

BETHANY

INDEPENDENT-
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

God's Kind of Church...

Where God is touching lives...

And people care for people.

Bethany IV ... 7 June 2020

MICA (P) No.: 048/10/2019

MEDITATION

REV DR CHARLES TAN

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Text: 2 Thessalonians 1

“YOUR FAITH GROWS EXCEEDINGLY”

THE SECOND LETTER TO THE THESSALONIANS

The second letter to the Thessalonians saw the Apostle Paul even more exuberant in his joy and praise of the Thessalonian Church.

(Continued on page 2)

MEDITATION

(Continued from page 1)

³We are bound to thank God always for you, brethren, as it is fitting, because your faith grows exceedingly, and the love of every one of you all abounds toward each other, ⁴ so that we ourselves boast of you among the churches of God for your patience and faith in all your persecutions and tribulations that you endure, ⁵ *which is* manifest evidence of the righteous judgment of God, that you may be counted worthy of the kingdom of God, for which you also suffer;
2 Thessalonians 1:3-5

1. Filled with thanksgiving

- a) Paul called it “fitting” to give thanks
- b) He felt “bound” to give thanks to God

2. Reasons for thanksgiving

- a) The faith of the Thessalonians was growing exceedingly
- b) There was already evidence of love and this was abounding too
- c) There was also patience (literally “perseverance”)
- d) Their faith continued to be resilient amidst persecution and tribulation

COUNTED WORTHY OF THE KINGDOM OF GOD

Paul commended the Thessalonian believers in another way.

1. The Kingdom of God

(Continued on page 3)

MEDITATION

(Continued from page 2)

- a) Entrance into the kingdom of God was through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ
- b) This was what the Thessalonians evidenced
- c) Soon after the profession of their faith they were persecuted

2. The Eighth Beatitude

- a) The Lord Jesus warned about possible suffering
- b) The Thessalonian believers were experiencing suffering there and then
- c) As they were keeping their faith strong and healthy, Paul commended them as being "counted worthy of the kingdom"
- d) This was the same attitude as that of the Apostles who were imprisoned Acts 5:41

THANK GOD FOR A GROWING FAITH

Let us be challenged to have a faith that will keep growing. The nature of a genuine faith is that it will keep growing, even if there is tribulation to be faced!

Write to me at: charlestan@bethanyipc.sg

ANNOUNCEMENTS

COVID-19 PANDEMIC

1. As our country opens up slowly
Let us continue to be prayerful.
Nothing must be taken for granted.

2. Church

a) We will continue with Video streaming

b) Safety for our church members remains our main concern

3. Bethany Kindergarten

Let us remember our Church Staff and children as they come to the Kindergarten each day.

4. Church Pastoral Staff

They will continue to work from home.



SAFE MANAGEMENT OFFICER

Pastor Ben Quah is appointed the Safe Management Officer
for Church and our Kindergarten.



WORSHIP IN SPIRIT AND TRUTH

Psalm 112:6-8

*⁶ Surely he will never be shaken;
The righteous will be in everlasting remembrance.*

*⁷ He will not be afraid of evil tidings;
His heart is steadfast, trusting in the LORD.*

*⁸ His heart is established;
He will not be afraid,
Until he sees his desire upon his enemies.*

1. The strength of the righteous

- a) He will never be shaken
- b) He will not be afraid of bad news or of enemies
- c) He will be remembered by the Lord

2. The heart of the righteous

- a) It is steadfast
- b) It trusts in the Lord
- c) It is established

BIBLE MEMORY WORK

TODAY: 7 June 2020

Text: Romans 5:3 Tribulation produces perseverance

And not only that, but we also glory in tribulations, knowing that tribulation produces perseverance.

1. Tribulation
This need not be feared.
2. Glorifying in tribulation
 - a) We may rejoice amidst tribulation
 - b) Understanding that tribulation will produce “perseverance”
 - i) Patience
 - ii) Resilience
 - iii) Strength

NEXT SUNDAY: 14 June 2020

Text: Acts 14:22 “Through many tribulations”

Strengthening the souls of the disciples, exhorting them to continue in the faith, and saying, “We must through many tribulations enter the kingdom of God.”

POETRY CORNER

1

A FAITH THAT GROWS EXCEEDINGLY

A genuine faith in the Lord is most precious;
It leads to wonderful and glorious blessedness.
It is a faith that will continue to grow significantly;
No amount of suffering will affect it adversely.

A genuine faith perseveres in the worst of tribulations;
The nature of faith will give comfort and consolation.
The believer finds himself growing ever stronger;
Despite the pain and almost unbearable pressure.

