

# BETHANY

INDEPENDENT-  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH

*God's Kind of Church...*

*Where God is touching lives...*

*And people care for people.*

*Bethany IV ... 12 July 2026*

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## MEDITATION

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REV DR CHARLES TAN

**Text: 2 Corinthians 5**

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## WE WALK BY FAITH

### HOW STRONG IS OUR CONFIDENCE IN GOD?

The Apostle Paul was very strong and confident in his faith in God. He could literally and sincerely say "We walk by faith."

<sup>1</sup> For we know that if our earthly house, *this* tent, is destroyed,

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# MEDITATION

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we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.

<sup>2</sup> For in this we groan, earnestly desiring to be clothed with our habitation which is from heaven,

<sup>3</sup> if indeed, having been clothed, we shall not be found naked.

<sup>4</sup> For we who are in *this* tent groan, being burdened, not because we want to be unclothed, but further clothed, that mortality may be swallowed up by life.

<sup>5</sup> Now He who has prepared us for this very thing *is* God, who also has given us the Spirit as a guarantee.

<sup>6</sup> So *we are* always confident, knowing that while we are at home in the body we are absent from the Lord.

<sup>7</sup> For we walk by faith, not by sight.

<sup>8</sup> We are confident, yes, well pleased rather to be absent from the body and to be present with the Lord.          2 Corinthians 5:1-8

## 1. The Contents of Paul's faith

An eternal home in heaven

His desire was to be with God in heaven

The Spirit of God was the Guarantee

## 2. The Confidence of the Apostle Paul

He found faith in the Lord Jesus

He found confidence in his faith in God

There was a great abundance of confidence to live for God

## **OUR CHALLENGE**

### 1. How are we living?

a) Are we earthbound?

b) Are we heaven bound?

### 2. Is there Confidence to live by Faith?

a) Let us learn to walk by faith

b) Let us set aside a life that is lived by sight

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*Write to me at:* [charlestan@bethanyipc.sg](mailto:charlestan@bethanyipc.sg)

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# ANNOUNCEMENTS

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## **WELCOME TO BETHANY**

We are glad that you have chosen to worship the Lord Jesus with us to-day. May your heart be encouraged to live by faith!



## **GIVING OF FELLOWSHIP MEALS**

Breakfast: May Leong; Andrew & Hwei Li Wong  
Lunch: YF & Betty; Billy & Eve Wan



## **CELEBRATING BETHANY'S 50+3 ANNIVERSARY**

**Theme: Give me this Mountain**

Date: 30 August 2026, Sunday  
Venue: Shangri-La Hotel  
Time: 10.30am  
Anniversary Lunch: 12.15pm

Do register as early as possible.  
If there are any queries, please approach us at the Booth in the Fellowship Hall during Lunch.

To sign up for Anniversary Lunch, please scan the QR code below.



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# ANNOUNCEMENTS

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## **CELEBRATING BETHANY'S 50+3 ANNIVERSARY: CHILDREN'S SPECIAL LUNCH PROGRAM**

We will be having a special Lunch Program for our children as part of this year's 50+3 Anniversary celebrations.

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

### **Details:**

Date: 30 August 2026, Sunday

Venue: Shangri-La Hotel, Azalea Rooms (2<sup>nd</sup> Floor)

Time: 12.15pm – 2.00pm

This is open to children **aged 5 to 12.**

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

To register for your child(ren), scan the QR code below for the **Children's Special Lunch Program.**



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# ANNOUNCEMENTS

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## **THIS WEEK IN BETHANY**

1. Seniors Program
  - a) Tuesday, 14 July 2026 | 9.30am- 11.30am
  - b) Thursday, 16 July 2026 | 9.30am- 11.30am
  
2. Saturday, 18 July 2026
  - a) YPG/ YAG | 2.00pm
  - b) Youth Worship | 3.15pm
  
3. Sunday Ministry, 19 July 2026
  - 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



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# LETTERS THAT WARM THE HEART

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*(Translated from Chinese)*

After reading Pastor Charles' *Good Ground* devotional material prepared for the seniors in our church, my heart is filled with gratitude. Pastor Charles has led the Pastoral Team and the entire Bethany Church to care so deeply for the elderly. Even during the period when he himself most needed rest and recovery, he still remembered the spiritual needs of the seniors. He invested his time, energy, and loving care to prepare spiritual nourishment for us, encouraging elderly Christians not to stop pursuing spiritual growth, but to continue bearing fruit for the Lord.

