

# BETHANY

INDEPENDENT-  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH

*God's Kind of Church...*

*Where God is touching lives...*

*And people care for people.*

*Bethany IV ... 8 July 2018 ... Special Needs Sunday!*

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

## MEDITATION

✞ REV DR CHARLES TAN ✞

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Text: Genesis 12 - 22

## SLOW GROWTH IN FAITH

### THE GROWTH OF FAITH

All living things need to grow. Faith may be thought of as something alive. As such, it must also grow. It takes years for a baby to grow to full maturity! It takes just as long for faith to grow!

*(continued on page 2)*

# MEDITATION

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*(Continued from page 1)*

## THE EXAMPLE OF ABRAHAM

Abraham may be cited as an example of how faith must grow. Many are the lessons we can learn from him.

### 1. The Commencement of Faith

- a) The Scriptures note that he was 75 years of age when God called him Genesis 12:4
- b) The reality of his faith was evidenced in the steps of faith he took
  - i) His obedience to God in leaving Haran
  - ii) His journey to the foreign land of Canaan
- c) He grew in his knowledge of God through: -
  - i) Experiencing God's protection in Egypt Genesis 12
  - ii) Heeding God's leading to return to Canaan Genesis 12

### 2. The Cultivation of Faith

- a) Abraham did his part in cultivating his faith as best he could
- b) Note the following things he did:
  - i) He built altars to worship the Lord Genesis 12: 9
  - ii) In significant places he would raise up altars to call upon God Genesis 13:4
- c) He would listen when the Word of the Lord came to him Genesis 15:4

### 3. Keeping in Close Communion with God

- a) This was something that Abraham sought to do

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*(Continued from page 2)*

- b) There were missteps along the way
- c) But he kept in communion with God
  - i) In worship
  - ii) In prayer
  - iii) In times of testing

## OUR CHALLENGE TODAY

Let us determine to do our part to cultivate the growth of our faith!

1. Through instruction  
From the Word of God primarily.
2. Through inspiration  
From the lives of people who live inspiringlly.
3. Through application  
Through faithful application of our faith in daily life!

Growth of faith may be slow, but let there be determination on our part to cultivate our faith in the Lord! †

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*Write to me at:* [charlestan@bethanyipc.sg](mailto:charlestan@bethanyipc.sg)

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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

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## CATECHISM CLASS TODAY

Time: 1.00pm  
Venue: 4.07/08 †

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## SPECIAL NEEDS SUNDAY

1. We focus on the needs of children with special needs today
  2. Let us pray for all children with special needs
  3. Let us seek to cultivate a greater faith in the Lord as we ponder life with special challenges †
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## CONGRATULATIONS!

Heartiest congratulations to Yuan Li and Qing Yang on the occasion of their wedding on 7 July 2018. May the Lord's richest blessings be theirs! †

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## SPIRITUAL RETREAT

13-14 JULY 2018  
"THE PRAYERS OF THE APOSTLE PAUL"

This is the last week to sign up for the Retreat! Plan to sign up today!

1. Let us seek to be a prayerful church
2. Let us learn how we may deepen our prayer life

Behind the life of every great servant of God is a very significant prayer-life. The Apostle Paul was a truly outstanding man of prayer. Let us come together to learn how we may deepen our understanding and practice of prayer! †

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

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## BETHANY VISION BOOKSHOP

1. Encouragement to all parents
  - a) Encourage your children to read
  - b) Biographies of significant servants of God can provide wonderful inspiration
  - c) Put a good book into the hands of your children
2. To all believers
  - a) Make reading of Christian literature a part of your life
  - b) Many blessings may come to you
    - i. Instruction
    - ii. Insights
    - iii. Inspiration

Visit the Bethany Vision Bookshop today! †

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## CELEBRATING BETHANY'S 40+5 ANNIVERSARY

1. Let us never take the Lord's blessings for granted
2. Let us plan to give a special thanksgiving worship  
Date: 19 August 2018  
Venue: Shangri La  
Time: 10.30am

