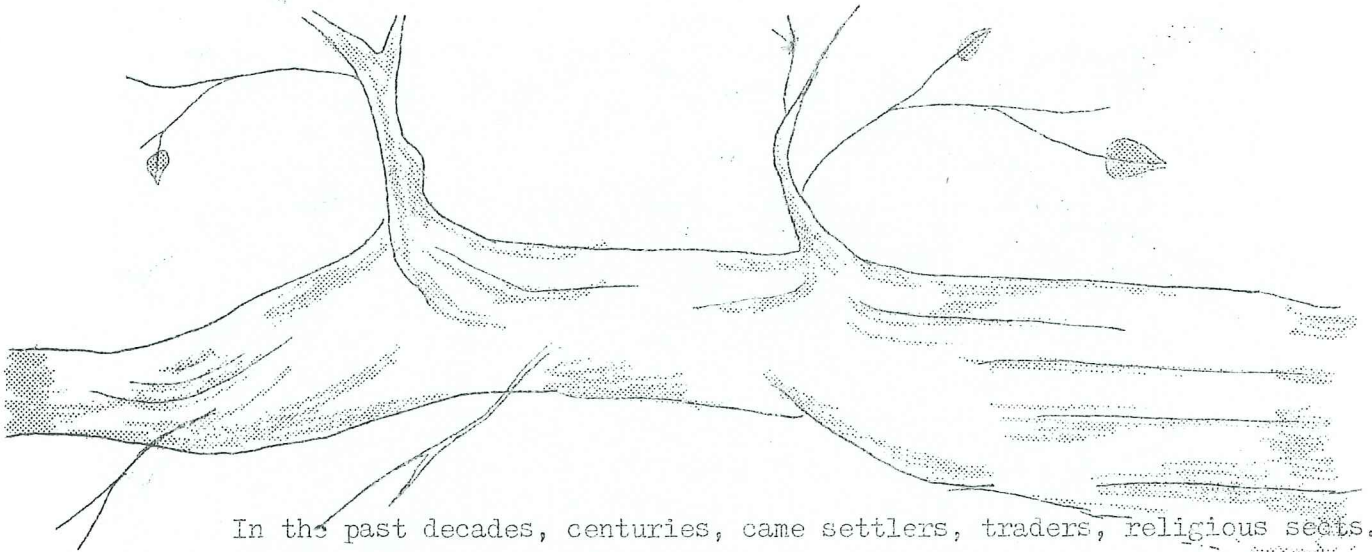


Many men have chosen to be adventurous, to pursue an enterprise
In a strange land. The adventurous spirit, that inalienable part of men,
Has turned many pioneers Fathers of this land. For her rich promise
Of liberty and opportunity, people of various nationalities
Have flocked to the place for protégé, for livelihood.



TIME TO

*winter -- a metaphor borrowed from the Russians referring
to their winter which defeated Napoleon.



In the past decades, centuries, came settlers, traders, religious sects.

At the present days, come even a greater variety of peoples.

Among them are students for academic pursuits.

Students from many lands.

Some from the Old World, and some from the Orient.

In their midst, there is a large proportion from that

Land of the 'teeming millions' - China.

In spite of the diversity of their background, there is

One common aspiration - to search for something good.

Or, at least, to be striving for a certain goal at a certain end.

A good life, maybe? A bright future, possibly?

Or some ultimate truth in the intellectual realm?

Man should lead a goal-directed life and design his future.

A search for good is what he is entitled to.

Should one have a higher objective? It would be trifling to strive

For that which lasts only for a life span.

Statesmen in campaigns have customarily bestowed many empty promises

For their citizens. Howbeit those promises be materialised,

It would be of value to one as long as one inhabits

That part of the earth.

