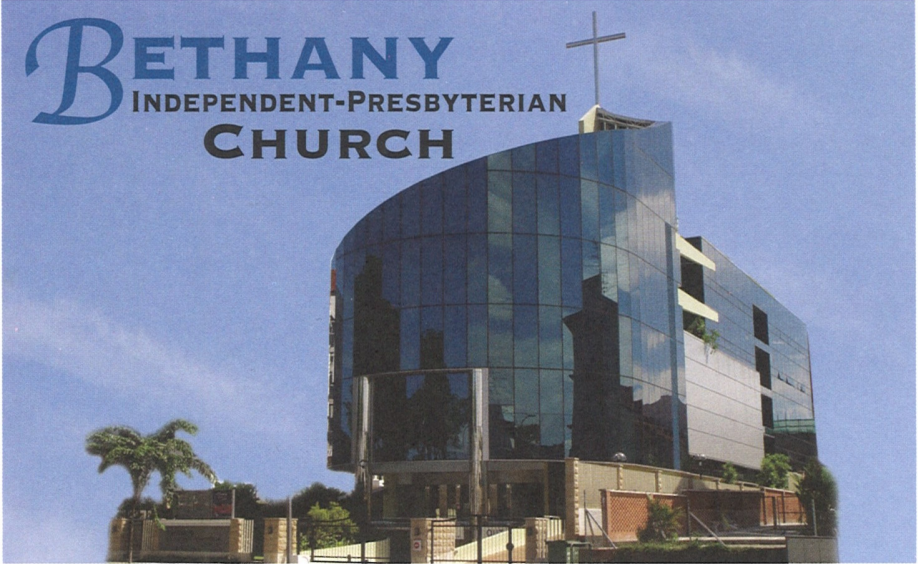


# BETHANY

INDEPENDENT-PRESBYTERIAN

## CHURCH



God's kind of Church...where God is touching lives...and people care for people

Bethany III ... 10 January 2016

MICA (P) No.: 030/10/2012

## MEDITATION

*by Rev Dr Charles Tan*

**Text: Jeremiah 10:23-24**



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# THE WAY OF MAN

## THE PRIDE OF MAN

The pride of man seems to know no bounds. Pride has been the undoing of many a man! Pride expresses itself so obviously in life.

1. Arrogance
2. Disdain

*(continued on page 2)*

# MEDITATION

*(Continued from page 1)*

3. Denial of God

4. Rejection of His laws

## A DEEP INSIGHT

Once upon a time, the prophet Jeremiah admired “the great men” (Jeremiah 5:5). But as he discovered later that they were transgressors and backsliders (Jeremiah 5:6). He finally came to this conclusion about man.

*O LORD, I know the way of man is not in himself;  
It is not in man who walks to direct his own steps.*

*O LORD, correct me, but with justice;  
Not in Your anger, lest You bring me to nothing.*

*Jeremiah 10:23-24*

1. The way of man

- a) How should a man conduct his life on earth?
- b) How does a backsliding transgressor know how to direct his own steps?

2. Not in man

- a) The human being
  - i) Is flawed
  - ii) Is ensnared by sin

*(Continued on page 3)*

*(Continued from page 2)*

- b) He is limited
  - i) Being a creature
  - ii) He is not divine

## **A PLEA TO GOD**

Jeremiah sends out a heartfelt plea as his prayer to God!

1. He knows he needs correction and asks for it
2. But he pleads further
  - a) That God would not correct him in anger
  - b) Lest he perishes along the way

Let us also seek God to correct our foolish and prideful ways! Let us seek to learn that the Lord alone knows how to guide us in our sojourn on earth! †

*Write to me at:* [charlestan@bethanyipc.sg](mailto:charlestan@bethanyipc.sg)

We are glad that you have chosen to worship the Lord Jesus Christ with us today! †

**WELCOME**  
**to Bethany III**

# ANNOUNCEMENTS



## OUR WORSHIP AT SHANGRI LA

We have been worshipping at Shangri La for two Sundays (3 and 10 January 2016) because of the hold-up in the work of the strengthening of the columns in Bethany.

1. Thank you for being gracious, understanding and supportive!
2. Thank God for the Shangri La staff who have been so supportive †

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## ***RETURNING TO BETHANY***

We will be returning to Bethany next Sunday, 17 January 2016. We will be having Combined Worship for the month of January.†

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## **SPRING CLEANING OF BETHANY PREMISES**

Date: 16 January 2016

Time: 8.30am

Lunch: 12.30pm †

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## **COMMENCEMENT OF SATURDAY FELLOWSHIP MEETINGS**

We have four Fellowship Groups meeting on Saturdays. They usually have their own individual meetings.

