## PROJECT BEFRIENDERS (S3P)









## Time to say Goodbye, but ...

One of the callings of churches is to sow love and care in the community. This awesome calling is not lost on JCC in the light of the Covid-19 pandemic. When we see people in need, it is natural for us to step forward to help in whatever ways we can.

Hence, we took up the PROJECT BEFRIENDERS in partnership with New Life Baptist Church (NLBC) Hearts Alive Church (HA) and Revival Christian Church (RCC) to provide **S**afe, **S**ound **S**leeping **P**laces (**S3P**) to one of community's vulnerable groups (the homeless people), making full use of the space we had upon the temporary closure of our kindergarten due to the government's Circuit Breaker measures.

It would be a lie to say that we didn't have our concerns about the adequacy of our ability to provide safe shelter and ensure the well-being of everyone with all the necessary challenging precautions to prevent the spread of the virus.

We did also think about how God had been blessing JCC through many tough challenges and were reminded by Scripture about putting faith into practice, conquering fear.

"So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand." ~ Isaiah 41:10

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## FAITH OVER FEAR RELIGION IN A TIME OF COVID -19 SAT 9:00 SIN 6:30 PM 8:00 SIN cna.asia/yod cna.asia/youtube

"When I am afraid, I put my trust in you." ~ <u>Psalm 56:3</u>

With the Covid-19 stress everywhere, especially acutely

felt by the homeless, we finally took the leap of **FAITH OVER FEAR** on 20<sup>th</sup> April 2020 to be a blessing as we had been blessed, with our brother Justin Tay bravely leading the project.



When our work was featured in CNA 9.00 p.m. news on 30<sup>th</sup> May 2020 (Sat), one of our beneficiaries commented on TV: "My leg is not doing so well, but I'm living like an

## emperor."

What? Living like an emperor? (a) Of course, this cheerful uncle was using hyperbole. Nevertheless, he was obviously incredibly happy with the shelter and simple comforts that we were able to provide. His cheerfulness bounced back to us as we realised that it is like Jesus feeding 5000 with the little that His followers were able to provide; it is really not how little or much we can muster in terms of our perceived capability, but how we can show compassion to the needy with the sustenance of God.

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With the Circuit Breaker being lifted, we bade farewell to the ten guests that we were glad to host under the BEFRIENDERS PROJECT (S3P). They were satisfied with the simple help we were privileged to provide, and we felt blessed with the opportunity to experience faith at work in a real-life setting, trusting God in sowing love and care under challenging circumstances.

Time to say Goodbye, but ...

We continue to keep our beneficiaries in our prayers – praying for their salvation and wishing them well with God's blessings. In fact, we are still in contact with some of them even though they are no longer in JCC. One of them keeps mentioning that JCC is the "best of all best" among the places that he had been to. We are happy when we see our beneficiaries happy. With humility, we acknowledge with thanksgiving to God for His wonderful provisions. He has built JCC for His purpose.



At the same time, we also give thanks for the numerous brothers and sisters in Christ who stepped out of their comfort zone, taking the leap of **FAITH OVER FEAR** in rendering Godly service which we know they will continue in different ways.

We thank our prayer warriors who prayed daily from the start of this project till it ended. One of our beneficiaries received Christ on the day before he left JCC. It was amazing

how God surprised and encouraged us to press on in praying for the community.

Will JCCians rise up in praying – both individually and in cell groups – and be ready to yield a greater harvest?

John Lee

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