## LET FAITH ARISE

The Will of God Triumphs Over Darkness

"We look away from the natural realm and we fasten our gaze onto Jesus who birthed faith within us and who leads us forward into faith's perfection. His example is this: Because his heart was focused on the joy of knowing that you would be his, he endured the agony of the cross and conquered its humiliation, and now sits exalted at the right hand of the throne of God!" (Hebrews 12:2)

Bible Study 23 February

## Sermon Recap:

Noah stepped out in reverent obedience to God and built the ark, even though there was no earthly sign of a flood. His faith enabled God to triumph over the moral darkness that had shrouded humanity. Other examples of people of faith include Catherine Booth who preached in the streets of London to the poor and troubled people, even though it was unheard of for women to preach. Catherine and her husband William founded the Salvation Army, and through their faith God triumphed over the personal and social darkness that was embracing humanity. John Wycliffe challenged the theology and corruption in the church, he was the first person to translate the scriptures into English. Being labelled a heretic, he was burned at the stake. Yet he paved the way for Martin Luther, who took up the charge to confront the dysfunction in the church of Rome. Through the faith of these men, God triumphed over the darkness of corruption that had cloaked the church.

## **Reflection Questions:**

- 1. Read Genesis 6:11-22. What inspires you, and what challenges you in this story?
- 2. What is it like to consider that through suffering God can triumph over (moral, social, political, religious) darkness?
- 3. Read Isaiah 53. The greatest triumph came through incredible suffering and pain. How do you reconcile a loving and just God allowing such pain and anguish to achieve His will and purposes?
- 4. Read Hebrews 12:1-3. If you were at the foot of the cross, what would you say to Jesus?
- 5. Let us draw comfort from the promise that God is with us always. Finish by reading Psalm 23.