

# BETHANY

INDEPENDENT-  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH

*God's Kind of Church...*

*Where God is touching lives...*

*And people care for people.*

*Bethany IV ... 29 March 2020*

MICA (P) No.: 048/10/2019

---

## MEDITATION

---

REV DR CHARLES TAN

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Meditation	1
Announcements	4
Worship	5
Bible Memory Work	6
Poetry Corner	7
This Week @ Worship	11

Text: 1 Peter 1:14-15

### **“HE WHO CALLED YOU”**

#### **THE CALLING OF GOD**

None of the apostles would ever forget how they were called by the Lord Jesus Christ.

1. Called to salvation

*(Continued on page 2)*

---

# MEDITATION

---

*(Continued from page 1)*

2. Called to be disciples
3. Called to be apostles
4. Called to follow the Lord Jesus Christ

The Apostles of Christ followed their calling, except for Judas who betrayed the Lord Jesus Christ!

## GENUINE FAITH

The Apostle Peter was well-aware of the fact that he was writing to people who had not seen the Lord Jesus Christ personally.

1. Nevertheless, these true believers loved the Lord 1 Peter 1:8a
2. And their genuine faith in Him caused them to find great joy in Christ 1 Peter 1:8b

How would the calling of God apply to them? This was the challenge that Peter had to face.

## THE CALLING OF GOD TODAY

Is there such a call of God today? The answer is "Yes!"

<sup>13</sup> Therefore gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, and rest *your* hope fully upon the grace that is to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ;

<sup>14</sup> as obedient children, not conforming yourselves to the former lusts, *as* in your ignorance;

<sup>15</sup> but as He who called you *is* holy, you also be holy in

*(Continued on page 3)*

---

# MEDITATION

---

*(Continued from page 2)*

all *your* conduct,

<sup>16</sup> because it is written, "Be holy, for I am holy."

1 Peter 1:13-16

## 1. The Person who calls

a) It is the same great God

b) His nature is "holy"

## 2. The People called

a) To be children of God (salvation)

b) To be obedient (expression)

c) To be holy (consecration)

## THE CHALLENGE TO LIVE UP TO OUR HOLY CALLING

We do not have the same type of calling as the Apostles. But our calling to live for God is just as important. This is best expressed in the conduct we adopt in the world today.

1. Let us seek to understand our calling as children of God

2. Let us pursue our calling to live in a holy manner for the Lord today

3. Let us live well and bring glory to the Lord our God

---

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

---

---

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

---

## **NEXT SUNDAY**

*Palm Sunday, 5 April 2020*

1. We will not be able to have public worship
2. But let us draw closer to the Lord Jesus Christ as we enter into "Holy Week"



## *CONDOLENCES*

Heartfelt condolences to Emily, Samuel and Rachel Cheong, on the home-calling of their aunty. Mdm. Lily Tee was called home to be with the Lord on 21 March 2020. She was 67 years old.



---

# WORSHIP IN SPIRIT AND TRUTH

---

## **Psalm 110:1-2**

*<sup>1</sup>The LORD said to my Lord,*

*"Sit at My right hand,*

*Till I make Your enemies Your footstool."*

*<sup>2</sup>The LORD shall send the rod of Your strength out of Zion.*

*Rule in the midst of Your enemies!*

### **THE DECREE OF THE LORD**

1. The LORD is distinguished from "the Lord"
  - a) The LORD  
A reference to God the Father
  - b) The Lord  
A reference to the Messiah
2. The appointment of the Lord
  - a) He will be at the seat of power  
This is called "the right hand of God"
  - b) The enemies of the Lord  
They will become "the footstool of the Lord"
3. The rod
  - a) This is a reference to the rule of the Messiah (the Lord)
  - b) He will rule
  - c) He will rule with strength
4. Zion
  - a) Physically, this is a reference to Jerusalem
  - b) Prophetically, Zion will be where the Lord will rule

---

# BIBLE MEMORY WORK

---

**Today: 29 March 2020**

*Text: 1 Peter 2:5 Living stones*

*You also, as living stones, are being built up a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.*

1. The Church is being described here

2. The Cornerstone

The Lord Jesus Christ is called:

- a) A living stone                      1 Peter 2:4
- b) The chief cornerstone        1 Peter 2:6

