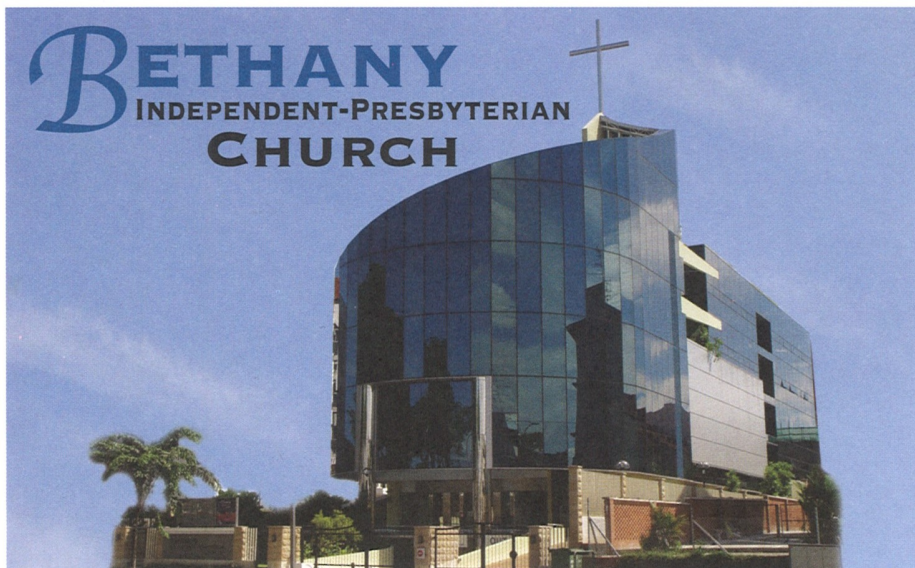


# BETHANY

INDEPENDENT-PRESBYTERIAN

## CHURCH



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

*Bethany IV ... 18 June 2017*

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

## MEDITATION

*by Rev Dr Charles Tan*

**Text: 2 Peter 1**



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## “MAKE YOUR CALL AND ELECTION SURE”

### THE DOCTRINE OF GOD’S CALL-ING

This is a glorious and profound doctrine! It is wonderfully taught in the Scriptures. The more we study this teaching, the more humbled we must be!

*(continued on page 2)*

# MEDITATION

*(Continued from page 1)*

## THE MAIN TENETS OF THIS DOCTRINE

The main tenets of this wonderful teaching include the following: -

1. God is the One who does the choosing
  - (a) Out of His grace, mercy and love
  - (b) There is a glorious Divine Plan involved
2. God is not limited by the sinfulness of man
  - (a) In all instances, the chosen ones are sinful and weak
  - (b) However, God is not limited by human weaknesses and limitations
3. God's Plans are fulfilled
  - (a) When man understands and complies fully
  - (b) Great fruitfulness is evidenced

## WHAT IS OUR PART?

The Apostle Peter offered practical and powerful insights as to the role that we must seek to fulfil.

*Therefore, brethren, be even more diligent  
To make your call and election sure... 2 Peter 1:10*

1. Our call
  - (a) This is an invitation from God
  - (b) He calls us to be His people
  - (c) He calls us to walk in His light
  - (d) He calls us to holiness
  - (e) Obedience to the Lord is of vital importance

*(Continued on page 3)*

*(Continued from page 2)*

## 2. Election

- (a) This is another way of describing our being “chosen”
- (b) “To choose” means “to elect”

## 3. Calling and Election

- (a) They were meant to go together
- (b) They are two sides of the same coin

## 4. Being diligent to make sure

- (a) It is possible to mistake our calling and election
- (b) Therefore, we must first check and determine
  - i. Our calling to salvation
  - ii. Our calling to service
- (c) If there is indeed that genuineness of salvation, there will be fruitful service

Let us check not just our hearts but our lives! †

**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! May your heart be uplifted and strengthened through worship and fellowship! †

**WELCOME**  
**to Bethany IV**

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## CATECHISM CLASS

We will not be having Catechism Class today! †

# ANNOUNCEMENTS



## COMBINED WORSHIP TODAY

1. We celebrate Father's Day today.
2. The children normally attend their own Worship Services!
3. But they will be joining us for worship this Sunday. †

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## PULPIT THEME FOR JULY- AUGUST 2017

*"Establish the Work of our Hands" Psalm 90:17 †*

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## CELEBRATING 40+ 4 YEARS OF GOD'S WORK AT BETHANY

How should we see the ministry of Bethany? The best way to appreciate it is to see God's hand involved!

