



多倫多中華聯合教會 TORONTO CHINESE UNITED CHURCH

3300 Kennedy Road, Scarborough, Ontario, Canada M1V 3S8
Telephone / Fax: (416)754-7147 & (416)754-2746

下主日 NEXT SUNDAY			
英文崇拜 上午九時三十分 ENGLISH SERVICE 9:30A.M.			
主禮：葉呂婉禎	LEADER: Betty Yip		
宣道：黎嘉燐牧師	PREACHER: Rev. Dr. Alan Lai		
音樂：The Talking Donkeys	MUSICIANS: The Talking Donkeys		
讀經：葉建君	READER: Karstein Yip		
司事：陳頌賢、馮錦忠	USHERS: Jessica Chan, Simon Fung		
招待：曾陳侃明、曾仲銘、 曾仲宜	HOSTS: Olivia Tsang, Chris Tsang, Noelle Tsang		
中文崇拜 上午十一時 CHINESE SERVICE 11:00A.M.			
主禮：何洪標	LEADER: William Ho		
宣道：黎嘉燐牧師	PREACHER: Rev. Dr. Alan Lai		
司琴：黃布愛玲	ORGANIST: Regina Wong		
傳譯：曾陳侃明(國語)	INTERPRETER: Olivia Tsang (Mandarin)		
司事：鍾國榮 梁玉雲	USHERS: Alfred Chung Grace Leung		
梁祖欽 梁盧潤儀	Charles Leung Yun Yee Leung		
音響：廖永輝	PA SYSTEM: Peter Liu		
簡報：廖琪珍	POWERPOINT: Kitty Liu		
點算獻金義工 OFFERING COUNTING VOLUNTEERS			
杜國豪	戴永楷	Wilson To	Robert Tai
劉明新	劉黃寶娟	Felix Lau	Wendy Lau
陳區麗恩	陳頌賢	Amy Chan	Jessica Chan

黎嘉燐牧師：每星期一休假

黃布愛玲行政幹事：每星期三休假

黃文助理幹事工作時間：每星期一、三及四上午十時半至下午二時半

Rev. Dr. Alan Lai day off: every Monday.

Regina Wong (Administrative Secretary) day off: every Wednesday.

Wendy Huang (Assistant Secretary) Working Hours: 10:30am-2:30pm, Mon, Wed. & Thur.



我們的使命是以耶穌基督為首，
以上帝無條件的愛為心，
把教會帶到人群，
把人群帶到教會。

With Jesus Christ as the Church's foundation,
and living God's unconditional love,
we bring the Church to the people and
we bring the people to the Church.

【本堂使命宣言 TCUC Mission Statement】

大齋節第三主日

THE THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT

二零一四年三月廿三日 MARCH 23, 2014

GATHERING AND PRAISE

GATHERING MUSIC

CALL TO WORSHIP

God, we come into your presence bringing our past, offering our present, and entrusting our future.

Thank you that you meet us now in this place at this time.

Jesus, we come into your presence remembering before you those whom we know cannot be here.

Thank you that you meet us now in this place at this time.

Holy Spirit, we give thanks that you are within and among us. May your truth and your grace illuminate our hearts and minds.

Thank you that you meet us now in this place at this time.

SONGS OF PRAISE

“The Servant King” & “Knowing You”

PRAYER OF APPROACH

Thank you, God, for the gift of life

and for water that sustains it.

Thank you, God, for the gift of Jesus

whose unending life and unconditional love transform our lives.

Thank you, God, for the gift of your Holy Spirit

that leads us into truth and enlightens us on our way.

Like the woman at the well, we all do wrong. May we, like her, have the courage to bring all of who we are and what we do into the light of your healing love. In a moment of silence, we ask God to bring to mind one thing for which we need God’s forgiveness.

LORD’S PRAYER

Our Father in Heaven Hallowed be your name,

Your Kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

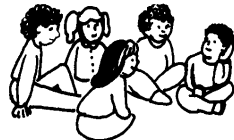
PASSING OF THE PEACE

(We greet one another in Jesus’ name saying “the Peace of God be with you”.)

