

BETHANY

INDEPENDENT- PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

God's Kind of Church...

Where God is touching lives...

And people care for people.

Bethany IV ... 1 July 2018 ... Holy Communion Sunday!

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

MEDITATION

✠ REV DR CHARLES TAN ✠

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Meditation	1
Announcements	3
Worship	6
Poem Corner (Children)	7
Poetry Corner	8
Bible Memory Work	10
This Week @ Worship	11

Text: Luke 1

"FOR WITH GOD NOTHING WILL BE IMPOSSIBLE"

SENT ON A DIVINE MISSION

The Lord sent a special angelic emissary to convey news that seemed impossible to believe in! The angel Gabriel was sent on a divine mission to a priest called Zacharias.

(continued on page 2)

MEDITATION

(Continued from page 1)

1. General description of Zacharias

- a) He was described as a righteous man Luke 1:6
- b) In all his duties he was found to be “blameless” Luke 1:6

2. But when the angel Gabriel told him

- a) His wife Elizabeth would bear him a son
- b) He could not believe the angel Gabriel!
- c) He said, “How shall I know this? For I am an old man, and my wife is well-advanced in years.” Luke 1:18

3. Why could he not believe in the words of the angel Gabriel?

- a) The promise of God seemed too hard to be true
- b) He was limited by his unbelief

SENT ON A SECOND DIVINE MISSION

Six months later, the angel Gabriel was sent on another Divine Mission. This time he was sent to visit Mary. She was an ordinary young lady who was engaged to be married.

1. The angel greeted her tenderly

- a) She had found favour with God (The word “favour” literally means “grace”)
- b) She was chosen to bear the Christ-Child Luke 1:26-33

(Continued on page 3)

(Continued from page 2)

2. Mary's response as may be expected

a) She said, "How can this be, since I do not know a man?"
Luke 1:34

b) Again, there was the danger of limiting the power of God

3. Swiftly, the angel Gabriel gave to her a wonderful divine truth

"For with God nothing will be impossible." Luke 1:37

a) This is a great truth that we will be looking at more carefully

b) The Pulpit series in July-August will attempt to answer this question

"Is there anything too hard for the LORD?"

SEEKING A DEEPER FAITH IN GOD

Let us look forward to cultivating a deeper faith in the Lord. Let us seek to deal with the problem of unbelief that has plagued so many believers in every era! †

Write to me at: charlestan@bethanyipc.sg

We commence the second half of 2018 today. We are glad that you have chosen to worship the Lord Jesus Christ with us today. May your heart be uplifted through worship and fellowship! †

*Welcome
to Bethany IV*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HOLY COMMUNION TODAY

We celebrate The Lord's Supper today. May we draw closer to our wonderful Saviour and Lord through partaking of the Bread and the Cup.

THE BREAD

*And as they were eating, Jesus took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to the disciples and said, "Take, eat; this is My body."
Matthew 26:26*

THE CUP

*Then He took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you. For this is My blood of the new covenant."
Matthew 26:27-28 †*

SPECIAL NEEDS SUNDAY- NEXT WEEK

Thank God for the Special Needs Ministry and its faithful Team. The Team will be leading in worship next Sunday, 8 July 2018.

1. Thank God for the faith and love of all the parents who have special needs children.
 2. Thank God for the faithfulness of those serving in the Special Needs Ministry. †
-

WEDDING BELLS

Getting Married: Yuan Li and Qing Yang

Date: Saturday, 7 July 2018

Time: 11.00am

Venue: Bethany

All in Bethany are cordially invited to their wedding service
this Saturday! †

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SPIRITUAL RETREAT

13-14 July 2018

“The Prayers of the Apostle Paul.”

Let us look forward to the lessons we can learn about Prayer as we study the way the apostle Paul prayed for the Ephesian Church. May we learn deep and valuable lessons that could improve our prayer life significantly.