3. Living stones

- a) All believers are called "living stones"
- b) Together:
  - i) We are formed into a spiritual house
  - ii) We are a part of each other
- c) Our mission
  - i) To be an effective priesthood
  - ii) To offer up spiritual sacrifices
  - iii) These would be acceptable to God

**NEXT SUNDAY: 5 April 2020**

*Text: Matthew 21:42 It is marvelous in our eyes*

*Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the Scriptures:*

*'The stone which the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.*

*This was the LORD's doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes.'"*

---

# POETRY CORNER

---

#1

## HE WHO CALLED YOU

The Calling by the Lord Jesus would always be remembered;  
The Call to be Disciples of the Lord would always be treasured.  
How could one forget the honour that the Lord had given?  
This was a glorious Calling all the way from Heaven.

Can we speak of a similar Calling in our day and age?  
Yes, we may! A deep understanding would be an advantage.  
Our Calling may not be exactly the same;  
But to miss this would be a great shame!

The Person who Calls us His children is the LORD;  
He is holy and He is our great and gracious God.  
Though we may not see Him, yet we can believe;  
And the Saviour He has sent, we can truly receive.

The Lord will grant love and joy in our salvation;  
We have every reason to feel great jubilation.  
The Lord also calls us to practise holiness;  
To fulfil our Calling is true "blessedness!"

Charles Tan  
Inspiration: 1 Peter 1:13-16

---

# POETRY CORNER

---

# 2

## FOREKNOWN AND FOREORDAINED

The Covid-19 virus continues to wreak havoc each day,  
Lives are disrupted and many nations are in a disarray.  
In such unprecedented times, it is easy to feel frightened,  
We must choose to dwell on our Almighty God in heaven.

God has Foreknowledge and He has divine omniscience,  
He has full knowledge of all things that would happen.  
God also Foreordains and He has divine omnipotence,  
His perfect will cannot be thwarted by any interference.

God Foreknew that all would sin and fall short of His glory,  
He Foreordained Jesus Christ to redeem us completely.  
From the beginning, God's plan had been set in motion,  
What is manifested to us is the precious gift of Salvation.

It is our privilege to be included in God's Salvation Plan,  
God has saved us and He sustains us with His mighty hand.  
Though there are challenges, His strength, He will supply,  
We do not have to fear and on God, we can safely rely!

Yvette Seow

Inspiration: 1 Peter 1:2 and 20



---

## POETRY CORNER

---

# 3

### Reach Out to God

Reach out to God, and He will hear our cries,  
Reach out to Him in prayer, for comfort He supplies.  
In times of trouble and in times of fear,  
Reach out to God and exercise our faith so dear!

Reach out to God when things are beyond our control,  
Reach out to Him - grace and mercy He will show.  
When our hearts are overwhelmed from deep within,  
Reach out to God and remember how good He's been!

Reach out to God for He always is a shelter for us,  
Reach out to Him and trust that problems will eventually pass.  
Our faith in God allows us to find confidence in Him each day,  
Reach out to God; trust Him to lead and guide our way!

Reach out to God - this is what we must do at all times,  
Reach out to Him for strength and power we will find!  
Let us sing praises and offer worship to Him above,  
Reach out to God and abide deeply in His great love!

Tang Hong Wee  
Thoughts taken from Psalm 61

---

## POETRY CORNER

---

# 4

### **What Does God Want to Teach Us?**

Natural disasters and pestilence are not new to mankind;  
If we searched the Bible, records of these we will find.  
The suffering these afflictions bring we cannot ignore;  
But what does God want to teach us through them all?

We are reminded of life's frailty and fragility;  
Our years on earth are but a wink of an eye in the realm of eternity.  
Our calendars chock-full of engagements and activities;  
When will we see the value of these, and realize they are but vanity?

God has created you and me in His image lovingly;  
But do we place enough emphasis on our equality?  
In times of stress, racism and bigotry rear their ugly heads;  
Why? Just why can't we show more empathy and compassion instead?

It's when we face challenges beyond our control;  
That we start to pray to God for only He can console.  
May we learn to choose faith over fear in times of chaos and turmoil;  
For only in God, do we have an eternal Hope which can alleviate our toil.

Dr. Sng Li Wah  
Bible readings: Psalm 103: 15-16; Psalm 90:12;  
Ecclesiastes 1:2; John 11:25-26

---

# POETRY CORNER

---

# 5

## Significance of the Resurrection of Jesus

We have been graciously given a living hope by the Lord,  
Through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.  
Have we truly absorbed the significance of this action of God?  
That it is fully internalised which stands us in good stead.

