

# BETHANY

INDEPENDENT-  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH

*God's Kind of Church...*

*Where God is touching lives...*

*And people care for people.*

*Bethany IV ... 7 March 2021*

---

## MEDITATION

---

REV DR CHARLES TAN

**TEXT: HEBREWS 10**

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Meditation	1
Announcements	4
Worship	6
Bible Memory Work	7
Letters That Warm The Heart	8
Poetry Corner	12

## “I HAVE COME TO DO YOUR WILL”

### THE WILL OF GOD

To many, the Will of God is a mystery that is next to impossible to fathom. To the Lord Jesus Christ, the Will of God was something He desired to do with all His heart.

<sup>5</sup> Therefore, when He came into the world, He said:

*(Continued on page 2)*

---

# MEDITATION

---

*(Continued from page 1)*

"Sacrifice and offering You did not desire,  
But a body You have prepared for Me.

<sup>6</sup> In burnt offerings and *sacrifices* for sin  
You had no pleasure.

<sup>7</sup> Then I said, 'Behold, I have come—

In the volume of the book it is written of Me—

To do Your will, O God.' "

Hebrews 10:5-7

## UNDERSTANDING THE WILL OF GOD

The Lord Jesus knew that the Scriptures contained the Will of God for His life.

1. In the volume of the book it is written of Me

a) This is a reference to the Scriptures

b) There were many prophecies concerning the Lord Jesus Christ

2. Knowledge of the Scriptures

a) The Lord Jesus showed obvious familiarity with the Scriptures

b) On one occasion in a synagogue in Nazareth, He was given the scroll of Isaiah

c) He turned to the appropriate text in Isaiah 61:1-3

d) He read this portion of the Scriptures

e) He then went on to say that He had fulfilled the Scriptures

f) This particular text had to do with the Anointing of the Spirit of God

*(Continued on page 3)*

---

# MEDITATION

---

*(Continued from page 2)*

## **OUR CHALLENGE**

Our challenge is to study carefully the example of the Lord Jesus Christ and then seek to apply the Word of God in our life.

1. The will of God is indicated in the Scriptures
2. We cannot fully fathom His will without a deeper knowledge of the Lord's word

## **PRACTICAL STEPS TO TAKE**

Here are some practical steps that we can consider taking:

1. Be familiar with the Scriptures
2. Find and develop faith in the Lord
3. Plan to follow through with what we have learned from the Bible

We would be able to fulfil what the Lord has planned as His will for us.

---

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

---

---

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

---

## **WELCOME TO BETHANY**

We are glad that you have chosen to worship the Lord Jesus with us today. May your heart be blessed through worship!



## **SPECIAL CATECHISM CLASS**

Saturday, 13 March 2021

Time: 1.00pm

Venue: Church Sanctuary



## **YOUTH WORSHIP SERVICE**

Saturday, 13 March 2021

Time: 3.00pm

Venue: Church Sanctuary



## **HEARTFELT CONDOLENCES**

Heartfelt condolences to Alex and Shu Hua. Alex's grandmother passed away on 3 March 2021. She was 97 years of age.



---

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

---

## NEW PULPIT THEME FOR MARCH-APRIL 2021

“ACCORDING TO THE WILL OF OUR GOD” GALATIANS 1:4

### 1. The Will of God

- a) It is to be trusted
- b) It is to be deeply appreciated
- c) It is revealed in the Word of God

### 2. Our challenge

- a) To understand the Word of God better
- b) To desire to do the will of God with all our heart



---

# WORSHIP IN SPIRIT AND TRUTH

---

## Psalm 119:35-36

*<sup>35</sup> Make me walk in the path of Your commandments,  
For I delight in it.*

*<sup>36</sup> Incline my heart to Your testimonies,  
And not to covetousness.*

1. The path of God's commandments

a) Let us learn to delight in it

b) Let us also pray that God would help us walk in His path

2. The Testimonies are a reference to the Scriptures

a) It is easy to be inclined to covetousness

b) Let us pray that God would incline us to His testimonies instead

---

# BIBLE MEMORY WORK

---

## **TODAY: 7 March 2021**

*Galatians 1:4 According to the will of our God*

*Who gave Himself for our sins, that He might deliver us from this present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father.*

1. The Will of God the Father

- a) He has planned our salvation
- b) His plan was called “the will of God”

2. Will of God for the Lord Jesus

- a) He is to give His life for our sins
- b) This is His way of delivering us from an evil age

3. The Lord Jesus

- a) He understood His Father’s will
- b) He happily complied for He trusted His Father completely

