



THIS IS MY STORY

A BOOKLET OF TESTIMONIES

CHRISTMAS
BAPTISMAL SERVICE III
21 December 2025



Paedo-Baptism

1. Cai Cheng Xin, Emmett
(Son of Yin Zhou & Aleena)
2. Elliot Tham Kai Le
(Son of Samuel & Su-An)
3. Michael Tan Ming Ray
(Son of Wei Kee & Pei Ching)
4. Tan Si En Katherine
(Daughter of You Cai & Alvina)

To be baptized by:

Pastor Charles Tan

Pastor Charles Tan

Pastor Charles Tan

Pastor Charles Tan

Baptism

1. David Soh
2. Lu Jiayi

To be baptized by:

Pastor Benjamin Chong

Pastor Benjamin Chong

Transference

1. Tan Jun Liang
2. Daniel Khoo Kean Seen
3. Elena Tsou
4. Shelia Xie
5. Wang Ruigang, Josiah

To be prayed for by:

Pastor Benjamin Chong

Pastor Mark Tan

Pastor Mark Tan

Pastor Mark Tan

Pastor Mark Tan

Reaffirmation

1. **Ou Wai Yan Darrell**
2. **Tan Yi Qi Ashley**
3. **Theodore Heng**

To be prayed for by:

Pastor Benjamin Chong
Pastor Mitchell Tan
Pastor Charles Tan

A PRAYER FOR GENUINE FAITH IN THE GOD OF TRUTH

CAI YINZHOU & ALEENA
(PARENTS OF EMMETT CAI)

Hi everyone, we are Yinzhou and Aleena. We thank God for the precious privilege to be parents to our two boys – Zyon and Emmett Cai. Today, we are seeking baptism for Emmett in recognition of this charge given to us, to bring him up in the fear of the Lord.

Emmett was an answer to our prayers and his name bears the hopes and prayers we have for him. His Chinese name, 诚信, directly translates to “genuine faith”. As individuals and parents, we recognise that the most precious gift that Emmett can have is to find genuine faith in God for himself.

His English name, **Emmett**, is derived from the Hebrew word “**Emet**” (אמת) meaning **truth**. In this world that is filled with falsehood and deception, we hope that Emmett will set his heart on knowing God’s truth from the Bible, and knowing the God of truth.

In Scripture, “Emet” also speaks of God’s own character: His faithfulness, His steadiness, His promises that never fail. It is our prayer that Emmett would be rooted in God’s truth, shielded by it, shaped by it, and one day, take his place as a dependable and faithful servant of God in the future.

We are committed to covering Emmett in prayer, and consciously point him to the Lord. We are also especially grateful that we can raise Emmett up in the warmth and love of Bethany, where God’s truth is boldly preached.

*“Teach me Your way, O LORD; I will walk in Your **truth**.” (Psalm 86:11)*



Dear Bethany,

On 9 October 2025, we celebrated the arrival of baby Elliot and we are now a family of four! We thank God for His blessings. It has been a journey of learning to apply Psalm 33 - our wedding passage. The response of rejoicing with praise comes with the challenge to fully trust and hope in Him.

Going through pregnancy another time didn't mean it was any easier. Su's chronic thyroid condition was also something new to contend with. While past experience helped to narrow down unknowns, the knowledge of the risks now amplified our fears. We don't take anything for granted and thus the day-by-day walk to grow in trust and hope. What we discovered was joy found in the Lord alone, and not swayed by each good or poor gynae report.

A reminder to pray and rejoice

We chose his English (Elliot) and Mandarin (恺乐) names as a reminder to pray and rejoice in the Lord. We hope to go beyond just effort and human wisdom in bringing up our children. We seek His leading and provision each step of the way!

We see Elliot's baptism today as our obedience to God and response to the promises of the new covenant. How wonderful it is that all can share in these truths that many hold so firmly to! We also see this as a step of identification with our church family. It is here in Bethany where we are taught His Word faithfully, and have learnt to serve. We hope that one day Elliot will take his place in Bethany too.

In His Love and ours,
Sam and Su



NONE LIKE GOD

TAN WEI KEE & PEI CHING
(PARENTS OF MICHAEL TAN)

On the morning of 29 November 2024, after 10 weeks of strict bedrest in hospital to stave off preterm birth, we welcomed our precious Michael, whose name declares “Who is like God?”. Little could we have fathomed how the months to come would reveal the depth of this question. By eight months-old, Michael had been through two major surgeries, three surgical procedures, nine long hospital stays and countless hospital visits for consultations.

Michael was diagnosed with pelvi-ureteric junction obstruction at both kidneys by the time he was two months-old. It would require separate surgeries to address the obstruction to the ureters on each side. To relieve pressure on his kidneys while we waited for him to grow bigger (in preparation for the surgeries), doctors inserted small tubes on both flanks to drain urine into bags. They also deployed catheters and stents to facilitate drainage. Despite these interventions, Michael suffered three bouts of kidney infection.

Those were long and difficult months. But if not for God’s timing, leading and keeping, we could not have managed. Each day felt interminable, but God provided upliftment. He sent people who helped, comforted and encouraged. Faced with many unknowns and decision points, our hearts were troubled. Through His Word, God assured us of His sovereignty, reminding us to be still (Psalm 46:10). By His grace, Michael remained a joyful baby who brought much cheer to everyone even as he endured much.

What also kept us going was knowing that our burdens were not ours alone to shoulder. For we are yoked with the Lord Jesus Christ, our High Priest who knows better than us what it means to suffer (Hebrews 4:15), and who carries not only our sins but also our sorrows (Isaiah 53:4).

It has been almost four months since Michael's last hospitalisation. We count each uneventful day a blessing. These are still early days. It is not yet clear whether the condition has been fully resolved or what the longer-term impact may be. We continue to monitor Michael closely.

It would be easy to dwell on the difficult circumstances and uncertainty of it all. Yet, we only have to recall how God has upheld us over the past year to be reminded of the hope we can have for the future. Not hope that rests on favourable circumstances, but hope anchored in the gospel, that Christ Jesus our Lord has reconciled us to God, so that nothing, not even adversity, can separate us from His love (Romans 8:37-39).

