

BETHANY

INDEPENDENT-
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

God's Kind of Church...

Where God is touching lives...

And people care for people.

Bethany IV ... 3 April 2022

MEDITATION

REV DR CHARLES TAN

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**TEXTS: MATTHEW 4:18-22;
MARK 1:16-29; LUKE 5:1-11**

THE CALLING OF DISCIPLES

PREACHING THE KINGDOM OF GOD

This was a vital ministry the Lord Jesus was engaged in. He explained why He was so committed.

(Continued on page 2)

MEDITATION

(Continued from page 1)

⁴² Now when it was day, He departed and went into a deserted place. And the crowd sought Him and came to Him, and tried to keep Him from leaving them; ⁴³ but He said to them, "I must preach the kingdom of God to the other cities also, because for this purpose I have been sent." ⁴⁴ And He was preaching in the synagogues of Galilee.

Luke 4:42-44

1. He could not just stay in one place
2. There were many more people who had not heard about the Kingdom of God

THE PLAN OF THE LORD JESUS CHRIST

The Lord Jesus had another focus besides preaching the Gospel of the kingdom. He called people to become Disciples.

The Plan of the Lord Jesus was not clear to the Multitudes nor to His disciples. The Plan of the Lord may be outlined briefly this way.

1. Reaching out to people
 - a) Presenting the Gospel
 - b) Helping people to find faith in God
 - c) Granting salvation and entrance into God's kingdom
2. Making Disciples
 - a) This was the logical next step
 - b) Becoming a Disciple should be the happy response of all

(Continued on page 3)

MEDITATION

(Continued from page 2)

- c) The example of the first Disciples of the Lord Jesus
- d) They left whatever they were doing immediately and followed the Lord Jesus (Matthew 4:20; Mark 1:18)

3. The future leaders of the Church

What did the Lord Jesus have in mind when He called people to follow Him?

- a) The believers began to be grounded in their faith
- b) The first set of Disciples were made Apostles
- c) They would lead the Church years down the road

SERVANTS OF THE KINGDOM OF GOD

There are many challenges to consider. The Lord Jesus wanted His Disciples to be:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------|
| 1. Salt of the earth | Matthew 5:13 |
| 2. Light of the world | Mathew 5:14a |
| 3. A city on a hill | Matthew 5:14b |
| 4. Labourers in the harvest field | Luke 11:2 |

Let us ponder deeply the challenge to become useful servants of the Lord in His kingdom. There are so many who have yet to hear the Gospel of the Kingdom!

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 COMING WEEK

1. Special Seniors Program

- a) Tuesday, 5 April 2022
9.30am- 11.30am
- b) Thursday, 7 April 2022
9.30am-11.30am

2. Weekend Ministry

- a) Saturday, 9 April 2022
 - i. Catechism Class | 1.00pm
 - ii. Youth Worship | 3.00pm
- b) Palm Sunday, 10 April 2022
 - i. Morning Worship Service
Combined Worship (Chinese Worship Service will combine with Morning Worship) | 10.00am
 - ii. Baptismal Service



ANNOUNCEMENTS

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.



CONGRATULATIONS! IT'S A GIRL

Heartfelt congratulations to Shiyun and Daohua on the gift of a baby girl. Baby was born on 30 March 2022. Both Baby Christabel and mother are well!



BIBLE MEMORY WORK

TODAY: 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

1. The Lord Jesus was a Master-Teacher
2. He used very effective analogies to teach people about the Kingdom of God
3. One of them was to compare the Kingdom of God as “Hidden Treasure”
4. Great joy is experienced when the Treasure is found

NEXT SUNDAY: 10 April 2022

Text: “One pearl of great price” Matthew 13: 46

⁴⁵ *“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant seeking beautiful pearls, ⁴⁶ who, when he had found one pearl of great price, went and sold all that he had and bought it.*

Matthew 13:45-46

WORSHIP IN SPIRIT AND TRUTH

Psalm 119:147-148

¹⁴⁷ I rise before the dawning of the morning,
And cry for help;
I hope in Your word.

¹⁴⁸ My eyes are awake through the *night* watches,
That I may meditate on Your word.

1. Crying out for help

- a) Sometimes, the cry for help is an urgent one
- b) One may begin the day with a plea for help

2. Contemplating on God's Word

- a) It helps greatly when one contemplates on the Word of God
- b) It gives added strength to the hope we have in the Lord as we pray

POETRY CORNER

1

THE PLAN OF THE LORD

The Lord Jesus had a Divine Plan in mind;
He came to heal those who were blind.
Those who were poor heard the Gospel;
Through faith, they became God's people.

The Divine Plan was very far-reaching;
Disciples were trained through teaching.
Some would become future Apostles;
But first, they had to become Disciples.

The Lord's Plan includes every believer;
Some could even become preachers.
But all are meant to be Salt and Light;
The life we have, can become very bright.

The Kingdom of God is to be treasured;
The Power of God cannot be measured!
A sinner can become a saint in God's Plan;
Let us stand in awe of God's mighty Hand!

Charles Tan

Matthew 4:18-22; Mark 1:16-29; Luke 5:1-11

POETRY CORNER

2

DISCIPLES OF THE LORD JESUS

The Lord Jesus taught multitudes of people,
He also performed many mighty miracles.
These should have caused faith and impact,
But sadly, the Lord, many chose to reject.

