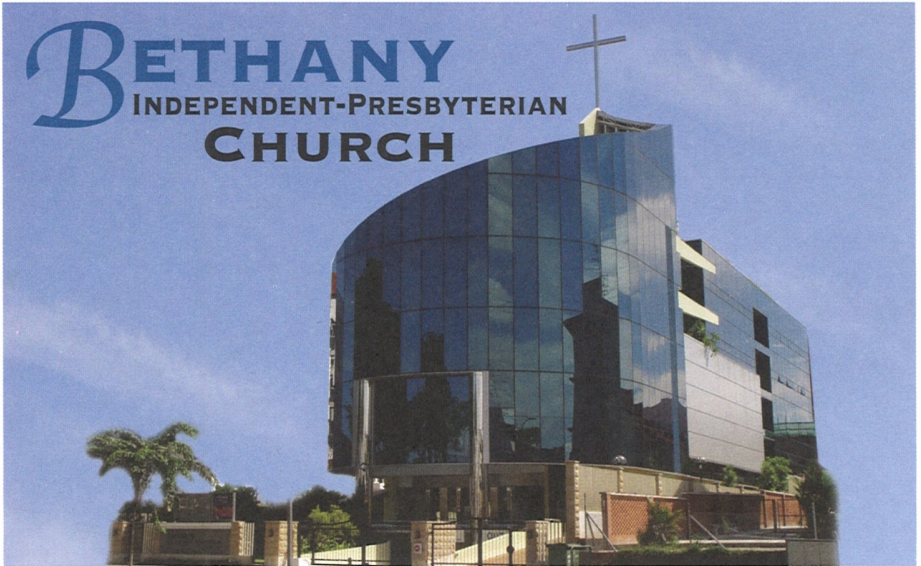


BETHANY

INDEPENDENT-PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH



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

Bethany III ... 11 September 2016

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

MEDITATION

by Rev Dr Charles Tan

Text: Psalm 3



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DRIVEN TO PRAY

CIRCUMSTANCES OF LIFE

The circumstances of life will vary from person to person. Some have more pleasant circumstances. Others have it tougher.

DRIVEN TO PRAY

If we are honest with ourselves, sometimes we do not pray until the tough circumstances of our

(continued on page 2)

MEDITATION

(Continued from page 1)

life drive us to pray. The Psalmist David was a king anointed by God, but there were times in his life where he felt especially driven to seek God in prayer.

CANDIDNESS IN PRAYER

David was very candid when he prayed to the Lord. He poured out his heart to the Lord in desperation.

*LORD, how they have increased who trouble me!
Many are they who rise up against me.*

*Many are they who say of me, "There is no help for him in God."
Psalm 3:1-2*

1. Understanding the historical context

- a) David had a son who sought to usurp the throne
- b) Sadly, many followed Absalom, his rebellious son

2. Driven to prayer

- a) By anxiety
- b) By sorrow
- c) By desperation
- d) By hurtful taunts of enemies

HOW SHOULD ONE PRAY IN SUCH CIRCUMSTANCES?

Let us ponder how David prayed in these dire circumstances.

(Continued on page 3)

(Continued from page 2)

*But You, O LORD, are a shield for me,
My glory and the One who lifts up my head.
I cried to the LORD with my voice,
And He heard me from His holy hill. Psalm 3:3-4*

1. Exercise faith in God

- a) That He will hear when we pray
- b) That He will answer according to His will

2. Exercise hope in God

- a) He is the Lord our God
- b) He has created us for His glory
- c) He will lift up our head in vindication yet

DEEPENING OUR PRAYER LIFE

As we begin our 40+4 year of ministry as a Church, let us seek to deepen our prayer life. May our hearts be deeply moved to seek God even more urgently and diligently in prayer! †

Write to me at: charlestan@bethanyipc.sg

GREETINGS FROM PASTOR CHARLES TAN

Pastor concludes his ministry in Bethel today. He will be speaking at Bethel and conducting the Communion Service. He sends greetings to all worshippers today. †

ANNOUNCEMENTS



WELCOME TO BETHANY'S WORSHIP AT SHANGRI LA

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

1. Temporary Place of Worship

Venue: Shangri La Hotel

Time: 10.30am

2. For Three weeks

11, 18 and 25 September 2016

3. Reasons

- a) The Tentage at our Church Courtyard has been taken down
- b) The Church is being prepared for TOP testing

