

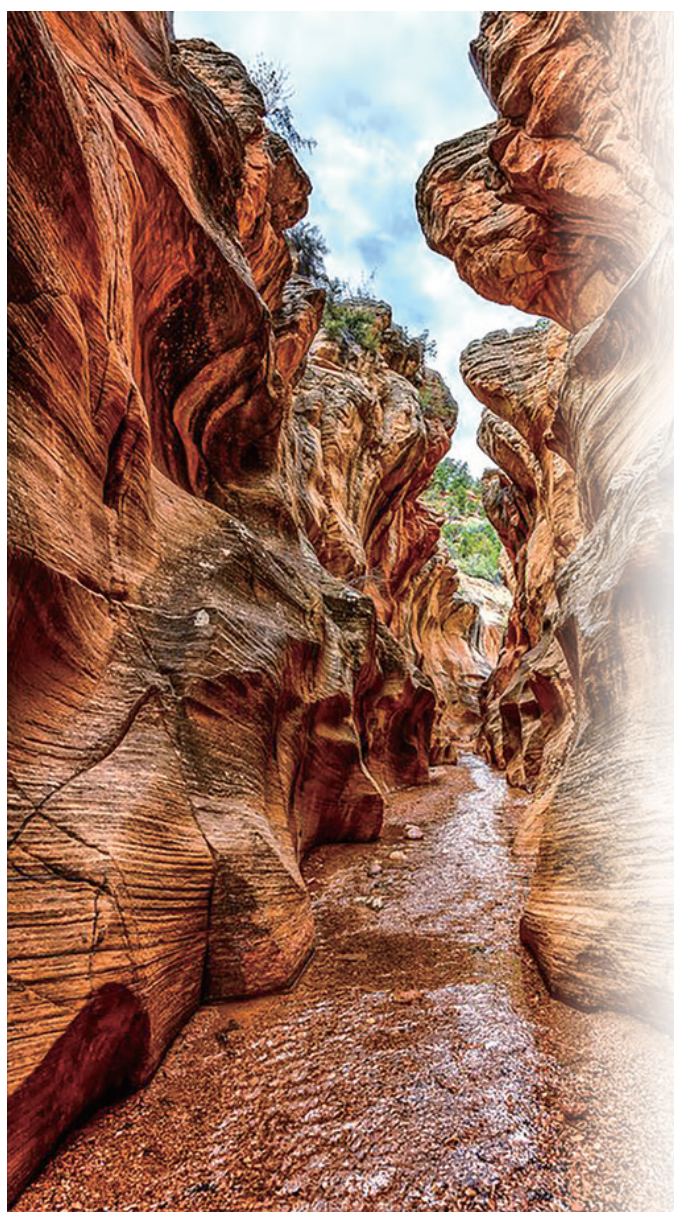


Chairman's Message

Rev. Chow Wing Fu

I will exalt you, Lord, for you lifted me out of the depths and did not let my enemies gloat over me. Lord my God, I called to you for help, and you healed me. You, Lord, brought me up from the realm of the dead; you spared me from going down to the pit.

Psalm 30:1-3



According to the title of Psalm 30, this was a psalm for the dedication of the temple written by David. The enemies here refer to persons who wanted to harm David. If we interpret the meaning of enemies here as the things that are harmful to our physical bodies and spiritual lives, this psalm might resonate much more with us.

When I was young, there was someone in my family who was addicted to drugs. Not only did his addiction take control of his life, he lost his dignity and lived like a walking dead person and his family was also living in turmoil. Later in life, I got to know people who are or were addicted to gambling inside and outside of the church this had torn their families apart. I also knew people who are or were sex addicts and destroyed their own futures.

Addiction is like the ancient serpent in the Bible, which has the power like a python that constrains and crushes people; like the venom of a venomous snake that causes suffocation and rots the body. Addiction keeps people away from God and makes their lives like a living hell. At the beginning of one's addiction, he or she might still have a conscience and feel remorse for his or her own doing. But in the end, everything becomes numb, and he or she lives like a walking dead person.

The Psalmist knows that this enemy is powerful so if he relies on himself alone he will not be able to overcome. Only by relying on God's love can the enemy be overcome.

The two testimonies published in this issue are of two people who have come to share their long experience of being controlled, suffering through entanglement, struggling hard to change, falling again and again, and finally relying on the loving grace of the Lord to be reborn.