Followed by an Anniversary Thanksgiving Lunch at 12.30pm †

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## NEW STUDENT-PASTOR

We have added a new student-pastor. Steve Karong hails from India. His wife is one of the teachers at Bethany Theological Seminary in Yangon.  
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# WEEKDAY MINISTRIES

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## PRE-MARITAL COUNSELING

Monday, 9 July 2018

Time: 7.00pm

Venue: TUR

## PRAYER MEETING

Monday, 9 July 2018

Time: 8.00pm

Venue: Main Sanctuary

## BIBLE STUDY

Tuesday, 10 July 2018

Time: 8.00pm

Venue: Main Sanctuary †

# WORSHIP IN SPIRIT & TRUTH

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## Psalm 91:2

*I will say of the LORD,  
"He is my refuge and my fortress,  
My God, in Him I will trust."*

### 1. Personal Declaration about faith in God

a) God is a refuge

b) He is a fortress

### 2. Personal Affirmation

a) "He is...my God"

b) "In Him I will trust" †

## IS ANYTHING TOO HARD FOR THE LORD?

There are few who have not struggled with believing in God;  
Even “the father of faith” found it hard to believe in the Lord.  
Abram’s name had been changed to Abraham to signify “change;”  
He had received honour from God, but full faith was not within range.

God spoke of giving him an heir on more than one occasion;  
But he could not fully believe, much to God’s consternation.  
Thus, He had to ask Abraham, “Is anything too hard for the LORD?”  
Abraham could not bring himself to give a clear answer to God!

If we are honest with ourselves, we will admit we find faith a struggle;  
Though we know God’s powers, we still find His promises incredible.  
We are just unable to believe fully that nothing is too hard for the Lord;  
We are so caught up with our weaknesses, we cannot fully believe in God.

The question, “Is anything too hard for the LORD,” is one we must raise today;  
When we falter and fail in faith, Life’s challenges can bring about great dismay.  
The challenge must be recognized; Our faith in God must be increased;  
The problems of Life will always be there and they will never decrease!

Genesis 18:14  
Charles Tan ✠

## *A Poem for Special Needs Awareness Week*

A newborn babe brings joy indescribable;  
It is a gift from God; a miracle!  
But what if a child is born with special needs?  
Then from whence will come advice we can heed?

The Lord promises that He will lead us like a good shepherd;  
No need to fear getting lost or being hurt.  
There will be times when we are confused and loathsome;  
But God reassures He will even carry us in His bosom.

Our part is to be patient, faithful and meek;  
For God to show us the means to meet our needs.  
Although the paths ahead will require much effort;  
God's Word will be our constant strength and comfort.

Lest we feel disheartened and lonely in our struggles;  
Bethany is here to help in times of trouble.  
For all children are gifts from Heaven above;  
They all deserve our prayers and our love.

Inspiration: Isaiah 40:11  
Dr. Sng Li Wah 符

# **My Letter to GOD**

**(after what I've learnt at Sunday School)**

Dear God,

You made the clouds in the sky;  
You made the grass on which I lie.  
You made the sun to shine so bright;  
You made the stars I see at night.

You formed me and brought me into this earth;  
You said You knew me even before my birth.  
I trust You will always know what I want to say;  
Despite how simply and naively I pray.

I pray You will help me use my eyes to see,  
All that You have provided for me.  
I pray You will help me use my ears to hear,  
Your Word and Your call to draw me near.

I pray You will help me use my mouth to praise,  
To speak and sing of Your amazing grace.  
And I pray You will move my heart to love thee;  
Because You first loved me.

