

GETHSEMANE

BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

A WORD ON WORSHIP

Worship is the tribute which we pay to the King of kings, who has saved us and made us His people. We acknowledge His sovereignty over us, and our dependence on Him. Let us be filled with inward reverence and praise, that we may offer them outwardly in songs, prayers, meditation of His Word and service unto His glory. May we come to Him with a true heart, confessing, "The LORD our God will we serve, and his voice will we obey" (Joshua 24:24).

SCRIPTURE MEMORISATION

Doubt

Matthew 6:30

Wherefore, if God so clothe the grass of the field, which to day is, and to morrow is cast into the oven, shall he not much more clothe you, O ye of little faith?

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Call to Worship

Dn Low Boon Siang

Hymn 73: All Hail the Power*

Invocation & Gloria Patri*

Responsive Scripture Reading* *Hebrews 3:12-19*

Hymn 262: I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord!

Collection of Offerings

Doxology & Prayer*

Hymn 313: O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go

Scripture Memorisation

Pastoral Prayer

Sermon

Pastor Prabhudas Koshy

"The Audacity of Unbelief"

Matthew 13:53-58

Hymn 267: Only Trust Him*

Benediction & Threefold Amen*

** Congregation Standing*



TODAY, 19 MARCH 2017

NEXT LORD'S DAY, 26 MARCH 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: Pr Daniel Lim Preacher: Pr Daniel Lim Musician: Eunice Choy Flowers: Roscelle Lim Refreshments: Magdalene Lim Ushers: Chan Tuck Whye & Francis Tan	Worship Leader: Gan Chin Hwi Preacher: Pr Daniel Lim Musician: Dyllis Teo Flowers: Lee Kim Lei Refreshments: Gan Sheu Hoong Ushers: Jonah So & Cayson Chok		
	ENGLISH SERVICE	Worship Leader: Dn Low Boon Siang Preacher: Pastor Prabhudas Koshy Musicians: Jollyn Low, Dorcas Koshy Ushers: Ng Kwan Teng, Theodore Wang Benny Skariah, Cayson Chok Timotheus Liu, John Peh Greeter: Winnie Yap AV Ministry: Crew No. 4 Flowers: Mah Lean Choo Refreshments: Yeo Geok Hien, Rachel Teo Lok Qian Hui, Mary Ong Junior Worship: Elder Mah Chin Kwang, (Sally Lum) Sharon dela Cruz, (Jasmine Tan) Elder Ng Poh Kok	Worship Leader: Elder Alan Choy Preacher: Pastor Prabhudas Koshy Musicians: Sarah Lee, Ellyzabeth Ushers: Andy Lee, James Chen Marcus Peh, Ricky Yang David Ng, Julius Del Rosario Lee Kim Lei Greeter: Crew No. 1 AV Ministry: Pansy Ng Flowers: Stella Tan, Karen Quek Refreshments: Corliss Ooi, Valerie Leow Junior Worship: Pr Jeremiah Sim, (Juvy Anaviso) Karen Quek, (Jasmine Low) Elder Alan Choy		
1.30pm	FILIPINO SERVICE	Worship Leader: Eric Delina Preacher: Pr Dennis Kabingue Musician: Chloe Pawa Usher: Jomart Tindaan Refreshments: Tomei Tan	Worship Leader: Norefel Resuma Preacher: Pr Dennis Kabingue Musician: Ayn Tindaan Usher: Randy Laurencio Refreshments: Rowena Delina		
3.30pm	LIONS HOME	Venue: 487 Bedok South Ave 2 English Speaker: Arvind Pawa Dialect Speaker: Pr Kelvin Lim	Venue: 9 Bishan Street 13 English Speaker: Edwin Quek Dialect Speaker: Kenneth Wong		

A Man of Faith Patiently Endures

Prabhudas Koshy

The patriarch Abraham's life was a life of great faith; hence he was regarded as a hero of faith. His faith has been the subject of scrutiny of believers of all ages, and even today he continues to be a pattern for all of us who are in this journey of faith. I would like to consider an elucidation of Abraham's faith, which the Spirit of God recorded in Hebrews 6:15 – "And so, after he had patiently endured, he obtained the promise." It is a concise commentary on Abraham's long wait for the fulfilment of God's promise, "Surely blessing I will bless thee, and multiplying I will multiply thee" (Hebrews 6:14).