Understand...we are born again with the precious blood of our Saviour;  
Our lives have changed as we undertake new directions.  
The promise of eternal life should motivate new behaviour;  
So, let's go beyond immersing ourselves in the doctrine of resurrection.

The doctrine should have the impact to compel and inspire us,  
To cause behavioural changes as we undergo the process of transformation.  
Jesus' resurrection was a life changing event for the apostles;  
They preached and spread the word of God often amidst opposition.

On our part we can strive for growth in spiritual maturity;  
Be guided by the Holy Spirit to fill our empty lives with meaning.  
Do all things in holiness as He who called us, is holy;  
Obey the word of the Lord which is everlasting and enduring.

Jessie Quek  
(Inspiration: 1 Peter 1)

# BETHANY CHURCH ACTIVITIES

	Day	Time	Venue	Location
WORSHIP SERVICES				
Morning Worship Service	Sun	10.30 am	Church Sanctuary	2 <sup>nd</sup> floor
Children's Worship I (P1 – P3)			Auditorium 3-1	3 <sup>rd</sup> floor
Children's Worship II (P4 – P6)			Auditorium 4-1	4 <sup>th</sup> floor
Teens' Worship Service			Auditorium 3-8	3 <sup>rd</sup> floor
Evening-Bilingual Worship		4.00pm	Auditorium 4-7 & 4-8	4 <sup>th</sup> floor
SUNDAY SCHOOL				
Crèche	Sun	8.30am 10.30am	Green Turf	1 <sup>st</sup> floor
Beginners' Sunday School		8.30am	Auditorium 2-1	2 <sup>nd</sup> floor
Junior Sunday School I			Auditorium 3-1	3 <sup>rd</sup> floor
Junior Sunday School II			Auditorium 4-8	4 <sup>th</sup> floor
Intermediate Sunday School			Auditorium 3-8	3 <sup>rd</sup> floor
Senior Sunday School I			Fellowship Hall	1 <sup>st</sup> floor
Senior Sunday School II			Main Sanctuary	2 <sup>nd</sup> floor
Senior Sunday School III			Prayer Room 4-1	4 <sup>th</sup> floor
Senior Sunday School IV			Fellowship Hall	1 <sup>st</sup> floor
Senior Sunday School IV. II			Auditorium 2M	2 <sup>nd</sup> floor
Special Needs Ministry			Auditorium 4-7	4 <sup>th</sup> floor
CHOIRS				
Singing Kakis	Thurs	8.00 pm	Auditorium 3-2	3 <sup>rd</sup> floor
One Voice	Sat	5.00 pm	Auditorium 4-8	4 <sup>th</sup> floor
Youth Choir		5.00 pm	Auditorium 3-1	3 <sup>rd</sup> floor
Evergreens	Sun	1.00 pm	Auditorium 3-1	3 <sup>rd</sup> floor
BIBLE STUDY				
Church Bible Study	Tue	8.00 pm	Church Sanctuary	2 <sup>nd</sup> floor
Home Bible Study	2 <sup>nd</sup> and 4 <sup>th</sup> Thurs	3.00 pm	-	-
Mandarin Bible Study	1 <sup>st</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> Fri	7.30 pm	4 <sup>th</sup> Floor Auditorium	4 <sup>th</sup> floor
CATECHISM CLASS				
	Sun	1.00 pm	Auditorium 4-8	4 <sup>th</sup> floor
PRAYER MEETING				
	Mon	8.00 pm	Church Sanctuary	2 <sup>nd</sup> floor
FELLOWSHIP GROUPS				
Young People's Group I	Sat	3.00 pm	Auditorium 2-1	2 <sup>nd</sup> floor
Young People's Group II			Auditorium 3-8	3 <sup>rd</sup> floor
Young People's Group III			Auditorium 3-1	3 <sup>rd</sup> floor
Young Adults' Group			Auditorium 4-7 & 4-8	4 <sup>th</sup> floor
Young Married Group			Auditorium 4-1	4 <sup>th</sup> floor
Adults' Ministry		4.00 pm	Auditorium 4-1	4 <sup>th</sup> floor

**Bethany Independent-Presbyterian Church**

301 Upper Paya Lebar Road, Singapore 534934  
tel : 65-62877713 . fax : 65-62877980 . website URL : bethanyipc.sg