

BETHANY

INDEPENDENT- PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

God's Kind of Church...

Where God is touching lives...

And people care for people.

Bethany IV ... 22 June 2025

MEDITATION

REV DR CHARLES TAN

Text: Psalm 66

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Meditation	1
Announcements	3
Bible Memory Work	6
Worship	7
A Special Testimony from the Heart	7
Poetry Corner	11
Order of Worship	16

“COME AND HEAR, ALL YOU WHO FEAR GOD”

A TESTIMONY

Psalm 66 was written as a Testimony of the awesomeness of God. The Psalmist wrote to extol God for hearing and answering prayers.

¹⁶ Come *and* hear, all you who fear God,
And I will declare what He has done for my soul.

MEDITATION

¹⁷ I cried to Him with my mouth,
And He was extolled with my tongue.

¹⁸ If I regard iniquity in my heart,
The Lord will not hear.

¹⁹ *But* certainly God has heard *me*;
He has attended to the voice of my prayer.

²⁰ Blessed *be* God,
Who has not turned away my prayer,
Nor His mercy from me! Psalm 66:16-20

1. Addressing all who fear God
 - a) They will understand the word of the Psalmist
 - b) They will be encouraged
 - c) They will extol the Lord too
2. Personal blessings highlighted:
 - a) These are things done by the Lord for the good of the soul
 - b) The Psalmist declares that God does hear and answer prayers
 - c) He cried out to the Lord and the Lord heard and answered

OUR CHALLENGE

1. To testify of how God hears and answers prayer
2. To share with others lessons we have learned about prayer
 - a) If we regard iniquity in our heart
God will not hear such prayers
 - b) If we seek the Lord sincerely
He will grant mercy and answer our prayers
3. Our challenge
 - a) To practise the fear of the Lord
 - b) improve our prayer life

***Write to me at:* charlestan@bethanyipc.sg**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOME TO BETHANY

We are glad that you have chosen to worship the Lord Jesus with us today. May your heart be uplifted through worship and fellowship!



THIS WEEK IN BETHANY

1. Seniors Program

There will be no Seniors Program this week

2. Saturday, 28 June 2025

- a) No YPG/ YAG
- b) Youth Worship | 3.15pm

4. Sunday Ministry, 29 June 2025

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



GIVING OF FELLOWSHIP MEALS

Breakfast: 02' – 04' Batch Girls

Lunch: Jerome & Sarah Lau, Kevin & Rachel Low, Lai Kai Lam



ANNOUNCEMENTS

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHER'S RETREAT

4-5 July 2025

Studies: Lessons from the prophets of God

Theme: "As the LORD God of Israel lives,
before whom I stand" 1 Kings 17

The Sunday School Teacher's Retreat is a special time of learning and instruction for all our Sunday School Teachers. It seeks to bring spiritual renewal and refreshment to all who serve the Lord.

This Retreat, we will be looking at the life of Elijah, a great prophet and servant of God (1 Kings 17). Through the study of his life, we hope to:

1. Comprehend the prophetic ministry
2. Be challenged by the testimony of the lives of the prophets
3. Find inspiration to serve the Lord better

Venue:

Church Sanctuary

Session details:

Session 1: Fri 4 Jul, 8:00-9:15pm

Session 2: Sat 5 Jul, 9:00-10:00am

Session 3: Sat 5 Jul, 10:30-11:30am

Lunch will be provided after Session 3 for a time of fellowship.

Sunday School Teachers, please sign up with your respective Sunday School Superintendents.

The retreat will be live-streamed for all in Bethany.

Thank you!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CELEBRATING BETHANY'S 50+2 ANNIVERSARY

Theme: "From glory to glory"

Date: 24 August 2025

Venue: Shangri La

Time: 10.30am (Worship)

12.00nn (Fellowship Lunch)

Book your table today

To register for Anniversary Lunch, please scan the QR code below:



CELEBRATING BETHANY'S 50+2 ANNIVERSARY: CHILDREN'S SPECIAL LUNCH PROGRAM

As part of our 50 +2 Anniversary celebrations at Shangri La, there will be a separate Lunch Program especially for the children.

They will have their own lunch menu and program in a separate room, taken care of by our staff and volunteers.

Details

Date: 24 August 2025

Venue: Shangri La (Azalea Room)

Time: 12.15pm - 2.00pm

This is open to **children aged 4 to 12.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please contact Pastor Ben Quah (9752 3036) if you have any queries.

