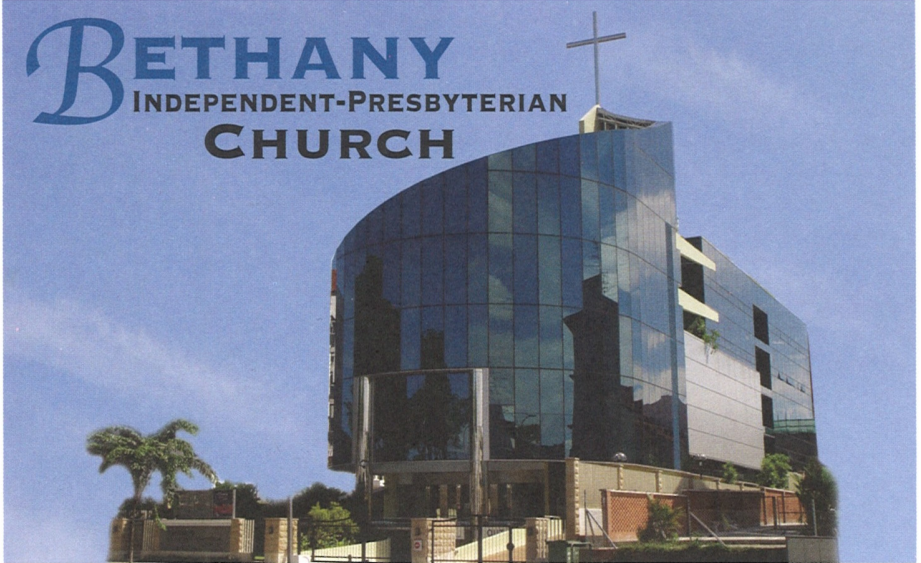


BETHANY

INDEPENDENT-PRESBYTERIAN

CHURCH



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

Bethany III ... 1 January 2017 ... Happy New Year!

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

MEDITATION

by Rev Dr Charles Tan

Text: Psalm 23



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"THE LORD IS MY SHEPHERD"

THE WRITING OF THE PSALMS

The Psalmist David was one who believed in testifying for the Lord. David employed many means to bear witness for the Lord. One of the means by which he bore witness was to write

(continued on page 2)

MEDITATION

(Continued from page 1)

Psalms.

The Psalms were often set to music and sung as part of worship. The contents of many of the Psalms bore witness of the goodness of the Lord!

THE FAMOUS SHEPHERD'S PSALM

One of the most well-read Psalms must be Psalm 23. David bore able testimony of the Lord as a wonderful Shepherd.

1. The LORD is my Shepherd

- a) David bore testimony of having the following: -
- b) A personal faith in the Lord
- c) A personal relationship with Him
 - i) The Lord was his Shepherd
 - ii) David was a sheep

2. I shall not want

- a) David testified of God's sufficiency
- b) He was never in want all throughout his life
 - i) As a young shepherd helping to look after his father's flock
 - ii) To becoming the second king of Israel

(Continued on page 3)

(Continued from page 2)

3. God's care as the Divine Shepherd

- a) He makes me to lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside the still waters
 - i) God was a good and careful Shepherd
 - ii) He wonderfully provided for His sheep
 - iii) This was a reference to physical provision
- b) He restores my soul; He leads me in the paths of righteousness For His name's sake.
 - i) This was a reference to God caring for the soul
 - ii) God restores the soul that is weary and worn out
 - iii) God leads in paths of righteousness
 - iv) He will do all these things for His own name's sake!

CHALLENGED TO BEAR TESTIMONY FOR THE LORD

Let us be greatly challenged to bear testimony for the Lord. May we share the light of the Gospel with those who sit in darkness! †

Write to me at: charlestan@bethanyipc.sg

ANNOUNCEMENTS



We are glad that you have chosen to worship the Lord Jesus Christ with us today! May your heart be lifted up through worship and fellowship! †

WELCOME

to Bethany III

HAPPY NEW YEAR

The Session and the Pastoral Team wish all worshippers
“Happy New Year!”
May your find joy in the New Year ahead.
May the Lord bless! †

NEW PULPIT THEME

We commence a new Pulpit Theme (January- February 2017).
“You are My Witnesses” Isaiah 43:10

1. Our Pulpit Chairmen
2. The Pulpit Messages

All will focus on bearing witness for the Lord! †



ANNOUNCEMENTS

HOLY COMMUNION TODAY

We remember the death of the Lord Jesus Christ in the celebration of
The Lord's Supper!



The Bread

And as they were eating, Jesus took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them, and said, "Take, eat; This is My body."

Mark 14:22



The Cup

*Then He took the cup, and when He had given thanks
He gave it to them, and they all drank from it.
And He said to them, This is My blood of the new covenant,
which is shed for many.*

Mark 14:23-24 †



ANNOUNCEMENTS



WEDDING BELLS

Hui Min and Lionel will be married on 7 January 2017. The wedding service is at 11.00am. All in Bethany are invited. †

CATECHISM CLASS

We commence on 8 January 2017
Venue: 4th Floor Auditorium (Bubble lift side)
Time: 1.00pm †

FELLOWSHIP GROUPS

1st Meeting of the year: 21 January 2017
Time: 3.00pm

All Saturday Fellowship Groups:-

YPG 1, 2, 3

YAG

AM

YMG (Young-Married Group) †



ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHURCH FAMILY CAMP

Date: 12- 15 March 2017

Venue: Le Grandeur, Johor

Theme: “My People”

Plan to sign up as soon as possible! †

A & A WORK

Let us continue to pray for the Lord’s blessings!

