

BETHANY

INDEPENDENT-
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

God's Kind of Church...

Where God is touching lives...

And people care for people.

Bethany IV ... 7 August 2022 ... Holy Communion Sunday

MEDITATION

REV DR CHARLES TAN

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Text: Psalm 22

MY STRENGTH IS DRIED UP

HUMAN STRENGTH

Human feats of strength can be very amazing. There are some who have strength enough to pull a bus. There are those who compete in Ultra Strength competitions.

(Continued on page 2)

MEDITATION

(Continued from page 1)

AN AMAZING STORY

David achieved great fame when he slew a giant called Goliath. His story of being a poor shepherd boy rising up to become the king of ancient Israel never ceases to bring an uplift to the heart.

SETBACKS IN LIFE

There were times of great setbacks in David's life. Psalm 22 was a piece of poetry he wrote, remembering a dark period in his life.

¹⁴ I am poured out like water,
And all My bones are out of joint;
My heart is like wax;
It has melted within Me.

¹⁵ My strength is dried up like a potsherd,
And My tongue clings to My jaws;
You have brought Me to the dust of death
Psalm 22:14-15

1. A difficult time in life
 - a) Pain was felt deeply
David felt as if all his joints were out of place
 - b) He felt great discouragement
His heart felt like wax melting
2. When strength ebbed away
 - a) A potsherd is a broken piece of pottery
 - b) David felt useless and hopeless

(Continued on page 3)

MEDITATION

(Continued from page 2)

HOW DOES ONE FIND RENEWAL OF STRENGTH?

David sought the LORD earnestly in humble prayer. He testified that God answered him!

¹⁹ But You, O LORD, do not be far from Me;
O My Strength, hasten to help Me!

²⁰ Deliver Me from the sword,
My precious *life* from the power of the dog.

²¹ Save Me from the lion's mouth
And from the horns of the wild oxen!
You have answered Me. Psalm 22:19-21

OUR CHALLENGE

Let us turn to the LORD as "our Strength!" Let us believe that the LORD will hear our prayers and renew our strength to face the difficulties of life!

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 blessed through worship and fellowship!



HOLY COMMUNION TODAY

We will be partaking of Holy Communion today. All who are baptised/confirmed may partake of The Lord's Supper.



HAPPY 57TH NATIONAL DAY

Thank God we can celebrate our 57th National Day on 9 August 2022! Let us remember our nation's leaders as they govern our country! The task of leading the nation is a very difficult one. May the Lord grant our leaders and our people His grace, mercy and strength!



MINISTRY THIS COMING WEEK

8 - 14 August 2022

1. Special Seniors Program

Tuesday, 9 August 2022

No Seniors Program (National Day)

Thursday, 11 August 2022

No Seniors Program (Painting of Ground Floor)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

2. Weekend Ministry

Saturday, 13 August 2022

Catechism Class | 1.00pm

Fellowship Group Meetings (YPG 1-3; YAG 1-2) | 2.00pm

Youth Worship | 3.15pm

Sunday, 14 August 2022

All Sunday School Departments | 8.30am

Morning Worship Service | 10.00am

Chinese Worship Service | 10.00am

Children's Worship | 10.00am

Crèche | 10.00am



WORSHIP IN SPIRIT AND TRUTH

Psalm 121:5 - 6

⁵ The LORD *is* your keeper;

The LORD *is* your shade at your right hand.

⁶ The sun shall not strike you by day,
Nor the moon by night.

1. The LORD as our Keeper
 - a) He is our Protector
 - b) He is our Defender
2. The LORD as our Shade at our right hand
 - a) The LORD is close by
 - b) We are covered by His shadow

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WORSHIP IN SPIRIT AND TRUTH

(Continued from page 5)

3. We have no reason to be fearful
 - a) We are protected by day
 - b) We are also protected by night

BIBLE MEMORY WORK

TODAY: 7 August 2022

Text: “My strength is made perfect in weakness”

And He said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness.” Therefore most gladly I will rather boast in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

2 Corinthians 12:9

1. The Grace of God
 - a) It gives salvation
 - b) It also results in strength
2. Appropriate response
 - a) To trust in God’s grace
 - b) To rejoice in the power of the Lord Jesus Christ

14 August 2022

Text: “When I am weak, then I am strong”

Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in needs, in persecutions, in distresses, for Christ’s sake. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

2 Corinthians 12:10

POETRY CORNER

1

O MY STRENGTH!