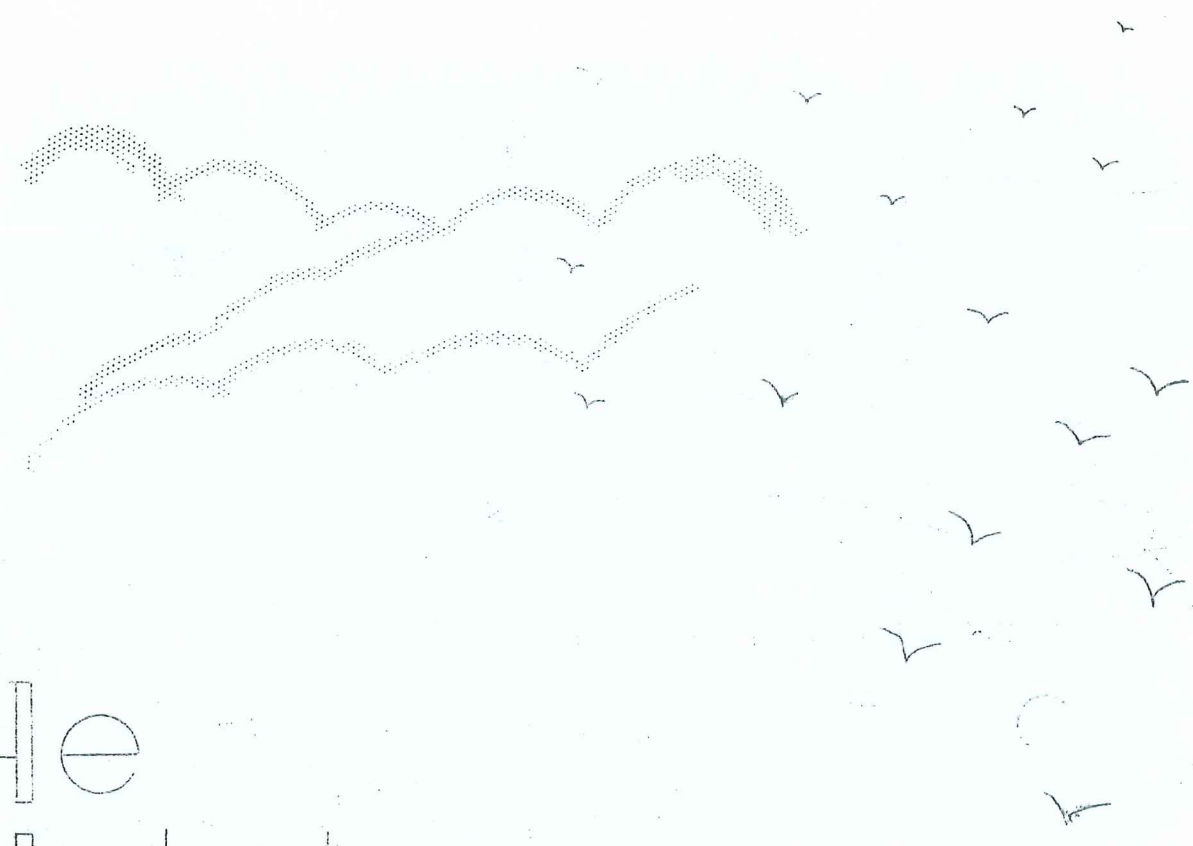
Beyond this earthly realm, would there be

A bright promising eternity?

It is time for one to ponder.

PONDER

- Josh -



He Holds Tomorrow

- Simon Lee -

"I'm not what I used to be;
I'm not what I hoped to be;
But, by the grace of God,
I'm what I am."

All around ---- from left to right, from front to back, from top to bottom, every corner and every space, there are chemicals, apparatus or instruments. On the top right-hand corner is the "Deionised Double-distilled water". Right below that is a big fridge which contains, sad

to say, not some juicy watermelon or thirst-quenching Coke, but chemicals, more chemicals and yet more chemicals. Beside the fridge sits the huge centrifuge. On the other end of the room there is a door with a big sign --- "Warning-Radioactive". Then there are spectrophotometers,

pH meters, ultra-sensitive balances and the.... Moreover, there is a continuous production of a unique musical percussion that gives the finishing touch to the whole atmosphere. The humming sound from the air-conditioner and fridge provides the bass. The test-tubes rolling back and forth in the water bath provides the rhythm. In short, it is a jungle that I have found myself in -- a different kind of jungle which is created by man for the advancement of medical science. Some have a fancy to give it another name; one that sounds better and more impressive -- a biochemistry research laboratory.

It is a jungle -- a jungle full of adventures. And here I find the thrills unique to this new world. As I enter this phase of my life, I can look back with thanksgiving and look forward with hope and assurance.

As I look back to the "I" of the High School years, I can remember myself as a young man who was up and coming (at least I thought I was). -- one who appeared successful academically, good in sports, active in extra-curricular activities and moreover, energetic in Church and fellowship groups. Indeed I thought I was a pretty good guy. I can still remember how I loved to be reminded of some of the honors I thought I rightly deserved -- the "Best Boy Prize" at school, the public speaking trophies, the certificates I won on the tracks, the privileges of being elected or appointed to this and that. In fact I was conceited enough to think that I was quite close to being an "all-rounder". I was all round all right -- my head became too round and big for my hat!

