

Bethany IV ... 23 July 2017

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

## MEDITATION

cs Rev Dr Charles 7an 80

Text: Psalm 92



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# "IT IS GOOD TO GIVE THANKS"

## THE PRACTICE OF GIVING THANKS TO GOD

The practice of giving thanks is easily demonstrated in the Book of Psalms. The Psalmists felt inspired to write special Psalms that were dedi-

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## MEDITATION

(Continued from page 1)

cated to praising the Lord for who He is and for what He has done!

#### DEEP LESSONS LEARNED

We may learn many deep lessons along the way as we study how the Psalmists practised giving thanks. Three areas of thoughts may be highlighted: -

1. Derived knowledge of who God is

a)	His name is "Most High"	Psalm 92:1
b)	He is full of "lovingkindness"	Psalm 92:2a
c)	He is most "faithful"	Psalm 92:2b

2. Understanding of the works of God

a)	His works are great	Psalm 92:5a
b)	Behind His works are His "deep thoughts"	Psalm 92:5b

3. Personal experiences of the works of God

a) Strength from the Lord	Psalm 92:10
b) Victory over enemies	Psalm 92:11

#### **OBSERVATIONS OF GOD'S BLESSINGS ON THE RIGHTEOUS**

The blessings of the Lord on the righteous were easily observable. Three things stood out.

1. They will flourish	
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a)	They are compared to the beautiful palms	Psalm 92:12
b)	They are also compared to the stately cedars	Psalm 92:12

- c) They will flourish because
  - The LORD planted them
  - 11) Thus, He will ensure that they will flourish

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Pealm 92.12

## **MEDITATION**

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#### 2. They will be fruitful

Psalm 92:14a

- a) They were fruitful when they were younger
- b) They will continue to be fruitful when they are older
- c) They will continue to be fruitful when they are in their old age

#### 3. They will be fresh

Psalm 92:14b

- a) The idea of being fresh is tied in to the word "flourishing"
- b) The Lord will enable them to be fresh and flourishing even though they have grown much older

#### A GREAT DECLARATION OF PRAISE

The psalmist concluded his Psalm with this glorious declaration.

To declare that the LORD is upright; He is my rock and there is no unrighteousness in Him. Psalm 92:15

Let us learn how to offer great praise to the Lord our God. Let us declare our personal faith and joy in the Lord as our Rock! He is indeed upright and there is no unrighteousness in Him!

#### Write to me at: charlestan@bethanyipc.sg

We are glad that you have chosen to worship the Lord Jesus Christ with us today. May the Lord bless and encourage your heart trough worship and fellowship!



## **CATECHISM CLASS**

Time: 1.00pm Venue: New Auditorium 4.2



## NEXT SUNDAY-COMBINED WORSHIP

We will be having Special Needs Sunday (30 July 2017). The Teens and the Bilingual brethren will be joining us for this Combined Worship.

## MJNJSTRY JN JNDJA

Pastor Charles Tan and Student-Pastors Ben Chong and Ben Quah will be ministering in India this week. They leave this evening after the Evening-Bilingual Worship Service. They will be back on Friday 28 July 2017.

## **SPECIAL NEEDS SUNDAY**

Next week (30 July 2017) is "Special Needs Sunday." This will be a Combined Worship Service. The Teens and the Evening-Bilingual Worshippers will be with us next Sunday.

- 1. Special Needs Committee
  Thank God for a dedicated Committee.
  - a) They are differently gifted
  - b) But they are all totally dedicated

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#### 2. Posters

- a) Thank God for the posters that have been drawn up and posted
- b) A lot of effort was put in to do these posters
- 3. Sunday School Ministry
  - The Special Needs Committee Members have been going to the different Sunday School departments
  - b) They have been receiving good and positive responses from the different departments
- 4. It is good and important that we learn how to receive people with special needs in our midst
  - a) May they always be loved
  - b) May their families be prayed for

Let us look forward to the Special Needs Sunday (30 July 2017).

## SPIRITUAL RETREAT

## 11-12 August 2017 Theme: "Let the Word of Christ Dwell in You richly"

Plan to sign up today!