Inspiration: Psalm 139:13-14; Jeremiah 1:5  
Dr. Sng Li Wah †

# BIBLE MEMORY WORK

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**TODAY: 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."*

1. Even Moses had moments when he faltered
2. God thus had to ask him  
"Has the LORD's arm been shortened?"
3. God will keep His promises
4. Our challenges
  - a) To check if we have a faith that will hold fast
  - b) To determine to cultivate this faith with greater consistency
  - c) To seek God humbly to cultivate a stronger faith

**NEXT SUNDAY: 15 JULY 2018**

PSALM 78:19 CAN GOD PREPARE A TABLE IN THE WILDERNESS?

*Yes, they spoke against God:*

*They said, "Can God prepare a table in the wilderness." †*

THEME : IS ANYTHING TOO HARD FOR THE LORD?

## THIS WEEK @ WORSHIP

### ☞ MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE ☞ 10.30 AM . CHURCH SANCTUARY

"Who am I that I should go to  
Pharaoh?"  
Exodus 3

#### Chairmen

Mr Milton Ong  
Mr Charles George  
Mrs Chloe Leong

#### Speaker

Rev Dr Charles Tan

#### Pianist

Mrs Esther Ang

#### Organist

Mrs Elsie Poey

#### Interpreter

Mrs Koh Baoling

#### Chairman

Ms Aleena Kua

#### Pianist

Ms Edlyn Chong

#### Speaker

Intern-Pastor  
Benjamin Chong

#### Usher

Mr Stanley Woo

### — TEENS' WORSHIP SERVICE — 10.30 AM. 3RD FLOOR AUDITORIUM 3-8

"Who am I that I should go to  
Pharaoh?" Exodus 3

### ☞ CHILDREN'S CHURCH ☞ 10.30 AM

"Jesus Teaches Us to Pray"  
John 14:12-14

#### CC I: P1—P3

3rd Floor  
Auditorium 3-1

#### CC II: P4—P6

4th Floor  
Auditorium 4-1

#### Speaker

Intern-Pastor  
Benjamin Quah

#### Speaker

Student-Pastor  
Moses Kwek

#### Chairman

Mr Samuel Cheong

#### Speaker

Student-Pastor  
Eugene Seow

#### Pianist

Mr Gabriel Ou

#### Interpreter

Deacon  
Dr Tan Peng Hui

### ☞ EVENING-BILINGUAL WORSHIP SERVICE ☞

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

"Who am I that I should go to  
Pharaoh?" Exodus 3

Breakfast : Vincent & Su Yin

Fellowship Lunch : Daniel & Ivy; Qing Yang & Yuanli; Basil & Agnes

Evening Tea : Janel & Kreston

# Bethany Church Activities

	Day	Time	Venue	Location
WORSHIP SERVICES				
Morning Worship Service	Sun	10.30 am	Church Sanctuary	2 <sup>nd</sup> floor
Children's Worship I (P1 – P3)			Auditorium 3-1	3 <sup>rd</sup> floor
Children's Worship II (P4 – P6)			Auditorium 4-1	4 <sup>th</sup> floor
Teens' Worship Service			Auditorium 3-8	3 <sup>rd</sup> floor
Combined Evening-Bilingual		4.00pm	Auditorium 4-7 & 4-8	4 <sup>th</sup> floor
SUNDAY SCHOOL				
Crèche	Sun	8.30am 10.30am	Green Turf	1 <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 4-8	4 <sup>th</sup> floor
Intermediate Sunday School			Auditorium 3-8	3 <sup>rd</sup> floor
Senior Sunday School I			Fellowship Hall	1 <sup>st</sup> 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 4-7	4 <sup>th</sup> floor
CHOIRS				
Singing Kakis	Thurs	8.00 pm	Auditorium 3-2	3 <sup>rd</sup> floor
One Voice	Sat	5.00 pm	Auditorium 4-8	4 <sup>th</sup> floor
Youth Choir		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 4 <sup>th</sup> Thurs	3.00 pm	-	-
Mandarin Bible Study	1 <sup>st</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> Fri	7.30 pm	4 <sup>th</sup> Floor Auditorium	4 <sup>th</sup> floor
CATECHISM CLASS				
	Sun	1.00 pm	Auditorium 4-8	4 <sup>th</sup> floor
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 3-8	3 <sup>rd</sup> floor
Young People's Group III			Auditorium 3-1	3 <sup>rd</sup> floor
Young Adults' Group			Auditorium 4-7 & 4-8	4 <sup>th</sup> floor
Young Married Group			Auditorium 4-1	4 <sup>th</sup> floor
Adults' Ministry		4.00 pm	Auditorium 4-1	4 <sup>th</sup> 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**  
**8 July 2018**  
**Order of Worship**

