

BETHANY

INDEPENDENT- PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

God's Kind of Church...

Where God is touching lives...

And people care for people.

Bethany IV ... 21 September 2025

MEDITATION

REV DR CHARLES TAN

Text: Psalm 25

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ACCORDING TO YOUR MERCY

PLEADING THE MERCY OF GOD

Many of David's Psalms involved seeking the Lord's "tender mercies." He never took the mercy of the Lord for granted.

⁶ Remember, O LORD, Your tender mercies and Your lovingkindnesses, For they *are* from of old.

MEDITATION

⁷ Do not remember the sins of my youth, nor my transgressions;
According to Your mercy remember me,
For Your goodness' sake, O LORD. Psalm 25:6-7

1. Asking the Lord to "remember"

- a) This does not mean that God forgets to be merciful
- b) What David meant was that he hoped that God would grant to him great mercy in his life

2. The mercy of God

- a) Israel had enjoyed the mercy of God for hundreds of years
- b) Its history would not have been as long if it had not been for God's mercy

3. Mercy and lovingkindness

- a) They go together closely
- b) God's mercy is also tied in to His goodness

4. The sins and transgressions of David

- a) He confessed them to the Lord candidly
- b) David recalled his younger days and pleaded with God for His mercy

OUR CHALLENGE

- 1. To be conscious of our sinfulness
- 2. To seek God in prayer humbly
- 3. To plead with the Lord to grant:
 - a) Tender mercies
 - b) Loving-kindness
 - c) Goodness

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 uplifted through worship and fellowship!



GIVING OF FELLOWSHIP MEALS

Breakfast: Shi Yun & Ying Sui

Lunch: Yit San & Alicia; Adrian & Min-Yi; Auntie Kimie



YOUTH CONFERENCE 2025

"Reconciled to God" - 2 Corinthians 5:20

The much anticipated Youth Conference is around the corner! As we learn about being reconciled to God, may we appreciate our salvation so much more, and may it inspire us to live for Him in every aspect of our lives.

Details

Dates: 1-4 December 2025 (Monday - Thursday)

Venue: Bethany IPC Main Sanctuary

Time: 9.00am to 5.00pm daily

Age

Open to youths aged 13 and above.

Fellowship Lunch

Lunch will be provided every day. It would be an opportunity for us to relate to and fellowship with one another.

Fees

\$25.00

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Do sign up early to assist in the planning of the programme.

If there are any queries, please feel free to contact Joshua Phang at 8028 6194.

You may register online by scanning the QR Code below:



THIS WEEK IN BETHANY

1. Seniors Program

- a) Tuesday, 23 September 2025 | 9.30am- 11.30am
- b) Thursday, 25 September 2025 | 9.30am- 11.30am

2. Saturday, 27 September 2025

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

3. Sunday Ministry, 28 September 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



ANNOUNCEMENTS

MID-AUTUMN CELEBRATION 2025

We will be having a Mid-Autumn celebration in the first week of October.
If you wish to attend, kindly sign up at the booth in the Fellowship Hall.

Details

Date: 4 October 2025, Saturday

Time: 3.00pm

Venue: Bethany IPC Main Sanctuary

Followed by Fellowship High Tea



WORSHIP IN SPIRIT AND TRUTH

Psalm 18:21-22

²¹ For I have kept the ways of the LORD,
And have not wickedly departed from my God.

²² For all His judgments *were* before me,
And I did not put away His statutes from me.

1. Keeping the ways of God
 - a) This is in contrast to departing from following the Lord
 - b) Keeping God's ways is a life-long commitment

2. Keeping the judgments of God in plain view
 - a) The Psalmist testified of being conscious of God's judgments
 - b) He had not put away God's statutes

BIBLE MEMORY WORK

TODAY: 21 September 2025

Text: All night in prayer to God Luke 6:12

Now it came to pass in those days that He went out to the mountain to pray, and continued all night in prayer to God. Luke 6:12

1. We have another glimpse of how the Lord Jesus prayed
2. There were occasions when He would spend the whole night in prayer to God
3. The context for this all-night prayer session was the selection of Apostles

NEXT SUNDAY: 28 September 2025

Text: Pray to your Father

But you, when you pray, go into your room, and when you have shut your door, pray to your Father who is in the secret place; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly. Matthew 6:6

POETRY CORNER

#1

ACCORDING TO YOUR MERCY

The sins and transgressions of life are many;
How we need to seek God for His mercy.
Where sins are not confessed, they remain;
Life is unblessed and it might end in shame.

How should we pray as we approach the Lord?
The wisest thing to do is to come clean with God.
We have to confess the sins of our youth before Him;
Many were the transgressions, without and within.

We may plead with God to not remember our sins;
God in His tender mercies will offer His cleansing.
He will forgive if we confess our sins genuinely;
He will regard us with His goodness and mercy.

How wonderful to trust in such a God;
He will be gracious because He is Lord.
His desire is not to punish mercilessly;
He would rather grant grace abundantly.

