

BETHANY

INDEPENDENT-
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

God's Kind of Church...

Where God is touching lives...

And people care for people.

Bethany IV ... 6 September 2020

MEDITATION

REV DR CHARLES TAN

Text: Acts 1-2; 13-17; 1 Thessalonians 1

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Meditation

1

Announcements

4

Worship

7

Bible Memory Work

8

Poetry Corner

9

A VENTURE OF FAITH

THE MACEDONIAN CALL

The Apostle Paul received a special vision from the Lord. He saw in a vision a man from Macedonia asking for help. Paul and his team decided that they would respond to this vision.

(Continued on page 2)

MEDITATION

(Continued from page 1)

MINISTRY IS A VENTURE OF FAITH

Faith is a major factor in any service for the Lord. It may be seen clearly in the following:

1. Beginning the first Church at Jerusalem

- a) That took faith
- b) Great courage was also needed
- c) Faith in the Lord was blessed
 - i) The Jerusalem Church grew significantly
 - ii) Many lives were touched and transformed by faith in

God

2. Progressing to Missionary work

- a) God sent out Barnabas and Paul to do missionary work
- b) This would require much faith in God too
- c) There were many unknown factors
 - i) There were dangers
 - ii) There were unprecedented problems
 - iii) There could be great suffering

(Continued on page 3)

MEDITATION

(Continued from page 2)

3. Faith must be applied diligently

a) The Church must possess that faith

b) The individual must also have that faith in God

OVERCOMING CHALLENGES BY FAITH

Faith is key to overcoming challenges of life! A dynamic faith was evident:

1. In the life of the Apostle Peter

2. It was also seen in the life of the Apostle Paul

Through their faith in the Lord, they spearheaded the development of the Church in the first century!

THE CALL TO EXERCISE FAITH

We commence our 48th year of Ministry at Bethany! Let us hear the Call of God to exercise faith. Let us not hesitate to apply our faith in the Lord Jesus Christ! Let us attempt and achieve great things for the glory of God!

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. Let us remember how the Lord has blessed and kept us all these years! Let us look forward to how the Lord will continue to keep us in the year ahead. May your faith increase as you worship the Lord!



NEW PULPIT THEME

“Your work of Faith” 1 Thessalonians 1:3

1. We commence our 40+8 year of Ministry at Bethany
2. It is appropriate that we commence the new year of ministry on the subject: “Work of Faith.”
3. Let us seek to increase our faith in the Lord in the year ahead!



CONGRATULATIONS! IT'S A BOY!

Heartfelt congratulations to Pastor Ben Quah and Sui Hui, on the gift of a Baby boy. Liam Quah was born on 4 September 2020. Both baby and mother are well.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

CELEBRATING TEACHER'S DAY!

(6 SEPTEMBER 2020)

**Dear Pastoral Team and Sunday School Teachers,
Happy Teacher's Day!!**

We want to express our deep appreciation to you all for your ministry in faithfully teaching the Lord's Word, especially during this challenging period of Covid-19 pandemic, which brought many uncertainties and changes to our daily lives. We had to suspend Sunday School, fellowship group meetings, weekly Church Prayer Meetings and Bible Study. Thank God that through your concerted teaching efforts and prayers, our Church family at Bethany has remained steadfast in faith!

We give special thanks to God for the teaching ministry of our dear Pastor Charles. On top of his heavy pastoral responsibilities, Pastor took time to prepare and teach weekly Special Sunday School video lessons on the life and ministry of the Lord Jesus (Discipleship, Beatitudes, Practice of Faith, Parables). Pastor, you have challenged us to set spiritual goals for our personal growth and reading of God's Word; to love the Lord and to forge a strong relationship with Him so that we can become effective servants and witnesses. Our Sunday School students have found the online lessons profound, impactful, thought-provoking, and relevant to their lives. You have made a difference in our lives! Thank you, Pastor, for your example of being a good and diligent servant of God, working hard to declare to us the whole counsel of God (Acts 20:27-28).

We thank God also for our ISS, SSS₁, SSS₂ teachers and Pastoral team for faithfully preparing every week to help your students reflect on and apply the lessons taught by Pastor Charles through the Sunday School Special lessons. We also appreciate our SSS₃ teachers for their ministry to the domestic helpers. Thank you all for walking alongside your students, offering them prayer support, encouragement, and love. Thank you for finding precious time out of your busy work schedule to minister to your students and to help them press on in their journey of faith via Zoom and other online channels! We thank God for your example of faith, love and commitment in service!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

God has also wonderfully blessed us with talented and loving teachers in our Junior Sunday School, Special Needs Ministry, and Beginner Sunday School. We thank God for your spirit of service. Boldly and in faith, you launched our Bethany online Sunday School for children, even though you know it means a great deal of coordination and hard work! Each week, our Sunday School children were able to learn God's Word through creative, engaging and wonderful Bible lessons! You prepared animated cartoons, puppet show, pictorial sketches and other creative ways to teach our children about God and His Word. Your love for your students and the Lord shines through so brightly!

