

BETHANY

INDEPENDENT-
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

God's Kind of Church...

Where God is touching lives...

And people care for people.

Bethany IV ... 12 January 2020

MEDITATION

REV DR CHARLES TAN

Text: Psalm 40

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“I WAITED PATIENTLY FOR THE LORD”

THE CHALLENGES OF LIFE

The challenges of life are many and varied. As we begin the New Year, the whole earth is suddenly facing a potentially deadly virus (2019 nCoV). How do we cope with this challenge? Psalm 40 offers many good pieces of advice that we would do well to take heed of!

(Continued on page 2)

MEDITATION

(Continued from page 1)

POSITIVE AND HELPFUL ADVICE

Let us consider the following words of advice from the Psalmist David.

1. Pray with faith Psalm 40:1
 - a) That God would hear
 - b) That God would answer prayer
2. Wait on the Lord patiently Psalm 40:1
 - a) Impatience and prayer do not go well together
 - b) Waiting on the Lord demonstrates humility on our part
3. Trust in the Lord Psalm 40:4
 - a) Prayer always involves trust
 - b) God will answer according to His wisdom and His will
4. Plead the tender mercies of God Psalm 40:11
 - a) The Lord is most kind and gracious
 - b) He knows our weaknesses and our needs
5. Seeking the Lord Psalm 40:16a
 - a) Let us seek the Lord with joy
 - b) Let there be gladness in the heart as we turn to God in prayer
6. Let us seek to magnify the Lord Psalm 40:16c
 - a) God is worthy of all praise
 - b) Let us seek to glorify Him as we should

A WONDERFUL THOUGHT TO MEDITATE ON

How humbling and uplifting it is to know this truth.

*But I am poor and needy;
Yet the LORD thinks upon me.
You are my help and my deliverer;
Do not delay, O my God.*

Psalm 40:17

MEDITATION

(Continued from page 2)

1. We are indeed poor and needy
 2. Yet the LORD will be our help and deliverer
- Let us seek to draw even closer to the LORD our God amidst a troubled world.

Write to me at: charlestan@bethanyipc.sg

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

*Welcome
to Bethany TV*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

2019 nCoV THREAT

The Wuhan virus problem has become a real threat. It affects not only our country. It will inevitably affect our Church and its many activities.

1. Sundays

- a) No meals would be provided for the time being
(This would in turn affect other things)
- b) There would not be the usual Catechism Class
(This would affect the Easter Baptismal Service)
- c) We would be focusing only on Worship:
 - i) Children's Worship (1 and 2)
 - ii) Teens' Worship
 - iii) Main Worship (Combined with Evening Worship)

2. Weekday meetings would be suspended too

- a) Pre-marital Counseling
 - b) Prayer Meeting
 - c) Bible Study
- We will be avoiding mass gatherings.

(Continued on page 4)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

3. Saturday Fellowship Meetings

All Groups would suspend meetings

- a) AM Bethany
- b) YMG
- c) YAG
- d) YPG 1-3
- e) Pines 2

4. Our Outlook and our Response

- a) Let us remain positive and proactive
- b) Please plan to come earlier
- c) We will be doing Temperature screening
- d) We would need your positive co-operation



ACM (BIPC AND BTS)

23 February 2020

Let all members plan to attend! We will be having election of new Session Members. Thank God for another year of wonderful provision and power evidenced so clearly.



CHURCH FAMILY CAMP

15-20 March 2020 | "O LORD, You are my God"

The Session would be meeting today, to decide whether we should cancel this year's Family Camp, in view of DORSCON Orange as the nation's response to the 2019 nCoV.



CNY SPECIAL (1 FEBRUARY 2020)

Thank God for His blessings. May the Lord draw people to Himself! Our part is to faithfully bear witness for the Lord!



ANNOUNCEMENTS

SSS 4 EVENT : “Bethany loves Seniors”

We regret that this Dinner event would be cancelled in view of the Wu-han virus threat. It is out of love and concern that we are cancelling this event. Seniors are more vulnerable to this danger.

WORSHIP IN SPIRIT AND TRUTH

Psalms 105:3-4

³ Glory in His holy name;

Let the hearts of those rejoice who seek the LORD!

⁴ Seek the LORD and His strength; Seek His face evermore!

1. Seeking the LORD
 - a) We are to seek the Lord's strength
 - b) We are to seek the Lord's face
 2. Glorifying in the LORD
 - a) Glorifying in His holy name
 - b) Glorifying includes a strong element of rejoicing in Him
-

BIBLE MEMORY WORK

TODAY: 9 February 2020

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

*Behold, the eye of the LORD is on those who fear Him,
on those who hope in His mercy.*

1. The eye of the LORD
 - a) The meaning: God watches over us faithfully
 - b) God, being Spirit, does not technically have a physical eye
2. Those who fear the LORD
 - a) God watches over them lovingly
 - b) He will protect them from evil

NEXT SUNDAY: 16 February 2020

Text: Psalm 34: 9 Oh, Fear the LORD, you His saints!

