

# BETHANY

## INDEPENDENT- PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

*God's Kind of Church...*

*Where God is touching lives...*

*And people care for people.*

*Bethany IV ... 19 February 2023*

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## MEDITATION

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REV DR CHARLES TAN

Text: John 14

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## SHOW US THE FATHER

### THE DISCIPLES OF THE LORD JESUS CHRIST

The Lord Jesus devoted much time to teach the multitudes. But He paid particular attention to His Disciples. One of the doctrines He sought to teach them was about God as their Heavenly Father. But the Disciples struggled with this doctrine.

*(Continued on page 2)*

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# MEDITATION

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*(Continued from page 1)*

<sup>7</sup> "If you had known Me, you would have known My Father also; and from now on you know Him and have seen Him."

<sup>8</sup> Philip said to Him, "Lord, show us the Father, and it is sufficient for us."

<sup>9</sup> Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you so long, and yet you have not known Me, Philip? He who has seen Me has seen the Father; so how can you say, 'Show us the Father'?"

<sup>10</sup> Do you not believe that I am in the Father, and the Father in Me? The words that I speak to you I do not speak on My own *authority*; but the Father who dwells in Me does the works.

<sup>11</sup> Believe Me that I *am* in the Father and the Father in Me, or else believe Me for the sake of the works themselves.

John 14:7-11

## 1. The Lord's statement

- a) "If you had known Me, you would have known My Father also;"
- b) "And from now on you know Him and have seen Him." John 14:7
- c) The meaning:
  - i) The Lord Jesus reflects the Father
  - ii) If people truly know the Lord Jesus, they would have known God too

## 2. Philip's question

- a) "Lord, show us the Father"

*(Continued on page 3)*

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# MEDITATION

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*(Continued from page 2)*

- b) "And it is sufficient for us" John 14:8
- c) He did not understand what the Lord Jesus meant

## 3. The Lord's explanation

- a) The problem lay with Philip's unbelief
- b) If only he had fully believed what the Lord Jesus had taught, he would have understood better

## THE CHALLENGE

The great challenge is to be able to convert knowledge into faith. This is a challenge for the original disciples and for us today!

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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 uplifted through worship and fellowship!



## MINISTRY IN BETHEL

Pastor Charles Tan sends greetings from Perth.  
He will be returning on Monday, 20 February 2023.



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# ANNOUNCEMENTS

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## MINISTRY IN BETHANY THIS WEEK (20-26 February 2023)

### 1. Seniors Program

- a) Tuesday, 21 February 2023 | 9.30am- 11.30am
- b) Thursday, 23 February 2023 | 9.30am- 11.30am

### 2. Saturday, 25 February 2023

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

### 3. Sunday, 26 February 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



## **BETHANY AND BTS ACM**

*Date: 26 February 2023*

*Time: 1.00pm*

Special feature:  
Election of Session Members (2023-2026)

The present Session has finished one term of service (3 years) and will

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# ANNOUNCEMENTS

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be seeking re-election for the next term at our ACM. The Session Members are as follows:

1. Rev. Dr. Charles Tan
2. Rev. Mark Tan
3. Rev. Mitchell Tan
4. Deacon George Thomas
5. Deacon Dr. Daniel Chia
6. Deacon Dr. Tang Kong Choong
7. Deacon Dr. Quek Li Wei
8. Deacon Milton Ong
9. Deaconess Ng Lay Eng
10. Deaconess Tan Li Hong
11. Deaconess Dr. Jane Tan
12. Deaconess Tan Hong Suen

In order to qualify for election, they need to be nominated by a church member. Please look for Benjamin Chong/ Benjamin Quah for a Nomination Form.



## CHURCH FAMILY CAMP

12-17 March 2023

*Theme: "To me to live is Christ, and to die is gain"*

More than 265 have already signed up!  
Plan to attend the Family Camp!



## CONDOLENCES

Heartfelt condolences to Yau Hong and Gillian, Tessa and Vera, on the demise of the mother of Yau Hong. The late Mdm. Toon Ee Lui passed away on 6 February 2023.



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# ANNOUNCEMENTS

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## GIVING OF FELLOWSHIP MEALS

BREAKFAST: STANLEY & JILL

LUNCH: CHOON PENG & VALERIE; NEO & SIM FAMILY



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## LETTERS THAT WARM THE HEART

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Dear Pastor, the Pastoral Team, and Brethren of Bethany:

We are writing to thank one and all for your supports and cares.

My mom had passed on 6 Feb 23 because of a stroke and a full 7-days Buddhist funeral had been observed.

