

BETHANY

INDEPENDENT-
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

God's Kind of Church...

Where God is touching lives...

And people care for people.

Bethany IV ... 21 June 2020

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MEDITATION

REV DR CHARLES TAN

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Text: 2 Thessalonians 2

“STAND FAST”

THE WORK OF GOD IN OUR LIFE

There is much to thank God for as we reflect on His work of salvation in our life. What the Apostle Paul wrote to the Thessalonians are truths that are applicable to our life too.

(Continued on page 2)

MEDITATION

(Continued from page 1)

¹³But we are bound to give thanks to God always for you, brethren beloved by the Lord, because God from the beginning chose you for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and belief in the truth, ¹⁴to which He called you by our gospel, for the obtaining of the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. ¹⁵Therefore, brethren, stand fast and hold the traditions which you were taught, whether by word or our epistle.

¹⁶Now may our Lord Jesus Christ Himself, and our God and Father, who has loved us and given us everlasting consolation and good hope by grace, ¹⁷comfort your hearts and establish you in every good word and work. 2 Thessalonian 2:13-17

1. Bound to give thanks

a) For choosing us for salvation

b) For His work of sanctification

i) This is the work of the Spirit of God

ii) Our part is to exercise faith in the truth of His word

c) His calling to salvation is to be remembered

i) Called through the gospel

ii) Our salvation is truly glorious in the Lord Jesus Christ

2. Standing fast

a) We have every reason to stand fast in our faith

b) The word "traditions"

i) This is a reference to the teachings of the Lord

ii) These may be called "apostolic traditions"

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MEDITATION

(Continued from page 2)

- iii) These are not man-made traditions of the Pharisees and scribes
- iv) It is defined by Paul as the writings of the epistles written
- v) Or by the oral teachings given

THANKSGIVING TO THE LORD

Thank God indeed for the certainty of God's work of salvation in and through Christ Jesus.

1. Thank God for His love
2. And that of the Lord Jesus Christ
3. His blessings
 - a) Everlasting consolation
 - b) Good hope
 - c) All by His grace

A GOOD PRAYER

1. Hearts to be comforted
2. The establishment of both words and works

Let us seek to be conscious of the Lord and His work of salvation in our life!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

COVID-19 PANDEMIC

1. Covid-19 Pandemic

A staggering 8 million people have been noted as having been infected!

2. Let us stand fast in our faith in the Lord

3. No matter how long we have to bear with all the difficulties, let us find the strength to persevere!



CONDOLENCES

Heartfelt condolences to Emma Yeo and Jun on the home-calling of her father. Mr. Lee Koon Seng passed away at 97 years of age.



FATHER'S DAY

We celebrate Father's Day today! Let us give thanks to all who are fathers and who have laboured hard for the family. May the Lord's blessings be given to them!



WORSHIP IN SPIRIT AND TRUTH

Psalm 113:1-3

1 Praise the LORD!

Praise, O servants of the LORD,

Praise the name of the LORD!

² Blessed be the name of the LORD

From this time forth and forevermore!

³ From the rising of the sun to its going down

The LORD's name *is* to be praised.

1. The Praise of the Lord
 - a) This word "praise" was mentioned four times!
 - b) This was a very strong call to offer praise to God
 - c) His name is to be praised from sunrise to sunset
2. Who are to offer praise to God?
 - a) All who serve the Lord ought to praise Him
 - b) Anyone who is truly moved to serve must have good reason to do so
3. The LORD and His Name
 - a) The idea of "God's name" is actually profound
 - b) A person is known by his name
 - i) It is his reputation
 - ii) It reflects his character
 - c) These thoughts apply to God's name too
 - i) His name was simply "LORD"
 - ii) He is the self-existing, eternal One
 - iii) This glorious name was revealed by God to Moses

(Exodus 6:2-4)

BIBLE MEMORY WORK

TODAY: 21 June 2020

Text: Romans 8:35 “Who shall separate us from the love of Christ?”

Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?

1. The love of Christ

- a) It is most precious
- b) It is deeply profound

2. Nothing will ever separate us from the love of Christ

- a) Whether they be negative experiences
- b) Whether they be trying and tough circumstances of life

3. Keep the love of Christ

- a) Alive
- b) Strong

NEXT SUNDAY: 28 June 2020

Text: Romans 12:12 “Patient in tribulation”

Rejoicing in hope, patient in tribulation, continuing steadfastly in prayer;

POETRY CORNER

1

SONS OF YOUR FATHER IN HEAVEN (Dedicated to all fathers)

A young man asks how he can be a good father one day;
He wants to lead his children well along life's pathway.
The answer is both simple and yet deeply profound;
In the Scriptures, in God Himself, the answer is found.

