

# BETHANY

INDEPENDENT-  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH

*God's Kind of Church...*

*Where God is touching lives...*

*And people care for people.*

*Bethany IV ... 29 January 2023*

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## MEDITATION

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REV DR CHARLES TAN

Text: John 8

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## I AM WITH THE FATHER WHO SENT ME

### A UNIQUE RELATIONSHIP

The Lord Jesus caused the religious leaders of His day great consternation. They had never come across anyone who had such a close relationship with God. They were puzzled and mystified.

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# MEDITATION

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*(Continued from page 1)*

## AN EXPLANATION GIVEN

The Lord Jesus sought to explain this unique relationship with God the Father.

<sup>13</sup> The Pharisees therefore said to Him, "You bear witness of Yourself; Your witness is not true."

<sup>14</sup> Jesus answered and said to them, "Even if I bear witness of Myself, My witness is true, for I know where I came from and where I am going; but you do not know where I come from and where I am going."

<sup>15</sup> You judge according to the flesh; I judge no one.

<sup>16</sup> And yet if I do judge, My judgment is true; for I am not alone, but I *am* with the Father who sent Me.

<sup>17</sup> It is also written in your law that the testimony of two men is true.

<sup>18</sup> I am One who bears witness of Myself, and the Father who sent Me bears witness of Me."

<sup>19</sup> Then they said to Him, "Where is Your Father?"

Jesus answered, "You know neither Me nor My Father. If you had known Me, you would have known My Father also."

John 8:13-19

### 1. Two witnesses cited

- a) The Lord Jesus bore true witness of Himself by His life and deeds
- b) God the Father also bore constant witness of the Lord Jesus

### 2. The problem of unbelief

- a) The basic problem of the religious leaders was that of unbelief
- b) They had rejected the Lord Jesus despite all that He said and did

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# MEDITATION

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*(Continued from page 2)*

c) They had, in effect, rejected God the Father too!

## A DEEP CONSCIOUSNESS OF GOD THE FATHER

The Lord Jesus sought to explain His consciousness of God the Father. Two aspects may be highlighted:

1. That God was indeed His Father

2. That the Father had sent Him

a) To proclaim the Gospel with power

b) To bring Israel into the Kingdom of God through faith

But if the religious leaders continued with their unbelief, they would never know God as their Father in heaven.

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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 blessed through worship and fellowship!



## HOLY COMMUNION

1. We will be having Holy Communion at the Morning Worship Service next Sunday, 5 February 2023
2. The Chinese Worship Service will be having Holy Communion the following Sunday, 12 February 2023.



## BETHANY AND BTS ACM

*Date: 26 February 2023*

*Time: 1.00pm*

1. Election of Office Bearers
  - a) Session Members (2023-2026)
  - b) BTS Office bearers (2023-2024)
2. All members are requested to attend the ACM



## CHURCH FAMILY CAMP

*12-17 March 2023*

**Theme: "To live is Christ and to die is gain"    *Philippians 1:21***

Number of people signed up: 121

Plan to attend the Family Camp!



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# ANNOUNCEMENTS

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*(Continued from page 4)*

## **MINISTRY IN BETHANY THIS WEEK (30 January ~ 5 February 2023)**

### **1. Seniors Program**

- a) Tuesday, 31 January 2023 | 9.30am- 11.30am
- b) Thursday, 2 February 2023 | 9.30am- 11.30am

### **2. Saturday, 4 February 2023**

- a) YPG/YAG | 2.00pm
- b) Youth Worship | 3.15pm

### **3. Sunday, 5 February 2023**

- a) Sunday School | 8.30am
- b) Morning Worship Service | Holy Communion | 10.30am
- c) Children's Worship I | 10.30am
- d) Children's Worship II | 10.30am
- e) Crèche | 10.30am
- f) Catechism Class | 1.30pm



## **GIVING OF FELLOWSHIP MEALS**

**BREAKFAST: DIVINA Y CANLAS, ALBERT, MIN LI & JOHN  
LUNCH: PAUL & SI HUI; WILLIAM, MEI WOON & LUCAS HWANG**



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# WORSHIP IN SPIRIT AND TRUTH

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## Psalm 130:1-4

*<sup>1</sup> Out of the depths I have cried to You, O LORD;*

*<sup>2</sup> Lord, hear my voice!*

*Let Your ears be attentive*

*To the voice of my supplications.*

*<sup>3</sup> If You, LORD, should mark iniquities,*

*O Lord, who could stand?*

*<sup>4</sup> But there is forgiveness with You,*

*That You may be feared.*

### 1. A cry of despair

a) In deep trouble

b) In desperate need for divine help

### 2. A cry of hope

a) There is forgiveness with the LORD

b) He is to be held in awed reverence

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# BIBLE MEMORY WORK

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**TODAY: 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***

1. A good description of God as Father

a) In particular He is "Father to the fatherless"

b) This is to be appreciated

2. In the same vein

a) He is also a Defender of widows

b) This is part of the holiness of God

**Next Sunday: 5 February 2023**

***Text: "I will be a Father to you"***

***I will be a Father to you,***

***And you shall be My sons and daughters,***

***Says the LORD Almighty.***

***2 Corinthians 6:18***

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# POETRY CORNER

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# 1

## I AM WITH THE FATHER WHO SENT ME

The Lord Jesus was God's unique Son;  
He exemplified what must be done.  
The children of Israel had largely failed;  
Without faith, they could not prevail.

What does it mean to be the Son of Man?  
The Lord Jesus had to be conscious of God's plan.  
He knew the purpose why He was sent by God;  
His task was to help people to find faith in the LORD!

