

# BETHANY

INDEPENDENT-  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH

*God's Kind of Church...*

*Where God is touching lives...*

*And people care for people.*

*Bethany IV ... 25 April 2021*

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## MEDITATION

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REV DR CHARLES TAN

**Text: Romans 12:1-2**

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## “THE PERFECT WILL OF GOD”

### A SIGNIFICANT VIEW SHARED

The Apostle Paul wrote meaningfully on the subject of the Will of God in his epistles. Perhaps the most challenging of all that he shared may be found in the following text.

*(Continued on page 2)*

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# MEDITATION

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*(Continued from page 1)*

<sup>1</sup> I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, *which is your reasonable service.* <sup>2</sup> And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what *is* that good and acceptable and perfect will of God. Romans 12:1-2

1. The Will of God was described as:

a) Good

i) It is intrinsically good

ii) It is wholesome and sound

b) Acceptable

i) It is well-pleasing

ii) It is most reasonable

c) Perfect

i) It is complete

ii) It is fully and well-thought out

2. We may "prove it"

a) We may check it out

b) We may prove the Will of God in our life

c) Paul encouraged all to prove for themselves that God's will is all that said it was!

## HOW MAY WE PROVE IT?

1. By not being conformed to the world

a) The world does not understand the Will of God

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# MEDITATION

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*(Continued from page 2)*

- b) It will not accept nor obey the will of God
- 2. By the transformation that comes through the renewing of the mind
  - a) The mind must be enlightened
  - b) It must be renewed and transformed
  - c) Then would there be the ability to appreciate the Will of God as perfect!

## APPROPRIATE RESPONSE

- 1. By the mercies of God
  - a) Understood
  - b) Experienced
- 2. Presentation of ourselves
  - a) As living sacrifices
  - b) Holy
  - c) Acceptable to God
  - d) And this only "reasonable"

Let us seek to fulfil the perfect will of God as it is revealed to us!

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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 you have chosen to worship the Lord Jesus with us.  
May your heart be uplifted through worship and fellowship!



## **MOTHER'S DAY**

Thank God for all mothers. We celebrate Mother's Day on 9 May 2021!  
May the Lord's blessings be on mothers!



## **HEARTFELT CONGRATULATIONS**

God's wonderful grace and blessings to Jarrod and Camille  
who were married on 24 April 2021!



## **SPECIAL CATECHISM CLASS/ YOUTH WORSHIP**

We will not be having SCC and YW next Saturday, 1 May 2021  
(Labour Day).



## **HEARTFELT CONDOLENCES**

# 1 Heartfelt condolences to Kai Lam and Kalen. Kai Lam's father, Mr. Lai Kwan To passed away on Tuesday, 20 April 2021. He was 92 years of age.

# 2 Heartfelt condolences also Mijeong and Andrew. Mijeong's father, Mr. Kim Seong Jun passed away on 22 April 2021. He was 84 years of age.

May the Lord grant comfort to the bereaved families in their time of grief.

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# BIBLE MEMORY WORK

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**TODAY : 25 April 2021**

**Galatians 6: 9** Let us not grow weary  
*And let us not grow weary while doing good,  
for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart.*

1. Doing good

This is ever the Will of God

2. Fatigue

Let us not allow fatigue to come in while doing good!

3. No need to lose heart

Let us stand fast

4. We shall reap

Let us never lose hope of reaping a good harvest!

**Next Sunday: 2 May 2021**

**Text: Psalm 1:2** In His law he meditates day and night

*But his delight is in the law of the LORD,  
And in His law he meditates day and night.*

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# WORSHIP IN SPIRIT AND TRUTH

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## Psalm 119:49-50

*<sup>49</sup>Remember the word to Your servant,  
Upon which You have caused me to hope.'*

*<sup>50</sup>This is my comfort in my affliction,  
For Your word has given me life.*

1. The word of God and its blessings
  - a) It can bring hope
  - b) It can bring comfort
  - c) It can bring life
  
2. A prayer to the Lord
  - a) To remember His word to His servant
  - b) To fulfil His word given
  - c) This prayer is to be offered humbly

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# POETRY CORNER

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# 1

## THE PERFECT WILL OF GOD

The Will of God is truly complex and deep;  
It can only be understood by those who seek.  
Their minds must not be affected by the world out there;  
There must be a transformation through faith and prayer.

The Will of God is intrinsically good and wonderful;  
When we fathom it deeply, it is truly beautiful.  
The Will of God is acceptable and it is well-pleasing;  
It pleases God and it satisfies our innermost being.

