

Bethany IV ... 24 December 2017

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

# MEDITATION

cs Rev Dr Charles 7an 80

Text: Psalm 40:7-8; Hebrews 10:5-7



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# "I COME TO DO YOUR WILL"

#### THE PERFECT EXAMPLE

If anyone can be cited as a Perfect Example of doing God's will, it would be the Lord Jesus Christ. This was noted by the author of the Epistle to the Hebrews.

Therefore, when He came into the world, He said: Sacrifice and offering You did not desire,

# **MEDITATION**

(Continued from page 1)

But a body You have prepared for Me. In burnt offerings and sacrifices for sin You had no pleasure.

Then I said, "Behold, I have come-In the volume of the book it is written of Me To do Your will, O God" Hebrews 10:5-7

- 1. Understanding the Will of God
- (a) God's will was written in the Scriptures
- (b) The Scriptures thus had to be read carefully to discover that will
- 2. Appropriate response was then made
- (a) There was a Personal response
  - i. Ultimately all responses must be made on a personal level
  - ii. This was the example of the Messiah Himself
- (b) There was a Profound response
  - i. A shallow response was not contemplated
  - The Messiah considered the many ways in which God was worshipped
  - iii. The old Covenant way of worship expressed in the giving of sacrifices was not what God desired
  - iv. The Messiah was going to bring in the New Covenant, thus He had to look deeply into the Scriptures before He could offer a profound response
- (c) Then the Messiah Presented Himself to God
  - i. He knew that He would become the Lamb of God
  - ii. He would end up being killed
  - iii. But He would not flinch from doing God's will perfectly

# **MEDITATION**

(Continued from page 2)

#### 3. Power in the Word of God

The Messiah found strength and power from His study of the Word of God. Thus, He was able to perfectly fulfil the Will of God.

Let us take time this Christmas Eve to meditate upon the Lord Jesus Christ, whose Advent we celebrate. May we be moved to follow His footsteps!  $\hat{\mathbf{v}}$ 

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

We are glad you have chosen to worship the Lord Jesus Christ with us today. May your heart be uplifted through worship and fellowship!  $\Im$ 



to Bethany IV

# NO FELLOWSHIP LUNCH TODAY

Thank God for the faithfulness of the Kitchen Staff. They have served faithfully for the whole year. They will not be serving Lunch this Christmas Eve.



# **CHRISTMAS CANDLES**

First Christmas Candle- "The Prophecy Candle" (3 December 2017)

Second Christmas Candle- "The Bethlehem Candle" (10 December 2017)

Third Christmas Candle- "The Shepherds Candle" (17 December 2017)

# Fourth Christmas Candle- "The Angels' Candle" (24 December 2017)

We light the Angels' Candle today.

- 1. The angels
  - (a) We are reminded of the existence of Angelic Beings
  - (b) We are also reminded of the existence of a Great and Glorious God whom they serve
- 2. The ministry of the angels
  - (a) They serve as messengers of God
  - (b) They teach us about how to serve God humbly \$\forall \cdots

## **CHRISTMAS REFLECTIONS**

Take time to reflect on the following:

- 1. The Pulpit Messages
  The Messianic Psalms
- The Lord Jesus as the Son of God who came to bring us salvation!
- 2. The Christmas Carolling Service
- 9 December 2017
- 3. The Christmas Baptismal Services
- 10 and 17 December 2017
- 3. The Christmas Concert.
- 22-23 December 2017

May this Christmas see our spirit grow deeper in faith in the Lord Jesus Christ! पे

## **DML 2017**

- 1. Last Worship of 2017
- 2. Time: 8.00pm

Let us take time for reflection.

