

# NewsLetter 2022

## SPECIAL EDITION

(For Internal Circulation Only)



PURSUING LIBERTY  
UNDER CHRIST  
Truth Will Set You Free

## DIRECTOR'S THOUGHTS



### ▲ DIRECTOR OF PLUC: Rev. Tryphena Law

PLUC is thankful to be associated with ministries globally as well as ministries in Asia. There are ministries in our neighboring countries like Singapore, Philippines, Hong Kong, Taiwan, Japan and also Indonesia. We are thankful that we can share resources and also support one another.

*“No man is an island, entire of itself. Every man is a piece of the continent, a part of the main.” - John Donne*

For the past 20 years, the ministries in Asia have been supporting one another in organizing seminars and conferences. PLUC has been a channel of blessing to new ministries in Japan as well as Indonesia. For this special edition, we are featuring the work in Indonesia by Transformed Life Community (TLC). PLUC has taught in their support group as well as discipled a few of their support group members.

May the Lord bless TLC and its team.

***His child,  
Rev. Tryphena Law***

Love  
never  
FAILS  
1 CORINTHIANS 1:13

”

**TLC provides one-on-one mentoring sessions, which differs from conventional counselling. In TLC, a mentor coaches and shepherds their own mentees, guiding them back on the right path when they sidetrack.**

# TRANSFORMED LIFE COMMUNITY

Transformasi Hidup dalam Kristus

## AN INTERVIEW WITH ZION, FULL-TIME MINISTER IN TRANSFORMED LIFE COMMUNITY SINCE 2019

### About Transformed Life Community

Transformed Life Community (TLC) is a community ministering to people who struggle with same-sex attraction (SSA) and gender dysphoria. TLC helps strugglers to grow in their faith and be Jesus' disciple in all areas of their life.

TLC started in 2017 from another program that ministers to the transgender community and grew larger over time. On February 11th 2019, TLC was established in Jakarta. Now, it has seven committee members and about 100 members in its community.

#### **COMMUNITY ACTIVITY**

Prayer meetings and support groups run on a weekly basis. The support group is similar to the "cell group" concept in church. The mentee can come to the meeting whenever they have time and the desire to come. One of TLC's committee members, Sihol, started an English course for members who are interested to learn the language.

#### **MENTORING**

TLC provides one-on-one mentoring sessions, which differs from conventional counselling. In TLC, a mentor coaches and shepherds their own mentees, guiding them back on the right path when they sidetrack. Unlike counselling sessions that require prior appointment, mentees are allowed to contact any of the mentors anytime for support. Nonetheless, professional counselling will still be sought when the need arises.

#### **PARTNERSHIP**

TLC partners with organizations such as Pancaran Anugerah and Yayasan Busur Emas. It also partners with churches to give seminars and to help members with SSA struggles. TLC connects with pastors from different cities to help watch out for individuals of the TLC community who reside in these cities. TLC encourages their mentees to attend church when they are ready, and these pastors would be on hand to receive them and be their accountability partner when they are away from TLC.

## What are the challenges you face in TLC?

### MANPOWER

As the ministry is growing, TLC has more people to disciple. Zion's desire is for God to speed up the process of raising mentors amongst its community.

### LGBT MOVEMENT

TLC faces backlash from the public when publicizing its events. The LGBT movement comes more from the Human Rights/HIV/Aids/Social Advocate. With the development of social media, people started to be more aware and vocal of the existence of LGBT and its stand.

### THE CHURCH

There are churches that agree with homosexuality. According to Zion, a pastor once alerted about a TLC event on Facebook, cautioning people to "be careful, this is conversion therapy." Churches were silent about this issue. However, with the growing LGBT influence in Asia regions, churches in Indonesia have begun to address this topic.



## ABOUT ZION

Zion is a full-time minister in Transformed Life Community.

Prior to ministry, Zion worked for 6 years in the field of marketing and has a degree in Engineering. He also took up Church Music (Worship) as his religious studies. Zion's hope is for TLC to develop leaders, ministers and prayer warriors that may share a beacon of hope for people who struggle with SSA.

