

Sis Mary Quek & Sis Agnes Lee



I am grateful that the members in Church of Sengkang have this privilege to celebrate and say to our responsible women-folks with children, "Happy Mother's Day!"

A tribute to mommy (Mary Quek) for her love and care...

I thank God for giving me such a wonderful mom. Praise God for the warm fellowship at CoSK as these recent years, God has indeed kept mommy well despite dementia since 7 years ago.

I recall pleasant memories of my lovely elderly octogenarian mother who

taught me and my siblings the elementary lessons of counting numbers, learning the alphabets with fun through reciting rhymes "1-2 buckle my shoe...5-6 pickup sticks ... 9&10 A big Fat Hen" which I repeat to her today and to read in mandarin in elementary school. She daily cooked the best Peranakan meals no matter how tired and carried home heavy basket-loads after marketing alone even when she had little money only often to be greeted with unhappy thankless, careless retorts as we each face the difficulties in the rat race at work and in school; yet often, she was our source of verbal encouragement during our difficult growing years.

Mom led us to see that we could draw strength from a God above by her simple Faith. She often requested prayer from church (now also when we go forward to be prayed) and sought God to bless each of her children in their studies and in life and pampered them. I presume she may sometimes be disappointed with little reciprocal love but instead her children took her for granted and expected more from this finite person. It is sad that in Chinese culture, we find it rather embarrassing to verbalize a "Thank you" or give a hug to our immediate family members who have made tangible sacrifices and cared for us during our vulnerable years.

May God forgive us and help us learn to be grateful for our mother's love. May He forgive us if we found her physical weakness like the loss of her lower front teeth in old age an embarrassment as not to be seen with her in public with spouse or not be patient with her "mumbblings & incessant talking" due to her illness which she has little control over. Doubtless an infinite God is aware of all our weaknesses.

As I mentioned to Pastor David Kerk (CoSK), at every visit to the Geriatrician (Dr Wong C H – SGH), we hear the doctor amazed that mom seemed fitter compared to other elderly patients diagnosed with the condition. He encourages her to attend church more often and she brightens up when we start singing "this is the day the Lord has made. We will rejoice & be glad in it" & she chuckles along reciting children's rhymes and singing "praise songs". Thank you! Pastor, our brothers and sisters in Church of Sengkang for your LOVE & care.

May God bless Church of Sengkang for ministering to my mom & I and as indeed our Jehovah God is daily meeting all our needs and heals our diseases. We have a Great God!

Happy Mother's Day !