

# BETHANY

INDEPENDENT-  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH

*God's Kind of Church...*

*Where God is touching lives...*

*And people care for people.*

Bethany IV ... 17 January 2021

## MEDITATION

REV DR CHARLES TAN

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Text: Deuteronomy 32

## “REMEMBER THE DAYS OF OLD”

### REMEMBERING THE PAST

One of the blessings of life is actually the ability to recall the past. Sometimes, we take this for granted. This was a lesson that Moses sought to teach the children of Israel.

“<sup>7</sup> Remember the days of old,

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# MEDITATION

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*(Continued from page 1)*

Consider the years of many generations.

Ask your father, and he will show you;

Your elders, and they will tell you:

<sup>8</sup>When the Most High divided their inheritance to the nations,

When He separated the sons of Adam,

He set the boundaries of the peoples

According to the number of the children of Israel.

<sup>9</sup>For the LORD's portion *is* His people;

Jacob *is* the place of His inheritance.

Deuteronomy 32:7-9

1. What should be remembered?

a) The days of old

b) The years of many generations

2. Who may be consulted concerning the past?

a) Fathers (parents)

This includes grandparents

b) Elders

The older generation

3. What ought to be known?

a) The wonderful works of God

b) Some highlighted for good reason:

i) God gave an inheritance to Israel

ii) He gave clear borders to all the children of Israel

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# MEDITATION

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*(Continued from page 2)*

(Each tribe was given a portion of land according to its size)

4. The most significant lesson

a) God's portion was His people

b) Jacob was His inheritance!

## OUR CHALLENGE

Let us consider what we ought to practise!

1. Let us recall the past dealings of God with us

2. Let us revel that we are the Lord's inheritance!

Let us seek to respond to the Lord appropriately. May our hearts be filled with great gratitude and joy always!

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

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# MEDITATION

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## WELCOME TO BETHANY

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



## YOUTH WORSHIP SERVICE

*Commencement: Saturday, 6 February 2021*

*Time: 3.00pm*

*Venue: Bethany*

Attending this Worship Service.

Same protocol as when we attend the Morning Worship Service.

Essentials:

1. Registration
2. Use of "Trace Together"



## RETURN OF INTERN-PASTOR STEVE KARONG

IP Steve will be returning to Manipur, North India on 3 February, 2021. His internship program involves returning home to start a new church ministry (Bethany IPC Manipur).

His wife will be joining him in this ministry. Ruth is currently teaching at our Seminary in Yangon. She will be joining him in Manipur after she completes her teaching program.

Let us pray for the Lord's blessing as I-P Steve begins a new Church ministry in his native place.

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# ANNOUNCEMENTS

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## **ACKNOWLEDGMENT AND HEARTFELT GRATITUDE**

*- Karong Seichunga Kom (Steve)*

My beloved brethren in Christ,

May I take this privilege to acknowledge God for His faithfulness, grace and mercy throughout my training years in Bethany and to express my heartfelt gratitude to Bethany my beloved spiritual family for the love and care, support and friendship.

First and foremost, I would like to give all glory and honour to God who is abundant in mercy and grace. It was God in His great plan who brought me here to be trained in Bethany as a student pastor. I thank God for the opportunity given to me to be personally trained by Pastor Charlie, and learn further from him the Word of God, so that I would be able to serve the Lord well in future. As I trained here in Bethany for the last two and a half years, by His mercy and grace God began to reveal bit by bit His plan for me along the way. He has put the burden in my heart to reach out to my people in India. There are thousands of souls who need to hear the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ. God had enabled me to complete my first level of training as a student pastor. And now I am commencing my next level of training as an intern-pastor. At the

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# ANNOUNCEMENTS

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*(Continued from page 5)*

same time, I am returning soon back to my home state Manipur (North-East India) to commence a new ministry (BETHANY IPC MINISTRY, MANIPUR). God was the One who had called me into His glorious ministry. And I strongly believe that it is God who is sending me through Bethany to serve Him in Manipur. It's all because of God's mercy that I am given the privilege to serve. I will never take this for granted! *"Blessed the LORD, O my soul; and all that is within me, bless His holy name! Blessed the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits"* (Psalm 103:1-2).

I thank God for Pastor Charlie for his love and care for me through words and deeds. I will treasure all the wonderful and life changing lessons he has taught me from God's Word. I will continue to learn humbly from him. Also, I thank God for the Pastoral Team and Church Staff for the wonderful friendship. They have always been there to help and support me whenever I was in need. It has been a great time of learning alongside them and learning from them as well. I would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to the Session Members past and present. I thank the Lord for the care and support extended to me. I will remember the words of encouragement shared with me to serve God faithfully.

