

BETHANY

INDEPENDENT-
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

God's Kind of Church...

Where God is touching lives...

And people care for people.

Bethany IV ... 27 June 2021

MEDITATION

REV DR CHARLES TAN

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Meditation	1
Announcements	4
Especially for Seniors	6
Worship	7
Bible Memory Work	8
Poetry Corner	9
Order of Worship	12

Text: Psalm 119:73-80

I WILL MEDITATE ON YOUR PRECEPTS

THE PRACTICE OF MEDITATION

That the Psalmist practised Prayer and Meditation is without doubt (Psalm 119:15, 23, 27, 48). He found this discipline helpful in a number of ways. Psalm 119:73-80 helps us understand how he found this practice meaningful.

(Continued on page 2)

MEDITATION

(Continued from page 1)

PRAYER AND MEDITATION

The Psalmist linked Prayer and Meditation closely. The long Psalm 119 was essentially a prayer of the Psalmist. Meditation and prayer went together very closely. The following may be highlighted:

1. Prayer for understanding

"Give me understanding..." Psalm 119:73b

2. Prayer for merciful kindness

"Let, I pray, Your merciful kindness be for My comfort" Psalm 119:76a

3. Prayer for tender mercies

"Let Your tender mercies come to me, that I may live" Psalm 119:77a

4. Prayer to be blameless

"Let my heart be blameless regarding Your statutes" Psalm 119:80a

OBSERVABLE RESULTS OF PRAYER

What were some of the more observable results of prayer and meditation?

1. Knowledge of Self became clearer

"Your hands have made me and fashioned me" Psalm 119:73a

a) Made me

This is a general reference to God's work of creating the Psalmist

b) Fashioned me

This is a more specific appreciation of how the Lord made the Psalmist who he was

i) His heart

ii) His mind

MEDITATION

(Continued from page 2)

iii) Other characteristic features

Prayer and meditation helped the Psalmist to understand himself far better. Thus, he prayed and sought deeper understanding.

2. Knowledge of why God allowed afflictions to come

a) The judgments of God

"I know, O LORD, that Your judgments are right" Psalm 119:75a

i) The judgments of God can be painful

ii) Yet, the Psalmist trusted in God that His judgments are always right

b) The afflictions of life

"And that in faithfulness You have afflicted me" Psalm 119:75b

i) Afflictions were felt by the Psalmist

ii) The proud treated the Psalmist wrongfully Psalm 119:78

iii) But God is always faithful, and even if there are afflictions, the Psalmist trusted in His faithfulness

OUR CHALLENGE

The Pulpit series of Messages on the subject of Biblical Meditation has come to an end. Let us be challenged to make Prayer and Meditation our personal spiritual practice. May we find a deeper faith in 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. It has been more than a month since we last worshipped together on site! Thank God we can look forward to resuming Public Worship at 301 Upper Paya Lebar again.

Target Date: 4 July 2021



WORSHIP ADVISORY

Precautions are good to note

They are observed for the protection of all worshippers

1. Congregational singing

We will not be having congregational singing at the moment

2. Musicians

No wind instruments for the time being. Music would be limited to Organ, Piano and string instruments.

3. Social Contact

Let us take special care as we come for worship.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation!

4. Registration for 100 Worshippers

Please register early.

Thank you for understanding if we are not able to have everyone registered for worship.



(Continued on page 5)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

NEW SERIES OF MESSAGES (July-August 2021)

Theme: "Let the LORD set a man over the congregation"
Numbers 27:16

1. We celebrate Bethany's 40+8 Anniversary in August 2021
2. Ordination of Intern-Pastors
 - a) Moses Kwek
 - b) Eugene Seow

Date: 29 August 2021

3. Pulpit Theme

This focuses on how God would select and anoint people for ministry!
May the Lord raise up good and faithful servants!



CONGRATULATIONS! IT'S A GIRL!

Heartfelt congratulations to Jason and Joanne on the gift of a baby girl.
Emma was born on 20 June 2021! May the Lord bless!



HEARTFELT CONDOLENCES

Heartfelt condolences to Mrs. Foo, Min Li and Albert, Francis and Abigail on the demise of Mr. Foo Ken Hoe. The late Mr. Foo was called home to the Lord Jesus Christ, on Monday, 21 June 2021. He was 69 years old.