## **NEXT SUNDAY: 14 March 2021**

*Galatians 2:16 By faith in Jesus Christ*

*Knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law but by faith in Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Christ Jesus, that we might be justified by faith in Christ and not by the works of the law; for by the works of the law no flesh shall be justified.*

---

# LETTERS THAT WARM THE HEART

---

Dear Pastor Charlie, Pastoral Team and all at Bethany,

I am writing to express my heartfelt gratitude for your prayers and support towards my family during this difficult time. Thank you for your kindness shown all the times my family has come to Bethany. They often tell me that they feel so undeserving to have received such hospitality from the people in Bethany. A big "thank you" as well to the AV team once again for your efforts in setting up live streaming for many who could not be there at the Memorial Service. I would also like to thank Pastor who took time off from his busy schedule to meet up with my Dad (Mr. Henry Cheng Ah Bah) to reach out to him.

Thinking about how Dad came to faith in the Lord is something I cannot express in words because it was hard for him to even step into a Christian church. My Dad had been a Roman Catholic all his life, following his mother and his siblings. I used to go to an RC church with my family on Sundays and Dad used to tell us that he was incredibly happy to see us going to church together as a family. When I broke the news to them that I was going to attend Bethany, I remembered how extremely disappointed my Dad was, especially when I told him that I was going to be baptised in Bethany.

The following few months were one of the most difficult periods because he did not want to communicate with me, and the only thing I knew I could do at that moment was to live a new life that God had given to me and bear testimony to my family.

Eventually over the years, there were instances where Dad would offer me a lift to church on Sundays and this time to Bethany! I remember clarifying with him again and again about his offers to send me to

*(Continued on page 9)*



---

# LETTERS THAT WARM THE HEART

---

*(Continued from page 8)*

church because it was shocking, and I could not believe it. I do miss those short rides with Dad travelling from home to church where we would have simple conversations.

Fast forward to December last year (2020) when we received the news that Dad was diagnosed with a double cancer problem and that it was terminal, it was so hard to accept the news. In fact, I remembered Dad asking the doctor again and again whether there was anything that could save his life.

That day, I experienced his fears, his sadness, and his worries. He told me that he was not ready and that this was too sudden. He subsequently went on to look for answers, from the doctors, his family members, his friends but still had an unsettled heart.

At that point of time, watching him go through pain and suffering, and on top on that not being able to find peace and comfort within the heart - this broke my heart.

I decided to ask if he would like to meet up with Pastor for just a word of encouragement. I honestly was not expecting a positive response from him, but to my surprise, he agreed.

My dad was getting weaker as each day passed by, yet he looked forward to meet with Pastor for the second time and even a third. When we went for these sessions, I saw the great amount of effort that Dad was willing to make - first he was able to walk using an umbrella for support, subsequently he needed to use a walking frame and then eventually a wheelchair.

*(Continued on page 10)*

---

# LETTERS THAT WARM THE HEART

---

*(Continued from page 9)*

Truly the Lord has been so gracious and merciful. Without the Lord's help, I knew that Dad would not have been able to have the strength and determination to meet up with Pastor.

Upon reflection and as I look back at the past two months since he was told that he was at the end stage of his life, I truly thank God with joy and gratitude within my heart that Dad had come to faith in Him. Cancer took Dad away faster than what was expected but the last few moments of his life was one of the best.

Somehow during those three short sessions with Pastor, the word of God had reached deep into Dad's heart and soul. He had found strength and assurance that no one else was able to give - not his friends or family members and not even the RC priest. The truth of God's Word had set my dad free and he was able to see beyond this life. One of the verses that Pastor shared with my dad had impacted him deeply:

*"Most assuredly, I say to you,  
he who **hears** My word and **believes** in Him who sent Me  
has everlasting life,  
and shall not come into judgment, but has  
passed from death into life."*

*John 5:24*

There was peace within Dad's heart because there was perfect understanding of God's truth of redemption and salvation. Dad believed in God's promises of everlasting life, not coming into judgment and passing from death into a new life.

*(Continued on page 11)*

---

# LETTERS THAT WARM THE HEART

---

*(Continued from page 10)*

I truly thank God for His matchless love in looking after Dad by providing caring healthcare personnel who watched over his every need... for grace extended in giving him moments of joy... for mercy given in sparing him further pain and suffering. Dad was called home to be with the Lord on 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2021 at 11.10am in the morning. Dad had experienced God's lovingkindness in the most challenging time of his life and because of this, there were no more fears but faith that enabled him to say that he was ready to meet with the Lord.