Scan QR code to register your child for the **Children's Special Lunch Program**:



BIBLE MEMORY WORK

TODAY: 22 June 2025

Text: The fear of the LORD is a fountain of life

Proverbs 14:27

The fear of the LORD is a fountain of life,

To turn one away from the snares of death. Proverbs 14:27

1. The fear of the Lord has practical ramifications
2. Two are highlighted:
 - a) It is a fountain of life
 - b) It turns the believer from the snares of death

NEXT SUNDAY: 29 June 2025

Text: The fear of the LORD *leads* to life

Proverbs 19:23

The fear of the LORD leads to life,

And he who has it will abide in satisfaction;

He will not be visited with evil.

Proverbs 19:23

WORSHIP IN SPIRIT AND TRUTH

Psalm 9:1-2

¹ I will praise You, O LORD, with my whole heart;

I will tell of all Your marvelous works.

² I will be glad and rejoice in You;

I will sing praise to Your name, O Most High.

1. Praising the Lord

a) This must be done with the whole heart

b) This is done when we speak of His marvellous works

2. Rejoicing in the Lord

a) There is gladness of heart

b) Praise heightens rejoicing

A SPECIAL TESTIMONY FROM THE HEART

Dearest Bethany Family,

We write this letter with a mixture of joy and grief, as we share the news of the birth of our twin girls - Emma and Ellie; as well as the passing of Emma three days later.

Psalm 139:13-16

For You formed my inward parts;

You covered me in my mother's womb.

I will praise You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made;

Marvelous are Your works,

And that my soul knows very well.

My frame was not hidden from You,

When I was made in secret,

And skillfully wrought in the lowest parts of the earth.

Your eyes saw my substance, being yet unformed.

And in Your book they all were written,

The days fashioned for me,

When as yet there were none of them.

A SPECIAL TESTIMONY FROM THE HEART

Lovingly created in strength and grace

Our family was expecting monochorionic identical twin girls in August, whom we have lovingly named Emma Chiam Shi En (詹施恩) and Ellie Chiam Shi Le (詹施乐).

However, from week 16 of the pregnancy onwards, it was evident that we were trending towards Stage I of Twin-to-Twin Transfusion Syndrome (TTTS) with Emma being the donor twin and Ellie being the recipient twin. The Maternal Fetal Medicine team at KKH were carefully watching Emma for blood flow to her vital organs; and Ellie for her heart, which was slowly becoming overloaded due to the extra blood and nutrients flowing to her.

Shi Yun was subsequently admitted to hospital in week 26 with procedures done to keep the babies in the womb for a longer period of time.

In God's grace (施恩), He granted Emma the strength to persevere and hold on in the womb, giving time for both Ellie and her to grow and develop past various stages of viability, giving them the best chances of survival if we had to deliver early. From week 26 to week 28, Emma almost doubled in size from 560g to 1kg, and Ellie held on from 1.2kg and up, increasing their odds of survival.

Through this, we see the Lord's hands lovingly knitting them, forming them in the womb and bringing us exactly to week 28 and day 1 (Friday, 13 June 2025), when a scan in the delivery ward revealed Emma's dropping heart rate that necessitated a crash C-section at 12:56pm that day.

A SPECIAL TESTIMONY FROM THE HEART

God's perfect timing

Emma and Ellie entered this world at 1:04 pm and 1:05 pm on Friday, 13 June 2025, weighing 1kg and 1.3kg respectively. While Ellie was born a minute later, Emma had to be resuscitated by the hospital's Code Blue team. In God's grace, the skilful hands of the doctors and nurses were successful. The twin girls were rushed to the NICU where they started their recovery process.

However, just 48 hours into her life on earth, Emma's health worsened. By the evening of Sunday, Emma was on the maximum support that the NICU team could give. Still, God gave our families time to come to KKH to meet Emma, whom they had all been praying for. The NICU doctors updated us that Emma could go any time, within hours or days.

At midnight, we received the call from NICU that Emma's heart rate had started to drop further. God gave us time to rush down and hold Emma close as she took her final breaths in our arms. He lovingly carried her home at 1:20am on Monday, 16 June 2025.

In God's perfect timing, He gave Daohua the Father's Day gift of always being a father to 3 beautiful girls.

Psalms 139:17-18

How precious also are Your thoughts to me, O God!

How great is the sum of them!

