

GETHSEMANE

Bible-Presbyterian Church

'Not my will, but Thine, be done' (Luke 22:42)



Volume 24, Issue 49

5th February 2012

Order of Worship

Call to Worship
Eld Alan Choy

*Blessed Be the Name (31)

*Invocation & Gloria Patri

*Responsive Scripture Reading
(Psalm 99)

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When We All Get to Heaven (549)

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& Children's Sermon

Pastoral Prayer & Sermon
Rev Dr Prabhudas Koshy
"Biblical Worship"
(Selected Scriptures)

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At the Cross (178)

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*Benediction & Threefold Amen
*Congregation Standing

WELCOME

to all worshippers

- First-time guests are invited to fill in the Visitor's Card and receive a welcome pack.
- Parents with infants and toddlers are welcome to use the crèche area.
- Children (aged 4 - 10) are invited to join the Junior Worshippers as they leave the main worship service for their classes.
- Please join us for refreshment and fellowship after the service.

Scripture Memorization

CHILDLIKE

1 Corinthians 14:20

²⁰ Brethren, be not children in understanding: howbeit in malice be ye children, but in understanding be men.

Impressed to be Equipped in His Word!

Testimony by Bro Kenneth Wong

My salvation

I started attending church at the tender age of 10, when I was in Primary 3. My elder sister who is a Christian brought me to church. My family was Taoist and ancestral worshippers. My father did not allow us to attend church.

My father passed away in 1985 when I was 13. Elder Ng, Sis Dorothy and a few brethren from Sharon B-P Church came to my house to visit and comfort my mother. They took time to share the Gospel with me again. That was the same year I prayed with them to receive Jesus as my personal Lord and Saviour.

I started attending church regularly in Sharon B-P Church since. But before my polytechnic studies, I had backslidden a couple of times. I praise the Lord that He never left me alone but brought me back to church when I started my polytechnic studies. My Sunday school teacher was Pastor, who was then known as Bro Das Koshy, and he was like an elder brother to me. He was called to serve in Gethsemane B-P Church in 1991. Soon after, I transferred my membership to Gethsemane too.

My vow

My mother had single-handedly brought up her 3 children with much help from my elder sister. In 1999, my mother was diagnosed with stage 2 cervical cancer. When I was told of the news, I was devastated. I made a vow to God that if He healed my mother of cancer, I would serve Him. She went through the operation to have her cervix removed and also underwent chemotherapy. She was cured of the cancer. I was overjoyed. But I had forgotten what I had vowed. I was an insurance agent then. I simply brushed aside my vow by giving many excuses for not fulfilling it. But I actively participated in the church activities, and also went on mission trips.

Despite my unfaithfulness, the Lord again healed my mother a second time when she was afflicted with breast cancer. Even greater blessing was given to me, when the Lord opened her heart to receive the Gospel and be saved. She was baptised together with my brother in a Cantonese-speaking church. Truly how great is our God.

In May 2003, I got married. Soon after that I felt God's leading to serve in the ministry. I shared with Pastor then and I joined as a full-time staff in the Bible Witness Media Ministry (BWMM) of Gethsemane B-P Church on 1st April 2004. I helped in the magazine layout. I had a little experience in layout from my previous church but Bible Witness required more. From magazine to video recordings, from software to hardware, I learned from scratch, with much encouragement from Pastor who is ever so patient. I also received great help from friends and the Internet.

I have served in BWMM for a total of 7 years and 9 months. My responsibilities included the church's Sunday bulletins, audio

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Prayer Hotline: 8138 8139

recordings of prayer meetings and video recordings of Sunday messages as well as church camps and Bible Witness Retreats. On a bimonthly basis, I helped in the layout of the Bible Witness magazine. I also helped in the layout of special event brochures, tracts and books. I would say that my responsibilities in the church resource centre were rather varied.

The burden to be equipped in the Word of God

In May 2010, the Lord placed in my heart the burden to be equipped in the Word of God. I felt a great need to study and learn the deep truths of God's Word even though I attended FEBC night classes occasionally. I prayed for God's direction in this matter. Over the months as I listened to the messages preached, the burden became stronger. I plucked up the courage to speak to Pastor five months later about my burden to study in FEBC. I was like a spiritual son seeking the approval from his spiritual father, yearning very much for his approval. During the conversation, Pastor asked if I was very sure that the Lord was calling me to go and study, I could not give him an affirmative answer. I went away sad and discouraged, yet I understood that the godly counsel given was good for me. There was a need to re-examine my life, my service in the Lord and God's will in my life.