The Lord's blessings on us are rich and precious. Let us ponder how we may bear witness of His goodness to us! v



# NEW PULPIT THEME FOR JANUARY-FEBRUARY 2018

"Ascribe strength to the LORD" Psalm 68:34a

- 1. We will be looking at the Book of Psalms
- 2. Our focus: To learn from the Psalms how we may find strength from the Lord to cope with life and its many challenges  $\hat{\mathbf{v}}$

## CHURCH FAMILY CAMP

11-16 March 2018

Venue: Le Grandeur, Johor

Theme: "Let us walk in the light of the LORD" Isaiah 2:5

- 1. Pray about coming for the Family Camp
- 2. Plan to apply for leave
- 3. The Book of Isaiah
  - (a) This will be the Book we will be seeking to study
  - (b) There is much light to be found in the Scriptures
  - (c) Let us seek to find that Light for our life in the year 2018 \$\frac{1}{3}\$

## SPECIAL CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

Dear Bethany Church Family,

I want to properly and sincerely thank everyone who gave so much of their time, effort, and love to create such a beautiful wedding ceremony for my son, Elliot and my new daughter, Vanathi.

I was touched by all of the hands that contributed and am in awe of the generosity and loving spirit you showed to me and my family.

The ceremony was beautiful and spirit-filled. I will never forget the voices and faces of the choir. I could feel the Spirit of God as they sang. What a moving addition to the ceremony.

It is comforting to me knowing that my son, while so far away, is surrounded by such a wonderful and loving church family. Elliot and Vanathi are blessed to have your love and support.

God bless.
Bonnie Ray
(Mother of Elliot)

# WORSHIP



## Psalm 86:12-13

I will praise You, O Lord my God, with all my heart, And I will glorify Your name forevermore.

For great is Your mercy toward me, And You have delivered my soul from the depths of Sheol.

- 1. I will praise You, O LORD my God
  - (a) This should always be given whole-heartedly
  - (b) Praise given from the heart truly glorifies the Lord's name
- 2. Two reasons were highlighted: -
  - (a) The greatness of mercy shown
  - (b) Deliverance from death ("depths of Sheol") \$\forall \$



# POETRY CORNER

# I COME TO DO YOUR WILL

The words of Jesus come to mind; He who was gentle, meek and kind. A Personal Decision had been made; "I come to do Your will." He said.

These words were truly most Profound; He searched the Scriptures till He found. The will of God was carefully discerned; Fulfilling it became His only concern.

Jesus then Presented Himself to the LORD; He had come to serve His precious God! He would undertake any ministry assigned; He served the Father with joy sublime!

There was such Power in His life;
He was able to be true despite strife.
His Power came from the Word of God;
Strength to serve well came from the Lord,

Inspiration: Psalm 40:7-8 Charles Tan ਪੈ

# BIBLE MEMORY WORK

# Today, 24 December 2017

#### Psalm 118:22 The chief cornerstone

The stone which the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.

- 1. The "stone" is a reference to the Lord Jesus Christ
- 2. He is the chief cornerstone of the Church
- 3. But when He came to earth He was rejected
  - (a) At Nazareth by His own people
  - (b) By the chief priests and scribes
  - (c) Even by the general public
  - (d) He was crucified by the Romans!
- 4. In time to come
  - (a) God vindicated Him
  - (b) God raised Him from the dead
  - (c) Today, He is well-loved by all true followers of Christ

## **Next Sunday: 31 December 2017**

Psalm 87:3 O city of God

Glorious things are spoken of you, O city of God.