If I should count them, they would be more in number than the sand;

When I awake, I am still with You.

Loved beyond measure

We see in Emma a life that has been loved beyond measure - by our families and friends, who have lovingly prayed and walked alongside us in this journey. Most of all, we see our Heavenly Father's loving hands, who knit her, carried her and now cradles her in His everlasting arms.

A SPECIAL TESTIMONY FROM THE HEART

Both of us are immensely blessed and grateful that God gave her to us, to love and hold for these 28 weeks and 1 day in the womb, and 3 days on earth.

Psalm 139:23-24

*Search me, O God, and know my heart;
Try me, and know my anxieties;
And see if there is any wicked way in me,
And lead me in the way everlasting.*

Looking ahead: Continual prayer support

We continue to pray moment by moment, day by day, as we have through this whole journey of parenthood. We humbly request for the Bethany family to join us in prayer for Ellie as she continues to fight on in NICU.

Thank you for giving our families the time and space in this hour of bereavement. Truly, our Heavenly Father knows our heart and grants us the grace and strength sufficient for each day's needs.

**In God's everlasting love and measureless grace,
Daohua and Shi Yun**

POETRY CORNER

#1

COME AND HEAR, ALL YOU WHO FEAR GOD

The Psalmist sought to bear good testimony;
He addressed those who fear the Lord sincerely.
They would understand the word of the Psalmist;
For the fear of the Lord in the heart persists.

The Psalmist testified of his experience in prayer;
He cried out to the Lord in his time of despair.
If he had regarded iniquity in his heart while he prayed;
God would not answer, His mercy will not be displayed.

The Psalmist recalled how the Lord had answered;
The Lord and His mercy must be greatly treasured.
Each answer to prayer must teach us how to fear God;
There must be great reverence for the name of the Lord.

The Psalmist sought to extol the Lord with all his heart;
From this sense of reverence he would never depart.
The Psalmist called on all who fear the Lord's name;
Their prayers to a great and merciful God are not in vain.

Charles Tan
Inspiration: Psalm 66:1 6-20

POETRY CORNER

#2

God's Canvas

The warmth of the morning envelopes me,
Beads of sweat on the forehead crowns me.
Before me, a city yet to start its bustle,
A scene of pink so ready to dazzle.

Beautiful clouds complete this scene,
Ground and sky, nothing in-between.
In gratitude I savour God's canvas,
A glimpse of heaven's infinite grandness.

Looking up, I appreciate God's masterpiece!
Savour His blessings that shall never cease!
Know however these scenes change with time,
Dark rain clouds may replace beauty sublime.

To leap beyond these clouds, I rightly place my fear,
Understanding of His sovereignty, I must hold dear.
For only with such fear do I access any wisdom,
The key to His salvation and to His Holy Kingdom.

Dr. Tan Kok Yang

Inspiration: Proverbs 9:10, clouds over a city and a description from Lee Lee.

POETRY CORNER

#3

Strong confidence in the fear of the Lord

Fear generally leads to self-doubt and a loss of self confidence
Anxiety strikes accompanied by the sensation of a sinking feeling
Scriptures however inform that the fear of the Lord gives strong confidence
Indeed the reverent fear of the Lord is not detrimental nor paralyzing

Knowledge of the Holy One starts with trying to understand His true nature
Our creator is immensely majestic and powerful that we are struck with awe
To fear and be dumbstruck is the beginning of wisdom of our Maker
Deep respect for Him delivers us from death's snares and jaws

A faithful relationship with the Lord brings bountiful blessings
He provides a refuge for His children ensuring security from life's challenges
Humbly building profitable relationships with God are the wise ones
Stay away from fools who mock at making amends for sins

The Lord is the fountain of life providing living waters
He grants everlasting life when we trust and submit to Him obediently
May we navigate our earth's journey by attentively focusing on the Lord Jesus
Let us learn to fear the Lord working diligently and striving daily

Jessie Quek

Inspiration: Proverbs 14:26-27

POETRY CORNER

#4

Confidence in the Fear of the Lord

It is seldom good news that greets man these days;
Natural disasters, wars, and economic mayhem seem the order of the day.
Many struggle to make sense of the world and its circumstances today;
Where is the confidence for man to live right in any way?

It is in the fear of the Lord that exists strong confidence;
For man to live a life of righteousness and prudence.
The fear of the Lord is also the fountain of life;
God's gift to man which can translate to virtue and uprightness in life.