CHILDREN’S TIME

SCRIPTURE READING: Psalm 95: 1 – 11

(please follow the projection screen)



SONG OF PRAISE: VU# 598

“When Pain of the World”

(Our offering is received during the song)

OFFERTORY PRAYER *(please stand)*

Liberating God, we offer you all that we are and shall be. Open our eyes and our hearts to recognize you in each person we meet. May we have courage to listen, courage to hear, and courage to act. Amen.

(The young people leave for their groups after the Offertory Prayer)

LISTENING TO THE WORD

SCRIPTURE READING *(please see p. 6-7)*

John 4: 4 – 42

REFLECTION “A Beautiful Moment”

SONG OF PRAISE:

“O Lord Hear My Prayer”

SENT TO LIVE THE WORD

ANNOUNCEMENTS *(please see p. 9-12)*

M&S FUND TODAY – MINUTES FOR MISSION

“Sharing and Healing on the Grand River”

PRAYERS FOR THE WORLD

SONG OF PRAISE: VU #481

“Sent Forth by God’s Blessing”

DISMISSAL & BLESSING

Your grace flows into us;

May the new life that flows into us also flow through us.

Your truth frees us;

Help us to free others.

Your love brings us into life;

Hallow our loving and our living.

After the sung “Amen” we take a few moments of quiet

We thank everyone who shared their ministries in worship today

LEADER: Alice Lui

REFLECTION: Rev. Dr. Alan Lai

MUSICIANS: The Talking Donkeys

READER: Maria Wong

USHERS: Jonathan Lau, Simon Fung

HOSTS: Albert & Esther Au’s family

AV/SANCTUARY: Alexandra Lum/Joanne Chan, Simon Fung, Kin Chan,
John Feng/Chauncey Hui/Chris Tsang

SUNDAY SCH. TEACHERS: Cathy Seto, Sarah Wong

上午十一時中文崇拜程序 CHINESE WORSHIP SERVICE

主禮：譚穎嫻	Leader: Wing Haan Tam
宣道：黎嘉燐牧師	Preacher: Rev. Dr. Alan Lai
司琴：黃布愛玲	Organist: Regina Wong
傳譯：曾陳侃明(國語)	Interpreter: Olivia Tsang (Mandarin)
司事：朱壬阜 朱余彩珍	Ushers: Randy Gee Jean Gee
廖嘉祐 廖溫翠屏	Ka Yau Liu Chui Ping Liu
音響：廖永輝	PA System: Peter Liu
簡報：蕭仁瀚	Power Point: Alfred Siu

電琴序樂	ORGAN PRELUDE
唱詩第68首 「你當歡欣歌」	OPENING HYMN #68 "Rejoice, The Lord Is King"
宣召	CALL TO WORSHIP
著往 (第625首) 同唱「主在聖殿中」	INTROIT (#625) "The Lord Is in His Holy Temple"
祈禱	PRAYER
主禱文 (第649首) 同唱「我們在天上的父」	THE LORD'S PRAYER (#649) "Our Father ..."
獻詩 「願主賜福保護你」 (歌詞請閱大螢幕) 伴奏：梁范麗儀	ANTHEM "The Lord Bless You and Keep You" (by John Rutter) (Lyric on the projection screen) Accompanist: Lilian Leung
兒童信息 由黎嘉燐牧師主講，信息後 兒童往樓下參加主日學。	CHILDREN'S MESSAGE Children are dismissed to Sunday School after the message led by Rev. Alan Lai.
啓應文* 詩篇95:1-11 (舊約第729頁)	RESPONSIVE READING* Psalm 95:1-11 (NEB p. 695)
讀經* 約翰福音4:5-42 (新約第129頁)	SCRIPTURE READING* John 4:5-42 (see p. 5)

唱詩第440首

「信心基礎歌」

HYMN #440

"How Firm a Foundation"

宣道*

「一個美麗的片段」

SERMON*

"A Beautiful Moment"

榮耀頌

(歌詞在聖詩封底內頁)

GLORIA PATRI

(Hymn book inside back cover)

會務報告*

PARISH CONCERNS*

奉獻

- (1) 主日捐
- (2) 建設及維修基金捐

THE OFFERINGS

- (1) Sunday Offering
- (2) Building & Maintenance Fund Offering

獻禮文 (第644首)

「萬物都是從主而來」

OFFERTORY PRAYER (#644)

