

# BETHANY

INDEPENDENT-  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH

*God's Kind of Church...*

*Where God is touching lives...*

*And people care for people.*

*Bethany IV ... 12 July 2020*

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## MEDITATION

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REV DR CHARLES TAN

Text: Deuteronomy 7

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## “HE WILL LOVE YOU AND BLESS YOU”

### THE PROMISE OF BLESSINGS

Many desire and pray for the blessings of God. Some think that blessings are obtained by much praying. How God would bless is actually quite clearly stated in the Scriptures.

*(Continued on page 2)*

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# MEDITATION

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*(Continued from page 1)*

<sup>9</sup> "Therefore know that the LORD your God, He is God, the faithful God who keeps covenant and mercy for a thousand generations with those who love Him and keep His commandments; <sup>10</sup> and He repays those who hate Him to their face, to destroy them. He will not be slack with him who hates Him; He will repay him to his face. <sup>11</sup> Therefore you shall keep the commandment, the statutes, and the judgments which I command you today, to observe them.

<sup>12</sup> "Then it shall come to pass, because you listen to these judgments, and keep and do them, that the LORD your God will keep with you the covenant and the mercy which He swore to your fathers. <sup>13</sup> And He will love you and bless you and multiply you; He will also bless the fruit of your womb and the fruit of your land, your grain and your new wine and your oil, the increase of your cattle and the offspring of your flock, in the land of which He swore to your fathers to give you. <sup>14</sup> You shall be blessed above all peoples; there shall not be a male or female barren among you or among your livestock.

Deuteronomy 7:9-14

1. Know who the LORD is

Deuteronomy 7:9

a) He is a faithful God

b) He will honour and keep His covenant promises

c) He will show mercy to those who love Him and keep His commandments

2. The challenge is to do our part

a) To love the Lord

*(Continued on page 3)*

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# MEDITATION

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*(Continued from page 2)*

b) To keep His commandments

3. A word of warning is given to:

a) Those who hate Him

b) He will deal with them

## **BLESSINGS REFLECT THE RESPONSE OF GOD**

Blessings are often a reflection of God's response to His people.

1. If we keep His Covenant faithfully

2. He will do the following things:

a) He will give us His love

b) He will bless those who love Him

c) He will bless their works

d) He will bless their offspring

e) The blessings of God would be unmatched

## **LET US LEARN HOW TO LOVE THE LORD BETTER**

Let us desire not blessings, but the Lord Himself. Let us learn how we may love God better. When we learn how to relate to God better, we would then see His hand of blessing even more clearly and evidently!

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

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# ANNOUNCEMENTS

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## **WELCOME TO BETHANY**

To all who are able to come to offer worship physically at Bethany, we bid you a warm welcome. To those who are not able to come, your absence is also noted. Thank you for giving your place to some who need to come to Church physically. To all who love the Lord and worship Him in Church or at home, may you have the Lord's blessings!



## GRADUAL RE-OPENING OF THE CHURCH 2<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY: 12 JULY 2020

### 1. Things we miss

- a) Our musicians
- b) Singing of the congregation
- c) Fellowship Time (Meals and all)
- d) Our choirs

### 2. Things we treasure even more

- a) The Word of God
- b) The privilege of Prayer
- c) The physical Church Building we call Bethany
- d) All our support Teams!

*(Continued on page 5)*

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# ANNOUNCEMENTS

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*(Continued from page 4)*

## 3. Safety Measures

- a) Let us comply with all the Safety Measures that are planned
- b) The safety of all members is a major concern
- c) Let us seek to be responsible even as we gather again for public worship!



## **TWO SERIES OF MESSAGES**

1. Lord, Teach us to Pray

2. Blessed!

Both are available online!

Let us encourage many more to tune in and be blessed!



## HEARTFELT CONDOLENCES

We express heartfelt condolences to Andrew and Mijeong. Andrew's brother-in-law Jensen Ng, passed away on 8 July 2020. He was also the son-in-law of Mrs. Anna Ng. The late Mr. Ng was 56 years old.



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# WORSHIP IN SPIRIT AND TRUTH

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## Psalm 114:1-2

*<sup>1</sup>When Israel went out of Egypt,  
The house of Jacob from a people of strange language,  
<sup>2</sup>Judah became His sanctuary,  
And Israel His dominion.*

### 1. Remembering the early days

- a) When Israel went out of Egypt
- b) It was indeed "the house of Jacob"
  - i) Conflicted and confused
  - ii) Unable to return to the past
  - iii) Uncertain about the future
- c) Israel had been in Egypt for 430 years
  - i) Many spoke more Egyptian than their own tongue
  - ii) They were like a people of strange language

### 2. Because of God's blessings

- a) Judah became God's sanctuary
- b) Israel became His dominion (Kingdom)
- c) The "mixed multitude" that came out of Egypt became God's holy nation