- 1. There is much to learn from the Epistle to the Colossians
- 2. There is great potential uplift to the heart through good and godly fellowship at the Retreat



# CELEBRATING BETHANY'S 40+4 ANNIVERSARY

27 August 2017 Venue: Shangri La Time: 10.30am

Book your table today!

# WHY SHOULD WE PLAN SPECIAL CELBRATIONS?

We learn much from the Old Testament.

"Three times a year you shall keep a feast to Me in the year" Exodus 23:14

- 1. The idea of having a holy "Feast" was designed by the Lord Himself
  - a) The Feast of the Unleavened Bread (following after the Passover)
  - b) The Feast of Harvest (The wheat harvest)
  - c) The Feast of Ingathering (end of the harvest year) Exodus 23:14 -16
- 2. What do these Feasts represent?
  - a) Acknowledgment of the Lord's blessings
  - b) Gratitude for grace and mercy throughout the year
  - c) Oneness in the community of faith

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- 3. Special instructions
  - a) None shall appear empty Exodus 23:15
  - b) Offerings were to be planned
  - c) Every worshipper was to bring a special thanksgiving gift to the Lord
- 4. Application of this statute of ancient Israel
  - We have three special times of worship too
    - Easter
    - Anniversary
    - iii) Christmas
  - b) Though the occasions are different
    - There is the same spirit of faith
    - We share the same wonderful God we love and worship
    - iii) We seek to glorify God through worship remembering the Lord's gracious blessings outpoured

## CONGRATULATIONS! IT'S A BOY!

Heartiest congratulations to Xian Han and Kathy on the gift of a Baby boy. Baby Matthew was born on 14 July 2017. Both mother and baby are doing well.



## WEEKDAY MINISTRIES

#### PRE-MARITAL COUNSELING

Monday, 24 July 2017 Time: 7.00pm Venue: TUR

## **WEEKDAY MINISTRIES**



#### PRAYER MEETING

Monday, 24 July 2017 Time: 8.00pm

Venue: Main Sanctuary

#### **BIBLE STUDY**

Tuesday, 25 July 2017 Time: 8.00pm Venue: Main Sanctuary

## WOR<u>ship</u>



#### Psalm 81:4-5

For this is a statute for Israel, A law of the God of Jacob.

This He established in Joseph as a testimony, When he went throughout the land of Egypt, Where I heard a language I did not understand.

- 1. The law of God
  - a) It is described here in two other ways
  - b) A "statute" and a "testimony"
- 2. The content of this Law
  - a) The worship of the Lord
  - b) There is clear reference to worship
  - "Sing aloud to God our strength"
  - "Raise a song..."

Psalm 81:1

Psalm 81:2

- 3. An insightful reference
  - a) Even before the Law was instituted by Moses (Cf. Exodus 23)
  - This was practised by Joseph when he was made governor of Egypt

### POETRY CORNER

## TO THIS DAY I DECLARE YOUR WONDROUS WORKS

Life can be fraught with difficulties and sorrow, Cruel enemies are like a black cloud over tomorrow. The wicked will speak against the servants of God, But the righteous must not lose faith in the LORD!

"In You, I put my trust"- God must be our refuge; No matter the storm, no matter the great deluge! Faith in God must see us through each rough day, The Lord will hear and answer without undue delay.

"You are my hope, O LORD God"- a needed prayer; Let us never lose this hope; The Lord will be there! There may be dark forebodings that make us feel sad, The hope that God gives; that ought to make us glad!

"And to this day I declare Your wondrous works;"
This is the commitment that we must never shirk.
The Lord has kept His promises to us so faithfully,
Let us not fail to declare His works most gratefully!

Inspiration: Psalm 71:7
Charles Tan

## **BIBLE MEMORY WORK**

### **Today, 23 July 2017**

#### Psalm 111:6 The Power of His Works

He has declared to His people the power of His works, in giving them the heritage of the nations.

- 1. The works of God
  - a) They reflect God's power
  - b) "His people" should find special joy in the works of God
- 2. The heritage of the nations
  - This was particularly true with reference to Israel inheriting Canaan
  - b) Imagine inheriting the Promised Land because of God's promise and power

#### **NEXT SUNDAY, 30 July 2017**

#### Psalm 111:7 The Works of the LORD are Verity and Justice

The works of His hands are verity and justice; All His precepts are sure.

