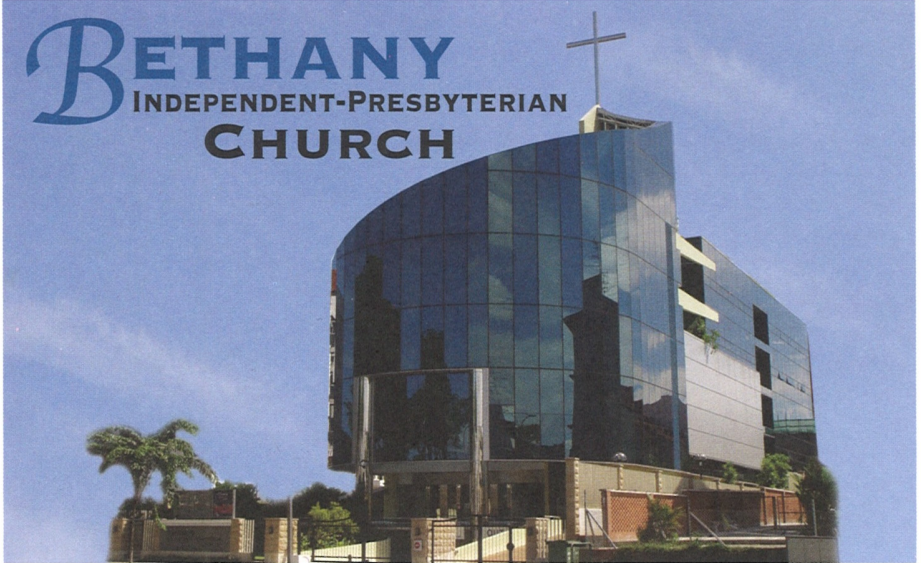


BETHANY

INDEPENDENT-PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH



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

Bethany IV ... 1 April 2018 ... Christ is Risen!

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

MEDITATION

by Rev Dr Charles Tan

Text: Romans 6



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“RAISED FROM THE DEAD”

IDENTIFICATION WITH CHRIST

One of the most wonderful truths we read in the Scriptures is our identification with the Lord Jesus Christ! Through faith in Him and baptism, we are gloriously linked with Him.

(continued on page 2)

MEDITATION

(Continued from page 1)

*Or do you not know that as many of us as were
Baptised into Christ Jesus were baptised into His death?
Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death,
That just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father,
Even so we should walk in newness of life.
For if we have been united together into the likeness of His death,
Certainly we also shall be in the likeness of His resurrection.*

Romans 6:3-5

1. How are we linked to the Lord Jesus Christ?
 - (a) Through faith in Him
 - (b) Through baptism
 - (c) We are “united together”
 - i. The word suggests “sharing with”
 - ii. We are very closely linked together (In the Greek text this is just one word”)
 - iii. All that Christ has done, we are a part of Him
2. Wherein is this linkage?
 - (a) In His death
 - i. We share in His death
 - ii. We died with Him
 - iii. Our sinful self is crucified with Him
 - (b) In His resurrection
 - i. We share in His resurrection
 - ii. We are raised with Him
 - iii. We come alive in Christ’s resurrection
3. What is the significance of this linkage?
 - (a) The resurrection of Christ from the dead reflects the glory of God
 - (b) We share in that glory too!

(Continued from page 2)

4. What are some ramifications?

(a) We should walk in newness of life

(b) We have a hope that one day we shall have a resurrected body like that of Christ!

LIVING FOR THE LORD

Let us be challenged deeply to understand our life in Christ Jesus better. Let us grow in knowledge and faith. How wonderful it is to live meaningfully and victoriously to reflect the glory of God! †

Write to me at: charlestan@bethanyipc.sg

Welcome to our Easter Sunday Service. May your heart be uplifted and encouraged through worship and fellowship! †

WELCOME

to Bethany IV

MISSIONS MINISTRY

The Pastoral Team will be ministering in Myanmar this week:
Pastoral Conference (2-4 April 2018) †

NO PRAYER MEETING/ BIBLE STUDY

We will not be having PM and BS this week. We resume next week. †

A MEANINGFUL TESTIMONY

“The Lord Is My Strength and My Shield”

Chia Beng Hoe

Pilgrims Passing Through This Journey

It was not so long ago when I shared my testimony with you on how God extended His Grace and Mercy and miraculously delivered me from a condition that not many people have survived, the Type A Aortic Dissection, where the whole of my aorta was ruptured. In fact, my heart had already stopped before the surgeons could start surgery, and yet our God, the Great Physician allow the surgeons to resuscitate and deliver me back to life - on the brink of death.

As pilgrims passing through this earth, we will go through the many challenges of life. You or your loved ones could be suffering from a serious medical condition, facing the prospect of losing a job, or losing a loved one. You may be in financial difficulty or having some serious family problems, etc. We will all have our own crosses to carry, some smaller crosses and some bigger crosses, as we continue on our journey until we return to our Lord Jesus Christ and join Him in the kingdom of God. Yes, sometimes our cross may seem too heavy for us to carry, and it is during such times that we remember that our faith will be tested by fire.