The purpose of these testimonial articles is not to show off success, but only to share how life is governed by its horrors and to see the wonderful redemption of grace. No one can guarantee that a person who has escaped from "addiction" will not fall again, but it is guaranteed that the power of "addiction" is not greater than that of the Lord's grace, and this grace will always be given to those who sincerely trust him.



e-Donation



KSA FB

A spiritual awakening of two rehabilitated persons

Reflections on addictions

Lam Kam Biu

(Currently serving as a staff at KSA,
helping to shape the lives of the residents at the Men's hostel)

My father was very strict with me and my siblings when we were young. When my dad came home from a day of tiring work at the food stall, he would either swear at us or cane us if we were not well-behaved or didn't get good grades. If he drank that day, the punishment would be more severe. He would cane my sister with a mop and break it. Everyone in the family was in fear when my siblings were being punished by my father. So to avoid being punished, I would have to behave well and get good grades.

When I started secondary school, I wanted to see my friends and go out together, but he never said yes, and didn't even want to discuss it with me. I was resentful because I didn't understand why my father was not like other fathers. Therefore, if I had a chance to go out with my friends, I would definitely go all out and make that day the happiest day of my life.

Addiction is unbearable and unstoppable

I started using heroin when I was fourteen. I was Form 4 that year and the certificate examination was the year after. Thinking back to my first time using drugs, I didn't even hesitate to use them even though I had seen the harmfulness of drugs on TV commercials, because I wanted to feel happy and high.

I started from using occasionally to using daily, from using together with friends to using by myself. In order to get money for drugs, I have done many reluctant, shameful, and harmful things. Besides doing things I couldn't even handle, I also made up many excuses to borrow money from family, friends, and colleagues. What's more is that if I found an opportunity, I would commit crimes for money, and it didn't matter from whom I was stealing from. Therefore, I committed many serious crimes including theft, robbery, burglary and etc. Under the influence of drugs, I lied to everyone I knew how to hide my addiction and weird behavior after taking drugs from them.

And there was this one time, I worked hard to get the drugs and was about to start using them by squatting on the toilet as usual. But when I saw the drugs, tears rolled down my face, I was overwhelmed with emotions. I hated myself doing all these shameful things, hurting and deceiving others. I hated the fear inside my heart, the fear that my addiction would be exposed. All this made me feel very weary. It was all so unbearable and I felt helpless to stop it.

I wanted to be free from drugs, so I was hospitalized for rehabilitation nine times, and imprisoned twice. However, I started using again, the shortest time was 2 days after rehabilitation or 1 month after rehabilitation. My body might have overcome the addiction, but my heart couldn't resist the idea of using again. It itched so bad sometimes that I had to respond to it.

Addiction is a long battle, but love is never failing

I stopped using heroin when I was 38 years old. That year I went to prison because of burglary. I had once again disappointed my family, and they didn't want to have anything to do with me anymore, so they decided to move away. During imprisonment, I couldn't stop trying and I didn't want to speak, I hated myself for not being able to break free from my addiction and completely destroying my relationship with my family. I felt that there was no meaning in life for me, and felt that I was living in my grave. Later, I attended a religious class in prison and listened to a recovered addict's testimony. He also experienced drug use, committed crimes, and imprisonment. He shared with us how he struggled with his drug addiction and failed every time, but God changed him with the Bible. His sharing touched my heart, and I started to see hope in my life again. Because I found a good example of somebody who overcame drug addiction, perhaps whatever this person believes could help me too. So I decided to do what he did.

I read the Bible every day in prison, hoping God would speak to me. When I read Romans 7, it says, "I do not understand what I do. For what I want to do I do not do, but what I hate I do." It speaks about the contradiction between sin in our hearts and actions. This is exactly what I was going through in battling my addiction. I couldn't break free from my addiction on my own willpower. My weaknesses couldn't handle the addiction battle. When I realized I needed Jesus more than ever because it was sin that has power over me and my addiction. Because the Bible says, "Salvation is found in no one else". I cried to the Lord in prayers after reading the Bible, because I could see my true self. When I read the story of Matthew, the tax collector, I repented of my sin. And when I read the story of Gadara, I prayed that God would set me free. When I read the story of Onesimus, I gave thanks for God's forgiveness and rescue.