Isaiah 40:11 is a verse we hold dear to heart: "God will gather the lambs with His arm, and carry them in His bosom." As we reflect on the journey thus far, we cannot help but be amazed and humbled by how God has led and sustained us. He lovingly carried us through the valley, and gave us a clearer sense of what matters in life. Truly, there is none like God – mighty in power, tender in mercy, full of compassion and love. As we commit Michael to God, we pray that he will learn to set God before him all his days (Psalm 16:8), like a compass locked on North.

BLESSED ARE THE PURE IN HEART

TAN YOU CAI & ALVINA
(PARENTS OF KATHERINE TAN)

We thank God for the precious gift of our daughter, Katherine, and for the joy of presenting her for baptism today. She is one we have prayed earnestly for, and she reminds us of God's goodness, faithfulness, and unending mercy. Our hearts are full of gratitude for the life He has entrusted to us.

We chose to baptize her here in Bethany because this church holds deep meaning for us. It is here that both of us first discovered that faith is real and living. It is here that we experienced the Lord's love in personal and tangible ways, were fed and grounded by His Word, and grew to love Him and His people very much. Bethany has been our spiritual home, and we long for Katherine to grow up in the same environment of truth, love, and grace that has shaped our walk with God.

We also chose to present her for paedo-baptism because we believe in God's covenant promises – that His grace reaches even the little ones who cannot yet express faith for themselves. Today, we present Katherine as belonging to the Lord. Our desire is that one day she will take this truth to heart and profess her own faith in Him.

Her name, Katherine, was chosen with prayer and intention. "Katherine", meaning *pure*, is a beautiful reminder of God's call for His children to walk in holiness and sincerity of heart.

"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God" (Matthew 5:8).

The name "Katherine" was chosen to reflect a prayerful hope that she will grow to love God with an undivided heart, seeking His presence above all else. It is our prayer that she will walk in purity, shine the light of Christ, and live as a vessel of His love and truth in the world.

“思恩”，“思” means *to remember or think fondly of* the Lord's presence in our lives, while “恩” refers to *God's grace*. Together, her names remind us that we are made pure only by the grace of God—grace we desire to remember and be grateful for always.

As her parents, we commit ourselves today to bring her up in the knowledge and love of the Lord. We pray that He will grant us wisdom, patience, and strength to teach her His ways, to model a Christ-centered life before her, and to guide her gently yet faithfully toward Him. Our deepest prayer is that she will come to know God personally, trust Him wholeheartedly, and love Him all the days of her life.

We are grateful for the Bethany family, for the love, teaching, and care we have received over the years. May she, too, experience the same grace, truth, and love of Christ that we have found in Bethany.

Prayerfully,
You Cai and Alvina



Good morning everyone, my name is David and it is my joy to be able to share with you all my personal testimony of my faith and how I came to discover my faith to be so real to me and how I was able to apply it in my life and let it grow over the last few years.

Personal Background:

I came to Bethany during 2016 after being invited to attend the Christmas Service at Shangri-La that year by Dr Daniel after my family was recommended to visit his clinic when I fell sick earlier in that year. In reflection, I think that was the first time I had felt the Lord personally call out to me to bring me to Bethany as before I started coming to Bethany regularly, my family had spent the better part of the last 2-3 years church-hopping, trying to find a church that felt like a good fit, as the previous churches that I went to felt unwelcoming and their sermons often felt empty and did not interest me. I started coming to Bethany regularly the next year in 2017 after I felt pulled towards Bethany as our final destination.

The aspect of the church that truly stood out the most to me was the community that had been established in the church after so many years standing, where everyone knew everyone and could interact freely. When I first started coming regularly, one of my biggest fears and concerns at the time was how would I be treated as a new entrant into the community, since I did not grow up with them. However, they were all welcoming to me and introduced me to a side of the church where I could evidently see the Lord being actively involved in many others' lives, and through it all, as I reflect back on it now, I feel like it was the Lord's blessing to guide me to His house where I could feel welcomed to stay.

My first hurdle in faith and a call back to the Lord

After COVID had hit and passed, I had started coming to Bethany on my own and tried to show up regularly. However, it was during this time, around early 2023, where the first cracks in my faith had started to show. At that point in time, my mind was wandering and was focused on things outside of church and I frequently opted to skip church in pursuit of external and often selfish gains and meeting up with friends rather than going to the Lord's House to worship Him. I often cited reasons such as "There is always next week" and "I don't feel like going today, so I'll stay home." I let these reasonings take control of my life, losing sight of the Lord and my faith, giving into temptations around me that existed to pull me away from the Lord. It was only during early 2024, that I was able to acknowledge the Lord calling me back to Him, when I opened up to my batch about my difficulties in my faith, that they invited me to start attending Catechism Class, that I may be able to discover my faith in the Lord Jesus to be real and personal. Through it all, I became aware of the Lord's undying love for His people, though I was by all means, considered lost to sin and did not deserve anything from the Lord, yet He still called out to me to bring me back to Him and I found myself being deeply moved by His presence in my life as I was still considered by the Lord as one of His own and He still loved and continued to watch over me despite me having constantly rejected His presence in my life multiple times the year prior.

Over the previous year, I had sat for my A levels and truthfully, I did not score as well as I should have, in fact falling far shorter than I had hoped. Despite all my plans for university falling apart, I still found a sense of calm

within me, the Lord had guided me to walk down this path and I wanted to respond without hesitation. During this time, I was able to experience the Lord's numerous gracious blessings in my life and saw His hand in guiding me down this path. With my enlistment thankfully being scheduled for a late date so it did not interfere with my studies as I sat for my AP Exams, the Lord also provided by allowing me to be posted to an administrative position instead of active combat, giving me sufficient time even while serving NS to study for my second round of exams next year. On top of it all, the Lord had provided me with precious friends who instead of rejecting and being disappointed, constantly voiced their support and encouragement for me. I am extremely grateful for these people the Lord had mercifully placed in my life to uplift me in my times of need, allowing me to continue down this path the Lord had let me walk.

Meaningful Messages to hold onto

One of the messages that I still hold onto was during Youth Conference 2024, where Pastor shared from 1 Thessalonians 1 and 1 Timothy 4, about being an example of our faith, this message has struck me deeply as at that point in my life, I had not lived out my faith correctly and my behaviour every day was not reflective of the faith that I wanted to represent and show to those around me. He shared with us on how we needed to let the Word of God live within us and become part of our lives, and in result, we will be judged by our faith, being examples through conduct, word, spirit and faith. He had urged us to be aware of us being examples of our faith and finding a will to change within us, discarding our old selves to reshape the way we live to glorify God. I had taken these words to heart and over the last year that had passed, I found it as my daily challenge and it was my constant committal in prayer to the Lord, that He would make my heart receptive to change, that my ears may be made open to hear His words, it was a path that I had chosen to follow and I wanted to live my life in a way that was pleasing to the Lord and in turn, that He may allow my life to be reformed in faith.