With love and appreciation  
Dominic and family

---

# POETRY CORNER

---

# 1

## I HAVE COME TO DO YOUR WILL

The Lord Jesus is the Perfect Example to follow;  
To comply would result in a faith that is not hollow.

The Lord knew the Scriptures very thoroughly;  
From His childhood, He gained familiarity!

He knew that God was not concerned about offerings;  
The burnt sacrifices would not result in great blessings.

The Scriptures pointed the way to obtain salvation;  
The Lord Jesus would have to die to bring justification.

The Will of God shown, revealed much suffering;

The Lord Jesus must accept this undertaking.

He must willingly lay down His life for our salvation;  
For our sake, He must bear with divine condemnation.

The Father's Will was not an easy thing to accept;  
He understood fully, the suffering He would not reject.

We need not be afraid of accepting God's Will too;  
May we find grace and strength to be good and true!

Charles Tan

Inspiration: Hebrews 10:5-7

---

# POETRY CORNER

---

# 2

## **Faith in Response to Strife**

Stories of pain and strife are commonplace;  
There is no dearth of hardship man will face.  
The toil of life is likened to a Sisyphean task;  
Seemingly irksome and futile for as long as it lasts.

But we are reminded of God's mercy and faithfulness;  
Despite judgement being His because of His righteousness.  
Yet, we can be thankful for His loving kindness and His light;  
We need to seek and have His ways sharply focused in our sight.

May we find reason to believe and be resolute in our response!  
By cultivating real faith which is rooted and deeply ensconced.  
Like a vine which the Lord has brought out and planted;  
May the Lord's people fulfill their lot as He has intended!

The trials and tribulations which we now suffer;  
We may see their significance some day in the future.  
But let us now live richly the new life which we are given;  
And reach out with the Good News to whomsoever will listen.

Dr. Sng Li Wah

Inspiration: Psalm 36; Psalm 80:8-9

---

# POETRY CORNER

---

# 3

## A Deep Faith

How to cultivate a deep and enriching faith;  
Is akin to building a house dug down deep.  
On a foundation of solid rock it is layeth;  
Unshakeable in the face of storms, accepting and stoic.

Man relies too much on his ability to see and touch things;  
Faith is the conviction of things that are not seen.  
By faith we understand the attributes of God and how He works;  
His lovingkindness is a canopy protecting all beings.

The Lord is multidimensional and complex;  
To develop an intimate relationship with Him within our sight;  
Requires His guidance and will to teach and show us His steps;  
It is only in His light that we see light!

Therefore, we need to exercise our patience and in Him trust;  
To enable us to dig deeper into the depths of our hearts;  
And develop a deep conviction that He will work on us;  
To create a transformation worthy to walk in the footsteps of Jesus!

Jessie Quek

Inspiration: Palm 36, Hebrews 11:1

---

# POETRY CORNER

---

# 4

## UNDER THE SHADOW OF YOUR WINGS

Many are the transgressions of the wicked,  
They may cause us to feel deeply frustrated.  
But this reaction is impulsive and unhelpful,  
The soul can become worried and fretful.

It is far better to dwell on our God above,  
And to trace His immense mercy and love.  
When we think of how He is kind and faithful,  
Our response becomes far more meaningful.

We must trust in God who is wise and righteous,  
In His presence, the heart will not feel anxious.  
Under the shadow of His wings, we can hide,  
The soul is steadfast when, in Him, we abide.

We must seek to know the Lord more deeply,  
It will enrich and deepen our trust wonderfully.  
Though the wicked may create problems in life,  
A vibrant faith helps us to triumph and thrive!

Yvette Seow  
Inspiration: Psalm 36

# BETHANY CHURCH ACTIVITIES

	Day	Time	Venue	Location
<b>WORSHIP SERVICES</b>				
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
<b>SUNDAY SCHOOL</b>				
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
<b>CHOIRS</b>				
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
<b>BIBLE STUDY</b>				
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
<b>CATECHISM CLASS</b>				
	Sun	1.00 pm	Auditorium 4-8	4 <sup>th</sup> floor
<b>PRAYER MEETING</b>				
	Mon	8.00 pm	Church Sanctuary	2 <sup>nd</sup> floor
<b>FELLOWSHIP GROUPS</b>				
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

**Bethany Independent-Presbyterian Church**

301 Upper Paya Lebar Road, Singapore 534934  
tel : 65-62877713 . fax : 65-62877980 . website URL : bethanyipc.sg