After leaving prison, I lived out what I learned from the Bible. I cast aside lies, deceitfulness, and greed. I stopped take risks for money, hurting others and started asking for forgiveness from those I had hurt in the past. It will take time and patience for me to grow. I have changed my way of living and jobs, and continue to uphold my love for Jesus and be part of the church He built.

This year is my fifth year of being drug-free. I realized that God not only took away my addiction but rather it was His never-failing love that keeps me away from drugs. I never need drugs to get what I want anymore. He draws me back to be with Him so that I have peace and satisfaction. This is what I needed to start a new page in my life.

My parents were heartbroken and helpless when they saw me use drugs, get arrested, and be imprisoned. They suffered so much! Now that I'm cleaned, my family is full of indescribable joy. We have been through pain, but now we have forgiven each other and broken the ice. We no longer feel threatened in our relationship. Today, we as a family are full of love!

Thanks be to God, there is victory because of our Lord Jesus Christ! I was able to break free from the irresistible addiction and amended my relationship with my family. All glory be to God!



Rediscovering my Identity

So Shing Yan

(Currently serving as a staff at a para-church organisation, to help with the rehabilitation of women who have addictions)

I was under the influents of drugs and struggled with homosexuality for a long time. I was very lost! But praise and thank the Lord who has healed me and set me free!

How did a lesbian become heterosexual? Is it because she found true love in a heterosexual relationship? Or did she realize she does not need any sexual relationships? Is it because she finds that she no longer needs love? My sexual orientation changed because I found the origin of love and my intended identity.



Growing up, I lived with my grandparents and was pretty wealthy. But I didn't understand why my parents weren't living with us. Later I found out that my parents did not marry each other but had their own individual families. So I had to stay with my grandparents. I grew up without parental love and identity as a daughter.

Ever since I was a child, I liked women and wanted to have romantic relationships with women, thinking that this was my natural sexual orientation. But I was only trying to fill the void of love that I was looking for from my mother. Because of the lack of affection and loss of identity, I left home really young and wanted to start life on my own. At that time, I joined a gang and participated in illegal activities, including drugs and rape. I was vulnerable to drugs and homosexuality because of my immaturity.

I have witnessed women being abused by men, so subconsciously I felt that it was not safe and insecure to be a woman. I wanted to play a role of a man. But even if I dressed up as men, and did things to prove myself to others, it was all a facade. Because deep inside, I was filled with contradictions and agony. But I couldn't express myself, I chose to hide it and covered it up. I couldn't breathe because of this, and I was in pain. The unhealthy relationship didn't bring satisfaction, instead, it brought more hurts. The temporary affections can never fill the emptiness in my heart. I was hurt over and over again by each separation. I became someone who could no longer put trust in all my

relationships, but rather I used them for selfish reasons.

I started doing drugs to get respect from my peers, but it later developed as a way for me to escape reality and feel numb. There were also other reasons which I cannot explain with just a few words.

I went to prison three times because of drugs and spent thirteen and a half years in prison. The last time when I was in prison, I repented and accepted the Lord. I learned the Bible said that homosexuality is wrong. So I thought to myself, I should not do it since it is wrong. However, I slowly realized that it was not possible. The Bible said, "For the mouth speaks what the heart is full of." For the mouth speaks, actions also come out naturally. I tried very hard to control my thoughts and actions, but I failed. Because deep inside, I had homosexual thoughts, and I believed I was bored with this sexual orientation.

But our heavenly Father is so good and has prepared a way to rescue me. He put the right person by my side to help me, a mature woman and a spiritual mother to walk with me year after year. We have built an intimate and healthy relationship. Not only did I learn how to be close to God, but it also gave me a chance to experience a normal and beautiful relationships with women. In these experiences, I learned how deeply God loves me and I can feel how much He cherished me. God has a unique and wonderful plan for my life. Knowing this makes me realize that I need to guard my heart and have a fresh start.

Just like that, the transformation happened. Through these experiences, I know the Father's love for me. He gave me a precious identity and allowed me to return to God's intended plan. At the same time, I confessed and repented from the twisted life I was living, and those who I have hurt, including myself.

Finally, with joy, I'm a daughter whom the heavenly Father loves! It is a turning point in my life! Now I'm receiving theological training to become a pastor. It is my calling and I hope to walk in God's will and restore what God has intended when creating me. I know I will need to rely on God's grace and love. I also believe that His love and mercy will follow me because I'm His precious daughter in His eyes.