Furthermore, the messages shared from last year's Youth Conference still serve as a constant reminder to me that I must live by faith and let my steps be directed by the Lord. I still turn back to the passage nightly to remind myself of the way by which I was meant to walk by and pray to the Lord for

the strength of character, that I may be able to live out my faith and serve as an example of the Christian faith to others around me, even those who have yet to discover faith for themselves.



ANCHORED IN HIM BY HIS GRACE

LU JIA YI

My husband, Crys, and I were first invited to Bethany for their Christmas concert by my colleague-turned-friend, Janelle. During the pandemic, we began watching Bethany Online and started attending in person from December 2022.

I am the youngest in a family of seven. Growing up in a conflict-filled home, I often felt helpless and out of control of my own circumstances. When I was nine, my third sister came to faith and shared that humanity was saved because the Lord Jesus died for our sins. Having been raised on Buddhist teachings, I could not understand what she meant. However, over the years, I found myself reading Bible stories and parables out of curiosity.

After my 'O' levels, I decided to pursue design after discovering a passion for it, despite my mum's disapproval. I enrolled in a local polytechnic and worked hard, eventually earning an internship opportunity in New York City. For the first time in my life, I felt in control of my own path. My work brought me the stability and freedom I had long yearned for as a child. I began working full-time at 20, choosing to forgo university. For the next decade, my career became my anchor. I poured my heart and soul into work, experiencing success and fulfilment.

In my mid-twenties, God re-entered my life through my relationship with Crys. Around that time, I started questioning the purpose of life. I also struggled to understand God's love. Why would the Lord Jesus love me when I had never felt much love at home? It seemed almost too good to be true that my sins could be forgiven simply by having faith in Him.

Over time, my career began to decline; the only anchor I had relied on was no longer stable. Every lost opportunity slowly left me demoralised and depressed. Though I put on a brave front, I struggled with shame and a sense of failure. During that period, I started learning about God's grace and mercy through Bethany. I was drawn to deepen my understanding and joined Catechism Class in September 2024.

At the beginning of this year, I reached one of the lowest points in my life. My father-in-law, who had become a father figure to me, passed away from cancer. As I grieved his loss, I was also dealing with personal conflicts and challenges at work. I felt like that same helpless child again - overwhelmed with anxiety, anger, and sadness.

With encouragement from Crys and my sister, I prayed and cried out to the Lord. For the first time, I chose to surrender to Him completely, trusting that He would take care of me. After praying, I felt an unexplainable sense of peace. As I continued seeking His guidance, things began to improve, especially at work. I marvelled at God's hand and His power - what a faithful, gracious, and merciful God! Even though I was imperfect, He answered and guided me. That experience made me commit myself to Him and His Word more fully. I began praying intentionally, asking Him to renew my spirit and heart.

Months later, I faced new challenges related to work and health. These made me re-examine my priorities: Did I still want work to remain as my anchor? I was grateful for all it had provided, but deep down I knew it was time to anchor myself in God instead.

During Catechism Class, Pastor Charles taught from John 15:1-8 - To abide in Him, and He will abide in us. I was moved by the beauty of that truth - how gracious and faithful God is to dwell within us. I made a quiet promise to study His Word more diligently and to bring my mum to church one day.

As I continued praying, it became clear that I needed to pause and reset. With Crys' support, I made the difficult decision to resign from my job, without any concrete plans ahead. The final weeks before I left were difficult. The old me would have cracked under the pressure, but this time I leaned on

God and His Word. I found deep comfort in Psalm 23 - knowing that even in adversity and uncertainty, God is with me and will take care of me. Accepting the Lord Jesus does not mean I will no longer face challenges, but it means I face them differently, with faith and trust in Him. He is my Saviour who died for me, loves me deeply, and never gave up on me even after 25 years of unbelief and struggle.

I am joyful to share that I kept my promise to study His Word by joining Sunday School this July and was able to bring my mum to the Special Seniors Program (SSP). I am deeply grateful for Bethany, a church where God truly touches lives and where people genuinely care for one another. Bethany's focus on God's Word has helped me grow and deepen my faith. As I take this step of baptism, I hope to serve, glorify His name, and be a blessing to others.



I attended church from young, and my parents would ensure that every Sunday morning was dedicated to service, with little exceptions. Thus, I had the privilege to grow up with the stories of Christ, and learn of God's love, wrath and great forgiveness. In my twenties, I made the decision to affirm the faith, and after months of preparation, took upon my re-affirmation. Since then, I have served in various ministries at church.

Many years later, I met my wife and eventually managed to convince her to spend her Sunday mornings at church. It was undeniably a challenging time for her, coming from a non-Christian background, and having to understand sermons in Mandarin. When Covid struck and service transitioned to being fully virtual, we decided to consider other churches. Bethany came up as one of them. We attended the Christmas concert once and thought it was a welcoming church.

The sermons at Bethany spoke out to us, to me. The tight relationship of the Word and its interpretation and application brought me closer to the Lord.

The feeling I got when we eventually attended church after the lockdowns were loosened was one of close spiritual kinship. So we stayed, and continued to learn of the church, and in its teachings.

And finally I come today, asking for the opportunity to be one with the community, to continue to grow the church and share the faith and the love of the Lord.



I am fortunate to be born into a Christian family. However, at the age of 3, my father passed away from leukaemia. My mum started work as a pastor in a Methodist church, and although it wasn't easy for her who had to work and take care of me, God provided and is always there for the both of us. When I could not get into our local university, my mum supported me by sending me to Perth where I completed my university education.

Upon returning to Singapore and thru a university course mate in Perth, I attended Orchard Road Presbyterian Church (ORPC). When I was out of job for almost a year, one of my friends in ORPC helped me find work in NIE. And it was in NIE where I met Aileen Sng, who later brought me to Bethany. Through Aileen and some of my new friends in Bethany, I met my future wife, Ivy. Ivy was adamant that I come over, so I agreed and we got married in Bethany. My 2 boys Jack and Elliot are now 10 years old and happily attending JSS.

