

Destined for God's Glorious Purpose

Acts 1:3-11; Ephesians 1:3-14

SJSM Sermon

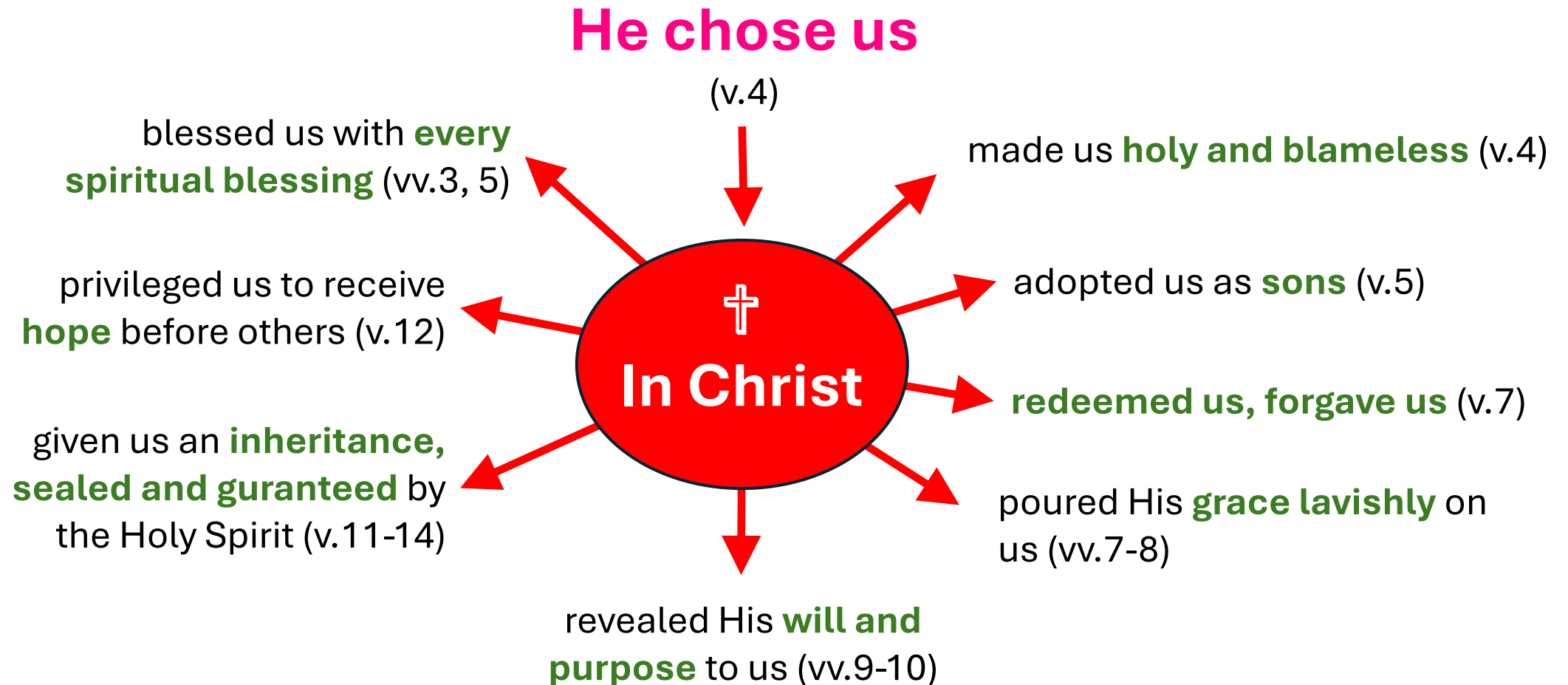
Ven Wong Tak Meng | 12-13 September 2026



**How did you come to
be here today?**

1. We are here because God chose us

“You did not choose me, but I chose you...” (John 15:16)



How God's plan and calling unfolded in our lives

- How did you first come to SJSM, and made this your spiritual home?
- How did you eventually give your life to Christ? Who encouraged you?
- Who shared with you the Gospel of Christ's love?
- Whose life testimonies encouraged you to continue seeking Christ?
- Who or what did God use to make you first aware of Christ?

2026 Here we are today

2012-2021 Project Spring Winter: Land lease, Nursing Home, Senior Care, Preschool and Church Annex; new Vision

1975 First HDB flats built in Dover

1971 British withdrawal largely completed; **SJSM Church was born** in Gloria Sanctuary (Advent 1, Nov 28, 1971)

1967 British withdrawal announced; St Andrew's Cathedral launched **St Margaret's Congregation** in Farrer Road (60 adults)

1960 St John's Garrison Church was built by and for British forces in Princess Mary Barracks (Singapore Polytechnic today)

2. God chose us before the foundation of the world

he chose us in him... (v.4)

...before the
foundation
of the world
(v.4)

God created
the heavens
and the earth
(Gen 1:2)

Heard the Gospel, believed,
found hope, forgiven,
redeemed, blessed, sealed
(vv.3-14)

We are here
in SJSM
today

What are
we here
for?



