

BETHANY

INDEPENDENT-
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

God's Kind of Church...

Where God is touching lives...

And people care for people.

Bethany IV ... 13 Sept 2020

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MEDITATION

REV DR CHARLES TAN

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Text: Matthew 8:5-13; Luke 7:1-10

“SUCH GREAT FAITH”

ONLY TWO PEOPLE COMMENDED FOR THEIR FAITH

The Lord Jesus traversed the whole of Israel during His earthly sojourn! He healed many. He cast out demons. He performed mighty miracles.

One would have thought that some

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MEDITATION

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would have found great faith in the Lord Jesus Christ! Sadly, this was not the case. He could not even commend His own twelve Disciples as people with outstanding faith! There were only two people the Lord Jesus commended strongly for their faith!

A ROMAN CENTURION

One of them was a Roman centurion. Luke listed some of the qualities that he possessed. The following comments were made by the Jews concerning this Gentile.

1. He was “deserving” of help from the Lord Luke 7:4
2. He “loves our nation” Luke 7:5
3. He “built us a synagogue” Luke 7:5

AN UNUSUAL SENSE OF JEWISH REGARD OF THE CENTURION

Generally speaking, the Jews did not like the presence of the Romans in Judea and Galilee. But this Roman centurion was well-spoken of by the Jews!

THE CENTURION’S REGARD OF THE LORD JESUS

When the Lord Jesus heard these things, He walked towards the house of the Roman centurion. Hearing that the Lord Jesus was coming to his house, he went to the Lord Jesus personally. His remarks were remarkable.

1. “Do not trouble Yourself” Luke 7:6a
2. “I am not worthy that You should enter under my roof” Luke 7:6b
3. “I did not even think myself worthy to come to You” Luke 7:7a

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MEDITATION

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4. "But say the word, and my servant would be healed" Luke 7:7b

THE LORD'S RESPONSE

The response of the Lord Jesus is truly worth noting.

*"When Jesus heard these things, He marveled at him,
And turned around and said to the crowd that followed Him,
'I say to you, I have not found such great faith,
Not even in Israel.'"* Luke 7:8

1. The Lord addressed the crowd

a) The people who followed Him

b) The Disciples

2. "Such great faith"

a) This was found in the Centurion

b) But such faith was not found in Israel!

OUR CHALLENGE

We may have knowledge. We may even speak of being disciples. But what the Lord is looking for is "great faith!" Let us look at what is hindering us from possessing great faith in the Lord Jesus Christ! Let us seek to address our problems. May we be found to have "such great faith" one day!

Write to me at: charlestan@bethanyipc.sg

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOME TO BETHANY

We are glad that you have chosen to worship the Lord Jesus Christ with us today, in 301 Upper Paya Lebar or Live streaming! May your heart be challenged to cultivate your faith in the Lord Jesus Christ!



COMMENCEMENT OF OUR 40+8TH YEAR OF MINISTRY

1. Bethany began on a footing of Faith
2. We have been around for 47 years
 - a) We have a confirmed faith
 - b) We have a sound faith
3. Let the 40+8th Year see us
 - a) Look forward to cultivating a Great Faith
 - b) It is one that is evidenced in
 - i) Good works
 - ii) A good name
 - iii) Deep and true humility



WORSHIP IN SPIRIT AND TRUTH

Psalm 116:13-15

*¹³ I will take up the cup of salvation,
And call upon the name of the LORD.*

*¹⁴ I will pay my vows to the LORD
Now in the presence of all His people.*

*¹⁵ Precious in the sight of the LORD
Is the death of His saints.*

1. The salvation of the Lord
 - a) It is likened to a cup that we may drink from
 - b) Salvation is life-giving!
2. The Vows we make to God
 - a) We must seek to honour the vows we make
 - b) The Psalmist offers himself as an example of one who keeps his word
3. Death need not bring undue sorrow
 - a) Death is inevitable
 - b) The death of His saints (believers) is precious in the sight of God

BIBLE MEMORY WORK

TODAY: 13 September 2020

*Text: Hebrews 11:1 Faith is the substance of things hoped for
Now faith is the substance of things hoped for,
the evidence of things not seen.*

1. A working definition of faith
2. The meaning of the word "substance"
 - a) It is a foundation upon which we stand
 - b) Our faith is based on the solid Rock of Christ
3. The meaning of the word "evidence"
 - a) It means "deeds"
 - b) Works of faith should follow

NEXT SUNDAY: 20 September 2020

*Text: Hebrews 11:6 Without faith it is impossible to please Him
But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must
believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.*

POETRY CORNER

1

SUCH GREAT FAITH

A great Faith in God is not “a given;”
But we will have help from Heaven.
God has given us the Holy Scriptures;
These are truly life’s greatest treasures.