4. Prayer

- a) Let us pray that the Tests will go well
- b) God willing, we will be able to resume worship at 301 Upper Paya Lebar Road on 2 October 2016
- c) Let us thank God that we have been able to secure a place for our Worship at Shangri La for the whole month of September 2016 †



ANNOUNCEMENTS

AM MEETING

Saturday, 17 September 2016

Time: 5.00pm



SUSPENSION OF SUNDAY ACTIVITIES

(While worshipping at Shangri La)

1. No Combined Sunday School
2. No Catechism Class

Let us look forward to resuming these activities when we return to 301 Upper Paya Lebar Road. †

NO FELLOWSHIP LUNCHES

We will not be able to have Fellowship Lunches for 5-6 weeks. The Kitchen and Cafeteria are affected by the A & A. We will not be able to have Fellowship Lunch until the 3rd week of October 2016.

Thank you for bearing with all the inconvenience. Your patience is deeply appreciated! †

ANNOUNCEMENTS



PUBLIC HOLIDAY

Monday, 12 September 2016 is a public holiday. We will not be having Pre-Marital Counselling or Prayer Meeting. †

BIBLE STUDY

Tuesday, 13 September 2016

Time: 8.00pm

Venue: 4th Floor Auditorium

New book: Deuteronomy

1. A wrong approach
 - a) Few have a deep understanding of the contents of this Book
 - b) Some people dismiss it as an OT book that is no longer relevant
2. A correct approach
 - a) Every book in the Bible has invaluable lessons that are relevant
 - b) Let us bestir ourselves to set aside time to read and comprehend this Book
 - c) Great are the lessons and blessings we may obtain when we read this book with understanding

Plan to come for Bible Study! †



A & A PROJECT

1. Critical phase of work

Let us pray for the Lord's grace and mercy

2. Support

- (a) In prayer
- (b) In practical ways †

BETHEL'S CELEBRATION OF 22 YEARS OF MINISTRY

1. Recalling the Lord's blessings

- (a) Provision
- (b) Protection

2. Going forward into Year 20+3

- (a) Let us pray for Pastor Christopher Lai and the Session Members
- (b) Let us pray that they will continue to forge ahead strongly
- (c) May their faith enable them to press forward to greater spiritual endeavours †

Psalm 68:6

*God sets the solitary in families;
He brings out those who are bound into prosperity;
But the rebellious dwell in a dry land.*



1. Offering grateful worship to a wonderful God
 - a) He takes cares of “the solitary”
 - b) He also takes care of “those who are bound”
2. What God does for those who turn to Him in humbleness
 - a) He sets the solitary in families
 - i. This is particularly true where orphans are concerned
 - ii. He gives to orphans “families”
 - iii. Often a spiritual family
 - b) He gives prosperity
 - i. Some are bound and strapped
 - ii. They become impoverished
 - iii. But God is able to help them overcome their problems
 - iv. He gives them “prosperity”
3. But what about the rebellious?
 - a) They will not have the Lord’s blessings
 - b) They will dwell in a dry land ☩

FOR TO YOU I WILL PRAY

What draws a person to cry out and pray to the LORD?
Should it not simply that He is the King and our God?
How we must learn to commune with God in prayer!
The great burdens of our life would be easier to bear.

Praying meaningfully can be learned if our heart is right,
There in God's word, we will find great and abundant light.
Many are the prayers recorded in the Bible to inspire,
But it all begins with what our heart truly desires.

Is Prayer meant to be a mere outpouring of the heart?
Should not Prayer be meditative right from the start?
Prayer was never meant to be an outlet for what we feel,
It is speaking to a wonderful God who has power to heal.

How wise it is to begin each day with praying to the Lord!
How good it is to bring our needs to a kind and gracious God.
May the first words of our lips be directed to God above,
He will draw close to us and cover us with His precious love.

Inspiration: Psalm 5:2

Charles Tan †

BIBLE MEMORY WORK

Today, 11 September 2016

Psalm 17:8 Keep me as the apple of Your eye

Keep me as the apple of Your eye;

Hide me under the shadow of Your wings.