1. YPG I  
3.00pm

*(Continued on page 5)*



# ANNOUNCEMENTS

*(Continued from page 4)*

2. YPG II

3.00pm

3. YAG

3.00pm

4. AM Bethany

We will be having a Combined Meeting this Saturday, 16 January 2016 (after the Spring Cleaning). There will be Fellowship Tea! It would be good for us to recall what we learned last year about “Oneness.” Let us seek to practise this Oneness among our Fellowship groups! †

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## RESUMPTION OF MINISTRY

1. Catechism Class

Date: 17 January 2016

Venue: 4<sup>th</sup> Level Auditorium

2. Pre-Marital Counseling

Date: 18 January 2016

Time: 7.00pm

3. Prayer Meeting

Date: 18 January 2016

Time: 8.00pm

Venue: 4<sup>th</sup> Level Auditorium

4. Bible Study

Date: 19 January 2016

Time: 8.00pm

Venue: 4<sup>th</sup> Level Auditorium

# ANNOUNCEMENTS



## CHURCH FAMILY CAMP

13-18 March 2016

Theme: "Call to Me"

Plan to sign up for the Family Camp as soon as possible. †

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## IPC INDIA

Family Camp (11-13 January 2016)

Theme: "A servant of the Lord"

1. A team of people from Bethany and Bethel will be attending the Family Camp to be held in Chennai.
2. Three special events will be taking place during the week :
  - a) The Dedication of the Study Centre on Monday, 11 January 2016
  - b) Ordination of Titus Balaji on Wednesday, 13 January 2016
  - c) Wedding of Rachel and Vasanth  
(Rachel is the daughter of Pastor S. Baskaran)

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## TESTIMONY OF TITUS BALAJI

This is a testimony of Titus Balaji.

He reflects on his life on the eve of his ordination.

*I was introduced to God and to Church through my mother. It is through her motivation that I attended the Sunday school at Sathiyam IPC. I was then 13 years old. I really liked the Sunday school atmosphere. Going to Sunday school was something that I looked forward to every week because of the many Bible stories and the songs I learned. I never knew that it was much more than fun until an older person*

*(Continued on page 7)*



# ANNOUNCEMENTS

*(Continued from page 6)*

named Ammachi amma who shared about the grace and the mercies of God with me. I was deeply moved by what she shared with me. My heart yearned to believe in this Great and wonderful God. That moment was special to me.

I then began to attend the Sunday worship services and the Bible study. I saw many uncles and aunties serving in various areas. I too wanted to do something for the Lord. I began to help in some areas in the church. I saw the Pastoral team from Singapore coming over to India to preach the Lord's word. They stood for long hours to teach and preach about God. I asked myself "How come they could stand for so many hours to teach about God and not about themselves?" I was inspired by the way they served the Lord. I saw a selfless and fully dedicated life for the Lord in them. I too wanted to serve the Lord like them.

After finishing my Engineering studies, my heart wanted and desired to serve the Lord. After two and a half years, I resigned from my job and committed myself to serve the Lord as a full time servant. Three years of Bible school in Coimbatore gave me a basic understanding about God and theological knowledge. But I didn't understand that I needed more than basic knowledge to serve effectively. Then Pastor graciously offered me an opportunity to be trained for the Pastoral ministry. Three years of pastoral training over in Bethany IPC changed my life significantly. For me, those three years provided a life changing experience. Serving God involved more than just knowledge. It involved the way we lived. Studying the Lord's word was deep and profound. I had to unlearn many misconceptions and get them right with the teaching of the Lord's word by the Pastors. The love and the friendship extended by the people at Bethany is what I respect and treasure much in my life.

*(Continued on page 8)*

*(Continued from page 7)*

After returning from Singapore, I was given the privilege to serve as an Intern Pastor in IPC India. The task was not an easy one to attempt. Serving in all the four churches for two years was exciting yet challenging and tiring. Through this internship program, I have learned to endure hardship, develop my character and experience the various challenges in ministry. Above all, I have learned to focus on God and God alone. As I journey through this, I see the Lord's hand of work in my life. I am so grateful to the Lord for what I have become. As I am Ordained, this is the one of the verses that I treasure very close to my heart.

