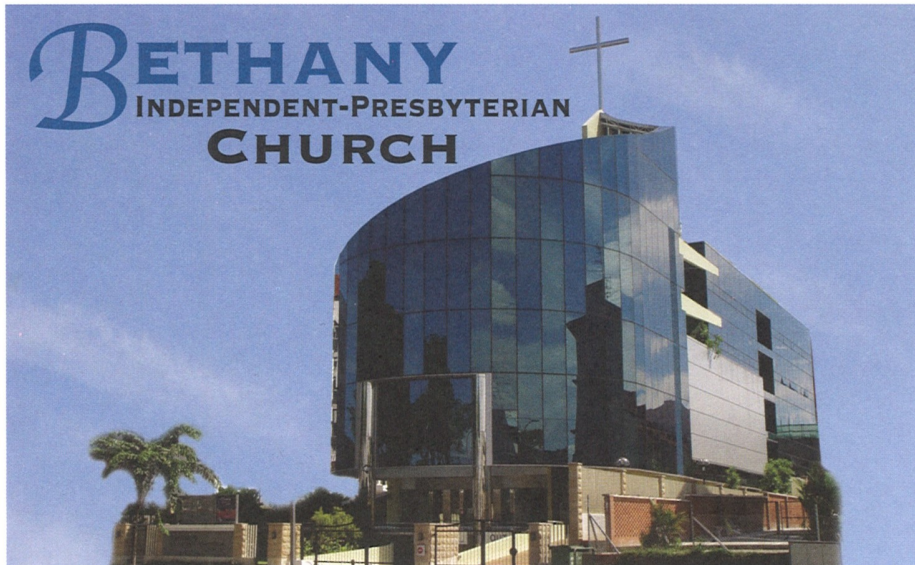


BETHANY

INDEPENDENT-PRESBYTERIAN

CHURCH



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

Bethany III ... 12 February 2017

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

MEDITATION

by Rev Dr Charles Tan

Text: Psalm 18:30; 19:7-11



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“THE WORD OF THE LORD IS PROVEN”

OUR FAITH IN THE SCRIPTURES

We make no apology that we have absolute faith in the Scriptures. At Bethany, we preach the Word of God. We teach the Word of God at Sunday School. We share the same Word at all our Fel-

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MEDITATION

(Continued from page 1)

lowship Groups!

BEARING WITNESS CONCERNING THE WORD OF GOD

The Psalmist David certainly bore consistent witness about the Word of God. In this classic text, David bore witness of the efficacy of the Word of God!

*The law of the LORD is perfect, converting the soul;
The testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple;*

*The statutes of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart;
The commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes;*

*The fear of the LORD is clean, enduring forever;
The judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.*

*More to be desired are they than gold, yea, than much fine gold;
Sweet also than honey and the honeycomb.*

*Moreover by them Your servant is warned,
And in keeping them there is great reward. Psalm 19:7-11*

David added the following insights in another Psalm he wrote.

*As for God, His way is perfect,
The word of the LORD is proven;
He is a shield to all who trust in Him. Psalm 18:30*

1. The Word of the Lord and the Way of God

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- a) They are inseparable
- b) The Way of God is to be found in His Word
- c) If we want to know the way of God, we will find enlightenment through knowledge of the Word of God
- d) Let us bear good witness of this great truth

2. The Efficacy of the Word of God

David could not help but note the Word of God impacted lives!

- a) It can convert (change) the soul
- b) It makes the simple wise
- c) It rejoices the heart
- d) It gives needed warning
- e) It brings about wonderful reward!