My first impressions of Bethany was that the people are so warm. It made it easy for me to adjust to a new church and start making new friends. Through the years I have seen families in Bethany grow up and multiply. I see the pastors who faithfully shepherd the congregation, the people who serve tirelessly and cheerfully in the various ministries. Though Bethany has changed much over the years, she still remains as a church where "God is touching lives and people care for people"!

As I look back, I see God's hand of love silently guiding me through the years. Although I was exposed to Christianity since young, God was just knowledge and not personal to me. Not until my mum fell sick and had to stop work for some time. I remembered I felt really helpless, and it was during this period that I learnt to rely on God, to learn to trust Him. A Bible verse that I held close to heart was Mark 11:23 which encouraged me greatly in those dark nights.

I realise that faith needs to be cultivated and not taken for granted, and I have come to appreciate Bethany as a church that is able to encourage me to work out my faith. It is a church that is strongly grounded in the Lord's Word in a world today where the truth is so often masked behind half-truths. I thank God for leading me to Bethany.



I received Christ when I was 13, when my brother first brought me to the youth ministry at my previous church. I was deeply moved by the message shared by the pastor that day, which was about David and Goliath. I still remember how he spoke about David – a young and seemingly ill-equipped boy – standing before a giant, yet triumphing because God was with him. Although I did not fully grasp the depth of the passage at the time, I was in awe of this God who protects His people and shows grace to those who are undeserving.

When I was younger, I found it difficult to see myself as a sinner, as I had never committed any major wrongdoing or caused significant harm to others. However, as I grew in my understanding of God's Word, I began to realise that sin often takes subtler forms – and for me, it was pride. Pride showed up in the way I constantly worried about how others perceived me, and in how I pushed myself excessively in my studies and at work, often at the expense of my physical and mental health.

In time, God revealed to me that beneath this drive for perfection was a deeper desire – a longing to be acknowledged and respected by others, to prove my worth through my achievements. It was also sinful for me to live as though everything depended on me, as if I were my own god, instead of trusting and submitting to the One who truly is God.

However, since coming to Bethany and attending Sunday school classes and YAG sessions, I was reminded through Philippians 4: 6-7,

“Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. “

And also through Jeremiah 9:23-24,

“Thus says the LORD:

Let not the wise man glory in his wisdom,

Let not the mighty man glory in his might,

Nor let the rich man glory in his riches;

But let him who glories glory in this,

That he understands and knows Me,

That I am the LORD, exercising lovingkindness, judgment, and righteousness in the earth.

For in these I delight,” says the LORD.”

I was taught that true glory does not lie in human ability or accomplishment, but in knowing and understanding the Lord.

These truths led me to a deeper appreciation of the grace and mercy of the Lord Jesus in my life. My pride and self-sufficiency are but filthy rags before a holy God. Yet the Lord Jesus, in His compassion, has borne my sin—including the sin of trusting in myself—and has given me His righteousness in exchange. Every breath I take, every gift or strength I possess, is entirely the result of His grace. Furthermore, how can I bring glory to Him if I am unwilling to let go of control and to be at peace with my weaknesses and shortcomings?

Beyond the faithful teaching of God’s Word each week by the pastors and

Sunday school teachers, I have been deeply touched by the genuine warmth and strong sense of community in Bethany – seeing members come together to serve in funerals, weddings, and various church events. I also appreciate Bethany’s heart for outreach and its focus on looking beyond the needs of the local church. This has been a meaningful reminder for me not to lead a self-centred life, but as a child of God, to continually look outward – to serve, care for, and pray for the needs of others. These are the values and spirit that have drawn me to make Bethany my spiritual home.

I thank God for leading me to Bethany, where I’ve found both sound teaching and a loving community that encourages me to live out my faith each day. I look forward to growing further and serving Christ together with the church.



I was born into a Christian family and have been attending church regularly for as long as I can remember. Growing up, I went through Sunday School, learning Bible stories, memory verses, and many foundational truths from God’s Word. As a teenager, I also began serving in various ministries. Outwardly, it seemed like I was doing all the “right” things.

Yet despite all of that, I lacked confidence and assurance in my faith. Deep down, I carried many doubts. God felt distant, and my faith did not feel personal or real. Over time, coming to church became more about my friends than about God. Most importantly, I was still struggling with sin, and that struggle made me question whether I truly believed at all. However, God has never given up on me!

Romans 10:9-10 says, *“that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.”* By the mercies of God, when I

was about 20 years old, I had the desire to be serious in my faith. Just before starting a discipleship journey with my spiritual mentor, she had a deep conversation with me about sin and faith. Through that conversation, God opened my eyes to see where I truly stood before Him—a sinner, helpless and unable to save myself. I realised that being raised in a Christian family, attending church faithfully, and serving in ministry did not mean I automatically had a genuine faith. I lacked a personal relationship with God.

That day, I acknowledged my sins before Him, sought His forgiveness, and confessed the Lord Jesus as my Lord and Saviour. Since then, my relationship with God has been real and meaningful. Through His Word and the Holy Spirit, I've become much more sensitive to sin, and I've seen God's hand guiding and shaping me through different seasons of life. Even though life's challenges got me distracted at times, God never stopped reminding me of His presence. I know I am still a work-in-progress, but I am confident that God is ever-present, moulding me into the person He wants me to be.

About a year ago, God led my family and me to Bethany through our dear friends, Keith and Pei Ling. Personally, I was struggling with juggling motherhood and career and there was often a sense of helplessness and frustration. My walk with the Lord was also not what it should be. I needed help and direction. Having been in Bethany for the past year, we are deeply grateful for the warm hospitality and love shown to us here. Through the Sunday School lessons and the preaching of God's Word, I have been continually challenged to grow in my faith and in my walk with the Lord. It has been exciting to glean new lessons from Scripture week after week, and I am reminded that there is still so much more to learn about being a disciple of the Lord Jesus Christ. I still face challenging times but I know better now what I should do - to draw near to God through prayer and His Word.

As we settle into the Bethany community, I look forward to serving and doing my part wherever God leads. My prayer for my family is that we will grow spiritually and be rooted in a Christ-focused, Word-centered church.

All glory and thanks be to God for His grace and guidance in my life.

FROM KNOWING ABOUT GOD TO KNOWING HIM

WANG RUIGANG, JOSIAH

I was born into a Christian home, and growing up, life revolved around church. As a Pastor's Kid (or PK), the Bible was constantly read, family prayers were abundant, and attending church on Saturdays and Sundays were a given. Over time, I became more involved in various ministries—participating in and leading fellowship groups, joining Bible discussions, and playing music for services.