3. God chose us to know Him “first”, so that others may know Him through our witness

“You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit—fruit that will last...” (John 15:16)

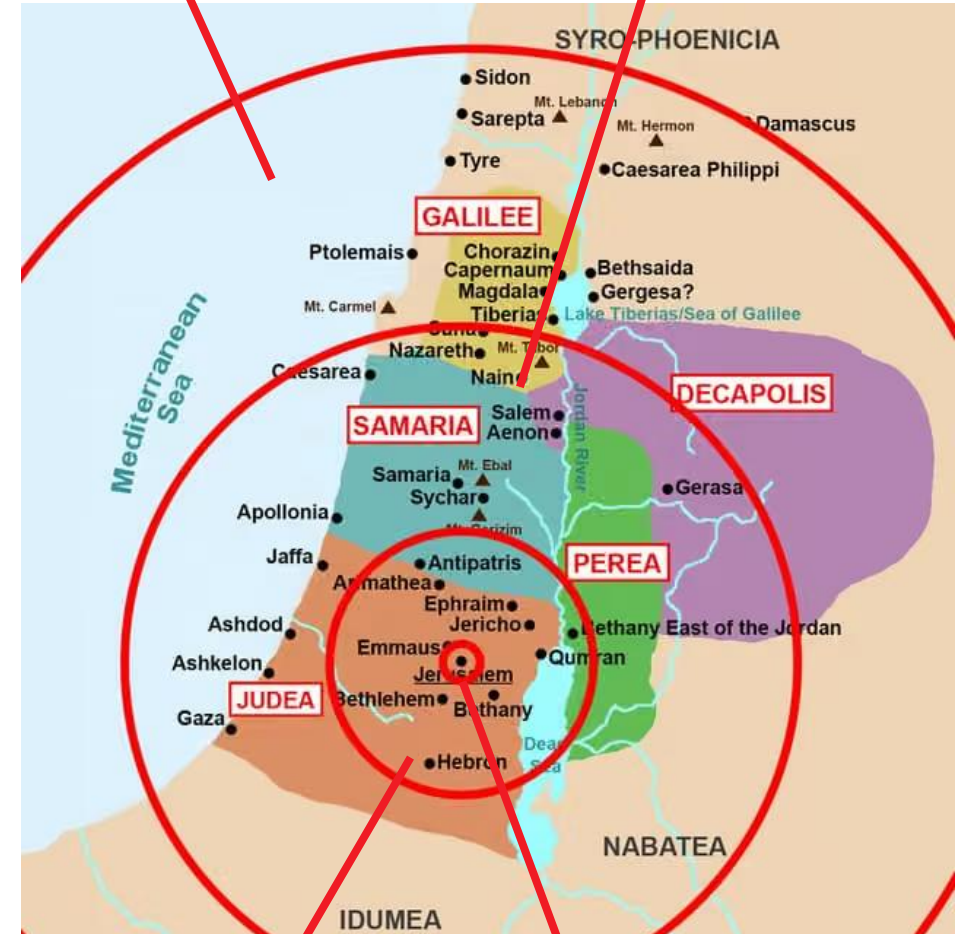


3. ...that others too may know Him through our witness

“...be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in
all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of
the earth.” (Acts 1:8)

4. Where Jesus
is not heard of

3. Nearby Culture



2. Our Culture

1. Home Location
(of the Church)

Dover and Ghim Moh: Not just our Jerusalem, but also our Judea, Samaria and the end of the earth

“...be my witnesses in **Jerusalem** and in all **Judea** and **Samaria**, and to the **end of the earth**.” (Acts 1:8)

Residents:

- 2026: 11,130
- 2030+: 33,780 (with Ulu Pandan Banks, Dover Forrest, Dover Medway)