Have you discovered the power of the Word of God in your life? Have you seen how it has blessed you? Plan to bear witness of the power of God's word! †

Write to me at: charlestan@bethanyipc.sg

We are glad that you have chosen to worship at Bethany. May your heart be lifted up through worship and fellowship! †

WELCOME
to Bethany III

ANNOUNCEMENTS



TEENS WORSHIP

We have resumed Teens Worship! This Ministry is especially geared towards ministering to the Teenagers! Time of worship is at 10.30am. †

CATECHISM CLASS TODAY

Time: 12.00nn

Venue: 4-3 (The Bubble Lift side)

Note the change of Time. The change is due to the fact that we will not have Fellowship Lunch. The Catechism Class will commence soon after the Morning Worship. †

NO FELLOWSHIP LUNCH TODAY

We regret that we are unable to provide Fellowship Lunch today. The Fellowship Hall is under renovations for the whole month of February 2017. †

SUNDAY SCHOOL (COMBINED)

We will be concluding the Combined Sunday School program at the end of February 2017. The different departments are preparing for their individual ministries. They will commence in March 2017. The Intermediate Sunday School has already resumed its ministry to the Teens. †

JUNIOR CAMP

Date: 29 May- 2 June 2017

Venue: Bethany

1. Let us pray for the Lord's blessings.
2. May the Junior Campers be led to faith in the Lord Jesus Christ early in life.

Let us pray for the Junior Camp Committee looking after this program. †



ANNOUNCEMENTS

ACM ON 26 FEBRUARY 2017

Time: 12.00nn

All Communicant Members are asked to stay behind for the Annual General Meeting.

1. Election of the next Session
2. Term (2017-2020)

THE MINISTRY OF THE CHURCH SESSION

1. They exercise oversight of ministries of the Church
2. They work closely with the Pastoral Team
3. They serve in their own individual capacities besides being Members of the Session.

Thank God for the support they have given towards the ministry of the Church! †

CHURCH FAMILY CAMP

12-16 March 2017

Theme: "My People"

Venue: Le Grandeur, Johor †

EASTER 2017

1. Baptismal Service

On Palm Sunday (9 April 2017)

2. Maundy Thursday (13 April 2017)

Communion Service

Time: 8.00pm

3. Easter Concert (14-15 April 2017)

Time: 8.00pm

4. Easter Sunday at Shangri La (16 April 2017)

Time: 10.30am

Easter Lunch: 12.30pm

Plan to book your table as soon as possible! †

ANNOUNCEMENTS



PRE-MARITAL COUNSELLING/ PRAYER MEETING/ BIBLE STUDY

We will be cancelling the PMC/ PM and BS ministries for this week.

1. Many have taken the time and trouble to attend the Vigil Services/ Funeral Service last week.
2. There were some who stayed back to clean the Church premises every night after the Vigil Services
3. The Sanctuary Stage is being redone. Thus the Sanctuary will not be available for our use during the week.
4. The Fourth Floor is being used by the Kindergarten. It would be very inconvenient to move chairs in and out.

Thank you for understanding! †

DEDICATION OF BETHANY IV

1. 18 March 2017

4.00pm

2. Let us look forward to Dedicating Bethany IV

a) This is a historic moment

b) We have come a long way

i) Bethany I (1973)

ii) Bethany II (1995)

iii) Bethany III (2003)

iv) Bethany IV (2017)

c) Each phase of our Church's Ministry has been significant

Let us pray much for the Lord's work in the years ahead! †



ANNOUNCEMENTS

HEARTFELT CONDOLENCES

Condolences to the Teo family on the home-calling of Mdm. Teo Siew Kim (1922-2017). She leaves behind many descendants, some of whom worship with us. Florence Quah is her daughter. Three of her grandchildren worship at Bethany, namely, Melody, Benjamin and Nadine. One great grandchild is in our midst, the daughter of Melody and Alvin Foo. †

LETTERS THAT WARM THE HEART

Dearest Brethren,

Thank you for being there for us in our time of bereavement. So many have selflessly given of your time, love, support – both emotional and financial – and condolences to my family during the three days of wake and the funeral service on 10 Feb 2017. For these, we are deeply grateful. You have blessed our hearts beyond measure as we grieved over the loss of my mother.

All the student pastors arrived upon hearing the sudden demise of my mother, Mdm Koh Siew Kim. They immediately set the funerary arrangements in motion – the use of the sanctuary, the casket services, the obituary, the booking of the crematory hall and the transportation of the casket to the church. My family, which is made up of mostly non-believers, was bowled over by the efficiency and great help offered.

During the wake, Sally and her team cooked sumptuous dinners which comforted us as only home-cooked food can do. Suppers were also provided! Thank you for your labour of love.