In the following months, I prayerfully sought the Lord more specifically as to His will in my life. More questions arose as I pondered over the matter. "Am I not serving the Lord in Bible Witness? Why am I still feeling the burden to study the Word of God? Why now, when commitment and burdens are many? If having a stable salaried position suffices, why choose an arduous and uncertain path? Am I seeking personal glory, wealth or honour? Is that more important than the welfare of loved ones and children?"

In June 2010, our church held a staff retreat for both staff and their families. The theme was "Me and My House" taken from Joshua 24:15. Every message was thought-provoking, soul-searching, and more so reproving, exhorting us to live an exemplary life for His glory. Pastor led us all, including our spouses, to re-dedicate our lives to Him once again on the last day of the retreat. It was personally the most renewing and reaffirming moment! This retreat had deepened my desire once again to be equipped in the Word.

After the staff retreat, I went to Pastor once again, thinking this time I was more assured and confident to answer the questions he had asked previously. Again I was wrong. He asked me even more difficult questions. "Who is going to take over my position should I leave?" I suggested doing part-time studies but it was dismissed by Pastor, as this would mean, both studies and work would not have my 100% attention and both would suffer eventually. I was more compelled by my sense of responsibility that I should stay put. This time I felt dejected. I restrained my emotions and continued with daily routine work.

In December 2011, the 3rd Missionary Conference was scheduled to be held in Ethiopia. When Pastor asked the staff to indicate their interest to participate in the conference, I expressed my desire to attend but I did not commit myself because of the lack of funds. When I was asked again about my desire, Pastor readily offered to support me so that I could attend the conference. I went with a ready heart to serve, expecting both spiritual blessing and sweet fellowship.

From the first day to the last day of the missionary conference, I was going through an emotional and spiritual roller coaster ride. I was also anxious about my children's HFMD but I thanked God that my wife was cheerful in the Lord when I left for the conference. At the conference, I was drawn to God daily through the songs that were sung, the messages that were preached and the mission reports that were presented by the various missionaries. Not a day ended without me breaking down before the Lord. Thank God I was doing the recordings at the back of the hall, so I could excuse myself to the washroom to calm down. I wanted to knock on Pastor's door in the night to confide in him my thoughts, but refrained from doing so as he had messages to preach daily.

Pastor's spiritual song *Gospel Light* was sung during the conference. Whenever it was sung, I was moved to tears. While meditating on the lyrics, I seemed to have caught the vision of the Great Commission as well as the global Bible institute movement that Pastor had envisioned in the song. The words of this song became so significant to me.

After Pastor's message during the inauguration of the college on the last day of the conference, I seized the opportunity to thank him for the messages preached, especially the inauguration message. He preached on Psalm 22:27, "All the ends of the world shall remember and turn unto the LORD: and all the kindreds of the nations shall worship before thee." Pastor said, "Rise up, O men of God and preached the Gospel to the end of the world!" and I answered in my heart, "Lord, here am I, send me!"

Many uncertainties, questions and burdens are still left unanswered but these are not important. One thing I am sure. The Lord has impressed upon my heart to be equipped and trained in the Word so as to be used for the Lord. The first stanza of the hymn *Wherever He leads I'll Go* sums up my assurance - "Take up thy cross and follow Me," I heard my Master say; "I gave My life to ransom thee, Surrender your all today."

"How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher? And how shall they preach, except they be sent? as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!" (Romans 10:14 & 15).

Our Church Session: Rev Dr Prabhudas Koshy (9001 1119), Elder Mah Chin Kwang (9675 4031), Elder Alan Choy (9853 9556), Dn Arvind Pawa (9642 8954), Dn Daniel Lim (9385 0371), Dn Lok Kwok Wah (9022 5508), Dn Kelvin Lim (8268 2828) & Dn Francis Lee (9111 1692).

CAIN AND HIS ANGER

by Pr Kelvin Lim

But unto Cain and to his offering he had not respect. And Cain was very wroth, and his countenance fell. And the LORD said unto Cain, Why art thou wroth? and why is thy countenance fallen? If thou doest well, shalt thou not be accepted? and if thou doest not well, sin lieth at the door. And unto thee shall be his desire, and thou shalt rule over him.

Genesis 4:5-7

Anger is an outburst of fierce emotion. It is a common feeling that everybody experiences from time to time. Usually, anger arises from the feeling of being treated wrongfully. This was the case with Cain according to the above-mentioned passage. However, he was angry for the wrong reason and would not accept God's counsel. Finally, his anger led him to commit an irreversible mistake.