Have you noticed that Abraham's remarkable faith is succinctly explained with a short phrase of just two words "patiently endured"? This phrase is the translation of one Greek word, *makrothumeo*, which is made up of two words – *makros* (meaning "long" or "far") and *thumeo* (meaning "agitated", "be angry", etc.) So, the word means "bearing up under provocation", "have long patience", "bear long", "suffer long", "be long-suffering", "patiently endure", etc. The word depicts a man persevering patiently and bravely in the

midst of difficulties and troubles. It also demonstrates patience in bearing the offences and injuries of others. So Abraham, the man of faith, was characterised by two essential virtues – patience and endurance. Let us now briefly consider those remarkable natures of heroic faith.

Patience

This word emphasises the long-suffering nature of faith. It is not a passive response to challenges and sufferings that come against one's pursuit, but an active effort to bear with the difficulties while pressing on to the final destiny.

Patience does not allow the man of faith to run out of enthusiasm and determination. Though it accepts pains and failures, it rebounds to keep the whole being in pursuit of the ultimate goal. In its attempts to rejuvenate the already battered and weary soul, it also has to bear additional pains and stress. O how important it is that our faith is willing to suffer long that we may not give up our faith and its final victory!

Normally, the journey of faith is long and arduous. The end may be nowhere in sight. Doubts from within

then may rise to mock his own readiness. Soon others' doubts may also hinder his progress. But by faith in the One who called him, he will bear all these and more. He is ready to suffer long as he eagerly awaits the fulfilment of God's promises. As Romans 8:25 says, "But if we hope for that we see not, then do we with patience wait for it." His attitude is: "Well, I have suffered much and I am ready to suffer more if need be." He will not allow his journey of faith to halt. He refuses to quit. This kind of patience that faith produces is a powerful active force that also generates "endurance", the second essential element of faith.

Endurance

It gives "legs" to patience. It brings about progress in what God has called him to do. It refuses to stay down. It fights off dejection, pushes off sluggishness and walks over disappointments. Nothing stands in its way. If anything persists in stopping him, his endurance will sure to make him an overcomer.

The journey of faith is neither about having a smooth ride to the end nor an easy grab of the ultimate. Instead, the enduring faith is all about an arduous and long effort in accomplishing all that God has set before us. In its pursuit, there is no hastiness. In its persistence, there is no murmuring. In its patience, there is no quitting.

The man of faith endures everything in his journey to make progress in the will of God. He endures in submission to God's sovereignty. He endures in the hope of God's good providence. He endures until he obtains the promise of God.

Patiently Endured

What do you get when these two amazing virtues are put together? A strong faith! A victorious faith! A heroic faith! A faith that conquers! As Abraham patiently endured, he obtained the promise.

Abraham was 75 years old when he departed from Haran (Genesis 12:4). When he was 100 years old, he still did not have a child. Genesis 17:17 records: "Then Abraham fell upon his face, and laughed, and said in his heart, Shall a child be born unto him that is an hundred years old? and shall Sarah, that is ninety years old, bear?" Yet, his faith rises above doubts and difficulties. He waited for the fulfilment of God's promise. Abraham's faith of having a child at such an advanced age of 100 was not a fancy of his own mind. He did not believe in the imagination or ideas of his own mind, but in what God has promised. It was not easy for Abraham to have confidence in what a human mind thinks is an impossibility.

