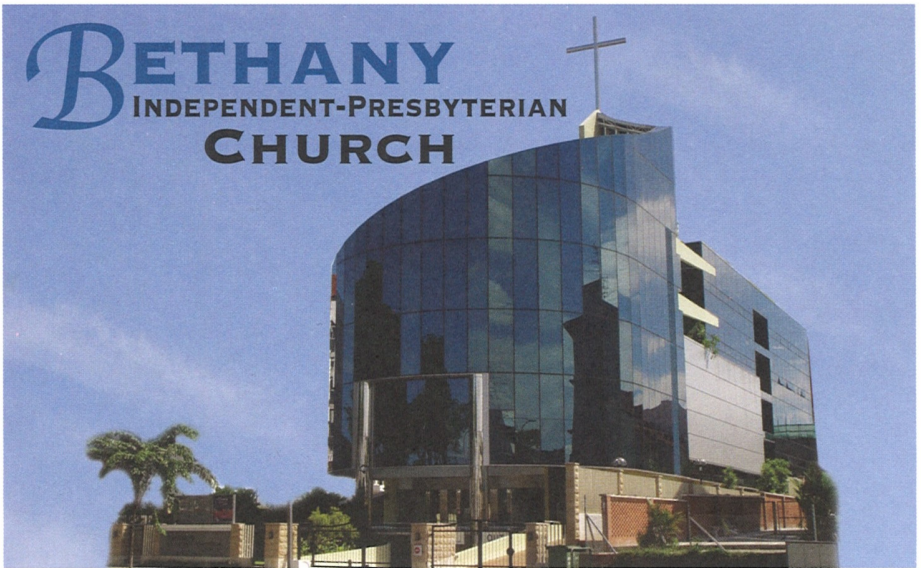


BETHANY

INDEPENDENT-PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH



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

Bethany IV ... 17 September 2017

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

MEDITATION

by Rev Dr Charles Tan

Text: Ezekiel 36



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THE STORY OF ANCIENT ISRAEL

MANY LESSONS TO BE LEARNED

The story of ancient Israel was carefully preserved for many important reasons:

1. For the Posterity of the Nation

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MEDITATION

(Continued from page 1)

- a) One of the most important lessons was about the Fall of Israel-Judah
 - i) Israel fell in 722 BC
 - ii) Judah fell in 586 BC
 - b) Posterity would be well-advised to learn the needed lessons
 - c) Prophets like Ezekiel were raised up to help the nation to learn these lessons
 - d) Psalmists like Asaph wrote about these lessons in Didactic Psalm form (Psalm 78)
2. For the Church today
- a) Many of the lessons are relevant to the Church
 - b) The Fall of ancient Israel offered many lessons: -
 - i) The grave danger of backsliding
 - ii) The danger of departing from God

THE RESTORATION OF THE NATION

There are as many lessons to learn from the restoration of the nation. The work that God promised Israel that He would do for them mirrored the work that He would do through the Lord Jesus Christ.

1. Israel would be taken out of the nations

"I will take you from among the nations" *Ezekiel 36:24*

(Continued on page 3)

(Continued from page 2)

The Church was called out of the world.

2. Israel would be made clean

*“Then I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean;
I will cleanse you from all your filthiness and from all your idols”*

Ezekiel 36:25

The church would also receive cleansing from the blood of Christ.

3. Israel will be given a new heart and a new spirit

*“I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you;
I will take the heart of stone out of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh”*

Ezekiel 36:26

Every true believer has been given a new heart and a new spirit.

4. The gift of the Holy Spirit

*“I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will keep
My judgments and do them”* *Ezekiel 36:27*

The Holy Spirit has been wondrously given to the true believer too!

Ezekiel 36 offers an uplifting word that must bring great encouragement to the heart of every genuine believer!

Write to me at: charleston@bethanyipc.sg

Welcome to Bethany. 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

ANNOUNCEMENTS



CATECHISM CLASS TODAY

Venue: 4.2 Auditorium

Time: 1.00pm

MID-AUTUMN FESTIVAL

Saturday, 30 September 2017

Time: 3.00pm

Venue: Church

We were not able to have the Mid-Autumn Festival for the last couple of years. We will be having an event to share our faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. Let us plan to invite relatives and friends to come for this event.

