

# BETHANY

## INDEPENDENT- PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

*God's Kind of Church...*

*Where God is touching lives...*

*And people care for people.*

*Bethany IV ... 22 January 2023 ... Blessed Lunar New Year!*

## MEDITATION

REV DR CHARLES TAN

Text: John 6

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## **"ALL THAT THE FATHER GIVES ME"**

### VITAL TRUTHS ABOUT GOD THE FATHER

The Lord Jesus taught vital truths about the role of God the Father with reference to salvation. How blessed we are to know these truths!

*(Continued on page 2)*

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# MEDITATION

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*(Continued from page 1)*

<sup>35</sup> And Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life. He who comes to Me shall never hunger, and he who believes in Me shall never thirst.

<sup>36</sup> But I said to you that you have seen Me and yet do not believe.

<sup>37</sup> All that the Father gives Me will come to Me, and the one who comes to Me I will by no means cast out.

<sup>38</sup> For I have come down from heaven, not to do My own will, but the will of Him who sent Me.

<sup>39</sup> This is the will of the Father who sent Me, that of all He has given Me I should lose nothing, but should raise it up at the last day.

<sup>40</sup> And this is the will of Him who sent Me, that everyone who sees the Son and believes in Him may have everlasting life; and I will raise him up at the last day."

John 6:35-40

1. The Father is the One who brings people to the Lord Jesus

a) This work is invisible

b) But this work is vital

2. Those who come to the Lord Jesus

a) In faith

b) To receive salvation

c) It is the Father who draws them to the Saviour

## PRECIOUS PROMISES OF THE LORD JESUS

What happens when a person is led by the Father to the Lord Jesus for salvation?

1. The believer will never hunger and thirst spiritually

*(Continued on page 3)*

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# MEDITATION

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*(Continued from page 2)*

2. He will never be cast out by the Saviour
3. When the believer dies, the Lord will raise him up on Resurrection Day ("the last day")

## THANK GOD FOR HIS SALVATION

Let us thank God for the salvation that He gives to us through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ!

1. We have a new life
2. This life is everlasting
3. This life is wonderfully blessed by God
4. There is the hope of the resurrection

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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 at Bethany. May your heart be uplifted and blessed!



### HAPPY LUNAR NEW YEAR

The Pastoral Team and Church Session wish all worshippers the Lord's blessings this Lunar New Year!



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# ANNOUNCEMENTS

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*(Continued from page 3)*

## **MINISTRY IN BETHANY THIS WEEK (23-29 January 2023)**

1. Seniors Program
  - a) Special CNY program
  - b) Thursday, 26 January 2023 | 9.30am- 11.30am
  - c) Fellowship Lunch
2. Saturday, 28 January 2023
  - a) Fellowship Groups | 2.00-3.00pm
  - b) Youth Worship | 3.15pm
3. Sunday, 29 January 2023
  - a) Sunday School | 8.30am
  - b) Morning Worship Service | 10.30am
  - c) Chinese Worship Service | 10.30am
  - d) Children's Worship I | 10.30am
  - e) Children's Worship II | 10.30am
  - f) Crèche | 10.30am
  - g) Catechism Class | 1.30pm



## **SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS' RETREAT 2023**

### *DATE & TIME*

*Friday, 27 January 2023 (8pm to 9.15pm) and  
Saturday, 28 January 2023 (9am to 11.30am)*

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# ANNOUNCEMENTS

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*(Continued from page 4)*

## GOALS OF SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS' RETREAT

1. Appreciating the possibility of becoming a more effective Sunday School Teacher
2. Learning to draw from resources that God has provided
3. Applying the heart and mind to the ministry of teaching God's word

**THEME:**

***"HOLD FAST THE PATTERN OF SOUND WORDS"***  
***(2 Timothy 1:13)***

## Studies in 2 Timothy

The Retreat messages will be live-streamed.

The live streaming will be open to the whole Church. So do join us for a time of deep instruction in God's Word. May we be refreshed and revitalised from the study of 2 Timothy!

Let us pray for the Lord's blessings!



## CONDOLENCES

Heartfelt condolences to Charissa and Timon. Charissa's paternal grandmother, Mdm. Lim Seow Pheng was called home to be with the Lord Jesus on Monday, 16 January 2023. The late Mdm. Lim Seow Pheng was 98 years old.



