

PMPT Theme (2017-2019): BE DISCIPLES OF HOPE

Melaka-Johor Diocesan Theme (2016-2020): CHURCH AS COMMUNITY OF FAMILIES

March 2017 PMPT Sub-theme -- HOPE: Lived in Creative Sharing

Introduction: We live in an age of rapid change. We often experience being at cross roads. May we take the path of hope and so live creatively to love people and to love God.

Opening Song: Pass It On (J.67 SYPTG)

It only takes a spark
To get a fire going
And soon all those around
Can warm up in its glowing
That's how it is with God's love
Once you've experienced it
You spread His love to ev'ryone
You want to pass it on

What a wondrous time is spring
When all the trees are budding
The birds begin to sing
The flowers start their blooming
That's how it is with God's love
Once you've experienced it
You want to sing it's fresh like spring
You want to pass it on

I wish for you my friend
This happiness that I've found
You can depend on Him
It matters not where you're bound
I'll shout it from the mountain top
I want my world to know
The Lord of love has come to me
I want to pass it on

DIALOGUE

Twenty-two- year old Yolanda stands precariously on the railing of a bridge above a turbulent river, contemplating suicide. A passer-by, Damien cautiously approaches her.

Damien : Hello there Miss, the view from way up there must be breath taking!
But isn't it a little dangerous up there?

Yolanda : There's nothing beautiful to me. Go away!

- Damien : Please come down and we'll have a little chat.
- Yolanda : Nothing you say will convince me to change my mind!
I can't stand this consuming pain any longer!
- Damien: But. You still have a family that loves and cares for you right?
- Yolanda: Family? What family? They don't care. They don't love me.
- Damien : Look Miss, there are other choices you know, so won't you please come down?
- Yolanda : I've tried everything----cigarettes, alcohol, drugs and even prostitution, all to no avail! The pain just gets worse!
- Damien : I see. you've tried everything of this world but have you tried Divine Intervention?
- Yolanda : I don't know what you're babbling about!
- Damien : Please come down and I'll explain it to you. God loves you unconditionally and doesn't want you to end your life this way.
- Yolanda : How can God love a hardened sinner like me?
- Damien: God loves the sinner so much that at this very moment He is reaching out to you with outstretched arms of love and mercy.

Yolanda remained silent and in deep thought. She stayed put for some time. Then she decided to move and grasp Damien's outstretched hand.

Buzz with the person next to you. Buzz a second time with another person

- Say how you feel on the attempt by Damien to engage Yolanda?
- Share some thoughts of how you would deal with a situation of hopelessness of someone or your experience of being helped by another person.

DISCERNMENT

Biblical text: Eph 1:15-18

1. Ask the Holy Spirit
(*for openness to be empowered and enlightened by Christ ...*)
2. Read the text two or three times
(or use *drawings, pictures, role play, video ...*)
3. Be in silence with the text
4. What words or phrases caught my attention?
5. What is the Holy Spirit saying to me?

DEEDS

- a) Share in small groups(3-4 persons) on points # 4 + 5
- b) Share 2 or 3 main points with all present
- c) Facilitator guides members in deciding on ONE task to be carried out by the BEC/community
(Note: *May need to pause if it is difficult to arrive at ONE common task*).
- d) Facilitator helps the BEC/community with details of the chosen task that will bring a sense of hope to others
- e) Time of prayer
(*for the needs of persons in the BEC/community, country and the task that has been decided ...*)

Note to facilitator

- i) Use creative/alternative/participative ways in facilitating.
- ii) Keep in mind the theme; what transpired in the **Dialogue** and **Discernment** portion of the guide.
- iii) Keep in mind the 4E approach; **Encountered, Empowered, Enlightened, Evangelising**.
- iv) You are free to facilitate the **3D(Dialogue, Discernment, Deeds)** process so that it is relevant and meaningful for the BEC/community gathering.

Closing Song: Go Light Your World

There is a candle in every soul
Some brightly burning, some dark and cold
There is a Spirit who brings a fire
Ignites a candle and makes His home

So carry your candle, run to the darkness
Seek out the helpless, confused and torn
Hold out your candle for all to see it
Take your candle, and go light your world
Take your candle, and go light your world

Frustrated brother, see how he's tried to
Light his own candle some other way
See now your sister, she's been robbed and lied to
Still holds a candle without a flame

So Carry your candle, run to the darkness
Seek out the lonely, the tired and worn
Hold out your candle for all to see it
Take your candle, and go light your world
Take your candle, and go light your world

Cause We are a family whose hearts are blazing
So let's raise our candles and light up the sky
Praying to our Father, in the name of Jesus
Make us a beacon in darkest times

So Carry your candle, run to the darkness
Seek out the helpless, deceived and poor
Hold out your candle for all to see it
Take your candle, and go light your world

Carry your candle, run to the darkness
Seek out the helpless, confused and torn
Hold out your candle for all to see it
Take your candle, and go light your world
Take your candle, and go light your world
Take your candle, and go light your world