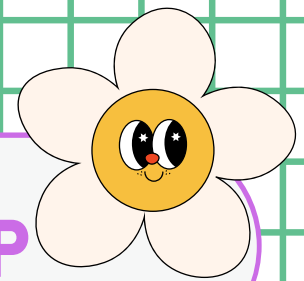




MAY 2024



CHODAE COMMUNITY CHURCH

# SEED FAMILY WORSHIP

*Connecting Parent and Child Generation through a Spiritual Conversation*

## A PRAYER CRAFTING A STORY OF LIFE

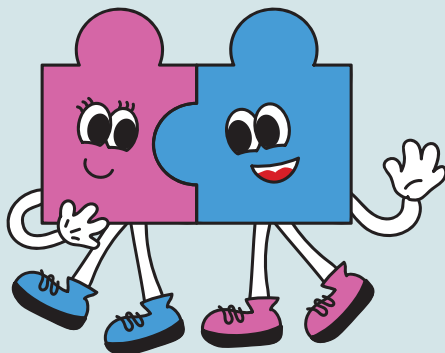
READ JOHN 20:1-18

...BECAUSE YOU HAVE SEEN ME, YOU HAVE BELIEVED; BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO HAVE NOT SEEN AND YET HAVE BELIEVED (JOHN 20:29)

## FAMILY ACTIVITY "THE BIG PICTURE PUZZLE"

**Prepare: puzzle print out (Prepare two copies)**

1. Prepare two copies of puzzle print out. Cut out the puzzle pieces only for the first copy.
2. A leader will show only one piece of the entire puzzle and have people guess what the picture is supposed to be.
3. A leader will hold more and more pieces of puzzles until someone figures out what the big picture is. The first team that guesses it right gets to be the winner.
4. After figuring out what the picture was supposed to be, take a look at the copy that was not cut, to have a clearer big picture.



In the middle of the desert it feels as if God is not present there. We hope that God will reveal himself clearly and let us know what the meaning behind all our suffering is. At times we complain like Job, "Why do you hide your face and consider me your enemy? (Job 13:24)

When Mary Magdalene went to visit Jesus at the tomb, Jesus hid His identity. Jesus asked a question, "Woman, why are you crying? Who is it you are looking for?" Jesus let Mary's agony of searching for Jesus continue instead of revealing himself to her right away. Instead, Jesus let Mary to be revealed in the process. When Mary mentioned, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have put him, and I will get him," it reveals Mary's determination and strength to search for Jesus. Mary in fact possessed financial competence and strategies to do this as Luke 8:2-3 speaks of how she served Jesus with other ladies who had financial possessions. But just after Mary's will had been exposed, Jesus called her by her name. Then Mary instantly recognized Jesus' intimate voice. Mary's search was resolved, and her desires to meet the Lord had been met. But if Jesus had revealed himself right away, Mary's strength may have not come into the light. If God comes to us right away, there is no room for us to grow. We would forever be inside the cocoon, waiting for someone to outgrow us. The book's author Paul Miller and his wife had waited for 20 years as they raised their daughter Kim with special needs, until God grew and matured them throughout, until they became strong enough to break out of their cocoons, to eventually become butterflies. Every suffering and pain holds a story like this that God is writing throughout our lives. He is crafting through our character, strength and weaknesses to be intricately involved in every chapter of the story. When we recognize that the author has a purpose and direction in the story of our lives, our attitudes change. Instead of despair and cold heartedness, we will wait in hope. We will never cease in prayer. We will be grateful and we will stay awake in His promise for our lives. Because we need to stay awake till the end, to see the kind of ending God has prepared.

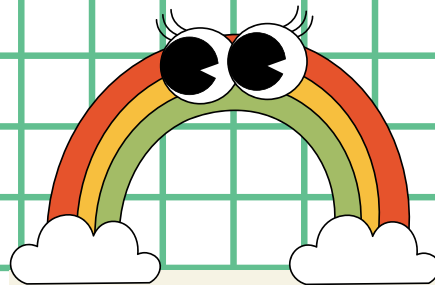
## TALK



1. Have you ever seen a movie that had an unexpected, reversal ending? How did that feel like? What if you stopped watching in the middle?
2. What are some situations you have in life that seems too difficult or painful? What kind of story do you think God is building?
3. Try summarizing what you learnt today in one sentence/phrase.
4. Share each other's story and pray for one another.

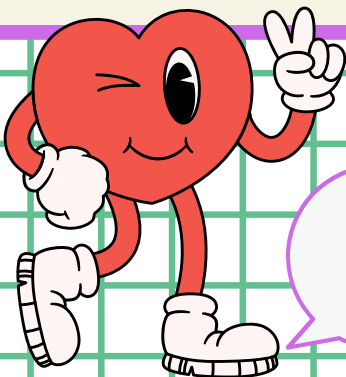
## CONCLUSION

Just as Mary Magdalene never expected Jesus to be alive at the tomb, we never know what God has in store for our lives. Only the author of the story knows what kind of purpose, creative twist, climax and ending the story is supposed to hold. But because our agony is too great, many times, we try to decide and conclude the meaning of the story of our lives. But the One who has begun His story in our lives knows what He is working on. It is important that we trust and wait. It is so critical that we stay put and never doubt His goodness for our lives because when we look back, He had always been so good. We just don't know it at the time, but when we wait enough, then we get to see the big picture.



## ENDING PRAYER

Dear God, help us to trust Your goodness in our lives. We trust You as the author of our lives. We do not know the big picture of the story just yet, but Lord you know them all. You want to grow and mature us throughout every pain and suffering. Help us never give up in the middle because the ending you bring us will be beautiful. In Jesus' Name we pray, Amen.



Seed Worship Training meeting takes place every last Sunday of the Month after 3rd Service Worship (1-1:30PM) at PJM Room, Education Building (Snack provided). All of our curriculum and video resources can be downloaded at Chodae Church website!