"All Things Come of Thee"

祝福

BENEDICTION

阿們頌 (第675首)

CHORAL AMEN (#675)

唱詩第587首

「復興主工歌」

RECESSIONAL HYMN #587

"Revive Thy Work, O Lord"

電琴殿樂

ORGAN POSTLUDE

(*) 後座有即時傳譯設備，譯為國語(撥M字)及英語(撥E字)。如需聽筒或簡體字聖經請向司事長索取。Simultaneous translation into Mandarin (switch to M) and English (switch to E) is available. Please obtain the headphone or Simplified Chinese Character Bible from the Chief Usher.

本主日獻花

： 趙柏林、張瑞芳夫婦
劉明新、黃寶娟夫婦
林天榮、伍妙玲夫婦

本主日獻刊

： 趙柏林、張瑞芳夫婦
林天榮、伍妙玲夫婦

今日講道經文

約翰福音4:5-42 (和合本新約聖經第129頁)

於是到了撒瑪利亞的一座城，名叫敘加，靠近雅各給他兒子約瑟的那塊地。在那裡有雅各井；耶穌因走路困乏，就坐在井旁。那時約有午正。有一個撒瑪利亞的婦人來打水。耶穌對他說：「請你給我水喝。」（那時門徒進城買食物去了。）撒瑪利亞的婦人對他說：「你既是猶太人，怎麼向我一個撒馬利亞婦人要水喝呢？」原來猶太人和撒瑪利亞人沒有來往。耶穌回答說：「你若知道上帝的恩賜，和對你說『給我水喝』的是誰，你必早求他，他也必早給了你活水。」

婦人說：「先生，沒有打水的器具，井又深，你從那裡得活水呢？我們的祖宗雅各將這井留給我們，他自己和兒子並牲畜也都喝這井裡的水，難道你比他還大嗎？」耶穌回答說：「凡喝這水的還要再渴；人若喝我所賜的水就永遠不渴。我所賜的水要在他裡頭成爲泉源，直湧到永生。」

婦人說：「先生，請把這水賜給我，叫我不渴，也不用來這麼遠打水。」耶穌說：「你去叫你丈夫也到這裡來。」婦人說：「我沒有丈夫。」耶穌說：「你說沒有丈夫是不錯的。你已經有五個丈夫，你現在有的並不是你的丈夫。你這話是真的。」婦人說：「先生，我看出你是先知。我們的祖宗在這山上禮拜，你們倒說，應當禮拜的地方是在耶路撒冷。」耶穌說：「婦人，你當信我。時候將到，你們拜父，也不在這山上，也不在耶路撒冷。你們所拜的，你們不知道；我們所拜的，我們知道，因爲救恩是從猶太人出來的。時候將到，如今就是了，那真正拜父的，要用心靈和誠實拜他，因爲父要這樣的人拜他。上帝是個靈，所以拜他的必須用心靈和誠實拜他。」

婦人說：「我知道彌賽亞要來；他來了，必將一切的事都告訴我們。」耶穌說：「這和你說話的就是他！」當下門徒回來，就希奇耶穌和一個婦人說話；只是沒有人說：「你是要甚麼？」或說：「你爲甚麼和他說話？」那婦人就留下水罐子，往城裡去，對眾人說：「你們來看！有一個人將我素來所行的一切事都給我說出來了，莫非這就是基督嗎？」眾人就出城，往耶穌那裡去。

這其間，門徒對耶穌說：「拉比，請吃。」耶穌說：「我有食物吃，是你們不知道的。」門徒就彼此對問說：「莫非有人拿甚麼給他吃嗎？」耶穌說：「我的食物就是遵行差我來者的旨意，做成他的工。你們豈不說『到收割的時候還有四個月』嗎？我告訴你們，舉目向田觀看，莊稼已經熟了，可以收割了。收割的人得工價，積蓄五穀到永生，叫撒種的和收割的一同快樂。俗語說：『那人撒種，這人收割』，這話可見是真的。我差你們去收你們所沒有勞苦的；別人勞苦，你們享受他們所勞苦的。」

