

BETHANY

INDEPENDENT-
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

God's Kind of Church...

Where God is touching lives...

And people care for people.

Bethany IV ... 28 January 2024

MEDITATION

REV DR CHARLES TAN

Text: Deuteronomy 30

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THE WORD IS VERY NEAR YOU

THE WORD THAT MOSES TAUGHT

Moses gave an appraisal with reference to the word that he had proclaimed and taught the children of Israel. What he said is very relevant to us too

¹¹ "For this commandment which I command you today is

MEDITATION

not *too* mysterious for you, nor *is* it far off.

¹² It *is* not in heaven, that you should say, 'Who will ascend into heaven for us and bring it to us, that we may hear it and do it?'

¹³ Nor *is* it beyond the sea, that you should say, 'Who will go over the sea for us and bring it to us, that we may hear it and do it?'

¹⁴ But the word *is* very near you, in your mouth and in your heart, that you may do it.

Deuteronomy 30:11-14

1. What the commandment of God is NOT

- a) It is not too mysterious
- b) It is not far off
- c) It is not in heaven
- d) It is not beyond the sea

2. Many make excuses concerning why they cannot heed God's word

- a) The above statements would be the answer to excuses
- b) Many would not take the trouble to learn the word of the LORD
- c) They just make many excuses!

3. What the LORD's word IS

- a) It is near
- b) It is in our mouth

MEDITATION

c) It is in our heart

OUR CHALLENGE

Let us not make excuses to explain why we cannot heed God's word! Let us determine to hide God's word in our heart. The Word of God is the key to understanding how we can be blessed by the LORD!

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 lifted up through worship and fellowship!



THIS WEEK IN BETHANY

1. There will be no Seniors Program this week

2. Saturday, 3 February 2024

a) YPG and YAG | 2.00pm

b) Youth Worship | 3.15pm

3. Sunday, 4 February 2024

a) Sunday School | 8.30am

b) Morning Worship Service | 10.30am

c) Chinese Worship Service | 10.30am

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- d) Children's Worship Service I and II | 10.30am
- e) Crèche | 10.30am
- f) Catechism Class | 1.30pm



CHINESE NEW YEAR SPECIAL PROGRAM 2024

Date: Saturday, 24 February 2024

Time: 3.00pm

Venue: Sanctuary

We will begin with a time of Worship in the Main Sanctuary,
Followed by a High Tea Fellowship Meal at Level 1.

Please plan to sign up (for catering purposes).
You may sign up at the booth in the Fellowship Hall during Lunch or use
the QR code below.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

FAMILY CAMP 2024

Theme: "I Will Lift Up My Eyes" Psalm 121

Date: 10 - 15 March 2024

This year, you will be able to sign up for camp through an online registration form. You can access the online form by scanning the QR code below.

If you need further assistance, please go to the registration booth at the Fellowship Hall where we will assist you with the registration process.

Do ensure that your passport expiry date is after 16 September 2024 before you begin registration.

268 people have signed up for camp.

Let us look forward to a wonderful time of learning from the Word of God.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

EASTER SUNDAY AT SHANGRI LA 2024

Date: 31 March 2024
Worship begins at 10.30am
Followed by Easter Lunch

Please plan to sign up as soon as possible!
You may sign up using the QR code below.



GIVING OF FELLOWSHIP MEALS

BREAKFAST: ANDREW & HWEI LI WONG
LUNCH: ANDREW & HWEI LI WONG; EDWARD KOH



LETTERS THAT WARM THE HEART

Dear Pastor,

Our family would like to thank you, the Pastoral team and Bethany for helping us with the memorial service as well as the funeral of Victor (Wai Fong's husband) and of our beloved Dad.

These past weeks have been a very trying time for our family and we want to express our heartfelt thanks to all who have supported us. Words cannot express our gratitude for all the condolences, prayers, acts of service and expressions of love.

Our very own mother, our relatives and friends were all very surprised by how supportive our church is. They were impressed at how the people in Bethany carried out each of the funerals in such a well prepared manner. The dead were being honoured and the living ones left with very encouraging messages.