Theme: "The Kingdom of Heaven is at hand"

Matthew 4:17

(There will be no YPG/ YAG/ AM/ YMG on this day)

YOUTH CONFERENCE

3-7 December 2017

Theme: "The Same Spirit of Faith"

Plan to sign up for the Youth Conference. Registration commences today. Let us pray for the Lord's blessings!



ANNOUNCEMENTS

WEDDING BELLS

Joanne Chin and Jonas Tan will be joined together in holy matrimony on Saturday, 23 September 2017 at 11.00am. All in Bethany are invited.

TESTIMONY

Dear Pastor,

It has been one year since Beng Hoe survived the near fatal aortic dissection (9 September 2016). I vividly recall that the pastoral team was away in Perth and how desperate I was trying to contact you that morning.

On this anniversary, I traced God's hand in saving and preserving Beng Hoe. I too, traced God's provision and hand in guiding me through the whole ordeal. It still brings back tears each time I recall that fateful day and the journey of praying ceaselessly for Beng Hoe.

God knows my weaknesses and my fears. He could have called Beng Hoe back to Himself that day. As a child of God, to live is Christ, and to die is gain (Philippians 1:21). It would have been Beng Hoe's gain if he was called to eternity with Christ. But God must have considered the children and my needs, and in His mercy answered our pleas and showed us His power to do the impossible... to perform a miracle that even the doctors have no doubt of God's intervention. Life would have been different and perhaps, difficult for the children and I if Beng Hoe had been called home so suddenly. Could there be moments of regrets that may have left us feeling miserable? I believe there would be for both our children and me.

God, in His mercy spared us from all these miseries. He gave us a chance to reconcile to Himself and to our family. He knows our human frailties and stubborn will. He showed us His supreme power so that we know we are nothing without Him. I thank God for this second chance of life given to Beng Hoe. It brought us back to focus and prioritise our lives once again. For me, it affirms my faith in my living God and how much more I now desire to serve and love Him with all my heart, all my mind and all my soul.

TESTIMONY

(Continued from page 5)

It also changes the way I relate to Beng Hoe. Our conversations are more light-hearted and jovial compared to the past. It no longer matters who is right in an argument. Winning an argument is no longer a principle to live by. It is about building an enduring relationship that matters. God melted my stubbornness by changing the perspectives that I possessed then. It brought us back to basic fundamentals of mutual love and respect, anchored on the solid rock of Christ in our marriage. The near-death experience also gave Beng Hoe and me new perspectives in parenting. In the past, we often felt helpless no matter how much we pray for our children. Sometimes, we felt discouraged and burdened beyond measure. Now, we learn the need to fully trust God and demonstrate our love for them in prayers instead. It has been one year since we prayed for them consistently on a daily basis. We learn to recognise the importance of God's presence in our children's lives that matters beyond our wish as earthly parents to protect and provide.

Besides praying for our children, we are praying for the many needs of others. When we take away self and pray for others, we begin to trace God's hand even in the lives of others. We rejoice with the family of God each time when God answered our prayers for them. It is in moments like this that we remembered how many of you, Pastors, brothers and sisters in Christ, and friends prayed for us when Beng Hoe was fighting for his life and how this very community of faith gave us so much support and strength.

Today, it is a time to reflect and count our blessings... lest we forget. To describe God's magnificent power and love, I like to use numbers which resonates better for an accountant like me.

- 0 blood pressure... at the operating table before the surgeon could start. We thank God for sending skillful and quick-witted surgeon who resuscitated Beng Hoe and proceeded with the operation.
- 3 hours... was what the surgeons spent just to stop massive bleeding before they could even start fixing the aorta.
- 6 packets of blood... was used to sustain Beng Hoe's life. That represented 50-70% of total blood in an average adult.

(Continued on page 7)

TESTIMONY

(Continued from page 6)

- 7 surgeons and doctors... performed the operations skillfully with our Great Physician God holding their hands.
- 9 hours of intensive operation and anxious waiting. I thank God for many of you who rallied in prayers, and those who stood alongside outside the operating theatre with us.
- 16 days of hospitalisation battling for survival.
- 60 laboratory tests conducted just on the day of surgery itself to closely monitor his vital organs.
- Nearly 200 family, relatives and friends came to visit Beng Hoe at the hospital, offering prayers and support in many practical ways.
- And countless more who rallied and interceded in prayers whom we could never thank enough.