As the saying goes, “it never rains but it pours.” Over the last few months, my family and I went through a lot of challenges but God was there for us each step of the way teaching us precious lessons of faith.

Michelle’s Hysterectomy

My wife, Michelle had this uterine fibroid that was growing very fast and had caused some serious bleeding. I had to rush her to A&E in the middle of the night as her bladder was full but due to the fibroid, she could not urinate.

On 10 October 2017, she underwent abdominal hysterectomy to have her uterus removed. Though the surgery went well, she was overly sensitive to Pethidine and took about 24 hours to get over the side effects of dizziness and drowsiness. Thank God for His Grace & Mercy, she recovered very quickly and was discharged in 3 days.

Titus’ Meningitis

Before we end the year 2017, on 29 December 2017, my son Titus told me that he had fever for the last 3 days and was having severe headaches and sharp pain on his neck and spine. We brought him immediately to the A&E in TTSH and somehow due to

A MEANINGFUL TESTIMONY

(Continued from page 4)

some registration error, they had registered him as a 75-year-old patient and put him on fast track. In a normal situation in A&E it would probably take us at least 6 hours to see a doctor, do the diagnosis and either get warded or discharged. We thank God that it took us just slightly more than 2 hours.

To our horror, the doctors told us that he could be suffering from meningitis and had to be warded in an isolated room, to keep him away from the rest of the patients. Meningitis is a life threatening disease and it could be fatal if not treated immediately. He could also possibly end up in a coma. We traced God's hand and knew that He had allowed the error in registration so that Titus could be diagnosed and treated quickly.

After days of laboratory tests & treatment, they finally concluded that he was suffering from viral meningitis and apparently it was a chicken pox virus that caused the meningitis. During the 14 days of hospitalisation, we could see him suffering in intense pain and agony. Each time the pain hits him in the head, neck and spine, we witnessed our 20-year son crying in pain. As parents, it was so difficult to watch him go through the suffering and we pleaded with the Lord to relieve him of the pain. Day by day, we could see the pain slowly subsiding and eventually the pain was gone. We thank God for His Grace and Mercy that we managed to obtain help so opportunely. We cannot imagine the outcome should there been any further delay.

My Bladder Cancer

On 18 December 2017, I noticed some blood in my urine and went straight to see the Polyclinic at SGH with Michelle. The urine test revealed high traces of blood, with a reading of RBC 495u/L when the normal range is 0-3. Because of the high RBC reading, I was very quickly given an appointment on 21 December 2017 to see an Urologist in NUH. It is uncommon to get a specialist referral in 3 days through a polyclinic. The Lord is indeed so good and wonderful to me.

During the consultation, the urologist excluded kidney stones as a possible cause (from the previous CT Scans reports in the review of my aorta). He also excluded Urinary Tract Infection (UTI) based on the blood test report. He decided to book an appointment for me to go for cystoscopy. At that point, I knew that he was suspecting a tumor growth in my bladder or prostate, since kidney stones and UTI were excluded.

On 24 January 2018, when the urologist inserted the scope, I watched the imag-

(Continued on page 6)

A MEANINGFUL TESTIMONY

(Continued from page 5)

es on the monitor screen very closely. Soon, the camera came across a mass, which look like seaweed and he notified another urologist to take a second look at it. At that point, I knew the discovery was bad news.

True enough, he solemnly spoke to Michelle, my daughter Evangeline and me that he found a tumor and told us that I need to go for a procedure call Transurethral Resection of Bladder Tumors (TURBT) to get it removed for biopsy. He explained that the biopsy will determine the stage of the cancer. The severity will depend on how deep it has penetrated into the muscle tissue, not the size of it. At that time, it dawned on me that I might have very little time left before I die.

I took time to pray and reflect on God's Grace & Mercy. On reflection, I am thankful for His timely intervention on 9 September 2016. In fact, I would have already gone home if not for His protection and deliverance then. Indeed, for each day that I am alive since my aorta dissection, it was already a bonus from God. I am thankful for the extra one and a half years He has given me so far. What more could I have asked for?

Other Pressing Issues

Besides the medical issues that came one after another, I continue to face other challenging issues at home and there seems to be no end to these issues. This is indeed one of the most stressful moments of my life.

Timely Messages From The Pulpit

The Theme for January-February 2018 Morning Worship Messages was "Ascribe Strength to God". Pastor's messages taken from the Psalms spoke to my heart at the most critical moments of my life. It was so comforting to know that in stressful times I can call upon the Lord and He hears my cry (Psalm 18:6). He will be my strength, my stronghold, my shield and my horn of salvation (Psalm 18:1-2).

My response is that I must trust in the Lord, delight in Him, commit my way to Him, rest in Him and wait patiently for Him (Psalm 37:3-7). The Lord promised me that He will uphold me with His hand (Psalm 37:24) and He is my strength in the time of trouble (Psalm 37:39) and He will help and deliver me.... Because I trust in Him (Psalm 37:40).

