

BETHANY

INDEPENDENT-
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

God's Kind of Church...

Where God is touching lives...

And people care for people.

Bethany IV ... 9 May 2021

MEDITATION

REV DR CHARLES TAN

TEXT: JOSHUA 1

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THE PRACTICE OF MEDITATION

BIBLICAL MEDITATION CAN BE LEARNED

Some think that Biblical Meditation is too difficult to learn. Thus, they do not bother to think about it further. This is an erroneous thought that we must refute. Biblical Meditation is for everyone. It can be learned!

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MEDITATION

(Continued from page 1)

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.

Joshua 1:8

1. We need a Focus

- a) Biblical Meditation offers a Focus
- b) The Focus is the "Book of the Law"

2. We need Content

- a) Biblical Meditation is not an emptying of the Mind
- b) It is, in fact, the very opposite
- c) We need to fill our mind with Biblical Knowledge
- d) The Book of the Law is a general reference to:
 - i) The Books Moses had written
 - ii) Some parts are Historical in nature
 - iii) Other parts are Law

3. We can learn how to organize our day

- a) We need to set apart a portion of the day for reading the Scriptures

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MEDITATION

(Continued from page 2)

b) We do not have to read too much in a single day

c) We can determine what we want to read and what we need to read

4. We need to make sure that we “observe to do according to all that is written”

a) We must desire to put into practice what we read

b) Meditation is NOT an end in itself

c) It should lead us to desire practising what we read in the Lord’s word

5. A word of encouragement

a) This is the path that God would bless

b) When we read His word and seek to practise what it teaches the Lord would bless indeed

THE RESULTS ARE WONDERFUL

Let us consider making Biblical Meditation a real part of our life. We may highlight three wonderful blessings!

1. We would become wiser

2. We would be deeper

3. We would have a greater faith

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 today! May your heart be uplifted and blessed!



HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY

The Pastors and Session Members wish all Mothers the Lord's blessings!
A small Mother's Day gift is presented to all Mothers.



NEXT WEEKEND

saturday, 15 may 2021

1. Special Catechism Class
1.00pm

2. Youth Worship
3.00pm

sunday, 16 may 2021

Morning Worship
Time: 10.00am



HEARTFELT CONDOLENCES

Heartfelt condolences to Jolly and Leslie Tan and family, on the home-calling of Mr. Tan Nee Kiam, father of Jolly. The late Mr. Tan was 94 years when he passed away peacefully at home on 1 May 2021.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A SURGE OF COVID-19 INFECTION IN SINGAPORE

News of the recent surge of Covid-19 in Singapore is now widely known. Bethany will respond proactively, with faith in the Lord!

1. Concern for the safety of all worshippers

We are, of course, deeply concerned about the health of all worshippers in the context of a surge of Covid-19 Infection.

2. The example of those involved in Health Care Services

Thank God for their fortitude and courage in facing the Covid-19 pandemic. Those in the Medical profession in Bethany have chosen to reduce exposure by not attending Church until the current crisis is contained. This example is deeply appreciated.

3. Number of worshippers to be reduced to 100 people

a) If we have more than 100 people in attendance we would have to do "pre-testing"

b) We would have to engage a vendor to do the testing for us. It takes about 30 minutes or more to obtain the results of the test.

c) This would mean that Church worshippers would have to come to Church much earlier and this could prove to be a very tedious process

d) We will go back to the earlier Phase where 100 worshippers may attend without need to be tested

4. Live-streaming will be made available

5. Congregational Singing will be suspended temporarily

Thank you for your understanding.

BIBLE MEMORY WORK

TODAY: 09 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.

1. Anger

- a) It is a human emotion
- b) Anger itself is not sin
- c) Anger unbridled can lead to sin

2. Meditation

- a) It can calm an angry person
- b) It can take away the dark rage of anger
- c) It can bring about a stillness of the heart and mind

NEXT SUNDAY: 16 May 2021

Text: Psalm 5: 1 Consider my meditation

Give ear to my words, O LORD, consider my meditation.

WORSHIP IN SPIRIT AND TRUTH

Psalm 119:53-54

*⁵³ Indignation has taken hold of me
Because of the wicked, who forsake Your law.*

*⁵⁴ Your statutes have been my songs
In the house of my pilgrimage.*

THE DEEDS OF THE WICKED

1. The wicked forsake the Law of God
2. Feelings of indignation arise in the heart against the wicked

THE DEEDS OF THE RIGHTEOUS

1. The statutes of God are like songs of joy
2. They gladden the heart in life's pilgrimage

POETRY CORNER

1

THIS BOOK OF THE LAW

One of the gifts of God is the “Book of the Law;”
By the Lord’s inspiration there are no flaws!
The Spirit of God would guide the human writer;
He would help each one to write a perfect letter.