那城裡有好些撒瑪利亞人信了耶穌，因爲那婦人作見證說：「他將我素來所行的一切事都給我說出來了。」於是撒瑪利亞人來見耶穌，求他在他們那裡住下，他便在那裡住了兩天。因耶穌的話，信的人就更多了，便對婦人說：「現在我們信，不是因爲你的話，是我們親自聽見了，知道這真是救世主。」

WORDS FOR TODAY'S SERMON

John 4:5-42 (New American Standard Bible)

So He came to a city of Samaria called Sychar, near the parcel of ground that Jacob gave to his son Joseph; and Jacob's well was there. So Jesus, being wearied from His journey, was sitting thus by the well. It was about the sixth hour. There came a woman of Samaria to draw water. Jesus said to her, "Give Me a drink." For His disciples had gone away into the city to buy food. Therefore the Samaritan woman said to Him, "How is it that You, being a Jew, ask me for a drink since I am a Samaritan woman?" (For Jews have no dealings with Samaritans.) Jesus answered and said to her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is who says to you, 'Give Me a drink,' you would have asked Him, and He would have given you living water."

She said to Him, "Sir, You have nothing to draw with and the well is deep; where then do You get that living water? You are not greater than our father Jacob, are You, who gave us the well, and drank of it himself and his sons and his cattle?" Jesus answered and said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will thirst again; but whoever drinks of the water that I will give him shall never thirst; but the water that I will give him will become in him a well of water springing up to eternal life."

The woman said to Him, “Sir, give me this water, so I will not be thirsty nor come all the way here to draw.” He said to her, “Go, call your husband and come here.” The woman answered and said, “I have no husband.” Jesus said to her, “You have correctly said, ‘I have no husband’; ^{for} you have had five husbands, and the one whom you now have is not your husband; this you have said truly.” The woman said to Him, “Sir, I perceive that You are a prophet. Our fathers worshiped in this mountain, and you *people* say that in Jerusalem is the place where men ought to worship.” Jesus said to her, “Woman, believe Me, an hour is coming when neither in this mountain nor in Jerusalem will you worship the Father. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. But an hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for such people the Father seeks to be His worshipers. God is spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.” The woman said to Him, “I know that Messiah is coming; when that One comes, He will declare all things to us.” Jesus said to her, “I who speak to you am *He*.”

At this point His disciples came, and they were amazed that He had been speaking with a woman, yet no one said, “What do You seek?” or, “Why do You speak with her?” So the woman left her waterpot, and went into the city and said to the men, “Come, see a man who told me all the things that I *have* done; this is not the Christ, is it?” They went out of the city, and were coming to Him. Meanwhile the disciples were urging Him, saying, “Rabbi, eat.” But He said to them, “I have food to eat that you do not know about.” So the disciples were saying to one another, “No one brought Him *anything* to eat, did he?” Jesus said to them, “My food is to do the will of Him who sent Me and to accomplish His work. Do you not say, ‘There are yet four months, and *then* comes the harvest’? Behold, I say to you, lift up your eyes and look on the fields, that they are white for harvest. Already he who reaps is receiving wages and is gathering fruit for life eternal; so that he who sows and he who reaps may rejoice together. For in this *case* the saying is true, ‘One sows and another reaps.’ I sent you to reap that for which you have not labored; others have labored and you have entered into their labor.”

From that city many of the Samaritans believed in Him because of the word of the woman who testified, “He told me all the things that I *have* done.” So when the Samaritans came to Jesus, they were asking Him to stay with them; and He stayed there two days. Many more believed because of His word; and they were saying to the woman, “It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves and know that this One is indeed the Savior of the world.”

代禱事項 PRAYER CONCERNS :

