

# GEM MONTHLY

JANUARY 2017 EDITION

*“As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good ...”*

*Genesis 50:20*



## GOD WITH US

Throughout the narrative of Joseph’s life in Genesis 37-50, there is one phrase that constantly repeats itself and practically sums up his entire life story: “The Lord was with him”.

In his life, Joseph went through several cycles of being in positions of shame and rejection to positions of authority and honour. Being human, it is likely that he felt bitter towards his brothers, Potiphar’s wife, and the cupbearer; for being sold into slavery, being imprisoned on false charges, and being forgotten. Being

the hardworking person that he was, Joseph could have taken credit for everything that he ever did and became. And upon being put in charge of the whole land of Egypt, he had all the right to take harsh revenge on his wrongdoers. But he didn’t. Why?

Perhaps he was afraid his honourable status would be taken away from him again. Perhaps he had already forgiven them in his heart. Only one thing is for sure: Joseph trusted that all things happened for good.

Joseph lived the way he did because he knew that his life was completely in the hands of the Almighty God. Even when he was mistreated, misunderstood, and rejected, he knew that everything happened according to God’s sovereign will and timing.

As you look back on your life so far, remember that everything that happens in God’s timing is meant for good. In whatever situation that you have been through or are currently going through, remember that God was and still is

with you through them all.

Like Joseph, trust in God. Trust in His timing. Trust in His faithfulness. Trust in His sovereignty. He is with you.

*Summary of  
Pastor Josh’s sermon*

December Highlights	2-3
Upcoming Events for January	3
The Old has Gone, the New has Come	4



# DECEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

## GRADE 7 OUTING

The grade 7 boys and girls had a great time together at Extreme Air Park on Saturday, December 3rd. It was the first of many outings to come!



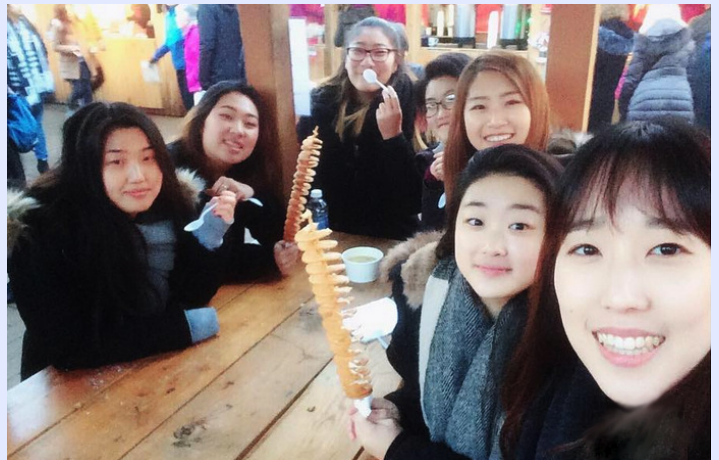
## GLORY IN THE HIGHEST: CHRISTMAS BANQUET

On Friday, December 16th, GEM & CLAY youth students came together to celebrate Christmas over a hearty banquet and fun performances prepared by the leaders and pastors. A total of \$710 was raised from the ticket sales, and all proceeds went to bless Missionary Salem Kim's work in Duncan.



## GRADE 11 GIRLS OUTING

The grade 11 girls also went on an outing last month. They visited the Vancouver Christmas Market together to enjoy one another's company over delicious food.





# DECEMBER HIGHLIGHTS CONT'D

## GCC CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION NIGHT

Each education department of GCC prepared a performance for GCC's annual Christmas Celebration Night, held on December 23rd. This year's theme was "Savior of the World", and GEM & CLAY youth performed a choir piece titled, "Joy to the World / Shout for Joy".



## CHRISTMAS WITH JESUS

Joseph Lee was the winner of the Instagram "Christmas with Jesus" #gccyouthchallenge. Congratulations!



Joseph\_lee\_jboy1000 Day 2  
Hugging my mother with the hug of destiny.  
Sponsored by #gccyouthchallenge.



## KALEO

Kaleo, meaning "called", is a year-end outreach project. This year, GEM & CLAY youth students went out to the streets of Surrey to distribute care packs, hand out cups of hot chocolate and bowls of soup, as well as praying for people as they felt led.