A small group became the Lord's disciples,
They were unlike the multitudes of people.
They heard and responded to His teachings,
To be able to follow Him was their blessing!

To His disciples, what privilege would be given?
Deep knowledge of the kingdom of heaven!
But the disciples would have to do their part,
To faithfully keep His word with a good heart.

The kingdom of heaven is like a vast treasure,
The key to know it is through the Scriptures.
If we truly seek for knowledge with patience,
We would find understanding in abundance!

Yvette Seow

Inspiration: Matthew 13:11-12 and Luke 8:15

POETRY CORNER

3

Is our faith real?

Is our faith in the Lord real
Faith comes by hearing the Word of the Lord
They say that practice makes perfect and is ideal
More time spent with Him sooner we recognise the voice of God

Yes, it is easy to forget the Lord
For He is not visible to remind us of His presence
It is up to us to be cognizant of God
Are we so obtuse that we cannot feel His essence?

Just look at all His creations
We live and die according to Him
Train to awaken and sharpen our senses
Hone our ability to “distil” His Being

How real is the kingdom of God?
Are we receiving revelations as we study the Scriptures?
Fill up on the Word of the Lord;
Has heaven written down our names?

Jessie Quek
Inspiration: (Luke 10:20; Romans 14:6)

POETRY CORNER

4

Cultivating Faith in the Current Day

There may be times of trouble, when challenges abound,
Sunk knee deep in woes, heart burdened, unable to rebound.
These are the moments when our faith needs to be examined,
The clarity of our understanding of grace is to be determined!

Comprehension of God's grace was truly Apostle Paul's enabler,
And with faith, through adversity, far and wide he did minister.
Through Christ, a light for all has been sent to the ends of this earth!
A salvation so rich and free through grace in spiritual rebirth.

Such 'mysteries' may be difficult to grasp in current day and context,
The eyes are blind, heart hardened, seeking revelation as a pretext.
One should however plead grace for diligence and illumination,
Look to the scriptures for enlightenment through comprehension.

Dr. Tan Kok-Yang
Inspiration: Ephesians 3: 1-4

POETRY CORNER

5

The Kingdom of God Is At Hand

Let not those in the kingdom of God, themselves celebrate;
Because the good news of His kingdom, awaits us to disseminate.
The early disciples had set examples for later generations to emulate;
They had gone forth to spread the word and were not afraid.

We will not ingratiate ourselves with every person with whom we relate;
Nor gain acceptance with our every effort made.
But far more important is a person's salvation and his fate,
Than our loss of face or pride which such rejection may dictate.

The harvest is plentiful, yet the laborers are few;
It is high time the children of God pull up our socks anew.
To speak forth the word that the Kingdom of God is at hand;
To bid all to the knowledge of God's great Salvation Plan.

Yet we remember that though we sow and others water;
It is God who saves and the names into the Book of Life, enters.
Therefore, let us never neglect to pray;
For the power of God to strengthen and His Spirit to pave the way.

Dr. Sng Li Wah
Inspiration: Luke 10:1-24;
1 Corinthians 3:6

ORDER OF WORSHIP



PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Mark Tan

PRAYER

HYMN

CP 59 | To God be the Glory

CP 6 | How Great Thou Art

MESSAGE

“Seek the Kingdom of God”

Text: Luke 12:22-34

Rev. Dr. Charles Tan

PRAYER

HYMN

HWC 363 | More Love to Thee

POSTLUDE



HYMNS

CP 59 To God Be the Glory

Fanny J. Crosby

1. To God be the glory, great things He hath done !
So loved He the world that He gave us His Son,
Who yielded His life an atonement for sin
And opened the Life-gate that all may go in.

Refrain

Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord! Let the earth hear His voice!
Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord! Let the people rejoice!
O come to the Father, through Jesus, the Son,
And give Him the glory great things He hath done.

2. O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood,
To every believer the promise of God;
The vilest offender who truly believes,
That moment from Jesus a pardon receives.

Refrain

3. Great things He hath taught us, great things He hath done,
And great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son;
But purer, and higher, and greater will be
Our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see.

Refrain



HYMNS

CP 6 How Great Thou Art

Stuart K. Hine

1. O Lord, my God! When I in awesome wonder
Consider all the worlds Thy hands have made,
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder,
Thy pow'r throughout the universe displayed.

Refrain

Then sings my soul, my Saviour God to Thee;
How great Thou art, how great Thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Saviour God to Thee;
How great Thou art, how great Thou art!

2. And when I think that God, His Son not sparing,
Sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in;
That on the cross, my burden gladly bearing,
He bled and died to take away my sin.

Refrain

3. When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation,
And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!
Then I shall bow in humble adoration
And there proclaim, my God, how great Thou art!

Refrain



HYMNS

HWC 363 More Love To Thee

Elizabeth P. Prentiss

1. More love to Thee, O Christ, more love to Thee!
Hear Thou the prayer I make on bended knee;
This is my earnest plea: more love, O Christ to Thee,
More love to Thee, more love to Thee.

2. Once earthly joy I craved, sought peace and rest;
Now Thee alone I seek, give what is best;
This all my prayer shall be; more love, O Christ to Thee,
More love to Thee, more love to Thee.

3. Then shall my latest breath whisper Thy praise;
This be the parting cry my heart shall raise;
This still its prayer shall be: more love, O Christ to Thee,
More love to Thee, more love to Thee.



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