## This Week @ Worship

 MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE -10.30 AM . CHURCH SANCTUARY

"I Declare Your Wondrous Works" Psalm 71

Chairman

Mr Chia Beng Hoe

Speaker

**Pianist** 

Rev Dr Charles Tan

Mr Gabriel Ou

Organist

Mrs Sally Tan

Interpreter

Mrs Koh Baoling

Chairman

Mr Stanley Woo

**Pianist** 

Ms Ho Lianva

Speaker

Rev Mark Tan

Usher

Ms Sylvia Chan

TEENS' WORSHIP SERVICE -10.30 AM.

3rd Floor Auditorium 3~2

"It is God who works in you" Phil 2:12~13

CHILDREN'S CHURCH -10.30 AM

"Parable of the Sower" Mark 4:1~20

CC I: P1—P3

3rd Floor Auditorium 3-1

Auditorium 4-1

Speaker Ms Camille George

Speaker Student-Pastor Benjamin Quah

CC II: P4—P6

4th Floor

Chairman Student-Pastor

Eugene Seow

**Pianist** 

Mrs Amelia Toi

Speaker

Student-Pastor Benjamin Quah

Interpreter

Ms Tan Hwee Cheng Mr Allister Tham

COMBINED EVENING-BILINGUAL WORSHIP SERVICE —

4.00 PM. 4th Floor Auditorium 4-2, 3

"I must work the works of Him who sent Me while it is day" John 9

Breakfast, Fellowship Lunch & Evening Tea: Jonas & Joanne

## BETHANY CHURCH ACTIVITIES

	Day	Time	Venue	Location
WORSHIP SER VICES				
Morning Worship Service			Church Sanctuary	2 <sup>nd</sup> floor
Children's Worship I (PI – P3)	1	10.30 am	Auditorium 3-1	3 <sup>rd</sup> floor
Children's Worship II (P4 – P6)	Sun	10.30 am	Auditorium 4-1	4th 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		8.30am 10.30am	Green Turf	I <sup>st</sup> floor
Beginners' Sunday School	1 [		Auditorium 2-1	2 <sup>nd</sup> floor
Junior Sunday School I	1		Auditorium 3-1	3 <sup>rd</sup> floor
Junior Sunday School II	1		Auditorium 4-2	4 <sup>th</sup> floor
Intermediate Sunday School	Sun		Auditorium 3-2	3 <sup>rd</sup> floor
Senior Sunday School I	7	8.30am	Fellowship Hall	I <sup>st</sup> floor
Senior Sunday School II	7		Main Sanctuary	2 <sup>nd</sup> floor
Senior Sunday School III	1		Prayer Room 4-1	4 <sup>th</sup> floor
Senior Sunday School IV	1 1		Auditorium 4-1	4 <sup>th</sup> floor
Special Needs Ministry	1		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		5.00 pm	Auditorium 4-2	4 <sup>th</sup> floor
Youth Choir	Sat	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	3.00 pm	-	-
	4th Thurs	5.65 p		
Mandarin Bible Study	Ist and	7.30 pm	4th Floor Auditorium	4 <sup>th</sup> floor
,	3 <sup>rd</sup> Fri	•		
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
TRATER MEETING	1 1011	0.00 piii	Church Sanctuary	Z 11001
FELLOWSHIP GROUPS				
Young People's Group I			Auditorium 2-1	2 <sup>nd</sup> floor
Young People's Group II	1	2.00	Auditorium 3-2	3 <sup>rd</sup> floor
		3.00 pm		
Young People's Group III	Sat	3.00 pm	Auditorium 3-1	3 <sup>rd</sup> floor
Young People's Group III Young Adults' Group	Sat	3.00 pm	Auditorium 3-1 Auditorium 4-2 & 4-3	3 <sup>rd</sup> floor 4 <sup>th</sup> floor
Young People's Group III Young Adults' Group Young Married Group	Sat	3.00 pm		

Bethany Independent-Presbyterian Church 301 Upper Paya Lebar Road. Singapore 534934 tel: 65-62877713 . fax: 65-62877980 . website URL: bethanyipc.sg

#### MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE 23 July 2017 Order of Worship

#### **PREPARATION**

Pre-Worship Singing Pianist : Mr Gabriel Ou

Organist : Mrs Sally Tan

VIP No. 586 To The Work!