1. 為我們未能實現天國，在大齋節期間向上帝懺悔認罪：
 - 我們不能全心愛主，為主所創造的做一個好管家
 - 作為信徒我們不能背起十字架，為傳福音做一個好管家
 - 我們不是忠誠的一份子，沒有用主的恩賜為教會做一個好管家求主憐憫我們。
In the season of Lent, let us confess our sins we have made for not living in the reality of the kingdom of God:
 - We have failed to love you with all our heart and to be good stewards of your creation,
 - We have failed to take up the cross of discipleship and to be good stewards of your gospel,
 - We have failed to be faithful members of your church and to be good stewards of your spiritual giftsLord, have mercy.
2. 我們繼續為烏克蘭禱告，那裡的國內危機現已升化為俄羅斯和世界其他國家之間的緊張國際關係。在這動盪不安之際，我們為仍在痛苦掙扎的烏克蘭人民禱告。願上帝的光照耀陷入戰火的國家，並且願主堅定不移的愛使人民充滿希望。
We continue to pray for Ukraine as the internal crisis has elevated to become a tense international relationship between Russia and the rest of the world. Amidst this international uneasiness, we pray for the people in Ukraine who are still struggling and unsettled. May your guiding light shine in the embattled country and may your steadfast love strengthen the people with hope.
3. 馬航客機的離奇失蹤事件困擾著許多在北京及馬來西亞的人民。世界各地對遇難的家庭獻上禱告。正當所有人都力圖在各種混淆的消息中尋找真相，我們祈盼謎團可以早日解開。願上帝的光照在黑暗裏，黑暗不能勝過光。
The mysterious disappearance of the Malaysian Airlines commercial plane has troubled many people in Beijing and Malaysia. The nation’s thoughts and prayers were with the grieving families. As people struggle to know where the plane is in the midst of confusing information, we pray for clarity and hope. May your light shine in the darkness and the darkness cannot overcome it.

歡迎 WELCOME :

1. 歡迎您參加本堂的主日崇拜！英文崇拜後，歡迎參加在懷熙中心舉行的茶聚。
Welcome to our Sunday Services! We are glad you have come to worship with us today. After 9:30am English service, please join us for fellowship and refreshment in T.H. Chan Memorial Hall.
2. 9:30時主日學在5-6室及圖書室授課，11:00時主日學在14-17及20室授課。歡迎2-17歲兒童青少年們參加主日學。
Our Sunday School teachers look forward to learning with you again. 9:30 am service students will meet in Rooms 5-6 & 9. 11 am service students will meet in Rooms 14-17 & 20. Everyone in the ages 2-17 is welcome to attend
3. 本堂網頁<http://tcuc.ca>現正重新整理，新網頁將於日後公佈。
The church website <http://tcuc.ca> is under reconstruction, the new website will be announced when it is ready.

本週聚會與活動 ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK :

1. 康體瑜珈活動將於今主日上午11:30至下午1:00在教會一號室舉行。有興趣參加者請向張林素恩查詢。
Yoga Session for Wellness & Fitness will be held today from 11:30a.m. to 1:00p.m. in Room 1. For details, please contact Ingrid Chong.
2. 英文崇拜歌頌小組練習於中文崇拜後在正堂舉行。
The Talking Donkeys will rehearse promptly following the close of the 11am worship service every Sunday.
3. 教會詩班練習於下午1:30在正堂舉行。
Church Choir will rehearse every Sunday at 1:30pm in the Sanctuary.
4. 團契健康排舞於下午2:15在教會懷熙中心舉行。
Fellowship Line Dance will be held every Sunday in the gymnasium at 2:15pm.
5. 羽毛球活動於每星期一晚上8:00在教會懷熙中心舉行，由劉鎮康擔任靈修。
Badminton is held every Monday night starting at 8:00 pm. Players of all levels are welcome. Devotion will be led by Calin Lau.
6. 地板曲棍球活動於每星期五晚上8:00在教會懷熙中心舉行，由Simon Tang帶領本週靈修。詳情請向尹容俊查詢。

Floor Hockey is held every Friday night starting at 8:00pm in the gymnasium. Devotion will be led by Simon Tang this week. For details please contact Samuel Yoon.

會務消息 CHURCH NEWS :

1. 會議通告 NOTICE OF MEETING

財務及行政組將於2014年3月29日(星期六)上午9:30在教會嬰兒室舉行會議。

The Finance and Administration Task Group will meet on Saturday, March 29, 2014 at 9:30 a.m. in the Nursery Room at church.