Some things in the Book of the Law are hard to comprehend;
Human intelligence in itself would not help one to understand.
There is a special work of the Spirit of God;
He will help us understand the word of the Lord.

Our part is to learn how to practise Biblical Meditation;
The Spirit of God would help us with needed revelation.
Much joy and strength would be God’s blessings;
And God’s grace and mercy would keep increasing.

The Book of the Law is not impossible to comprehend;
In it we will discover God’s wonderful Promises and Plans.
Our heart must respond with a desire to obey the Lord;
Biblical Meditation would help us to fulfil the Will of God.

Charles Tan

Inspiration: Joshua 1:8

POETRY CORNER

2

A Mother's Task

No matter his mischief or how much he annoys;
A child will always be his mother's pride and joy.
For certain, she will every effort and means employ;
To ensure every creature comfort and success, he will enjoy.

Yet, no matter what or how she caters for her child,
There will be no escape from Satan's devious wiles.
The only way to stave off the world's antics to beguile;
Is to commit him to God and pray for him all the while.

She takes it upon herself to teach him wrong from right;
She comforts when he falls and encourages him in his fight.
But mostly she is diligent in intercession deep into the night;
Then continues in supplication and prayers even before daylight.

We lament our children grow up way too fast;
Yet mothering is an unending journey and a thankless task.
We will worry for our children for as long as we ourselves last;
But to love them means to pray unceasingly for them, we must!

Dr. Sng Li Wah
Inspiration: Proverbs 31

POETRY CORNER

3

Faith Enables Sailing Above Challenges

A child will bathe in the wells of love from the mother,
Indeed, the affection derived so pure and sweet is like no other.
The fruit of this love is demonstrated through long suffering,
A mother's love is tender, genuine, and deeply comforting.

What of the mother who gives this love so unconditionally?
How can these wells of love remain full, able to give endlessly?
In the depths of these wells there may be unspoken strife,
Sorrows and fears may occur, a taste of bitterness in life.

This is when a mother should seek a deeper understanding,
Find that genuine faith through knowledge ever expanding.
Strongly embrace a God that will strengthen and uphold,
Putting trust above anxieties, steadfast in self-control!

For faith will enable each mother to sail above challenges,
Faith empowers love to shine through life's dark passages.
Let us be reminded of the sacrifices of love of a mother,
But above all, the power, and glory of Him and no other!

Dr. Tan Kok Yang

Inspiration: Isaiah 41: 10, Galatians 5: 22-23

In dedication to all mothers, May 2021.

POETRY CORNER

4

Meditation

Blessed is the person who delights in the law of God;

Joyful is he who meditates on His Word.

Pondering deeply day and night engaging with the Lord;

Turning over and over in his mind wondering what had been inferred.

Seek His Word to obtain nourishment for the inner being;

Let Him fill our heart and mind with His instructions.

Strengthen, encourage, comfort us in our daily fellowship with Him;

May we look forward in great delight with the Lord in communion!

To meditate is to decode the Lord's underlying message;

Go beyond the surface and probe deeper into its profundity.

Meditation is not an end in itself and must translate,

Into decisions for us to walk, stand and sit righteously.

Like a tree which will bear fruits and its leaf does not wither;

What staggering promises are in store for believers.

Meditate constantly to be delivered from the way of sinners;

And feast on the food for sustenance supplied by the Lord.

Jessie Quek

Inspiration: Psalm 1

POETRY CORNER

5

BIBLICAL MEDITATION

There is so much to learn about Biblical meditation,
We need to be corrected of our misconceptions.
Meditating on the Word will benefit us greatly,
It involves seeking the Lord in prayer earnestly.

In life, we will come across the sinful and wicked,
Their influence is deadly and must be rejected.
It is far better to devote our time to meditate,
It is a spiritual discipline we ought to cultivate.

The Lord gives to us new experiences each day,
Through them, He “speaks” to us in fresh ways.
Meditation helps us to discern what He is saying,
So that we may obey and follow His leading.

In the Word, we can discover precious insights,
These things bring to the soul joy and delight.
May we learn to dwell on the Word continually,
So that our lives will be enriched wonderfully!

Yvette Seow

Inspiration: Psalm 1:1-2

ORDER OF WORSHIP



PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Dr. Charles Tan

PRAYER / INVOCATION

MESSAGE

“Meditate within your heart”

Text: Psalm 4

PRAYER / BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

