

GETHSEMANE

BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

"Not my will, but Thine, be done" – Luke 22:42

A WORD ON WORSHIP

Psalm 107:15

Oh that men would
praise the LORD for his
goodness, and for his
wonderful works to the
children of men!

SCRIPTURE MEMORISATION

Door Open

Revelation 3:8

I know thy works: behold, I have
set before thee an open door,
and no man can shut it:
for thou hast a little strength,
and hast kept my word, and hast
not denied my name.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Call to Worship

Dn Low Boon Siang

Hymn 34: Crown Him with Many Crowns*

Invocation & Gloria Patri*

Responsive Scripture Reading*

Isaiah 28:23-29

Hymn 29: I Sing the Mighty Power of God

Collection of Offerings

Doxology & Prayer*

Hymn 355: Day by Day

Scripture Memorisation

Pastoral Prayer

Sermon

Pastor Prabhudas Koshy

"The Parable of the Sower, Good Seed & Tares"

Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

Hymn 468: Speak Just a Word for Jesus*

Benediction & Threefold Amen*

** Congregation Standing*



*Pastor and
the Church
Session wish
all members
and regular
worshippers
a very*

**BLESSED
LUNAR
NEW YEAR**

祝众信徒
新年蒙恩

TODAY, 29 JANUARY 2017

NEXT LORD'S DAY, 5 FEBRUARY 2017

9.00 – 10.00am		CHURCH CHOIR & CHILDREN'S CHOIR		CHURCH CHOIR & CHILDREN'S CHOIR	
		MALAYALAM FELLOWSHIP		MALAYALAM FELLOWSHIP	
10.30am	CHINESE SERVICE	Worship Leader: Elder Alan Choy Preacher: Pr Daniel Lim Musician: Angeline Wong Flowers: Francis Tan Refreshments: Jenn Lee Ushers: Jonah So & Cayson Chok	Worship Leader: Pr Daniel Lim Preacher: Pr Daniel Lim Musician: Gan Sze Huey Flowers: Roscelle Lim Ushers: Lawrence Ng & Robert Ooi		
	ENGLISH SERVICE	Worship Leader: Dn Low Boon Siang Preacher: Pastor Prabhudas Koshy Musicians: Dorcas Koshy, Sarah Lee Amoz Choy, Lee Shing Shyan Lijoy George, Stephen Yap Ho Kee How, Linus Kok Diana Chan Greeter: Diana Chan AV Ministry: Crew No. 1 Flowers: Stephanie Lee Refreshments: Roscelle Lim, Rachel Teo Jolyne Cho, Lena Chan Junior Worship: Melissa Neo, (Juvy Anaviso) Aileen Tan, (Chloe Pawa) Dn Lok Kwok Wah	Worship Leader: Eld Mah Chin Kwang Preacher: Pastor Prabhudas Koshy Musicians: Jollyn Low, Jasmine Low Cornelius Koshy, Edwin Quek Jason Low, Low Chip Hung Marcus Lim, John Peh Mah Lean Choo Greeter: Mah Lean Choo AV Ministry: Crew No. 2 Flowers: Lee Kim Lei Refreshments: Violet Quek, Chairine Chayadi Lim Hua See, Chong Shu Mun Pr Dennis Kablingue, (Sally Lum) Pawa Mong Jee, (Priscilla Toon) Samuel Yong		
1.30pm	FILIPINO SERVICE	Worship Leader: Eric Delina Preacher: Pr Dennis Kablingue Musician: Dorcas Koshy Usher: Anthony Evangelista Refreshments: Cecile Batrina	Worship Leader: Eric Delina Preacher: Pr Dennis Kablingue Musician: Chloe Pawa Usher: Jordan Ballega Refreshments: Edeliza Ballega		
3.30pm	LIONS HOME	Venue: 487 Bedok South Ave 2 English Speaker: Kenneth Wong Dialect Speaker: Pr Jeremiah Sim	Venue: 487 Bedok South Ave 2 English Speaker: Elder Mah Chin Kwang Dialect Speaker: Pr Jeremiah Sim		

29 January 2017

Family Worship

Prabhudas Koshy

That most sublime historical document of biblical doctrine, namely the Westminster Confession of Faith – which is also our church’s doctrinal creed – states in chapter 21 (on “Of Religious Worship, and the Sabbath Day”), section 6:

“... God is to be worshipped everywhere, in spirit and truth, as, in private families daily, and in secret, each one by himself; so, more solemnly in the public assemblies, which are not carelessly or wilfully to be neglected, or forsaken, when God, by His Word or providence, calls thereunto.”