In those days, God to me was a

refuge in times of trouble. Most other times, He is pushed to the back of my life. Though I had made a public confession of my faith, I did not really allow Him to rule from the throne of my life. I was the master designer; He was the "insurance man". Worst of all, I had a spiritual pride -- I thought I was a fairly good Christian.

Ever since my High School days, to enter Medicine has been my aim. But God cannot give anything to a child who does not submit to His guidance. I have to learn this lesson -- and learn it the long hard way.

In 1969, I came to Canada. I came with my pride and self-confidence. But I could not remain that way for long. God placed me in the company of a group of dedicated Christian students. They had many talents and achievements to be proud of, but they were meek and humble before God and men. They felt unworthy and gave God the credit for all that they had accomplished. Indeed, God also blessed them. I began to realize that I did not even have something to boast about -- let alone trying to be humble because of something I had. I began to realize that I even fell short of my own standards -- let alone God's. For the first time I saw myself as I really was.

There is a passage, John chap. 21 verses 15-17, that comes back to me quite often and which I dread reading. It is the dialogue of Jesus with Simon Peter where Jesus challenges his love with the soul-searching question (repeated in three different ways): "Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me?" Many times, this question seems to be

"Simon, son of Lee, lovest thou me?"

I wanted to go into Medicine. I wanted many things. It almost seemed that I thought they were my rights. But God had to show me the meaning of that verse which I knew so well, "Seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things shall be yours as well". (Matthew 6:33)

Indeed, as the Psalmist said, "What is man that Thou art mindful of him?" (Ps. 8:4a) God had been mindful and cared for man. He had sent His Son to die in our place so that we can have eternal life. Can man ask for more? His blessings and gifts are not my rights, but my privileges and His grace. The words of Paul ring true in my ears -- "... who are you, a man, to answer back to God? Will the molded say to its molder, 'Why have you made me thus?' Has the Potter no right over the clay?" (Romans 9:20-21)

But God knows what is the best for me. As Jesus said, even evil people know how to give good gifts to their children, how much more will your Father in heaven give good things to those who ask Him! (cf. Matthew 7:11)

As I enter this new stage of my life, I can only thank God for what He has let me learn throughout these few years. I cannot claim to know fully what His will for my life is. But I can thank Him for what He has taught me. And I know and try to do what He requires of me -- to yield myself to His divine guidance. I cannot boast of the fact that my life is completely controlled by the Holy Spirit as there are still times when I fail my God. But

I have experienced the joy, the rest and the peace I get when I cease from struggle and strife and yield to Him. I have begun to learn in a personal way what Paul could rightly claim to have fully learned: "... in whatever state I am, therein to be content." (Ph. 4:11) Indeed, I have never dreamt of studying Biochemistry, but I know that in everything God works for good to those who love Him. (cf. Rm. 8:28)

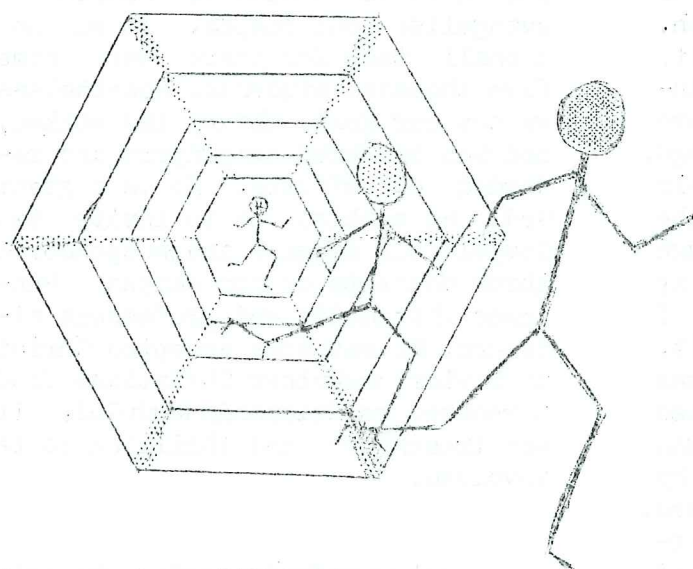
There is a hymn which I love very much. It goes like this:

"I don't know about tomorrow,
I just live from day to day,
I don't borrow from its sunshine,
For its skies may turn to grey.
I don't worry o'er the future,
For I know what Jesus said,
And today I'll walk beside Him,
For He knows what is ahead.