Charles Tan
Inspiration: Psalm 25:6-7

POETRY CORNER

#2

We ought to pray

Believers have good intentions to lead a lifestyle of prayer
The reality though is starkly different from the aspirations
Starting with determination and enthusiasm often ending in despair
May the Holy Spirit help us hardwire prayer into our lives

Like Lord Jesus awaken early each morning to hear the Lord speak
A quiet place with no distractions to listen to Him
With open ears His will and truth we shall seek
Providing clarity and spiritual renewal as each day begins

A delight to spend time with our Father first thing in the morning
Such a great and refreshing way to get going each day
He arms us with strength and joy each day dawning
When we commune with the Lord as we pray

Let us make prayer a top priority for it is the root of our lives
Our spiritual life will wane and lack vitality if we neglect prayer
With prayer we learn to see the true state of things
It rejuvenates and encourages us when we know God cares

Jessie Quek

Inspiration: Mark 1:35-39; Isaiah 50:4

POETRY CORNER

#3

Flower in the Rain

○ flower in the rain, o flower in the rain.
Your beauty is so simple and plain!
Crystal beads glisten on your petals,
As the weather lashes at all levels.

○ flower in the rain, o flower in the rain.
Blooming steadfastly despite the strain!
The wind may blow and waters hammer,
Firmly you stand, that is your manner.

○ flower in the rain, I am inspired to pray.
A life rooted in prayer, may that be my way.
Devotion and time were Jesus' commitment,
Instructed to bring His Father's will to fulfilment.

○ flower in the rain, I am inspired to pray.
To ground my faith and find strength to stay.
For I too want to be that flower in the rain.
Stand firm in a storm so that I may gain!

Dr. Tan Kok Yang

Inspiration: Mark 1:29-39, Isaiah 50:4-6, Isaiah 55:10-11

POETRY CORNER

#4

THE PRAYER LIFE OF THE LORD JESUS

The ministry of the Lord Jesus was very demanding;
He helped many people amidst teaching and preaching.
The days were long but He always made time to pray;
This was a spiritual discipline He practised each day.

He arose early in the morning, before the day started,
And prayed at a place which was quiet and deserted.
There, He would commune in prayer with His Father,
And commit to His Father all life and ministry matters.

The Lord Jesus' prayer life fulfilled an old prophecy;
He would listen to and be taught by the Father daily.
He purposed to obey and do what God had directed;
To preach the gospel to many more, He was committed.

Life may be hectic and there is much to do each day,
But we must not neglect the need to make time to pray.
It is precious to be able to relate to the Father personally;
May we cherish it and cultivate our prayer life diligently!

Yvette Seow

Inspiration: Mark 1:29-39

ORDER OF WORSHIP



PRELUDE

"Cares Chorus with He Is Able"
Handbell Ensemble

CALL TO WORSHIP

Deacon Dr. Tang Kong Choong

PRAYER

HYMNS

HWC 425 | In the Garden
HWC 435 | What a Friend We Have in Jesus

MESSAGE

"Continued all night in prayer to God"
Text : Mark 3; Matthew 10; Luke 6
Rev. Dr. Charles Tan

CLOSING HYMN

VIP 387 | Teach Me to Pray

BENEDICTION

OFFERING

POSTLUDE



HYMNS

HWC 425 IN THE GARDEN

C. AUSTIN MILES

1. I come to the garden alone,
While the dew is still on the roses;
And the voice I hear, falling on my ear,
The Son of God discloses.

Refrain

And He walks with me, and He talks with me,
And He tells me I am His own;
And the joy we share as we tarry there
None other has ever known.

2. He speaks, and the sound of His voice
Is so sweet the birds hush their singing;
And the melody that He gave to me
Within my heart is ringing.

Refrain

3. I'd stay in the garden with Him
Though the night around me be falling;
But He bids me go – through the voice of woe,
His voice to me is calling.

Refrain



HYMNS

HWC 435 WHAT A FRIEND WE HAVE IN JESUS

JOSEPH SCRIVEN

1. What a Friend we have in Jesus,
All our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry
Everything to God in prayer!
O what peace we often forfeit,
O what needless pain we bear,
All because we do not carry,
Everything to God in prayer!
2. Have we trials and temptations?
Is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be discouraged;
Take it to the Lord in prayer.
Can we find a Friend so faithful
Who will all our sorrows share?
Jesus knows our every weakness;
Take it to the Lord in prayer.

(Continued on page 15)

HYMNS

(Continued from page 14)

3. Are we weak and heavy laden,
Cumbered with a load of care?
Precious Saviour, still our Refuge,
Take it to the Lord in prayer.
Do thy friends despise, forsake thee?
Take it to the Lord in prayer!
In His arms He'll take and shield thee;
Thou wilt find a solace there.



HYMNS

VIP 387 TEACH ME TO PRAY

ALBERT S. REITZ

1. Teach me to pray, Lord, teach me to pray;
This is my heart cry day unto day;
I long to know Thy will and Thy way;
Teach me to pray, Lord, teach me to pray.

Refrain

Living in Thee, Lord, and Thou in me;
Constant abiding, this is my plea;
Grant me Thy power, boundless and free:
Power with men and power with Thee.

2. Power in prayer, Lord, power in prayer!
Here 'mid earth's sin and sorrow and care;
Men lost and dying, souls in despair –
O give me power, power in prayer!

Refrain

3. My weakened will, Lord, Thou canst renew;
My sinful nature Thou canst subdue;
Fill me just now with power anew,
Power to pray and power to do!

Refrain

4. Teach me to pray, Lord, teach me to pray,
Thou art my pattern day unto day;
Thou art my surety, now and for aye,
Teach me to pray, Lord, teach me to pray.

Refrain



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