TURBT Procedure & Histology Report

On 12 February 2018, I underwent the TURBT procedure and a day after the procedure, the urologist said he was not happy that I was still bleeding in the bladder and

(Continued on page 7)

A MEANINGFUL TESTIMONY

(Continued from page 6)

wanted to wheel me back into the operating theatre to cauterize the bleeding vessel. I prayed really hard that night as I did not wish to go back into the operating theatre for another procedure.

God heard my plea and answered my prayers. The next day, the urologist came to assess me and told me that the bleeding had improved and I could be discharged that day. I was elated with the good news and was discharged on 14 February in time for reunion dinner on 15 February.

On 8 March 2018, I went for my review with the urologist and based on the histology report, he said that the tumor was a stage Ta (non-invasive) low-grade tumor. There was no need for any treatment now and I only need to go back for cystoscopy review every 3 months. Once again, I thank God for upholding me with His hand in the time of trouble (Psalm 37:39) and He is indeed my strength and my shield (Psalm 28:7).

Thank you, Pastor, and all in Bethany for your prayers and supplication for me during those difficult moments.

As I face these challenges in life, I realise that God is moulding me to be a more faithful servant, regardless of how unworthy I am.

2 Cor 4:16-18 is so reassuring:

"Therefore we do not lose heart. Even though our outward man is perishing, yet the inward man is being renewed day by day. ¹⁷For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, is working for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory, while we do not look at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen. For the things which are seen are temporary, but the things which are not seen are eternal."

As I continue on this pilgrimage and face the many health issues, one after another, this verse has taken on a new meaning and significance. I know my outward man may perish but my inward man is being renewed day by day as I focus on the Lord and draw strength from Him to cope with life's challenges.

Beyond this earthly journey, I thank God for His promise of eternity in **2 Cor 5:1**:

"For we know that if our earthly house, this tent, is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens."

To God be The Glory!

UNITED TOGETHER

The faith we have in the Lord Jesus Christ is truly amazing;
We have forgiveness of sin and the promise of life everlasting.

Through baptism we are united together with the Lord;
This is a glorious word from our gracious everlasting God!

We are united together in the life of the Christ the Lord;
Our names are written in heaven, in His Eternal Record.
We are united with Him in His divinely ordained death;
We were in His heart and mind to His very last breath.

We are united together with Him in His resurrection.
In glorious Hope we may live with great jubilation!
His resurrection reflects the glorious power of God;
We are challenged to live victoriously for the Lord!

We have the most glorious hope for all eternity;
We shall not remain dead but arise in certainty.
And as Christ arose from the dead by God's power;
We may live significantly for the Lord every hour!

Inspiration: Romans 6:1-11

Charles Tan



CHILDREN'S POETRY CORNER

My Fears

Failure, war and disease are things I fear;
I never fail to worry about them every year.
Even as I grow up, my fears never fade;
Oh! How I wish of stronger mettle I am made.

School plays a huge part in my life;
And as a student, for good grades I strive.
Even though I study the hardest I can;
I constantly fear I will not place in the First Band.

Nuclear weapons are out there somewhere;
Reading about the effects of their destruction, I cannot bear.
I wonder every day when World War III might actually begin;
I shiver at the thought of war; it would be such a catastrophic scene.

The sight of needles brings a shiver down my spine;
And whenever I think about deadly illnesses I whine.
Words like "cancer" and "tumour" make me cringe;
My worry of contracting these awful diseases make me flinch.

Yet in my darkest times when I feel helpless;
God's Word comforts me and makes me fearless.
John 14:27 tells me not to be afraid;
For God gives peace if only I prayed.

(Continued on page 10)

CHILDREN'S POETRY CORNER

(Continued from page 9)

God's hand is more powerful than anything;
He can eradicate all fears the world can possibly bring.
With God's Word hidden in my heart;
All my fears will surely depart.

- Asia Tan †

WORSHIP

Worship
in Spirit
& Truth

Psalm 89:24

*But My faithfulness and My mercy shall be with him,
And in My name his horn shall be exalted.*

1. God's promise to His anointed
 - (a) His faithfulness
 - (b) His mercy
 - (c) His name
2. God's anointed
 - (a) His horn "power" will be exalted
 - (b) The blessings of the Lord will make all the difference
3. God's commitment to all His servants
 - (a) His faithfulness will never depart
 - (b) His lovingkindness lies beneath His Word †



Today, 1 April 2018

Colossians 1:23 Grounded and Steadfast

*If indeed you continue in the faith, grounded and steadfast,
and are not moved away from the hope of the gospel which you heard,
which was preached to every creature under heaven,
of which I, Paul, became a minister.*

1. The challenges

- (a) To continue in the faith
- (b) To be grounded
- (c) To be steadfast
- (d) To be sure not to be moved from the hope of the gospel