*He has shown you, O man, what is good;  
And what does the LORD require of you,  
But to do justly, to love mercy,  
And to walk humbly with your God.  
Micah 6:8*

I want to serve the Lord humbly and I want to please Him. I want to thank the Pastoral team from Singapore and the Indian Pastors with all my heart for helping me to get ready for my ordination. They have run alongside me. I want to thank the Bethany Session members, staff and the people in Bethany for all their love and support. I also want to thank all people in IPC India for their love and prayers.

*Gratefully,  
S. Titus*

## WORSHIP

### PSALM 52:9

*I will praise You forever  
Because You have done it.  
And in the presence of Your saints  
I will wait on Your name, for it is good.*

*Worship  
in Spirit  
& Truth*



1. Determination to praise God forever
  - a) Because of what He has done
  - b) Because He will deal with the wicked
  
2. Determination to wait on the Lord
  - a) Trusting in the Lord
  - b) Trusting in the Name of God for it is indeed good †

## POETRY CORNER

### SEEK MY FACE

“Seek My Face...” A gracious invitation from the Lord,  
This was given out of His mercy, out of His own accord.  
How awed we must feel that we are allowed to seek His Face,  
How should we respond to such words of pure Divine grace?

“Your face, Lord, I will seek!” This must come from the heart.  
Faith and focus must be there right from the start!  
What strength, what joy must spring from deep within the soul,  
At the thought of finding God, for only He can make us truly whole!

What ought we to look for as we seek the Face of the Lord?  
The heart longs to be in the gracious presence of our God!  
To behold the beauty of the Lord is the heart’s one strong desire,  
To inquire in His holy temple, to discern His will, we must aspire!

The heart must spare no effort to seek our great Lord,  
Each morning must see us pray to our gracious God.  
What God reveals of Himself will make the New Year great,  
May we desire, the blessings of God to share and relate.

Psalm 27:8

Charles Tan

# BIBLE MEMORY WORK

**10 January 2016**

## MATTHEW 6:33 SEEK FIRST THE KINGDOM OF GOD

But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness,  
and all these things shall be added to you.

1. Seeking God  
To be a priority
2. Two aspects highlighted: -
  - a) To seek the kingdom of God
  - b) To seek His righteousness
3. A special word of promise
  - a) God would help us meet our needs
  - b) We would not be in want
  - c) We do not need to worry at all

**17 January 2016**

## COLOSSIANS 3:1

### SEEK THOSE THINGS WHICH ARE ABOVE

If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are above,  
where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God.

THEME : YOUR FACE, LORD, I WILL SEEK

# *This Week @ Worship*

— MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE —  
10.30 AM . SHANGRI LA HOTEL  
“I Will Guide You with My Eye”  
Psalm 32

Chairmen  
The Pastoral Team

Pianist  
Mrs Esther Ang

Speaker  
Rev Dr Charles Tan

Interpreter  
Ms Tan Hwee Cheng

— TEENS' WORSHIP SERVICE —

**NO TEENS WORSHIP SERVICE**

— CHILDREN'S CHURCH —

COMBINED CC (P1—P6)