Yet through all these activities, I still did not personally know God. I knew His Word, recited countless memory verses, and held a strong rejection for worldly vices. Despite this, there remained a strange emptiness whenever I ended my prayers with "...in Jesus' name."

However, because of the grounding of a Christian upbringing, I knew that God's voice was always near, quietly whispering His presence and reminding me of the need to know Him beyond familiarity. Through a spiritual mentor, the truth of His work slowly unfolded. God revealed that He had always been at work around me and that He was continually seeking an intimate relationship with me. I began to recognize my position before this great and mighty King and Creator. I came to understand sin as real and its consequences eternal. I realized my own depravity before Him and my desperate need for the Lord Jesus to be my personal Lord and Savior. No amount of works could replace faith in Him. No amount of works without faith could bring about a sweet, intimate relationship with the One who created me.

After confessing the Lord Jesus as my personal Lord and Savior with maturity and understanding at age 19, I now look back and witness many things I could never have done in my own strength and wisdom—but now can, by His grace. His Word has become alive to me and speaks clearly—whether by magnifying His presence in praise or revealing hidden sin. The promise of meeting my Creator in heaven one day has reshaped my views and my responses to life's struggles.

As my family and I now settle in Bethany, we look forward to being part of and serving wherever God leads. We know He is with us here and will continue to guide our path.

To God be all the glory—great things He hath done!



Hi everyone, I'm Darrell. Some of you may know me, but most of you will know my brother Gabriel who plays the piano at MWS. I was baptised as an infant and grew up in Bethany, learning the Scriptures from a young age and being surrounded by a family of faith. Even though I was raised in church, it has taken me many years to find my faith real. I have come to this point where my faith has become real to me. That is why I would like to seek reaffirmation. Allow me to share a little of my journey, but more importantly how God's grace and mercy has been so real to me.

Dead in Trespasses and Sins

As Paul writes in Ephesians 2, I came to see that I was once dead in trespasses and sins, walking according to the course of this world. What began as partying and social drinking eventually became a deep bondage to sin and alcoholism. I lived according to the desires of my flesh and of my mind. I was kicked out of university, I could not hold on to any job I had and I could not find any sense of direction in life. My life slowly spiralled into depression and isolation, and I turned more and more to drinking to numb the shame and confusion I could not face.

Over time the consequences caught up with me and I developed chronic pancreatitis. I was in and out of the hospital over the years 2021-2024. I once even spent six months with a constant fever because of an infected buildup and a tear and necrosis of my pancreas, and eventually a duct had to be inserted to drain the fluid. Even then, with a pouch attached to me I could not stop drinking. I had no strength and no direction in life. I was at the very end of my tether to life which was almost lost.

At that time, the deadness of sin described in Ephesians 2 became very real to me.

But God, Made Me Alive

The words in Ephesians 2:4-5 were life-saving words that resonated with me, that while I was still dead in trespasses and sins, God still loved me.

But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ.

In the past, I tried again and again to break out of my sinful ways and my problems but I could not succeed. But this time, God was doing a special work in me. When I finally cried out for help, God surrounded me with love through my family, my brother, friends from Bethany and Pastor Ben who lovingly, gently and patiently ministered the Word of God to me.

The steady return to Scripture, learning to pray again, facing my sin honestly and slowly finding hope was not something I could have done on my own. I had no strength left. It was all God's grace, from His great love. Nothing I had tried in the past had worked or lasted. But God has kept me.

The Future: God's Workmanship, Walking Forward in Christ

Today, by the grace of God, I stand alive. I have been sober for more than a year. I have been blessed with a job and have been able to hold it down for the past year. I have even been able to run a half marathon. These are things that were far beyond what I could have imagined in my early days of sobriety, where I could barely go for a simple walk.

But far more precious than all these physical restorations, God has made me alive to Him. I am no longer estranged from God. I now have the privilege to come before Him in prayer and to know myself as His son. There was a time where I would not even dare to pray for myself because of how sinful and unworthy I felt. Yet now, I desire to identify with Christ and to seek reaffirmation. This is truly the gift from God. It is nothing but His grace and mercy to me. I want to testify of the God who saved me while I was still a sinner.

Looking forward, my desire is to be His workmanship, to walk in the continued work that God is doing in me. I want to grow in Bethany, to serve here, to get to know and relate with more and more people in church, and to find the mutual encouragement of faith as we walk together. I also desire to give back and repay, in some small way, the deep indebtedness I feel to the people of Bethany who, through God, have played such a vital part in saving my life.

Everything I am today stands as a testimony not to my strength, but to the mercy and faithfulness of God who never gave up on me. **Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ.**



Introduction

Hi everyone! My name is Ashley and I am 19 this year. Today as I take this step of reaffirmation, I would like to share with you how I found God real in my life.

Difficulties in finding faith real

I am very blessed to have grown up in Bethany, where the Word of God has been taught to me by teachers and pastors since young. But while I learnt many lessons each week, my understanding of God was mostly head knowledge, and faith was not real and personal to me.

Reflecting on how I started off, my difficulty in finding faith personal was because I did not think I needed God. I had a worldly perspective, centered on achievements in school, friendships, and material things. Because my heart was set on these things, I could not genuinely seek God nor was I driven to do so. My relationship with God was transactional, and my prayers were contained to asking something from God. My understanding and approach towards faith was so plainly wrong, but this was not obvious to me because I had not confronted the reality of my spiritual state. I had been a

person who was easy to despair and minor setbacks would weigh on me heavily. I was also starting to feel weary because I felt empty in my various pursuits. But instead of addressing my sin problems and confronting the state of my faith, I relied on my circumstances for things to get better.

Struggles and a turning point

Throughout the years, there would be many impactful lessons where I would feel compelled to address my sin problems and take my faith seriously. But often my resolve would wear off and it seemed easier to revert to familiar ways of coping. This would be a pattern of mine, which caused me much struggle in Junior College. I felt stretched in every direction, and it was during this period where I felt most weary and frustrated with myself. With all the wonderful truths I knew about God, I saw there was a great disparity between how I lived and that of an empowered Christian life, and I wondered whether the truths I knew of could be real and personal to me. I realised then that while I was distracted by school and friends, I had actually neglected my spiritual needs! And without God, my spirit was weak and made me more susceptible to feelings of emptiness and despair.

