In fact, we are living a life of obedience every day. We obey the guidance of the GPS to reach our destination. We follow the direction of the manual to assemble a table, a cabinet, or even a TV set. We follow the direction of our boss at work, and we listen to the advice of our friends. We also take the warning of our body (we eat when we are hungry, and drink when we are thirsty). We obey the alarm clock to get out of bed.

There is also a direction for our lives. If the direction is wrong, we might waste time and money. As a result, we achieve nothing and our lives are ruined, and it is too late to regret. We will learn how to have a life of obedience in our daily lives:

1. **Obey our parents**
   The Lord Jesus set a good example for us. He obeyed his parents when he was 12 years old (Luke 2:51); Paul told us to obey our parents in the Lord, because it is right to do so and it is pleasing to the Lord. Our parents love us deeply, and they are trying hard to give us the best. They show us what is right and what is wrong. They discipline us so we become more mature. Therefore, we should listen to our parents.

2. **Obey the elderly**
   We can learn from the conversation between Jonathan and the man who carried his weapon: those with little faith should listen to those with great faith; those who are weak in spirituality should obey those who are strong in spirituality. Likewise, those who are inexperienced follow those who are experienced. In the RE system, the teachers are older than us. They teach us based on the Bible. Therefore, we should obey their teachings.

3. **Obey God**
   God is the answer to all problems. God expressed His will with human language in the Bible. Today our technology is very advanced, but not all problems can be solved. Therefore, we should read the Bible frequently and ponder upon God’s words. In addition, we should practice God’s words in our daily life. This is why we should attend services and listen to testimonies more often. In this way, we can understand God’s will and obey Him. Although sometimes we do not understand the will of God, as long as we receive God’s words and do it accordingly, we will receive God’s blessings for sure.

   May we all live a life of obedience and receive God’s grace, peace, and joy every day.
**Wanted: Stretcher Bearers**

(RECORW Sermon by Pr. G.H. Chen, Sermon Notes By Sister Evelina Yen, )

(Mark 2: 1-12) “And again He entered Capernaum after some days, ……. Immediately many gathered together, so that there was no longer room to receive them, not even near the door. ……. Then they came to Him, bringing a paralytic who was carried by four men. And when they could not come near Him because of the crowd, they uncovered the roof where He was. So when they had broken through, they let down the bed on which the paralytic was lying. When Jesus saw their faith, He said to the paralytic, “Son, your sins are forgiven you.”

This is a good Bible story which illustrates how teamwork will make a difference even to God’s work. God wants participations from His people even when miracles are performed, so that we can all benefit from it.

The four friends in the story demonstrate good qualities regarding practicing teamwork:

1. They care and have love for their paralyzed friend; though it may have started out as one man who wanted to help, but he was able to find others to form a team of four for this task.
2. Before recruiting, tasks should to be planned and identified. The recruiter made a plan based on his understanding of the situation, and communicated this to the team.
3. Need to have the same faith and goal among the members—have a consensus about what needs to be accomplished.
4. Faith can sometimes replace or build up others' faith—the paralyzed person may not have had the faith to go through the trouble of seeing Jesus, but the zeal of his four friends strengthens his determination to go through the process and accomplish this task. This can also be applied to us when we are bringing in others to believe, our faith will help others.
5. Other good teamwork qualities: looking to God, be calm (comes from spiritual cultivation), wisdom, willing to pay the price, etc.

RE Workers should also remember to utilize the principles regarding teamwork to be able to maximize what God has given us, in order to serve Him.

---

**Case Study and Discussion**

What good teamwork qualities do you see from these stories?