Chorus

Many things about tomorrow,
I don't seem to understand;
But I know who holds tomorrow,
And I know who holds my hand."

All of us can experience the joy of a purposeful, God-guided life, if only we invite Jesus to be the pilot of our lives. There is nothing better than letting God pilot your future, and you are sure where you are going. These two verses from James may give you food for thought. "Come now, you who say, 'Today or tomorrow we will go into such and such a town and spend a year there and trade and get gain'; whereas you do not know about tomorrow. What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes. Instead you ought to say, 'If the Lord wills, we shall live and we shall do this or that.'"



COME OUT HONESTLY

- R. - Williams -

This testimony is originally given on Sept. 9th at the Chinese Christian Fellowship in Winnipeg.

I do not have an exciting, dramatic, or spectacular story to tell. Nevertheless, it is vitally important to me, for it is "my story". The story of how God has dealt and is dealing with me personally. It is wonderful that God deals with each of us differently. He leads us in different directions and teaches us different things.

I was privileged to be born into a Christian home, where God is honored, the Bible read, and church regularly attended. At an early age I realized that the Gospel I was so familiar with, applied to me personally -- that I was a sinner in need of a Savior. With a child's faith I asked Jesus Christ to come into my life. My understanding was indeed limited, but praise God, it is faith and faith alone that saves us.

As I grew older, my understanding of this new relationship with God increased. However, when I entered my teens, like so many Christian young people, I entertained a spirit of rebellion. Though I maintained a close contact with the

Church and her activities, my life was scarcely distinguishable as being that of a Christian once I was away from Christian circles. I suppose I was an excellent example of a "Sunday Christian", a rather common malady in our churches today. My life was filled with school and community activities and, all too frequently, Christ had to take the second place. However God is patient and loving. Though I often forgot Him, He was forever interested in me, and wanted me to come back and give the deeper commitment I owed Him. Strange to say, we are constantly reluctant to give Him the rightful place in our lives.

In the fall of 1966, I registered at the University of Winnipeg and began the first of my four exciting and life changing years there. I was successful academically. I expanded my horizons socially. Most important, I grew and developed spiritually.

Christian young people as they enter this new "intellectual arena" -- university -- usually find that

their faith being challenged. Consequently they display a variety of responses. Some reject their faith, a large proportion simply hide it. Others make an effort to intellectualize it, trying to make it more comfortable with their surroundings. Thanks be unto God, some find their faith being strengthened by the tests they have gone through. Though I have never overtly given up my faith in Christ at university, I did hide it and intellectualize it. Yet the Lord enabled me to overcome the difficulties which generated these responses, and my faith began to grow and become stronger. My desire to live for Christ increased. During my fourth year at the University of Winnipeg, my faith reached an exhilarating, exciting level. It all began as a small group of Christian students and professors started meetings on a regular basis for praying, sharing and learning together. It is a thrilling experience to share our problems, and have other Christians to pray specifically for our needs. As we prayed for one another, shared a victory, or praised our wonderful Lord together, a real sense of unity was developed among us. To our surprise, our aims, our hopes, our problems and our struggles were very similar. Christian life for us became an exciting, day to day adventure as we saw God working through our lives.

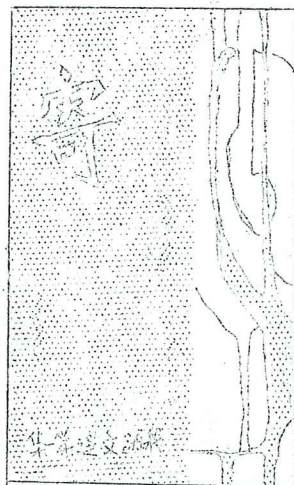
It is tragic that so many Christians today find it difficult, if not impossible, to share and pray honestly with one another. We need one another. We need to work and pray and share together. I know from experience what a tremendous effect this type of fellowship can have, in terms of spiritual growth and outreach. Surely, it is something we desperately need. May we all be encouraged to seek out those with whom we can share, and together seek to serve the Lord.

Through our meetings together God gave us a sincere desire to evangelize our campus. It was not a small task for there were some five thousand students. Nonetheless we set our goal, prayed and worked, and God answered our prayers and rewarded our efforts. He is a great God! He enabled us to invite two Gospel folk singers and we sponsored three concerts on our campus. Hundreds of students and professors attended. We saw some accepted Christ as Savior, and other Christians find a renewed relationship with God. It was tremendous and thrilling to be involved.