1. Keep me as the apple of Your eye

- a) A prayer for protection
- b) A humble prayer for “affectionate protection”

2. Hide me under the shadow of Your wings

- a) The Lord’s protection is pictured as a protective bird
- b) The protective parent will naturally defend its young

3. Praying for the Lord’s protection

- a) Let us seek the Lord’s protection from deadly threats
- b) Let us especially remember all who are worried about the Zika virus problem

Next Sunday: 18 September 2016

Psalm 20:7 But we will remember the name of the LORD our God
*Some trust in chariots, and some in horses; but we will remember the name of the
LORD our God.*



THEME : FOR TO YOU I WILL PRAY

This Week @ Worship

— COMBINED WORSHIP SERVICE —
10.30 AM . SHANGRI LA HOTEL
“A Refuge in Times of Trouble”
Psalm 9

Chairmen
Student-Pastor
Benjamin Quah
Mr Eugene Seow
Mr Moses Kwek

Pianist
Mrs Esther Ang

Interpreter
Ms Tan Hwee Cheng

Speaker
Rev Mitchell Tan

— TEENS' WORSHIP SERVICE —

NO TEENS WORSHIP SERVICE

— CHILDREN'S CHURCH —
10.30 AM
“Narrow is the gate and
difficult is the way”
Matthew 7:13-14

COMBINED CC (P1—P6)

Speaker
Student-Pastor Benjamin Chong
*Red Azalea Room on the Mezzanine Floor,
Shangri La Hotel*

— COMBINED EVENING-BILINGUAL
WORSHIP SERVICE —

**NO COMBINED EVENING-BILINGUAL
WORSHIP SERVICE**

NO FELLOWSHIP LUNCH

Bethany Church Activities

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

Bethany Independent-Presbyterian Church

301 Upper Paya Lebar Road, Singapore 534934
 tel : 65-62877713 . fax : 65-62877980 . website URL : bethanyipc.sg

COMBINED WORSHIP SERVICE
11 September 2016
Order of Worship

PREPARATION

Pre-Worship Singing
HWC No. 347

Be Still, My Soul

Prelude

Pianist : Mrs Esther Ang

Call to Worship

Student-Pastor Benjamin Quah
Mr Eugene Seow
Mr Moses Kwek

Invocation

PRAISE

Hymns

Century Praise 389

He Leadeth Me

Century Praise 291

Jesus Is All The World To Me

Century Praise 297

Wonderful Grace Of Jesus

SPECIAL SONG ITEM

"In The Quiet Moments"

One Voice

"PREACH THE WORD"

Message: "You are my Lord"

Text : Psalm 16

Speaker: Rev Mitchell Tan

RESPONSE

Offering

Hymn

VIP No. 395

I Am Praying, Blessed Saviour

Prayerful Meditation

Benediction

Postlude

PASTORAL LETTER

Senior Pastor : Rev Dr Charles Tan

11 September 2016

Dear Brethren,

PRAYER CONSCIOUSNESS

It is good and right to commence our 40+4 Year of ministry at Bethany with a deep sense of our need to pray. This prayer consciousness is important and healthy.

CULTIVATING OUR PRAYER CONSCIOUSNESS

Of course, we must recognise that we must not be satisfied with commencement of prayer consciousness. The greater challenge is to cultivate this prayer consciousness. How may we do this effectively? Let us ponder the following thoughts: -

1. Growth in spiritual maturity

- a) Growth in spiritual maturity is of utmost importance
- b) Let us seek to grow in every way possible

2. Means of Growth

Thank God that we live in an age where there are so many tools that will help us grow our faith effectively.

- a) Growth and knowledge of God's word go together
 - i) Check out our Church website
 - ii) There are many devotional articles that can help us grow spiritually
- b) Growth and meaningful fellowship go together too
 - i) Take time to have meaningful fellowship
 - ii) Seek to minister a word of encouragement that will bring an uplift to the heart
- c) Growth and service go together as well
 - i) May the Lord give us a desire to be His servant
 - ii) Find a suitable area of service

Let us do our utmost to cultivate our "prayer-consciousness!"

*Prayerfully,
Pastor Charlie*