**NO TEENS WORSHIP SERVICE**

— COMBINED EVENING-BILINGUAL  
WORSHIP SERVICE —

**NO EVENING-BILINGUAL WORSHIP SERVICE**

NO BREAKFAST & FELLOWSHIP LUNCH

# Bethany Church Activities

	Day	Time	Venue	Location
<b>WORSHIP SERVICES</b>				
Morning Worship Service	Sun	10.30 am	Fellowship Hall	1 <sup>st</sup> floor
Children's Worship (P1 – P6)		10.30 am	4 <sup>th</sup> Floor Auditorium	4 <sup>th</sup> floor
Evening-Bilingual Worship Service		4.00 pm	Fellowship Hall	1 <sup>st</sup> floor
<b>SUNDAY SCHOOL</b>				
Crèche	Sun	8.30am 10.30am	Church Office	3 <sup>rd</sup> floor
Beginners' Sunday School		8.30am	3 <sup>rd</sup> Floor Auditorium	3 <sup>rd</sup> floor
Junior Sunday School		8.30am	4 <sup>th</sup> Floor Auditorium	4 <sup>th</sup> floor
Combined		8.30am	Fellowship Hall	1 <sup>st</sup> floor
Senior Sunday School		8.30am	BTS	4 <sup>th</sup> floor
Senior Sunday School III				
<b>CHOIRS</b>				
Singing Kakis	Thurs	8.00 pm	4 <sup>th</sup> Floor Auditorium	4 <sup>th</sup> floor
One Voice	Sat	5.00 pm	Fellowship Hall	1 <sup>st</sup> floor
Youth Choir		5.00 pm	4 <sup>th</sup> Floor Auditorium	4 <sup>th</sup> floor
Evergreens	Sun	1.00 pm	Sanctuary II	2 <sup>nd</sup> floor
<b>BIBLE STUDY</b>				
Church Bible Study	Tue	8.00 pm	4 <sup>th</sup> Floor Auditorium	4 <sup>th</sup> floor
Home Bible Study	2 <sup>nd</sup> and 4 <sup>th</sup> Thurs	3.00 pm	-	-
Mandarin Bible Study	1 <sup>st</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> Fri	7.30 pm	4 <sup>th</sup> Floor Auditorium	4 <sup>th</sup> floor
<b>CATECHISM CLASS</b>				
	Sun	1.00 pm	4 <sup>th</sup> Floor Auditorium	4 <sup>th</sup> floor
<b>PRAYER MEETING</b>				
	Mon	8.00 pm	4 <sup>th</sup> Floor Auditorium	4 <sup>th</sup> floor
<b>FELLOWSHIP GROUPS</b>				
Young People's Group	Sat	3.00 pm	3 <sup>rd</sup> and 4 <sup>th</sup> Floor Auditorium	3 <sup>rd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> floor
Young Adults' Group	Sat	3.00 pm	Fellowship Hall	1 <sup>st</sup> floor

## Bethany Independent-Presbyterian Church

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**COMBINED WORSHIP SERVICE**  
**10 January 2016**  
**Order of Worship**

PREPARATION

Pre-Worship Singing  
Century Praise 297

Wonderful Grace of Jesus

Prelude

*Pianist : Mrs Esther Ang*

Call to Worship

*Rev Dr Charles Tan*

Invocation

PRAISE

Hymns

Century Praise 51

Immortal Invisible God Only Wise

*Student-Pastor Benjamin Quah*

Century Praise 331

Be Thou My Vision

*Student-Pastor Benjamin Chong*

HWC No. 466

Jesus, Lover Of My Soul

*Rev Mitchell Tan*

Century Praise 89

Praise To The Lord, The Almighty

*Rev Mark Tan*

BIBLE MEMORIZATION & RECITATION

PRAYER

Pastoral Prayer

“PREACH THE WORD”

Message: “I Will Guide You With My Eye”

“我要定睛在你身上劝戒你”

Text :

Psalm 32

诗篇 32

Speaker:

Rev Dr Charles Tan

RESPONSE

Offering

Hymn

VIP No. 475

Precious Promise

Prayerful Meditation

Benediction

Postlude

# PASTORAL LETTER

Senior Pastor : Rev Dr Charles Tan

10 January 2016

*Dear Brethren,*

## INDIAN FAMILY CAMP

A contingent of people from Bethany and Pastor Christopher Lai will be attending the Indian Family Camp from 11-13 January 2016.

1. Theme of the Camp  
“A servant of the Lord”

- a) This theme was drawn from the Pastoral Epistles the Apostle Paul wrote to Timothy and Titus
- b) Paul wrote from a wealth of experience in serving the Lord

2. Some goals of the Indian Family Camp

- a) To be more familiar with the Pastoral Epistles
- b) To be challenged greatly to become better servants of the Lord
- c) To have a significant sense of mutual encouragement through fellowship and ministry

## THE ORDINATION OF TITUS BALAJI

In India this week, we will witness the ordination of Titus Balaji. He has gone through much in preparation for his ordination.

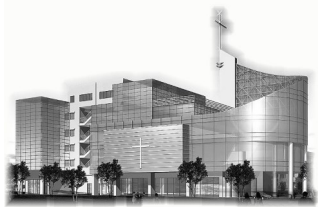
1. Bible Seminary training in India
2. Stint of pastoral training in Bethany
3. Two years of internship in IPC India

Titus has proven himself well! He will be ordained on Wednesday, 13 January 2016 by the Ordaining Council comprising our Bethany pastors and Pastor Christopher Lai from Bethel. Thank God for giving us another ordained minister for the huge ministry in India.

## THE WEDDING SERVICE OF RACHEL BASKARAN

Rachel, the elder daughter of Pastor S. Baskaran will be married on Thursday, 14 January 2016. May the Lord bless Rachel and Arun Vasanth as they are married!

*Prayerfully,  
Pastor Charlie*



**BETHANY**  
INDEPENDENT-PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH

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