

BETHANY

INDEPENDENT- PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

God's Kind of Church...

Where God is touching lives...

And people care for people.

Bethany IV ... 23 August 2026

MEDITATION

REV DR CHARLES TAN

Text: 2 Thessalonians 1

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Meditation	1
Announcements	3
Worship	7
Bible Memory Work	8
Poetry Corner	9
Order of Worship	13

YOUR FAITH GROWS EXCEEDINGLY

OUR FAITH WAS MEANT TO GROW

Our Faith in the Lord was meant to grow. It was never meant to become stale and stagnant. One clear example of good growth was the new Thessalonian Church.

³ We are bound to thank God always for you, brethren, as it is fitting,

MEDITATION

because your faith grows exceedingly, and the love of every one of you all abounds toward each other,

⁴ so that we ourselves boast of you among the churches of God for your patience and faith in all your persecutions and tribulations that you endure,

⁵ *which is* manifest evidence of the righteous judgment of God, that you may be counted worthy of the kingdom of God, for which you also suffer.

2 Thessalonians 1:3-5

1. Praise for the Thessalonians church

a) Because their "faith grows exceedingly"

b) This caused Paul and his team to feel bound to give thanks to God!

2. Proof of outstanding faith in God

a) The fruit of love was evidently displayed

b) There was "patience and faith" amidst persecutions and tribulations

3. People who were counted worthy of the kingdom of God

a) They had heard about the Kingdom of God

b) They had to endure much for the Kingdom's sake

OUR CHALLENGE

1. To grow our faith in the Lord

2. To walk worthy of our Calling into the Kingdom of God

3. To be inspired to continue to bear fruit for the Lord!

Write to me at: charlestan@bethanyipc.sg

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOME TO BETHANY

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



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.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

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 (2nd 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 for the **Children's Special Lunch Program.**



ANNOUNCEMENTS

YOUTH CONFERENCE 2026

"Hold fast what you have" - Revelation 3:11

We start looking forward to the Youth Conference even as we enter the second half of 2026! As we learn about our faith in God, may we seek to hold fast to what we have, ensuring that no one takes away the crown of victory that we can have!

Details

Dates: 30 November 2026 - 3 December 2026 (Monday - Thursday)

Venue: Bethany IPC

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

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 can register online by scanning the QR Code:



ANNOUNCEMENTS

MID-AUTUMN CELEBRATION 2026

We will be having our Mid-Autumn Celebration in the month of September. If you wish to attend, kindly sign up at the booth in the Fellowship Hall.

Details:

Date: 19 September 2026, Saturday

Time: 3.00pm

Venue: Bethany IPC Main Sanctuary

Followed by Fellowship High Tea



THIS WEEK IN BETHANY

1. Seniors Program

a) There will be no Seniors Program on Tuesday, 25 August 2026

b) Combined Seniors Program | Thursday, 27 August 2026 | 9.30am-11.30am

2. Saturday, 29 August 2026

a) No YPG/ YAG

b) No Youth Worship

3. Sunday Ministry, 30 August 2026

Bethany's 50+3 Anniversary Worship Service

Shangri La Hotel | 10.30am



ANNOUNCEMENTS

GIVING OF FELLOWSHIP MEALS

Breakfast: Theodore Heng

Lunch: Alvin & Melody Foo; Chan Chuan Heng



LETTERS THAT WARM THE HEART

We wish to express our sincere thanks to Pastor Charlie and Aunty Sally, all in the Pastoral Team, Session Members, and every friend and member of Bethany. We appreciate each one who prayed, sent condolences, visited, and stood alongside at the wake, memorial services and the burial of the late Mrs. Annamma Chacko who passed away on 13 August 2026.

We cannot help but thank God for each and every one of you who came alongside to offer support that comforted every grieving heart.

Thank you so very much!

On behalf of the members of the larger Chacko household,
Jacob, Emily, Jonathan, Michelle, and Rachel

WORSHIP IN SPIRIT AND TRUTH

Psalm 27:8-10

⁸ *When You said, "Seek My face,"*
My heart said to You, "Your face, LORD, I will seek."

