

# BETHANY

INDEPENDENT-  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH

*God's Kind of Church...*

*Where God is touching lives...*

*And people care for people.*

*Bethany IV ... 2 May 2021*

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## MEDITATION

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REV DR CHARLES TAN

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Text: Joshua 1

## ADVICE TO A LEADER

### THE SHOES OF MOSES

Moses was a truly outstanding leader in every sense of the word. His ministry and achievements were formidable! Three things may be highlighted!

1. He faced mighty Pharaoh and humbled him
2. He led the difficult children of Israel for forty years

*(Continued on page 2)*

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# MEDITATION

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*(Continued from page 1)*

3. He was a great and knowledgeable master-teacher

How could anyone fill his shoes? How would anyone dare to attempt to lead the children of Israel into the land of Canaan?

## THE RIGHT THING TO BEAR IN MIND

Though Moses was a significant leader, we need to trace the Source of his power.

<sup>5</sup>No man shall *be able* to stand before you all the days of your life; as I was with Moses, so I will be with you. I will not leave you nor forsake you. <sup>6</sup>Be strong and of good courage, for to this people you shall divide as an inheritance the land which I swore to their fathers to give them. <sup>7</sup>Only be strong and very courageous, that you may observe to do according to all the law which Moses My servant commanded you; do not turn from it to the right hand or to the left, that you may prosper wherever you go. <sup>8</sup>This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate in it day and night, that you may observe to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success. <sup>9</sup>Have I not commanded you? Be strong and of good courage; do not be afraid, nor be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go." Joshua 1:1-9

1. God's Presence is the Key

a) As I was with Moses

b) So I will be with you Joshua 1:5b

*(Continued on page 3)*

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# MEDITATION

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*(Continued from page 2)*

## 2. God's Promise must be borne in mind

- a) "No man shall stand before you all the days of your life"  
Joshua 1:5a
- b) "The land which I swore to your fathers"  
Joshua 1:6

## APPROPRIATE RESPONSE

Joshua was instructed to make the right response to this word from God.

### 1. Be strong and of good courage

- a) Strength is needed in any undertaking
- b) Courage must accompany strength

### 2. Meditation on the Word of God is good and wise

- a) The phrase "Day and night" speaks of devotion
- b) The challenge is never to deviate from this practice

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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 challenged to go deeper in faith through meditation!



## SPECIAL CATECHISM CLASS

Saturday, 8 May 2021

Time: 1.00pm

This week, we would be reading Romans 6.



## YOUTH WORSHIP

Saturday, 8 May 2021

Time: 3.00pm

May our young worshippers grow in their faith further!



## MOTHER'S DAY

We celebrate Mother's Day next Sunday.

May all mothers find renewed joy from the Lord!



## HEARTFELT CONGRATULATIONS

Heartfelt congratulations to Joshua and Stephanie on the occasion of their wedding on 1 May 2021. May the Lord bless richly as they begin their life together as man and wife!



*(Continued on page 5)*

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# ANNOUNCEMENTS

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## **CONGRATULATIONS! IT'S A GIRL**

Heartfelt congratulations to Geoffrey and Amelia on the gift of a baby girl. Baby Elizabeth was born on 28 April 2021. Both mother and baby are doing well.



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## LETTERS THAT WARM THE HEART

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"We are thankful to God for His compassion and mercies shown to dad when he passed on in his sleep without struggles and that the family was able to be with him during his last moments.

We would also like to take this opportunity to thank all who have been standing with the family throughout -

- Prof Tan Huey Cheem for looking after dad these past many years
- Pastoral team and their prayer support during the time of bereavement
- Alex Tan and Shu Hua, Steven Heng and Sharon for helping out with the visitor registration, logistics and meals
- Tan Li Hong for helping to create the photo montage as a tribute to dad
- Tan Chen Kee for creating the online visitors registration
- Eileen Yeo for looking after our lunch and dinner meals
- AV team for looking into the sound system during the Memorial and at the Mandai Crematorium.
- Brethren who had taken time to attend the wake in person and be with family
- To the many who have sent their condolences via text messages "

With deep gratitude and love,  
Kai Lam, Kalen, Olivia, Leon and Jerome

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# BIBLE MEMORY WORK

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## **TODAY: 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.*

### 1. The law of the LORD

- a) Great delight may be found in the Word of God
- b) This delight comes from studying it with understanding

### 2. Meditation

- a) This is an excellent way of reading God's word
- b) It deepens one's understanding of the law of the Lord

## **NEXT SUNDAY: 9 May 2021**

Text: Psalm 4:4 Meditate within your heart  
*Be angry, and do not sin.*  
*Meditate within your heart on your bed, and be still.*

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# WORSHIP IN SPIRIT AND TRUTH

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## **Psalm 119:51-52**

<sup>51</sup>The proud have me in great derision,  
Yet I do not turn aside from Your law.

