

神施恩的手幫助了我們

THE GRACIOUS HAND OF OUR GOD WAS UPON US

這一次藉著購買會所的需要，神帶領我們這一班卑微軟弱的器皿，經過火一般的試煉，然而靠著祂扶持的大能與恩典，我們至終得有分於祂的榮耀得勝。帶著極深的感謝與極大的喜樂，我們願意將這幾個月來，神如何帶領我們的過程分享出來，好叫更多的頌讚與榮耀歸給祂。

整整三年前，亦即一九九二年九月下旬，主給我們清楚的引領來到聖迦谷開工，當時主為我們預備了目前所租用的會所，這也是當時唯一能讓我們在主日早上使用的地點。帶著感恩的心，我們開始了在聖迦谷的聚會與建造。約莫一年後，有好幾位弟兄姊妹們的靈裏有感動，覺得我們需要有自己的會所。因此，在每週二的禱告聚會裏，我們隨著聖靈的感動，常常為此事仰望主。雖然我們當時人數並不多，但是主卻感動我們要求一個美好寬闊，交通便利之地，好叫許多聖徒和朋友可以看見這個地方，而被吸引到主的面前。每次這樣禱告時，總覺得主垂聽了，並且用祂甘甜的同在充滿在我們的靈裏作印證。

因此，我們也逐漸開始留意在聖迦谷一帶待售的教堂、空地或商業建築。然而每一次都因賣方或市政府規定等困難而作罷。一直到今年四月時我們收到一張教堂出售的廣告，地點在聖迦谷大道與賀爾門的交口，地大七萬七千呎，建坪一萬一千呎，要價一百廿五萬。當我們去看後，一方面希奇有這麼理想的教堂要出售，另一方面也深覺自己的財力與人力無法買下這樣的教堂，因此，我們就一起禱告仰望主的帶領。在四月

Through the need for a church building, God has led us, lowly and weak vessels, through a fiery trial. By His great might and grace, we were able to partake in his glorious victory. With deep thanks and great joy, we would like to share how God has led us in the past few months, so that He may receive more glory and praises.

Exactly three years ago in late September 1992, with the clear guidance from the Lord, we came to San Gabriel Valley to start the ministry. At the time, we met at the present location which was the only place that allowed us to use on Sunday morning. About a year later, many brothers and sisters felt the urge by the Holy Spirit that we need to have our own church building. Therefore, we started to frequently pray for this need according to the leading of the Holy Spirit at church's Tuesday night prayer meeting. Although we did not have many members at the time, the Holy Spirit often moved us to ask for a good and big land, situated at a convenient and visible location, so that many people can be drawn to the Lord. Everytime when we prayed for this need, the sweet presence of the Lord would fill our hearts as an evidence that He has heard our prayers.

From that time on, we started to pay attention to church building, vacant land or commercial buildings for sale. Yet, everytime we ended up giving up due to various difficulties such as non-compliance with city's zoning requirements or seller's unexpected problems. In April, we received an advertisement track regarding the sale of a church building located at the intersection of San Gabriel Blvd. and Hellman Avenue. The lot size was 77,000 square feet with a construction area of 11,000 square feet. The asking price was \$

裏的一個週二禱告會中，當我們正一起尋求主的帶領時，聖靈大大充滿我們，並對一位姊妹說，「你們的需要，在你們祈求以先，天父早已知道」。

因此，帶著從主的話來的把握，我們與賣方展開了將近兩個月的交涉過程，最後於六月底時，賣方弟兄們終於同意以九十萬元賣給我們；我們需先付一萬元訂金，九十天後付足四十萬元頭款，餘下五十萬元每月攤還而於十年後還清。然而這一切的條件，必需要在他們審核過我們的財務報表，確定我們有償債能力後，才可正式敲定。

賣方弟兄們給我們十天的時間來準備財務報表，就在這段時間內，有一位廖姊妹被聖靈感動，交通到大家需要為此事並為教會開始廿四小時的守望禱告。

我們於六月底將過去兩年的財務報表傳真給他們，兩天後，也就是我們要進夏令會的當天下午，賣方的弟兄們就來信表示我們的財務狀況太弱，帳戶裏僅有兩萬元，如何能拿得出四十萬元的頭款與負擔每個月的分期付款，因此要求我們解釋。

七月三日，即我們出夏令會的當天下午，我們邀請了各地的負責弟兄與同工們來到那塊地上，我們一起站在那裏為主在聖迦谷的旨意得成就而禱告，並求主賜那塊地給我們。眾人都以那地為

1.25million. After seeing the property, on one hand, we were amazed at the fact that such a good property was for sale, yet on the other hand, we did not think that we had adequate financial strength to purchase that place. Therefore, we all came to the Lord for His leading. In one of the prayer meetings in April, when we waited on Him regarding this matter, the Holy Spirit came greatly upon us. Holy Spirit spoke to one sister: "Your Father knows what you need before you ask Him".