- Nehemiah 4: Building the wall against enemies
- Judges 7: Gideon’s 300
- Romans 5: The Fall of Adam
- Genesis 6-8: Noah & his family
- Acts 2: The believers in the Apostolic time
- 2 Samuel 23: David’s Mighty Men

---

Sister Brenda Wong

Hallelujah. In the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, I’d like to share some reflections on the topic of TEAMWORK. Teamwork is an essential element to any proper working and functioning organization. As RE teachers, our children learn the most when we are “on the same page” delivering the same true message…consistently. However, it’s not only our students that benefit from teamwork. In Ecclesiastes 4:9-10, the message is clear that we teachers benefit from the support and help we give each other as well:

*Two are better than one, Because they have a good reward for their labor. For if they fall, one will lift up his companion. But woe to him who is alone when he falls, For he has no one to help him up.*

I praise our Lord Jesus Christ for allowing me to be a part of the wonderful team of E2 teachers. It is a privilege to be a part of this team. We support and help each other with constant communication. One of the extraordinary key methods of keeping our team of E2 teachers apprised of the situations each and every week is our class summaries. I love reading our class summaries. Many times, I learn something new about how to reach our students through these summaries by the experience of others. Praise the Lord Jesus Christ for enabling us to stay on top of each of our students’ progress and immediately address any issues that may have arisen. This cohesion made possible through our communication efforts makes us a stronger unit in helping our students grow in the Lord and in a much more positive and dependable way.

Thank you, Lord Jesus, for your blessings upon me in being a part of such a great team! May all the praise, glory, and honor be unto our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.
Sister Sophia Wong

In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ I give a reflection about the Houston Church Dedication.

I remember a while ago when we were in the Thomas Road church having fellowship. We always had so much fun and I was pretty sure that everyone was enjoying themselves. Receiving the news to relocate was saddening because we had so many cherished memories in the church. But the good thing is that we can just start it all over again in the new church.

Now we stand here dedicating this new church to God. We are already having a good start of gaining lovely memories. I can see the blessings from God just by looking at the church. It is just so beautiful. But it is not just the church itself, it is the people who are inside the church.

The dedication really reminded me of all the floods of blessings coming from God. The joy, peace, and thankfulness in my heart I cannot explain. May all the glory be given unto God.

Brother Joshua Wong

In the name of Jesus Christ I share a reflection of the Church Dedication. Church Dedication is a wonderful day for gathering other church members here to listen to the preachers and testimonies. Preacher Vuthy was very funny and he gave very good sermons and testimonies. But we can have some improvements like an earlier lunch break and have more testimonies. I really like the Chinese and English choir because they were really awesome. I thank God that we had such a wonderful Church Dedication. Hallelujah! Amen.

Sister Deborah Lin

In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ I share a reflection. I like Pastor Vuthy because he is a good and serious pastor but funny in a good way. Pastor Yeh is a good pastor too. I am glad that I got to meet Pastor Vuthy and I got to see Pastor Yeh again. I got moved by the Saturday sermon. I really thought Pastor Vuthy was humble because he shared that his feet were ugly. The Chinese and English Choirs sang beautifully to worship God with their voices.

The church history report was interesting because I got to learn about how the old church was built. At the end we had a great picture taken and we got cool presents from the church. It was my first and best Church Dedication. I thank God for the Dedication. Amen!

Brother Timothy Yen

In the name of Jesus Christ I give my reflection about the church dedication book. I noticed a lot of the pictures were very old and valuable, bringing back a lot of memories of Thomas road.

Secondly, I observed even though building the Thomas Road church was not easy, everyone looked happy. Nobody looked tired.

Finally, I would like to say all the testimonies were very good. They were good evidences that God is with us. May all the glory be unto God.
哈利路亚 愛我们的天父，感謝您的帶領，使得上週的母親節感恩聚會能在溫馨中圓滿閉幕。藉著宗教教育孩子們的幾句內心話語，伴隨著一束束的祝福花朵，相信大家都不難發現有好些姊妹眼角都泛著淚光。因為：母親“偉大”是您的名字。