The Will of God is perfect in every sense;  
But it is hard to appreciate for we are dense.  
But the Spirit of God can give enlightenment;  
And by God's grace we experience encouragement.

The appropriate response is to present ourselves to God;  
We must desire and determine to fulfil the Will of the Lord.  
This is but our reasonable response for all God's mercies given;  
May we always desire to fulfil God's will from Heaven!

Charles Tan

Inspiration: Romans 12:1-2

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# POETRY CORNER

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# 2

## Standing Fast in the Spirit

Men are creatures of habit and old habits die hard;  
Our actions are often reflexes devoid of thoughtful regard.  
Even the Apostles faltered and in their faith, had failed to stand fast;  
Their actions had then negatively impacted the other believers' trust.

As Christians, we ought to stand firm in our conviction and our faith;  
Lest Satan seize every opportunity to tempt and sweep us away.  
Ignorance, doubt and unbelief will contribute to our downfall;  
For this reason, the Holy Spirit has been given to us all.

But first we must allow the Spirit to take charge, and Him we must obey;  
Only then can He teach us, comfort us and lead us in the way.  
The work of the Spirit will enable us, the hope of righteousness, to await;  
Our anxieties to lessen, and our fear of suffering and death to abate.

The result will be the fruit of the Spirit, which we will cultivate;  
Love, joy, peace, long suffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self  
-control, we will propagate.

May the Spirit continue to guide us in our journeys of faith, to navigate!  
May we always learn to be obedient and God's will for us, to appreciate!

Dr. Sng Li Wah

Inspiration: Galatians 2:11-13; 5:5; 5:22-23



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# POETRY CORNER

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# 3

## **Fruit of the Holy Spirit**

It is natural for man to want to be in charge of his life;  
To abdicate and give up this control generates a sense of loss.  
But surrendering to the Holy Spirit ironically leads to empowerment without strife;  
We need faith to commit to Him in pursuit of a new life course.

Our first experience with the Holy Spirit is at our spiritual birth;  
Upon receiving Christ, the Holy Spirit is sent to dwell in every Christian.  
This is the start of the journey in our walk with the Spirit until our death;  
The Lord will continuously fill us with His Spirit as we proceed through life's mission.

Draw on His resources to live a holy and fruitful life;  
May we not get distracted by things of the flesh!  
Let us stand fast in the Spirit and with His grace thrive;  
As the growth of the characteristics of His fruit within us progress.

For the fruit of the Spirit to develop and mature time is required;  
If the Holy Spirit is truly within us His attributes will certainly show.  
Seek the Lord and ask to be transformed and renewed;  
Submit to the Holy Spirit and watch His fruit grow.

Jessie Quek  
(Inspiration: Galatians 5)

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# POETRY CORNER

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# 4

## Choosing Faith and Trust

With a heart that is heavy, and shoulders wearied, a continuing struggle,  
A heavy load relentlessly weighing me down, legs about to buckle.  
An undeniable melancholy permeates my spirit and my deepest soul,  
Feelings of exhaustion, thirsting for comfort, desperate for control.

Boundless questions stir inside, the psyche in upheaval, restless, not still.  
Trying to comprehend this troubling complexity, the meaning of God's will?  
How is this sorrow well deserved? How much longer do these turmoils last?  
The mind is in deep gloom, clouded with the challenges massive and vast!

To put into perspective, however, is what we must surely endeavour,  
This burden experienced is but a fraction of Christ's by any measure.  
He was able to submit in absolute faith to the will of our Father,  
This ultimate example we must relate to in order to get farther.

Amidst these difficulties, I must choose faith, I must choose to trust.  
And patiently I will wait on the Lord, a revelation by His Spirit so robust!  
And I must understand the grace through which we are justified.  
Thus, bear fruit of the Spirit, stand firm, steadfast faith clearly identified!

Dr. Tan Kok Yang

Inspiration: Sunday messages on the theme "According to the Will of God"  
based on the book of Galatians.

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# ORDER OF WORSHIP

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## **CALL TO WORSHIP**

Rev. Dr. Charles Tan

## **PRAYER / INVOCATION**

## **HYMN**

HWC 11 My Tribute

HWC 435 What A Friend We Have In Jesus

## **MESSAGE**

“The world has been crucified to me”

Text: Galatians 6

## **HYMN**

VIP 648 When we see Christ

## **PRAYER / BENEDICTION**



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# HYMNS

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## HWC II My Tribute 我心献曲

*Andrae Crouch*

How can I say thanks for the things You have done for me;

怎可表感激，万有主已恩赐万事；

Things so undeserved, yet You give to prove Your love for me?