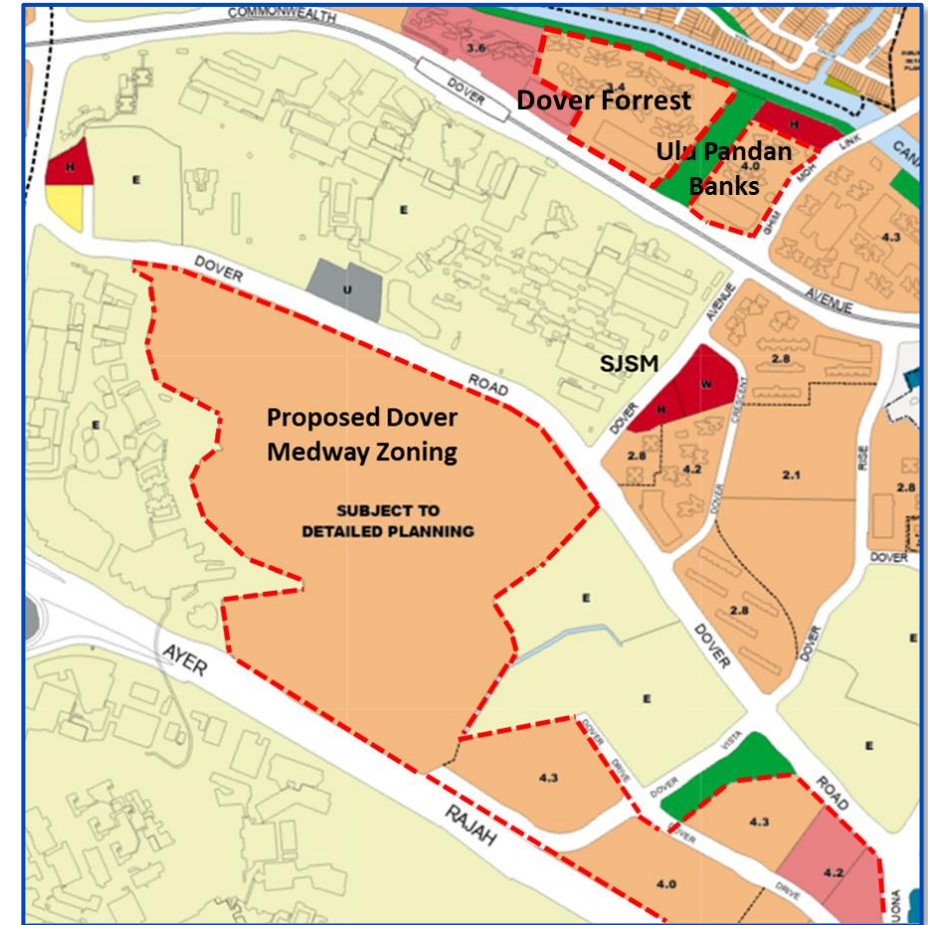
Students:

- 4 schools: 8,300
- Sg Poly: 12,590
- U-town: 1,700

Nationalities

living and working here:

- Filipino
- Myanmar
- India
- Etc



**We are not here in SJSM at this time
by accident or by our own choice.**

**God has chosen and destined us to
be here.**

**Each in our small way, may we used
by God for His Glorious Purpose.**

Acts 1:3-11

- Acts 1:3 He presented himself **alive** to them after his **suffering** by many proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about **the kingdom of God**.
- Acts 1:4 And while staying with them he ordered them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for **the promise of the Father**, which, he said, “you heard from me; 5 for John baptized with water, but **you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit** not many days from now.”
- Acts 1:6 So when they had come together, they asked him, “Lord, will you at this time **restore the kingdom to Israel?**”
- 7 He said to them, “It is not for you to know times (**chronos**) or seasons (**kairos**) that the Father has fixed by his own authority. 8 But you will receive power **when the Holy Spirit has come upon you**, and you will **be my witnesses (marturios) in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.**” 9 And when he had said these things, as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. 10 And while they were gazing into heaven as he went, behold, two men stood by them in white robes, 11 and said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into heaven? **This Jesus**, who was **taken up** from you into heaven, **will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.**”

Ephesians 1:3-14

- Eph. 1:3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has **blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing** in the heavenly places, ⁴ even as he **chose us in him before the foundation of the world**, that we should be **holy and blameless** before him. In love ⁵ he **predestined us for adoption to himself as sons through Jesus Christ**, according to the **purpose** of his will, ⁶ **to the praise of his glorious grace**, with which he has blessed us **in the Beloved**. ⁷ **In him** we have redemption through his blood, **the forgiveness of our trespasses**, according to the riches of his **grace**, ⁸ which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight ⁹ **making known to us the mystery of his will**, according to his **purpose**, which he set forth **in Christ** ¹⁰ **as a plan for the fullness of time**, to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth.
- Eph. 1:11 **In him** we have **obtained an inheritance**, having **been predestined** according to the **purpose** of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will, ¹² so that we who were the **first to hope in Christ** might be **to the praise of his glory**. ¹³ **In him** you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were **sealed with the promised Holy Spirit**, ¹⁴ who is the guarantee of our **inheritance** until we acquire possession of it, **to the praise of his glory**.