At the vigil services, the Pine Trees and Kakis came in teams to usher the visitors; the AVA crew got the systems up and running; the musicians played; the interpreters reached out to the non-speaking English visitors; the student pastors Moses and Eugene chaired the services most meaningfully; and student pastors Ben & Ben rose to the occasion in delivering messages guided by the Spirit. Everyone moved in one accord to minister to us in this time of loss, easing our grief.

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Thank you Pastor Charles, Mark & Mitch for changing your itinerary to be with us. We were most encouraged and comforted with your presence as you led the last vigil service and funeral service.

We have been coming to terms with Ah Ma's sudden demise. Yet our hearts are full. My family is touched indelibly. Thank you all for making all things beautiful and memorable for Ah Ma.

May the Lord bless all of you.

On behalf of the family with much love,

Florence



WORSHIP

PSALM 73:28

*But it is good for me to draw near to God;
I have put my trust in the LORD God,
That I may declare all Your works.*

1. Drawing near to God
 - a) A good decision
 - b) Wise as well
2. Trust in the LORD God
 - a) To be personally experienced
 - b) A personal faith in God is a necessity; a formal faith may not mean much
3. Declaration of the works of God
 - a) Bearing witness
 - b) Deeply meaningful when there is a strong personal element †

HE (THE SPIRIT) WILL TESTIFY OF ME

*God is serious about the Call to Bear Witness,
Again and again, He calls us to be fearless.
He promised His presence and His power,
The Spirit of God will help in "that hour!"*

*The Spirit of God Himself is involved in this ministry,
His power has been clearly recorded in Biblical history.
He will come upon the true servants of the Lord.
They will be given the power of our mighty God!*

*The Spirit of God will come alongside to help us speak,
On our part, the Lord our God, we must humble seek.
What an uplift to the heart we will find from God,
What a joy to know and feel the power of the Lord!*

*There need not be fear in our hearts as we learn to speak,
We must seek to reflect our Master, humble and meek.
What joy we may experience as we bear witness for God,
"Well done, good and faithful servant," will come from the Lord.*

Inspiration: John 15:26

Charles Tan

BIBLE MEMORY WORK

Today, 12 February 2017

Acts 5:32 We are His witnesses and so also is the Holy Spirit

And we are His witnesses to these things, and so also is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey Him.

TWO WITNESSES ARE NOTED

1. Human witnesses
2. Divine Witness (The Holy Spirit)
3. Our Challenge
 - a) To be inspired by the example of the Apostles
 - b) To be emboldened by the knowledge of the Holy Spirit bearing witness alongside

Next Sunday, 19 February 2017

Acts 10:43 To Him all the prophets witness

To Him all the prophets witness that, through His name, whoever believes in Him will receive remission of sins.

THEME : YOU ARE MY WITNESSES

This Week @ Worship

— MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE —
10.30 AM . CHURCH SANCTUARY

“We are His witnesses...
and so also is the Holy Spirit”

Acts 5

Chairman

Mr Lai Chung Han

Organist

Mrs Elsie Poey

Speaker

Rev Dr Charles Tan

Interpreter

Mr Foo Yit San

Pianist

Dr Daniel Chia

Chairman

Mr Ryan Tan

Pianist

Miss Edlyn Chong

Speaker

Student-Pastor
Benjamin Quah

Usher

Miss Sylvia Chan

— TEENS' WORSHIP SERVICE —
10.30 AM .

4th Floor Auditorium 4-2

“Filled with the Holy Spirit”

