

BETHANY

INDEPENDENT-
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

God's Kind of Church...

Where God is touching lives...

And people care for people.

Bethany IV ... 27 March 2022

MEDITATION

REV DR CHARLES TAN

TEXT: LUKE 4:16-21

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PRESENTING THE KINGDOM OF GOD

SO MUCH MISUNDERSTANDING ABOUT GOD'S KINGDOM

When the Lord Jesus began to preach about the Kingdom of God, there was so much misunderstanding. He had to clear up misconceptions. He had to battle ignorance and indifference. How would He go about helping people understand the greatness of God's Kingdom?

(Continued on page 2)

MEDITATION

(Continued from page 1)

THE PLACE OF THE SCRIPTURES

The Scriptures had much to say about the Kingdom of God. But many were unable to understand the Scriptures easily. He was once asked to read and explain a Scripture portion in the local synagogue at Nazareth, His hometown.

¹⁶ So He came to Nazareth, where He had been brought up. And as His custom was, He went into the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and stood up to read. ¹⁷ And He was handed the book of the prophet Isaiah. And when He had opened the book, He found the place where it was written:

¹⁸ "The Spirit of the LORD is upon Me,
Because He has anointed Me
To preach the gospel to *the* poor;
He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted,
To proclaim liberty to *the* captives
And recovery of sight to *the* blind,
To set at liberty those who are ☐ppressed;

¹⁹ To proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD."

²⁰ Then He closed the book, and gave *it* back to the attendant and sat down. And the eyes of all who were in the synagogue were fixed on Him. ²¹ And He began to say to them, "Today this Scripture is fulfilled in your hearing."

Luke 4:16-21

1. The Relevance of the Scriptures

- a) The Lord showed understanding of the Scriptures
- b) He showed the people in the synagogue the relevance of the Scriptures

2. Aspects of the Kingdom revealed

- a) The Kingdom will include the poor
- b) The broken-hearted will find healing and comfort

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MEDITATION

(Continued from page 2)

- c) Those who are captives and oppressed will find liberty
- d) The blind will regain sight
- e) That which represents the Kingdom properly is the Gospel

FULFILMENT OF THE SCRIPTURE

The way the Lord Jesus chose to teach about the Kingdom of God was to fulfil the Scriptures.

- 1. He will proclaim the Gospel
- 2. He will reach out to the poor, the broken-hearted, the blind and all who are oppressed
- 3. He will invite them to repent from their sins and to believe in Him
- 4. He will welcome them into the Kingdom 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. May your heart be uplifted through worship and fellowship.



MINISTRY THIS WEEK

1. Special Seniors Program

Tuesday, 29 March 2022
9.30am- 11.30am

Thursday, 31 March 2022
9.30am-11.30am

ANNOUNCEMENTS

2. Weekend Ministry

Saturday, 2 April 2022
Catechism Class | 1.00pm

Youth Worship | 3.00pm

Sunday, 3 April 2022
Morning Worship Service
Main Sanctuary | 10.00am

Chinese Worship Service
Level 4 Auditorium | 10.00am



EASTER BAPTISMAL SERVICE

Date: 10 April 2022

Palm Sunday

1. Paedo-Baptism
2. Adult Baptism
3. Transference of Membership

Please fill in the appropriate forms.



HEARTFELT CONDOLENCES

Heartfelt condolences to the family of Deacon George Thomas (Ruby, Camille, Jarrod, Charles, Ainsley) on the home-calling of his mother, Mrs, Annamma Thomas on 19 March 2022. The late Mrs. Thomas was 93 years old.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONGRATULATIONS! IT'S A BOY!

Congratulations to Francis and Abigail on the gift of a baby boy.
Baby Elliot was born on 22 March 2022.



CRECHE MINISTRY

Dear Brethren,

We are excited to share that we are starting a new Creche ministry this year! Because of the pandemic, our young children have not been able to come to church. Many of them have missed seeing and playing with their friends! The parents have also missed interacting with and relating to each other. As parents, we often wonder how to share about the Lord and His Word effectively with our children. The support of a church community is so critical, in more ways than one. Through the Creche programme, we hope to be able to minister to both our young children and parents in a special way!

Our focus as we prepare for the Creche Ministry:

1. To build a loving environment and create happy experiences for our young children
2. To help them learn about God in simple and yet meaningful ways
3. To support parents in our journey to raise our children well

We thank God for bringing a new team of people to serve in this ministry. The team comprises:

1. David and Evangeline Kwok
2. Jun Jie and Cassandra Yeo

ANNOUNCEMENTS

3. Kevin and Alyssa Liang

4. Eugene and Yvette Seow

More details about the ministry will be provided in due time. As we make preparations to commence, please join us and pray alongside! May the Lord grant us His grace and specially bless all who will be part of this ministry!