The Reformed churches have always taught that family worship is required by God in His Word. The Church of Scotland even publishes a directory on family worship. The Puritans saw family worship so foundational that they would bar a man from communion if he failed to lead his family in worship.

Unfortunately, many in our churches do not seem to appreciate this blessed biblical practice; they reject

the exhortations on family worship in Christian homes as legalism. I even came across recent articles that say “Family Worship isn’t required by the Bible”!

However, anyone who carefully reads the Scriptures knows that God requires the heads of the families to lead their households in prayers, instruction of His Word and worship of God. God’s Word also records the perils of families who do not seek the Lord diligently. My prayer to God for you, dear Gethsemaneans, is that every Christian family in our church will enthusiastically respond to the divine call to maintain family worship in their homes.

BIBLICAL RELIGION HAS ITS BEGINNING AND FOUNDATION IN FAMILIES

The Puritan, Thomas Manton, had said, “Religion was first hatched in families.” From Adam to Moses, true worship of God was generally a family affair, where the Patriarchs led their households in the worship of

God through prayers, instruction of His Word and sacrifices for the families. Only from Moses' time (the book of Exodus) onwards, do we see gatherings of organised public worship. Scripture records worshipful activities of Noah's family (Genesis 6:18; 7:1; Hebrews 11:7; Genesis 8:18-20), Abraham's family (Genesis 18:19), Isaac's family (Genesis 25:21), Jacob's family (Genesis 35:2-3), Job's family (Job 1:5), etc. The Israelites, while in Egypt, were told to worship the Lord in their houses during the Passover (Exodus 12:21-28). As Thomas Manton noted, "The families of the Patriarchs were all the churches God had in the world for the time."

Through Moses, God instructed the parents that they should be diligent to maintain daily teaching of His written Word in their homes, so that their children may grow up to be worshippers of God and doers of His commandments. "And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up" (Deuteronomy 6:7; cf. 11:19). Daily instruction of God's Word to the children is

every father's responsibility; he must humbly and faithfully carry it out. Fathers must not be indifferent, but be deeply impressed and concerned with guiding their children in the divine revelation of His truths. Daily biblical instruction of the young is God's express command, and must be carried out with joy and commitment. God's Word is the best inheritance that we can give to our children daily. It shall fill their hearts with sanctifying truth, wisdom and promises, that they may live a victorious Christian life in the midst of a wicked generation.

Scripture reminds us that without God's help, we cannot build our house – "Except the LORD build the house, they labour in vain that build it: except the LORD keep the city, the watchman waketh but in vain" (Psalm 127:1). Family worship is invaluable; it is the foundation of a family's godliness and unity, and of child rearing. As family worship goes, so will go the family, hence family worship is the backbone of a community, even our church (cf. Psalm 128)!

As your pastor, may I remind you that when your families are daily worshipping God and growing in the knowledge of His sanctifying Word, our church

will have enormous moral and spiritual strength in the Lord's work. If the church's families are without daily prayer and spiritual nurture, the church will be utterly weak and dying. O how wonderful it is that every Christian home by itself is a church of God, where parents and children worship the Lord!

I would also add that the head of the family leading his household in covenant faithfulness to God, has been perhaps the most significant way that God uses as a means of saving grace for many of our children in the church. If the father is absent (either because he is not a believer or he is dead), then let the mother (wherever possible) lead her young children in the singing of hymns, reading of the Scriptures and prayer. O how we need to guide our children to look at our Saviour daily, that their hearts be filled with the joy, peace and assurance of His forgiveness and redemption! Paul's words to young Timothy bear witness to the importance of the practice of family religion - "And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus" (2 Timothy 3:15).

Moreover, the biblical counsel is that believing, worshipping and faithful households are necessary prerequisites for sound church leadership. For sound spiritual leadership, the Bible says we must have men who rule their house well. In 1 Timothy 3:5, Paul asks, "For if a man know not how to rule his own house, how shall he take care of the church of God?" If the men in the church are not able to lead their family into worship of God, how could they lead a bigger family, such as the church, to be true worshippers of God?