Therefore, with an assurance, we started the two-month long negotiation process with seller's church. Finally, they agreed to sell to us at the price of \$900,000 with a down payment of \$400,000, including a non-refundable deposit of \$10,000. The seller also carries the remaining \$500,000 which will be due and payable at the end of the tenth year. However, these conditions are subject to their review and approval of our financial statements.

The seller gave us ten days to submit our past two-year financial statements. During this time, Sister Liao shared the burden from the Holy Spirit that we need to have 24-hour watch and prayer.

At the end of June, we faxed to the seller our two-year financial statements, and two days later, also the first day of our Summer Conference, the seller faxed to us a letter indicating their doubts about our ability to pay both the \$400,000 down payment and subsequent monthly mortgage, because our financial statements showed weak financial strength.

On July 3rd, the last day of Summer Conference, we invited in-charge brothers and co-workers from various assemblies to visit the place. We stood there and prayed together that the Lord's will would be done in San Gabriel Valley.

美，十分合適作主的工作。

七月四日，我們便寫信給賣方弟兄們，一方面請他們相信我們購買的決心與信心，一方面也強調我們在各地同作見證的眾聚會的全力支持。

七月八日，賣方的弟兄們口頭上表示無法相信我們付頭款與分期付款的能力，他們需要在七月十日上午開會討論，不過並不樂觀。當天下午，一位弟兄來電，交通到過去這兩年來，他一直有負擔將一棟房子賣掉，把所得的奉獻給聖迦谷教會買會所。而這個房子上市已有兩年都賣不掉，卻在那個禮拜中被一個人急著買去了，估計賣房子後可奉獻約十七萬元。這位弟兄的交通，真像滿天烏雲中出現的一絲陽光，大大地激勵了我們的心。當天晚上，建堂小組的弟兄姊妹們聚在一起交通至深夜，擬於七月十日前再提供更有力的資料，好使賣方弟兄們同意賣給我們。其中，有弟兄們願意將自住屋拿出來抵押或提供個人的擔保。雖然是深夜裏，我們的心卻是火熱，尤其看見弟兄姊妹們願為主將一切都擺上，更叫我們的心大得激勵。我們便連夜將這些新保證並資料傳真給賣方弟兄們。我們當中一位姊妹說：「不要懼怕，神開的門，沒有人能關」。

七月十日下午，賣方的弟兄打電話給梁家聲弟兄說，他們不接受個人財產的抵押，也無法核可我們的財務能力，因此不賣給我們了。當他正要掛電話時，梁弟兄就提議將不可退還的訂金提高到五萬元，以表示我們購買的決心，並且將頭款改為五十萬元，好將日後貸款的負擔降低。賣方的弟兄猶疑半晌後，同意再與他的教會商量，將於七月十二日晚給我們答覆。當晚，梁弟兄召

On July 4th, we wrote to the seller to stress our determination to purchase the property and supporting letters from various assemblies.

On July 8th, the seller verbally indicated that they had hard time believing that we were able to make payments. Therefore, they would meet on July 10th, to decide if the deal would go through. However, they are not optimistic about it. In that afternoon, a brother called and told us that he had a burden for San Gabriel Valley's church. He had tried to sell his house in the past two years, but no buyer showed any interest. However, right in that week, a buyer offered to buy that house in haste. Therefore, the house was sold, and he estimated the net sales proceeds would be \$170,000. His good news was like a ray of sunshine piercing through many layers of dark and thick cloud. That night, when the church purchased committee (CPC) met and tried to provide more information to enhance the weak financial condition. Several brothers voluntarily offered their residences to be additional collaterals for the \$500,000 loan, as well as provided personal guaranty for the loan. Although it was late at night, our hearts were all zealous for the Lord. At mid-night, we faxed these additional commitments to the seller. One sister said: "Do not fear, for no one can shut the door that God has opened".

On July 10th, the seller called Brother Liang and told him that they could not approve our financial statements. Therefore, the deal is canceled. Right before he hanged up, Brother Liang offered to increase the non-refundable deposit to \$50,000 from \$10,000, and the down payment to \$500,000 from \$400,000. The seller hesitated for a moment and indicated that he would get back to us on July 12th. That night, the CPC prayed together.