1. The Lord Jesus Himself said that He would build the Church
  - (a) He will build it so strongly that the gates of Hades will not prevail
  - (b) He has not stopped building the Church all these years
2. The Lord adding to the Church
  - (a) We believe that the Lord Himself will bring in His people to the church
  - (b) We do not have a "membership drive"
3. We believe that God protects His Church
  - (a) He is the Chief Shepherd
  - (b) He will guard His own
  - (c) He will always be deeply committed to His sheep



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

*(Continued from page 4)*

4. What is our part?
  - (a) To love the Church God has given us
  - (b) To serve the Lord and His church
  - (c) To be faithful in all that has been entrusted to us †

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## CONGRATULATIONS

Heartfelt congratulations to Rachel and Kevin on the occasion of their wedding yesterday, 17 June 2017. May the Lord bless their marriage! †

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## YOUTH CONFERENCE 2017

Theme: "The Same Spirit of Faith"

Date: 3-8 December 2017

### 1. Prayer

Let us seek the Lord's blessings in prayer.

- (a) Let us pray for the Organising Committee
- (b) Let us pray for those coming to the Camp

### 2. The Bible Teachers

- (a) Let us pray for those involved in teaching the Lord's Word
- (b) This Theme is deep and profound

### 3. The Pastoral Team

- (a) They will be directly involved
- (b) Let us pray that the Student-Pastors will learn life-changing lessons!  
†

# ANNOUNCEMENTS



## ON LEAVE

Pastor Charles Tan will be on leave from tomorrow. He will be back at the end of June. †

## CONDOLENCES

Heartfelt condolences to Jerry Ang and family on the demise of his mother, Mdm. Jessie Soh Pek Neo. Jessie was called home to be with the Lord on 12 June 2017. She was 81 years of age. †

## LETTERS THAT WARM THE HEART

Dearest Pastor,

On behalf of the Ang and Soh families, I want to sincerely thank you for accommodating the funerary services for my mother at Bethany. I want to personally and especially thank you for making the time to minister amidst your medical appointments and other commitments.

It meant a lot to my sisters and relatives. They were deeply impacted by the genuine care and concern from the Bethany family.

We would also like to extend a special word of gratitude to Aunty Sally for preparing dinner and playing the organ during the vigil service. To Pastor Mitch, thank you for responding to my early morning call, looking into the practical arrangements and ministering to me and relatives. To the student pastors, thank you for your physical presence throughout, ministering to my relatives in words and actions, including staying up late

*(Continued on page 7)*

# LETTERS THAT WARM THE HEART

*(Continued from page 6)*

to lock up the church so that family members do not have to keep vigil. To Emily Jacob, we are grateful to you for always meeting the practical needs of my relatives and being present with us. To Eileen Yeo, thank you for giving so generously and providing for all the lunch meals even while you were away. Thank you Jacob Chacko for responding to my early morning call and being always ready to help in practical ways. We will also not forget the ushers, carpark helpers who specially assisted my mother-in-law, the musicians, Gabriel Ou and Joanna Yam, and all others who have rendered help and comfort during our time of grief. The Ang and Soh family families wish to express heartfelt appreciation. Thank you to the rest of the Bethany family for your comforting words and presence during my mother's funeral. The Bethany family really demonstrated a true sense of oneness, and a real spirit of showing God's kind of love to us all in this time.

My mum has always loved coming to Bethany, and she made a few good friends here: Ms Joanna Yam, Mdm Koh Siew Kim, Mrs Blossom Quah, Mrs Lai (Kai Lam's mother), Auntie Shanti, Auntie Regina Thong, Mrs Yap. She was a simple lady who did not ask for much in life, and always saw the Lord Jesus as her Shepherd, and she needed nothing else. She has given much to the family and I thank God for blessing her with 81 years of life. As I reflect on her passing, my response is to live this life well for the Lord Jesus.

Thank you.