We are mindful of Abraham's failure when he listened to the counsel of his impatient wife Sarah. He

took Hagar to bring forth a child. It was not to be the child of promise. God is so merciful to forgive Abraham and to renew his covenant again (Genesis 17). In this New Testament commendation of Abraham, God says nothing of His servant's shortcoming. What a merciful God! Praise the Lord!

Now, think of the other aspect of God's promise to Abraham – the land. When he was told to go to a far country, he had to overcome many hindrances from his father and relatives. Every time when a struggle emerges, he would ultimately get to the path which God has outlined. He exhibited attitudes and actions which endured delay and pressure.

Finally, Isaac was born. Then, Jacob. Then, Christ – the Seed by whom we all became Abraham's children. Has he seen all that coming to pass? No! Nonetheless, Abraham did not faint, neither his faith waned! He saw Isaac, and he knew the rest of the truths of God's covenant will unfold in His time. Abraham remained steadfast in faith.

He also “patiently endured” his journeying in this world until the age of 175 (Genesis 25:7). “By faith he sojourned in the land of promise, as in a strange country, dwelling in tabernacles with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise: for he looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God” (Hebrews 11:9-10). Abraham's faith

looked beyond the physical aspects of God's covenant with him. From the earthly promised land, he looked intently for a heavenly land.

It is this exercise of hope unto the end which Scripture is calling all of us to emulate. They who professed to be Abraham's children, let them manifest Abraham's enduring faith.

“He obtained the promise” by instalments!

Having set out from among the heathen in accordance to God's call, Abraham was blessed by the Lord with guidance, protection, promises, etc. God blessed his soul with special times of communion with Him, as well as peace, joy and victory. His eyes saw a son born of Sarah, according to God's promise. But by faith, he saw Christ's day, and was glad. Jesus testified, “Your father Abraham rejoiced to see my day: and he saw it, and was glad” (John 8:56). Having also reached the land of the Canaan and living there under God's special providence, he yet again looked beyond to a heavenly city (cf. Hebrews 11:10). All these were an earnest or down payment of better things to come. Finally, he received a more complete blessing of God when he left this world of sin and sorrow, and departed to be with Christ, which is “far better” (Philippians 1:23). Abraham had now entered into the peace and joy of Paradise, having obtained the Heavenly Country (Hebrews 11:16). ■

EAGLE THAT MOUNTS UP HIGH



The Hebrew word in the Old Testament (*nesher*) which is translated as “eagle” in our English Bible, could be a reference to any of the eight species of eagles and four species of vultures which appear in Palestine. It is generally believed to be a reference to the “griffon vulture” or “great vulture”. These birds are mentioned about 15 times in the Bible. These are diurnal birds of prey, found in great numbers in ancient Palestine.

The Bible speaks of it as very swift in its flight. For example, Deuteronomy 28:49 has the expression “swift as the eagle flieth”. While describing the skills of David and Jonathan in war, it is written that “they were swifter than eagles, they were stronger than lions” (2 Samuel 1:23).

The ancient Jews were captivated with the eagle’s flight. In Proverbs 30:18-19, the first in the list of four things mentioned as “too wonderful” is “the way of an eagle in the air”. One amazing thing about their flight that the Bible speaks of is that they mount up very high in the air. Job, the saint of God, wondered: “Doth the eagle mount up at thy (God’s) command, and make her nest on high?” (Job 39:27).

In Isaiah 40:31, God promises that “they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles”. In other words, those who trust in the Lord and do all that He commands will have great strength from Him to ascend high in their service of the Lord. Christians who live in constant prayer and submission to God will mount upwards in their knowledge, fellowship and service. They will not be “lying low in the dust”, but they will “take wing and rise”. Their lives will excel in the glory of the Lord.