Was it easy for the Lord Jesus to be the Saviour?  
The work of soul-winning is full of difficult labour.  
The problem of sin in Man is very deep indeed;  
Man, estranged from God has many deep needs.

Each and every day was filled with activities;  
Multitudes came to be healed of disabilities.  
The Lord Jesus had to find time to be with God;  
He set apart time each day to commune with the LORD.

Charles Tan  
Inspiration: John 8:13-19



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# POETRY CORNER

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# 2

## THE POTTER

Clay is one of the oldest known ceramic;  
Plasticity is a property it exhibits.  
The potter will design, knead and mould it;  
Until each end-product crafted is unique.

But there will be extraneous particles in the clay;  
Which the potter will remove and throw away.  
A believer's life is full of iniquities just as impurities abound in clay;  
He needs to be subjected to sanctification of his ways.

The potter will work on his project for many days;  
The process is incredibly arduous, needless to say.  
The believer's journey to holiness is similarly a long way;  
And he must be willing to be as malleable, as is the clay.

Thank You, God, for You are our Potter and we are Your clay;  
Thank You for chastisement of our worldly ways.  
Thank You for continually moulding and getting us ready for the fray;  
We pray we will become Your beautiful pottery one day.

Dr. Sng Li Wah  
Inspired by Isaiah 64:8

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# POETRY CORNER

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# 3

## THE MASTER POTTER

You are the potter...we are the clay  
Mould us in any way You want us to be  
We will yield to Your divine purpose and obey  
You have created us to serve You usefully

The Lord is sovereign and in control of everything  
As a lump of shapeless clay we are completely in His Hand  
Kneading, pinching, turning the clay and creating  
Beings, some for noble purposes some for common use as planned

Who then are we to quarrel with our design  
Our responsibility is to find out His intent for our existence  
Know our role and to perform significantly and shine  
For the glory of God in His works and deliverance

Our lives are in the grip of the Master Potter  
He knows precisely how to manage and encourage us  
We will be fired in the kiln to become stronger  
Let us praise the Lord for His compassion and tender mercies

Jessie Quek

Inspiration: (Isaiah 64:8; Romans 9:20-21)

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# ORDER OF WORSHIP

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## PRELUDE

## CALL TO WORSHIP

*Mr. Adrian Foo*

*Mrs. Foo Min-Yi*

## PRAYER

## HYMN

HWC 1 | Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

HWC 520 | Redeemed

## MESSAGE

“Out of Egypt I have called My son”

Text: Hosea 11

*Rev Dr. Charles Tan*

## CLOSING HYMN

CP 51 | Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

## BENEDICTION

## OFFERING

## POSTLUDE



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# HYMNS

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## HWC 1 JOYFUL, JOYFUL, WE ADORE THEE

- 1 . Joyful, joyful, we adore Thee,  
God of glory, Lord of love;  
Hearts unfold like flowers before Thee,  
Opening to the sun above.  
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness,  
Drive the dark of doubt away;  
Giver of immortal gladness,  
Fill us with the light of day.
  
2. All Thy works with joy surround Thee,  
Earth and heaven reflect Thy rays,  
Stars and angels sing around Thee,  
Centre of unbroken praise.  
Field and forest, vale and mountain,  
Flowery meadow, flashing sea,  
Chanting bird and flowing fountain,  
Call us to rejoice in Thee.
  
3. Thou art giving and forgiving,  
Ever blessing, ever blest,  
Wellspring of the joy of living,  
Ocean depth of happy rest!  
Thou our Father, Christ, our Brother—  
All who live in love are Thine;  
Teach us how to love each other,  
Lift us to the joy divine.

*(Continued on page 13)*

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# HYMNS

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*(Continued from page 12)*

4. Mortals, join the happy chorus  
Which the morning stars began;  
Father love is reigning o'er us,  
Brother love binds man to man.  
Ever singing, march we onward,  
Victors in the midst of strife,  
Joyful music leads us sunward  
In the triumph song of life.



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# HYMNS

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## HWC 520 REDEEMED

1. Redeemed, how I love to proclaim it!  
Redeemed by the blood of the Lamb;  
Redeemed through His infinite mercy,  
His child, and forever, I am.

Refrain

Redeemed, redeemed,  
Redeemed by the blood of the Lamb;  
Redeemed, through His infinite mercy,  
His child, and forever, I am.

2. Redeemed and so happy in Jesus,  
No language my rapture can tell;  
I know that the light of His presence  
With me doth continually dwell.

*Refrain*

3. I think of my blessed Redeemer,  
I think of Him all the day long:  
I sing, for I cannot be silent;  
His love is the theme of my song.

*Refrain*



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## HYMNS

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### CP 51 IMMORTAL, INVISIBLE, GOD ONLY WISE

WALTER C. SMITH

1. Immortal, invisible, God only wise,  
In light inaccessible hid from our eyes,  
Most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,  
Almighty, victorious, Thy great name we praise.

2. Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,  
Nor wanting, nor wasting, Thou rulest in might;  
Thy justice like mountains high soaring above  
Thy clouds, which are fountains of goodness and love.

3. To all life Thou givest, to both great and small;  
In all life Thou livest, the true life of all;  
We blossom and flourish as leaves on the tree,  
And wither and perish, but naught changeth Thee.

4. Great Father of glory, pure Father of light,  
Thine angels adore Thee, all veiling their sight;  
All praise we would render; O help us to see  
'Tis only the splendour of light hideth Thee.



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