So Christian men, lead your families with a firm fatherly hand and a gentle, penitent heart in the daily worship of God. Talk reverentially, authoritatively and lovingly with your family to guide them to worship God.

For more than two decades, I can say that family worship is the most important thing I do daily in my family. It is the highlight of my day. God is worthy to daily receive worship of my family, for He is our salvation and the source of all our blessings. Weak and frail as we are, we can't do anything to please Him without seeking His all-sufficient grace, for He is our daily refuge and strength. ■

LESSONS FROM PARTRIDGE



Have you heard of “partridge”? It is the name of a bird; and it appears twice in the Bible. Its Hebrew name in the Old Testament is *qôrê’* (pronounced *ko-ray*). This Hebrew name means “caller”. A partridge makes a very distinguished ringing call, which echoes from hill to hill in the wilderness of Judea in the early morning.

The partridge belongs to what is known as the “Gallinaceous” group of birds. Gallinaceous birds are birds with plump and heavy bodies, short tails, and short beaks that are adapted for picking up seeds. They normally live on the ground. They prefer to run, and fly only short distances.

Partridge meat was a favourite item on the menus of many ancient people. So, it was a hunted bird. The bird would try to save itself by running, like most Gallinaceous birds. The hunter would continuously chase until the bird becomes tired. Then it will be knocked down by sticks thrown along the ground. That is why in 1 Samuel 26:20, David said that King Saul who wanted to kill him was after him like “one doth hunt a partridge in the mountains”.

This bird is mentioned by the prophet Jeremiah to teach a very important lesson. He wrote: “As the partridge sitteth on eggs, and hatcheth them not; so he that getteth riches, and not by right, shall leave them

in the midst of his days, and at his end shall be a fool” (Jeremiah 17:11). The partridge makes its nests on the ground. It not only would lay her eggs in it, but would also gather eggs of other similar birds and then sit on them. But soon some of the eggs would be stolen by others or eaten by predators. The nestlings that emerge from those eggs that hatch would soon leave her for their own parents! So, the greedy and covetous who steal from others will soon have to face similar consequences as the partridge that loses all the eggs in her nest.

A person who takes great pains to get much wealth and then sits brooding upon it, will soon realise that it will bring no satisfaction to his soul. His projects to enrich himself by sinful ways will come to nothing. Let us therefore be wise - whatever we earn, let’s get it honestly; whatever we have earned, let’s use it charitably and thus lay up our treasures in heaven, “where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal” (Matthew 6:20).

Prabhudas Koshy

COLLECTIONS

LORD'S DAY on 22 January 2017

Tithes: 2,242.00

Offerings: 9,433.10; RM300.00; A\$200.00

Bldg Fund (Project): 500.00; 250.00; 20.00; 20.00; 20.00; 2.00

Designated Gifts: TGCM (local) 200.00; 200.00; 50.00; Missionary Conference (2017) 5,000.00; GBPC (Ethiopia) 100.00; GBI (Ethiopia) 50.00; Donald dela Cruz 50.00; Carolyn Koshy 50.00

NON-SUNDAY GIFT

General Fund: 50.00

SPECIAL FUND UPDATE

(as of 22 January 2017)

Building Fund (Project): \$2,106,939.70
Missionary Conf Fund 2017: \$8,195.00

**Give generously
towards our
Church Building Fund.**

*"And now, behold,
I have brought the firstfruits of the land,
which thou, O LORD, hast given me.
And thou shalt set it before the LORD thy God,
and worship before the LORD thy God"
Deuteronomy 26:10*

GETHSEMANE YOUNG ADULTS' FELLOWSHIP

**Exhortation and Prayer
Cooking Activity**

Date: Sat, 4 Feb 2017

Time: 10.00am to 3.00pm

Speaker: Pr Dennis Kablingue

Chairman: Bro Aron Ong

Activity Leads: Sisters
Kamala and Kim Lei

Venue: The Gethsemane Care Ministry
202B, Ponggol 17th Avenue
Singapore 829662

Note: To get there, take LRT from
Punggol Town Centre (Punggol
MRT station) to the newly-opened
Punggol Point LRT station. It is
very near to Care Ministry.

TEACHERS' TRAINING SESSION

*conducted by
Gethsemane Children's Ministry*

This training is for church members who
would like to serve as teachers and assistant
teachers of our various programmes for
children.