在舊約聖經記載，利百加在懷孕的時候，肚子裡的兩個調皮雙胞胎在打鬧，利百加肚子痛到求告耶和華神。拉結在懷便亞憫的時候甚至還因為難產而死去。其實不單只是生產時的痛苦，當孩子出生後我們或許也有這樣的心情：當孩子摔跤了，我們的心也會跟著抽動一下。當媽媽的更是心疼到不行，差點兒就要世界末日了，其實上前察看也只不过是小小的破皮罷了。媽媽的心肝寶貝就是這樣。所以媽媽的名字也就做

下了相當多的痛苦，所以孩子們才會如此地紀念媽媽。

相信大家都讀過撒拉無法生育的故事，也熟悉哈拿求子的哭泣。顯然在舊約時代，沒有孩子對女人來說是件痛苦的事情。因為孩子是媽媽的驕傲，是您的榮耀。我們是否曾經注意過媽媽的臉，每當談到孩子的時候，臉上立刻充滿了光彩，不管孩子聰明或是愚笨，只要談到自己的孩子整個人就活了起來。就好像我高中聯考的成績我媽媽到现在都記得一樣。

也有人說：媽媽的名字叫做“犧牲”，原本弱不禁風的弱女子，當有了孩子後，縱使外頭下著滂沱大雨，照樣衝出去，也許只為了幫孩子們送上一個便當，惟恐孩子餓著了，此時母親成為了一位勇士。記得有一次一位教會的姊妹聊天，她告訴我她結婚之前是一個千金大小姐，連髒東西都不敢碰的那種，當孩子出生後卻可以為孩子把屎把尿卻也無怨無悔。有時甚至可以徹夜守在孩子們的房間裡，只因為看見孩子白嫩嫩的皮膚被蚊子叮上幾包。

在媽媽的眼中，無論我們的年紀多大，我們都還是個孩子。父母親對孩子的期許其實很單純，只願他能夠平安健康的長大。然而對真教會的父親而言，對孩子則會有更深一層的期許，那就是：願孩子們能多多的親近神。所以每當家長將寶貝們送到教會後，宗教教育老師的角色就像這群孩子們屬靈上的母親一般，我們肩負起極重的責任，為了要培養教會中更敬虔的下一代。試想，天下的母親有哪一個不是為著自己的孩子而費盡心思，煞費苦心地只希望將來他能夠過著幸福快樂的日子呢？

是的，在媽媽的眼中，無論我們的年紀多大，我們都還是個孩子。父母親對孩子的期許其實很單純，只願他能夠平安健康的長大。然而對真教會的父親而言，對孩子則會有更深一層的期許，那就是：願孩子們能多多的親近神。所以每當家長將寶貝們送至教會後，宗教教育老師的角色就像這群孩子們屬靈上的母親一般，我們肩負起極重的責任，為了要培養教會中更敬虔的下一代。試想，天下的母親有哪一個不是為著自己的孩子而費盡心思，煞費苦心地只希望將來他能夠過著幸福快樂的日子呢？

慈愛的天父，感謝您藉著這次的母親節感恩聚會，除了讓我們紀念母親平日的辛勞，也讓每一位宗教教育的教師再次思考自己的身分與當盡的責任。母親，你的名字到底是什麼呢？或許每個人

都讀過撒拉無法生育的故事，也熟悉哈拿求子的哭泣。顯然在舊約時代，沒有孩子對女人來說是件痛苦的事情。因為孩子是媽媽的驕傲，是您的榮耀。我們是否曾經注意過媽媽的

臉，每當談到孩子的時候，臉上立刻充滿了光彩，不管孩子聰明或是愚笨，只要談到自己的孩子整個人就活了起來。就好像我高中聯考的成績我媽媽到現在都記得一樣。

也有人說：媽媽的名字叫做“犧牲”，原本弱不禁風的弱女子，當有了孩子後，縱使外頭下著滂沱大雨，照樣衝出去，也許只為了幫孩子們送上一個便當，惟恐孩子餓著了，此時母親成為了一位勇士。記得有一次一位教會的姊妹聊天，她告訴我她結婚之前是一個千金大小姐，連髒東西都不敢碰的那種，當孩子出生後卻可以為孩子把屎把尿卻也無怨無悔。有時甚至可以徹夜守在孩子們的房間裡，只因為看見孩子白嫩嫩的皮膚被蚊子叮上幾包。
Brother Garry Hwang

