

GETHSEMANE

BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

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A WORD ON WORSHIP

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Worship is the proper response to God's glorious grace that has reconciled us to Him by the blood of His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ. This truth is expressed by the apostle Paul in Ephesians 1:5-6, "Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will, to the praise of the glory of his grace, wherein he hath made us accepted in the beloved."

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SCRIPTURE MEMORISATION

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Drink

Ephesians 5:18

And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess;
but be filled with the Spirit.

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ORDER OF WORSHIP

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Call to Worship

Elder Mah Chin Kwang

*Hymn 29: I Sing the Mighty Power of God

***Invocation & Gloria Patri**

***Responsive Scripture Reading**

Ruth 1

Hymn 95: My Saviour's Love

Collection of Offerings

***Doxology & Prayer**

Hymn 50: Jesus, My Lord, My God, My All

Scripture Memorisation

Intercessory Prayer

Elder Mah Chin Kwang

Sermon

Pr Andrew Koh

"How Far Will You Go For God?"

Ruth 1:8-17

*Hymn 428: I Have Decided to Follow Jesus

***Closing Prayer & Threefold Amen**

** Congregation Standing*



TODAY, 2 JULY 2017

NEXT LORD'S DAY, 9 JULY 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: Dyllis Teo Flowers: Winnie Yap Refreshments: Rose Chua Ah Muay Ushers: Cayson Chok & Jonah So	Worship Leader: Gan Chin Hwi Preacher: Pr Daniel Lim Musician: Gan Sze Huey Flowers: Roscelle Lim Ushers: Robert Ooi & Lawrence Ng		
	ENGLISH SERVICE	Worship Leader: Eld Mah Chin Kwang Preacher: Pr Andrew Koh Musicians: Ellyzabeth, Chloe Pawa Ushers: Dn Lok Kwok Wah (i/c) Andy Lee, James Chen Jonathon Lim, Ricky Yang David Ng, Julius Del Rosario Greeter: Violet Quek AV Ministry: Crew No. 4 Flowers: Katherin Wu Refreshments: Stella Tan, Cecilia Siah Chairine Chayadi, Corliss Ooi Junior Worship: Sarah Yong, (Stella Tan) Sharon dela Cruz, (Corliss Ooi) Pr Jeremiah Sim	Worship Leader: Eld Alan Choy Preacher: Pastor Prabhudas Koshy Musicians: Sarah Lee, Dorcas Koshy Ushers: Dn Low Boon Siang (i/c) Samuel Yong, Andrew Teong Gerry Lee, Randy Laurencio Arvind Pawa, George Chee Stephanie Lee Greeter: AV Ministry: Crew No. 1 Flowers: Nancy Lau Refreshments: Karen Quek, Amanda Leong Mary Ong, Esther Quek Junior Worship: Pr Dennis Kabingue, (Sally Lum) Pr Kelvin Lim, (Esther Quek) Elder Ng Poh Kok		
1.30pm	FILIPINO SERVICE	Worship Leader: Eric Delina Preacher: Pr Dennis Kabingue Musician: Ayn Tindaan Usher: Jordan Ballega Refreshments: Roscelle Lim	Worship Leader: Norefel Resuma Preacher: Pr Dennis Kabingue Musician: Duaine Kabingue Usher: Jomart Tindaan Refreshments: Jean Tindaan		
3.30pm	LIONS HOME	Venue: 487 Bedok South Ave 2 English Speaker: Elder Mah Chin Kwang Dialect Speaker: Pr Kelvin Lim	Venue: 9 Bishan Street 13 English Speaker: Elder Mah Chin Kwang Dialect Speaker: Pr Jeremiah Sim		

2 July 2017

“NEED IS A FRYING-PAN, BUT DEBT IS THE FIRE”

Prabhudas Koshy

Living in debt has caused not a few lives and families to be cast into horrible pits of disarray and troubles. Have you not seen heart-breaking news headlines, like “Debt-ridden farmers end life”; “Debt-ridden students opting for ‘sugar daddies’ to pay rent, tuition, etc.”? Before anyone casually responds by saying, “Well, those reports do not really show that loans and debts really affect people at large”, let me assert from anecdotal evidence and my counselling encounters that living in debt is a widespread problem that affects even Christians.

In recent months, I have had conversations with some youths who have been troubled by the burden of bank loans taken by their parents or by they themselves for their tertiary education. This phenomenon of our time is an omen of severe spiritual, financial, familial and social troubles that will oppress and wreck our people in the days to come.

Borrowing pressurises one into hurtful options

Under the intense pressure of debts, young people are increasingly becoming desensitised to and undiscerning

of the perils of get-rich-quick offers from cunning men. Desperation to liberate themselves from the shackles of debts is pushing them to look for huge financial rewards. Many of them fall victim to rich, filthy men and women who, having offered enormous financial rewards, take advantage of their vulnerability. They abuse these obtuse youths for their carnal pleasure, and even endanger them for greater material gain. What’s more, some of those youths do not anymore think that such a lifestyle of loose morals is hazardous, and have even adopted for themselves ungodly living for greater material gain!