***Jerry Ang, on behalf of the Soh and Ang Family.***

### A SON HONOURS HIS FATHER

"A son honours his father"- This is a great adage.  
This noble word should be remembered in any age!  
The father's role is often forgotten over the years;  
Hurt is felt, and sometimes, there are silent tears.

"If then I am Father, where is My honour?" Queries God;  
These are words of rebuke, tinged with sorrow from the Lord!  
In the hustle and bustle of life, we have forgotten His love,  
This Father's Day, let us pause to give praise to God above!

Where would we be, if the Lord has not given us grace?  
How could we have coped, amidst life's hectic pace?  
How our heart must take time to remember the Lord!  
It is right that we practise honouring our Father-God!

It is good that we remember our earthly fathers tenderly;  
Remembering our Father in Heaven must be done devoutly!  
What a blessing we have that we may call God, "Abba-Father!"  
May He be foremost in our heart and mind! Let there be no other!

-Charles Tan

*Inspiration: Malachi 1:6; Romans 8:15*



## Psalm 80: 1–3

Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel,  
You who lead Joseph like a flock;  
You who dwell between the cherubim, shine forth!

Before Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh,  
Stir up Your strength,  
And come and save us!



Restore us, O God;  
Cause Your face to shine;  
And we shall be saved!

### 1. Prayer for salvation

- (a) Deliverance
- (b) Restoration

### 2. Prayer offered to God as the Shepherd of Israel

- (a) He leads His flock
- (b) The flock represented by Ephraim, Benjamin and Manasseh

### 3. Powerful image of God

- (a) As One surrounded by mighty cherubim (angels)
- (b) As the Lord God of His people ☩

# BIBLE MEMORY WORK

**Today, 18 June 2017**

**Ephesians 1:4 He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world**

*Just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love.*

1. When did God choose us to be His own?
  - (a) Before the foundation of the world
  - (b) What a tremendous thought!
2. How did He choose us?
  - (a) In love!
  - (b) Amazing love
3. What does He desire of us?
  - (a) That we should be holy
  - (b) That we should live blamelessly
4. How should we respond?
  - (a) With gratitude
  - (b) With humble determination to find grace to live for the Lord
5. Can we live for the Lord effectively?

Yes! He will enable us!

**NEXT SUNDAY: 25 June 2017**

**1 Peter 2:4 Chosen by God and precious**

*Coming to Him as to a living stone, rejected indeed by men,  
but chosen by God and precious.*



THEME : CHOSEN

# *This Week @ Worship*

— COMBINED WORSHIP SERVICE —  
10.30 AM . CHURCH SANCTUARY  
“A chosen vessel”  
Acts 9