Confronting sin and discovering God's grace

As I decided to take my faith more seriously, I also had to grapple with the sin problems in my life. Romans 7:24-25 was a verse that spoke to me, "O wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death? I thank God—through Jesus Christ our Lord!" There are so many ways in which I am inadequate and wretched; not just in the sins that I commit, but where I also fall short of God's glory. But it was through recognising my sinfulness that I could appreciate just how wonderful the grace of God is, and the familiar verses in Romans 5:8-9 became real to me, which reads, "But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him." Truly, only the mercy and love of God could save me from my sins! Even after seeing the depths of my wretchedness, God would still declare me righteous and holy, such that I can be saved and have the privilege of calling Him my Heavenly Father, and have a relationship with Him through our Lord Jesus Christ. Such is the grace of God which I could finally understand with my heart, and not just my mind.

A renewed sense of purpose

One of the ways God has changed my life is by giving me a renewed sense of purpose. Instead of focusing on myself, I am learning instead to live for God. But having this consciousness is something I have to consistently practice, especially since starting university, as the temptation to be driven by personal ambition or fear of failure is very real. 2 Peter 1:10 which reads, "Therefore, brethren, be even more diligent to make your call and election sure, for if you do these things you will never stumble;" encourages me to always return to God's Word as my anchor and to actively cultivate my walk with God to grow in my faith.

A personal response to God's goodness

Even as I seek reaffirmation, I am deeply humbled that there is no power in my choosing to follow the Lord Jesus, it is my response to being redeemed by God's grace and mercy. God has always been so good to me, which is evident from the love I've been shown in Bethany since young, such as through pastors and teachers who faithfully teach me and friends whom I can relate to as we walk in this same journey of faith. I am especially blessed to have Pastor Mitch as my godfather, who has been there since day one, being concerned for my spiritual state and meeting me where I am—whether being encouraging or firm, but always being candid and true to the Word of God.

A personal commitment

A personal prayer that I make is that I may walk worthy of God's calling for me. No longer does the idea of living an empowered Christian life seem elusive to me, but something I can grow towards! As I am reaffirmed in my faith, this is my commitment—not just to hold on to this faith, but to establish it and glorify Him in all that I do.



TO WALK AS THE LORD JESUS WALKED

THEODORE HENG

Hi, I am Theodore Heng, I'm 16 this year, my parents are Steven and Sharon, and I have a brother Thaddeus who looks like me but is very different from me. The Lord has blessed me with wonderful parents that never gave up on me and encouraged me to seek the Lord. They, along with my Sunday school teachers and pastors, worked tirelessly to help me develop my faith. My heart is so full of gratitude for them. As a child, my parents went to great lengths to inculcate the Word of God in my life. However, this only became head knowledge for me, I was unable to truly see it as truth.

Things changed for me in Family Camp 2023. My family had chaired together and personally, I felt that my faith was real and strong. During consecration night, I stood up, mostly because the message was convicting and also because I felt like I needed to. As I walked back to my hotel room, alone with my thoughts, I realised that I never truly appreciated God's presence in my life nor truly committed myself to my faith. I was along for the ride, pulled along by my parents expectations and the shadow of success my brother cast over me. I always felt like I needed to be a 'something', special, cool and popular. I thought about the faith that everyone found such joy in. I wished deep down for something like that, a surety and sufficiency. I questioned whether my faith was real, even if it was, how would I know. So I walked back to the main hall, looking for a pastor to speak to. However, since I was late, no one was available. So I sat at the stage and listened to Pastor Jon as he asked someone, "Do you even believe that Christ is your Lord and Saviour?" It then struck me. I had never truly accepted Christ or my faith. I had just assumed it would come naturally. I prayed that the Lord would allow me to have a true faith, to cleanse me, to accept Christ into my heart. That allowed me to live with a surety of faith, even when I fail and fall to sin, I can return to the Lord in humility to the abundance of His grace.

Another turning point for me was my O level examinations this year. I did

not enjoy studying and was more inclined to play and have fun with my friends. It was a struggle for me to be disciplined and not be distracted by the temptations of life. I will admit that I did not study to my best nor did I study efficiently, rather I cramped and did everything last minute, wasting time skimming through the textbook. It was foolish but in my ignorance, I wondered why God did not help me when I did badly for my mid-years and prelims. Additionally I blamed God for not letting me get my DSA when it was my own fault that I failed. I questioned why God would give me two chances to DSA to two different schools when I would fail both. My mom then reminded me that I was being disrespectful and ungrateful. I had not treasured the opportunity and went back on my prayers to give the Lord all the glory no matter the outcome. Sin blocked my heart from seeing God's plan. It was meant to humble me, make me more dependant on the Lord, to allow me to see my own weaknesses and pride. God's plan is so perfect, so wonderful. In this seemingly desperate situation, I was pushed to study smarter, to be disciplined, to work hard. I discovered a joy in studying and in a daily renewal of strength from the Lord, I did not feel tired or depressed like I expected myself to be, only the daily struggle to resist temptation. Had I gotten my DSA or done well for my prelims, I would have very likely slacked off, not studied and done very badly in my complacency. I would also have not discovered the way to study smartly or the joy of studying for the Lord. I do not know my O levels score yet, but in all things I want to commit it to the Lord. All these, upon reflection, help me to see God's perfect plan for me and helped me to trust in Him.

Lastly, I want to be a part of God's spiritual people with a spiritual purpose. This is why I want to be a part of Bethany. Here I can see the faith through the pastors, teachers and many wonderful people that have left such a great impact on my life. Pastor taught us from 1 Thessalonians about Paul, Silas and Timothy as a team. We are unable to see Christ in His physical state but we can see His works through the lives of others as examples of faith. This is the Church where I can feel the fire of the Holy Spirit, conviction to see life with eyes of faith. All my Sunday School teachers and pastors who put up with my rebellious, arrogant nature taught me patience. The wide smile of Pastor when he spoke of the Word of God taught me the joy of our faith. The selfless nature of the Pastors taught me humility and the nature of service. When my grandmother passed away, Pastor Jon brought food for my

parents, even though it was a weekday evening, even though it was raining, even though he never had to. These acts of kindness and love drew me to Bethany. Through Bethany, I can feel so much love and joy to serve the Lord and it is so humbling. The knowledge of Pastor is so extensive, yet he continues to admit that there is still so much more he does not know. Even more so me. After joining Pastor's Discipleship class last year, I was so impacted by the Youth Conference and the search for a genuine faith. I also wanted to follow my brother as he joined Pastor's discipleship class. I sought to simply follow my brother's example and hope to have the same calibre developed and as I listened to Pastor and sought to ask him questions, my faith grew clearer and I desired to learn from him. As a part of Pastor's class, I was more involved in Church programs and the joy of service grew within me. I learned to live for Christ, not anyone's expectations or my own expectations because I never could.

