

After completing my one-year programme, I continued to serve as a project helper for six months and then became a working resident. This opportunity and God’s provision of a job with a media organisation allowed me to clear my debts and fulfil my alimony obligations. I am truly grateful for this wonderful privilege to work outside while remaining close to God and His community.

I left THP in Nov 2021. I am now working as a community partnership executive at a social service agency. I want to testify to God’s goodness. Looking at where I am now, I lack nothing in terms of daily necessities. Though divorced, I am able to spend every weekend with my children, guiding them on their faith journey with the Lord. I serve in the community, striving to create a city of good, and I get paid for doing what I love. I continue to stay close with THP family, where we encourage and support one another through alumni cell committee and group gatherings and fellowship over meals. God has also opened opportunities for me to serve in church as a Mandarin interpreter and worship leader.

“Psalms 107:1 - Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; His love endures forever.”

EXISTING NEEDS OF THE HIDING PLACE

We are thankful and appreciate your support in prayers and giving to the ministry through the years. If you feel led to give, we are thankful.

NO	Item	Amount	PLS.TICK
1	General operational fund		
2	Hiding Place retreat expenses	\$5000.00	
3	Macau ACTS leadership camp expenses	\$4500.00	
4			
5			

NAME:..... TEL:

ADDRESS: POSTCODE:

Kindly make cheque payable to “THE HIDING PLACE (CHRISTIAN HOME MISSION) LTD and mail to 5A Jalan Haji Salam Singapore 468746 or PayNow to UEN 198301684WAC1 (General Fund).



THE HIDING PLACE

...as long as we live, we will open our door to anyone who knocks.

5A Jalan Haji Salam, Singapore 468746 Tel: 64835348 Email: admin@hidingplace.sg
MCI (P) 008/02/2024 (RCB NO:198301684-W) Jan - March 2024

Letter from Pastor Tan Hock Seng

Goals, Resolutions and Personal Mission Statements

The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full. (John 10:10)

Victor E Frankl once said that ‘Life is never made unbearable by circumstances, but only by lack of meaning and purpose’. Indeed, goals are what make life interesting. When a person is without a goal, he or she becomes aimless. This can slowly begin to spiral into depression, because having a goal is what makes us look forward to something better. One of the many reasons why the people we help go back to their old ways is because they find it hard to set new goals. Once they have nothing to look forward to, they tend to look back at their old friends and old ways. Goal setting is a skill set they need to learn in order to turn their lives around. No matter how difficult a life situation someone may find themselves in, whether they be young or old, he or she still has to set a Goal.

Resolution, however, is what puts the fire and passion behind our goal. The dictionary defines “resolution” as ‘a firm decision to do or not to do something’. Resolution, then, is what drives us forward.

In my twentieth year of serving the Lord, I found my own resolution – my passion and fire for the work I was doing in The Hiding Place – beginning to diminish. I had been doing the same thing for twenty years, and people’s problems were endless. I felt like power had been just been draining out of me, with no end in sight. I wondered how I could go on like this, until I got hold of a book that challenged me to write my own personal mission statement. When I sat down to write one, I soon realised how difficult it was to come up with a personal mission statement. Slowly, however, I ploughed on, and after many

attempts, I managed to write out a simple personal mission statement. Simple though it was, this personal mission statement went on to help me through the hard times. I would read it again and again to remind myself of why I was doing what I was doing. It has carried me on for another twenty years, to this day.

If we respond positively to hard times, they can help build our character. But if we respond negatively, we become bitter, and a bitter person drives people away. God invites us all to walk with Him and lean on His strength in the response we choose to have in the face of hard times. As Philippians 3:14 states, “I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.”

Jesus did not come only to leave us as we are. He came to give meaning and purpose to our lives; and Jesus did not come just to bring hope – He is our Hope.

House News

A) RESIDENTS' UPDATE

We have 10 residents currently. We thank God for Ethan and Harry who joined us recently. Both are young adults. Pray they will put in effort, respond and integrate well into the programme.

B) TUNG LING BIBLE SCHOOL

Thank God for the support and partnership with Tung Ling Bible School. Our staff, Richard Neo, will be attending the School of Ministry Chinese programme from April to June. Richard came to seek help for his heroin addiction in March 2017. Thank God he finished the one-year programme, was transformed and has been serving at The Hiding Place since. Pray he will find rest and have a deeper encounter with the Lord.

C) THP RESIDENTS AND STAFF RETREAT

We will be having the retreat at Changi Point Chalet from April 15-19. A dear friend, Dr Leslie Choudhury, will be conducting a team-bonding session. Pray for not only a fun time but also the opportunity to grow stronger in our relationship with one another.

D) ACTS LEADERSHIP CAMP IN MACAU

Pastor Hock Seng, with staff Jeremy and Sally will be attending an international conference for halfway house leaders in Macau from May 16 to 23. Pray that the

Lord will use this trip to enrich them to be better equipped when they are back serving in the ministry.

E) KITCHEN UPDATE

We praise God for the good team spirit in completing our CNY cookies production. Thank you, dear supporters, for buying our cookies. All glory to God! We also thank God and our dear supporters who support us in our bento and catering. We thank God for the hard work of the staff and residents in helping out at the kitchen. Pray the Lord will continue to bless and strengthen us.

Alumni Testimony: Joshua Cheong

My name is Joshua Cheong, I am 42 years old. I came to The Hiding Place in March 2017 due to my gambling addiction. I was married with 2 children at the time. The thrill and irresistible desire to gamble overshadowed my sense of responsibility to live a normal life. I found it difficult to focus on anything, whether it was my work or my role as a husband and father. I constantly sought out different gambling avenues, such as online poker and soccer betting. Despite having a good salary in the finance industry, I ended up accumulating substantial debts and even resorted to stealing money from home. I was at my wit's end and was really detesting this version of myself. I also had the thought of ending my life. It was through my sister's church mate that I came to know about THP and decided to “give it a try” since I did not know of any other ways to get out of this vicious cycle.

It was during my third month at THP that I truly experienced the presence of God. On the night I received the news that my wife intended to serve me divorce papers the following day, I was devastated and couldn't sleep. As I passed by the usual bustling worship hall, now empty, I felt compelled by the Holy Spirit to enter and kneel before the cross. Tears streamed down my face as I poured out my heart to God—my questions, struggles, and surrender. Although I didn't hear any audible response from God that night, I distinctly remembered feeling as if someone was embracing me from behind, experiencing a profound sense of peace that I had never felt before. It was then that I realized God is real, and He had been with me all along and would always be by my side. Even though I have accepted Christ few years before, I have decided this is the moment I would rededicate myself to my Lord and Saviour.