CELEBRATING BETHANY'S 40+5 ANNIVERSARY

Date: 19 August 2018

Venue: Shangri La Hotel

Please book your table as soon as possible. †

YOUTH CONFERENCE 2018

THEME: “a WISE MASTERBUILDER” 1 CORINTHIANS 3:10

Date: 2-6 December 2018

Venue: Bethany

Bible Study Topics at the Youth Conference.

1. Foundations
2. Faith
3. Fruit-bearing
4. Fullness of Life

Let us pray for the Lord's blessings to be outpoured on all coming for the Youth Conference at the end of the year! Let us support the Youth Conference in every way we can. †

WEEK-DAY MEETINGS

We resume our Mid-week Meetings this week. We will have regular Week-day Meetings from July- October 2018. May the Lord bless these meetings!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

(Continued from page 5)

PRE-MARITAL COUNSELING

Monday, 2 July 2018

Time: 7.00pm

Venue: TUR

PRAYER MEETING

Monday, 2 July 2018

Time: 8.00pm

Venue: Main Sanctuary

BIBLE STUDY

Tuesday, 3 July 2018

Time: 8.00pm

Venue: Main Sanctuary †

WORSHIP IN SPIRIT & TRUTH

Psalm 91:1

*He who dwells in the secret place of the Most High
Shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty.*

1. The Lord God is described here
 - a) The Most High
 - b) The Almighty
2. The "secret place"
 - a) This is called "the shadow of the Almighty God"
 - b) He offers His protective care
3. Who may enjoy His Presence?
 - a) Those who believe in Him
 - b) Those who abide in His Presence and trust in His protection †

HEAR THE INSTRUCTION OF YOUR FATHER

Fathers and mothers are given by the Lord,
The wise instruction they give is from God!
The challenge is to learn how to receive instruction,
Sadly, many children refuse to give much attention.

There are perils in life that are dangerous to the soul,
Instructions that are wise can make a person whole.
Wisdom is like an ornament that makes one beautiful,
Putting on a lovely chain can enhance the most graceful.

Wise children can turn out very successfully in life,
Instruction from parents help them to deal with any strife.
They are guarded from falling into deadly sin,
They will not be deceived by darkness from within.

Let us take heed to the instruction we receive,
Let every child be led, to fully in God, believe.
And if every day we listen well to instruction,
We will find the wisdom from God to discern.

Inspiration: Proverbs 1:8-9

Charles Tan



God's Blessings

When life is smooth sailing and everything seems good;
We praise God for His blessings as we should.
But what if life is hard and things don't go our way?
Are we then aggrieved because God seems far away?

That Joseph was sold and enslaved was a fact;
Yet he could see God's hand at work in retrospect.
Forgave his brothers for plotting against him he did;
God's goodness had greatly transformed him indeed!

We rejoice at God's blessings in our lives;
For they bring relief and hope amidst our strifes.
But much more than that God's blessings must do;
They ought to make us better human beings too!

What tremendous joy it is to receive God's blessings;
But to be a blessing to others must be our understanding.

Dr. Sng Li Wah †

(FOR COMMUNION SERVICE)

ALL THINGS ARE POSSIBLE WITH GOD

When God gives a word of promise, it's fulfilment is a certainty;
No matter how greatly astonishing that word of promise may be!
Recorded in Biblical history, God has given great promises to Man;
Every prophetic word given was fulfilled according to His Divine plan.

The Biblical record however shows that Man has not always believed;
No matter who that individual may be, he struggled with dark unbelief!
The Divine word of promise always seemed too hard to be real and true;
Man continues to struggle with unbelief and this state of affairs he will rue!

Man limits God when he seeks to comprehend His word by human reasoning;
He finds himself staring at God's promises without fully comprehending.
Unbelief is a silent but deadly enemy that will affect us adversely;
We need to find a greater faith to believe in God's word absolutely.

