

BETHANY

INDEPENDENT-
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

God's Kind of Church...

Where God is touching lives...

And people care for people.

Bethany IV ... 18 October 2020

MEDITATION

REV DR CHARLES TAN

Text: John 11

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“IF YOU WOULD BELIEVE”

BELIEVING IN THE LORD JESUS

The word “believe” was used over 80 times in the Gospel of John, in various forms (verb, noun, participle).

(Continued on page 2)

MEDITATION

(Continued from page 1)

1. Many expressed that they believed in Him

- a) Because they saw the miracles the Lord performed
- b) Because of His teachings

2. Few had been tested

- a) Thus, the faith in the Lord Jesus remained theoretical at best
- b) When the faith of the Disciples was tested, they did not fare very well

A TIME OF TESTING

A painful time of testing came to Martha and Mary. Their beloved brother, Lazarus was very ill. They quickly sent word to the Lord. They had hoped He would come at their request. A few days later, Lazarus passed away.

The Lord Jesus appeared on the scene after Lazarus had been entombed for four days! Martha and Mary were upset that the Lord had not come earlier. Each sister said to Him,

*"Lord, if You had been here,
My brother would not have died." John 11:21, 32a*

DIFFICULTY OF APPLYING FAITH

The Lord Jesus raised an issue with Martha at the tomb of Lazarus.

*Did I not say to you that if you would believe
You would see the glory of God?" John 11:40*

(Continued on page 3)

MEDITATION

(Continued from page 2)

1. This was a teaching about believing
 - a) If one would truly believe
 - b) One would see the glory of God
 - c) The Lord said that He was the Resurrection and the Life
 - d) He could give life to anyone He wished
2. The faith of Martha and Mary
 - a) Their faith was genuine
 - b) They believed that Jesus was indeed the Son of God John 11:27
 - c) But Lazarus had died and that was it!
 - d) Their faith was largely theoretical

THE RAISING OF LAZARUS

The Lord raised Lazarus from the dead for a number of reasons:

1. That faith may be deepened
2. That faith may be broadened
3. That faith may be corrected

We may begin with a theoretical faith! But it must be enlarged so that faith can and should be both personal and practical! The trauma of death should not affect our faith adversely!

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, either physical or virtually.
May your faith be uplifted through worship!



GRADUAL REOPENING

(100 people from 4 October 2020)

Thank God for safe-keeping. Thank you for complying graciously with all the safety regulations!



YOUTH CONFERENCE 2020

We will be planning for a Youth Conference this year! This will be quite a different one from the usual.

1. What we will not have

- a) No overseas brethren
- b) No Camp meals
- c) No staying over in Church

2. Dates of Youth Conference 2020

- a) Monday, 30 November 2020
We commence on Monday morning
- b) Friday, 4 December 2020
- c) 9.00am-11.30am

ANNOUNCEMENTS

3. Theme of the Youth Conference

"The LORD looks at the heart" 1 Samuel 16:7

4. Registration

- a) We will only be able to have 50 people attending the YC 2020
- b) We will try and have live-streaming
- c) Age Range: 15-19 years
- d) No YC Fees

5. Team in charge of YC 2020

Intern-Pastors Moses and Eugene Seow;
S-P Jon Jacob and S-P Steve Karong

PRAYER FOR THE YOUTH CONFERENCE

1. Let us pray for the Lord's blessings on the Planning
2. Let us pray for all attending the Youth Conference



HEARTFELT CONDOLENCES

Heartfelt condolences to Alex Tan on the demise of his mother, Mdm. Lau Gek Khim. Mdm Lau was called home to be with the Lord on Saturday, 17 October 2020. She was 80 years old.



WORSHIP IN SPIRIT AND TRUTH

Psalm 118:8-9

*⁸It is better to trust in the LORD
Than to put confidence in man.*

*⁹It is better to trust in the LORD
Than to put confidence in princes.*

1. There is perhaps too much trust or confidence
 - a) In Self (man)
 - b) In people of status and power (princes)
 - c) This trust and confidence may be sadly mistaken
2. It is better to trust and have confidence in God
 - a) It is wiser to trust in the LORD
 - b) He has proven Himself to be faithful
 - c) Our trust in the Lord would never be in vain

BIBLE MEMORY WORK

TODAY: 18 October 2020

Text: 1 John 5:4 Victory through faith

For whatever is born of God overcomes the world.

And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith.

1. Overcoming the world

- a) The world can be overcome
- b) Every believer can overcome the world
- c) The world need not defeat us all the time

2. The means of overcoming the world

- a) The faith that God has given to us
- b) This faith has great potential
- c) It can give us victory

NEXT SUNDAY: 25 October 2020

Text: 1 Timothy 6:11 The pursuit of Faith

But you, O man of God, flee these things and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, gentleness.

POETRY CORNER

1

IF YOU WOULD BELIEVE

It is wonderful to know and believe in Jesus the Lord;
Lazarus, Martha and Mary had a genuine faith in God.
They opened their home and heart to the Lord Jesus;
Having Him to eat and rest in their home was blessedness.

One day, Lazarus seriously fell ill and died unexpectedly;
The Lord did not come in time to heal Lazarus immediately.
The heart of Martha and Mary were utterly broken;
They wept bitterly and deep in their soul, they groaned.

The Lord Jesus came to them, urging them to believe;
But grief had crept in and His words brought no relief.
If only they believed fully the awesome power of the Lord;
They would have been able to trust in the power of God!

We do not lay blame on Martha and Mary in their grief;
We also struggle with our faith and thus there is no relief.
The challenge is for us to find a greater and deeper faith in God;
This would enable us to hold fast to the promises of the Lord!

Charles Tan

Inspiration: John 11:1-44

POETRY CORNER

2

Perseverance of Faith

We begin our walk as Christians with just a little faith;
Along the way, many trials and tribulations we will face.
As fame beckons and money is needed for bills to pay;
Many will fumble, stumble and fall away.

Now, faith requires us to exercise a little more patience;
Let us not waver easily or exhibit ambivalence.
We must believe our future will yield the fruit of our perseverance;
Only between now and then, we need to be prepared for a little endurance.

Let us realize that only genuine faith can motivate people to selflessly love;
Only real faith can aspire hope for Heaven above.
Only things which are precious to us can inspire us to achieve;
But only God can do His work in our lives for us to believe.

So, let us not allow our faith to remain small and insignificant;
But let us deem growing our faith to be the most important.
The testimony of “Faith, Love and Hope”, to the world we must tell;
Let us not merely begin, but let us also finish well.

Dr. Sng Li Wah

Inspiration: 1 Thessalonians 1:3; 2 Thessalonians 1

POETRY CORNER

3

Faith and Perseverance

When we are subject to pressure and suffering;
May we learn to hold ourselves up and not buckle!
Walk with dignity and honour, in the Lord abiding;
Trust in His grace for patience as we struggle.

Faith, love and hope enable us to press on,
To maneuver around obstacles faced in our situation.
Building and cultivating strength and endurance to rely upon,
The power of perseverance to overcome tribulation.

God's work in us for fortitude is essential and part of an equation;
Tolerate suffering as it gives us hope for the promised joy in heaven.
The other part of the equation is our personal motivation;
To choose to endure for things precious to us, which beckon.

So, if we push faith's boundary a little more each time, allowing
Us to continue to grow our work of faith exceedingly;
That the Lord will count us worthy of His calling;
As we become duty bound to glorify His name unceasingly.

Jessie Quek
Inspiration: 2 Thessalonians 1

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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