Rather unfortunately, the following year was somewhat anti-climatic. I graduated with a B.A. (Honors, History) and entered the Faculty of Education at the University of Manitoba. To my disappointment, the exciting spiritual action I had witnessed the year before was lacking there, and the close fellowship was not to be found. But God had changed me.

My spiritual perspective is different now. I sense the need of sharing what I had experienced at the University of Winnipeg with other Christians. So much had happened because one small group had honestly shared, prayed, and worked together. Surely that was not a unique case. The blessing can be obtained by the others as well. Indeed, it would be a spiritual revolution for us to witness, if only Christian men and women would drop their spiritual facade and come out honestly before others and before God.

I trust and pray that whoever had heard my testimony and are reading it now will realize the challenge, that we may all be able to serve our Lord better.



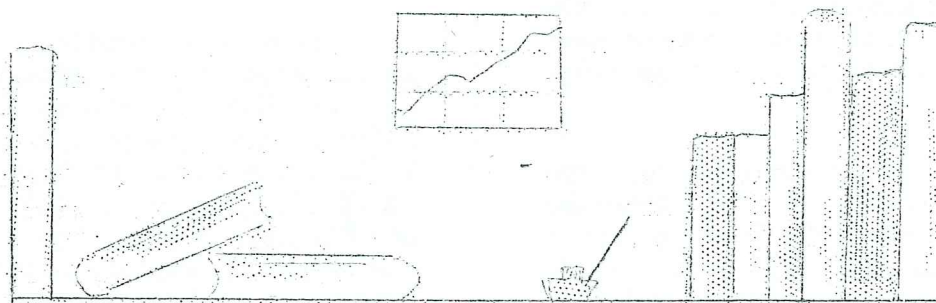
The second edition of the book " TO YOU "

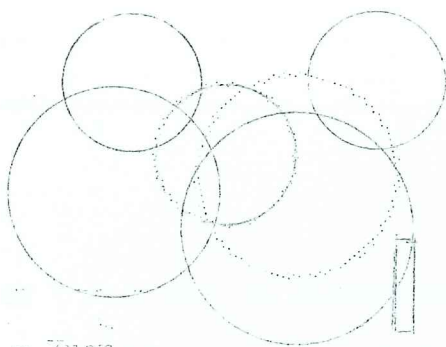
is going to be published. The number of copies to be printed is 50,000 and the estimated cost is \$5,500. We hope that they will be ready for distribution next spring. Do pray for us so that God will use these books for the extension of His Kingdom.

God's bountiful grace can supply our every need.

The budget of the "STAR-SEEKER" is met.

<u>Offering</u>		<u>Expenditure</u>	
Winnipeg	\$2,669.23	Printing & shipping	\$3,890.75
Outside	\$1,477.03	Postage	\$ 239.41
		Envelopes	\$ 16.10
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	\$4,146.26		\$ 4,146.26





- Tuen -

I WONDER

"I am not too keen on these things. They are so transient. I just can't see myself craving for them. I am quite happy with what I have."

"Is that the way you look at things? Can't you see, a person needs to have fun, money, success and so on to have a meaningful life?" Even though I am walking under the open sky in the cool September air, Vivian's sharp, angry voice follows me. I feel uneasy. Why was I so scared that I was unable to open my mouth?

I was not sure any more, after I received a dead silence for saying what I thought was the right thing to say while we chatted and ate Vivian's birthday cake. I thought I was doing and saying the right thing all the while. But no. As soon as I told them that I would not consider myself as having lived a meaningful life unless I have done something worthwhile for eternity, they all started to treat me as a stranger. The whole Birthday party was spoiled right then. I don't know how I managed to stay there until it was over. This is not important anyway. What is bothering me now is the question, "What does a person need to have in order to live a meaningful life?"

Can I really evaluate my existence in terms of the material riches I possess? Does a person have a meaningful life once he is 'blessed' by the material gain? I wonder.

I have some rich friends. I watch them as they carry on living, I want to know for sure whether the rich can live a meaningful life without God. I must admit, they are indeed in a way living an eventful life; one that is filled with fun, money, cars, jewels, furs, 'friends', parties and social engagements. Yet I wonder whether they consider this kind of life as meaningful. They may enjoy every minute of their fun, but will they be willing to live their life all over again? Can they live without their banquets, parties, fun and games? I wonder. Quite often the rich know that life is utterly meaningless and empty. Going to parties, shopping and travelling are ways to escape from the boredom of their life. I gather then, an eventful life is not necessarily a meaningful life. The quite-often suicidal news of the rich only convinces me more than ever the truth. Without a close relationship with God through the redeeming blood of His Son, Jesus Christ, the rich are rich in material possessions only. Once their material possession is lost, they do not know why or how to stay on living.