In addition, I have noticed, through the many thoughtful details, how Bethany Church cares for the needs of its elderly members. Even from the devotional folder itself, one can see the care that has gone into it — it includes a pen, a ruler, and a highlighter, uses thicker-than-usual paper, and has larger print. All these details reflect the church's thoughtfulness, attentiveness, and love.

While the values of the world often regard the elderly and the frail as a burden to society, the church stands in striking contrast by remaining faithful to God's heart in honouring and caring for older people. Just as God loves us—even when our hair turns grey, He still carries us and saves us. Though we are unworthy, our merciful and faithful God continues to show us such extraordinary favour. What a precious grace this is!

From the very first day I came to Bethany Church (last August) until now, I have continually thanked God because, in this church family, I have experienced God's love through the kindness shown to me by the pastors and many brothers and sisters. My wife feels the same way. This is only one personal testimony from the perspective of an elderly person. There is so much more that could be said—for

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## LETTERS THAT WARM THE HEART

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example, the church's commitment to nurturing the spiritual lives of young children, teenagers, and young adults; the Sunday School class for domestic helpers; and the Special-Needs Children's Sunday School. All these are reasons for us to give thanks to God.

I am also deeply encouraged by the young brothers and sisters who willingly serve in the Chinese Worship Service, the Kitchen Ministry, the teams who wash dishes and cups, the young people who help clean the church premises, the Session who faithfully manage the church's affairs and facilities, the diligent Pastoral Team, and the highly respected Mrs. Tan (Auntie Sally). Whenever I see their wholehearted service, I am deeply moved. I firmly believe that their service, offered out of love for God and for others, is pleasing to the Lord — including those who faithfully serve behind the scenes without recognition.

I know very well that everything we have received is not something we deserve, but entirely by God's grace. As we offer praise and thanksgiving to our great Lord, my wife and I are also deeply grateful for the loving hospitality of Bethany Church. As Bethany approaches its 53rd Anniversary Thanksgiving, we give all praise and glory to God, and we pray that the Lord will continue to graciously lead the church according to His good and perfect will.

In Christ,  
Chan Chuan Heng

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# WORSHIP IN SPIRIT AND TRUTH

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## Psalm 26:6-8

<sup>6</sup> I will wash my hands in innocence;  
So I will go about Your altar, O LORD,

<sup>7</sup> That I may proclaim with the voice of thanksgiving,  
And tell of all Your wondrous works.

<sup>8</sup> LORD, I have loved the habitation of Your house,  
And the place where Your glory dwells.

### 1. Coming to the Altar of God

- a) Being cleansed is of utmost importance
- b) The true worship of God involves "innocence"

### 2. Proclaiming the wondrous works of God

- a) In thanksgiving
- b) In love for God and His House

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# BIBLE MEMORY WORK

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## **TODAY: 12 July 2026**

**Text: “I wholly followed the LORD my God” Joshua 14:8**

*Nevertheless my brethren who went up with me made the heart of the people melt, but I wholly followed the LORD my God. Joshua 14:8*

1. A sharp contrast

Twelve spies were sent out

Ten offered an unfavourable view of the Promised Land

2. Total Loyalty

To follow the Lord

Even if Joshua and Caleb were in the minority

## **NEXT SUNDAY: 19 July 2026**

**Text: “Because you have wholly followed the LORD”  
Joshua 14:9**

*So Moses swore on that day, saying, ‘Surely the land where your foot has trodden shall be your inheritance and your children’s forever, because you have wholly followed the LORD my God.’ Joshua 14:9*

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# POETRY CORNER

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#1

## WE WALK BY FAITH

If we are honest, we walk by sight;  
We feel we own our life, by right.  
Faith may be genuine but not central;  
We struggle with the "Walk by faith" principle!

The Apostle Paul is a great example;  
He determined to practise his faith-principle.  
He understood the contents of faith fully;  
Thus, he was able to walk by faith consistently.

Paul did not live to achieve wealth or fame;  
He sought to always glorify the Lord's name.  
God had given him a promise of a heavenly home;  
He looked forward to the day when he would not need to roam.