Gratefully,

Pastor Eugene (On behalf of The Creche Committee)

WORSHIP IN SPIRIT AND TRUTH

Psalm 119:145-146

¹⁴⁵ *I cry out with my whole heart;*

Hear me, O LORD!

I will keep Your statutes.

¹⁴⁶ *I cry out to You;*

Save me, and I will keep Your testimonies.

1. Crying out to God in prayer

a) With the whole heart

b) With a heart determined to keep God's statutes

2. Context of Prayer

a) Trouble and anguish had been experienced

Crying out to God for deliverance

b) Commitment to keep God's testimonies remain intact

BIBLE MEMORY WORK

TODAY: 27 March 2022

Text: “The righteous will shine forth” Matthew 13:43

Then the righteous will shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father. He who has ears to hear, let him hear! Matthew 13:43

1. Who will be in the kingdom of God the Father?

The believers who have been imputed with the righteousness of God

2. How would they appear?

They will shine forth like the sun in its brightness

3. Hearing and responding

It is our responsibility to hear well and to respond appropriately.

NEXT SUNDAY: 3 April 2022

Text: “The kingdom of heaven is like treasure” Matthew 13:44

Again, the kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and hid; and for joy over it he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

Matthew 13:44

POETRY CORNER

1

THE FULFILMENT OF THE SCRIPTURES

“Today this Scripture is fulfilled in your hearing;”
The Scripture He read from Isaiah was thrilling!
The Kingdom of God was described so clearly;
But so few could fully understand prophecy!

The Poor were often neglected by society;
But they were included in His Kingdom truly;
The Broken-hearted need not languish away;
Nor need the Oppressed be filled with dismay.

The Gospel of the Kingdom would be proclaimed;
All may hear and respond to God’s holy name.
His Kingdom is meant for all who would repent;
To give them His glorious kingdom is His intent.

The Lord Jesus chose to fulfil the Scriptures;
His blameless life would display many features.
The Kingdom of God is real and relevant;
Responding with faith is all-important!

Charles Tan

Inspiration: Luke 4:14-21

POETRY CORNER

2

THE KINGDOM OF GOD

Many people chase after physical riches,
They choose to neglect spiritual matters.
But physical riches will surely fade away,
Destruction awaits at the end of the day.

The Lord offers a very different perspective,
The kingdom of God is far more attractive!
In it, there are many spiritual treasures,
Their value is great beyond measure.

His kingdom, we must seek and prioritize,
Even if, material things, we have to sacrifice.
We may not have great earthly possessions,
But we can be rich in faith as Christians!

In His kingdom, let us pursue discipleship,
His Word is key to this faith-relationship.
If we truly hear and do the Lord's sayings,
We will discover many spiritual blessings!

Yvette Seow

Inspiration: Luke 6:20, 47

POETRY CORNER

3

The Kingdom of God

In the Kingdom of God, believers may be;
Yet little do we know of the kingdom's mysteries.
Eyes may look but do we really see?
Ears may hear, yet do we listen mindfully?

The words of the Lord Jesus baffled even the disciples;
They struggled within themselves to find the answers.
But let not the teachings of the Lord be relegated to mere parables;
When precious lessons await us to unravel.

It is faith which distinguishes us as God's people;
Inspiring our search for knowledge and His wisdom to savor.
Yet our faith rests not in the wisdom of men but in God's power;
It is His Spirit who reveals the secrets of the kingdom eternal.

Blessed are we who are given to know the kingdom of God;
To understand the meaning of parables as spoken by the Lord.
May the seed of our faith grow on good ground and flourish;
And the privilege of being in the kingdom of God be cherished.

Dr. Sng Li Wah

Inspiration: Matthew 13:1-16; Luke 8:4-10; 1 Corinthians 2:1-12

POETRY CORNER

4

Mysteries of the Lord

If you are in His Kingdom the Lord will share His secrets
To be given an insight to His hidden mysteries is a blessing
Enter the kingdom of heaven through repentance of our sins
He will reveal more and more when we are attentively listening

Hearts need to be open hence able to perceive with keen attendance
To the underlying message of the Lord running through the many parables
Cultivate our faith progressively till we are loaded with its abundance
While keeping a watch on the ego ensuring that it is controllable

Let us hone our spiritual sensitivity to a high degree
So we can receive the things God has prepared for those who love Him
May hardened hearts be softened to be able to hear and see
A privilege to be privy to the Spirit of God's deep things

Seek the Lord for He is pleased as Punch when discovered
Choose not to walk in ways according to own thoughts provoking His anger
His elect shall eat, drink and sing for joy as His beloved
For "it shall come to pass that before they call the Lord will answer"

Jessie Quek

Inspiration: Matthew 13:11-14; Isaiah 65:1,4,13,24; 1 Corinthians 2: 9-10

ORDER OF WORSHIP



PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Dr. Charles Tan

INVOCATION

MESSAGE

“The Kingdom of God has come near to you” Luke 10:9

Text: Luke 10:1-24

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