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# LETTERS THAT WARM THE HEART

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Dear Pastor,

On behalf of my family I thank Pastor Charlie, Sally, the pastoral team, AVA team, church staff and friends at Bethany for assisting and supporting my family during the recent passing of my late mom.

Thank you for conducting the memorial and the funeral services. The services were meaningful and dignified and the words shared were impactful and comforting to us.

We appreciate the love you gave us. Thank you for being a blessing to my family all these years.

May we continue to support Bethany to bring about real hope to others who have yet to know God in a personal way.

Terence, Alison and family

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## WORSHIP IN SPIRIT AND TRUTH

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### **Psalm 129:3-4**

*<sup>3</sup> The plowers plowed on my back;  
They made their furrows long.*

*<sup>4</sup> The LORD is righteous;  
He has cut in pieces the cords of the wicked.*

1. The work of the wicked
  - a) They bring great hurt to people
  - b) They are oppressive
2. The judgment of the wicked

*(Continued on page 7)*

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# WORSHIP IN SPIRIT AND TRUTH

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*(Continued from page 6)*

- a) The LORD is righteous and will judge the wicked
- b) He will cut in pieces the cords of the wicked

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## BIBLE MEMORY WORK

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**TODAY: 22 January 2023**

***Text: “And out of Egypt I called My son”***

***When Israel was a child, I loved him,***

***And out of Egypt I called My son.***

***Hosea 11:1***

1. God's love for Israel

- a) It was Divine love
- a) It was a Divine Father's love

2. When Israel was enslaved in Egypt

- a) God called him in redemption
- b) The Lord released him from slavery

**NEXT SUNDAY: 29 January 2023**

***Text: “A father of the fatherless”***

***A father of the fatherless, a defender of widows,***

***Is God in His holy habitation.***

***Psalms 68:5***

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# POETRY CORNER

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# 1

## THE WILL OF THE FATHER

God the Father is very involved in our Salvation;  
He is the One who draws people to redemption.  
He helps people to come to faith in the Lord Jesus;  
To every believer He imputes true righteousness.

The will of God is made known to all who believe;  
Everlasting life is what every believer will receive.  
Though death will take our mortal life on earth;  
Immortality is given to all who have new birth.

There is the wonderful reality of regeneration;  
A new body will be given in the Resurrection.  
The Will of God the Father includes these things;  
These are to be treasured as glorious blessings!

These are vital truths found in the Scriptures;  
Let them become great personal treasures.  
How wonderful and glorious is God's Will;  
Dwelling on these truths brings a great thrill.

Charles Tan

Inspiration: John 6:35-40



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# POETRY CORNER

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# 2

## BIBLICAL MEDITATION

Our minds are often clouded by the complex circumstances of life;  
The more we brood over them, the more onerous our strife.  
Over them we agonize by day and lose sleep when night arrives;  
They become fodder from which the contents of our prayers are derived.

But prayer and meditation ought to complement each other;  
As Biblical meditation makes us see our situations clearer.  
We should identify the issues and problems that matter;  
Then address our inner feelings and fears in an honest manner.

Physical abuse is rare but bitter words are the deadlier;  
For they cause rifts among families, friends and neighbors.  
Watch out for the media promoting the norms of popular culture;  
As negative influences can permeate and fester in the minds of children,  
our hope for the future.

Our prayer is for God to preserve us and be our constant safe shelter;  
He will hear us for He is our faithful and merciful Heavenly Father.  
The Lord's goodness and greatness are immeasurable;  
The righteous will trust and glorify Him forever and ever.

Dr. Sng Li Wah  
Inspiration: Psalm 64

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# POETRY CORNER

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# 3

## RIGHTEOUSNESS OF GOD

History has shown mankind to be wayward and incorrigible  
Israel has disappointed again and again despite the Lord's lovingkindnesses  
Yet the Almighty awaits patiently for the recalcitrants to be humble  
And return to the longsuffering Father's loving arms

For the ungodly the Lord will wreak havoc on them  
The rebellious has spurned and grieved the Holy Spirit  
The Messiah will claim His day of judgment against Edom  
Only He alone has the authority to execute the ultimate judgment

The Lord is righteous... hence sinful Israel had to be afflicted  
Isaiah remembered how Moses pleaded with God to spare Israel  
Thus he appealed for His relationship with Israel to be restored  
As a Father He bestowed goodness and saved the house of Israel

May the Holy Spirit intercede for God's mercy and compassion  
That He will look down from His holy habitation  
With lovingkindness and tender mercy to grant salvation  
To all saints who obediently follow Him to seek redemption

Jessie Quek  
Inspiration: Isaiah 63

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## POETRY CORNER

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# 4

### SET YOUR HEART ON GOD'S WORD

Perfect and righteous is our great God above,  
On Israel, He chose to pour out His deep love.  
Israel was not mightier than any other nation,  
Yet God loved her and made her His portion.