Matt. 3:13-17 - 4:1, Luke 4:1, 4:14

— CHILDREN'S CHURCH —
10.30 AM

“I must be about
my Father's business”
Luke 2:49

CC I: P1—P3

*3rd Floor
Auditorium 3-1*

CC II: P4—P6

*4th Floor
Auditorium 4-1*

Speaker

Student-Pastor
Benjamin Chong

Speaker

Student-Pastor
Moses Kwek

— COMBINED EVENING-BILINGUAL
WORSHIP SERVICE —

**NO COMBINED EVENING-BILINGUAL
WORSHIP SERVICE**

No Breakfast & Fellowship Lunch

BETHANY CHURCH ACTIVITIES

	Day	Time	Venue	Location
WORSHIP SERVICES				
Morning Worship Service	Sun	10.30 am	Church Sanctuary	2 nd floor
Children's Worship I (P1 – P3)			Auditorium 3-1	3 rd floor
Children's Worship II (P4 – P6)			Auditorium 4-1	4 th floor
Teens' Worship Service			Auditorium 4-2	4 th floor
SUNDAY SCHOOL				
Crèche	Sun	8.30am 10.30am	Auditorium 4-3	4 th floor
Beginners' Sunday School		8.30am	Auditorium 3-2	3 rd floor
Junior Sunday School I		8.30am	Auditorium 3-1	3 rd floor
Junior Sunday School II			Auditorium 4-1	4 th floor
Combined Senior Sunday School		8.30am	Church Sanctuary	2 nd floor
Senior Sunday School III		8.30am	Prayer Room	4 th floor
Intermediate Sunday School		8.30am	Auditorium 4-2	4 th floor
CHOIRS				
Singing Kakis	Thurs	8.00 pm	Auditorium 3-2	3 rd floor
One Voice	Sat	5.00 pm	Auditorium 4-2	4 th floor
Youth Choir			Auditorium 3-1	3 rd floor
Evergreens	Sun	1.00 pm	Auditorium 3-1	3 rd floor
BIBLE STUDY				
Church Bible Study	Tue	8.00 pm	Church Sanctuary	2 nd 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	Auditorium 4-3	4 th floor
PRAYER MEETING				
	Mon	8.00 pm	Church Sanctuary	2 nd floor
FELLOWSHIP GROUPS				
Young People's Group I	Sat	3.00 pm	Auditorium 3-1	3 rd floor
Young People's Group II			Auditorium 3-2	3 rd floor
Young People's Group III			Auditorium 4-1	4 th floor
Young Adults' Group			Auditorium 4-2	4 th floor
Young Married Group			Auditorium 4-3	4 th floor
Adults' Ministry		5.00 pm	Auditorium 4-1	4 th floor

MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE
12 February 2017
Order of Worship

PREPARATION

Pre-Worship Singing

Pianist : Dr Daniel Chia
Organist : Mrs Elsie Poey

New Song

Jesus, Ever Abiding Friend

Prelude

Call to Worship

Mr Lai Chung Han

Invocation

PRAISE

Hymns

Century Praise 57

Worthy Of Worship

Century Praise 327

O Love That Will Not Let Me Go

Century Praise 340

O To Be Like Thee

“PREACH THE WORD”

Message: “We are His witnesses... and so also is the Holy Spirit”

Text : Acts 5

Speaker: Rev Dr Charles Tan

RESPONSE

Offering

Hymn

Century Praise 235

Breathe On Me

Prayerful Meditation

Benediction

Postlude

PASTORAL LETTER

Senior Pastor : Rev Dr Charles Tan

12 February 2017

Dear Brethren,

THE FOREKNOWLEDGE OF GOD

The Apostle Peter wrote meaningfully about the foreknowledge of God in his general epistle to the Christians in the Diaspora of the 1st Century.

*Elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father,
In sanctification of the Spirit, for obedience and sprinkling
Of the blood of Jesus Christ.*

Grace and peace be multiplied.

1 Peter 1:2

1. The word “Elect”

- a) It means “chosen”
- b) This is a significant theological word that was carefully taught by the Apostles of Christ
- c) This teaching was applied in at least three different areas: -
 - i) Chosen for salvation
 - ii) Chosen for service
 - iii) Chosen for suffering too

2. According to the foreknowledge of God the Father

- a) God obviously has full foreknowledge of all events in history
- b) In His wisdom He allows for many things to happen
 - i) They are all designed according to a Divine Plan
 - ii) It may include suffering
 - iii) It may include death

THE CHALLENGE

The challenge for us as “elect pilgrims” is to find that faith in God in all the circumstances of life that will enable us to grow stronger and deeper. Let us seek to grow in our knowledge of God.

***Prayerfully,
Pastor Charlie***