for their teaching from the Word of God and encouragement. I have grown spiritually, and my character has also changed. I have become more cheerful and optimistic. God's love has also healed the wounds in my heart.

Book - The Hiding Place: Testimonies from Residents

This is the second book about The Hiding Place, featuring a compilation of personal testimonies of past and present residents taken from previous newsletters. The stories tell of the pain, struggles and victories that the residents go through in their journey of relapse and recovery from addictions. The first book, ***God of Second Chances***, is available too.

To request for either or both books, call 64835348 or email to *admin@hidingplace.sg*. There is no charge for the books and postage. If you want to give a love offering, we are thankful.

Newsletter by Email

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
1	General operational fund	
2	Staff annual bonus	$30,830.00
3	ACTS student camp	$4500.00
4	High pressure cleaner	$1689.00
5	Building inspection	$1500.00

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

MDDI (P) 087/03/2026 (RCB NO:198301684-W) Sept-Oct 2026

Letter from Pastor Tan Hock Seng

Transformation through Word & Prayer

A drug addict once shared a story with me. He was arrested and sentenced to three years in prison. Yet throughout those years, his mind kept returning to a small stash of drugs he had hidden in his house before his arrest. What happened when he was released? The first thing he did was to look for that hidden drug.

This story teaches a powerful spiritual lesson: a change of environment is not the same as a change of the heart. His body was confined in prison, but his mind remained attached to the drug. Though physically separated from it, the desire continued to occupy his thoughts. What filled his mind eventually directed his actions.

The Bible emphasizes the importance of our thought life: "As a man thinks in his heart, so is he" (Proverbs 23:7), and "Be transformed by the renewing of your mind" (Romans 12:2). Rules and restrictions can control outward behaviour, but only God can transform the inner person. True freedom comes when our desires, thoughts, and affections are changed from within.

This principle applies to all of us. We may distance ourselves from certain temptations, yet continue to entertain them in our minds. Over time, our thoughts shape our desires, and our desires shape our decisions.

Therefore, we must pray not only for transformed actions but also for a transformed inner life. We need God's Word to penetrate so deeply into our hearts that it renews our conscious thoughts, subconscious patterns, imaginations, instincts, and even our dreams. When Christ reigns within us, our minds naturally turn toward Him, and our entire inner life comes under His Lordship.

House News

A) RESIDENTS' UPDATE

We currently have seven residents in our care. Over a month ago, three left the programme. One came back recently. It's never easy loving a drug addict. There's only one way that can enable us to do so, and that's by practicing the love of God. Pray for discernment and wisdom as we exercise this love unto the people we help. Thank you.

B) ACTS STUDENTS' CAMP

We look forward again to this gathering in Port Dickson, Malaysia from 2-5 Nov. Over a hundred brothers and sisters from different halfway houses in Malaysia and Singapore will gather for this retreat. There will be worship, classes, games etc. Sixteen of us from The Hiding Place will join the camp. It is a big family reunion in Christ, meeting up and interacting with our fellow brothers and sisters who are going through the same recovery journey in the Lord. Pray with us that it will be a blessed and fruitful time. Thank you for your support.

C) HIDING PLACE 53RD ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Dear friends, we appreciate and thank you for all your support, in attending, giving and prayers. Seven hundred over guests came to celebrate and witness the glory of the Lord Jesus Christ. It is solely the Lord's doing in sustaining the ministry for 53 years. Every year is a milestone marking the Lord's goodness. Pray with us that the Lord will do that great divine new thing among us. See you in our 54th anniversary celebration.

D) CNY COOKIES/TARTS PRODUCTION

Large scale cookie production will start soon. Full production will begin in Jan and last till early Feb, close to CNY. We will send the order form with the next newsletter in Dec. Do support us in this fund-raising project. Pray for us as we prepare for this season. Thank you.

Resident's Testimony: Marcus Tan

I grew up in a broken family. My parents divorced when I was ten years old and I was raised by my mother and grandmother. They loved me very much and gave me a lot of freedom, but I became rebellious, bad-tempered and refused to listen to advice.

Both my parents were involved in gangs. By the age of ten, I was part of a gang, smoking and sniffing glue. I was a problem student and would carry glue and a knife in my school bag. I had no interest in studying and left school without completing primary school. I spent most of my time with gang members, fighting, stealing and committing robberies.

In 1987, I was arrested after a gang fight and sentenced to three years in Boy's Home. Not long after I was released, I became addicted to heroin. That first experience led me into more than thirty years of drug addiction. I am the kind of person who could not stop once I started. Even when I had to report to the police station for urine test, I would go to the toilet to take drugs while waiting for my turn.

I was a Taoist. I worshipped many Thai deities and was once a spirit medium. I did not have a good impression of Christianity. While I was in DRC, I saw some Buddhist friends becoming Christians. Later, I found out that Christians gave out chocolates during Christmas, so because of the chocolates, I decided to join the them.

I heard the Word of God for about ten years. Then in the year 2000, during a worship service, an English worship song touched my heart. I did not understand the English lyrics, but tears kept flowing from my eyes. The pastor led me to accept Jesus Christ as my personal Lord and Saviour.

However, I was only a Christian in name. I did not pray or read the Bible because I could not read well. In DRC, I even used pages from the Bible to roll cigarettes. I was baptised in the morning on 1 May 2013, but that afternoon, I used heroin to "celebrate" my baptism. This reminds me of 2 Peter 2:22: "A dog returns to its vomit, and a sow that is washed returns to her wallowing in the mud." I was truly ashamed, and I have asked God for His forgiveness.

I have been to prison and DRC a total of ten times, caned four times and spent a total of 24 years behind bars. Yet all those years in prison and all the punishment could not change my life.

In April this year, I relapsed and went back to drugs again. Through the conviction of the Holy Spirit, I chose to come to The Hiding Place to change and rebuild my life. I thank God for the pastors, leaders and staff at the centre