纵未配获赐，神大爱却已丰足沛降。

The voices of a million angels could not express my gratitude –

万千天军齐集颂赞仍未唱出心中感谢。

All that I am and ever hope to be, I owe it all to Thee!

愿我尽将内心希冀梦想，永远尽忠于祢！

To God be the glory, to God be the glory;

同向上帝颂扬，万口唱歌赞颂，

To God be the glory for the things He has done!

是祂厚恩看顾，赐救恩，赐新生！

With His blood He has saved me; with His pow'r He has raised me;

主宝血为我赎罪！获复兴靠祂赐力；

To God be the glory for the things He has done!

上主配得称赞，让我歌唱赞美！

Just let me live my life; let it be pleasing, Lord, to Thee.

今将生命献奉，完全为看见主喜悦

And should I gain any praise, let it go to Calvary,

人人颂赞同和唱，全献给主在各各他，

With His blood He has saved me; with His pow'r He has raised me;

主宝血为我赎罪！获复兴靠祂赐力；

To God be the glory for the things He has done !

上主配得称赞，让我歌唱赞美！

(End 终)

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# HYMNS

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## HWC 435 What A Friend We Have In Jesus

### 恩友歌

*Joseph Scriven*

1. What a Friend we have in Jesus, all our sins and griefs to bear!

何等恩友, 慈仁救主, 负我罪愆担我忧!

What a privilege to carry everything to God in prayer!

何等权利, 能将万事来到耶稣座前求!

O what peace we often forfeit, O what needless pain we bear,

多少平安, 我们坐失, 多少痛苦冤枉受,

All because we do not carry, everything to God in prayer.

都是因为未将万事, 来到耶稣座前求.

2. Have we trials and temptations? Is there trouble anywhere?

我们有无试探引诱? 有无难过苦关头?

We should never be discouraged; take it to the Lord in prayer.

却不当因此灰心; 仍当到主座前求.

Can we find a Friend so faithful who will all our sorrows share?

何处能寻这般良友, 同尝一切苦与愁?

Jesus knows our every weakness; take it to the Lord in prayer.

我们弱点, 主都知道, 放心到祂座前求.

*(Continued on page 14)*

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# HYMNS

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3. Are we weak and heavy laden, cumbered with a load of care?

我们是否软弱多愁,千斤重担压肩头?

Precious Saviour, still our Refuge, take it to the Lord in prayer.

主仍做我避难处所,奔向耶稣座前求。

Do thy friends despise, forsake thee? Take it to the Lord in prayer!

你若真逢友叛亲离,快向耶稣座前求!

In His arms He'll take and shield thee; thou wilt find a solace there.

到祂怀中祂必保护; 有祂安慰便无忧。

(End 终)

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# HYMNS

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## VIP 648 When We See Christ 当我见基督时

*Esther Kerr Rusthoi*

1. Oft times the day seems long, our trials hard to bear,  
We're tempted to complain, to murmur and despair;  
日子常似漫长，试炼痛苦难当，我们心中抱怨，发怨言并绝望；  
But Christ will soon appear to catch His Bride away,  
All tears forever over in God's eternal day.  
但基督将显现，来接祂新妇走，一切眼泪都擦乾，在神永恒里面。

### Refrain 副歌

It will be worth it all when we see Jesus,  
Life's trials will seem so small when we see Christ;  
一切都会值得，当我见耶稣，当我见基督时，试炼渺小；  
One glimpse of His dear face all sorrow will erase,  
So bravely run the race till we see Christ.  
一瞥祂的荣面，一切忧愁消灭应当勇往直前，直见基督。

2. Sometimes the sky looks dark with not a ray of light,  
We're tossed and driven on, no human help in sight;  
有时天空黑暗，毫无一线曙光，我们翻腾摇晃，无人前来帮忙；  
But there is one in Heav'n who knows our deepest care,  
Let Jesus solve your problem just go to Him in pray'r.  
但天上有一位，知我心深忧虑，让耶稣解你问题，只需向祂祈祷。

### *Refrain* 副歌

*(Continued on page 16)*

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# HYMNS

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*(Continued from page 15)*

3. Life's day will soon be o'er, all storms forever past,  
We'll cross the great divide to glory safe at last;  
人生日子将尽，一切风暴永去，我将过大分界，得荣耀永安全；  
We'll share the joys of heav'n a harp, a home, a crown,  
The tempter will be banished, we'll lay our burden down.  
我们分享天乐，一琴，一家，一冠，  
诱惑者将被驱逐，我们卸下重担。

*Refrain 副歌*

(End 终)

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