Cain became angry when the LORD God rejected his offering. He was so furious that his anger was seen on his face ("his countenance fell"). In his mind, he could not understand why God rejected his offering but not Abel's. Well, the answer is simple – he did not follow God's instructions but Abel did.

Cain's anger blinded him so much that he could not differentiate between right and wrong. Obviously, his offering had to be rejected by the LORD God because it was not offered according to His commandments.

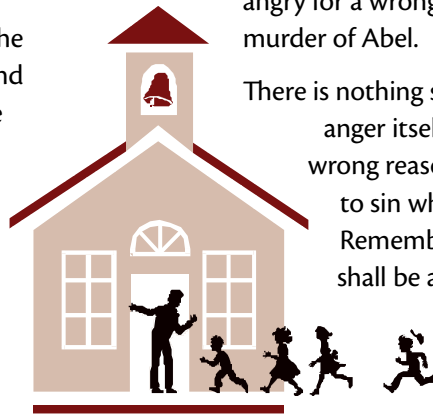
The LORD God counselled Cain regarding his wrongful anger, "Why art thou wroth? and why is thy countenance fallen? If thou doest well,

shalt thou not be accepted?" In other words, "Cain, do well (according to the LORD's instructions), and you shall be accepted (like Abel)." But he still would not see the fault concerning his wrongful anger.

Furthermore, God warned Cain about the consequences of his anger: "And if thou doest not well, sin lieth at the door. And unto thee shall be his desire, and thou shalt rule over him." Sin was waiting to ride on his anger, and Cain must control it. However, he did not. As a result, his anger led him to kill Abel (cf. Genesis 4:8).

My young readers, Cain did not do well because he refused to obey God's instructions and commandments. When God rejected him and his offering, he became angry for a wrong reason. Finally, his anger led to the murder of Abel.

There is nothing sinful about being angry because anger itself is not a sin. But being angry for the wrong reason is sin and you must be careful not to sin when you are angry (cf. Ephesians 4:26). Remember God's counsel. Listen to it, and you shall be accepted, and there shall be no room for sin and wrongful anger.



5th BIBLE WITNESS RETREAT

"Sovereignty of God" by Rev Dr Paul Ferguson
"Raising a Godly Family" by Rev Dr Prabhudas Koshy

Date: 14th - 16th March 2012 (Wed - Fri)

Venue: Pulau Desaru Beach Resort & Spa

Fee: Adult - S\$290.00/person (Twin)

Child - S\$162.00/child with bed (4-11yrs old)

Child - S\$125.00/child w/o bed (4-11yrs old)

(Free for children below 4 yrs old)

*Fees quoted include transport, meals, lodging & notes.

Fill in the registration form and submit it to Bro Stephen Yap by 18 February. Fees to be paid on/before 4 March 2012. For further clarifications, please see Bro Stephen.

GOSPEL RALLY

"Are you born from above?"
John 1:13

Date and Time: 11 February 2012 at 8.00pm

Speaker: Pr Dennis Kabingue
(with Mandarin interpretation by Pr Lin Yang)

Venue: SingPost Auditorium Level 5

Pamphlets are available at the reception table. Please take them and invite your friends, relatives and loved ones to come and listen to the Gospel.

(Refreshments will be served after the meeting.)