"With God nothing is impossible," is a truth that all angels believe in;
Thus, they can be entrusted to deliver Divine messages from Him.
Our need is surely to believe that the Lord is the God of the impossible;
And then we will be counted worthy to walk with the Lord invisible.

Inspiration: Luke 1:37

Charles Tan



BIBLE MEMORY WORK

TODAY: 1 JULY 2018

GENESIS 18:14 IS ANYTHING TOO HARD FOR THE LORD?

Is anything too hard for the LORD?

At the appointed time I will return to you,

According to the time of life, and Sarah shall have a son.

1. Things we consider too hard

- a) Whatever is beyond our comprehension
- b) Whatever is beyond the normal understanding of life
- c) What we think is impossible, we also tend to think that it is impossible for God

2. But is God limited?

- a) By our human capabilities?
- b) By our limitations?
- c) Is anything really too hard for the Lord?

NEXT SUNDAY: 8 JULY 2018

NUMBERS 11:23 HAS THE ARM OF THE LORD BEEN SHORTENED?

And the LORD said to Moses,

"Has the LORD's arm been shortened?

Now you shall see whether what I say will happen to you or not." †

THEME : IS ANYTHING TOO HARD FOR THE LORD?

THIS WEEK @ WORSHIP

☞ MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE ☞

10.30 AM . CHURCH SANCTUARY

"Is anything too hard for the LORD?"

Genesis 18

Chairmen

Intern-Pastor
Benjamin Chong
Intern-Pastor
Benjamin Quah

Pianist

Mr Gabriel Ou

Organist

Mrs Sally Tan

Speaker

Rev Dr Charles Tan

Interpreter

Dr Jane Tan

Chairman

Mr Joshua Phang

Pianist

Ms Ho Lianya

Speaker

Mr Quek Li Yen

Usher

Ms Germaine Kong

— TEENS' WORSHIP SERVICE —

10.30 AM. 3RD FLOOR AUDITORIUM 3-8

"Is anything too hard for the LORD?"

Genesis 18

☞ CHILDREN'S CHURCH ☞

10.30 AM

"Jesus is the Way, the Truth, and the Life" John 11:1-11

CC I: P1—P3

3rd Floor
Auditorium 3-1

CC II: P4—P6

4th Floor
Auditorium 4-1

Speaker

Mrs Joanne Tan

Speaker

Miss Camille George

Chairman

Student-Pastor
Jonathan Jacob

Speaker

Rev Mark Tan

Pianist

Mr Gabriel Ou

Interpreter

Ms Tan Hwee Cheng

☞ EVENING-BILINGUAL WORSHIP SERVICE ☞

4.00 PM. 4TH FLOOR AUDITORIUM 4-7, 8

"Is anything too hard for the LORD?"

Genesis 18

Breakfast : Yuwen

Fellowship Lunch : YF & Betty Kam; Joan & Janssen, Jamie & Jeremy

Evening Tea : Jovan, Ilias & Gavriel

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 3-8	3 rd floor
Combined Evening-Bilingual		4.00pm	Auditorium 4-7 & 4-8	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 4-8	4 th floor
Intermediate Sunday School			Auditorium 3-8	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 4-7	4 th floor
CHOIRS				
Singing Kakis	Thurs	8.00 pm	Auditorium 3-2	3 rd floor
One Voice	Sat	5.00 pm	Auditorium 4-8	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 4-8	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 3-8	3 rd floor
Young People's Group III			Auditorium 3-1	3 rd floor
Young Adults' Group			Auditorium 4-7 & 4-8	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

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

MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE
1 July 2018
Order of

PREPARATION

Pre-Worship Singing

Pianist : Mr Gabriel Ou
Organist : Mrs Sally Tan

HWC No. 278

Glorious Things Of Thee Are Spoken

Prelude

Call to Worship

Intern-Pastor Benjamin Chong
Intern-Pastor Benjamin Quah

Invocation

PRAISE

Hymns

Century Praise 2

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

HWC No. 410

My Faith Looks Up To Thee

Century Praise 32

God Of Our Fathers

PRAYER

Pastoral Prayer

“PREACH THE WORD”

Message: “Is anything too hard for the LORD?”

