

Transformed by His Holy Spirit

I am the youngest son in my large family of 12 brothers and sisters. My sister raised me since both of my parents passed away when I was still very young. I have been worrisome problem to my family as I did not manage to complete my Primary 6 education and was expelled from school after Primary 1. At the tender of age of 10, I was started working. At the age of 18, out of curiosity, I had my first taste of drugs and unconsciously was bonded by it for almost 20 years. Thereafter, I continued to live a wanton lifestyle, taking drugs and committed other offences and was in and out of the prison for a total of 9 times. I was last caught carrying 200 grams of drugs. Under the laws of Singapore, anyone caught with 15 grams of drugs in the body will be sentenced the death penalty. Thanks be unto our God for his mercy, after examination and tests, it was proven that there was less than 1 gram of drugs in my body. Though I manage to get away from the death penalty but cannot escape prison sentence and the rotan strokes.



One morning in my prison cell, my cellmate who saw that I was bored asked if I would like to try reading the Holy bible. I have read almost all kinds of books in the prison but have yet to touch the Holy Bible. Then, I started reading the Holy bible and lo and behold it lasted for 6 months. I was urged by my Christian friend to attend a Christian counselling class. Many people have applied to attend this counselling session up to 4 to 5 months before they can get approval, but I only needed 1 to 2 weeks of application, which is a miracle. When I attended the sessions, I was always at the back talking while the Pastor was preaching as I don't even understand the verses. Around August 2003, when I read **Matthew 16:26** "**For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?**" The Lord had awakened me. On the same Sunday at the Christian counselling course, I responded to the Lord's call and accepted Him as my personal Lord and Saviour.

By the grace of the Lord, upon my release from the prison, I was brought to the New Charis Mission to equip myself. Daily I went through discipleship training, prayer, bible study, praise and worship and continue to allow the word of God to take root. By the power of His holy spirit, my life begins to transform. When I met up with my old friends, we seem to have nothing in common to talk about. God is Good! On Easter Day of 2009, my 3 sisters also accepted the Lord. All Glory to our God!

Bro Caleb Tan's