THEME: YOU ARE MY SON, TODAY I HAVE BEGOTTEN YOU

# This Week @ Worship

#### – COMBINED WORSHIP SERVICE — 10.30 AM . CHURCH SANCTUARY

"The Chief Cornerstone" Psalm 118; Matthew 21; Ephesians 2

#### Chairmen

Rev Mark Tan Rev Mitchell Tan

#### Speaker

Rev Dr Charles Tan

#### **Pianist**

Mrs Esther Ang

#### Organist

Mrs Sally Tan

#### Interpreter

Mr Alex Tan

— TEENS' WORSHIP SERVICE –

## NO TEENS WORSHIP SERVICE

#### — CHILDREN'S CHURCH —— 10.30 AM

Angels Candle: "A Saviour who is Christ the Lord" Luke 2:11

#### <u>CC I: P1—P3</u>

3rd Floor Auditorium 3-1

#### Speaker

Miss Camille George

#### CC II: P4—P6

4th Floor Auditorium 4-1

#### Speaker

Student-Pastor Benjamin Chong

— COMBINED EVENING~BILINGUAL WORSHIP SERVICE —

# NO COMBINED EVENING-BILINGUAL WORSHIP SERVICE

Breakfast: Tan You Cai No Fellowship Lunch

# BETHANY CHURCH ACTIVITIES

	Day	Time	Venue	Location
WORSHIP SER VICES				
Morning Worship Service	Sun	10.30 am	Church Sanctuary	2 <sup>nd</sup> floor
Children's Worship I (PI – P3)			Auditorium 3-1	3 <sup>rd</sup> floor
Children's Worship II (P4 – P6)			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	Sun	8.30am 10.30am	Green Turf	I <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	4th floor
Intermediate Sunday School			Auditorium 3-2	3 <sup>rd</sup> floor
Senior Sunday School I			Fellowship Hall	Ist 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
CHOIDS				
CHOIRS Singing Kakis	Thurs	8.00 pm	Auditorium 3-2	3 <sup>rd</sup> floor
One Voice	Tilurs	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
Lyci gi cella	Jun	1.00 piii	7 taditoriani 5-1	3 11001
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	•		
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
CATECITISM CLASS	Juli	1.00 pm	Auditorium 4-2	T 11001
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	4th floor
Adults' Ministry	1 1	4.00 pm	Auditorium 4-1	4 <sup>th</sup> floor
		4.00 pm		

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

#### **COMBINED WORSHIP SERVICE** 24 December 2017 **Order of Worship**

#### **PREPARATION**

Pre-Worship Singing Pianist: Mrs Esther Ang

Organist: Mrs Sally Tan

Century Praise 130 One Small Child

Century Praise 133 Silent Night

Prelude

Call to Worship Rev Mark Tan

Rev Mitchell Tan

Invocation

#### **PRAISE**

Hymns

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing Century Praise 147

Century Praise 140 The First Noel

HWC No. 127 Thou Didst Leave Thy Throne

#### "PREACH THE WORD"

Message: "The Chief Cornerstone"
Text: Psalm 118; Matthew 21; Ephesians 2
Speaker: Rev Dr Charles Tan

#### **RESPONSE**

Offering

Hymn

O Come, All Ye Faithful Century Praise 148

**Prayerful Meditation** 

Benediction

Postlude

# PASTORAL LETTER

Senior Pastor: Rev Dr Charles Tan

24 December 2017

Dear Brethren,

# **CHRISTMAS EVE**

Wishing all at Bethany the Lord's glorious blessings this Christmas! What are some blessings wished for all?

- 1. The blessing of salvation
  - a) God has given us a wonderful Saviour
  - b) He offers salvation full and free
  - c) Our part is to receive it
  - d) And to rejoice in it
- 2. The blessing of joy
  - a) There is very little pure joy in the world
  - b) Instead there is fear and trepidation because we live in uncertain times
  - c) There is a special sense of joy that the Lord Jesus can give

"These things I have spoken to you,
That My joy may remain in you,
And that your joy may be full." John 15:11

- 3. The blessing of peace
  - a) There is also very little peace in the world
  - b) World peace is an elusive dream
  - c) But there is a special kind of peace that the Lord Jesus can give

Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you; Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid. John 14:27

"These things I have spoken to you,
That in Me you might have peace.
In the world you will have tribulation;
But be of good cheer, I have overcome the world." John 16:33

Prayerfully,

Pastor Charlie



BETHANY
INDEPENDENT-PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

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