Text : Genesis 18

Speaker: Rev Dr Charles Tan

THE LORD’S SUPPER

Hymn

HWC No. 441

Take Time To Be Holy

Partaking of the Bread

Hymn

HWC No. 443

Give Me Jesus

Partaking of the Cup

RESPONSE

Offering

Hymn

HWC No. 445

Something For Thee

Prayerful Meditation

Benediction

Postlude

EVENING-BILINGUAL WORSHIP SERVICE

1 July 2018

Order of Worship

PREPARATION 预备

Pre-Worship Singing

Pianist : Ms Tay Soo Leng

Century Praise No. 89

Praise To The Lord, The Almighty

赞美全能神

Prelude 前奏

Call to Worship 齐来称颂

Student-Pastor Jonathan Jacob

Interpreter : Mr Kevin Low

Invocation 祈祷

PRAISE 赞美诗

Hymns

Century Praise No. 363

God Will Take Care Of You

天父必看顾你

Century Praise No. 44

I Sing The Mighty Power Of God

颂赞父神伟大权力

Century Praise No. 316

Have Faith In God

当信服神

PRAYER 牧祷

“PREACH THE WORD” 证道

Message: “Is anything too hard for the LORD?”
“上帝岂有难成的事吗？”

Text: Genesis 18 创世纪 18

Speaker: *Rev Mark Tan*
Interpreter : Miss Tan Hwee Cheng

THE LORD’S SUPPER 圣餐 Rev Dr Charles Tan

Hymn

Century Praise No. 331

Be Thou My Vision (verses 1 & 2)

成为我异象

Partaking of the Bread

Hymn

Century Praise No. 331

Be Thou My Vision (verses 3 & 4)

成为我异象

Partaking of the Cup

RESPONSE

Offering 奉献

Hymn

Century Praise No. 348

Lord, Speak To Me That I May Speak

恳求教我听主声音

Prayerful Meditation

Benediction

Postlude



BETHANY

INDEPENDENT-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
SINGAPORE

*God's Kind of Church...
Where God is touching lives...
And people care for people.*

PASTORAL LETTER

1 JULY 2018

SENIOR PASTOR : REV DR CHARLES TAN

Dear Brethren,

SPIRITUAL RETREAT 2018

We will be holding another Spiritual Retreat in July 2018. Thank God for all who have signed up for the Retreat!

1. Theme: Prayer

- a) Prayer is a great privilege given to us
- b) Many significant things are wrought only through prayer.
- c) We have so many Biblical examples that should encourage our hearts.

2. The sobering reality

- a) We often do not know how to pray beyond the basic level.
- b) Thus, prayer becomes dull, routine and sadly flat!
- c) The need for a spiritual revival must be deeply felt so that we will truly come alive and be filled with the Spirit of God.

3. The lessons that we may learn at the Spiritual Retreat include the following:-

- a) Significant insights as to how we may pray at a deeper level.
- b) Inspiration to draw us closer to the Lord in prayer.
- c) Enlightenment that would help us find answers to the problems that prevent us from going deeper in prayer.
- d) A revived spirit that would see us naturally desire to draw closer to the Lord in the realm of prayer.

A PRAYING CHURCH

Let us determine to be "a praying Church." There is nothing wrong with having a host of meaningful church activities. But what if in all our activities, we end up being a prayerless church?

Let us make sure that we do not become prayerless. If that happens, we will begin to lose our special sense of vital energy. Let us seek to deepen our prayer-life! The Spiritual Retreat will go some ways to help us be re-vitalised! Plan to attend the Spiritual Retreat coming right up (13-14 July 2018)!

*Prayerfully,
Pastor Charlie*