

THE BLESSED HOPE

PASTOR PARKIN YOUNG

Blessed Resurrection Sunday! Today, we celebrate the resurrection of our Lord! This time of the year is always a memorable time for us because it is the time when we celebrate the blessed hope of our faith! As we celebrate today as a church, we come together to worship God who is the provider of our blessed hope through His son, Jesus. I hope we were all able to reflect and recognize the amazing grace that we have received.

I joined our church last February as the new Young Adults pastor and I am blessed to have been able to meet some people in church and I pray that I get to meet more of you in the coming days. And for me to be able to introduce myself better to each one, here is a short background and testimony about me and my family.

My name is Parkin Young, married for 3 years to Carol Bernice Young and we have 2 kids, Tobias and Moriah, Tobi and Mori for short. I have been pastoring for about 13 years. I started attending GCF Ortigas when I was about 5 years old, and it was there where I went through the journey of knowing God and discovering the hope we have in Him. It was also in those early years that I decided that I wanted to be a pilot as

a profession. God blessed me and my family during that time and I was able to achieve my dream of flying a plane. At the same time, God was impressing upon me to go into the ministry. I was helping in the Youth Ministry of GCF Northwest. After God showed me clearly that He wanted me to go full time in the ministry, I did just that! I left behind my flight training to go into the ministry. I started as a pastoral intern in the Youth Ministry and after a year, I knew I needed to be equipped to be able to do my best in the ministry. In flying, I would never have received a bachelor's degree. I studied in Messiah College and received an AB in Psychology degree to enable me to undertake further studies. Because of the partnership between our churches with Covenant Evangelical Free Church (CEFC) in Singapore, I was able to apply at Singapore Bible College to study there. I got my MDiv in pastoral ministries there and graduated last 2018. After that, I went back and served at GCF Ortigas in the Young Adults Ministry and the Missions ministry.

I am a firm believer in discipleship and shepherding as I am a recipient of both by godly men who invested in my life. That is why, I want to

keep building communities of consecrated people who follow God's calling! I believe the Church should be a community that helps one another to be consecrated to the Lord, helping each other discern what God's calling is for everyone. And we help each other follow God's call in our lives. That is why when my family and I were praying for the direction God wants us to go in terms of ministry, GCF South Metro was a church that I know that also believes in those things. So there was resonance in terms of ministry direction. God also revealed to me and my family that we should look for a community where our family will be able to flourish and build roots. We believe our church to be that community for us. My family and I are excited and look forward to get to know more of you in the coming days!

Life has been hard especially these days for many people in light of the ongoing pandemic, but as we worship today, may we remember that we always have hope! And this blessed hope we have is complete, unchanging, and everlasting! And together as one community, let us worship God and thank Him for the blessed hope we have in Jesus. ✱