2. Rising to the challenge

- (a) By faith
- (b) In humility
- (c) With determination

NEXT SUNDAY: 8 April 2018

Colossians 1:27-28 Christ in you, the hope of glory

*To them God willed to make known what are the riches of the glory of this mystery
among the Gentiles, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.*

*Him we preach, warning every man and teaching every man in all wisdom,
that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus.*



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		4.00 pm	Auditorium 4-1	4 th floor

Bethany Independent-Presbyterian Church

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*Christ
is the Lord
Risen Today!*

Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in **NEWNESS OF LIFE**. Romans 6:4

EASTER WORSHIP SERVICE

1 APRIL 2018 | 10.30AM | SHANGRI LA HOTEL

EASTER WORSHIP SERVICE

1 APRIL 2018 . 10.30AM

SHANGRI LA (ISLAND BALLROOM)

PRE-WORSHIP

“Because He Lives”

PRELUDE

Pianist: Mr Gabriel Ou
Keyboardist: Mrs Sally Tan
Violinists: Mr Joshua Lee
Ms Angela Teng
Mrs Marianne Cai
Flautist: Mr Geoffrey Toi
Trumpeter: Mr Ng Choon Peng
Oboists: Mr Gary Kwang
Ms Ho Lianya
Clarinetist: Ms Cheryl Koo
French horn player: Ms Vanessa Quek

CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Dr. Charles Tan

INVOCATION

SPECIAL SONG ITEM

“Finale”

(includes Our God Reigns, Jesus Shall Reign,
Jesus Shall Reign (Traditional) and The Hallelujah Chorus)

Bethany Combined Choir

1 APRIL 2018

HYMN NO. 1

Christ The Lord Is Risen Today
Rev Mark Tan

HYMN NO. 2

Crown Him With Many Crowns
Rev Mitchell Tan

SPECIAL VIDEO FEATURE

SPECIAL SONG ITEM

“Finish Well”
Crossroads

CONSECRATION OF INTERN-PASTORS

Benjamin Chong
Benjamin Quah

EASTER MESSAGE

“The Firstborn From The Dead”
Text: Colossians 1
Rev Dr Charles Tan

EASTER OFFERING

CLOSING HYMN

He Lives

BENEDICTION

PRE-WORSHIP SONG

BECAUSE HE LIVES 因祂活着

1. God sent His Son, they called Him Jesus;
He came to love, heal and forgive;
神遣爱子，被称为耶稣，降世为人，赎罪治病；
He lived and died to buy my pardon,
An empty grave is there to prove my Saviour lives.
甚至舍命为赎我罪过，那空坟墓证明救主基督活着。

Refrain 副歌

Because He lives I can face tomorrow, because He lives all fear is gone;
因祂活着，我能面对明天，因祂活着，不再惧怕；
Because I know He holds the future,
And life is worth the living just because He lives.
我深知道祂掌管明天，生命充满了价值，只因祂活着。

2. How sweet to hold a newborn baby,
And feel the pride and joy he gives;
新生婴孩，怀抱在手中，何等安详使人欢喜；
But greater still the calm assurance,
This child can face uncertain days because He lives.
但你确信这幼小生命，却能面对着明天，因救主活着。

Refrain 副歌

1 APRIL 2018

3. And then one day I'll cross the river;
I'll fight life's final war with pain;

当我走完人生的路程，面对死亡争战痛苦；

And then as death gives way to vic'try,
I'll see the lights of glory and I'll know He lives.

救主为我战胜了死亡，在荣耀中我见救主祂是活着。

Refrain 副歌

(End - 终)

SPECIAL ITEM

FINALE

*INCLUDES OUR GOD REIGNS, JESUS SHALL REIGN,
JESUS SHALL REIGN (TRADITIONAL), THE HALLELUJAH CHORUS*
ARRANGED BY GARY RHODES

Our God reigns, our God reigns!
Our God reigns, our God reigns.

Sing out His Name of names 'til every tongue proclaims
O'er all the earth's domains, "Jesus shall reign!"
Open the gates of life 'til every shade of night
Shines with His holy light: Jesus shall reign!

Jesus shall reign victorious, mighty and glorious.
In every heart, Jesus shall reign,
Crowned by the Father's love.
Jesus shall reign victorious, mighty and glorious.
In every heart, now high and lifted up
Jesus shall reign!

Incoming majesty, ruler in royalty,
Our righteous Prince of Peace, Jesus shall reign!
Born as the Son of Man, raised as the great "I Am."
Worthy the spotless Lamb, Jesus shall reign!

Jesus shall reign victorious, mighty and glorious.
In every heart, Jesus shall reign,
Crowned by the Father's love.
Jesus shall reign victorious, mighty and glorious.
In every heart, now high and lifted up
Jesus shall reign.

1 APRIL 2018

Jesus shall reign where're the sun
Does his successive journeys run;
His kingdom spread from shore to shore,
Till moons shall wax and wane no more.