From the time when Dad and Victor were hospitalized, many came to visit and pray with them and with us. Bringing our nephews out just to encourage them and check in on them. When they passed on, many came to the hospital to be with us and the Pastoral team were there for us every step of the way. These are things we will never forget and we never want to take for granted for.

We are reminded of Ephesians 5:1-2

“Therefore be imitators of God as dear children. And walk in love, as Christ also has loved us and given Himself for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet-smelling aroma.”

We have been touched and being offered the helping hands in times of our needs, we also want to as God's dear children, be imitators of God, to pay forward His love that we have received through others.

Thank you all so much.

Love,

Wai Fong, Wai Mun, Belle, Wee Ta, Ernest & Ethan

WORSHIP IN SPIRIT AND TRUTH

Psalm 142:1-2

*¹ I cry out to the LORD with my voice;
With my voice to the LORD I make my supplication.
² I pour out my complaint before Him;
I declare before Him my trouble.*

1. Praying to the LORD
 - a) A complaint
 - b) A declaration of trouble experienced
2. Crying out to the LORD
 - a) In humble prayer
 - b) In persistent prayer

BIBLE MEMORY WORK

TODAY: 28 January 2028

Text: "For You, O LORD, will bless the righteous"

For You, O LORD, will bless the righteous;

With favour You will surround him as with a shield. Psalm 5:12

1. The blessings of the LORD
They will be bestowed on the righteous
2. The favour of the LORD
This will be like a shield that will protect the righteous

NEXT SUNDAY: 4 February 2024

Text: "For You meet him with the blessings of goodness"

For You meet him with the blessings of goodness;

You set a crown of pure gold upon his head. Psalm 21:3

POETRY CORNER

1

THE WORD IS VERY NEAR YOU

The word of the LORD is most precious;
It is given by God to teach righteousness.
But many fail to give regard to God's Law;
Excuses were given to deflect human flaws.

Some say that God's word is too far away;
It cannot be obtained for the needs of the day.
Others declare that God's word is mysterious;
It cannot be comprehended even by the righteous.

These excuses must be dismissed outright;
They are false thoughts that must be set aside.
The LORD's word is very near to us;
Every word of God is true and righteous!

The word of God can be inside our heart;
Great power to us it can truly impart.
Let us seek to draw nearer to the LORD;
May we be inspired by the word of God!

Charles Tan

Inspiration: Deuteronomy 30:11-14

POETRY CORNER

2

THE MESSIANIC KING

The Lord Jesus is God's only begotten Son,
He would be the Messiah, the Anointed One.
It was prophesied that He would be rejected,
Against Him, rulers conspired and plotted.

Yet in no way would God's plan be thwarted,
In His time, God would deal with the wicked.
Before God, even mighty princes are nothing,
No man is able to defeat God's Chosen King.

God has given the Son all power and authority,
The Messianic King will rule as the Almighty.
His power and glory, we humbly acknowledge,
To be part of His kingdom is a great privilege.

We are grateful and glad to be His servants,
To Him, we pledge our loyalty and allegiance.
How wonderful to trust in Him and His power,
Let us bow down and exalt this Divine Ruler!

Yvette Seow
Inspiration: Psalm 2

POETRY CORNER

3

THE MERCY OF GOD

We say the mercies of God are bounteous and great;
Yet these adjectives prove inadequate.
Perhaps only when we consider man's pettiness;
Then will we realize how God's mercies are limitless.

Has it ever dawned on man to enumerate his transgressions?
Yet God has far removed them from him without mention.
As a doting father tolerates his son's recalcitrance;
The Heavenly Father treats the sinful man with forbearance.

But take heed God's mercies are on those who are reverent;
Who heed and remember God's covenant.
For those who keep and do His commandments;
His everlasting mercies extend to his children's children.

So bless the Lord as do the angels on high;
Let the servants of God, His commands, never defy.
May the mercy of God persist to be upon His children;
And all heaven and earth bless His works in unison.

