

# I Surrender All

Life has been extremely hectic and challenging this year as a full time working mother of 2 young children. Juggling various roles as a wife, mother, social worker, employee, daughter-in-law, sister-in-law, friend, Christian, etc has been overwhelming. Things were constantly going beyond my control to the point that I felt life was meaningless. Every day was spent rushing here and there attending to people's needs. I wish I could collapse and disappear magically to somewhere far away.

Hence, when the advertisement for YAM Kukop retreat was announced, I was elated as it meant a short and quick getaway for me. Motherly duties such as waking up at 3am to feed my son still continued as I brought along my children for the trip. However, I was thankful for the spiritual rest and benefited from Pastor Chai Aik's heartfelt motivational message of attending to our "Garden", to flourish in the place that God has called us to be.

Pastor's advice to pray for our workplace, boss and colleagues was really timely for me as I was going through a rough patch at work. This reminded me



that all things are in God's hands and we are to surrender every aspect of our lives to Him. On a light hearted note, we were served with such good food during the retreat and I most enjoyed the durian party fellowship amidst everyone's stinky breath. I look forward to the day I could give back to the church by being in the retreat planning committee when I have the capacity to do so.

*Esther Goh*