**PREPARATION**

Pre-Worship Singing

*Pianist : Mrs Esther Ang*  
*Organist : Mrs Elsie Poey*

SPECIAL SONG ITEM  
"I'm So Wonderfully Made"

*Special Needs Ministry*

Prelude

Call to Worship

*Mr Milton Ong*  
*Mr Charles George*  
*Mrs Chloe Leong*

Invocation

**PRAISE**

Hymns

Song No. 1

I Am A Promise

HWC No. 415

He Giveth More Grace

Century Praise 59

To God Be The Glory

**"PREACH THE WORD"**

Message: "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh?"  
Text : Exodus 3  
Speaker: Rev Dr Charles Tan

**RESPONSE**

Offering

Hymn

HWC No. 173

All Glory, Laud And Honour

Prayerful Meditation

Benediction

Postlude

**EVENING-BILINGUAL WORSHIP SERVICE**  
**8 July 2018**  
**Order of Worship**

**PREPARATION 预备**

Pre-Worship Singing

Pianist : Mr Gabriel Ou

Century Praise 270

Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus 当转眼仰望耶稣

Prelude 前奏

Call to Worship 齐来称颂

Mr Samuel Cheong

Interpreter : Ms Berlinda Cheong

Invocation 祈祷

**PRAISE 赞美诗**

Hymns

Century Praise 301

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

Century Praise 206

Because He Lives 因祂活着

HWC No. 415

He Giveth More Grace 主恩愈丰盛

**PRAYER 牧祷**

**“PREACH THE WORD” 证道**

Message: “Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh?”  
“我是什么人？竟能去见法老？”

Text : Exodus 3 出埃及 3

Speaker: Student-Pastor Eugene Seow

Interpreter : Deacon Dr Tan Peng Hui

**RESPONSE**

Offering 奉献

Hymn

Century Praise 345

Wherever He Leads I'll Go 主领我何往必去

Prayerful Meditation

Benediction

Postlude



# BETHANY

INDEPENDENT-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
SINGAPORE

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

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## PASTORAL LETTER

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8 JULY 2018

SENIOR PASTOR : REV DR CHARLES TAN

*Dear Brethren,*

### SPECIAL NEEDS SUNDAY

We celebrate "Special Needs Sunday" today! Let us take time to dwell on this ministry.

1. Children with Special Needs
  - a) Some children are born with special needs
  - b) Some needs are physical
  - c) Others are cerebral
  - d) But all children need to be shown much love and compassion
2. The Special Needs Ministry
  - a) This was created in 2017
  - b) This ministry continues to be well supported by a team of dedicated people

### TEAM LEADING IN WORSHIP TODAY

Thank God for the team of people who are leading in worship today. They represent the people who have shown deep commitment to ministering to the children with special needs!

### PRAYING FOR THE FURTHER GROWTH OF THIS MINISTRY

Any and every ministry needs to be prayed for. The Lord's blessings must be sought.

1. Pray for the SNM Team
2. Pray for the children
3. Pray for the activities planned for the children each Sunday
4. Pray for wisdom and skills to minister more effectively

### THANK GOD FOR THE WONDERFUL SUPPORT GIVEN

Thank God for all who have been moved to support this ministry.

1. Thank God for all who give
2. Thank God for all who seek to give moral and practical support

*Prayerfully,  
Pastor Charlie*