Vivian also mentioned success is essential for a meaningful life. I do not know why she is so sure. I should not have provoked her. But, I did not mean to hurt her feelings; least of all would I want to spoil her Birthday party. She no longer can enjoy the evening to its fullest extent. I do hope she will be able to have a good rest tonight.

Come to think of it; does a successful person really lead a meaningful life? I do not know. I have never been able to keep on being successful. I know if success were the measure of my life then, I would be in a most pitiful state. Actually no one in the world can be sure he will be successful all the time. Success is not only hard to obtain but also short-lived. If a meaningful life is only for the fortunate few then most of us might as well forget about it. Perhaps this is why some people end their existence the moment they meet difficulties and failures. Yet I can still remember the godly lady I once met. All those who know her can see, from her expression, that every moment of her life is meaningful, for she loves her existence in spite of pain, poverty and sorrow.

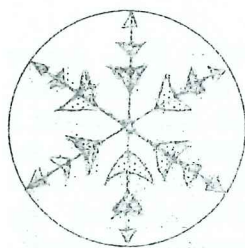
On the other hand, does the continuous success ensure a meaningful life? I am not sure. I can still see Kung's polite smile, though he is gone. He was a good fellow and an excellent student. Nonetheless, he found his existence so meaningless that he did not care to live any longer. I admire his courage, but I think he gave up too soon. If he would hold on for a little while longer, with a sincere seeking heart he could have found what I have found. He could have found the meaning of his existence through Jesus Christ.

Walking under the moon and stars surely can clear one's mind. I know now what to say to Vivian tomorrow morning when we meet for coffee. I will tell her, with the help of God, that there is nothing wrong with me, and I am really sorry for making her unhappy tonight. When she forgives me, I know she will with her big heart, I will tell her about God's love and forgiveness

through His only begotten Son, Jesus Christ. I will tell her that after much despair, struggle and search I have discovered the meaning of my existence. I have experienced that by asking God's forgiveness for my sin -- my pride, deceit, hatred, jealousy, ... and my rebellions against God. Through the sacrifice of His Son Jesus Christ, I have become a member of His family. Now that I am His child, He will then see to my life. He allows me to go through trials and tribulations, pain and sufferings, for He wants me to learn of the fact that His strength is sufficient for me for every kind of difficult situations. What is more, since I have a living God and Savior, I can cry to Him in the times of my trials. I know He will hear and sustain me. Thus the others can have a glimpse of His love and strength as He helps me to endure my pain and sorrow.

I am sure Vivian will like my Lord and Savior. He never imposes His way on me. Though He is ever ready to come beside me, to be my friend and help, He never does it without my consent. When He does come to my aid, He helps me to grow spiritually. Just as I am but a mortal and limited, so He will not do things my way. I am glad that He knows what is the best.

I am not scared by Vivian's words any more. For my existence is not meaningless, and my life does not depend on things perishable or transient. Everything, even the minute details of my life, fits into a pattern as I allow Jesus Christ the Almighty God to be the designer. I know why I exist; He wants me to be a small pond of water that can reflect a minute portion of His likeness when all the dirt has been dealt with by His purifying love. Thus through my life others may come to know Him and find meaning in life.



winter '72 info: conference

Date:

December 25 - 29, 1972

Theme:

Knowing Christ My Lord

Speakers:

Rev. Wilson Wang - Evangelistic Meetings
Mr. David Chang - Devotional Meetings

Place:

Banff Centre, Alberta
(Formerly the Banff School of Fine Arts)

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2. Social Obligation of Christians
3. How To Write For The Lord
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☐ 讀此刊後, 心受感動, 我願竟信耶穌, 接受祂為我的主及救主。請為我禱告。
My heart is moved after reading this magazine and I would like to receive Jesus Christ as my Lord and Saviour. Please pray for me.

☐ 我是基督徒, 讀此刊後, 心中受主愛的激勵, 願將自己完全奉獻給主, 求主帶領我的一生。請為我禱告。
I am a Christian. I would like to dedicate my life to Christ and trust that He has a plan for my future. Please pray for me.

☐ 我是基督徒, 但曾冷淡, 現願將自己再一次奉獻給主。請為我禱告。
I am a Christian but have turned away from God. After reading this magazine I would like to rededicate myself to the Lord. Please pray for me.

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