The challenge is to become "Sons of the Father," truly;
And thus, we must seek to know God far more deeply.
Our Father in Heaven pays attention to all His children;
He listens to all their prayers though He is in Heaven.

As Father, He knows all about our sins and weaknesses;
He extends much grace and offers genuine forgiveness.
With deepest love, He may chasten along the way;
With wonderful insight, He teaches patiently each day.

As Father, He provides for all His children faithfully;
There is no need to give in to feelings of worry.
How truly wonderful it is to be called "God's sons;"
May we reflect in fatherhood, what God has done!

Charles Tan

Inspiration: Matthew 5:45

Cf. Matthew 5-7

(The greatest example of a Father is God Himself.
This poem is drawn from the teachings of Jesus about God
as Father)

POETRY CORNER

2

STAND FAST

There is every reason to Stand Fast in the Lord;
Our salvation in Christ is a great work of God.
He has graciously chosen us to be His children;
He would provide an eternal home in Heaven.

He has given His Spirit to give us sanctification;
Every child of the Lord is cared for with devotion.
He has given to each one a wonderful Calling;
In the Scriptures we find the greatest teachings.

Our part is to make sure we Stand Fast in the LORD;
The apostolic traditions help us to understand God.
He grants comfort in all of life's many tribulations;
Amidst the deepest pain He gives loving consolation.

Let us seek to be established in our faith in God;
Nothing should shake our confidence in the Lord.
Let the steadfastness of our faith be strong and prevail;
God's grace and power throughout life, He will avail.

Charles Tan

Inspiration: 2 Thessalonians 2:13-17

POETRY CORNER

3

A Posterity Shall Serve Him (Father's Day 2020)

The child rides astride the man's shoulders so that he can see;
Little does he realize how much a burden on the shoulders of
his father this can be.

But the father will bear it because his wish is for his son to be happy;
He will endure, if only for a while more; the pain he feels in his knees.

We are often proud of ourselves for all that we have accomplished;
But we fail to realize how it is by standing on the shoulders of giants
that we could have flourished.

Our fathers are the giants who have toiled quietly amidst much sweat and tears;
Let us never forget their labour of love given so freely all through the years.

Yet fathers too, are reminded to teach their children what the Lord has commanded;
From the time the children are born to the time they are departed.
For a posterity shall serve the Lord in turn, when their time has dawned;
They will proclaim God's righteousness to their generations yet unborn.

This Father's Day, we celebrate fathers who have given unselfishly
in all manner and guises;

May children treasure their fathers and never take for granted their sacrifices!
May we look to our Heavenly Father as our ultimate guide and example!
To not only be good fathers to our children, but also good children to our fathers.

Dr. Sng Li Wah
Inspiration: Psalm 22:30-31

POETRY CORNER

4

THE PARABLE OF THE WHEAT AND TARES

Jesus distinguished between the multitudes and His disciples,
One way He did this was through the use of parables.
To many, the Parable of the Wheat and Tares was spoken,
But only to His disciples, the explanation was given.

The Wheat represents the sons of the kingdom,
They practise righteousness as God's children.
The Tares may look like Wheat but they are from Satan,
They reject the Word of God and their lives are barren.

God will judge and the Tares will be removed by His angels,
We must discern who they are but not be judgmental.
When others are wrong, our part is to show kindness,
They may be struggling and we must be gracious.

Our challenge is to learn to live as the righteous,
We must build our faith on the teachings of Jesus.
May we shine brightly as true disciples of the Lord!
May our testimony prove that we are sons of God!

Yvette Seow

Inspiration: Matthew 13:24-30 and 36-43

POETRY CORNER

5

God's Promises

*The Lord promises eternal life to all who trust in Him;
Should we hold this as a passive thought while waiting for our next life?
"Lay hold on eternal life," Apostle Paul was found exhorting;
Is it possible to grasp eternal life on earth today as we strive?*

*Jesus came to earth so that we can have life more abundantly;
A rich and satisfying relationship with our Saviour currently awaits us.
So why procrastinate when His promise of plenty is at hand, readily?
Seize the opportunity to lead a fruitful life assured us.*

*God promises that we will not be alone when facing our adversaries;
He has sent to each one of us, our spiritual advocate.
The Holy Spirit dwells in us ensuring that our faith is not temporary;
That He will never leave us is a guarantee from our Father as He said.*

*The Lord who is loving and caring, promises us many things;
To experience the fulfilment of His promises requires the passage of time.
But history informs again and again His faithfulness and goodness He brings;
So, erase all doubts and believe in His power and grace to keep His word divine.*

Jessie Quek

[Inspiration 2 Corinthians 1: 20, 1 Timothy 6: 12]

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

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