Sunday Activities		FEBRUARY 05	FEBRUARY 12
(9am-10am)		Church Choir & Children's Choir	Church Choir & Children's Choir
(9am-10am)		Malayalam Fellowship	Malayalam Fellowship
Gethsemane Chinese Service (10.30am)	Worship Leader:	Pr Kelvin Lim	Eld Alan Choy
	Preacher:	Pr Daniel Lim	Pr Daniel Lim
	Pianist:	Eunice Choy	Jollyn Low
	Ushers:	Chan Tuck Whye & Cayson Chok	John Peh & Jerry Chan
	Flowers:	Roscelle Lim	Zuo Bai Ye
	Refreshment:	Roscelle Lim	Ivy Seah
Gethsemane English Service (10.30am)	Worship Leader:	Eld Alan Choy	Dn Kelvin Lim
	Preacher:	Rev Dr Prabhudas Koshy	Rev Dr Prabhudas Koshy
	Pianists:	Sarah Lee & Chu Seong Yeng	Chloe Pawa & Eunice Choy
	Ushers:	Maverick, Stephen, Jerah, Kwan Teng, Andy, Jason, Cecilia Tan (Greeter)	Jeremiah, Max, Kee How, Francis Lim, David, Jerah, Mong Jee Pawa (Greeter)
	Junior Worship:	Carolyn Koshy, (Jasmine Tan); Mong Jee, (Esther Quek); Stephen Yap	Sarah Yong, (Sally Lum); Winnie, (Sarah Yap); Dn Arvind Pawa
	AV Ministry:	Crew No. 3	Crew No. 1
	Flowers:	Karen Quek	Carolyn Koshy
	Refreshment Duty:	Diana Chan, Meilanie Wibowo & Violet Quek	Karen Quek, Esther Quek & Roscelle Lim
Gethsemane Filipino Service (1.30pm)	Worship Leader:	Pr Dennis Kabingue	Pr Dennis Kabingue
	Preacher:	Pr Dennis Kabingue	Pr Dennis Kabingue
	Usher:	Donald dela Cruz	Julius Del Rosario
	Pianist:	Chu Seong Yeng	Dorcas Koshy
	Refreshment:	Cecille Batrina	Juvy Baybayanon
Gethsemane Children's Ministry (1.30pm-3pm)	Song Leader	Carolyn Koshy	Choy Luan Kheng
	Nursery-P2	Pastor Koshy	Annie Ho
	P3-P6	Dn Lok Kwok Wah	Dn Francis Lee
Lions Home Ministry (3.45pm-5pm)	Venue	487 Bedok South Ave 2	41 Toa Payoh Rise
	English Speaker	Dn Arvind Pawa	Pr Jeremiah Sim
	Dialect Speaker	Pr Jeremiah Sim	Pr Daniel Lim
Adults' Sunday Bible Study (1.30pm-3pm)		Venue: SingPost Foyer, Level 5	
Youth Sunday Bible Study (1.30pm-3pm)		Venue: SingPost Foyer, Level 5	

Tue - Fri Activities

FEBRUARY 07 - FEBRUARY 10

Tuesday Prayer Gathering (8.00pm)

Wednesday Lunch Hour Bible Study (1.15pm)

Venue: Bible Witness Media Ministry Bookroom (Tel: 6438 0578), Hong Lim Complex

Thursday Seniors' Ministry (11.00am)

Venue: Please contact Pr Jeremiah Sim for more information at 8333 9483.

Friday Morning Prayer (6.45am - 7.30am)

Cancelled.

Young Adults' Fellowship (Every 2nd and 4th Friday, 8.00pm)

Please contact Sis Kamala for more information at 9026 0401.

Sunday Collection

(JANUARY 29 - ENGLISH SERVICE)

Tithes	2,122.00
Offerings	4,322.05
Gifts:	Ethiopia Bldg Fund (1,000.00); FEBC Students' Support (500.00); Eliezer Ortega (20.00).

Non-Sunday Collection

General Fund	1,200.00
Van Fund (Ethiopia)	200.00
Dominino dela Cruz	200.00
Bible Witness	50.00

Ethiopia Building Fund

Total (as of 29 January 2012): \$1,038,023.44

Church Musicians

All church musicians please meet Pastor today at 3.45 pm for a time of instruction.

FCM Combined Meeting

Topic: "Personal Vigilance"

Speaker: Pr Ko Ling Kang

10 Feb 2012 (Friday), 7.00pm

Calvary Pandan BPC (L3 Sanctuary)

Dinner @ 6.00pm (\$3/person)

Please sign up with Sis Eunice Choy by 9 Feb 2012 and indicate if you are having dinner.

GCM, GAF & GYBH Outing

There will be an outing to Pasir Ris Park on Sat, 3 March, at 3.30 pm. More details will be given later. Please sign up at the reception table.

Young Adults' Fellowship

A Thematic Study on Proverbs

by Pastor Koshy

Chairman: Bro Andrew Koh

Friday, 10 Feb 2012 at 7.30pm

(Pot-bless Dinner)

Venue: Home of Sis Lee Kim Lei

Block 408 #10-349 Fajar Rd

Sunday Fellowship Lunch

We advise brethren to pay 2 Sundays in advance for lunch (\$3/pkt). Please make payments to sisters Aileen Tan, Karen Quek, Sally Lum or Violet Quek.

Gethsemane Men's Fellowship

In view of the Gospel Rally on 11 Feb, there will be no GMF meeting on that day.

Give to the General Fund

Your generous gifts are much needed to continue all the ministries of our church without hindrance. So please give towards the General Fund through tithes and freewill offerings.

Our Place of Worship: SingPost Auditorium (Level 5), 10 Eunos Road 8, Singapore 408600

Our Websites: www.gethsemaneipc.com; www.biblewitness.com