2 Corinthians 12:9 states that "My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness" I learned that I, as a sinner, will always fall short of the Glory of God and will be forever insufficient. However, I don't have to be anything. The Lord is my salvation and I shall not want. I have sought to hide the Lord's Word in my heart, including the beatitudes.

I truly would like to be a part of Bethany and to live my life as a good example for the Lord and striving in all things to seek Him with a whole heart.

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BETHANY

INDEPENDENT-
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

God's Kind of Church...

Where God is touching lives...

And people care for people.

Bethany IV ... 21 December 2025

MEDITATION

REV DR CHARLES TAN

Text: Isaiah 35

STREAMS IN THE DESERT

A GLORIOUS PROPHECY

A glorious prophecy was given about what the Messianic Saviour would do when He comes. This prophecy was noted by the Gospel writers. Hence, they took particular note of the Miracles performed by the Lord Jesus.

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MEDITATION

⁵ Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,
And the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped.

⁶ Then the lame shall leap like a deer,
And the tongue of the dumb sing.
For waters shall burst forth in the wilderness,
And streams in the desert.

⁷ The parched ground shall become a pool,
And the thirsty land springs of water;
In the habitation of jackals, where each lay,
There shall be grass with reeds and rushes.

Isaiah 35:5-7

1. The Miracles of the Lord Jesus

- a) The blind receives their sight
- b) The ears of the deaf hear again
- c) The lame walks again
- d) The tongue of the dumb sings

2. The special touch of the Lord's hands

- a) Water came to the wilderness of many lives
- b) Streams came to deserts
- c) Parched grounds became pools
- d) Thirsty parcels of land had springs of water

OUR CHALLENGE

1. To appreciate afresh the Lord's blessings
2. To find fresh joy in our faith in God
3. To share the light of salvation in a dark world

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 refreshed through worship and fellowship!



THE ADVENT CANDLES

1st Advent Candle: The Prophecy Candle
30 November 2025

2nd Advent Candle: The Bethlehem Candle
7 December 2025

3rd Advent Candle: The Shepherds Candle
14 December 2025

4th Advent Candle: The Angels Candle
21 December 2025



DOWN MEMORY LANE 2025

Our annual Down Memory Lane Service will be taking place at the end of the month.

Last Worship Service for 2025

31 December 2025

8.00pm

Text: Psalm 33

Title: "The eye of the LORD is on those who fear Him" Psalm 33:18

Let us take time to reflect on 2025, and look forward to 2026!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHRISTMAS BAPTISMAL COMBINED SERVICE

List of Baptismal Candidates this week

Paedo-Baptism

1. Cai Cheng Xin, Emmett (Son of Yin Zhou & Aleena)
2. Elliot Tham Kai Le (Son of Samuel & Su-An)
3. Michael Tan Ming Ray (Son of Wei Kee & Pei Ching)
4. Tan Si En Katherine (Daughter of You Cai & Alvina)

Baptism

1. David Soh
2. Lu Jiayi

Reaffirmation

1. Ou Wai Yan Darrell
2. Tan Yi Qi Ashley
3. Theodore Heng

Transference

1. Daniel Khoo Kean Seen
2. Elena Tsou
3. Shelia Xie
4. Tan Jun Liang
5. Wang Ruigang, Josiah



GIVING OF FELLOWSHIP MEALS

Breakfast: Lim Wei Quan

Lunch: Rosalind Tan; Nicholas Koh; Seth Foo

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THIS WEEK IN BETHANY

1. Seniors Program

There will be no Seniors Program during the month of December

2. Christmas Worship Service

Thursday, 25 December 2025 | 10.30am | Shangri La

3. Saturday, 27 December 2025

Post Youth Conference Special III | 3.00pm

"Making mention of you in my prayers"

Ephesians 1:15-19

4. Sunday Ministry, 28 December 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) No Catechism Class



LETTERS THAT WARM THE HEART

Dear Pastor Charlie and Bethany Family,

When my late sister passed on in 2014, the Bethany family rallied to lend support and to bring words of comfort. We were deeply moved and appreciative of this spirit of love and oneness.

This spirit of love and oneness is once again felt in the passing of my late mother, Mdm. Ng Ah Lee on 12 December. We are thankful to Pastor Charlie and our senior brethren who ministered to my mum in the early years of her life.

On the night of my mum's passing, Pastor Ben Quah went out of his way to help with the funeral arrangements when he was called upon. Our church pastors, session members and brethren in the different ministries so readily stepped forward to look into the Memorial and Funeral Services. This spirit of love and oneness is uniquely Bethany.

Thank you for giving my mum a dignified send off as she ended her earthly journey. It is our prayer and our plead that the Lord will lead her to the heavenly home.

We thank God for Bethany, God's kind of church, where God is touching lives, where people care for people. To God be the glory.

Love,

Siew Tiong, Chou Honn, Darryl, Ryan, Gloria & the Tan family

WORSHIP IN SPIRIT AND TRUTH

Psalm 20:3-4

³ May He remember all your offerings,
And accept your burnt sacrifice.

⁴ May He grant you according to your heart's *desire*,
And fulfil all your purpose.

1. May the Lord remember
 - a) Remember all our offerings
 - b) Accept our burnt sacrifice

2. May the Lord fulfil
 - a) Grant us our heart's desire
 - b) Fulfil all our purpose

BIBLE MEMORY WORK

TODAY: 21 December 2025

Text: The Dayspring from on high has visited us

Through the tender mercy of our God,

With which the Dayspring from on high has visited us Luke 1:78

1. The word "Dayspring"

It means "Dawn"

2. The Lord Jesus is compared to Dawn

3. The tender mercies of the Lord express the gentle light He gives

CHRISTMAS: 25 December 2025

Text: To give light

"To give light to those who sit in darkness and the shadow of death,

To guide our feet into the way of peace." Luke 1:79

NEXT SUNDAY: 28 December 2025

Text: My light and salvation

The LORD is my light and my salvation;

Whom shall I fear?

