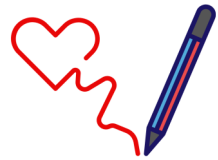


FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK



Together in Love and Harmony

I once attended a children creative teaching seminar run by a Japanese Christian organisation. Their creative teaching method uses fun activities and simple instructions to help children grasp the fundamental tenets of the Christian faith. Over the course of the seminar, in addition to understanding the overall philosophy of this creative teaching approach, what left a deep impression on me was the "intergenerational ministry" that was demonstrated. During the practical sessions, I witnessed how the elderly were engaged in joyful fellowship with toddlers who were still learning to walk and speak, singing hymns and playing games together. In these moments of shared joy, no one was superior to the other, as both the old and the young moved at the same pace. The elderly's participation radiated love and care, while the little ones responded with innocent and genuine acceptance. The love exchanged between the old and the young created a beautiful communion, and that harmonious relationship was built on love. It was certainly not an outcome that could be achieved solely through a well-crafted ministry plan. Only the power of God's love could bridge the generational gap between them, and allowed their harmonious relationship to testify to the greatness of His love.

That image of intergenerational harmony led me to reflect on the love of Christians. We not only know that God is love (1 John 4:16); His love is also perfect. Therefore, our lives carry the mission of sharing this love. The Apostle John encouraged his

fellow believers with these words: ***“Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. If God so loved us, we also ought to love one another”*** (1 John 4: 7,11). Our love originates from God, so the way we love one another serves as evidence that we belong to Him. This also means that we should emulate Christ in our daily lives, caring for others and obeying Jesus' command to "love one another."

Let our love for God and others be fully manifested in our relationships. Just like the relationship between the elderly and young children mentioned above, it is God's love that removes barriers of age, gender, status and communication, achieving harmony and unity as well as fulfilling His command to "love one another." In fact, expressions of love often appear in relationships throughout our faith journey, and I believe every one of us has experienced the beauty of loving and being loved.

May we encourage one another to become channels through which God's love flows, allowing this love to shape and nurture all our relationships. Let us live out our faith in love by being salt and light of the world, caring for one another and bringing God's blessings to those around us, and ultimately glorifying our Lord.

Pastor May Yee

**The above is a translated version of the original letter written by Pastor Chan May Yee in Chinese, which is also posted on 2 March 2025 in JACM's bulletin.*