

# HOPELESS JOURNEY

**“I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.” (John 15:5)**

It was the last day for us in Singapore after an active journey of 25 days. We had finished all the requirements, we completed our shopping and we were ready to go back home. However, we were invited to attend the birthday celebration of our sister Vangie. My dear friend Rudy and I moved on at 5 o'clock in the afternoon towards a resort at the seaside where the birthday celebration was being held. We rode the metro bus and stopped at one of the terminal stations. From there we should get another bus to reach the Coasta-Sun Resort on time. While we were waiting at the terminal we asked people whether we are on the right way to Coasta-Sun. “Is this the bus station for Coasta-Sun Resort?” We were asking from one person to another. But no one gave us an exact answer. Honestly they were not sure what we were speaking about so their answers were either incomprehensible or non-conclusive statements. Rudy and I were just like blind men being led by another blind so we had to make our own decision whether to continue our journey, to go back home, or to find another means to reach the place of celebration. Both of us did not know what to do or to which direction we should take to move on. I was depending on Rudy's better experience in that region for he had visited the place before; I was also thinking that he was carrying his cell phone so that we could contact our friend Vangie in case we needed guidance. But in the contrary, Rudy was also depending on me that I was carrying Vangie's phone number so we could call her at any moment!

We were in a hurry; I had to be at the airport at 11pm that same day. So, we both decided to take a taxi in order to reach the place quickly. The first taxi driver was not able to communicate with us. The second taxi driver informed us that there are two Coasta-Sun Resorts. We told him we wanted the Resort that has the chalets. So he agreed, but then it came out that both Resorts have chalets. Lastly he took us to the Esperanzo Coasta-Sun that was too far instead of the East Coast Coasta-Sun that was near to us. Then he charged us a large amount of money that almost emptied our pockets. Since we were there we enquired from the information desk; we asked for the name but the receptionist told us there is no such name that checked in there. We searched the 200 chalets ourselves randomly but of no use. We were in the wrong place! We went back to the information counter and asked for help; he told us that there is exactly the same Coasta-Sun Resort in the East Coast. We were disappointed when we heard that we were very near to the place before we took the taxi. He called the place verifying if the people we were searching are there, but the answer was negative.

Truly we were puzzled and confused; we did not know what to do. We could not take another taxi because of the very little local currency in our pockets. *“O Lord, help us! We are in a messy situation”*, we prayed. I suggested that we better return back to the hotel but Rudy said we must attend the birthday

celebration. Desperately we started to move again. A glimpse of hope sparked in our eyes; ‘there is a free bus that can take us to the metro bus station!’ And again from there we could go to the East Coast Coasta-Sun Resort. We rode the bus; the driver was kind and he assured us with confidence that we had taken the right and easiest way to reach our destination. He also told us that at 8 pm a bus would come to fetch the people from the metro bus terminal to East Coast Coasta-Sun Resort.

So again we took the metro bus that totally emptied our pockets. We sat together weary and tired, wavering between different options. We did not know what to do. But the Lord Jesus gave us this word, **“Apart from me you can do nothing.”** We suddenly remembered that before we started our journey we did not pray together. We repented and wasted no time; we held our hands together and prayed: *“Father God in heaven, thank You for this day. We ask You to forgive us our prayerlessness. Lord Jesus we confess that apart from You we can do nothing. Here we are Lord, astray, foreigners, and we don't know what to do. Father, have mercy on us. Direct us in the right path and lead us a safe journey to our friend. Please comfort us and support us. This is our prayer in Jesus name, Amen.”*

All of a sudden we received comfort and courage to continue the journey. We reached the metro station, we took the free bus on time and we reached the birthday party. We greeted Vangie and her family and gave to them our gifts. We handed over a Bible to a brother whom we shared the Gospel few days back after which he expressed his desire to read the Bible. We enjoyed a good time, a nice dinner, and on our departure we received a free gift to enable us to take a taxi back to the hotel.

While going back, in the taxi we started to give thanks to God and as I looked towards the big city, to the multitude of people, I asked this question: *“How do these people who don't know God manage their lives? How do they solve their problems without coming to God in prayer? And how do they know which way will lead them to success without knowing the truth?”*

The above story is from reality that speaks about a hopeless journey without the Lord Jesus. All of us were created by God. But we were separated from God when we decided to go through life according to our style. We went our own way and fallen into the sin of disobedience. But God is faithful even **“if we are faithless, He will remain faithful, for He cannot disown Himself.” (II Timothy 2:13)** Therefore, God sent His Son Jesus. He took our sins and He died for us on the cross. He rose from the dead with victory and whoever believes in Him will live forever.

*My dear and beloved:* How long will you waver between two opinions? I appeal to you to surrender your life to God, and accept His Son Jesus as your Saviour and Lord in this difficult life. Abide in Jesus, take heed and follow His words so you may secure your life, and will have peace and joy. God shall bless you.