<sup>52</sup>I remembered Your judgments of old, O LORD,  
And have comforted myself.

1. The scorn of the proud

a) They mock the righteous

b) But this need not result in giving up faith

2. Remembering the Judgments of old

a) In recollection and prayer

b) Comfort is found amidst suffering

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# POETRY CORNER

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# 1

## **MEDITATE DAY AND NIGHT**

God Himself taught Joshua an important lesson;  
It was an invaluable word that came from Heaven.  
Behind mighty Moses was the Lord and His power;  
He was the One who guided Moses every hour.

The focus must not be on Moses' achievements;  
The challenge is to trust the Lord in Heaven.  
He has given many wonderful promises;  
His word is what the wise soul cherishes!

Moses possessed both strength and courage;  
These blessings are part of our heritage.  
These would be given to all who seek God;  
What encouragement to seek the Lord!

Meditation seems to be a lost art today;  
Let us seek to learn; God will show us the way.  
We must be prepared to be diligent;  
God's grace would prove sufficient!

Charles Tan

Inspiration: Joshua 1:1-9; Psalm 1



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## POETRY CORNER

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# 2

### **The World Crucified to Me, and I to the World**

For every accomplishment that a man makes;  
It seems natural for him to yearn for recognition and accolades.  
And of every competition that he strives to get ahead;  
Winning by all means seems to be the ultimate.

Yet the Apostle Paul was not concerned with what the world had to say;  
From the single-minded purpose of defending the Gospel, he never did sway.  
He boasted not of himself but only of the Lord Jesus' sacrifice on the cross;  
And for Christ's sake, he had deemed whatever gains he owned as loss.

To the standards of this world, we are not to be conformed;  
But rather, through a renewed spirit, we are to be transformed.  
This is the response befitting the sacrifice made by the Lord;  
It is also the good and acceptable and perfect will of our God.

Let us persevere to do good and let our faith grow;  
For in due season, we shall reap what we sow.  
May we continue to be that church where God touches lives and people care,  
Where at every opportunity, one another's burdens, we will help to bear!

Dr. Sng Li Wah

Inspiration: Book of Galatians; Philippians 3:7; Romans 12:2

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# POETRY CORNER

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# 3

## YOU ARE A SHIELD FOR ME

We may face tough situations in life,  
The wicked delight in creating strife.  
But we do not have to succumb to fear,  
There is help from God who is near.

We can discover the Lord as our Shield,  
He offers protection, personal and real.  
He may not make the problems go away,  
But He lovingly protects us in a special way.

Truly, the Lord is our wonderful Savior,  
To seek Him must be our earnest desire.  
In His presence, the soul finds satisfaction,  
The heart rejoices at seeing His provision.

Problems do not have to weigh us down,  
We must seek God and He will be found.  
When we cry out to Him humbly, He will hear,  
We can trust in Him who dispels our fear!

Yvette Seow

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# POETRY CORNER

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# 4

## Dead to the World

What does it take to emulate Apostle Paul,  
Single-mindedly glorying in the cross of Jesus Christ?  
For the sake of the Lord, he endured persecutions and all;  
Preaching salvation by the cross which some despised.

Die to the things of flesh for they are mere gloss;  
The honours and applause of the world are like chaff.  
Easily blown away unlike the richness and promise of the cross;  
A new creation living in Christ, the outcome of God's craft.

To overcome the world and its allure is a great challenge;  
We should seek the Holy Spirit for His counsel and intercession.  
And ask that our desires for worldly trophies to be expunged;  
Hopefully we can then rise above and not succumb to temptations.

May we transcend our primal needs and aim for a spiritual reality.  
The effects of the cross are tremendous and significant!  
A hardened heart will not receive the benefits due to its depravity;  
Trade your material hoardings for the Lord's kingdom.