God willing, we will be able to complete the Project by mid-March 2017. †

DEDICATION OF BETHANY IV

Date: Saturday, 18 March 2017

Time: 4.00pm †

PSALM 71: 17-18

*O God, You have taught me from my youth;
And to this day I declare Your wondrous works.*

*Now also when I am old and grayheaded,
O God, do not forsake me,
Until I declare Your strength to this generation,
Your power to everyone who is to come.*

1. Deep gratitude to God

- a) For teaching
- b) For His wondrous works displayed

2. Deep commitment

- a) To declare God's wondrous works
- b) To declare God's strength and power to all

3 Deep prayer

- a) Not to be forsaken
- b) But to be empowered and strengthened to serve the Lord as His witness †

THE SHEEP OF THE FLOCK

How well the Good Shepherd knew His flock;
He knew their weaknesses; they were not Rock!
He said plainly, "All of you will be made to stumble,"
Those were painful words to hear, except to the humble.

How well the Good Shepherd loved His flock;
He loved them dearly, though not one was Rock.
He said, "The sheep of the flock will be scattered;"
Yet He still loved them; they will be gathered!

How well the Good Shepherd knew the word of God,
To the Scriptures He held fast; He was the solid Rock!
He knew that all His disciples would flee out of fear,
He foretold failure; But His words did not bring cheer.

How well the Good Shepherd believed in the LORD,
He would rise again and be proven to be the Son of God!
He would see His beloved disciples once again,
He would surely make everything right as rain!

Inspiration: Matthew 26:31-32
Charles Tan †

BIBLE MEMORY WORK

TODAY: 1 January 2017

ISAIAH 43:10 YOU ARE MY WITNESSES AND MY SERVANTS

“You are My witnesses,” says the LORD,

“And My servants whom I have chosen,

That you may know and believe Me, and understand that I am He.

Before Me there was no God formed, nor shall there be after Me.”

1. God’s word to His people

a) You are My witnesses

b) You are My servants

c) Whom I have chosen

2. God’s desire for His people

a) To know Him

b) To believe in Him

c) To understand Him as the one and only God

NEXT SUNDAY: 8 January 2017

ISAIAH 43:12 YOU ARE MY WITNESSES THAT I AM GOD

“I have declared and saved, I have proclaimed, and there was no foreign god among you; therefore You are My witnesses,” says the LORD, “that I am God.” †

THEME : YOU ARE MY WITNESSES

This Week @ Worship

— COMBINED WORSHIP SERVICE —
10.30 AM . CHURCH SANCTUARY
“You are My witnesses...
that I am God ”
Isaiah 43

Chairmen
Student-Pastor
Benjamin Chong
Student-Pastor
Benjamin Quah

Pianist
Mr Gabriel Ou

Organist
Mrs Sally Tan

Speaker
Rev Dr Charles Tan

Interpreter
Mr Foo Yit San

— TEENS' WORSHIP SERVICE —

NO TEENS WORSHIP SERVICE

— CHILDREN'S CHURCH —
10.30 AM
“Repent ”
Matthew 4:17

COMBINED CC (P1—P6)

Speaker
Miss Camille George
4th Floor Auditorium

— COMBINED EVENING-BILINGUAL
WORSHIP SERVICE —

**NO COMBINED EVENING-BILINGUAL
WORSHIP SERVICE**

Breakfast & Fellowship Lunch : The Church Session

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

1 January 2017

Order of Worship

PREPARATION

Pre-Worship Singing

Pianist : Mr Gabriel Ou

Organist: Mrs Sally Tan

Century Praise 328

Saviour, Like A Shepherd Lead Us

Prelude

Call to Worship

Invocation

PRAISE

Hymns

Century Praise 32

God Of Our Fathers

Century Praise 340

O To Be Like Thee

Century Praise 339

Higher Ground

PRAYER

Pastoral Prayer

SPECIAL SONG ITEM

"Lord, Your Church Are We" *Bethany Combined Choir*

"PREACH THE WORD"

Message: "You are My witnesses... that I am God"

Text : Isaiah 43

Speaker: Rev Dr Charles Tan

THE LORD'S SUPPER

Hymn

HWC No. 436

Whiter Than Snow

Partaking of the Bread

Hymn

HWC No. 438

Cleanse Me

Partaking of the Cup

RESPONSE

Offering

Hymn

Century Praise 502

Send The Light

Prayerful Meditation

Benediction

Postlude

PASTORAL LETTER

Senior Pastor : Rev Dr Charles Tan

1 January 2017

Dear Brethren,

WRITING THE PASTORAL LETTER

This is the first Pastoral Letter of 2017. I remember why I write the Pastoral Letter each week, for many decades.

1. Before we had the Internet
2. Before we had Email
3. It was meant to be different from the weekly Bethany Bulletin

IN THE INTERNET AGE

We live in the Internet Age now. People communicate differently.

1. People use the phone
2. Many means are available for people to communicate messages: -
 - a) Twitter
 - b) WhatsApp
 - c) Instagram

And much more! What then would be the role of the Pastoral Letter? Have we come to a time when the Pastoral Letter is relegated to a thing of the past?

THE OLD WAYS

The LORD gave a word that Jeremiah was to preach to the people of Judah.

*Thus says the LORD:
Stand in the ways and see,
And ask for the old paths,
Where the good way is, and walk in it.
Then you will find rest for your souls.
But they said, "We will not walk in it." Jeremiah 6:16*

This is how I see the Pastoral Letter. I write to share about "the old paths, where the good way is, and to encourage all readers to walk in the way of the Lord!

I wish you a Happy New Year! May you walk in the ways of the Lord and there find joy!

*Prayerfully,
Pastor Charlie*