To connect with Transformed Life Community, visit <https://www.tlc-indonesia.com/>

## What do you think are elements of transformation?

### POWER OF CHRIST

Do we really want transformation? Sometimes we try to teach God how to deal with our problems. We seek help from God with terms and conditions. The lame man by the pool (John 5:1-15) seeks transformation yet gives many excuses. This hinders us to grow and conquer our struggle in life. Jesus says *get up and walk*. We need to follow Jesus without terms and conditions.

According to Zion, his desire for change was driven by wanting to be a disciple of Christ wholeheartedly. After he got HIV, Zion realized that he cannot depend on anything in his life. He went through the process of uprooting and renewal during the transformation in his life. He heard God saying to him "You are my son, and I want to have a deeper relationship with you, just surrender to me and I will teach you." When we surrender, we will slowly learn to see who God is and who we are in His eyes.

*"I am nothing if I don't have Christ or don't follow Him faithfully." - Zion*

### BODY OF CHRIST

The community. Many times, people with SSA do not have a safe space to share their struggle due to the fear of judgement from the church community. TLC provides the safe space for them to go through this journey. Besides that, mentees are encouraged to go to church. Whenever they feel ready, they can share about this struggle to their pastor so they can be kept accountable when they are away from TLC. Many of us who struggle with SSA pray to God to take away our SSA. Sometimes, He didn't take it away but one of the ways He strengthens us is by sending us encouragers who can walk together so that we can grow deeper in God.

**When we surrender, we will slowly learn to see who God is and who we are in His eyes.**



# TRANSFORMED

by Zion

Hi, my name is Zion Tjendana, I am 45 years old, I live in Indonesia.

I grew up in a family rooted in Christianity, in fact my dad and mom are pastors. However, we live in a broken world and as much as I love my parents and they love me, I must admit that we are not a perfect family. I connected more with my mom and my two sisters. The lack of emotional presence and communication with my father evoked within me a longing for a strong male figure. I built up a need to be accepted, affirmed, and connected with males, which grew into same-sex attraction (SSA) from high school onwards. I began to get more curious and adventurous in my friendship with males. I was possessive of them and found myself longing for more intense homosexual relationships.

On the other hand, I am also a pastor's kid, a newborn Christian from the age of 12, who loves God, involved in ministry, and was brought up by the Bible. Knowing the truth, deep down I knew I wasn't pleasing God with my homosexual behaviour. To manage this, I split myself into

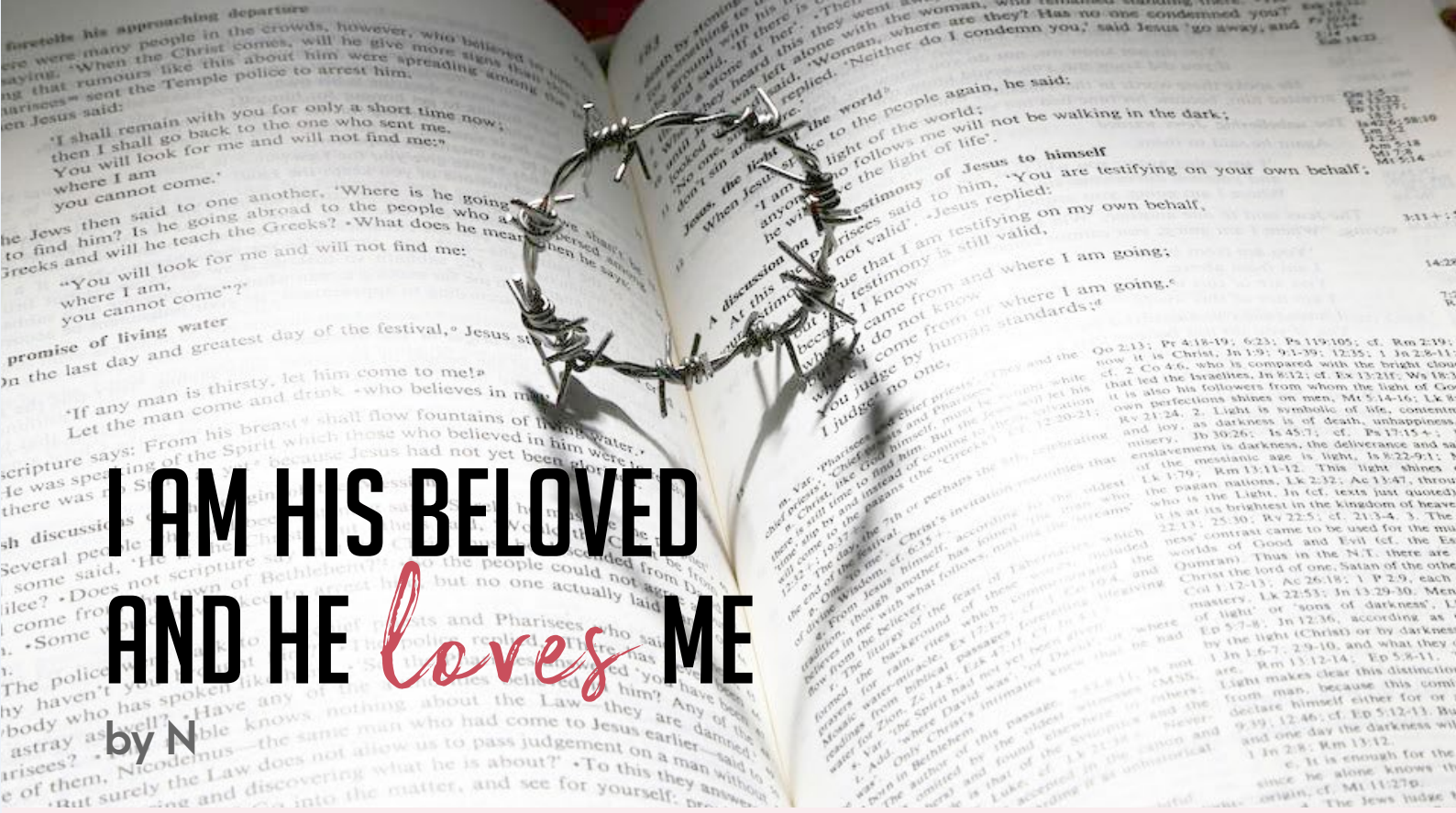
two different people who did not like each other either. It was very confusing.