Jessie Quek

Inspiration: Galatians 2:20, 5:6, 6:12-15

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# ORDER OF WORSHIP

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## **CALL TO WORSHIP**

*Rev. Dr. Charles Tan*

## **PRAYER / INVOCATION**

## **HYMNS**

HWC 278 Glorious Things of Thee are spoken  
*Glenda Tan, Tham Su An, Nathanael Tan*

CP 57 Worthy of Worship

## **MESSAGE**

“In His law he meditates day and night”

Text: Psalm 1

## **HYMN**

VIP 379 Thy Word Have I hid in my heart

## **PRAYER / BENEDICTION**



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# HYMNS

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## Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken 郇城歌

*John Newton*

1. Glorious things of thee are spoken, Zion, City of our God;  
美哉郇城，真神圣城，千般荣耀受颂称；  
He whose Word cannot be broken formed thee for His own abode.  
有言必践，至尊上主，选择你为祂圣京。  
On the Rock of Ages founded, what can shake thy sure repose?  
虽能摇动你的根基？万古磐石坚且稳。  
With salvation's walls surrounded, thou mayest smile at all thy foes.  
救恩墙垣，周围环绕，尽可谈笑对敌军。
2. See, the streams of living waters, springing from eternal Love,  
宏哉活水，源远流长，来从主爱长汪洋，  
Well supply thy sons and daughters, and all fear of want remove.  
儿女人们，都蒙供给，永无缺乏无恐慌。  
Who can faint while such a river ever flows their thirst to assuage?  
有此洪流，常能解渴虽不觉得精神爽？  
Grace which, like the Lord, the Giver, never fails from age to age!  
爱泽永恒，同主一样，世世代代永久长！
3. Round each habitation hovering, see the cloud and fire appear  
仰望云火，何等光明，当头笼罩众居民  
For a glory and a covering, showing that the Lord is near!  
即此荣光，即此宝盖，证明上主是相近！  
Thus deriving from their banner light by night and shade by day,  
随主旌旗，主民前行黑夜有光昼有荫，  
Safe they feed upon the manna which He gives them when they pray.  
主民饥时，向主恳求主赐吗哪可放心。

(End 终)

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# HYMNS

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## Worthy of Worship 神配受崇拜

*Terry W. York*

1. Worthy of worship, worthy of praise, worthy of honour and glory;  
神配受崇拜, 配受赞美, 祂配得尊贵与荣耀;  
Worthy of all the glad songs we can sing, worthy of all of the offerings we bring.  
配受用一切欢乐歌颂扬, 配受我们一切虔诚献上.

### Refrain 副歌

You are worthy, Father, Creator, You are worthy, Saviour, Sustainer,  
唯创造主, 圣父才配受, 唯扶助者, 我主才配受,  
You are worthy, worthy and wonderful; worthy of worship and praise.  
唯祢配受, 奇妙神才配受, 配受崇拜和颂扬.

2. Worthy of reverence, worthy of fear, worthy of love and devotion;  
神配受尊崇, 配受敬畏, 祂配受忠诚的热爱;  
Worthy of bowing and bending of knees, worthy of all this and added to these...  
神配受俯伏屈膝恭敬拜, 配受这一切加上更爱戴...

### *Refrain* 副歌

3. Almighty Father, Master and Lord, King of all kings and Redeemer,  
全能的圣父, 独一上主, 万王之王并救赎主,  
Wonderful Counsellor, Comforter, Friend, Saviour and Source of our life without end.  
奇妙大策士保惠师良朋, 救主是生命之源到永恒.

### *Refrain* 副歌

(End 终)

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# HYMNS

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## Thy Word Have I Hid In My Heart

### 我将祢话藏在心里

*Ernest O. Sellers*

1. Thy Word is a lamp to my feet,  
A light to my path alway,  
To guide and to save me from sin,  
And show me the heav'nly way.

#### Refrain 副歌

Thy Word have I hid in my heart,  
我将祢话藏在心里，  
That I might not sin against Thee;  
我将祢话藏在心里，  
That I might not sin, that I might not sin,  
免我得罪祢，免我得罪祢，  
Thy Word have I hid in my heart.  
我将祢话藏在心里。

2. Forever, O Lord, is Thy Word  
Established and fixed on high;  
Thy faithfulness unto all men  
Abideth forever nigh.

*Refrain 副歌*

*(Continued on page 16)*

*(Continued from page 15)*

3. At morning, at noon, and at night  
I ever will give Thee praise;  
For Thou art my portion, O Lord,  
And shall be thro' all my days!

*Refrain 副歌*

4. Thro' Him whom Thy Word hath foretold,  
The Saviour and Morning Star,  
Salvation and peace have been bro't  
To those who have strayed afar.

*Refrain 副歌*

(End 终)