## CONNECT WITH US!

Remember to follow @gccyouth on Instagram and join 'GEM Youth - 520 Generation' on Facebook for our latest posts and updates!

# UPCOMING EVENTS for JANUARY

Friday, **Jan 13th** : Friday Youth Night

Saturday, **Jan 28th** : Missions Fest Vancouver: Youth Rally\*

Friday, **Jan 20th** : Friday Youth Night

*Please note that these scheduled events are subject to change.*

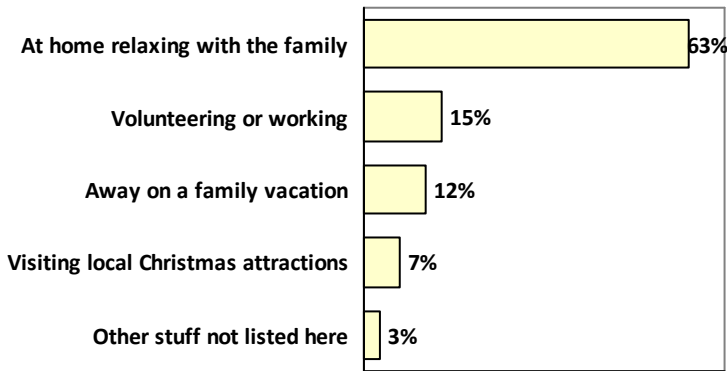
*Be sure to keep up with the latest updates on Sundays or on the "GEM Youth—520 Generation" Facebook page!*

**\*This year's theme for Missions Fest is "Justice and the Gospel". Tickets for the Youth Rally must be purchased prior to the day of the event. The cost is \$14 per person. Visit <http://www.missionsfestvancouver.ca/2017-conference/youthyoung-adults/> or ask your small group leader for more information.**

# THE OLD HAS GONE, THE NEW HAS COME

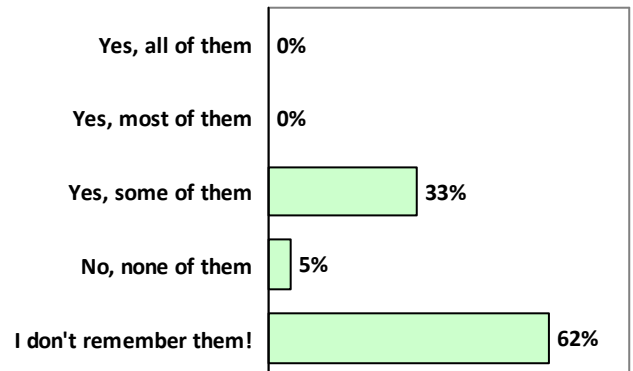
With the year 2016 having come to a close, we were curious to know how the students of GEM Youth spent their Christmas and how they held up with their 2016 goals and resolutions. Here are their responses:

**Q:**  
How did you spend your Christmas holidays?



These results are based on 60 responses.

**Q:**  
Did you achieve your new year's resolutions for the year 2016?



These results are based on 21 responses.

So why is it so difficult to keep up with - let alone remember - our new year's resolutions? If we were to give you a practical tip, grab a pen and write them down!

Here's a simple exercise: Take a few moments to reflect on the year 2016, as well as set a few goals for the year 2017. In particular, think of what you can do to increase your time spent with God to restore or build up your relationship with Him. This will be your new year's "restoration". You can either use this space or copy this format into your own journal.

<p><b>This was my year 2016:</b></p> <p>Memorable events or highlights:</p>  <p>Things that I am grateful for:</p>  <p>Things that I learned:</p>	<p><b>These are some things that I'm looking forward to in 2017:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• _____</li> <li>• _____</li> <li>• _____</li> </ul> <p><b>Examples:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• joining the school basketball team</li> <li>• getting my driver's license</li> <li>• making new friends in university</li> </ul>	<p><b>These are my new year's "restorations" for 2017:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• _____</li> <li>• _____</li> <li>• _____</li> </ul> <p><b>Examples:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• reading through the entire New Testament</li> <li>• keeping a prayer journal</li> </ul>
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 GEM Monthly 소식을 이메일로 받고 싶으시면 [gem520youth@gmail.com](mailto:gem520youth@gmail.com)으로 이메일을 보내주세요..