⁹ Do not hide Your face from me;
Do not turn Your servant away in anger;
You have been my help;
Do not leave me nor forsake me,
O God of my salvation.

WORSHIP IN SPIRIT AND TRUTH

¹⁰ When my father and my mother forsake me,
Then the LORD will take care of me.

1. God's word to the Psalmist
"Seek My face!"

2. The Psalmist's response to God
"Your face, LORD, I will seek!"

3. The Concerns of the Psalmist
a) That God would turn away His face in anger
b) That God may forsake him because of his sinfulness
c) Faith in God had to be exercised in depth

BIBLE MEMORY WORK

TODAY: 23 August 2026

**Text: "Because he wholly followed the LORD God of
Israel" Joshua 14:14**

*Hebron therefore became the inheritance of Caleb the son of Jephunneh
the Kenizzite to this day, because he wholly followed the LORD God of
Israel. Joshua 14:14*

1. Reward given to Caleb
 - a) Mount Hebron
 - b) It became Caleb's inheritance
2. Reason for this reward
 - a) Because he had wholly followed the LORD God of Israel
 - b) He had taken his faith to great heights

NEXT SUNDAY: 30 August 2026

Text: "With God nothing will be impossible" Luke 1:37
For with God nothing will be impossible. Luke 1:37

POETRY CORNER

1

YOUR FAITH GROWS EXCEEDINGLY

The Faith of the Thessalonian Church was remarkable;
In less than a month of ministry, Faith became stable.
Despite great odds against the Church, faith continued to grow;
This Faith kept growing significantly, till it began to truly glow!

There were clear signs of growth that were unmistakable;
Faith was evidenced by acts of love that were spiritual.
These were great features that moved the hearts of many;
The Faith of the Thessalonian Church had grown greatly.

The persecutions were endured with great courage;
The tribulations did not cause the Church to be discouraged.
The Faith that the Church had was built on Solid Rock;
The growth of faith redounded to the glory of God!

The Faith of the Thessalonians is a tremendous inspiration;
It is not impossible for a Church to have similar aspirations.
Let us be moved to cultivate a Faith that grows exceedingly;
With the grace and blessing of God we can succeed remarkably!

Charles Tan
Inspiration: 2 Thessalonians 1

POETRY CORNER

2

SOWING IN TEARS

Sowing in tears on a barren soul sorrowfully
Is like a farmer throwing seeds into hard soil during drought
Crying at the thought of an uncertain future woefully
Seeds grow underground in the dark before breaking the surface out

Shifting perspectives on suffering as fertile ground for spiritual growth is
challenging

Experiencing a dormant winter wondering if spring will ever arrive
May we remain faithful in our dry seasons of living
And look forward with hope to the future as we strive

When the heart is heavy and discouraged waiting patiently is excruciating
Endure by sowing in quietly reading the Scriptures even when feeling empty
Doubtless will come a time for harvesting and rejoicing
Seasons of sorrow will eventually be followed by triumph of plenty

Trust in the Lord as we navigate the paths of suffering
Grant us strength and discipline to keep on sowing
He watches over us with lovingkindness and tender mercies
As He teaches that what is sown as tears will result in future joy and
happiness

Jessie Quek

Inspiration: Psalm 126:5-6; Psalm 103:4

POETRY CORNER

3

WHAT DO YOU SEE?

What do you see?

Can you see My mighty works in My underwater kingdom?
My magnificent corals and reefs?

Can you see My colourful canvas in My ocean deep?
The splashes of flaming red and brilliant blue
The dashes of neon yellow and midnight hue
Dancing, darting in My ocean blue?

Can you see My sense of humour in the endearingly ridiculous creatures I
formed,
Just to make you smile?
The Axolotl - cute and charming
The Parrot Fish with its clownish, cheeky smiles
The Leafy Sea Dragon, stumped between being a seaweed or a sea dragon?