Oh, fear the LORD, you His saints! There is no want to those who fear Him.

POETRY CORNER

1

I WAITED PATIENTLY FOR THE LORD

Many are the lessons God wants us to learn about prayer;
We must begin with knowledge that the Lord truly cares.
He has wonderful tender mercies and great lovingkindness;
And towards all who fully trust Him, He will show faithfulness.

One important lesson to be learned is that of “patience;”
Learning to wait on the Lord is of great importance!
Impatience does nothing positive but hurts our trust in God;
We need to remember that we are seeking a mighty LORD!

We need to learn how to focus on Person of the LORD;
There should be joy and gladness as we seek our God.
The Lord would give to our hearts and glorious song;
He will give to us grace that we may be truly strong.

Let us seek to magnify the Lord with all our heart;
May there be deep assurance that He will not depart!
Though we may be poor and needy yet the Lord will hear;
And to our side, the LORD will graciously draw near.

Charles Tan
Inspiration: Psalm 40

POETRY CORNER

2

What Do We Fear?

The Wuhan virus has chosen the most inopportune time to rear its ugly head;
Since many are hoping the Lunar New Year to celebrate.
We are lured into mounting anxiety and disconcerting fret;
Especially when fear mongering is rife on the internet.

The fear of the unknown can drive human beings mad;
We may say and do things which later we regret.
But the fear of God will cause us to observe His statutes;
In turn, He will grant us a sense of strength and fortitude.

Let us recognize our sins and seek redemption for our wrongs;
Let us establish a personal relationship with the Lord so strong.
Then can we, under God's wings take refuge;
And claim His promise that He will protect us from this deluge.

Let us not be consumed by earthly fears and unsubstantiated news propagate;
Let us choose the fear of the Lord instead!
“For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love
and of a sound mind”;
Trust in God and He will lead you to peace of heart and spirit to find.

Dr. Sng Li Wah
Inspiration: Psalm 91; 2 Tim 1:7

POETRY CORNER

3

WHO IS THE MAN THAT FEARS THE LORD?

The Fear of the Lord may not be physically tangible,
Yet it is possible to find it real and palpable.
David had this Fear, even though he was a king,
We must also find it and it will be life-changing.

When we recall our past, we see the problem of sin,
We acknowledge that there is great iniquity within.
Yet the Lord redeems us out of all our troubles,
He forgives all our sins with grace immeasurable.

The Lord has saved us and our lives are no longer grim,
We can learn to find this Fear when we relate to Him.
If we seek Him humbly, He will show and teach His ways,
He will lead us in His mercy and truth all of our days.

We must cultivate this Fear and let it regulate our lives,
We will walk in integrity when on the Lord we fix our eyes.
May the good and upright God preserve us personally,
May He bless us and show us His covenant graciously!

Yvette Seow

Inspiration: Psalm 25

POETRY CORNER

4

Fear God and keep His commandments is man's all

When fears strike, cold nauseating waves descend on us
Our hearts pound furiously as our feelings sink to the ground
Acidic juices gnaw at the stomach walls while we try to focus
On whether we should stay to fight or be flight bound

Our fear of the Lord however, operates from a different perspective
His bountiful love and providence fill us with wonder and awe
As we learn more of God, we get a clearer sense of his directives
And begin to understand His reason for putting fear in us all

Blessed are the people who fear the Lord
For He protects them like a shepherd with his flock
Goodness and everlasting mercy are abundant provisions from God
Surely it isn't too much to ask that we worship the Lord, our Rock

Indeed, it is wise for us to do God's will
Woe betide those who believe they are self-reliant with the wherewithal
Wisdom we should seek so that knowledge can be instilled
That to "fear God and keep His commandments is man's all!"

Jessie Quek
(Inspiration: Ecclesiastes 12: 13)

POETRY CORNER

5

Practicing the Fear of the Lord

The fear of the Lord must be practical,
It cannot be merely theoretical.
It starts with taking a deep look inside,
Acknowledging the problems we prefer to hide.

Iniquity can plague us, seen in our sins,
While a lack of wisdom reveals ignorance within.
These problems drive one to pray, "O Lord,
Teach me Your ways, for You are my God."

Making this prayer is just the start of the journey,
We must then wait on the Lord, most faithfully.
Relating to God often during the day,
Setting aside time to read, think and pray.