Let every creature rise and bring
His grateful honours to our King;
Angels descend with songs again,
And earth repeat the loud "Amen!"

And He shall reign forever and ever.

King of kings (Forever and ever. Hallelujah! Hallelujah!)
And Lord of lords (Forever and ever. Hallelujah! Hallelujah!)

King of kings and Lord of lords, and He shall reign.
And He shall reign forever and ever.

King of kings (Forever and ever.)
And Lord of lords (Hallelujah! Hallelujah!)

And He shall reign forever, and ever and ever.
King of kings and Lord of lords
King of kings and Lord of lords

And He shall reign forever and ever.
King of kings and Lord of lords (Forever and ever.)
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
Hallelujah!

Jesus shall reign!



HYMN NO. 1

CHRIST THE LORD
IS RISEN TODAY
基督今复活

1. Christ the Lord is ris'n today, Alleluia!
基督耶稣今复活，哈利路亚！
Sons of men and angels say, Alleluia!
世人，天使齐述说，哈利路亚！
Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia!
快乐凯歌声高扬！哈利路亚！
Sing, ye heav'ns, and earth, reply, Alleluia!
诸天，大地同和唱，哈利路亚！
2. Lives again our glorious King, Alleluia!
荣耀君王墓中起，哈利路亚！
Where, O death, is now thy sting? Alleluia!
死阿，毒钩在那里？哈利路亚！
Dying once, He all doth save, Alleluia!
主舍身为救万民，哈利路亚！
Where thy victory, O grave? Alleluia!
死亡权势今何存？哈利路亚！

(Continued from page 8)

3. Love's redeeming work is done, Alleluia!

救赎大功已完成，哈利路亚！

Fought the fight, the battle won, Alleluia!

战争完毕获全胜，哈利路亚！

Death in vain forbids Him rise, Alleluia!

死亡岂能封主坟，哈利路亚！

Christ hath opened paradise, Alleluia!

基督开了乐园门，哈利路亚！

4. Soar we now where Christ has led, Alleluia!

耶稣带领我必随，哈利路亚！

Foll'wing our exalted Head, Alleluia!

跟从元首结成队，哈利路亚！

Made like Him, like Him we rise, Alleluia!

新造人像祂一样，哈利路亚！

Ours the cross, the grave, the skies, Alleluia!

同复活同升天上，哈利路亚！



HYMN NO. 2

CROWN HIM WITH MANY CROWNS
拥戴主为王

1. Crown Him with many crowns, the Lamb upon His Throne;
拥戴万有之王! 羔羊在宝座上;
Hark! how the heav'nly anthem drowns all music but its own:
听啊! 天上歌声嘹亮, 圣乐掩盖群响:
Awake, my soul, and sing of Him who died for thee,
我心醒来同唱, 颂主救赎洪恩,
And hail Him as thy matchless King through all eternity.
欢呼主为万王之王, 千秋万岁无疆.

2. Crown Him the Lord of life, who triumphed o'er the grave,
拥戴生命之王! 祂有不朽永生,
And rose victorious in the strife for those He came to save;
征服阴间, 复活得胜, 信徒永蒙救恩;
His glories now we sing who died, and rose on high,
主升高天之上, 圣徒颂起尊荣,
Who died eternal life to bring, and lives that death may die.
藉主舍命永胜死权, 圣民永享福乐.

(Continued on page 11)

(Continued from page 10)

3. Crown Him the Lord of peace, whose pow'r a scepter sways

拥戴和平之王, 王权何等尊荣

From pole to pole, that wars may cease, and all be prayer and praise;

统管全地, 战争止息, 万有赞美歌颂;

His reign shall know no end, and round His pierced feet ,

权能永远长存在祂钉痕脚下,

Fair flow'rs of paradise extend their fragrance ever sweet.

乐园百花怒放遍处, 芳馨伸张万方.

4. Crown Him the Lord of love; behold His hands and side,

拥戴慈爱之王! 瞻仰受苦面庞,

Those wounds, yet visible above, in beauty glorified.

手,心,肋旁累累伤痕, 在天更显辉煌.

All hail, Redeemer, hail! For Thou hast died for me;

荣美发出光芒! 信众向主颂扬;

Thy praise and glory shall not fail through out eternity.

赞美荣耀归我救主, 歌颂直到永恒.

(End 终)

SPECIAL ITEM

FINISH WELL

WORDS & MUSIC BY KAREN PECK GOOCH,
KENNA TURNER WEST & MICHAEL FARREN
ARRANGED BY RUSSELL MAULDIN

There will come a day, I know without a doubt,
Around the throne the saints will bow and lay down every crown.
How glorious that moment to see Him face to face;
To hear Him say, "Well done, my child. You've finished your race."

But for now, the sun's still rising; there's work to still be done,
While we're waiting for the promise of what is yet to come.

Finish well, every day that we are given.
Finish well, for the glory of His Name.
Finish strong, until the Saviour finally calls us home.
Give it everything we have; finish well.