God redeemed her from Egypt, as her Father,  
He built her up with great and mighty power.  
God also blessed Israel with choice provisions,  
Food and even wine were given in abundance.

In so many ways, God had richly blessed Israel,  
Yet the danger of forsaking God was very real.  
Moses repeatedly warned Israel to be careful,  
To observe God's word, they must be faithful.

We are also blessed to be called God's children,  
We must take heed all these sobering lessons!  
On God's word, we must learn to set our heart,  
So that, from our Father, we may never depart!

Yvette Seow

Inspiration: Deuteronomy 32:4-15 and 44-47

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# ORDER OF WORSHIP

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## PRELUDE

### CALL TO WORSHIP

Dr. Tan Huay Cheem

Dr. Sng Li Wah

### PRAYER

### HYMN

CP 322 | The Solid Rock

CP 308 | Thanks to God for My Redeemer

### MESSAGE

“You are our Potter”

Text: Isaiah 64-65

*Rev. Dr. Charles Tan*

### PRAYER

### HYMN

CP 349 | Have Thine Own Way, Lord

### POSTLUDE



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# HYMNS

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## CP 322 THE SOLID ROCK

EDWARD MOTE

1. My hope is built on nothing less,  
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness.  
I dare not trust the sweetest frame,  
But wholly lean on Jesus' name.

Refrain

On Christ the solid Rock I stand,  
All other ground is sinking sand,  
All other ground is sinking sand.

2. When darkness veils His lovely face,  
I rest on His unchanging grace.  
In every high and stormy gale,  
My anchor holds within the veil.

*Refrain*

3. His oath, His covenant, His blood,  
Support me in the whelming flood.  
When all around my soul gives way,  
He then is all my hope and stay.

*Refrain*

4. When He shall come with trumpet sound,  
O may I then in Him be found.  
Dressed in His righteousness alone,  
Faultless to stand before the throne.

*Refrain*



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## HYMNS

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### CP 308 THANKS TO GOD FOR MY REDEEMER

AUGUST L. STORM

1. Thanks to God for My Redeemer,  
Thanks for all Thou dost provide!  
Thanks for times now but a memory,  
Thanks for Jesus by my side!  
Thanks for pleasant, balmy spring-time,  
Thanks for dark and dreary fall!  
Thanks for tears by now forgotten,  
Thanks for peace within my soul!
2. Thanks for prayers that Thou hast answered,  
Thanks for what Thou dost deny!  
Thanks for storms that I have weathered,  
Thanks for all Thou dost supply!  
Thanks for pain and thanks for pleasure,  
Thanks for comfort in despair!  
Thanks for grace that none can measure,  
Thanks for love beyond compare!
3. Thanks for roses by the wayside,  
Thanks for thorns their stems contain!  
Thanks for homes and thanks for fireside,  
Thanks for hope, that sweet refrain!  
Thanks for joy and thanks for sorrow,  
Thanks for heav'nly peace with Thee!  
Thanks for hope in the tomorrow,  
Thanks through all eternity.



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# HYMNS

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## CP 349 HAVE THINE OWN WAY, LORD

ADELAIDE A. POLLARD

1. Have Thine own way, Lord!

Have Thine own way!

Thou art the Potter, I am the clay.  
Mould me and make me after Thy will,  
While I am waiting, yielded and still.

2. Have Thine own way, Lord!

Have Thine own way!

Search me and try me, Master, today!  
Whiter than snow, Lord, wash me just now,  
As in Thy presence humbly I bow.

3. Have Thine own way, Lord!

Have Thine own way!

Wounded and weary, help me, I pray!  
Power, all power, surely is Thine!  
Touch me and heal me, Saviour Divine!

4. Have Thine own way, Lord!

Have Thine own way!

Hold o'er my being absolute sway!  
Fill with Thy Spirit till all shall see  
Christ only, always, living in me!



**Bethany Independent-Presbyterian Church**

301 Upper Paya Lebar Road. Singapore 534934

tel : 65-62877713 . fax : 65-62877980 . website URL : [bethanyipc.sg](http://bethanyipc.sg)