Dr. Sng Li Wah
Inspiration: Psalm 103:11-22

POETRY CORNER

3

WHEN LIFE FALLS APART

Pain and torment strike deep within the heart
When betrayed by family, loved ones and schemers
The cold sinking feeling that despair and fear impart
Emotions revolt and rage against maintaining a calm demeanour

An anguished mind with many sleepless nights
In times like these it is wise to seek the Lord
He is the only One who can provide comfort and peace
Amidst our storms we are sustained by God

Let God be a part of every aspect of our lives
Cry out to Him in bad times and praise Him at all times
Hope in the Lord for to Him salvation belongs
Strong faith leads to absolute trust in His love for us

We do not know what the next day will bring
When we lay our heads on the pillows at night
In prayer with thanksgiving may our requests be known to Him
Glory to the Lord when He answers us in gracious light

Jessie Quek
Inspiration: Psalm 3

ORDER OF WORSHIP



PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

Deacon Dr. Quek Li Wei

PRAYER

HYMNS

HWC 26 | A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

HWC 349 | Trust And Obey

MESSAGE

“You will bless the righteous” | Text: Psalm 5

Rev. Dr. Charles Tan

CLOSING HYMN

HWC 58 | This Is My Father’s World

BENEDICTION

OFFERING

POSTLUDE



HYMNS

HWC 26 A MIGHTY FORTRESS IS OUR GOD

MARTIN LUTHER

1. A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing;
Our Helper He, amid the flood of mortal ills prevailing.
For still our ancient foe doth seek to work us woe;
His craft and pow'r are great, and, armed with cruel hate,
On earth is not His equal.

2. Did we in our own strength confide, our striving would be losing,
Were not the right man on our side, the man of God's own choosing.
Dost ask who that may be? Christ Jesus, it is He;
Lord Sabaoth His name, from age to age the same,
And He must win the battle.

3. And though this world, with devils filled, should threaten to undo us,
We will not fear, for God hath willed His truth to triumph through us.
The Prince of Darkness grim, we tremble not for him;
His rage we can endure, for lo, his doom is sure;
One little word shall fell him.

4. That word above all earthly pow'rs, no thanks to them, abideth;
The Spirit and the gifts are ours through Him who with us sideth.
Let goods and kindred go, this mortal life also;
The body they may kill; God's truth abideth still;
His Kingdom is forever.



HYMNS

HWC 349 TRUST AND OBEY

JOHN H. SAMMIS

1. When we walk with the Lord in the light of His Word,
What a glory He sheds on our way!
While we do His good will, He abides with us still,
And with all who will trust and obey.

Refrain

Trust and obey, for there's no other way
To be happy in Jesus, but to trust and obey.

2. Not a shadow can rise, not a cloud in the skies,
But His smile quickly drives it away;
Not a doubt nor a fear, not a sigh nor a tear,
Can abide while we trust and obey.

Refrain

3. Not a burden we bear, not a sorrow we share,
But our toil He doth richly repay;
Not a grief nor a loss, not a frown nor a cross,
But is blest if we trust and obey.

Refrain

4. But we never can prove the delights of His love
Until all on the altar we lay;
For the favour He shows and the joy He bestows,
Are for them who will trust and obey.

Refrain

5. Then in fellowship sweet we will sit at His feet,
Or we'll walk by His side in the way;
What He says we will do, where He sends we will go --
Never fear, only trust and obey.

Refrain



HYMNS

HWC 58 THIS IS MY FATHER'S WORLD

MALTBIE D. BABCOCK

1. This is my Father's world,
And to my listening ears
All nature sings, and round me rings
The music of the spheres.
This is my Father's world:
I rest me in the thought
Of rocks and tress, of skies and seas –
His hand the wonders wrought.

2. This is my Father's world,
The birds their carols raise,
The morning light, the lily white,
Declare their Maker's praise.
This is my Father's world:
He shines in all that's fair;
In the rustling grass I hear Him pass,
He speaks to me everywhere.

3. This is my Father's world,
O let me ne'er forget
That though the wrong seems oft so strong
God is the Ruler yet.
This is my Father's world,
The battle is not done;
Jesus who died shall be satisfied,
And earth and Heav'n be one.



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