Chairmen

Student-Pastors &  
Miss Camille George

Speaker

Rev Dr Charles Tan

Pianist

Mr Gabriel Ou

Organist

Mrs Elsie Poey

Interpreter

Mr Goh Liangzhou

— TEENS' WORSHIP SERVICE —

**NO TEENS' WORSHIP SERVICE**

— CHILDREN'S CHURCH —

CC I: P1—P3

3rd Floor  
Auditorium 3-1

CC II: P4—P6

4th Floor  
Auditorium 4-1

**NO CHILDREN'S CHURCH**

— COMBINED EVENING-BILINGUAL  
WORSHIP SERVICE —

**NO COMBINED EVENING-BILINGUAL  
WORSHIP SERVICE**

Breakfast : Gabrielle  
Fellowship Lunch : Gerald & Elaine Wong

# BETHANY CHURCH ACTIVITIES

	Day	Time	Venue	Location
WORSHIP SERVICES				
Morning Worship Service	Sun	10.30 am	Church Sanctuary	2 <sup>nd</sup> floor
Children's Worship I (P1 – P3)			Auditorium 3-1	3 <sup>rd</sup> floor
Children's Worship II (P4 – P6)			Auditorium 4-1	4 <sup>th</sup> floor
Teens' Worship Service			Auditorium 3-2	3 <sup>rd</sup> floor
Combined Evening-Bilingual		4.00pm	Auditorium 4-2 & 4-3	4 <sup>th</sup> floor
SUNDAY SCHOOL				
Crèche	Sun	8.30am 10.30am	Green Turf	1 <sup>st</sup> floor
Beginners' Sunday School		8.30am	Auditorium 2-1	2 <sup>nd</sup> floor
Junior Sunday School I			Auditorium 3-1	3 <sup>rd</sup> floor
Junior Sunday School II			Auditorium 4-2	4 <sup>th</sup> floor
Intermediate Sunday School			Auditorium 3-2	3 <sup>rd</sup> floor
Senior Sunday School I			Fellowship Hall	1 <sup>st</sup> floor
Senior Sunday School II			Main Sanctuary	2 <sup>nd</sup> floor
Senior Sunday School III			Prayer Room 4-1	4 <sup>th</sup> floor
Senior Sunday School IV			Auditorium 4-1	4 <sup>th</sup> floor
Special Needs Ministry			Auditorium 4-3	4 <sup>th</sup> floor
CHOIRS				
Singing Kakis	Thurs	8.00 pm	Auditorium 3-2	3 <sup>rd</sup> floor
One Voice	Sat	5.00 pm	Auditorium 4-2	4 <sup>th</sup> floor
Youth Choir		5.00 pm	Auditorium 3-1	3 <sup>rd</sup> floor
Evergreens	Sun	1.00 pm	Auditorium 3-1	3 <sup>rd</sup> floor
BIBLE STUDY				
Church Bible Study	Tue	8.00 pm	Church Sanctuary	2 <sup>nd</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
CATECHISM CLASS				
	Sun	1.00 pm	Auditorium 4-2	4 <sup>th</sup> floor
PRAYER MEETING				
	Mon	8.00 pm	Church Sanctuary	2 <sup>nd</sup> floor
FELLOWSHIP GROUPS				
Young People's Group I	Sat	3.00 pm	Auditorium 2-1	2 <sup>nd</sup> floor
Young People's Group II			Auditorium 3-2	3 <sup>rd</sup> floor
Young People's Group III			Auditorium 3-1	3 <sup>rd</sup> floor
Young Adults' Group			Auditorium 4-2 & 4-3	4 <sup>th</sup> floor
Young Married Group			Auditorium 4-1	4 <sup>th</sup> floor
Adults' Ministry		5.00 pm	Auditorium 4-1	4 <sup>th</sup> 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**  
**18 June 2017**  
**Order of Worship**

**PREPARATION**

Pre-Worship Singing

*Pianist : Mr Gabriel Ou*  
*Organist : Mrs Elsie Poey*

Pre-Worship Song

God Is Good All The Time

Prelude

Call to Worship

*The Student Pastors & Miss Camille George*

Invocation

**PRAISE**

Hymns

Century Praise 70

I Will Sing Of The Mercies

Song No. 2

Abba Father

Song No. 3

That's The Love Of God

**SPECIAL FATHER'S DAY ITEM**

**"PREACH THE WORD"**

Message: "A chosen vessel"

Text : Acts 9

Speaker: Rev Dr Charles Tan

**RESPONSE**

Offering

Hymn

HWC No. 306

Jesus Saves

Prayerful Meditation

Benediction

Postlude

# PASTORAL LETTER

Senior Pastor : Rev Dr Charles Tan

18 June 2017

***Dear Brethren,***

## HAPPY FATHER'S DAY

To all who have been blessed with the privilege of being a father, "Happy Father's Day!"

1. Let the heart be filled with joy as you reflect on this special blessing of being a father.
2. Let the heart be challenged to be a wonderfully committed father!
3. May there be fruit from the labour or love poured into family!

## GOD AS OUR FATHER IN HEAVEN

What a great joy and privilege to be able to address the Lord as our Father. One of the most moving texts on the subject of God as Father may be found here.

*I am ascending to My Father  
And your Father,  
And to My God,  
And your God,                      John 20:17*

1. The Context
  - a) After the resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ
  - b) Jesus graciously appears to Mary
2. The Conversation
  - a) Jesus spoke of returning to God... His Father
  - b) This same Person was also God and Father to Mary
  - c) This wonderful Person is also our Father and our God!

## HONOURING GOD AS OUR FATHER IN HEAVEN

What is our challenge as we think about what it means to be given the privilege of calling God as "Father?"

As much as we are taught to honour our earthly fathers, let us all the more be determined to honour the Lord our God as our Father in heaven!

1. Let us learn to relate much better
2. Let us learn to seek Him in prayer as "Abba, Father!"

***Prayerfully,  
Pastor Charlie***