We are so blessed to experience the love of God through this crisis. He sent many angels in the hour of need. As we reflect on the Lord's goodness, we want to especially thank you, Pastor for the way you have loved and cared for Beng Hoe and me, for Pastors Mitch and Mark for praying and rushing to the hospital, for Student Pastors, Session Members and many dear church friends whom we call "family" who prayed and supported us in so many ways. Our biological family is eternally grateful to each one of you who has made us felt so loved, cared for and special.

From this day forward, we greet each new morning with joy in our hearts knowing that His mercies are new every morning. We will cherish each and every day of life that now brings new meaning and significance to Beng Hoe and me.

Thank you once again, Pastor.

With a grateful and thankful heart,
Michelle Chia



WEEKDAY MINISTRIES

PRE-MARITAL COUNSELING

Monday, 18 September 2017
Time: 7.00pm

PRAYER MEETING

Monday, 18 September 2017
Time: 8.00pm

BIBLE STUDY

Tuesday, 19 September 2017
Time: 8.00pm

WORSHIP



Psalm 84:10

*A day in Your courts is better than a thousand.
I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God
than dwell in the tents of wickedness.*

1. Comparison: Time
 - a) A day in Your courts
 - b) A thousand days anywhere else
2. Comparison: Service
 - a) Better serving humbly as a doorkeeper
 - b) Than dwelling in ease and comfort in tents of wickedness

I WILL PUT MY SPIRIT WITHIN YOU

The Promises of God stir up the Soul,
God has promised to make one whole!
He takes us out from the world of sin,
He cleanses us from without and within!

But cleansing is not the only thing done,
He will make us anew till victory is won.
The stony heart will be taken away;
A new heart of flesh will hold sway.

A new spirit will replace the sinful one;
This new spirit to the Lord will come!
This new spirit has been made alive to God;
It will seek Him as a great and glorious Lord!

The Holy Spirit will be given as a Divine Seal,
The new creation will understand fresh zeal.
The Spirit of God will bring a brand new life,
The born-again will rise above all strife!

Inspiration: Ezekiel 36:24-28
Charles Tan

BIBLE MEMORY WORK

TODAY, 17 September 2017

Romans 8:10 The Spirit is life

*And if Christ is in you, the body is dead because of sin,
but the Spirit is life because of righteousness.*

1. If Christ is in us
 - a) This is a conditional sentence
 - b) The first part of the sentence begins with “IF”
 - c) The second part of the sentence is to complete the conditional sentence
 - d) Sometimes the second part begins with “Then”

2. In this case, the “Then” clause was in two parts
 - a) The body is dead because of sin
 - b) The Spirit is life because of righteousness

NEXT SUNDAY, 24 September 2017

Romans 8:11 Will also give life to your mortal bodies

But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you.

This Week @ Worship

— MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE —
10.30 AM . CHURCH SANCTUARY
“He will also give life to your mortal
bodies” Romans 8

Chairmen
Mr Ng Chee Meng

Organist
Mrs Sally Tan

Speaker
Rev Dr Charles Tan

Interpreter
Mrs Koh Baoling

Pianist
Mrs Esther Ang

Chairman
Ms Sea Su-An

Pianist
Ms Edlyn Chong

Speaker
Student-Pastor
Benjamin Chong

Usher
Ms Sylvia Chan

— TEENS’ WORSHIP SERVICE —
10.30 AM .
3rd Floor Auditorium 3-2
“Do not be afraid, only believe”
Mark 6:21-24, 35-43

— CHILDREN’S CHURCH —
10.30 AM
“Having a Heart of Compassion”
Mark 6:30-44

CC I: P1—P3
3rd Floor
Auditorium 3-1

CC II: P4—P6
4th Floor
Auditorium 4-1

Speaker
Student-Pastor
Benjamin Quah

Speaker
Ms Camille George

Chairman
Mr Tang Hong Wee

Speaker
Student-Pastor
Benjamin Quah

Pianist
Mrs Foo Min-Yi

Interpreter
Ms Tan Hwee Cheng
Ms Berlinda Cheong

— COMBINED EVENING-BILINGUAL
WORSHIP SERVICE —
4.00 PM . 4th Floor Auditorium 4-2, 3
“I am the Bread of Life”
John 6

Breakfast : Ben & Joanne
Fellowship Lunch : Chu Family
Evening Tea : Yee Huei & Lian Tee