Female Hostel

The Second Mile - Sisterhood Home

Zoe Tang

Ministry officer



KSA's female hostel ministry started 'Sisterhood Home' at the beginning of 2022.

The residents who have completed the first session of the rehabilitation course in the female hostel would move into Sisterhood Home.

In Sisterhood Home, they learn to be independent, and support one another. Life challenges lie ahead in their future, and they will practice how to love God and others in all situations. May God bless each one of them to be His precious vessel.

Our heavenly Father prepared for us abundantly in ways beyond our expectations when we started Sisterhood Home. The landlord is a loving and passionate Christian. Not only the rent is low, but he also donated furniture and home appliances. His love for God and the rehabilitated persons is a testimony that God is truly our heavenly Father, and we can commit our lives to Him and have refuge in Him forever.

In March 2022, the graduated residents of the female hostel moved into Sisterhood Home officially. Everyone was so excited about the new place and put a lot of thought into it. They shared and discussed ideas for the layout and decorations.

Sisterhood Home is not just a place to help reinforce their training, but we have set up a room for rehabilitated persons who are single mothers. A woman named 'Ah Fun' is an example. When she found out that she was pregnant, she shared the news with her boyfriend at the time. He rejected her, so 'Ah Fun' and her family were looking for an abortion. She was seriously depressed and helpless. When no one understood her situation, she thought about Jesus and poured out to Him. After that, she decided to continue with her pregnancy and became a single mother. She took the doctor's advice to stop all psychiatric medicine for her baby's sake during pregnancy. Together with her six-month-old baby, they are now living with other sisters in Sisterhood Home, taking good care of each other, forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead.



香港基督教更新會 2022年1-3月份財政報告

KSA Financial Report for the period from 1 January 2022 to 31 March 2022

奉獻收入 Donation Income*

個人奉獻 Personal Donation	港幣HK\$	港幣HK\$	港幣HK\$
教會奉獻 Church Donation	1,625,184		
基金奉獻 Foundation Donation	338,850	2,012,034	
	48,000		

宿舍租金收入 Hostel Rental Income

宿舍租金收入 Hostel Rental Income ^{NOTE 1}	208,084	208,084	
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總收入 Total Income

2,220,118

支出 Expenses

行政費用 Administration Overheads	473,344		
籌款費用 Fundraising Expenses	1,080	474,424	474,424

事工費用 Ministry Expenses

院內事工 In-prison Ministry

女成人事工 Female Ministry	147,912		
男成人事工 Male Ministry	217,025		
外籍人士事工 Other Nations Ministry	82,905		
青少年事工 Youth Ministry	165,120		
囚友進修 Inmates Study Fee	14,309		
書信事工 Letter Ministry	21,807	649,078	

院外事工 Rehabilitated Ministry

女性宿舍 Female Hostel	106,482		
男性宿舍 Male Hostel	337,853		
家庭事工 Families Ministry	66,011		
囚友/更生人士子女事工 Inmates/Rehabilitated Persons' Children Ministry	91,889		
外展事工 Outreach Ministry ^{NOTE 2}	36,689		
阿尼西母訓練計劃 Onesimus Training Scheme	59,000		
職業訓練 Vocational Training	19,839		
慈惠 Charity & Loving Offering	467	718,230	

事工總費用 Total Ministry Expenses

1,367,308

總支出 Total Expenses

1,841,732

本期事工儲備 Ministry Reserve for the period	378,386
本年度截至 2022年3月31日總事工儲備 Total ministry Reserve for the year at 31 March 2022	378,386

Inmates/Rehabilitated Persons' Children Ministry

扣減2022年指定基金備用 Less Accumulated reserve of designated funds for 2022	(198,016)
本期累積事工儲備 Accumulated Reserve for the period	180,370

NOTE 1: 宿舍租金收入包括 4間男宿舍及1間女宿舍 Hostel Rental Incomes include 4 Male Hostels and 1 Female Hostel

NOTE 2: 外展事工包括「深恩團契」、「音樂小組」及「更新足球隊」 Outreaching Ministry includes "Full Grace Fellowship", "Music Group" and "Kun Sun Football Team"

備註: 上述報告未經核數師覆核, 只供參考。The above reports presented without auditor review that the figures are only for reference.

