

Sermon Illustration: Story of MGH Stranger

When our children were still quite young, after attending the 9:00AM family service at ACK Christ Church on Church Road in Westlands, we would often go as a family to have lunch across the street at the Mennonite Guest House.

We usually arrived at the Guest House a couple of hours before the buffet lunch was served. For this reason, Esther and I would take the opportunity to spend the time before lunch in prayer in the lovely gardens of the Guest House.

One Sunday, as Esther and I sat at one of the tables in the garden praying, we felt the presence of someone who had come to sit at the table with us. We didn't allow this to interrupt our praying, however. We just kept on praying. When we finished praying we found that a man we did not know had indeed come to join us at the table. This man got into conversation with us. He was a very jovial person. In the course of the conversation, out of the blue, he asked us to make a certain real estate investment. After a while, he got up from the table, and took his leave. He walked behind Esther and when we looked, he had disappeared, in the same mysterious way in which he had appeared! It was a very strange experience indeed, I tell you!

Well, a short while later, certain circumstances led to our making the kind of real estate investment the mysterious man had spoken about. That investment lay dormant for a number of years. In fact, along the way, we would have lost it if the Lord had not miraculously intervened and restored it to us.

Today, as I speak, the Lord is using that investment to be an amazing and unexpected blessing to our family in a way that we could never have imagined when we made that investment so long ago.

Esther and I have often reflected on this and wondered about that mysterious stranger who appeared to us at prayer at the MGH so many years ago.