

The Vine Committee

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Jessie at Petra
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HOM'S Reflections

It was raining and the roads were chockablock with vehicles and I could only move forward at a snail's pace. Apparently, there was an accident on the AYE according to the DJ on Gold

90.5. I wasn't on the expressway but on the inner roads, yet I was not moving. The clock seemed to be quickly ticking away the minutes as I struggled to find a way through the traffic jam.

I had specially taken leave that day to fetch Debra to the Pharmacist Competency Examination which was held in a hall in the SGH. We thought that by driving her there we could give her some peace and calm before the exam. Instead, now we were in a state of panic as it was only about 40 minutes before the paper starts and we were still stuck at Clementi.

A decision was made. I weaved my car to the left lane and let Debra down. She was on her own now. Dad could not help her, only our Father in Heaven could. She made her way to the Clementi MRT station and we monitored her progress by phone. First message, she was already on the

train; second message, she had passed Redhill and while we crawled our way to Buona Vista, we received the last message that she had already reached Outram station.

Later we learnt that she broke her umbrella in her haste to open it and as she was walking from the Outram station to the exam hall, she received a call from the examiner to inquire if she was on the way. She managed to reach the exam hall (building 4 on the map) just 5 minutes before the start time.

Without much calm or rest, she went through the examination. By God's grace she passed the exam.



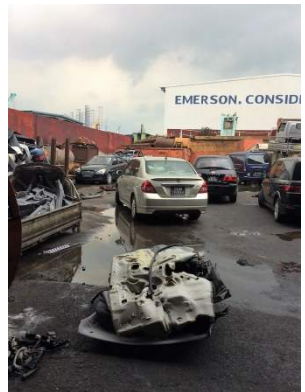
We prayed and the whole JWCG prayed and yet we had to go through the storm. Did we think that God would fail us? If the thought did pass through my mind, it did not stay long. We had a hope in a mighty God who is able to do immeasurably more than we can ask.

We reckoned that God must have moved us to take the inner road even though our usual route from our house to SGH would be through the AYE. If we were stuck in the AYE, there was no way to let Debra down to catch the MRT.

As I pondered on the situation, I come to the conclusion that even though things do not go smoothly as man planned it but God is overall in control of the situation. Remember Joseph who spent many years as a slave and in prison. He must have wondered if God had forsaken him. But from this side of history, we know that God had a better plan.

Anyway, this will be the last time I send anyone anywhere because as of 28th October, my car will be turned to scrap metal.

Even now as new JCC is near completion, some may wonder why God allowed delays in construction, still \$1 million short of target, still 30 tables to sell, worries about future maintenance costs, traffic control, coordination among the various churches, etc. Wonder all you like but don't forget to pray.



Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, through prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, submit your requests to God. And the peace of God which transcends all understanding will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus. - Philippians 4:6-7

Martin Cheah

We must continue to pray for the authorities to grant us TOP earlier so we can move in by Dec 2016. Pray that the work will carry on smoothly, safely and fast.