A vessel in mom's brain had ruptured on 1 Feb and neurosurgeon in CGH said she would only have a few hours to a few days to live. She had been sent home on 2 Feb, 3 am.

In these moments of bereavement, Pastor, the Pastoral Team, and Brethren of Bethany have

- provided advice on how to get palliative care for mom,
- visited mom and taught us how to care for mom,
- sent wreaths with words of comfort,
- come to the wake to comfort us,
- provided words of encouragement to us.

In Matthew 5:7, in one of the versions: "Those who have sorrows are happy, because they will be comforted."

Mom loves her 5 children. Her death has affected me more than I have expected it, and my sorrows have been comforted by your encour-

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# LETTERS THAT WARM THE HEART

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*aging words and messages.*

*Thank You once again!*

*Prayerfully,*

*Vera, Tessa, Gillian, Yau Hong and my siblings.*

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## WORSHIP IN SPIRIT AND TRUTH

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### **Psalm 131:1-3**

*<sup>1</sup> LORD, my heart is not haughty,  
Nor my eyes lofty.*

*Neither do I concern myself with great matters,  
Nor with things too profound for me.*

*<sup>2</sup> Surely I have calmed and quieted my soul,  
Like a weaned child with his mother;  
Like a weaned child is my soul within me.*

*<sup>3</sup> O Israel, hope in the LORD  
From this time forth and forever.*

1. True Hope in God is needed

- a) This is enjoined
- b) To have a strong sense of hope

2. True Hope is related to our Heart

- a) The heart must not be haughty
- b) Neither must it be caught up with an inflated opinion of self

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# BIBLE MEMORY WORK

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**TODAY: 19 February 2023**

***Text: “One God and Father of all”***

***One God and Father of all, who is above all,  
and through all, and in you all.  
Ephesians 4:6***

1. A great truth to revel in  
One God and Father of all!
2. The profound glory of our great God
  - a) Above all
  - b) Through all
  - c) In you all

**NEXT SUNDAY: 26 February 2023**

***Text: “The Father of mercies”***

***Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
the Father of mercies and God of all comfort  
2 Corinthians 1:3***

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# POETRY CORNER

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# 1

## SHOW US THE FATHER

The Lord Jesus taught His Disciples deep knowledge;  
To follow Him as His followers was a privilege.  
The Master taught His Disciples much about God;  
But they needed to have true faith in the LORD.

Knowledge and experience ought to lead to Trust;  
Faith in the Lord's teaching was an absolute "Must."  
But the Disciples often struggled with understanding;  
They found it very difficult to be fully believing.

Philip wanted the Lord to "show them the Father;"  
The Disciples would then be able their Faith to muster.  
The Lord Jesus saw the root of their problem;  
Their unbelief was of significant concern.

The Lord Jesus had reflected the Father wonderfully;  
But the Disciples had lacked the Faith to trust deeply.  
They must do their utmost to give due consideration;  
Faith must be exercised as they practised contemplation.

Charles Tan  
Inspiration: John 14:1-11

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# POETRY CORNER

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# 2

## CHILDREN OF GOD

We address the Lord as our God and Father in Heaven;  
But how do we reciprocate and behave as His children?  
How wonderful to realize there is no fear of condemnation;  
For our faith in the Lord Jesus has lent us justification.

For in Christ, the Spirit of life, to us, has been given;  
To bestow freedom to discover for ourselves and to discern.  
If we chose to have our minds, about spiritual things, be concerned;  
We can indeed live righteous lives and be different.

The Spirit dwells in us and gives life to our mortal bodies;  
He leads us to choose spiritual truths over the worldly.  
He bears witness that we are children and even heirs of God with Christ, jointly;  
He ensures we turn out well and gloriously.

May we recognize what a privilege we have as children of God;  
And appreciate the debt we owe Him for the sacrifice of the Son of God.  
May we strive to be dead to sin and walk in the Spirit of God;  
Because we know that all things work together for good to those who love the Lord.

Dr. Sng Li Wah  
Inspiration: Romans 8

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# POETRY CORNER

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# 3

## SONS OF GOD

By God, Israel had been specially chosen,  
He loved them and gave them redemption.  
But some Jews felt a sense of entitlement,  
Because they were Abraham's descendants.

The Apostle Paul corrected this wrong notion,  
All had access to God's gift of salvation.  
Jew or Gentile must believe in Christ Jesus,  
In order to be justified and made righteous.

We are sons of God through faith in Christ,  
Born again and given a new nature in life.  
In Christ, there is a special sense of oneness,  
We can enjoy God's blessings and promises!