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 3-2	3 rd floor
Combined Evening-Bilingual		4.00pm	Auditorium 4-2 & 4-3	4 th floor
SUNDAY SCHOOL				
Crèche	Sun	8.30am 10.30am	Green Turf	1 st floor
Beginners' Sunday School		8.30am	Auditorium 2-1	2 nd floor
Junior Sunday School I			Auditorium 3-1	3 rd floor
Junior Sunday School II			Auditorium 4-2	4 th floor
Intermediate Sunday School			Auditorium 3-2	3 rd floor
Senior Sunday School I			Fellowship Hall	1 st floor
Senior Sunday School II			Main Sanctuary	2 nd floor
Senior Sunday School III			Prayer Room 4-1	4 th floor
Senior Sunday School IV			Auditorium 4-1	4 th floor
Special Needs Ministry			Auditorium 4-3	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		5.00 pm	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 4-2	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 2-1	2 nd floor
Young People's Group II			Auditorium 3-2	3 rd floor
Young People's Group III			Auditorium 3-1	3 rd floor
Young Adults' Group			Auditorium 4-2 & 4-3	4 th floor
Young Married Group			Auditorium 4-1	4 th floor
Adults' Ministry		5.00 pm	Auditorium 4-1	4 th floor

Bethany Independent-Presbyterian Church

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

MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE
17 September 2017
Order of Worship

PREPARATION

Pre-Worship Singing

Pianist : Mrs Esther Ang
Organist : Mrs Sally Tan

HWC No. 257

The Comforter Has Come

Prelude

Call to Worship

Mr Ng Chee Meng

Invocation

PRAISE

Hymns

Century Praise 202

Thine Is The Glory

Song No. 2

牽我的手

HWC No. 1

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

“PREACH THE WORD”

Message: “He will also give life to your mortal body”

Text : Romans 8

Speaker: Rev Dr Charles Tan

RESPONSE

Offering

Hymn

HWC No. 525

I Will Praise Him

Prayerful Meditation

Benediction

Postlude

COMBINED EVENING-BILINGUAL WORSHIP SERVICE
17 September 2017
Order of Worship

PREPARATION 预备

Prelude 前奏

Pianist : Mrs Foo Min-Yi

Call to Worship 齐来称颂

Mr Tang Hong Wee

Interpreter : Ms Berlinda Cheong

Invocation 祈祷

PRAISE 赞美诗

Hymns

Century Praise 6
世纪颂赞(6)

How Great Thou Art
你真伟大

Century Praise 301
世纪颂赞(301)

Since Jesus Came Into My Heart
自耶稣在我心中

Century Praise 480
世纪颂赞(480)

We've A Story To Tell
求复兴众人

PRAYER 牧祷

“PREACH THE WORD” 证道

Message: “I am the Bread of Life”
“我就是生命的食物”

Text : John 6 约翰福音 6

Speaker: Student-Pastor Benjamin Quah
Interpreter : Ms Tan Hwee Cheng

RESPONSE

Offering 奉献

Hymn

Century Praise 66
世纪颂赞(66)

As The Deer
如鹿切慕溪水

Prayerful Meditation

Benediction

Postlude

PASTORAL LETTER

Senior Pastor : Rev Dr Charles Tan

17 September 2017

Dear Brethren,

THE RETURN OF THE LORD JESUS

We have a glorious description of the return of the Lord Jesus Christ in this text.

*Behold, He is coming with clouds,
And every eye will see Him,
Even they who pierced Him.
And all the tribes of the earth will mourn because of Him.
Even so. Amen.*

Revelation 1:7

1. The 1st Coming
 - a) In Bethlehem
 - b) In a manger
 - c) Unknown
2. The 2nd Coming
 - a) With the clouds
 - i) The Presence of God followed the children of Israel in a Cloud
 - ii) The Lord Jesus will return with full glory and power
 - b) Every eye shall see Him
 - i) This will not be a private event
 - ii) This will be a global event
 - c) The enemies of Christ
 - i) These plotted His death
 - ii) There are still many enemies of Christ
 - iii) Every eye shall see Him
 - iv) And they will regret their rejection of the Lord Jesus Christ!

Let us look forward to the Return of the Lord Jesus Christ, with all our heart!

***Prayerfully,
Pastor Charlie***