Faith in the Lord may certainly be found;
If one’s heart is genuinely humble and sound.
Faith enables us to have a heart for people;
It causes one to lend a hand to those in trouble.

Faith in the Lord may be grown significantly;
But one must learn to walk in true humility.
The faith of a Gentile Centurion was praised;
He had wonderfully applied the Lord’s grace.

He expressed the fact that he was unworthy;
The Teacher need not trouble Himself unduly.
He believed in the Person and Power of the Lord;
This is the kind of faith we want to cultivate in God!

Charles Tan
Matthew 8:5-13; Luke 7:1-10

POETRY CORNER

2

Finding True Contentment

Finding true contentment and peace requires ownership,
An ownership to learn and to listen through discipleship.
Through Christ I will find strength to stand my ground,
I may be abased, made to suffer, I know how to abound!

Yet, though my mind is focused on deep contentment,
True fellowship, genuine concern brings much encouragement,
Such care brings much needed comfort at times of distress,
Such support impacts the heart to further motivation afresh!

For not only is it this care and concern that brings restoration,
It is the fruits of ones' faith, that is brought into demonstration.
With an understanding that God, for our needs will provide,
In Christ's grace, contented to serve, in His glory we abide!

Dr. Tan Kok Yang
Inspiration: Philippians 4: 10-23

POETRY CORNER

3

Genuine Faith

Many say human beings are creatures of emotion;
Others insist faith cannot be borne out of reason!
Because faith is hope for an unknown or imagined future;
Surely it is at best, based on conjecture!

But our Christian Faith is founded on none other than the Lord Jesus Christ;
Whose life on earth was perfect and death on the cross, the ultimate sacrifice.

Our faith is grounded on the wisdom and power of God's Word;
Which will open our hearts and minds to His truths, if only we made the effort.

The deeds of prophets and the Apostles had also illustrated;
That faith can be reasoned, explained and clearly demonstrated.
They have showed that to walk in faith was not without struggle;
Yet perseverance was what eventually mattered.

Our challenge is thus to develop a genuine faith;
Believing that God will help us through His amazing grace.
The Holy Spirit will give us strength and courage as we try;
To cultivate a deep faith so real, nobody can defy.

Dr. Sng Li Wah
Inspiration: 1 Thessalonians 1; Acts 17:2-3

POETRY CORNER

4

THE PARABLE OF THE TWO SONS

Jesus spoke as One with divine authority,
But the Jews questioned Him rather rudely!
He taught a parable with skill and wisdom,
It tells us how we may enter God's Kingdom.

A man had two sons and one was willful,
But this son obeyed after feeling regretful.
The second son promised to obey the father,
But he did not fulfil the promise thereafter.

The first son was like a sinner who repented,
He believed and, into the Kingdom, he entered.
The second son was like the Jews who had only words to offer,
There was no fruit for they did not do the will of the Father.

Though we are sinful, Jesus gives salvation,
We must repent and believe with conviction!
May we cherish the privilege of sonship given,
And seek to obey the Father as His children!

Yvette Seow

Inspiration: Matthew 1:17 and 21:28-32

POETRY CORNER

5

Faith

As believers we think we have faith in the Lord;
The issue is just how deep and strong is our faith,
That can withstand the acid tests of God.
Let's spend time to reflect on where we stand as to its
depth.

What is faith... a thought, feeling or a belief?
A strong conviction that God's Word is the truth?
And our trust in Him to grant us sins' reprieve?
So that we can have a new life and walk in His path?

The Apostle Paul is an excellent example in faith to emulate;
Despite being mocked, facing danger to his life he was relentless.
To explain God's Word through reason as well as to demonstrate;
Such that the response to the scriptures was tremendous.

How shall we build and deepen our faith in God?
A good place to start is to grow our knowledge of His Word.
But we must go beyond the mind to an experiential relationship
with the Lord;
His presence and daily interaction with us, will our faith undergird.

Jessie Quek
(Inspiration: 1 Thessalonians 1, Acts 17)

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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