What caused me to change? Firstly, the Holy Spirit never stopped rebuking me. One day, I couldn't hold it in anymore and decided to tell someone about my homosexuality. In 2004, I opened up to a friend when I was in the United States. God immediately opened the door for me to find help in Abba's Delight – a ministry for the LGBT in a small town in Kentucky. God opened my eyes about how I thirst for connection, and I learned that God wants to be my Father (Psalm 68:5 a father to the fatherless, a defender of widows, is God in His holy dwelling). A mentor helped me to find my true identity in Christ and to restore my pain of not having an emotional connection with my earthly father.

However, the journey of transformation was not a smooth one. When I got back to Indonesia, I didn't have a community and mentor like in Kentucky. The devil attacked me with loneliness, so I bargained with God – either

He removed my loneliness, or I would return to homosexuality. I was upset that God didn't answer so I went searching for men again. Yet God loved me so much and used His rod to bring me back to Him. In 2015, I found out I got HIV. It crushed me and I was humbled. I was in no place to demand since I decided to stray. I was very sick with lung infection and for 3 months my parents had to take care of me. Eventually I told them about my SSA struggles and the HIV diagnosis.

Our family came together to Christ and we sought healing and restoration. I felt like garbage, a failure, and not even knowing if I'd recover or die. Once again, Jesus showed me great mercy and healed me from the lung infection. When God pours out His love, He wants us to return to Him. Like a prodigal son who realizes that everything else is trash, and the best place is with our Father. No matter how bad our situation is, the Lord Jesus has given us a way through His cross. And do we want to come at the foot of His cross, to surrender all our sins and let God renew our heart and life?



# I AM HIS BELOVED AND HE loves ME

by N

I was feeling so done with life, lonely and rejected. So broken that I could just hate everyone, and everything. Yet, there was still one moment that I remembered God and felt His guidance leading me to PLUC's couch to figure out how to get myself out of the entanglement I was in.

My life was rather baffling to me. At 5 years old, I experienced the sadness of lacking love from my family – it was not what you'd expect a child to feel, coming from a church going family. In fact, I encountered the Lord during a church service when I was 9 years old. I declared Jesus as my Saviour at 12 and went through the waters of baptism at 14.