There's no truth in saying, "We've seen our better days."
These are the days to be courageous, bold and full of faith.
So, wherever He may lead us, whatever it may cost,
Let the church arise and lift the banner of the cross!

Finish well, every day that we are given.
Finish well, for the glory of His Name.
Finish strong, until the Saviour finally calls us home.
Give it everything we have!

All to Thee, my blessed Saviour, I surrender all!

1 APRIL 2018

Finish well, every day that we are given.
Finish well, for the glory of His Name.
Finish strong, until the Saviour finally calls us home.
Give it everything we have!

Finish well, every day that we are given.
Finish well, for the glory of His Name.

Finish well! Finish well! Finish well! Finish well!
Finish well!



COLOSSIANS 1

¹ Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God, and Timothy our brother,

² To the saints and faithful brethren in Christ *who are* in Colosse: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

³ We give thanks to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, praying always for you, ⁴ since we heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of your love for all the saints; ⁵ because of the hope which is laid up for you in heaven, of which you heard before in the word of the truth of the gospel, ⁶ which has come to you, as *it has* also in all the world, and is bringing forth fruit, as *it is* also among you since the day you heard and knew the grace of God in truth; ⁷ as you also learned from Ephras, our dear fellow servant, who is a faithful minister of Christ on your behalf, ⁸ who also declared to us your love in the Spirit.

⁹ For this reason we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to ask that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding; ¹⁰ that you may walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing Him, being fruitful in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God; ¹¹ strengthened with all might, according to His glorious power, for all patience and longsuffering with joy; ¹² giving thanks to the Father who has qualified us to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in the light. ¹³ He has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed us into the kingdom of the Son of His love, ¹⁴ in whom we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins.

¹⁵ He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. ¹⁶ For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him. ¹⁷ And He is before all things, and in Him all things consist. ¹⁸ And He is the head of the body, the church, who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in all things He may have the preeminence.

¹⁹ For it pleased *the Father that* in Him all the fullness should dwell, ²⁰ and by Him to reconcile all things to Himself, by Him, whether things on earth or things in heaven, having made peace through the blood of His cross.

²¹ And you, who once were alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet now He has reconciled ²² in the body of His flesh through death, to present you holy, and blameless, and above reproach in His sight— ²³ if indeed you continue in the faith, grounded and steadfast, and are not moved away from the hope of the gospel which you heard, which was preached to every creature under heaven, of which I, Paul, became a minister.

²⁴ I now rejoice in my sufferings for you, and fill up in my flesh what is lacking in the afflictions of Christ, for the sake of His body, which is the church, ²⁵ of which I became a minister according to the stewardship from God which was given to me for you, to fulfill the word of God, ²⁶ the mystery which has been hidden from ages and from generations, but now has been revealed to His saints. ²⁷ To them God willed to make known what are the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles: which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. ²⁸ Him we preach, warning every man and teaching every man in all wisdom, that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus. ²⁹ To this *end* I also labor, striving according to His working which works in me mightily.

歌罗西书 1

¹奉神旨意，作基督耶稣使徒的保罗，和兄弟提摩太，
²写信给歌罗西的圣徒，在基督里有忠心的弟兄。愿恩惠平安，从神我们的父，归与你们。

³我们感谢神我们主耶稣基督的父，常常为你们祷告。⁴因听见你们在基督耶稣里的信心，并向众圣徒的爱心。⁵是为那给你们存在天上的盼望。这盼望就是你们从前在福音真理的道上所听见的。⁶这福音传到你们那里，也传到普天之下，并且结果增长，如同在你们中间，自从你们听见福音，真知道神恩惠的日子一样。⁷正如你们从我们所亲爱，一同作仆人的以巴弗所学的。他为我们（有古卷作你们）作了基督忠心的执事。⁸也把你们因圣灵所存的爱心告诉了我们。

⁹因此，我们自从听见的日子，也就为你们不住地祷告祈求，愿你们在一切属灵的智慧悟性上，满心知道神的旨意。¹⁰好叫你们行事为人对得起主，凡事蒙他喜悦，在一切善事上结果子，渐渐地多知道神。¹¹照他荣耀的权能，得以在各样的力上加力，好叫你们凡事欢欢喜喜地忍耐宽容。¹²又感谢父，叫我们能与众圣徒在光明中同得基业。¹³他救了我们脱离黑暗的权势，把我们迁到他爱子的国里。¹⁴我们在爱子里得蒙救赎，罪过得以赦免。¹⁵爱子是那不能看见之神的像，是首生的，在一切被造的以先。¹⁶因为万有都是靠他造的，无论是天上的，地上的，能看见的，不能看见的，或是有位的，主治的，执政的，掌权的，一概都是借着 he 造的，又是为他造的。¹⁷他在万有之先，万有也靠他而立。¹⁸他也是教会全体之首。他是元

