

# BETHANY

INDEPENDENT-  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH

*God's Kind of Church...*

*Where God is touching lives...*

*And people care for people.*

*Bethany IV ... 21 March 2021*

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## MEDITATION

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REV DR CHARLES TAN

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Meditation	1
Announcements	4
Worship	5
Bible Memory Work	6
Poetry Corner	7
This Week @ Worship	10

Text: Ephesians 1; Galatians 1

## BY THE WILL OF GOD

### THE WILL OF GOD

The Apostle Paul wrote significantly about the Will of God. To him, God's Will was not a philosophical idea at all. He experienced it in his life personally.

Paul, and apostle of Jesus Christ,  
By the will of God. Ephesians 1:1

*(Continued on page 2)*

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# MEDITATION

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*(Continued from page 1)*

## 1. The original Apostles of Jesus Christ

- a) The Lord Jesus spent all night in prayer Luke 6:12
- b) He chose twelve whom He also named apostles Luke 6:13
- c) He gave them power Matthew 10:1

## 2. The replacement of Judas Iscariot as one of the Twelve

Criteria employed:

- a) The person must have been one of the early disciples who accompanied the Lord Jesus Acts 1:21-22
- b) He must have seen the Lord Jesus to be a valid witness of the Risen Saviour Acts 1:22

## FAILURE TO FULFIL THE REQUIREMENTS

Paul would have failed to fulfil the criteria established:

- 1. He was not one of the original disciples of the Lord Jesus
- 2. He was not called and appointed in the usual manner

## APPLICATION OF THE WILL OF GOD

The Will of God would thus be very necessary to establish!

- 1. It would not be because of his salvation experience
- 2. It would not be because of the academic qualifications he possessed
- 3. It would take the Will of God to see Paul appointed as an Apostle of the Lord Jesus

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# MEDITATION

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*(Continued from page 2)*

## PAUL'S DEFENCE OF HIS CALLING AS AN APOSTLE

Here is a summary of Paul's thoughts about the Will of God and his apostleship!

1. It is not by the will of man Galatians 1:1a
2. It came about through the Lord Jesus Galatians 1:b
3. And this was, of course, approved by God Galatians 1:1c
4. It was because of God's grace
  - a) It pleased God to set apart Paul from his mother's womb Galatians 1:15a
  - b) God then called him Galatians 1:15b
  - c) God revealed the Lord Jesus to Paul and in him Galatians 1:16
5. The power of God given to all Apostles
  - a) This was evidenced
  - b) In signs, wonders and mighty deeds 2 Corinthians 12:12

The Will of God is a humbling doctrine to study. The Power of God would be vital evidence to prove His will!

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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

We are glad that you have chosen to worship the Lord Jesus Christ with us today! May your heart be enlightened concerning the Will of God in your life!



## EASTER BAPTISMAL SERVICES

1. Next Sunday, 28 March 2021  
1<sup>st</sup> Baptismal Service

2. Maundy Thursday, 1 April 2021  
2<sup>nd</sup> Baptismal Service

3. Easter Sunday, 4 April 2021  
3<sup>rd</sup> Baptismal Service

Let us look forward to celebrating Easter joyfully!



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# WORSHIP IN SPIRIT AND TRUTH

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## **Psalm 119:39-40**

<sup>39</sup> Turn away my reproach which I dread,  
For Your judgments *are* good.

<sup>40</sup> Behold, I long for Your precepts;  
Revive me in Your righteousness.

### 1. Reproach

- a) This can come from man or God
- b) Both are naturally dreaded

### 2. God's Word

- a) Called His "judgment"
- b) Also, His "precepts"

### 3. They are appreciated afresh

- a) As "good"
- b) As "longed for"

### 4. A humble prayer

- a) A needed prayer
- b) To be revived!

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# BIBLE MEMORY WORK

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## **TODAY: 21 March 2021**

*Galatians 2:20*

*Christ lives in me*

*I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.*

### 1. Crucified with Christ

- a) Not literally
- b) But effectively

### 2. The new life

- a) Christ lives in us
- b) This is a life marked by faith in the Lord Jesus Christ
- c) It is a life filled with a sense of deep gratitude to the Saviour for His love and His sacrifice

## **NEXT SUNDAY: 28 March 2021**

*Galatians 3:3 Having begun in the Spirit*

*Are you so foolish? Having begun in the Spirit, are you now being made perfect by the flesh?*

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# POETRY CORNER

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# 1

## **BY THE WILL OF GOD**

The Will of God will transcend Man's understanding;  
His thoughts and His powers are beyond comprehending.  
The Will of God is to be carefully observed and studied;  
Therein we learn lessons of great wisdom and sobriety.

Even before we were born, God's will was planned;  
Because of our lack, we cannot fully comprehend.  
But, with eyes of faith, we may be given revelation;  
God's Will may be understood by prayer and meditation.

God will Call and He will us grace to respond appropriately;  
He will show us His purpose and our part is to obey humbly.  
He will give to us His power to prove His heavenly calling;  
As we grow in knowledge, we can submit to His leading.

By God's grace, we are given eternal salvation;  
Let us be moved to know Him better by revelation.  
The Will of God will be made known to all who seek;  
Let us be sure our hearts are humble and meek.

Charles Tan  
Inspiration: Ephesians 1; Galatians 1

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# POETRY CORNER

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# 2

## Revelations of God

The source of human knowledge of God is from the Lord Himself;  
To all mankind God communicates things about Himself through nature.

He causes the sun to rise on the evil as well as on the good selves;  
Sending rain to the righteous and unrighteous shows His goodness to all creatures.

However, revelation of God's power to salvation is directed only to believers in Christ;  
He makes His grace known to those who receive His revelations in faith.

The Lord is mysterious in His ways but is so wise;  
He reveals Himself to persons to the degree they can receive in truth.

In order to have fellowship with the Lord to know Him is essential;  
The Bible is where one can find Him to learn and understand more.  
To strive for a relationship with our heavenly Father that is experiential;  
Joy bubbles simply at the thought of intimacy with Him to the core.

To receive revelations of the Lord is a privilege;  
Be aware that they can be accompanied by the risk of conceit.  
Let us embrace His Word in humility and acknowledge;  
His lovingkindness to redeem our souls and grant us life eternal sweet.

Jessie Quek

(Inspiration: Romans 1:16, 2 Corinthians 12, Hebrews 11:1,16)



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## POETRY CORNER

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# 3

### *REVEALED BY THE SPIRIT*

*It is not easy to grasp the concept of revelation,  
We cannot merely rely on our own wisdom.  
It is vital to seek God to help us understand,  
So that we may discover His will and plan.*

*On our knees, we must pray earnestly to God,  
The Spirit of wisdom and revelation must be sought.  
By faith, as we cry out for understanding,  
His Spirit will reveal to us spiritual things.*

*His Spirit helps us discover God's will for our lives,  
And our specific calling in the Lord Jesus Christ.  
When we accept God's will and, to Him, yield,  
His Spirit helps us take up the roles we are to fulfil.*

*God's power will work in our lives mightily,  
By His Spirit, we can walk triumphantly.  
His Spirit can make our lives significant,  
On Him, may we learn to be more reliant!*

*Yvette Seow  
Inspiration: Ephesians 1:15-19*

# 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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