Prelude

Call to Worship Mr Chia Beng Hoe

Invocation

#### **PRAISE**

**Hymns** 

Century Praise 295 I Will Sing Of My Redeemer

HWC No. 267 Come Thou Almighty King

Century Praise 345 Wherever He Leads, I'll Go

#### "PREACH THE WORD"

Message: "I Declare Your Wondrous Works"

Text: Psalm 71

Speaker: Rev Dr Charles Tan

#### **RESPONSE**

Offering

Hymn

Century Praise 387 All The Way My Saviour Leads Me

Prayerful Meditation

Benediction

Postlude

#### EVENING-BILINGUAL WORSHIP SERVICE 23 July 2017 Order of Worship

#### PREPARATION 预备

Prelude 前奏 Pianist : Mrs Amelia Toi

Call to Worship 齐来称颂 Student-Pastor Eugene Seow

Interpreter : Mr Allister Tham

Invocation 祈祷

#### PRAISE 赞美诗

Hymns

Century Praise 77 Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing

万福泉源

Century Praise 88 Day By Day

每一天

Century Praise 333 More Love To Thee

更多爱祢

#### PRAYER 牧祷

#### "PREACH THE WORD" 证道

Message: "I must work the works of Him who sent Me while it is day"

"趁着白日,我们必须作那差我来者的工."

Text: John 9 约翰福音 9

Speaker: Student-Pastor Benjamin Quah

Interpreter: Ms Tan Hwee Cheng

#### **RESPONSE**

Offering 奉献

Hymn

Century Praise 325 I Know Whom I Have Believed

我知所信的是谁

**Prayerful Meditation** 

Benediction

Postlude

## PASTORAL LETTER

Senior Pastor: Rev Dr Charles Tan

23 July 2017

Dear Brethren,



# BETHANY INDEPENDENT-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

#### MAILING ADDRESS:

301, Upper Paya Lebar

Road.

Singapore 534934
TEL: (65) 62877713
FAX: (65) 62877980

WEBSITE:

www.bethanyipc.sq

#### PERSONAL EXPERIENCE OF BEING SPARED

Thank God for a wonderful example of how God can hear and answer prayer when He spared the life of Mr. Chia Beng Hoe in September 2016. Today, he leads in worship to testify of the Lord's grace and mercy in sparing his life when he suffered an aortic dissection last year!

#### MISSIONS MINISTRY IN INDIA

Student-Pastors Ben and Ben will be traveling with me to India tonight. This is their 3<sup>rd</sup> year as Student-Pastors and they will be traveling to go beyond Chennai. We will be going to Trichy on this trip!

### THE WORK OF GOD IN VISUVASAM IPC

The work of God is clearly seen in the Missions Field. Visuvasam IPC began 23 years ago.

- 1. It was Village ministry
- 2. The first pastor of the church was Rev. Paul Raj (He has since passed away)
- 3. The present pastor is Rev. Stephen James
- 4. The church began with a handful of people
- 5. On average the church has more than 100 people in attendance
- 6. On special occasions (Christmas and Easter) the church would exceed 250

#### **RELIEF WORK**

Late last year, a storm hit Chennai and other parts of the city. Two of our churches (Sathiyam and Jayam IPC) suffered damage and repair work had to be done.

Thank God that we are able to be used by the Lord to support and sustain the work of our brethren in the repair projects.

We are mindful of our own successfully-completed A & A project. Thank God that we are able to assist our brethren in their A & A Projects.

### THANK YOU FOR MINISTERING ALONGSIDE

Thank God for faithful and caring brethren who have supported in prayer and in practical ways. It is so good to be involved in doing the Lord's work in very real ways! May this spirit of being "fellow-workers with God" be very real to us always! It is uplifting to the heart to know that there are people committed in serving God this way!

Prayerfully,

Pastor Charlie