Man soon learns it is futile to labour and covet for self gain;
The Lord must want him to do good to alleviate others' pain.
He ought to show mercy to the poor and helpless;
Stay faithful to God's truth and be His worthy witness.

Man's search for wisdom and understanding must persist amidst life's strife;
That he may tread prudently even in a world where evil is rife.
Satan may tempt and create havoc with a vengeance;
Yet the God fearing man is assured of the Lord's refuge for him and his children.

Dr. Sng Li Wah
Inspiration: Proverbs 14:26-27

POETRY CORNER

#5

THE FEAR OF THE LORD

The fear of the LORD is beautiful and to be prized;
It ought to be practised and evidenced in one's life.

He who fears the LORD is a man who is upright;
He abhors evil and delights in doing what is right.

He who fears the LORD is wise and discerning;
There is godly perception and understanding.
He thinks through his steps and carefully plans;
He does not act foolishly and is a prudent man.

He who fears the LORD finds great confidence;
Trusting in His promises brings deep assurance.
God is his Refuge amidst challenging situations;
He relies on God who gives needed protection.

He who fears the LORD obtains life everlasting,
And he rejects evil snares which may be alluring.
May we seek to cultivate the fear of the LORD,
And live in an upright way which pleases God!

Yvette Seow

Inspiration: Proverbs 14:2, 15, 16, 26 and 27

ORDER OF WORSHIP



PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

Deacon Dr. Tang Kong Choong

PRAYER

HYMNS

CP 358 | Living for Jesus

CP 389 | He Leadeth Me

MESSAGE

“Fear God and keep His commandments”

Text : Ecclesiastes 12

Rev. Moses Kwek

CLOSING HYMN

CP 331 | Be Thou My Vision

BENEDICTION

OFFERING

POSTLUDE



HYMNS

CP 358 LIVING FOR JESUS

THOMAS O. CHRISHOLM

1. Living for Jesus a life that is true,
Striving to please Him in all that I do;
Yielding allegiance, gladhearted and free,
This is the path way of blessing for me.

Refrain

O Jesus, Lord and Saviour, I give myself to Thee,
For Thou, in Thy atonement, didst give Thyself for me;
I own no other Master, my heart shall be Thy Throne;
My life I give, henceforth to live, O Christ, for Thee alone.

2. Living for Jesus who died in my place,
Bearing on Calv'ry my sin and disgrace;
Such love constrains me to answer His call,
Follow His leading and give Him my all.

Refrain

3. Living for Jesus through earth's little while,
My dearest treasure, the light of His smile,
Seeking the lost ones He died to redeem,
Bringing the weary to find rest in Him.

Refrain



HYMNS

CP 389 HE LEADETH ME

JOSEPH H. GILMORE

1. He leadeth me! O blessed thought!
O words with heav'nly comfort fraught!
Whate'er I do, where'er I be,
Still 'tis God's hand that leadeth me!

Refrain

He leadeth me, He leadeth me,
By His own hand He leadeth me:
His faithful follow'r I would be,
For by His hand He leadeth me.

2. Sometimes 'mid scenes of deepest gloom,
Sometimes where Eden's bowers bloom,
By waters still, o'er troubled sea,
Still 'tis His hand that leadeth me!

Refrain

3. Lord, I would clasp Thy hand in mine,
Nor ever murmur nor repine,
Content, whatever lot I see,
Since 'tis Thy hand that leadeth me!

Refrain

4. And when my task on earth is done,
When by Thy grace the vict'ry's won,
E'en death's cold wave I will not flee,
Still God through Jordan leadeth me!

Refrain



HYMNS

CP 331 BE THOU MY VISION

ELEANOR H. HULL

1. Be Thou my Vision, O Lord of my heart;
Naught be all else to me, save that Thou art:
Thou my best thought, by day or by night,
Waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light.

2. Be Thou my Wisdom, and Thou my true Word;
I ever with Thee and Thou with me, Lord:
Thou my great Father, I Thy true son,
Thou in me dwelling, and I with Thee one.

3. Riches I heed not, or man's empty praise,
Thou mine Inheritance, now and always:
Thou and Thou only, first in my heart,
High King of Heaven, my Treasure Thou art.

4. High King of Heaven, my victory won,
May I reach Heaven's joys, O bright heav'n's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
Still be my Vision, O Ruler of all.



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