

## **A LIVING FAITH**

*"Now if we died with Christ,  
we believe that we will also live with him.  
For we know that since Christ was  
raised from the dead, he cannot die again;  
death no longer has mastery over him."*

**Romans 6:8-9**

### **REFLECTION**

What image would come to your mind regarding a "dead" Christian? Would it be someone who has back-slidden and stopped attending church? Would it be a Christian who lives a life that doesn't reflect Christlikeness? Or would it be a believer who lives a tired and exhausted life lacking the evidence of the victorious power of God?

How about a person who is described as "fully alive in Christ"? How would we imagine this person to be? What kind of demeanor would this person bear? What kind of inward life should we see if it were placed in transparency? And more importantly, is this the norm that we see in our congregations today?

In reality, many who come to church or profess to be Christians may not actually be "fully alive in Christ" and many, in their faith, may be dormant or in a state of hibernation that needs awakening. However, Christianity is not, and never will be, a dead religion. This saving faith is founded in the life of Christ that has overcome death. Surely then, the followers of the Living God will exude the living faith in their lives. The victory that Christ has over the grave is not just celebrated by Christians as an historical triumph, but a present reality that Christians can experience.

The real question then for us Christians today is, do we live victoriously in Christ? Are we inhaling God's Spirit in our lives and exhaling His grace to those around us? Are we growing day by day into spiritual maturity? Are we truly alive in the eternal life that Christ has promised to all who believe and receive Him?

The Christian life is not involuntary nor accidental. Though there are some changes that are the invisible work of God in our life, there is a part also that our consciousness must give in to faith that we are alive in Him. Spiritual death no longer has mastery over us.

We must no longer live a life in accordance to a wrongful fear that our sin will define our eternal destiny. We can not allow sin to shape our past, our present, nor our future identity. We do not deny that we are indeed creatures who have sin, but we must not deny that we have called upon

the Saviour who has effectively removed the power of sin over our lives. Though we experience the struggle with our sinful body, we cannot drown ourselves in fear that death and sin will surely win, but with reverent and persevering faith we must hold on to the promises and consequently, the active work of sanctification in our lives will bring to completion what God has started in the cross.

What then shall we do in response to this powerful reminder? There are two actions we must indeed do: we must choose to die and to live: die with Christ to sin, and be alive with Christ in the life of holiness. We cannot live as slaves to sin while God has removed the chains that have bound us and has broken the bars of the prison of death. As we ponder upon the resurrection of our LORD Jesus Christ, let us also choose to be fully alive in Christ in our thoughts, in our words, and in our actions. We must live out our living faith and in so doing, be part of the kingdom of God that has come to this earth.

### **PRAYER**

*O Lord our Saviour, thank You for overcoming sin and death. Forgive us if we have continued to live a life that professes sin and death more than the life You have for us. Guide us, LORD, to have a life that shows us to be alive in You as You are indeed alive in us. In Your precious name we pray, Amen.*

### **SUPPLICATION**

- Pray for peace in the world – Ukraine, Myanmar, and many countries are experiencing the horrors of war. We pray that Christians will be opening homes, tables, and beds for refugees and be peacemakers and releasers of God's forgiveness and grace in every theatre of war.
- Pray for the Covid-19 situation in Singapore. May the easing of measures be followed by seasons of rest and refreshing for all.
- Pray for the churches in Singapore as they discern the call of God in this season to be the channel of holiness and blessing to the world today.
- Pray for every Christian to know that through Christ we have been given life eternal and through His resurrection, we can face the future without fear.

*"You often feel tired, not because you've done too much,  
but because you've done too little of  
what sparks a light in you."*

- Alexander Den Heijer

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

***Email: [wecare@brmc.org.sg](mailto:wecare@brmc.org.sg)***

***Contact: 6592 4011***