Can you see My awesomeness in My hunters of the sea?
The Rays with their mysterious mantles
Sweeping with grace and ease
The Sharks, nonchalantly aloof, yet alert
Swimming in style

Can you see My meticulous handiwork in adding purpose and balance in
my delightful kingdom?
I give light to the Jellyfish by sewing glowing diamonds on their gossamer
gowns
I design precious spheres of air on the Seaweeds to keep them tall and
upright,

POETRY CORNER

Like sentinels guarding My watery world

Can you see My tenderloving details etched on every denizen of the deep?
Even in the tiniest creature I leave My signature of wondrous love
And not one of them is forgotten or unadorned?

What do you see?

Can you see Me in the midst of the deep?
Can you sense My Amazing Presence?
Can you feel My Love, My Power and Wonder?

Or do you just see food?

Elizabeth Wen
Inspired by the recent Oceanarium outings.

ORDER OF WORSHIP



PRELUDE

Musicians

CALL TO WORSHIP

Mr. Chua Jen Chian

PRAYER

HYMNS

HWC 408 | Have Faith in God
CP 270 | Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus

ITEM

"Great Things He Hath Done"
Handbells Ensemble

MESSAGE

"The LORD has kept me alive" | Joshua 14:9-11
Rev. Dr. Charles Tan

CLOSING HYMN

HWC 445 | Something For Thee

BENEDICTION

OFFERING

POSTLUDE



HYMNS

HWC 408 HAVE FAITH IN GOD

B. B. MCKINNEY

1. Have faith in God when your pathway is lonely,
He sees and knows all the way you have trod;
Never alone are the least of His children;
Have faith in God, have faith in God.

Refrain

Have faith in God, He's on His throne;
Have faith in God, He watches o'er His own;
He cannot fail, He must prevail;
Have faith in God, have faith in God.

2. Have faith in God when your pray'rs are unanswered,
Your earnest plea He will never forget;
Wait on the Lord, trust His Word and be patient,
Have faith in God, He'll answer yet.

Refrain

3. Have faith in God in your pain and your sorrow,
His heart is touched with your grief and despair;
Cast all your cares and your burdens upon Him,
And leave them there, oh, leave them there.

Refrain

4. Have faith in God though all else fail about you;
Have faith in God, He provides for His own;
He cannot fail though all kingdoms shall perish,
He rules, He reigns upon His throne.

Refrain



HYMNS

CP 270 TURN YOUR EYES UPON JESUS

HELEN H. LEMMEL

1. O soul, are you weary and troubled?
No light in the darkness you see?
There's light for a look at the Saviour,
And life more abundant and free!

Refrain

Turn your eyes upon Jesus,
Look full in His wonderful face,
And the things of earth will grow strangely dim,
In the light of His glory and grace.

2. Through death into life everlasting,
He passed, and we follow Him there;
O'er us sin no more hath dominion—
For more than conqu'rors we are!

Refrain

3. His Word shall not fail you—He promised;
Believe Him, and all will be well:
Then go to a world that is dying,
His perfect salvation to tell!

Refrain



HYMNS

HWC 445 SOMETHING FOR THEE

SYLVANUS D. PHELPS

1. Saviour, Thy dying love, Thou gavest me,
Nor should I ought withhold, dear Lord, from Thee:
In love my soul would bow, my heart fulfill its vow,
Some off'ring bring Thee now, something for Thee.

2. At the blest Mercy Seat, Pleading for me,
My feeble faith looks up, Jesus, to Thee:
Help me the cross to bear, Thy wondrous love declare,
Some song to raise, or pray'r, something for Thee.

3. Give me a faithful heart, Likeness to Thee,
That each departing day henceforth may see
Some work of love begun, some deed of kindness done,
Some wand'rer sought and won, something for Thee.

4. All that I am and have, Thy gifts so free,
In joy, in grief, through life, Dear Lord, for Thee!
And when Thy face I see, my ransom'd soul shall be,
Through all eternity, something for Thee.



Bethany Independent-Presbyterian Church

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