May God bless you all abundantly for your labour of love! May you be deeply refreshed and enriched by the Lord's Word as you seek to nourish the souls of your students (Proverbs 11:25b). May we all continue to display this strong spirit of love, commitment and service to our great and wonderful God! With the Captain of our Salvation leading us, let's press on to fulfill what the Lord has entrusted to us "the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ" (Ephesians 4:12). To God be the glory!

**With deep appreciation from Deonna Tham, General Superintendent
and all Bethany Sunday School Superintendents.
6 September 2020**

WORSHIP IN SPIRIT AND TRUTH

Psalm 116:8-12

⁸ For You have delivered my soul from death,

My eyes from tears,

And my feet from falling.

⁹ I will walk before the LORD

In the land of the living.

¹⁰ I believed, therefore I spoke,

"I am greatly afflicted."

¹¹ I said in my haste,

"All men are liars."

1. The Duress we experience

a) Great affliction

b) Tears that speak of fear and anxiety

2. The Danger of Speaking in haste

a) That everyone is a liar

b) This is not necessarily true

3. The Deliverance God gives

a) God can deliver from death

b) He can preserve us as we trust Him

BIBLE MEMORY WORK

TODAY: 6 September 2020

Text: Romans 10:17 Faith comes by the Word of God

So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

1. Faith and the Word of God

- a) The Word of God can generate faith
- b) Our challenge is to believe in God's word

2. Hearing the Word of God

- a) Let us hear humbly
- b) Let us hear well

Next Sunday: 13 September 2020

Text: Hebrews 11:1 Faith is the substance of things hoped for

Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

POETRY CORNER

1

A FAITH THAT PLEASES GOD

Faith in the Lord leads to salvation;
It also moves us to seek sanctification.
Faith that is true will never be dormant;
It would cause us to seek to be triumphant.

The Example of Biblical Heroes is inspiring;
They faced great odds that were daunting.
But through Faith they managed to overcome;
They laboured hard, from morn to set of sun.

Faith in the Lord is something we must cultivate;
The call to applying it, must not see us hesitate.
There may be problems that lie ahead of us;
In the Lord and His Promises, we must Trust.

The Hall of Faith features many great names;
Of these wonderful servants, God is not ashamed.
Let us be challenged to exercise our Faith in the Lord;
Let us walk in the footsteps of great servants of God!

Charles Tan
Inspiration: Hebrews 11

POETRY CORNER

2

Rejoicing In The Lord

Rejoice in the Lord always! And then, again rejoice!
Such joy that fills my aching heart, this must be my choice!
No matter the sorrow, no matter the circumstance,
This joy will help me dig deep, draw infinite strength.

Persons around me may be enshrouded by misty gloom,
Interpersonal woes, rising tensions, relationships see doom.
These events may drive me to the edge of tolerance,
But with faith I cast away anxieties in joyful exuberance!

This joyful expression will manifest as humble gentleness,
Enveloped by the closeness of the Lord, I exhibit meekness.
Deep in the heart, I appreciate all that is pure, all that is good,
A peace that surpasses understanding, transcending every mood!

Dr. Tan Kok Yang
Inspiration: Philippians 4: 1-8

POETRY CORNER

3

MEN ALWAYS OUGHT TO PRAY

Prayer is a privilege bestowed from heaven,
It is also a responsibility that God has given.
Often in life, we are easily disheartened,
Learning to persevere in prayer is so important!

How do we regard God when we pray?
He is a Divine Judge, righteous in every way!
He hears the prayers of His elect patiently,
In His plan, He will answer us perfectly.

How do we see ourselves when we pray?
We are far from righteous in any way!
We bow before God, conscious that we are sinful,
The heart is humbled to know that He is merciful!

We must grow our knowledge in the Lord,
So that we may relate better to a great God.
May we persevere in prayer and do our part!
May there be faith and humility in the heart!

Yvette Seow

Inspiration: Luke 18:1-14

POETRY CORNER

4

Our Lord's Hand

Where is our Lord's hand during life's stumbles?
Perhaps this is what we wonder when lost and miserable.
The challenge is not only His hand on momentous occasions be seen;
But to recognise the beauty of His hand in our most mundane routine.

Waking up each day for another day to some can be a monotony;
But that in itself is a blessing and to Him be rendered glory.
The Lord trains and equips our fingers and hands with special skills;
And assigns to each servant to perform the works He wants fulfilled.

Bless the Lord for His astounding handiwork on man;
Man does not seem to be of much worth but for His plan.
The Lord lavishes upon man much love, care and attention;
That can only be gratefully received in humble adoration.

The Lord is our fortress shielding us from harm's way;
No unrest or rampage in the streets, safe and secure we stay.
An enviable situation to find ourselves in, with grace from God;
Happy are we servants of the Almighty God!

Jessie Quek
Inspiration: Psalm 144

BETHANY CHURCH ACTIVITIES

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

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