

THE ONE WHO IS BLESSED

"Blessed is the one who does not walk in steps with the wicked, or stand in the way that sinners take, or sit in the company of mockers,

but whose delight is in the law of the LORD and who meditates on his law day and night.

That person is like a tree plant by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither - whatever they do prospers." (Psalms 1:1-3)

REFLECTION

We spend a major part of our life in schools and in our place of work. While the family and the church are fertile test beds for character and spiritual formation, we probably picked up habits and values from lessons acquired in places where we had our formal education, from our friends and in the market places where we work.

Unless we are intentional in teaching and living out the Christian faith in our homes, or wherever we may be, sooner or later our faith will be compromised and we would find it much more convenient and pragmatic to follow what other people are promoting and doing.

Psalms 1 begins with an emphatic teaching that if we want to live a "blessed" life, we have to keep away from those who are described as wicked, sinners and mockers. Such people often undermine the teachings of the Kingdom of God. Their popular cultures and ideologies are too self-serving and God-denying.

However, the person who truly wants to do well in life is not the one who embraces godless culture, but the one who delights in feeding on God's word and following the way of the living LORD. This blessed person will remain strong, fruitful and faithful in different seasons of life.

PRAYER

"O Lord, our God, guide us in our life journey to follow the Way of our LORD, instead of the way of this world. Keep us close to you and help us to find joy in reading your word. We want to open ourselves to your word speaking to us, shaping us and making us the holy persons you expect us to be. Amen"

SUPPLICATION

- Thank God for churches and small groups which we can attend for worship and spiritual nourishment. We are made not to live an isolated life but to be part of meaningful communities. Pray that we will get ourselves involved in the life and ministry of the church where we belong. Pray too that we will seek to join a small group where we can give and receive mutual encouragement in our faith development.
- Pray that we will seek to be active participants in Christian ministry. The Church is described as the Body of Christ. Every member has a part to play, though our roles may be different. For any local church to grow and be a living witness, we need to pray that more members will step up to serve and not be satisfied being bystanders.
- One precious lesson we have learned from the current pandemic is that for too long we have not given sufficient attention to guest workers who are here in Singapore. They are present yet invisible. Pray that employers will be more responsive to improve the living condition of these workers. Pray that Singaporeans will be more welcoming and more active in attending to their basic material, social, spiritual well-being.
- Thank God for Christian educational, social and healthcare institutions. Pray that schools, social agencies and healthcare works run by Christians will always be mindful of their call to be the light of the world and to add Christian values to the services they offer. Pray for the works of all our Methodist Schools, Epworth Community Services and the Methodist Welfare Services that those who work in these schools, centres and homes will find joy and satisfaction in their work. May those who passed through their doors see and sense the presence of God.

*"I know the LORD will make a way for me
I know the LORD will make a way for me.
If I live a holy life, shun the wrong and do the right,
I know the LORD will make a way for me." (Anon)*

***If you need any prayer or pastoral care support,
kindly contact the pastoral care team via:***

Email: wecare@brmc.org.sg

Contact: 6592 4011 or 6592 4012