How real and strong is our faith in the Lord?  
Can we actually speak of walking by faith with God?  
To walk by faith and not by sight is not impossible;  
Therein, we discover a life of power that is incredible!

Charles Tan

Inspiration: 2 Corinthians 5:1-8

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# POETRY CORNER

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#2

## The Inspiration

In our world of today may we look to Caleb to inspire us  
He wholly followed the Lord with steadfast commitment  
By the grace of God he was bold and courageous  
To enter the land promised by the Lord as his inheritance

The unbelievers were cowed by the Anakim giants  
They told Moses not to enter Canaan, the promised land  
Caleb though was unafraid as he believed in God's promise  
He had an absolute faith and trust in the Lord's plan

Like Caleb let us believe in God and not doubt Him  
Give ourselves completely to the Lord and not in half measures  
He will empower us to fight giants with vigour and vim  
And grant us our share of the promised inheritance

God may take longer than we like to answer prayers  
Caleb was eighty-five years old when he took possession of Hebron  
Similarly we will be rewarded exercising faith and patience  
Seek the Holy Spirit to lead us to God's kingdom of yon

Jessie Quek  
Inspiration: Numbers 13:1-25

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# ORDER OF WORSHIP

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## **PRELUDE**

*Musicians*

## **CALL TO WORSHIP**

*Deacon Dr Quek Li Wei*

## **PRAYER**

## **HYMNS**

HWC 25 | Immortal, Invisible  
HWC 376 | I Have Decided to Follow Jesus

## **MESSAGE**

"We are well able to overcome it"

Numbers 13:26-33

*Rev. Benjamin Quah*

## **CLOSING HYMN**

HWC 371 | Have Thine Own Way, Lord

## **BENEDICTION**

## **OFFERING**

## **POSTLUDE**



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# HYMNS

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## HWC 25 IMMORTAL, INVISIBLE, GOD ONLY WISE

WALTER C. SMITH

1. Immortal, invisible, God only wise,  
In light inaccessible hid from our eyes,  
Most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,  
Almighty, victorious, Thy great name we praise.

2. Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,  
Nor wanting, nor wasting, Thou rulest in might;  
Thy justice, like mountains, high soaring above  
Thy clouds, which are fountains of goodness and love.

3. To all life Thou givest, to both great and small;  
In all life Thou livest, the true life of all;  
We blossom and flourish as leaves on the tree,  
And wither and perish, but naught changeth Thee.

4. Great Father of glory, pure Father of light,  
Thine angels adore Thee, all veiling their sight;  
All praise we would render; O help us to see  
'Tis only the splendour of light hideth Thee.



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# HYMNS

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## HWC 376 I HAVE DECIDED TO FOLLOW JESUS

1. I have decided to follow Jesus;  
I have decided to follow Jesus;  
I have decided to follow Jesus;  
No turning back, no turning back.
  
2. The world behind me, the cross before me;  
The world behind me, the cross before me;  
The world behind me, the cross before me;  
No turning back, no turning back
  
3. Though none go with me, I still will follow;  
Though none go with me, I still will follow;  
Though none go with me, I still will follow;  
No turning back, no turning back.
  
4. Will you decide now to follow Jesus?  
Will you decide now to follow Jesus?  
Will you decide now to follow Jesus?  
No turning back, no turning back.



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# HYMNS

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## HWC 371 HAVE THINE OWN WAY, LORD

ADELAIDE A. POLLARD

1. Have Thine own way, Lord!  
Have Thine own way!  
Thou art the Potter, I am the clay.  
Mould me and make me after Thy will,  
While I am waiting, yielded and still.

2. Have Thine own way, Lord!  
Have Thine own way!  
Search me and try me, Master, today!  
Whiter than snow, Lord, wash me just now,  
As in Thy presence humbly I bow.

3. Have Thine own way, Lord!  
Have Thine own way!  
Wounded and weary, help me, I pray!  
Power, all power, surely is Thine!  
Touch me and heal me, Saviour Divine!

4. Have Thine own way, Lord!  
Have Thine own way!  
Hold o'er my being absolute sway!  
Fill with Thy Spirit till all shall see  
Christ only, always, living in me!



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