However, the lack of love at home had taken root and without resolution for years, I learnt to do things on my own. Because nobody seemed to bother, I didn't have the practice of telling them how I felt or asking them questions. Soon, I developed unhealthy habits such as watching pornography and somewhere along the line, I was also sexually assaulted. I was depressed with

all of these and tried to make myself happy to feel better. How? I created a world of fantasy to escape to, and it was filled with sexual visuals from the porn I watched. I learnt to masturbate to fulfil my needs and temporarily sooth my emotions. I was the girl who defied conventions at that time for only boys were known to masturbate. Later in life, I experimented with my sexuality. Frequently teased as a tomboy, I took on the persona and took pride in it. Especially during a time where mass conversations began to shape around the topic of LGBT. I felt belonged and wanted best of both worlds, so I identified as bisexual and dated both genders.

As much as I enjoyed this season of discovery, it came to a wall. I began thinking about my future and whether all I had dabbled with was real and true to my heart. I just felt that the circus was over, the music stopped, and the crowd slowly faded. I believe it is God's gentle knocking and mercy that was waiting for me to receive His love. I went to PLUC when I was 28 because I no longer

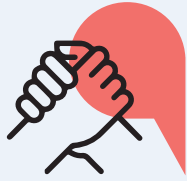
wanted to be entangled between the life I lived and God. I needed the truth especially since I felt it adamantly pursuing me – is there something God wants to show me? I desired a life that reflected purpose and meaning. Above all, I admitted that I was thirsty for real love that porn and bumping around relationships could not satisfy. Between tissues, pen, and paper, I began seeing that my healing would begin from reconciliation with my mom. I blamed her absence in my life particularly when I was sexually assaulted. When I talked to her about it, I learnt that mom bore the guilt silently too. We forgave each other and since then, our relationship has been healthier.

All the pain didn't immediately go away after sessions at PLUC as certain damages may take some time to become whole again. Yet I celebrate what already is and press forward to what is to come because I know the truth now – I am His beloved and He loves me.

## WHO ARE WE?

**Pursuing Liberty Under Christ (PLUC)** is a Christian ministry that seeks to relate to, advocate for and educate on individuals struggling with same-sex attraction.

### 3 FOLD MISSION



#### Relate (Restoration)

We **RELATE** with strugglers in their brokenness and respect each individual's determination to see their personal dignity and sexual identity in God restored.



#### Advocate (Awareness)

In our awareness initiatives, we **ADVOCATE** an inclusive and safe environment for strugglers to develop self-awareness and foster healthy relationships.



#### Educate (Enlightenment)

We **EDUCATE** the truth behind Same-Sex Attraction, and **HOW** communities can provide support for those who struggle with same-sex attraction.

## HOW CAN WE HELP?

### We offer:

- Individually-tailored pastoral sessions for strugglers and their families as needed.
- Support Groups to facilitate self-discovery, personal growth and offering a safe environment to foster new and healthy relationships.
- Talks, seminars, and workshops to educate schools, churches, organizations and communities on understanding and supporting strugglers and their families.
- Resources and materials on same-sex attraction and spiritual wholeness.

### We welcome your partnership with PLUC in the following areas:

Training, Seminar, Workshop (As Hosts & Volunteers)

People-helper (Pastoral care & Counseling)

E-newsletter (Subscription)

Prayer Support (Whatsapp Prayer Room)

Giving/ Pledges (PLUC is a faith-based ministry)

**If you are facing gender-related issues and seeking help, or if you are interested to volunteer with PLUC, please contact us at:**

- 📞 +603-78873501 / +6012-5083501 (Helpline)  
(Working Hours: Tue-Sat, 9:00am-5:00pm)
- ✉️ [help@pluc.org.my](mailto:help@pluc.org.my)
- 🌐 [www.pluc.org.my](http://www.pluc.org.my)
- 📍 P.O.Box 8513, Pejabat Pos Kelana Jaya, 46791 Petaling Jaya, Selangor, Malaysia.



You may also scan this QR code to save our contact details

**We welcome your partnership with PLUC as we are a faith-based ministry:**

Your investment in our ministry can be done via bank transfer:  
**Public Bank Berhad** | Account no: **3133229425**  
Cheques are to be crossed and made payable to **PLUC Events Sdn. Bhd.**  
If you require a receipt, kindly WhatsApp **+6012 508 3501** or email [help@pluc.org.my](mailto:help@pluc.org.my) us the banking details.



*Thank you for your valued partnership and support!*