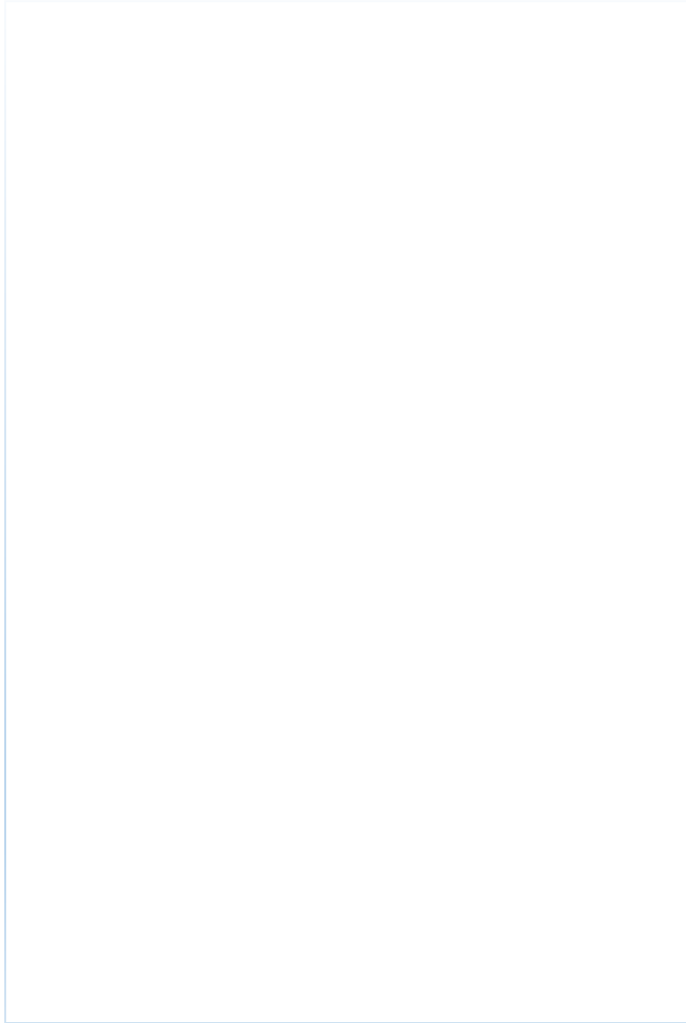


**August 12, 2018**

*Summer Baptismal Service at the  
Toronto Christian Community Church  
100 Acadia Avenue, Markham  
ON L3R 5A2*



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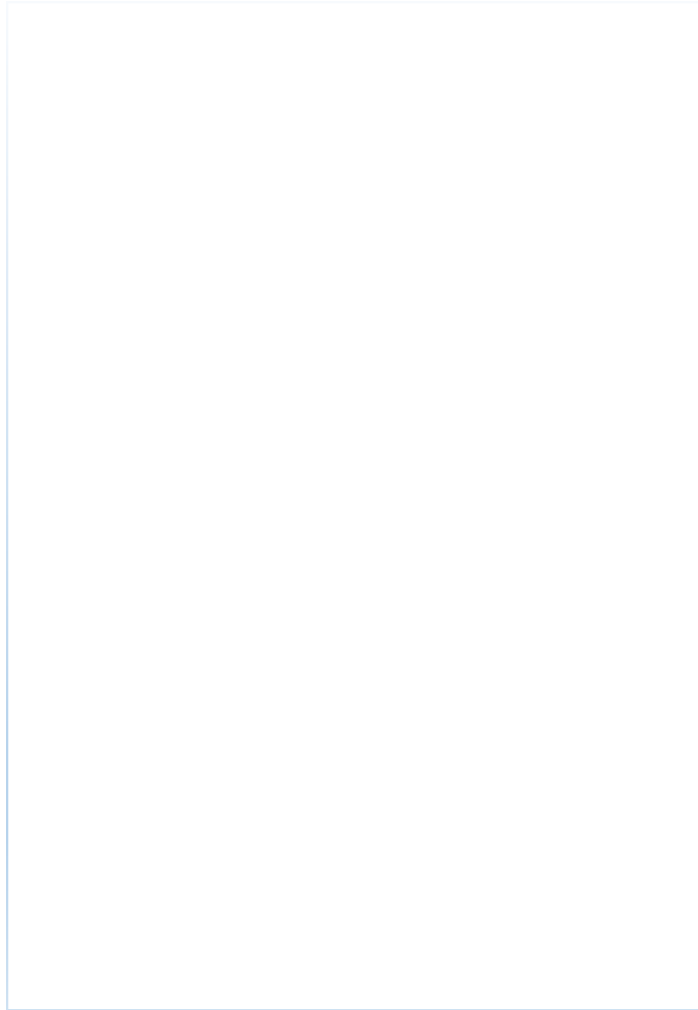


and, lo, I am with you  
always... (Matthew 28:20)