Thank you Bethany, my spiritual family. Bethany has been a home away

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# ANNOUNCEMENTS

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*(Continued from page 6)*

from home. My beloved uncles and aunties, friends, children, one and all, thank you so much for reaching out to me as one of your own even though I am from different country. You have been great example of what it means to be *God's kind of church where God touches lives and people care for people*. I truly enjoy your company and friendship. May we continue to keep this bond of friendship and family. My prayer to God is that one day He would help me to establish a church that has the same spirit. I will be missing you all very much.

Finally, but not the least, please remember me and my team in prayer for BETHANY IPC MINISTRY MANIPUR, as we commence as soon as I arrive home. May the Lord enable us to fulfil the purpose of His calling and carry out the task given to us faithfully. We will always need your support in every step of the way. Thank you so much and God bless! Amen.

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# WORSHIP IN SPIRIT AND TRUTH

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## Psalm 119:19-20

*<sup>19</sup> I am a stranger in the earth;  
Do not hide Your commandments from me.  
<sup>20</sup> My soul breaks with longing  
For Your judgments at all times.*

### 1. A stranger in the earth

- a) This was “a new thing” that the Psalmist discovered
- b) With the new desire to live as servant of God, he finds himself feeling like a stranger on this earth

### 2. A desire to know God’s word even more

- a) He was not going to return to his old ways
- b) He would rather have God reveal His word (commandments) to him

### 3. His affirmation

- a) His soul truly longed for God’s word (judgments)
- b) No matter if the world treats him like a stranger (an alien)



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# BIBLE MEMORY WORK

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## **TODAY: 17 January 2021**

*Psalm 36:7 "How precious is Your lovingkindness"*

*How precious is Your lovingkindness, O God!*

*Therefore the children of men put their trust under the shadow of Your wings.*

1. Appreciation: "The lovingkindness of God"
  - a) It is truly precious
  - b) This is best understood personally
2. Appropriate response:
  - a) To trust the Lord's protection
  - b) This protection is described beautifully  
"The shadow of His wings"

## **NEXT SUNDAY: 24 January 2021**

*Psalm 63:3 "Your lovingkindness is better than life"*

*Because Your lovingkindness is better than life,*

*My lips shall praise You.*

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# POETRY CORNER

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# 1

## REMEMBER THE DAYS OF OLD

The past must never ever be forgotten;  
In it, we may learn many deep lessons.  
The past is not to be relegated to “history;”  
The “days of old” must be recalled tenderly.

The mighty acts of God for Israel were wonderful;  
In them we appreciate that He is indeed powerful.  
God took Israel to be His people, lovingly chosen;  
He would always live up to His deep commitment.

The land of Canaan was apportioned carefully;  
Each tribe was given its parcel of land thoughtfully.  
The Lord’s portion was the people He chose;  
To His inheritance, He offered to be close.

The mighty deeds of God are to be remembered;  
Upon meditation, His deeds are to be treasured.  
To be God’s inheritance is truly wondrous;  
May His name ever be extolled as glorious!

Charles Tan  
Inspiration: Deuteronomy 32:7-9)

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# POETRY CORNER

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# 2

## The Mercy of God

Challenges and difficulties are inevitable in life;  
Who amongst us can boast a life without strife?  
But if we only dwelled on the trials and tribulations we have had to suffer;  
We would have missed beholding the mercy of God shown to His people.

For who has never rejected God but self-serving and defiant been?  
Who can proclaim he has lived righteously and not banded to his secret sins?  
Indeed, we can go to great pains to nurse selfish agenda;  
We simply cannot deny that man is devious and sinful by nature.

Yet, it is God who has kept His mercy and grace for the thousands;  
Repeatedly forgiving the sins of His people over the seasons.  
Indeed, the Lord's long-suffering mercy spans the heavens;  
He has chosen to redeem and love our forefathers and us, despite our irreverence.

To him who is righteous, God will give wisdom, knowledge and joy;  
Thus, our concerted efforts to seek Him we must employ.  
May we increase our knowledge and faith through the reading of the Scriptures!  
And seek to exercise wisdom in life's ever-triving endeavors.

Dr. Sui Li Wah

Inspiration: Exodus 34:6-7; Psalm 36:5; Deuteronomy 10:14-15; Ecclesiastes 2:26

# 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

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