

was fully supportive but my girlfriend wasn't. She wanted me to leave after the programme. This was a huge headache for me. But after a few weeks, my girlfriend changed her mind and told me to stay on for another year. It was a big surprise to me and I knew that God had answered my prayer.

I am learning to live a new life by shying away from my old friends. I know I can only have peace with God in my life. I still have thoughts of going back to my old life. I pray that the extra year at Hiding Place will allow me to break my bad habits, stand firm and be faithful to my God.

I thank THP for giving me a second chance in life, to be transformed and have my family accept me despite my mistakes in the past. This is so wonderful. Thank you, Jesus, for being my Lord and Saviour, that I can draw close to God.

Pray for Sam as he stays on for another year that he will be grounded more and more in the Word of God and in His ways.

If you prefer to receive our newsletter through email, please send us an email with the subject "Email Newsletter" along with your full name and address as shown on the newsletter address label to admin@hidingplace.sg

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	Upgrade of CCTV system	\$5000.00	
3	ACTS camp expenses	\$3500.00	
4	Staff TCA Term 3 school fees	\$1844.00	
5	Hiding Place anniversary invitation cards	\$599.00	

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)

Aug - Oct 2024

Letter from Pastor Tan Hock Seng

WORMWOOD

Revelation 8:11 "And the name of the star is called Wormwood: and the third part of the waters became wormwood; and many men died of the waters, because they were made bitter."

Wormwood in the Bible is a metaphor that describes the corruption and decay that occur in our lives and in society. In the commentary, "wormwood" refers to a well-known bitter herb. In layman's terms, wormwood represents the bitterness in our hearts.

When someone offends you—whether the offence is real or perceived—and you do not forgive them, it begins to fester. If you let it play in your mind like a recorded song, sooner or later you begin to resent that person. Their footsteps, voice, or anything related to them will trigger your repulsion. If you hold on to the resentment long enough, it will turn into bitterness, and bitterness means you wish harm upon the person.

This bitterness can become a norm in your thoughts and actions. Unresolved anger, prolonged sadness, feeling unappreciated, disappointment, holding grudges, betrayal, injustice, being scammed—the list goes on. That pain rips through you and destroys you from the inside. It's a pain that won't let you forget. If left unresolved, it can permeate your relationships.

The Biblical remedy is to confess your sins and forgive. It's easier said than done, but forgiveness brings healing to our souls. Forgiveness honestly says, "Yes, you wronged me. I am hurt, but I will not allow that hurt to control me."

After I confess to God and forgive the person who hurt me, I become a happier person. I also accept God's love, knowing that He is my Heavenly Father who cares for and loves me and wants the best for me. Forgiveness is not natural, but it is essential that we learn to accept God's forgiveness and extend our forgiveness to others.

“We love because He first loved us.” 1 John 4:19

House News

A) RESIDENTS' UPDATE

We have 9 residents currently. Though the numbers of residents are small but we thank God for the growth and transformation we see in each of them. They may not be the perfect bunch, they do rub against one another but the end result - they practice love and reconciliation, they move on. That's what makes the Gospel true. Glory to God.

B) STAFF UPDATE

Time passes quickly, it has already been 2 years since Cary started on his diploma in theology at TCA. This will be his final term and he graduates in May 2025. Pray for the Lord to see him through this season as he perseveres on in his studies. Thank you for your support and prayers.

C) ACTS STUDENT CAMP

The ACTS student camp will be held in Port Dickson Malaysia from 4th to 7th Nov. This is an occasion where halfway house leaders and residents from Malaysia and Singapore come together for a retreat with worship, classes, games and fellowship. 15 people from Hiding Place will be going for this camp. It is an opportunity not to be missed to meet and interact with fellow brothers and sisters, sharing our recovery journey and faith in God. Pray with us that it will be a blessed and fruitful time.

D) HIDING PLACE 51st ANNIVERSARY

We look forward to seeing you at our anniversary celebration dinner at Jubilee Garden Restaurant at SAFRA Toa Payoh on 19th Oct. We trust that you have received the invitation card and registered your attendance. You are still welcome to join us even if you did not receive the invitation or haven't registered. Please contact Mrs Sally Tan at 64835348 to register your attendance.

Resident's Testimony: Sam Tan

I started gambling around the age of 13 when I picked up blackjack and mahjong from my neighbours. When I didn't have the money to join them, I would steal from my mother. When she found out, she would get angry, scold me and cane me.

As I grew older, my gambling habit grew worse. I moved to online gambling and I would spend all my salary on it. When I ran out of money, I would ask or borrow from my family. Eventually, I turned to loansharks.

The turning point came when I was scammed by an 'Ah Long'. He would transfer money to my bank account and ask for payment with interest when I didn't ask to borrow money. I realised that my gambling addiction was leading me down a bottomless pit. For the first time in my life, I recognised that I needed help.

My sister sought help from my uncle to find a place where I could be isolated so I could kick the habit. My uncle suggested sending me to a halfway house. The Lord opened the door for me to come to the Hiding Place. During the interview, my mum was overjoyed when Sart, one of the staff, suggested that I move in that very day. I knew that she really wanted me to turn my life around.

I joined THP for the one-year programme on Oct 12, 2023. I was prepared that community living would not be easy, with rules to abide by. I am thankful that I was able to adjust well to the living arrangement and get along with the other brothers in the programme.

On my second day in THP, a former resident who was visiting prayed for me. I wasn't a Christian then but I thanked him. Soon after, Ps Hock Seng prayed for me and asked if I wanted to accept Christ into my life. I made the decision to accept Christ as I felt no one could help me except God. Through daily reading of The Daily Bread and prayer, I got to know more about Him. I always pray for my mum's health as she has difficulties walking. I am asking God for healing so that she doesn't need a walking stick.

With my programme coming to an end, I felt that I wasn't ready to go out. I prayed about extending my stay and spoke to my loved ones about it. My mum