

PRAYER BULLETIN #171, 18DEC2021

REDEEMED TO BE CHILDREN OF GOD

*"But when the set time had fully come,
God sent his Son, born of a woman,
born under the law, to redeem those under the law, that
we might receive adoption to sonship."*

Galatians 4:4, 5

REFLECTION

During this season of the COVID-19 pandemic, many of us might have wondered where God is and why did He allow it to happen to us. Is God not interested in our lives? Does He not care about what happens to us?

But this passage tells us that God does care and He does act, but only in His perfect timing, when the set time has fully come. As we approach Christmas, we are reminded that God did intervene in a very powerful way in human history by sending His one and only Son, Jesus Christ, into our world to redeem us. And we celebrate this joyous event of Christmas every year.

However, Christ's birth is not just something that happened in the past which we celebrate every year at Christmas. For Christians, Christmas is the beginning of an ongoing journey with God, an ongoing relationship with our heavenly Father. For God did not merely send His Son into the world to save us from sin and death but to redeem us *so that* we might receive adoption as God's children. Therefore, our salvation in Christ is not just about the time we became a Christian but living our whole lives as children of God. Let us not forget that God created us in order to have a personal relationship with us. And that we were saved by God so that this personal relationship with Him could be restored.

As children loved by our heavenly Father, we can come openly and freely to God in prayer. Because Christ has restored our relationship as children of the Most High God, we can call God our *Abba*, our Father. So, in light of the uncertainty and fear that we might have in this season, let us remember this Christmas that we are sons and daughters of the Almighty God who is in sovereign control of all that is happening in the world and in our lives. Let us trust that God loves and cares for us as a father to his children.

PRAYER

Dear Lord, You are our heavenly Father who calls us Your children! Thank You, God, for sending Jesus into this world so that we have the privilege to become Your children. Teach us how to live as Your sons and daughters, to trust that You are a loving father who cares for us and watches over us. In times of uncertainty and fear, help us to draw close to You, for we believe that You are in control of all that is happening in the world and in our lives. Amen.

SUPPLICATION

- Let us thank God for sending Jesus Christ into the world so that we can be restored to Him as His children.
- Let us pray that we will live as children of God. We pray that we will not be fearful or anxious in times of uncertainty, but will turn to our heavenly Father who hears us and answers our prayers.
- Let us pray for the COVID-19 Omicron variant situation all over the world. We pray that the Omicron variant will be contained and that God will prevent it from undoing the progress that we have made to open up the economy and our borders to travel.
- Let us pray for the smooth implementation of the Vaccinated Travel Lane (VTL) between Singapore and Malaysia. We pray that borders can be opened without incident so that people can be finally reunited with their families again.

"The Spirit you received does not make you slaves, so that you live in fear again; rather, the Spirit you received brought about your adoption to sonship. And by him we cry, 'Abba, Father.'"

Romans 8:15

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

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