ESPECIALLY FOR SENIORS

*You turn man to destruction,
And say, "Return, O children of men" Psalm 90:3*

1. Destruction

- a) This can occur in a number of ways
- b) War can bring about destruction
- c) Disease can also bring about destruction

2. Declaration of God

- a) God can simply say, "Return, O children of men"
- b) This is a reminder of the following:
 - i) The great Power of God
 - ii) The obvious Puny nature of mankind

3. Dependence on God

- a) Let us know afresh that our life depends on the Lord and His will
- b) Let us walk humbly before God for life and death are in God's hand



WORSHIP IN SPIRIT AND TRUTH

Psalm 119:67-68

⁶⁷ Before I was afflicted I went astray,
But now I keep Your word.

⁶⁸ You *are* good, and do good;
Teach me Your statutes.

1. Problem of Going astray
 - a) This is a common problem
 - b) It can have severe adverse consequences
2. Painful Affliction allowed by God
 - a) God allows for afflictions to be experienced
 - b) These bring us back to God and His word
3. Praise to the Lord
 - a) He is Good
 - b) And He does us good, even when afflictions come
4. Prayer to God
 - a) To be taught the Lord's word (statutes)
 - b) To keep His word faithfully

BIBLE MEMORY WORK

TODAY: 27 June 2021

Psalm 145:5 I will meditate on the glorious splendour of Your majesty
*I will meditate on the glorious splendour of Your majesty,
And on Your wondrous works.*

1. Meditation (Normal)

- a) On the Word of God
- b) In conjunction with prayer

2. Meditation (in addition)

- a) The glorious splendour of God's Majesty
- b) On His wondrous works

NEXT SUNDAY: 04 July 2021

Text: Genesis 5:24 Enoch walked with God
*And Enoch walked with God; and he was not,
For God took him.*

POETRY CORNER

1

I WILL MEDITATE ON YOUR PRECEPTS

Many problems afflict us in life;
Difficulties are thick and rife.
Meditation is a discovered blessing;
In prayer we can pour out everything.

The Word of God may have many names;
Precepts or Testimonies... they are the same.
They are all given by the LORD:
To help us walk in faith with God.

The afflictions of life can be painful;
Understanding of God's will is needful.
The Law of God enlightens our mind;
Without it, we are often in a bind.

"I will meditate on Your precepts;"
May we do this too and never lapse!
The Precepts of God are such a blessing;
May our hearts be filled with thanksgiving!

Charles Tan
Inspiration: Psalm 119:73-80

POETRY CORNER

2

Ruminare and Chew on His Word

Life has its ways of challenaing and testing mankind;
We wonder at its meaning as our joy dissipates.
How shall we respond when caught in such a bind?
Revert to the Lord for mercy to get out of the dire straits.

More effectively to avoid sinking into depression and melancholy;
Meditate and ask for revival daily with a fresh outpouring of the Spirit.
Fill our inner being with all the fullness of the Lord to raise the lowly;
To an awakening to rejoice in and glorify the Lord without limit.

Read not only His Word but chew on it to comprehend;
The dimensions of our Saviour's love for us.
Let us ponder, ruminare and trace the goodness to His loving hand;
So we can know better the width, length, height and depth of the love of Jesus.

May we not be reduced to listlessness and lethargy!
Through meditation and prayer reach out to the Lord;
Muse for inspiration to generate food for the soul spiritually.
Ask to be led, taught and revived by God!

Jessie Quek
(Inspiration: Psalm 143, Ephesians 3:16-19)

POETRY CORNER

3

Psalm 143

As we read Psalm 143 and think about King David's struggles;
We can identify with his desperation and troubles.
Our challenges today may differ from King David's but are still myriad;
We complain incessantly and become increasingly irate.

But do we remember how God seems to always, our problems, alleviate?
Do we contemplate enough of His goodness and faithfulness instead?!
Never more timely than ever before, we should learn to meditate;
To muse on the Lord's protection and rich provisions made.

Then can we u-turn to seek recourse to God and with Him relate,
And rediscover the faith to believe that our prayers, He will reciprocate?
But first we must seek God in supplication most earnestly;
That He teaches and leads us in His favour most graciously.

May God heed and hear the pleas of His people,
And hasten to deliver us from trouble and be our shelter!
May His Spirit continually revive and rejuvenate us,
And cause our souls to thirst for Him and trust!

Dr. Sng Li Wah
Inspiration: Psalm 143

ORDER OF WORSHIP



CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Dr. Charles Tan

INVOCATION

MESSAGE

“I will meditate on the glorious splendour of Your majesty”

Text: Psalm 145

BENEDICTION



Bethany Independent-Presbyterian Church

301 Upper Paya Lebar Road, Singapore 534934

tel : 65-62877713 . fax : 65-62877980 . website URL : bethanyipc.sg