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# BIBLE MEMORY WORK

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## **TODAY: 12 July 2020**

**TEXT: PSALM 32:1-2      BLESSED IS HE WHOSE TRANSGRESSION IS FORGIVEN**

*<sup>1</sup>Blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven,  
Whose sin is covered.*

*<sup>2</sup>Blessed is the man to whom the LORD does not impute iniquity,  
And in whose spirit there is no deceit*

### 1. The Blessing of Forgiveness

- a) This is not to be taken for granted
- b) God's covering of our sins is to be treasured

### 2. The Blessing of how God sees us is to be treasured

- a) He does not impute iniquity
- b) He sees no deceit

### 3. These blessings are to be deeply appreciated

- a) They must deeply impact our hearts
- b) They must help us to be forever grateful to the LORD

## **NEXT SUNDAY: 19 July 2020**

**TEXT: PSALM 41:1      BLESSED IS HE WHO CONSIDERS THE POOR**

*Blessed is he who considers the poor;  
The LORD will deliver him in time of trouble.*

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# POETRY CORNER

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#1

## THE FAITHFUL GOD WHO KEEPS COVENANT

We need not fear that God would not Bless;  
He is the LORD our God, and He is righteous.  
He has given to us a Covenant to keep;  
May we desire, the LORD's face to seek!

The promise of God's Blessings is clear;  
Much depends on how we hold Him dear.  
We are to love Him and obey His word given;  
Then would He open the windows of heaven!

Many think that Blessings are obtained by prayer;  
But of the Lord's commandments, they do not care.  
The Blessings they hope for would not materialize;  
This is a deep truth that we must seek to realize!

The way to Blessings is learn how to love the LORD;  
He is a wonderful and merciful covenant-keeping God.  
He will never forget those who love Him for who He is;  
The Blessings that He will give would be absolute bliss!

Charles Tan

Inspiration: Deuteronomy 7:9-14



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# POETRY CORNER

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# 2

## **Faith Is Our Strength**

We hear of fellow human beings who exhibit courage and grit;  
They are admired much for their indomitable spirit.  
When we are battered by challenges from every side;  
From where do we derive the fortitude to fight?

Life's circumstances can be extremely cruel;  
Against the assault from many fronts we must simultaneously duel.  
We are perplexed when Life deals us such a fateful hand;  
Is despair our only option, or do we unperturbedly stand?

Setbacks and failures in life can be heart-wrenching;  
But our effort must never be half-hearted or be found lacking.  
Let not the spirit to persevere be destroyed or forsaken;  
Nor the resolve to live and fight another day be abandoned.

It is Faith within us which gives us the strength and energy;  
To persist in life and to keep going in ministry.  
The power to overcome our afflictions is from God above;  
The Lord is He who sustains with His Mercy, Grace and Eternal Love.

Dr. Sng Li Wah  
Inspiration: 2 Corinthians 4:7-9

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# POETRY CORNER

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# 3

## Blessings

God dispenses blessings to us because of His love and grace;  
It is not because we do good works and are deserving.  
Money cannot buy His blessings for they are priceless;  
They are freely given to all believers who trust in Him.

When God created heavens and earth, He provided for all things;  
He created man and gave him dominion over every living earthly creature.  
Food is given in abundance and He even ensured our clothing;  
His precise magnificent design incorporates unbounded blessings in its structure.

Blessings we ask for, generally relate to our earthly living;  
We are worried, perhaps overly concerned over our physical existence.  
What to eat, drink; how to live comfortably, succumbing to our mind's bidding;  
There must be a higher purpose to life than our mere body sustenance.

We are blessed to be chosen, so let's seek the kingdom of God;  
Recognise our true spiritual wealth given in Christ Jesus.  
Open our hearts and receive Him as Saviour and Lord;  
As we lead holy, godly lives, all blessings which are in Him become ours.

Jessie Quek

Inspiration: Genesis 1, Mathew 6: 25,30

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# POETRY CORNER

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# 4

## BLESSED

God made Man and gave him a special blessing,  
To bless is His plan from the beginning.  
God's blessings are for all, even the ordinary,  
Our part is to obey Him and live righteously.

The blessings of God can be badly affected,  
If we are negatively influenced by the wicked.  
We must reject ungodly counsel and sinful ways.  
From those who scorn God, we must stay away.

We must learn to meditate on the Word of God,  
And daily delight in drawing close to the Lord.  
May God open our eyes and give understanding,  
To be able to internalize His Word is a blessing!

We live in a world that is sinful and ungodly,  
But we must walk with faith in God steadfastly.  
May God bless and grow us into a strong tree,  
That flourishes and bears fruit for all to see!

Yvette Seow

Inspiration: Psalm 1

# 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
Evening-Bilingual Worship		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			Fellowship Hall	1 <sup>st</sup> floor
Senior Sunday School IV. II			Auditorium 2M	2 <sup>nd</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

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