

A Matter of the Heart

“For Where Your Treasure is, There will your heart be also” Matt 6:21

This was the article that got lost in the world of technology where I explored using my tablet and a new Word programme to start writing it. Lo and behold, this article left me twice after two sessions of writing and never appeared in my “Saved” box. Yes, I think it is the user problem. I had to let it go to take a break and rest. Perhaps, it was not meant to be under the title, “Heart Attack!”

I had wanted to reflect on the news received over the last few months on colleagues and friends that I knew who collapsed because of heart problems. Two of them survived with medication and a string of check-ups to be administered through frequent visits to the hospitals. The others were not as lucky and they did not make it. It is a matter of the heart.

According to the Wikipedia, the heart is a muscular organ that pumps blood through the blood vessels of the circulatory system. The blood provides the body with oxygen and nutrients as well as assists in the removal of metabolic waste. When the heart is not well, we will not be well too. The heart does matter.

When it matters and the events strike, we will be brought to our senses of coming to terms with the reality and the emotions that will hit us. The sense of awareness and shock will chill our hearts as they open our eyes to the world we thought we knew and yet there is really nothing we can do to control the situation when it strikes.

At such moments, would you have thought of Jesus? Are you running to Him for wisdom, strength and protection through His mercy and grace? Continue to rely on Him and praise Him with thanks-giving in our hearts at all times.



I am sure many of you received encouragements in various forms and in this world of social media, we are all hopping on this bandwagon to catch up with the times to post and chat using these channels of Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. Oh yes, let us not forget there are also Wechat, Whatsapp and Messenger platforms. Information is transmitted faster and wider to bigger audiences around the globe easily. It is amazing, yet, scary, right? I always feel that we do not know enough and must always learn along the way. You know, we could use social media as one of the channels to reach out to those who do not know about Christ and encourage Christians too. I see happy and sad moments, stories, advertisements and comments on the social media channels. More of the Christian materials and content can be easily found as well.



On the other hand, these channels could be used for selfish and unethical reasons for brain-washing of ideals and idolatry too. I will not continue on this point. You get the picture.

Think about it? It is a matter of the heart and in such cases, the mind as well. This partnership always gives us chaos in our decision-making

when the heart and mind do not agree with each other. Pray and let God guide us. Trust Him!

I am glad that we are struggling during such times which also mean that our minds and hearts are working to reach the right direction. I know it is not as easy as it sounds. I have been there many times and I know we will continue to struggle through life as how God already knows.

I used to enjoy watching Oprah Winfrey's shows many years back as a teenager. She was a gregarious woman with an acute sense of humour citing and contending with real issues and people she invited on her shows to share experiences with the audiences. She said, "No experience is wasted. Everything happening in life is happening to grow you up, to help you to become more of who you were created to be."

As we continue to guard, protect, nourish and nurture our hearts to be closer to Jesus, we know that the journey will not be without trials and tribulations. Do it because we will know Him better. It is a matter of the heart. Find your treasure and give thanks to Him for all He has done for us!

"These have come so that the proven genuineness of your faith – greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire – may result in praise, glory and honour when Jesus Christ is revealed."
1 Peter 1:7

Joyce Tan



The author wrote on page 74:

The unconditional nature of Personal Forgiveness is also why it is a terrible sin to not forgive others of the penalty for their sins, because we are saying to God one or more of these statements:

- * I don't believe that Jesus died for them
- * I don't believe that the death of Jesus was good enough to pay for their sins
- * I have a higher standard than God does
- * I don't want Jesus to pay for their sins. I want them to pay for their own sins.

All of these thoughts are terrible insults to God, who has paid such a high price to pay off everyone's debt.