奉獻方法 Donation Method

- 可用劃線支票寄本會, 抬頭寫「香港基督教更新會有限公司」
Issue cross cheque made payable to "The Hong Kong Christian Kun Sun Association Ltd."
- 直接存入本會香港匯豐銀行戶口416-4-010375, 並傳真或寄回入數紙, 以便寄發收據。
Deposit to our HSBC Bank account 416-4-010375, and return the payment slip by fax or by post, an official receipt will be issued to the donor.
- 自動轉賬表格, 可在本會網頁www.ksa.org.hk下載, 或致電本會會計部索取。
Auto-payment form can be downloaded from our web site: www.ksa.org.hk, or contact our accounts department for requisition.

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感恩與代禱 Thanksgiving & Prayer

1

感恩在疫情相當嚴峻期間，更新會仍得到很多關心及支持監獄事工的義工、教會團體及奉獻者的大力支持。在2月及3月舉行了兩次網上義工訓練班，感恩義工們及佈道團體都積極出席，培訓讓義工們了解更新會與懲教署合作的服務要求，以便為日後宗教班重開作出準備。

We are thankful for the care and support of the prison ministry from volunteers, churches, and donors during the pandemic. There were two volunteer training courses in February and March. We were thankful for the active participation of all volunteers and evangelistic organizations. The purpose of the training course is to understand KSA and the collaboration with the Correctional Services and prepare for the religious classes.



2

今年本會繼續舉辦「開學有禮」事工項目，幫助囚友及更生人士子女（就讀幼稚園至中六學生），於開學前獲送贈書券（幼稚園及小學生並同時獲贈護足鞋），以減輕家庭在新學年開學的支出。請記念一切的申請和運作；我們與懲教署的合作；囚友及更生人士的家人不單獲得支援，也明白神的愛。

We are hosting another Back-to-school program to help the children (students from kindergarten to Form 6) of inmates and rehabilitated persons. We will give out coupons for books and shoes for kindergarten and primary students to help ease the financial burden of these families in the new school year. Please pray for the applications and operations, the collaboration with the Correctional Services. Pray that the families of the inmates and rehabilitated persons will understand God's love for them through the donations.

3



感恩在3月女宿舍事工的新平台「姊妹之家」在疫情中也能按計劃入伙，整個搬遷過程順利。求主讓姊妹們和睦相處，學習獨立生活，互相守望。因應疫情回穩政府逐步放寬限聚令，請代禱同工能早日獲得跟仍在院所服刑且表達有意申請入住女宿舍的囚友探訪會面的機會，使能夠有效處理入住宿舍的程序，讓她們順利進入宿舍接受住宿訓練，展開在主耶穌裡的新生命及新生活。

We are thankful that people were able to move into Sisterhood Home, a new ministry of female hostel ministry, as planned in March during the pandemic. Pray for the residents to live in harmony, be independent and take care of each other. Pray that we can visit the inmates who have applied for Sisterhood Home when the government loosen gathering restrictions. Then we can start the process of their applications, training at the female hostel and begins their new lives in Jesus.

4

感謝主在嚴峻的疫情期間讓男宿舍同工們有智慧同心協力抗疫，雖然舍友確診數目高，也有幾位同工染疫，但感謝主的恩典，經大家竭力禱告與支援，又得到各方的抗疫物資幫助，男宿舍得以平穩渡過難關，染疫者也都順利康復。祈求主繼續賜福男宿舍同工們有智慧帶領宿舍，舍友們身心靈都健壯。

We are thankful for the wisdom and unity of the staff at the male hostel in fighting the pandemic. Despite the high count of confirmed cases among the residents and staff, we thank God for His mercy and all of your prayer support. We are also thankful to receive the donations of pandemic goods. Praise God that everyone has recovered. Please continue to pray for the staff of male hostel to lead the residents with wisdom and strength both physically and spiritually.



5

感恩有3位更生人士在更新會栽培下由2022年2月起成為更新會舍監同工，在男女宿舍服侍；願主使用他們，成為舍友們的好榜樣。也跟同工團隊有美好的配搭。

After training and discipleship, we are thankful that three rehabilitated persons became the hostel staff in February 2022 and now serve the residents in the female and male hostels. Pray that God will use them to become living testimonies to the residents. Please also pray for unity when working with other staff.