Our part is to follow Christ and His ways,  
And seek to be more like Him each day.  
May we grow to be good sons and daughters,  
Who love and regard our Heavenly Father!

Yvette Seow  
Inspiration: Galatians 3:26-29

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# POETRY CORNER

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# 4

## THE SPIRIT OF LIFE IN JESUS

Man was created with the free will to choose how to live  
There are only two options; that of God or Satan  
Humans are deluded into thinking there is a third option...ours to thrive  
But ours apart from God is not ours but Satan's

Is our mind that of flesh or that of the Holy Spirit  
The Spirit of life in Jesus frees us from the law of sin and death  
Our weakness of flesh prevents us from living in holiness and perfect  
God sent His Son to spare humanity from the penalty of death

Once man has become reconciled to God through faith to His Word  
He receives the Holy Spirit of promise and given a new set of values  
Believers are now minding the things of the Spirit as conferred  
The mind of flesh is death whereas that of the Spirit is life and peace

Thus there is no condemnation for those who walk according to the Holy Spirit  
We are obliged to observe and obey the law of the Spirit in Jesus  
Let us not remain dominated by our temporal needs  
May the Lord's grace and mercy enable the Spirit to live in our hearts

Jessie Quek  
Inspiration: Romans 8:1-11

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# ORDER OF WORSHIP

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## PRELUDE

## CALL TO WORSHIP

*Mr. Elvin Ho*

*Mrs. Patricia Ho*

## PRAYER

## HYMN

CP 458 | The Church's One Foundation

CP 70 | I Will Sing of the Mercies

## MESSAGE

“Be imitators of God”

Text: Ephesians 5

*Rev Dr. Charles Tan*

## CLOSING HYMN

CP 477 | Shine, Jesus, Shine

## BENEDICTION

## OFFERING

## POSTLUDE



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## HYMNS

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### CP 458 THE CHURCH'S ONE FOUNDATION

JOHN FAWCETT

1. The Church's one foundation is Jesus Christ her Lord;  
She is His new creation, by water and the Word:  
From Heav'n He came and sought her to be His Holy Bride;  
With His own blood He bought her, and for her life He died.

2. Elect from ev'ry nation, yet one o'er all the earth,  
Her charter of salvation: one Lord, one faith, one birth;  
One holy name she blesses, partakes one holy food,  
And to one hope she presses with ev'ry grace endued.

3. 'Mid toil and tribulation, and tumult of her war,  
She waits the consummation of peace forevermore,  
Till with the vision glorious her longing eyes are blest,  
And the great Church victorious shall be the Church at rest.



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# HYMNS

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## CP 70 I WILL SING OF THE MERCIES

JAMES FILLMORE AND MARIE J. POST

1. I will sing of the mercies of the Lord forever,  
I will sing, I will sing.

I will sing of the mercies of the Lord forever,  
I will sing of the mercies of the Lord.

With my mouth will I make known  
Your faithfulness, Your faithfulness;  
With my mouth will I make known  
Your faithfulness to all generations.

I will sing of the mercies of the Lord forever,  
I will sing of the mercies of the Lord.

2. All the hosts of the angels sing God's praise forever  
For the things He has done.

All the hosts of the angels sing God's praise forever,  
All the hosts of the angels sing God's praise.

Who can be compared to God  
In faithfulness, in faithfulness?  
Who can be compared to God  
In faithfulness to all generations?

I will sing of the mercies of the Lord forever,  
I will sing of the mercies of the Lord.



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# HYMNS

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## CP 477 SHINE, JESUS, SHINE

GRAHAM KENDRICK

1. Lord, the light of Your love is shining,  
In the midst of the darkness shining;  
Jesus, Light of the World, shine upon us.  
Set us free by the truth You now bring us;  
Shine on me, shine on me.

### Refrain

Shine, Jesus, shine,  
Fill this land with the Father's glory;  
Blaze, Spirit, blaze, Set our hearts on fire.  
Flow, river, flow,  
Flood the nations with grace and mercy;  
Send forth Your Word,  
Lord, and let there be light.

2. Lord, I come to Your awesome presence,  
From the shadows into Your radiance;  
By the blood I may enter Your brightness,  
Search me, try me, consume all my darkness;  
Shine on me, shine on me.

### *Refrain*

3. As we gaze on Your kingly brightness,  
So our faces display Your likeness;  
Ever changing from glory to glory,  
Mirror'd here may our lives tell Your story;  
Shine on me, shine on me.

### *Refrain*



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