There may be times when we feel weak;
It is then that the LORD we must seek.
God is indeed “Our Strength” in our weakness;
He is there to aid us because of His faithfulness.

Human strength is wonderful to behold;
Many are the feats that are great and bold.
But there may be times when enemies seem stronger;
And our steadfastness of faith seems to falter.

Let us seek the LORD for the strength we need;
God will not forsake anyone who humbly seeks.
He will hear the prayer that we make from our heart;
He will hear and His Strength, He will impart.

The LORD knows how frail the human frame can be;
He does not despise our problems and difficulties.
He will be there for us when we call on His name;
Of our weaknesses, the LORD will not be ashamed!

Charles Tan
Psalm 22:12-21

POETRY CORNER

2

A PRECIOUS FAITH

By the Lord Jesus, we have been chosen,
To have faith in Him and to receive salvation.
In Him who is holy and righteous, we believe,
We are born again; a new life we are to live.

Yet, in this faith journey, there are struggles,
Problems in life test us and we may stumble.
What we need is to believe in His promises,
His grace carries us through the challenges.

A true faith must come with commitment,
Believing in Him includes being His servant.
We learn to follow the footsteps of the Lord,
To serve obediently and humbly, as we ought.

We are grateful for faith in the Lord Jesus,
It has changed our lives and it is precious!
The faith we have obtained has rich meaning,
May we always grow our faith-understanding!

Yvette Seow

Inspiration: 2 Peter 1:1

POETRY CORNER

3

In Love I Ascribe Strength to God

A heart that is shattered, a soul that continues to weep,
Thoughts may run through the mind, unable to sleep.
Another year passes, yet this ache remains deeply seated,
Struggling with the realities, the spirit is somewhat depleted.

But I have chosen not to dwell in this grief and this gloom,
For I embrace a faith and a trust that like blossom will bloom.
I choose strength in He who carries the mountains into the seas,
I take refuge in a God that is tender as the gentle morning breeze.

To the almighty God I ascribe this newfound spirit and vitality,
With determination for new purpose, I dig deep for new energy!
Over this sorrow emerges a strength that carries me through,
And day upon day, prayer upon prayer, this strength will accrue.

And so, I will be able to build upon this brand-new assignment,
I will give new love, unconditionally, with much excitement.
For You have given me that vigour and newfound motivation,
And I must reciprocate in gratefulness and joyful exaltation!

Dr. Tan Kok Yang

Inspiration: Psalms 46 and 68

In memory of our much beloved Chloe

*Inspired also by the unconditional love that Isobel, my wife had found strength
to give, all strength ascribed to our ever-loving Father.*

POETRY CORNER

4

ASCRIBE STRENGTH TO GOD

What do we turn to when fears assail on every side?
How do we cope when problems unceasingly betide?
Assuredly, we may turn to our God for strength and vitality,
Trusting in this wondrous promise articulated with divine regality.

What can we do when trials and tribulation befall?
When we are utterly helpless, no earthly help to call?
Assuredly, we may bring all our pleas to God as we pray,
God hears, granting strength, as heartfelt burdens we on Him lay.

What ought we do when petitions are answered in mercy and grace?
When divine peace and protection are granted, weakness and fears to displace?
Ascribe strength to God! It is He who strengthens us in our weakness.
In gratitude, raise to the One who rides the Heavens, a joyful chorus!

Who is He whose strength is in the clouds – full of majesty and excellence?
Who is He who is mighty yet gentle, deserving of praises of utmost resplendence?
He is God – whose might and awesomeness far surpasses any holy place!
He is our God – to whom glory, praise and love are due, for all our days!

