

# The Goodness



May 2025

The Goodness

Uptown Baptist Church

## Legit or Counterfeit

Pastor Nick Kim

From the early 1970's to early 1990's, a very popular evangelist and comedian went throughout the country sharing how God had delivered him from Satanism. He wrote a best selling book detailing his conversion. He became the nation's leading voice on why the church should oppose Halloween. His comedic albums sold millions. When the news needed an expert on the occult, he was the go-to. ABC's 20/20 did a special and he gave very descriptive reports on what happens in Satanic cults. The problem was a lot of Satanists were watching. They thought his stories were cool, but knew that they were just not true. This led to a magazine doing an investigation, and lie after lie was exposed and his whole ministry was discovered to be a sham.

Throughout the month of May, we are going to explore legit or counterfeit. There are people who say that all Christians are counterfeit. We often hear that Christians are a bunch of hypocrites. We understand that. Our standard is high. We can't live up to it because the

standard is perfect and holy. The standard is Jesus Christ. He lived a perfect, sinless life, while we still sin. We're not perfect, but that doesn't mean that He doesn't remain our standard.

An authentic, legit Swiss Watch is an amazing machine. The gears are set and by wearing it, you keep the gears moving and it keeps time. If you stop wearing it, it will stop and you have to get the gears going again. It can last generations. There are a lot of counterfeits that look exactly like these watches and say that they are these watches. They eventually break down; they no longer keep time and they become useless.

As Christians we are forgiven and have access to the living God. When we're walking with Him, we're living an abundant life. Our walk is legit. If our walk becomes a crawl, He can get us back in gear. If we've never even come to Him and are breaking down, the good news is that you don't have to continue to pretend. You don't have to be a counterfeit. Turn to Him and get legit.



## Daughters of the King Banquet

May 10th at 3PM

\$20

See Ji Kim or Lynn Morris for Tickets

## Legit or Counterfeit

- 5/4 Christianity Without Pretense
- 5/11 Why I Do What I Don't Want To Do
- 5/18 Counterfeit Worship
- 5/25 Who Were Cain and Abel?



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## In His Service



**Elder Doug Nguyen**

For the past few decades Doug has been a steady force at UBC. He has served as an Elder, led missions, did a lot of the preaching and teaching, ministered to refugees and led the pastor search committee that called Pastor Nick. Some call him Uncle Doug. Most call him Elder Doug. “In His Service” looks back at the service of Elder Doug and celebrates with him as he looks forward to the next chapter of life.

### How and when did you come to UBC?

I initially discovered UBC and the former Vietnamese Alliance Church in the spring of 1993, when I was visiting friends at the William Carey Mission Institute in Pasadena, CA.

UBC had housed the Vietnamese Alliance congregation since the early 80's, and that congregation (made up of refugee families) was featured in the Mission Institute's Prayer Digest. I was immediately attracted to UBC for its burden for refugees and other displaced people groups in the Uptown area and never left. I also met and married my wife Quyen in the same Vietnamese Baptist Church in 1995.

### When you look back at your ministry in the church, what is your most meaningful memory?

Christ is the head of the church and the people are its strength. I've had the blessing to be a part of some great men's groups, including the initial group we formed with the help of Leroy Cox and Brian Bakke in the early 90's when we were a part of the Promise Keepers movement and more recently under Pastor Nick's leadership. I see our men growing deeper in their love for God and each other.

The other significant memory was the dozen mission trips we took to cities all around the US and other nations in Africa and Asia. I will always cherish the times of sharing meals and fellowship with our UBC Saints and other believers across the country and world.

**In these meals all around the world, has there been anything you will not eat?**

*To be continued next month*

*Interview by Pastor Mark Jones*



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1011 W. Wilson Ave. Chicago, IL 60640  
[www.uptownbaptistchurch.com](http://www.uptownbaptistchurch.com)