始，是从死里首先复生的，使他可以在凡事上居首位。

¹⁹因为父喜欢叫一切的丰盛，在他里面居住。²⁰既然借着他在十字架上所流的血，成就了和平，便借着 he 叫万有，无论是地上的，天上的，都与自己和好了。²¹你们从前与神隔绝，因着恶行，心里与他为敌。²²但如今他借着基督的肉身受死，叫你们与自己和好，都成了圣洁，没有瑕疵，无可责备，把你们引到自己面前。²³只要你们在所信的道上恒心，根基稳固，坚定不移，不至被引动失去原文作离开福音的盼望。这福音就是你们所听过的，也是传与普天下万人听的。万人原文作凡受造的我保罗也作了这福音的执事。

²⁴现在我为你们受苦，倒觉欢乐，并且为基督的身体，就是为教会，要在我肉身上补满基督患难的缺欠。²⁵我照神为你们所赐我的职分，作了教会的执事，要把神的道理传得全备。²⁶这道理就是历世历代所隐藏的奥秘，但如今向他的圣徒显明了。²⁷神愿意叫他们知道，这奥秘在外邦人中有何等丰盛的荣耀。就是基督在你们心里成了有荣耀的盼望。²⁸我们传扬他，是用诸般的智慧，劝戒各人，教导各人。要把各人在基督里完完全全的引到神面前。²⁹我也为此劳苦，照着他在我们里面运用的大能，尽心竭力

。

CLOSING HYMN

HE LIVES

主活着

I. I serve a risen Saviour, He's in the world today;
我事奉一复活主，祂今在世活着；
I know that He is living, whatever men may say;
我知道祂确活着，不管人怎么说；
I see His hand of mercy, I hear His voice of cheer,
我见祂手施怜悯，我闻祂安慰声，
And just the time I need Him, He's always near.
每次当我需求祂，总必垂听。

Refrain 副歌

He lives! He lives! Christ Jesus lives today!
基督！耶稣！救主今天活着！
He walks with me and talks with me along life's narrow way.
祂与我谈，祂伴我走，生命窄路同过。
He lives! He lives! Salvation to impart!
基督！耶稣！赐人得救宏恩！
You ask me how I know He lives, He lives within my heart.
你问我怎知祂活着，因祂活在我心。

(Continued on page 19)

(Continued from page 18)

2. In all the world around me I see His loving care,
在我处环境中, 主爱常在我旁,
And though my heart grows weary I never will despair,
虽然有时心烦恼, 但却不会绝望,
I know that He is leading through all the stormy blast,
我知救主引领我, 冲破狂风怒潮,
The day of His appearing will come at last.
不日我主必再来, 大显荣耀。

Refrain 副歌

3. Rejoice, rejoice, O Christian, lift up your voice and sing,
欢乐! 欢乐! 众圣徒都当扬声歌唱,
Eternal hallelujahs to Jesus Christ the King!
当歌唱哈利路亚, 永归基督君王!
The hope of all who seek Him, the help of all who find,
祂是寻者的盼望, 又是求者力量,
None other is so loving, so good and kind.
无人比祂更可爱, 善良仁慈。

Refrain 副歌

(End 终)

CONSECRATION TESTIMONY

1 APRIL 2018

BENJAMIN CHONG & BENJAMIN QUAH

We were commissioned to train as Student-Pastors on the Easter of 2015. Three years have passed by so swiftly! Today, we will be consecrated as Intern-Pastors.

We are immensely grateful for all the support and love given to us, and we would like to share with you some thoughts on our journey to become Intern-Pastors.

THE CONTEXT OF OUR TRAINING

The past three years was a time set aside for us to check if we truly have a calling for the Pastoral Ministry. This would be done through the Student-Pastor Training Programme where we were given exposure and experience in the Pastoral Ministry.

We were exposed to different aspects of ministry such as Teaching, Preaching, Evangelism, Missions, caring for the physical church building, and more! Through such exposure, we were meant to experience what ministry is all about. Ultimately, it was for us to discover if we have a calling to serve the Lord.

THE CORRECTION THAT WE HAD TO UNDERGO

As soon as we began, we realised that there were many areas of our lives that needed to be corrected.

1. Our perspectives had to be corrected

Both of us came into ministry with our own preconceived ideas of what ministry is.

Benjamin Chong: I came into ministry with a very academic understanding of ministry. I thought that ministry was all about studying and preaching! In reality, being a pastor is so much more than that. It involves caring for

people, and ultimately, making an impact on the souls and lives of people through the Word of God! I had so much to learn.

Benjamin Quah: I, on the other hand, thought that ministry was all about winning souls and making an impact upon the lives of people. I was caught up with the idea of making my life count for God, without realising the substance that is required in any effective and true servant – an in-depth feel and understanding of the Word of God. I had to be corrected!

The Lord had to correct our wrong perspectives by allowing us to be exposed to many areas of ministry. Along the way, our eyes were opened and we came to see how naïve we have been!

2. Our hearts had to be corrected

Mark 7: 21 tells us that out of the heart of men proceed pride and foolishness.