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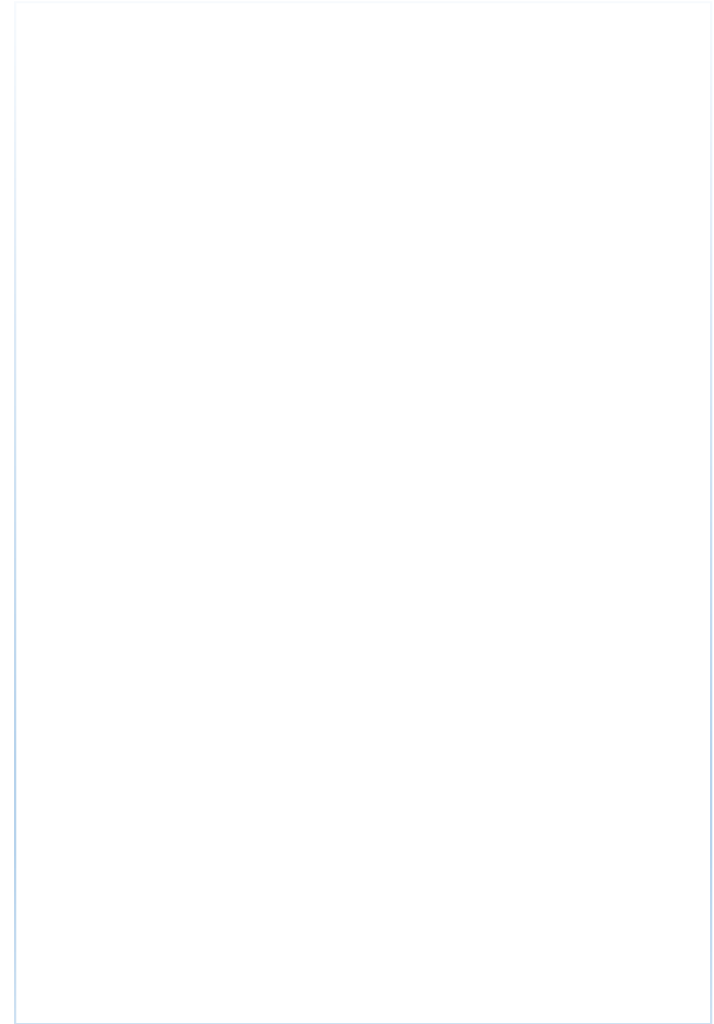
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### Rena Yung

As a child, I knew all the big stories and concepts. Having been brought up in a Christian family, I always knew the importance of going to church. However, I never fully understood who God was and what it meant to be a Christian. I first started to notice his existence in Grade 9 through a lost phone incident. Growing up, I wasn't very book smart and I could never accept this part of myself. As a result, this often was reflected in my walk with God. Since I didn't know answers to many concepts, I was often shameful of telling people that I was a Christian or question my faith with Him. When I left for university I didn't know what to expect with my faith and walk, but I knew I loved God and I wanted to be with God forever. As I grew more in my faith I learned to really accept my walk with God as my own personal walk. Looking back at my past events, I learned to understand why God did what He did and looking at my life now, I would like to take this rocky path and continue to be His disciple, share the gospel, and centre my life around Him.

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### Cameron Chang

I grew up going to church and learning the Bible stories in Sunday school. But I never actually believed that God was real. I didn't think that God was anything beyond someone I learn about at church. Eventually, I stopped believing in God altogether. There was no evidence that I saw that proved His existence, nor did I see how He could be real. However, after an interesting conversation with my friends, I finally came to the realization that God actually is real and that there is evidence to prove His existence. At the same time, I was trapped in this one sin. It kept pulling me back in towards it, and I couldn't stop returning to it. Eventually, I gave up trying to stop going back to this sin and stopped trying. Yet, when I went to Teens Conference in 2016, one of the captains was sharing his testimony. He talked about how he had struggled with the same sin that I had and how he no longer was trapped in this sin because of Jesus. When I heard this, I realized that I could not ever get away from that sin unless I let God lead me out of the sin. So I decided to accept Christ on the last night of TC because I wanted to finally be free of that sin.

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### Nicholas Chu

I'm going-to-be second year student at Western University, studying Health Sciences. I had a regular upbringing in the church, and was no different from any other kid. I had security in the fact that I did well in school and just had fun. And it is just that routine that got me wondering about life in general. Am I going to have to do this for the next 80 years of my life?

I have been coming to TCCC since I was in grade one or two. I've been exposed to all of the Bible stories that we all know and cherish. But I still lived the same monotony day in and day out, not deepening my relationship with Christ. I grew distant from this church as I got older. I decided not to get baptized, as I had always believed that you had to be 'worthy' enough to be baptized, and I just never had that connection.

I never had a Eureka™ moment of faith. My acceptance of Christ happened gradually in university as I grew close to my new family at Asian Christian Fellowship. How could I, someone who was so distant from my home church suddenly be so loved here? And through that, I started to cultivate a stronger relationship with Christ. Over time, I realized that my initial preconception of baptism was incorrect. Baptism is a process in your relationship with Christ, a new chapter in a long saga. Thanks to the support and wisdom of my friends and fellowship, I have decided to get baptized today and continue my journey with Christ. I look to Him to direct my life and I know He has a plan for me, even though I might struggle with it as I continue my walk with Christ.

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### Daniel Pun

For as long as I can remember, Sundays were reserved for Church. From the songs of praise to Bible study, all Christian rituals were simply part of the weekly schedule. However, I didn't understand their significance and often found them boring and useless. Around middle school, I began to search for meaning and purpose in my life. The constant seeking made me frustrated with the lack of substance and I became disillusioned with life. I was at my lowest point and there seemed to be no path forward. At rock bottom I came across Matthew 23:12 "For those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted". In rejecting God's way and searching for my own, I put myself first and my situation was a direct natural consequence. From that point I began to pray and read the Bible more and God took the pilot's control in my life. Now today, I am ready to publicly proclaim my faith. May God do and continue to do wonderful things in and through me. Amen.

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