2. 就業團契 Career Fellowship

信仰發展和基督教教育組之青年工作小組成立一個新的團契，歡迎初就業及年輕夫婦參加。聚會時間定於每月第四個星期六晚上在會友家中舉行。有意參加者，請聯絡杜國豪(wilsonkhto@gmail.com)。本月的聚會將於三月二十九日(星期六)出席本堂舉行的電影欣賞晚會。詳情請參閱週刊第12頁。

A new fellowship has been established by Faith Development and Education Task Group for Cantonese-speaking young couples and young career people. Meeting is scheduled for every 4th Saturday evening at a member's home. If you are interested to join, please contact Wilson To (wilsonkhto@gmail.com). This month's meeting will be at the church joining other church members to watch the "Of Gods and Men" movie on Saturday March 29, 2014. Please refer to today's bulletin page 12 for more details.

3. “植樹節”四月廿七日 10,000 Trees for the Rouge on Sunday April 27, 2014 after service

本堂今年將再次響應市政府舉行的“植樹節”活動，歡迎你參加在市郊荒蕪崎嶇不平的地面種植，去綠化地球。活動會提供接送巴士服務，車站位於 Walmart Plaza (500 Copper Creek drive, Markham)。義工登記表已張貼在團契事工壁報版上，有意者請在報名表填上你的名字，並可向雷李樹鈴查詢詳情。

TCUC will be participating once again in the “10,000 Trees for the Rouge” Tree planting in April around Earth Day – to add more green to the planet earth. Everyone is invited to join the event. Shuttle bus service is available at Walmart Plaza at 500 Copper Creek drive, Markham. A sign-up sheet is posted on the Fellowship notice board. If you are interested for more details, please contact Alice Lui.

4. 捐贈舊衣 New Circles ‘Prom Party’ Clothing Drive

請繼續於3月30日前將捐贈給New Circles社區服務中心的衣物放在懷熙中心的收集箱內。

Please continue to donate your gently used party wear to benefit disadvantaged teens, on behalf of New Circles Community Services. Donations will be collected in the T.H. Chan Memorial Hall each Sunday from February 23 to March 30, 2014.

5. 聖週特別崇拜 Holy Week’s Special Services

本堂將於聖週舉行以下的特別崇拜，請預時間攜親友參加。Our church will hold the following special services during the Holy Week. Please mark the dates in your calendar and invite friends and relatives to join us.

☆ 濯足節 Maundy Thursday

四月十七日(星期四) Thursday, April 17, 2014
晚上6時30分 at 6:30 p.m.
簡單便餐和崇拜 Light meal and Worship

☆ 受難節 Good Friday

四月十八日(星期五) Friday, April 18, 2014
上午11時 at 11:00 a.m.
聯合崇拜 Joint Worship Service

☆ 復活節 Easter Sunday

四月二十日(主日) Sunday, April 20, 2014
上午10時30分 at 10:30 a.m.
聯合崇拜及午餐 Joint Worship and Luncheon

Movie appreciation Night:

“Of Gods and Men”

Original title: “Des hommes et des dieux”

(2010) with English subtitles. 122 minutes.

Powerful film to see Christians and Muslims co-exist in peace.

Stimulating dialogue on life and death.

Official entry – for Best Foreign Language Film

– 2011 Academy Awards

Winner at Grand Prix, Festival de Cannes

March 29, 2014 (Saturday) at 7:00pm

TCUC Sanctuary (at the balcony)

Free admission. Bring your friends along. All are welcome.

電影欣賞之夜：

“Of Gods and Men (人神之間)”

2010年度法國製作，英文字幕，

片長122分鐘

一部描述基督徒和回教徒共存的震撼電影，

在生與死之間有發人心醒的對白

獲2010年度奧斯卡金像獎-提名最佳外語獎

及在康城電影節獲獎

三月廿九日(星期六)晚上七時

在多倫多中華聯合教會閣樓舉行

費用全免，歡迎携友參加

上主日講章簡述

「尼哥底母的尋索」(約翰福音 3:1-21)

今日的經文說尼哥底母夜間來見耶穌，與他談及信仰的問題。其實尼哥底母也是一位有知識的人，作為一位法利賽人，他對聖經的認識及對跟隨上帝的嚴謹並不弱。我們可以這樣說兩位對信仰及上帝嚴謹的人，曾經有一段非常嚴肅對話的機會。一同探討過信仰的深處及人生的去向，耶穌談及信仰的奧秘並不容易明白。尼哥底母不能即時體會，但並不代表沒有改變的可能性。約翰福音第十九章，提供我們一個清楚的結論：尼哥底母是一個跟隨耶穌的人。就算尼哥底母當夜與耶穌的談話沒有立刻改變他的生命，但是在一個不知道的將來尼哥底終於明白了，跟隨了耶穌，他的回應並不是即時的，需要時間去思考，甚至掙扎。