These were the hidden issues of the heart that we struggled with. On the outside, it seemed that we were humble. However, on the inside, these hidden issues of the heart existed. Time was needed for these issues to be surfaced. The truth is, we thought that we were quite good! We felt that we had good jobs and we had some experience in serving God. Thus, we thought we would be adequately suited to be trained as Student-Pastors. In reality, we were both proud and foolish.

But in our training over the past three years, there were many things we failed in. We were humbled and rebuked again and again, until we saw ourselves for who we really are. We are nothing before God. We can do nothing for His work unless God Himself works in us. We thank God that He has not given up on us, and He continues to correct these problems within us.

3. Our manner of life had to be corrected

The manner of life of a servant of God requires diligence, discipline, devotion, and above all, daily consistency! These were the qualities we needed to have. Yet, these were the very qualities that we struggled to cultivate.

We struggled to wake up to spend time with God, we struggled to find the

BETHANY EASTER PROGRAMME

discipline to pray, and we struggled to be consistent in the reading of God's Word. Our lives needed to be re-ordered, and it took three years for us to catch a glimpse of what this manner of life is all about!

THE CONCRETE LESSONS THAT WE HAVE LEARNT

As correction took place, there were also concrete lessons that we began to learn.

1. The Word of God has to be a central part of us.

We remember what Pastor shared with us, that while we seek to master the Word of God, the Word of God must also master us.

The Word of God is to be set as a daily commitment in our lives. Our part is to read, understand, memorise and love the Word of God until it defines the very person that we are! That is what we hope to practise.

2. We must endeavour to walk with God continuously and consistently.

"And Enoch walked with God" Genesis 5:24

We are inspired by the example of Enoch who walked with God. As we seek to commune with God, He will instruct us, teach us and guide us in the way we should go.

3. We must seek constant cleansing in our lives.

"Woe is me, for I am undone!" Isaiah 6:5

We have learnt that as we stand before a Holy God, we are but sinners. There are yet deeper levels of cleansing that must take place in our lives. Our prayer is that God will continue to cleanse us deeply.

THE CHANGES THAT HAVE RESULTED

After these three years, how have we changed?

More and more, we are committed to be disciples, servants and sons.

1. Disciple

A disciple is essentially a "learner".

1 APRIL 2018

For the past three years we have had the title, “Student-Pastor”. Today, we will no longer be called “Student-Pastors”. However, we have caught the spirit of a disciple who is always keen to be instructed, ready to learn and willing to be corrected.

2. Servant

We remember the words of the Lord Jesus Christ, who commanded His disciples to be “last of all and servants of all” (Mark 9: 35). This is the spirit of service that we have caught over the last three years. And even as we progress to become Intern-Pastors, we remain servants of God and servants of Bethany and the IPC family, ready to serve all.

3. Son

One of the words that have stood out most of all is “sonship”. The Lord Jesus is the prime example of One who served as a Son. He was obedient and always ready to do His Father’s will. As the Father worked, He worked! This spirit of sonship is something that we hold on to dearly and it drives us to press on for the future. We are sons of God, we are sons of Bethany, and we serve as sons.

CONSECRATION

Consecration is a milestone that marks significant progress in our journey towards ordination. It is a milestone that we will look back on fondly to remind us of the precious lessons that we have learnt. At the same time, it also compels us to look forward with faith, to persevere, and to continue to take definite steps towards the sacred calling of the Pastoral Ministry.

EASTER SUNDAY THOUGHTS

“The Firstborn From The Dead”

Colossians 1

an Easter Programme by Bethany Independent-Presbyterian Church

301 Upper Paya Lebar Road, Singapore 534934

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Christ the Lord is Risen Today!

EASTER PASTORAL LETTER

SENIOR PASTOR : REV. DR. CHARLES TAN

1 APRIL 2018

Dear Brethren,

HAPPY EASTER!

The Session and the Pastoral team wish all at Bethany "Happy Easter!" There is much that gladdens the heart this Easter!

1. Easter Program
 - a) Maundy Thursday
 - b) Easter Concert
 - c) Easter Service at Shangri La

Thank God for all these meaningful activities. Our hearts are renewed and encouraged indeed!

2. Consecration of our Intern Pastors
Thank God for the consecration of our two Intern Pastors, Ben Chong and Ben Quah! Thank God for this milestone in their life and that of Bethany.
3. They will be tasked to attempt serving the Lord in greater capacities. For example,
 - a) Bookshop Ministry
 - b) Youth Conference 2018

PASTORAL CONFERENCE

The Pastoral Team heads out to attend a Pastoral Conference in Myanmar (2-4 April 2018).

1. The training of more pastors
 - a) This must be our focus
 - b) Much faith and faithfulness needed
2. Reaching many more people
 - a) This is our greater goal
 - b) That the Lord would raise up more effective servants of His to minister

*Prayerfully,
Pastor Charles Tan*

"HE IS NOT HERE; FOR HE IS RISEN, AS HE SAID." MATTHEW 28:6A