集了建堂小組的弟兄姊妹們一起迫切的禱告。

七月十一日，教會的禱告聚會改為禁食禱告，同心合意地為這件事禱告。

七月十二日清晨，梁弟兄禱告時，被聖靈充滿，說道，「主，我感謝祢，因祢兒女的禱告，祢已垂聽了」。

當晚十時四十分左右，賣方的弟兄來電表示願意按照七月十日所提議的條件賣給我們。

七月十九日，賣方的弟兄又來電要求將不退還的訂金提高至六萬元，而貸款亦需由十年改至五年還清。感謝主，那時我們的奉獻總數也僅剛剛超過六萬元，主的時間真是剛剛好，一點兒也不差。

八月五日，Culver City 的年輕弟兄姊妹們發起為聖迦谷教會洗車一日的活動，將所得的兩千九百卅元奉獻給聖迦谷教會。他們的愛心，大大的激勵了我們，尤其是少年人們。因此從八月起，每週一晚間，少年人們聚在一起交通、禱告並尋求如何在這樣的聖工上有份。在尋求與交通之後，少年人們決定於八月十九日與九月二日洗車，以及八月廿六日舉辦舊貨拍賣的活動。

我們真正感謝主的還不是這些活動所帶來的奉獻收入，乃是主藉著這些機會，將全教會的弟兄姊妹們團結在一起，嚐到同心合意事奉主的喜樂，並且為我們的少年人們打開一條事奉的路，得以在神的家中同被建造。

八月六日，梁弟兄與姊妹早上一起禱告時，主對他們說了五句話：(1)我要

On July 11th, the whole church fasted and prayed for this purchase.

On July 12th, Brother Liang was filled by the Holy Spirit during his morning prayer and said, "Lord, I thank You, for You have heard Your children's prayers".

About 10:40 p.m. that night, the seller called and said they would accept the proposal Brother Liang made on July 10th.

On July 19th, the seller called and increased the non-refundable deposit to \$60,000. We thank the Lord for our offering total just exceeded \$60,000 at that time. God's timing is always perfect.

On August 5th, young people at Culver city Assembly had a one-day car wash activity. They offered all proceeds of \$2,930 to San Gabriel Valley Assembly. Their love greatly encouraged us, especially our young people. Therefore, our youth started to gather together every Monday to share and pray. They learned to seek the Lord's guidance in this matter. After praying and sharing, they decided to have two car wash activities on August 19 and September 2, as well as a garage sale on August 26.

What we are thankful is not the proceeds from these activities, but the opportunity that the entire church can unite together and partake the joy of serving Him. Also, through these activities, a door has been opened to young people to serve in God's house, and they can be built up together.

On August 6, when Brother Liang and his sister prayed together in the morning, the Lord

叫枯乾的骸骨立起成軍隊；(2)耶和華是軍隊的元帥；(3)不倚靠勢力，不倚靠才能，惟有倚靠神的靈方能成事；(4)爭戰屬乎耶和華；(5)不要喪膽，不要喪志。

在這等候主的三箇月中，我們有廿四小時的守望禱告，並且有多次的教會禁食禱告，雖然奉獻的總數好像離目標一直有相當的距離，但是每次禱告時，總經歷聖靈極大扶持的力量，使得我們常不停的感謝與讚美主，而非苦苦的哀求。

在限期的前十天時，我們的奉獻離總目標的五十五萬元（包括成交及修理費五萬元），尚差約九萬元，然而主的靈激勵好幾位弟兄姊妹們「要大大的讚美主」與「要唱得勝的凱歌」。

九月十二日，負責會計的王弟兄的車窗被打破，前一個主日約二萬餘元的奉獻都被偷掉了。當天下午請眾弟兄姊妹通知銀行辦理止付的手續，並且請於當晚禁食禱告聚會時重新奉獻。奇妙的是，雖然遇見這樣的挫折，當天晚上聖靈的同在特別濃厚，許多弟兄姊妹都被讚美的靈充滿，而大大地讚美神，好像我們這些日子靜默繞行耶利哥城的日子已滿，該是大聲吶喊使城牆倒塌的時候了。

會中當王弟兄流淚並自疚的請求弟兄姊妹們原諒時，許多人都流下淚來，深覺虧歉我們的弟兄，讓他背負這麼大的重擔。末了，大家圍著王弟兄與姊妹一起禱告，求主祝福他們時，主的愛與肢體間的愛豐豐富富地充滿在我們當中。仇敵的一個攻擊，卻成了我們極大

spoke to them: (1) I would cause dry bones to become vast army; (2) The Lord is the leader of His army; (3) Not by might, not by power, but by My spirit; (4) The battle belongs to the Lord; (5) Do not lose heart, do not lose courage.