Little by little, the Lord will correct,
If we will follow, our paths He'll direct.
He promises to teach us, and deliver us from danger,
Our part is to fear Him, and look to Him ever.

Alvin Foo

Inspiration: Psalm 25

THEME : THE FEAR OF THE LORD

THIS WEEK @ WORSHIP

COMBINED WORSHIP SERVICE

10.30AM | CHURCH SANCTUARY

"I will teach you the fear of the LORD" Psalm 34

Chairmen

Student-Pastor Moses Kwek

Pianist

Mrs Esther Ang

Interpreter

Ms Tan Hwee Cheng

Speaker

Rev Dr Charles Tan

Organist

Mrs Elsie Poey

TEENS WORSHIP SERVICE

10.30AM | 3RD FLOOR AUDITORIUM (3-8)

"The great mercies of God and the fear of the Lord" Psalm 103

Chairman

Ms Germaine Kong

Speaker

Rev Benjamin Chong

Ushers

Mr Derek Chua

Mr Mark Choo

Pianist

Ms Ho Lianya

CHILDREN'S CHURCH

10.30AM

"The Power to do things" Luke 4:14-15

CC I: P1—P3

3rd Floor Auditorium 3-1

CC II: P4—P6

4th Floor Auditorium 4-1

Speaker

Rev Benjamin Quah

Speaker

Student-Pastor Eugene Seow

EVENING-BILINGUAL WORSHIP SERVICE

4.00PM | 4TH FLOOR AUDITORIUM (4-7 & 4-8)

NO EVENING-BILINGUAL WORSHIP SERVICE THIS WEEK

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

Bethany Independent-Presbyterian Church

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

COMBINED WORSHIP SERVICE
9 February 2020
Order of Worship

PREPARATION

Pre-Worship Singing

Pianist : Mrs Esther Ang
Organist : Mrs Elsie Poey

HWC No. 356

Under His Wings

Prelude

Call to Worship

Student-Pastor Moses Kwek

Invocation

PRAISE

Hymns

Century Praise 15

A Mighty Fortress is our God

Century Praise 331

Be Thou my Vision

HWC No. 312

To be God's People

“PREACH THE WORD”

Message: “I will teach you the fear of the LORD”

Text : Psalm 34

Speaker: Rev Dr Charles Tan

RESPONSE

Offering

Hymn

Century Praise 249

Breathe on me, Breath of God

Prayerful Meditation

Benediction

Postlude



BETHANY

INDEPENDENT-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
SINGAPORE

*God's Kind of Church...
Where God is touching lives...
And people care for people.*

PASTORAL LETTER

9 FEBRUARY 2020

SENIOR PASTOR : REV DR CHARLES TAN

Dear Brethren,

THE PLACE OF THE SCRIPTURES

Thank God for the Holy Scriptures. They can play a great part when we are battling uncertainties and fears.

SPECIAL VERSES TO MEDITATE ON

The following are precious verses that we can read and meditate on.

A. READ

1. The LORD as our Shield
*But You, O LORD, are a shield for me;
My glory and the One who lifts up my head.* Psalm 3:3
2. Assurance that God hears prayers
*I cried to the LORD with my voice;
And He heard me from His holy hill.* Psalm 3:4
3. There is no need to give in to fear
*I lay down and slept;
I awoke, for the LORD sustains me.*
I will not be afraid... Psalm 3:5-6
4. Trust in God's salvation
*Salvation belongs to the LORD'
Your blessing is upon Your people.* Psalm 3:8

B. RESPOND

1. Let there be growing faith
2. Let there be a deeper knowledge of God
3. Let us seek to overcome fear with faith in the Lord
4. Share your faith with those who may be fearful
5. Thank God for His promise of blessings!

*Prayerfully,
Pastor Charlie*

Dear Brethren,

ATTENDING WORSHIP SERVICE AMIDST 2019 nCoV THREAT

I write to express the following as you attend Worship Service amidst the Wuhan virus threat.

1. Appreciation

For your faithfulness in wanting to offer worship to the Lord our God.

2. Admiration

For your courage in attending Church amidst these trying times

3. Activities on Sunday

- a) Children's Worship (CW 1 and 2)
- b) Teens Worship
- c) Main Worship

TAKING A POSITIVE STANCE

Thank you for your understanding as we take a proactive approach in battling this serious viral threat.

1. Please plan to come to church earlier

- a) Temperature screening would be done
- b) Contact tracing may be necessary

2. If you feel unwell

- a) Please plan to stay away
- b) Please inform the Pastoral Team members

WITH DEEP REGRETS

We will not be able to offer the following for the time being

1. Breakfast

2. Lunch

Thank you for your understanding!

Prayerfully,
Pastor Charles Tan