Stanley Woo
Inspiration: Psalm 68:28-35

POETRY CORNER

5

The Lord's commandments

The Lord commands us to "rejoice always"
Despite life's trials it is a call to rejoice in the Lord
A change in attitude on things above we can set our minds
What joy and happiness when we deliberately focus on God

We are also commanded to "pray without ceasing"
To pray every waking moment it is not
Paramount is our persistence and frequency in praying
For we know doing life on our own we cannot

God commands us to "give thanks in everything"
He has His Hand in our every situation
When prayers are unanswered perhaps He is deepening our relationship
with Him
So let us give thanks to Him for all His intentions

Therefore "rejoice always, pray without ceasing, in everything give thanks"
Sing to Him and give praise as He loads us with benefits
A gracious and merciful God our sins He forgives
May we increase our understanding of His sovereignty and goodness

Jessie Quek
Inspiration: 1 Thessalonians 5: 16-18

ORDER OF WORSHIP



PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev Mark Tan

PRAYER

HYMN

CP 89 | Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

CP 316 | Have Faith in God

MESSAGE

“Strengthened with might through His Spirit” | Text: Ephesians 3

Rev Dr Charles Tan

HOLY COMMUNION

1. “This is My body” Matthew 26:26

2. “This is My blood of the new covenant” Matthew 26:28

HYMN

CP 451 | It is Well with My Soul

PRAYER OF BLESSING

HYMN

HWC 56 | Day by Day

POSTLUDE



HYMNS

CP 89 PRAISE TO THE LORD, THE ALMIGHTY

JOACHIM NEANDER

1. Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul, praise Him, for He is thy health and salvation!
All ye who hear, now to His temple draw near;
Join me in glad adoration!

2. Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things so wondrously reigneth,
Shelters thee under His wings, yea, so gently sustaineth!
Hast thou not seen how thy desire e'er have been
Granted in what He ordaineth?

3. Praise to the Lord, who doth prosper thy work and defend thee,
Surely His goodness and mercy here daily attend thee.
Ponder anew what the Almighty can do,
If with His love He befriend thee.

4. Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore Him!
All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before Him!
Let the Amen sound from His people again:
Gladly forever adore Him.



HYMNS

CP 316 HAVE FAITH IN GOD

B.B. MCKINNEY

1. Have faith in God when your pathway is lonely,
He sees and knows all the way you have trod;
Never alone are the least of His children;
Have faith in God, have faith in God.

Refrain

Have faith in God, He's on His throne;
Have faith in God, He watches o'er His own;
He cannot fail, He must prevail;
Have faith in God, have faith in God.

2. Have faith in God when your pray'rs are unanswered,
Your earnest plea He will never forget;
Wait on the Lord, trust His Word and be patient,
Have faith in God, He'll answer yet.

Refrain

3. Have faith in God in your pain and your sorrow,
His heart is touched with your grief and despair;
Cast all your cares and your burdens upon Him,
And leave them there, oh, leave them there.

Refrain

4. Have faith in God though all else fail about you;
Have faith in God, He provides for His own;
He cannot fail though all kingdoms shall perish,
He rules, He reigns upon His throne.

Refrain



HYMNS

CP 451 IT IS WELL WITH MY SOUL

HORATIO G. SPAFFORD

1. When peace like a river attendeth my way,
When sorrows like sea billows roll,
Whatever my lot, Thou hast taught me to say,
"It is well, it is well with my soul."

Refrain

It is well with my soul,
It is well, it is well with my soul.

2. Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come,
Let this blest assurance control:
That Christ has regarded my helpless estate,
And has shed His own blood for my soul.

Refrain

3. My sin, O, the bliss of this glorious thought,
My sin, not in part but the whole,
Is nailed to the cross and I bear it no more:
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!

Refrain

4. And, Lord, haste the day when my faith shall be sight,
The clouds be rolled back as a scroll,
The trump shall resound and the Lord shall descend:
"Even so", it is well with my soul.

Refrain



HYMNS

HWC 56 DAY BY DAY

CAROLINA SANDELL BERG

1. Day by day and with each passing moment,
Strength I find to meet my trials here;
Trusting in my Father's wise bestowment,
I've no cause for worry or for fear.
He whose heart is kind beyond all measure
Gives unto each day what He deems best –
Lovingly, its part of pain and pleasure,
Mingling toil with peace and rest.

2. Ev'ry day the Lord Himself is near me
With a special mercy for each hour;
All my cares He fain would bear, and cheer me,
He whose name is Counsellor and Pow'r.
The protection of His child and treasure
Is a charge that on Himself He laid;
"As your days, your strength shall be in measure,"
This the pledge to me He made.

3. Help me then in ev'ry tribulation
So to trust Your promises, O Lord,
That I lose not faith's sweet consolation
Offered me within Your holy Word.
Help me, Lord, when toil and trouble meeting,
E'er to take, as from a father's hand,
One by one, the days, the moments fleeting,
Till I reach the promised land.