Hallelujah! Our Heavenly Father who loves us, we thank You for Your guidance that the heartwarming tribute for Mothers’ Day last week was completed smoothly. As the RE kids spoke simply from the heart while presenting flowers of thanks, it was plain to see the tears that welled up in the eyes of some of the sisters. Why so? Greatness—this is the name of mothers.

The Old Testament records the struggle of the twins within the womb of Rebecca during her pregnancy and how she called out to the Lord in her pain. In giving birth to Benjamin, Rachel died as result of the difficult labor. Actually, such pain is not limited to the labor process. We will often experience similar sentiments even after our children are born. When they fall, our hearts will pang after them. As mothers, the pain of seeing such superficial wounds on the skin seems comparable to the end of the world. This is how dear children are to their mothers. Thus, suffering, this, too, is the name of mothers. The suffering they bear for their children is so that they will remember their mothers.

I believe we have read the stories of Sarah’s barren womb and the weeping of Hannah. It is apparent during the Old Testament time that for a woman to be without children was a thing of shame because children are the pride and glory of their mothers. Have we ever noticed how a mother’s face will light up when she talks about her child? Regardless of the child’s intelligence or naïveté, mere mention of her child will liven up her spirits. It is just like how my mother still remembers all the details of finding out the results for my college entrance exams.

Sacrifice. There are those who say that this, too, is the name of mothers. A woman who was once weak and fragile will, after becoming a mother, show no hesitation to brave heavy rains just to deliver a lunchbox so her child won’t grow hungry. She all but becomes a courageous warrior. I remember chatting with a church sister on one occasion. She told me how before marriage, she would avoid anything that wasn’t clean. After having her child, she would deal with the child’s urine and feces without any murmur or regret. Sometimes, she would even keep watch all night in the child’s room after seeing a few mosquito bites on her child’s beautiful skin.

Indeed, we will always be children in the eyes of our mothers; no matter how old we may be. The expectation of parents is very simple: it is a wish that their children can grow up in good health and in peace. For the parents of the True Jesus Church, there is yet a deeper expectation: to have their children draw closer to God. So when parents bring their children to church, the RE teachers adopt a role much like mothers in the spiritual sense. We shoulder a heavy responsibility to nurture a more godly next generation within the church. Can we imagine a world where mothers don’t do their utmost for their children; do they not painstakingly wish for a future for their children that is filled with joy and happiness?

Mothers, your name is greatness, suffering, and also sacrifice. In the same way that the church is like a mother to the members and gives birth to us, we will one day become the glory of the church. As RE teachers, it is our hope that the next generation will forever grasp hold of the grace of God. When our children are outside the church, we do not want for them to become the target of non-believers; but rather, we, as the spiritual mothers, wish to share in the glory of their good deeds.

Our beloved Heavenly Father, we thank You again for the special tribute service for our mothers. Aside from calling to remembrance the daily diligence of our mothers, it allowed every RE teacher to reflect on our own roles and responsibilities. Mothers, what should your name be? Perhaps everyone has a different definition. However, may the Lord grant us wisdom so that we can determine the most beautiful definition for our own mothers. At the same time, may the Lord comfort and strengthen all of our RE teachers. We thank You for all of Your love and for teaching us to cherish what we have. Our hope is that we and our next generation will become Your pride and glory. May all the praises be unto Your Name for ever and ever. Amen.
Dumpling Fellowship — May 8
Photographs by Sister Brenda Wong

TJC Houston
RE Newsletter

True Jesus Church in Houston
335 Avenue E
Stafford, TX 77477

Phone: 281-208-5260
http://us.tjc.org/houston