The LORD is the strength of my life;

Of whom shall I be afraid? Psalm 27:1

POETRY CORNER

#1

STREAMS IN THE DESERT

The Lord promised precious blessings;
Miracles would occur at the Messiah's coming.
The blind would gratefully receive their sight;
The deaf would see the removal of their blight.

The lame would leap with heartfelt joy;
The dumb would their tongues employ.
These were mighty signs from God;
They reflect the Messiah as the Lord.

The blessings would extend to the land;
God would cause the wilderness to mend.
Streams in the desert would appear;
Blessings about when the Saviour draws near.

Advent was just the commencement;
Our challenge is to heed His commandments.
Great are the blessings God has in store;
His mercy would abound more and more.

Charles Tan
Inspiration: Isaiah 35:5-7

POETRY CORNER

#2

A Walk in the Rain

Melodiously, water strikes the leaves of trees,
Steady raindrops fall on the grounds in synchrony.
The richness of sounds, enhanced by the breeze,
Flowing waters complete this morning symphony.

With some courage I step out into this rain.
This predawn wetness shall be God's gift today!
Into this darkness, I know not when I'll see shelter again,
Neither do I know when fairer weather will come my way.

As I stride, I hear the chorus of the morning birds.
They sing cheerily undeterred by this weather.
'Dawn will break!' these are their unmistakable words,
In unison they proclaim a certainty to one another.

That was the moment that this rain started to relent.
And the clouds bowed down to the sunlight's ascent.

Dr. Tan Kok Yang

Inspiration: Bible memory verse 1 John 1:5

"This is the message which we have heard from Him and declare to you, that
God is light and in Him is no darkness at all."

A walk in the predawn rain.

POETRY CORNER

#3

The Holy Covenant

Throughout the history of mankind
the Lord covenanted with humanity to save them from destruction
These covenants are holy and bind the relationship between God and man
Due to man's intransigence
the Lord had to successively give more promises of redemption
Such covenants reveal the nature of God's character, purposes and plan

The Noahic covenant is a promise made to Noah and his descendants
An unconditional pledge to never destroy the world through flooding as vowed
Neither the wickedness nor righteousness of man will change the covenant
As a reminder of His promise the Lord sets a rainbow in the cloud

To reaffirm His commitment to His creation God chose to work through Abraham
God called Abram out of Ur and promised him land
and countless descendants like stars
He changed his name and gave him a new role as part of His plan
"A father of many nations", exceedingly fruitful and from whom shall come kings

Through Abraham's seed are promises of blessings and redemption
They are to be found in the fulfilment of the New Covenant
The Lord Jesus is the promised descendant and tasked for mediation
One day the Messiah will return to set up His throne and govern

Jessie Quek

Inspiration: Genesis 9:8-17; 12:1-3; 15:5; 17:5-7; 22:17

POETRY CORNER

#4

TO REMEMBER HIS HOLY COVENANT

God gave to Abraham a holy and special covenant;
God promised to bless him and his descendants.
To perform His promise, He was fully committed;
To Abraham's descendants, this was re-iterated.

God's blessings should have made Israel grateful,
But she chose to go after idols and was unfaithful.
In His foreknowledge, He knew this would happen;
Yet, He would be merciful and let His people return.

Israel once lamented that God forsook the nation,
But God cannot and will not forget His covenant.
The promises of God are tied in with His character;
He is holy and just; and He is a Covenant-Keeper!

In Christ, we are made heirs of the promises of God;
We are the recipients of His rich mercy outpoured!
Let us be committed to remember His promises;
May this fill our hearts with assurance and gladness!

Yvette Seow

Inspiration: Luke 1:72-73

ORDER OF WORSHIP



PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

Mr. Jarrod Tam

Mrs. Joanne Tan

Ms. Audrey Chia

PRAYER

HYMNS

CP 149 | Go, Tell It on the Mountain

CP 130 | One Small Child

MESSAGE

“Might serve Him without fear”

Text : Luke 1:74-75

Rev. Dr. Charles Tan

CLOSING HYMN

HWC 155 | Once in Royal David's City

BENEDICTION

OFFERING

POSTLUDE



HYMNS

CP 149 GO, TELL IT ON THE MOUNTAIN

Refrain

Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and ev'rywhere;
Go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born!

1. While shepherds kept their watching o'er silent flocks by night,
Behold! throughout the heavens there shone a holy light.

Refrain

2. The shepherds feared and trembled when lo! above the earth
Rang out the angel chorus that hailed our Saviour's birth.

Refrain

3. Down in a lowly manger the humble Christ was born,
And brought us God's salvation that blessed Christmas morn.

Refrain



HYMNS

CP 130 ONE SMALL CHILD

DAVID MEECE

1. One small Child in a land of a thousand,
One small dream of a Saviour tonight,
One small hand reaching out to the starlight,
One small city of life. O!

2. One king bringing his gold and riches,
One King ruling an army of might,
One king kneeling with incense and candle light,
One King bringing us life. O!

See Him lying, a cradle beneath Him;
See Him smiling in the stall.
See His mother praising His Father;
See His tiny eye-lids fall.

3. One small light from the flame of a candle,
One small light from a city of might,
One small light from the stars in the endless night,
One small light from a face. O!

See the shepherds kneeling before Him;
See the kings on bended knee.
See His mother praising His Father;
See the Blessed Infant sleep.

4. One small Child in a land of a thousand,
One small dream in a people of might,
One small hand reaching out to the starlight,
One small Saviour of life. O!



HYMNS

HWC 155 ONCE IN ROYAL DAVID'S CITY

CECIL F. ALEXANDER

1. Once in royal David's city stood a lowly cattle shed,
Where a mother laid her baby in a manger for His bed;
Mary was that mother mild, Jesus Christ her little child.

2. He came down to earth from heaven, who is God and Lord of all,
And His shelter was a stable, and His cradle was a stall;
With the poor and meek and lowly lived on earth, Our Saviour Holy.

3. For He is our child-hood's pattern, day by day like us He grew;
He was little, weak and helpless, tears and smiles like us He knew;
And He feeleth for our sadness, and He shareth in our gladness.

4. And our eyes at last shall see Him, thro' His own redeeming love;
For that Child so dear and gentle is our Lord in heav'n above;
And He leads His children on to the place where He is gone.



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