In the past three months of waiting on the Lord, we not only have 24-hour watch-and-pray, but the whole church also fasted and prayed many times. Each time when we prayed, although total offerings received seemed to be far off the targeted goal, the Holy Spirit always greatly strengthened us. Often time, we gave Him many thanks and praises, instead of crying out bitterly for our need.

Ten days before the dead line, we were still short of about \$90,000, yet the Lord's spirit greatly encouraged us to "greatly praise the Lord", and "sing the songs of victory now".

On September 12th, Brother Wang's, the church treasurer's, car got broken in, and over \$20,000 offerings were stolen. We notified brothers and sisters that afternoon to stop payment on checks offered, and also invited them to attend the Fast and Pray Meeting that night. The marvelous thing was that although we encountered an unpleasant event like that, the presence of the Holy Spirit was very great. Many of us were filled with the spirit of praise and could not help but loudly praise Him. It felt like that the days silently marched around the City of Jericho had come to an end, and it was time for us to shout out loud and to see the city collapse.

In the meeting, when Brother Wang tearfully shared and asked for our forgiveness, many of us were in tears too, for we felt indebted to our brother who has taken upon himself to carry such a heavy burden for the church. At the end, when we circled around to pray for him and his wife, the love of both God and members of the body of Christ was so rich and

的祝福。

當天晚上，當我們帶著喜樂和得勝的靈回到家中後，約從十點至十二點之間，報喜訊的電話一個接一個地打進來，不到十二點，我們就已收到足夠付頭款的奉獻。接下來幾天，各地的弟兄姊妹們也不斷的奉獻進來，等到一個禮拜後，亦即成交限期的前一天，我們的奉獻總數達五十五萬四千元，比我們包括修理費的總目標五十五萬元還超過一點。神的供應真是豐富，遠遠超過我們所求所想的，無怪乎在那段等候的日子中，聖靈一直帶領我們將讚美與感謝歸給神。

每次思想主的作為，都使我們一面低頭敬拜祂，一面也存著戰兢恐懼的心，因為我們摸著的是祂神聖的工作與旨意。這些日子的神蹟都顯明一件事，就是「不是我們能，而是祂能」，「不僅我們有一個需要，祂有一個更大的需要」。我們何其有幸能在這樣的事上有份，就要自潔，預備將自己獻上當作活祭，合乎主用，就像我們多日來的禱告，「主啊，但願當祢賜下會所給我們的時候，坐在會所讚美祢的，不是一班普通的弟兄姊妹，而是眼睛被開啟，認識主榮耀旨意，經過爭戰並且得勝，預備好自己為建立並擴張主國度的一群勇士們！」

懷著感恩的心，面對往前的路，我們只有一個禱告：『主啊，求祢垂顧祢的居所，在這些年間復興祢的作為』！

梁家聲弟兄/殷宗宣姊妹

full in our midst. An attack by the evil one ended to become a precious blessing to us.

That night, we returned home with a joyful and victorious spirit. Between 10 p.m. to 12 a.m., phone calls came in one after the other to inform us good news of offerings. By midnight, we already had enough money to close the deal. In the week, subsequent to that day, more offerings poured in from brothers and sisters at all over the places. On September 19, the day before the close of escrow, our offerings amounted to be \$554,000, which is \$4,000 more than our goal. God's supply is truly abundant, so no wonder the Holy Spirit has led us to give thanks and praises these days, instead of begging and pleading.

Every time when we meditate on the Lord's great deed, on one hand, we have to bow down and worship Him, but on the other hand, we also have a trembling and fearful heart before Him. We truly see that we partake in His holy work and will. Miracles in these days clearly reveal one thing to us: "It is not we are able, but He is able." And "Not only we have a need, but He has a greater need." We are fortunate to be part of this holy matter. Therefore, we should cleanse and offer up ourselves for the Master's use. It is just like the prayer we have in these days: "Oh, Lord, when you bless us with this church building, we pray that it will not be a group of ordinary believers sitting in there, but a group of mighty men whose eyes have been opened to see Your glorious will and have overcome battles as well as make themselves ready for the expansion of the Kingdom of God!"

With a thankful heart and looking forward, we only have one prayer now: "Lord! Please look upon Your dwelling place, and revive Your work in these days"!

Timothy and Michelle Liang