Prabhudas Koshy

Eagle
taken from



COLLECTIONS

LORD'S DAY on 12 March 2017

Tithes: 3,705.00

Offerings: 6,335.40

Bldg Fund (Project): 3,880.00; 600.00;
520.00; 250.00; 30.00

Missionary Conf Fund 2017: 1,000.00;
350.00; 150.00; 110.00

Designated Gifts: TGCM (local) 193.00;
100.00; 100.00; Andrew Koh 200.00;
Kelvin Lim 100.00; Aron Paiva 100.00

NON-SUNDAY GIFT

TGCM (local): 14,050.00; 2,000.00;
1,000.00; 1,000.00; 500.00; 200.00; 200.00

SPECIAL FUND UPDATE

(as of 12 March 2017)

Building Fund (Project): \$2,212,713.70
Missionary Conf Fund 2017: \$26,815.00

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*"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 MOTHERS' FELLOWSHIP

Topic: Trials in Faithful Motherhood (II)

Speaker: Pastor Koshy

Chairperson: Sis Merisa Teong

Date & Time: Fri, 24 Mar, 4.00-6.00pm

Venue: Home of Sis Carolyn Koshy
Blk 826 Tampines St 81, #02-92
Singapore 520826

*Please email any questions related to the above
topic to gethsemaneyoungmothers@gmail.com
before the meeting.*

PASTORAL VISITATION WOODLANDS/SEMBAWANG REGION

Date & Time: Fri, 24 Mar 2017, 8.00pm

Venue: Home of Mr & Mrs Benny Skariah
Blk 690D Woodlands Drive 75, #04-190
Singapore 734690

COMBINED GAF/GCM OUTING

Date: Sat, 25 Mar 2017

Time: 3.30pm-6.00pm

Devotion Speaker: Pr Daniel Lim

Chairman: Elder Alan Choy

Venue: West Coast Park
(vicinity of Carpark 3)

*Transport provided from Haw Par Villa
MRT station at 3.00pm.*

Children aged 4-12 will have concurrent
GCM programme.

GETHSEMANE BPC 29TH ANNIVERSARY THANKSGIVING

Date: Lord's Day, 26 Mar 2017

Let us praise God for His goodness
towards us for the past 29 years. Buffet
lunch: \$10 (subsidised) per adult or child
aged 10 & above; children under 10 - free.
Please make payment to Sis Aileen today.

GETHSEMANE CHINESE GOSPEL RALLY

Speaker: Pr Daniel Lim

Date & Time: Sat, 1 April, 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.

GETHSEMANE DEFENDERS' MINISTRY (GDM) LECTURES

Theme: "Questions About Origin of Life
and Aliens"

Lecturer: Dr Samuel Gan, PhD

Date: 2nd & 9th April 2017 (Sunday)

Time: 1.45pm to 3.00pm

Venue: Level 5 Auditorium, SingPost Centre

Dr Gan, a Gethsemanean, is a speaker for
Creation Ministries International and a
passionate defender of biblical creationism.

Please come and listen and be well
informed.

GETHSEMANE MEN'S FELLOWSHIP SEMINAR

"Men of Faith" (Part III):

David – Man After God's Own Heart

Speaker: Pastor Koshy

Date: Saturday, 8 Apr 2017 **Time:** 2.00pm – 6.00pm

Venue: City Beach Resort

(Please avail yourself of the seminar flyers for more details.)

Do sign up at the reception table to facilitate arrangements for seating and refreshments.

A concurrent separate programme will be catered for children.

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 submit the completed registration form to Bro Ernest Lim / Bro Matthew Mah by 30 April 2017. Payment can be made from today.

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.

If you have any questions, please approach Dn Low Boon Siang.

T-shirt sizing sessions will be held today and next Sunday after worship service, for all conference participants. Due to the difference in sizing (from last year's Dry Fit to this year's Polo T-Shirt), previous year's shirt-sizes may not be applicable. Please do the sizing and submit your names / sizes to Bro Benny Skariah or Bro Ng Kwan Teng.

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 Campus Bible Study

3.00pm-4.30pm @ SUTD

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

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

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Our Websites

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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