Date: 26th February 2017

Time: 1.30pm to 3.00pm

Venue: To be confirmed

Kindly sign up at the reception table today.

GETHSEMANE YOUTH FELLOWSHIP

Book Study: 2 John

Speaker: Pastor Koshy

Chairman: Bro Tan Yeh Wen

Date: Sat, 4 Feb 2017

Time: 4.00pm to 6.00pm

Venue: Home of Bro Samuel Yong
Block 301 Ubi Avenue 1, #04-241
Singapore 400301

PASTORAL VISITATION PAYA LEBAR REGION

Date: 10 Feb 2017

Time: 8.00pm

Venue: Home of Bro Samuel Gan
1 Butterworth Lane, #12-02, Dawn Ville
Singapore 439444

GETHSEMANE MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Speaker: Pastor Koshy

Chairman: Bro Benny Skariah

Date & Time: Sat, 11 Feb 2017, 4.00pm

Venue: TGCM premises
202B, Ponggol Seventeenth Avenue

*(Take LRT from Punggol MRT station to
Punggol Point LRT station.)*

Children aged 4-12 will have a separate
programme (4.00-5.30pm).

IN-PRINCIPLE APPROVAL OF CLG

We praise God for the in-principal approval of the Company Limited By Guarantee (CLG) by ACRA. Please continue to pray for the sale of CRC and the purchase of a new CRC.

MISSIONARY CONFERENCE 2017

Theme: "That the Truth of the Gospel Might Continue with us"
(Galatians 2:5)

Date: 5-9 June 2017 (Monday-Friday)

Venue: Hilton Kuching

Please collect the registration form from the reception table and submit the completed form to Bro Ernest Lim / Bro Matthew Mah by 30 April 2017. Payment can be made from 19 March 2017.

Participants are advised to book plane tickets on their own as soon as possible. Arrival at the hotel must be by 5pm on Monday, 5th June 2017. The conference will end at 12 noon on Friday, 9th June 2017.

GETHSEMANE CHINESE GOSPEL RALLY

Speaker: Pr Daniel Lim

Date & Time: Sat, 1 April 2017, 2.00-4.00pm

Venue: City Beach Resort
8 Port Rd, Singapore 117540

This is a wonderful opportunity to invite your loved ones, relatives and friends to hear the Gospel message.

Please register at the reception table.

"365 DAILY EXHORTATIONS FROM GOD'S WORD"

For a limited period, you may acquire the devotional book at \$18.00 per copy.

POST-WORSHIP ACTIVITIES

Please stay back after worship to join us for:

Refreshments & Fellowship

12.30pm – 1.30pm

Bible Study (Adults, Youths & Children)

1.30pm – 3.00pm

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

Tuesday Night Bible Study & Prayer

8.00pm @ L5 Auditorium, SingPost Centre

Wednesday Lunch Hour Bible Study

1.00pm @ Bible Witness Bookroom

Wednesday Night GBI-Online

7.45pm-9.15pm @ TGCM

Thursday Seniors' Ministry

11.00am (Please contact Pr Jeremiah Sim)

Friday Morning Prayer

7.45am – 8.30am @ Church Resource Centre

Friday Campus Bible Study

4.30pm-5.30pm @ NAFA
SUTD Semestral Break

Sunday Lions Home Ministry

For enquiry, contact Pr Jeremiah Sim

*For more information, please call
the church office at 6741 1910.*



Bible Witness
Magazine



Bible Witness
Web Radio



Church
Weekly

Time & Place of Worship

10.30am

Level 5 Auditorium

Singapore Post Centre

10 Eunos Road 8

Singapore 408600

(next to Paya Lebar MRT station)

Prayer Hotline

8138 8139

SMS or WhatsApp

your prayer item

Our Office

510 Geylang Road, #02-06

Singapore 389466

Tel: 6741 1910

Fax: 6741 1016

Our Websites

gethsemanebpc.com

biblewitness.com

Our Pastor

Pastor Prabhudas Koshy

Mobile: 9001 1119

Email: pastor.gbpc@gmail.com

Our Session

Pastor Prabhudas Koshy

Elder Mah Chin Kwang

Elder Alan Choy

Elder Ng Poh Kok

Deacon Daniel Lim

Deacon Lok Kwok Wah

Deacon Kelvin Lim

Deacon Francis Lee

Deacon Low Boon Siang