A genuine faith can grow exceedingly despite suffering;
This kind of faith is truly worth noting and commending.
It continues to persevere and to thrive despite opposition;
The Lord is there to give His grace and consolation.

The genuine believer whose faith is steadfast in the Lord;
This person is counted worthy of the kingdom of God.
How blessed to have a faith that keeps growing;
From his heart, rivers of living water are flowing.

Charles Tan

Inspiration: 2 Thessalonians 1:3-5; John 7:38

POETRY CORNER

2

True Faith, A Steadfast Hope and Love

For many matters in life, it's not always easy to take a firm stand;
Often it's more convenient to just sit on the fence.
We vacillate between options based on circumstances we behold;
We feel that we can 'play by ear' as situations unfold.

But should this be the case with our faith and our belief in God?
Surely we cannot say we believe today but then tomorrow we do not?!
We need a genuine faith founded on the Scriptures and evidenced in life;
A personally experienced faith which uplifts us in times of strife.

Only sound knowledge and enlightenment from God's Word can form
the foundation for true faith;
And only true faith can ignite and exhort a steadfast hope to surface.
A steadfast hope is certain, living and real;
Because it must convince, sustain and inspire us to believe in that
which is yet unrevealed.

We are blessed because we are justified by faith through Jesus Christ, the Lord;
To possess a steadfast hope of the future and of the glory of God.
Our faith and hope can then translate to love for God and our fellow men;
A love mere mortals can never muster, but only God's people can.

Dr. Sng Li Wah

Inspiration: 2 Corinthians 1:1-7; Romans 5:1-5; 8:31-39

POETRY CORNER

3

HE WHO HEARS AND DOES MY SAYINGS

To review lessons from the Scripture is vital,
The heart needs to be honest and humble.
We must review our life and walk with God,
And whether our heart is truly for the Lord.

We must desire knowledge and understanding,
So that we have eyes to discern false teachings.
When we treasure truth and let it take root,
God will work in us and help us to bear fruit.

Who may enter God's kingdom and be saved?
Jesus is not looking for mere profession of faith.
We must do the will of our heavenly Father,
To seek His righteousness must be our desire.

We must apply, not just hear, Jesus' teachings,
Our House of Faith must be built on His sayings.
May our House have a true and strong foundation,
Then it can weather fierce storms and tribulation!

Yvette Seow
Inspiration: Matthew 7:15-29

POETRY CORNER

4

Helping Together In Prayer

The power and significance of prayer should never be taken for granted,
Our loving God hears and answers prayers; this cannot be disputed.
Yet sometimes our personal efforts in prayer may go so far and no more,
Sin problems in our lives may cause us to falter, to stumble and fall!

The Apostle Paul recognized the tremendous need for prayer support,
He knew that these prayers sustained him through many battles fought.
He appreciated those who rallied round and prayed alongside fervently,
His heart was deeply encouraged by friends who stood by him faithfully!

"Helping together in prayer" is a thought that we can appreciate too!
As we trace the prayer support rendered to us, our hearts can indeed be full!
For every prayer answered, we give thanks to God for His love and His grace,
We give thanks also for loving brethren all around – for all who alongside prays!

"Helping together in prayer" is also something we must learn to do,
To pray for others is a great privilege and joy, a habit we must pursue.
As we put our trust in the Lord to see us through challenging times ahead,
Let us seek to pray for our church and brethren always – His answers we await!

Tang Hong Wee
Thoughts taken from 2 Corinthians 1:11

POETRY CORNER

5

The Lord Delivers

*The Lord has delivered, delivers and will deliver
Such a comfort to know that He is always there
For us to lean on when feelings of no hope, not a glimmer
Descend upon us causing doubts, confusion and despair*

*He has delivered to us a perfect lamb who was slain
A priceless gift to redeem us from our sins
What an expression of His love and grace for all in His domain
All we have to do is to accept with joy His offering*

*He makes the universe function like clockwork delivering sunshine and rain
Like for birds in the sky He provides food for our nutrition
The Lord fills our lives with goodness and benefits again and again
Now and then to strengthen our character He tests us with afflictions*

*His abundant grace should remove any doubt that He will not deliver
Learn to trust in Him and not in ourselves to meet our needs patiently
Seek nourishment of faith and hope, a deeper relationship to nurture
With the Lord, our God, Saviour, the Almighty!*

*Jessie Quek
(Inspiration: 2 Corinthians 1:10)*

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
Evening-Bilingual Worship		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			Fellowship Hall	1 st floor
Senior Sunday School IV. II			Auditorium 2M	2 nd 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

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