誰是尼哥底母？尼哥底母在我心內，我明白他，我認識他，見過他，因為我可能是尼哥底母。我仍然需要學習聆聽，包括聆聽在我信仰以外的人對生命的奧秘的發現。我們今天要有尼哥底母的勇氣及心態。雖然曾經讓真理觸摸和接納了耶穌，這不是叫我們驕傲或自滿。信仰的豐富，要求跟從上帝的人像尼哥底母，不會放棄深入探討的機會。除非你與我說：我已經認識了所有的真理，有信仰的人仍然需要為自己創造空間，挑戰自己，欣賞他人的觀點。雖然意見不同，我們不是要抬高自己，仍是提供機會去思考。

我們今日要問，是否所有不跟從或沒有跟從耶穌的人都是作惡的人？他們都是活在黑暗當中？行真理的就必然來走向光明，這當然是對。但是否所有這樣的人只可能是基督徒呢？約翰福音的道理是黑白分明，是要回應他當日一個特別的處境，無論是一個甚麼的處境。但兩千年過去了，歷史讓我們看見跟隨耶穌的人不一定做了對的事。沒有跟隨耶穌的人並不一定作了錯的事。我們今日問的這類問題是當日的約翰不可能問。約翰從來沒有想像這個可能性的出現，這個灰色地帶是約翰並沒有講及的。我們在有生之年日只可以愛待人，隨時分享向上帝在我們身上的恩典。人能經歷生命改變，是因為上帝的大能藉著聖靈的感動。在適當的時候回應上帝的邀請，我們必定要學習不作上帝，隨意審判他人的不是。愛的道理需要愛的行動，不單是愛的言語。

LAST SUNDAY'S SERMON SUMMARY

"Nicodemus's Quest" (John 3:1-21)

In today's text, Nicodemus went to see Jesus at night to discuss issues relating to faith. Nicodemus was a knowledgeable person. As a Pharisee, his knowledge of the Bible and his zeal to follow God wasn't weak. We can say that there was a time when two serious individuals of faith had a very serious conversation. They discussed issues relating to faith and life. Jesus' message wasn't easy to understand. Nicodemus might not be able to grasp it, but that isn't to say there was no chance of change. John 19 gives us a clear conclusion: Nicodemus was a follower of Jesus. The conversation the night he had with Jesus may not have changed him. Yet, in an unknown future, Nicodemus finally understood and he followed Jesus. His response wasn't immediate. He needed time to think, even struggle.

Who is Nicodemus? He lives inside me. I understand him, know him, and have seen him since I may be Nicodemus. I still need to learn to listen, include the people who don't share my faith and listen to their discoveries. I need the courage and attitude of Nicodemus. Although we have been touched by the truth and have followed Jesus, we shouldn't be arrogant. Faith is so rich that it requires us who follow Jesus to behave like Nicodemus, who wouldn't give up opportunities to deepen his faith. Unless you tell me you have understood all truth, people of God still need to create space for learning, be open to challenges, and appreciate other peoples' viewpoints. Although we may disagree with each other, we don't put ourselves higher than we should but to provide opportunity to provoke thought.

We need to ask: Are all people who will not and have not followed Jesus doing evils? Are they all living in darkness? Scripture says: Whoever lives by the truth comes to the light. This is of course correct. But is it that such people can only be Christians? John the gospel writer was painting truth in terms of black and white. He was responding to the context of his time, no matter what it was. Two thousand years had gone by. History shows us those who had followed Jesus may not have done the right things. Those who didn't follow Jesus may not have done evil things. The kinds of questions we raise today, John had no chance to raise. John had never considered such scenario as possible. John wasn't addressing such grey areas. To live the rest of our lives we can only serve with love. We make ourselves ready to share God's grace in our lives. For people who can experience transformation is because of God's power through the work of the Holy Spirit. They change in their own time. We must learn not to play god and judge people. The message of love needs loving actions, not just loving words.