Certainly, not all debt-ridden youths have fallen into such dangers. Yet, many other kinds of hazards surround them. A young lady, who is a recent university graduate, tearfully shared with me of her many struggles because of the student loan her parents have taken to send her to university. While she desires to be married and be a homemaker, which is also the desire of her husband-to-be, the parents insist that she should not get married immediately, but that she should first focus on earning

money to pay off the debt and then consider marriage and family life. Now, that would take years! Oh, the dreadful snare of debt that stops young women from fulfilling the divine injunction – “... that the younger women marry, bear children, guide the house, give none occasion to the adversary to speak reproachfully” (1 Timothy 5:14; cf. 1 Corinthians 7:9; Hebrews 13:4a).

Debt is not only delaying some young people from getting married early in their adulthood, it also burdens those who enter marriage life. Many begin their marriage with loans and credit purchases to start off their life together in fancifully-renovated houses filled with expensive furniture, appliances, cars, etc. Lenders often require repayment of debts with their stipulated interests. Interests charged are often high, making it difficult to repay the loans quickly. Repayments of loans are even harder for the poor borrower, adding more trouble to the needy – hence the saying, “Need is a frying-pan, but debt is the fire.”

High financial burdens on borrowers drive them to live a life that is addicted to moneymaking, which soon negatively affects their spiritual pursuits and family unity. Worry and fear, arguments and quarrels,

materialism and spiritual deterioration, and suchlike soon overwhelm them. Neglect of family relationships, children’s care, etc. soon bring about many sorrows in their lives.

Even then, sadly, many blindly believe that living on borrowed money is wise financial planning. However, according to the biblical teachings, it is a fallacious notion. Though the Bible acknowledges that the poor may be compelled to borrow in their emergencies, it does not encourage borrowing. More often than not, the Bible warns strongly against borrowing.

Biblical warnings against borrowing

The Biblical wisdom is that we “Owe no man any thing, but to love one another” (Romans 13:8a). Nowadays, many financial pundits will tell you that leverage – the use of borrowed money to buy assets for appreciation – is the way to prosperity. But be warned that such an advice is contrary to biblical wisdom. Absolutely nowhere in the Scriptures are we advised or commanded to use debt to accomplish God-given financial objectives.

Even if one is able to get interest-free loans from relatives or friends, the Bible forewarns of painful consequences. Borrowing money from someone is

certain to change the relationship with that person. Proverbs 22:7 cautions that “the borrower is servant to the lender.” Even if one were to borrow money from parents or siblings or children, the relationship will soon sour.

So, the Bible warns us not to put ourselves in a surety situation. Proverbs 11:15 advises, “He that is surety for a stranger shall smart for it: and he that hateth suretiship is sure.” Likewise, Proverbs 22:26-27 says, “Be not thou one of them that strike hands, or of them that are sureties for debts. If thou hast nothing to pay, why should he take away thy bed from under thee?” In other words, if a person puts up security for another, he will suffer, but he who refuses to pledge is safe. The Biblical advice is that we had better not be a guarantor for others’ debts. If you’re in a surety situation, like having taken a student loan for your child, the Bible’s advice is that you had better pay it off and get out of it. It is very unwise to take a huge loan for any enterprise, without having the means to pay back.

Also, be warned that there is no promise in the Bible that God will bail you out of the unwise debts you have accumulated. Some Christians who unwisely borrow

seem to think that the promise of Philippians 4:19 – “But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus” – would solve their debts. That promise is not a divine guarantee to cancel the consequences of unwise borrowing. Those who think that their decision to borrow money is an act of faith should know that God has never said that He will provide for His people’s needs through moneylenders. How sad it is that many Christians look to moneylenders as their provider! They have made moneylenders their god who would allow them to achieve all the desires of their hearts. Rather, the promise of God is that He will provide for all our needs (cf. Psalm 23:1), and not all our cravings and greed. The Bible teaches us that “But godliness with contentment is great gain” (1 Timothy 6:6).

Certainly, it is best to bear our troubles with much prayer, and overcome them through hard work and wise planning. Entering into debt, especially borrowing beyond our means to pay back, is unwise and can lead to more severe troubles. As much as possible, be debt-free.

Be Kindly Affectioned

ROMANS 12:10

“Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honour preferring one another.”

God expects all His children to love others. Those who genuinely love others will also show kindness and respect to them.

We must love others as God has loved us. So think about the great love that God has shown us. Because God loved us, He gave His Son to be our Saviour. Because Jesus loved us, He died for us to take away our sins and punishment. O how kind, generous and sacrificial our loving God is!

If we love others the way God loves us, we can bring joy and peace to them. But if we fail to love, there will be rudeness and disrespectful attitude, causing quarrels, fightings and hurts.

Love will motivate us to be kind and helpful to others. Love will encourage us to greet others, and appreciate what they do for us. Love will also teach us to share our blessings with others.

Let us pray that God will fill our hearts with His love that we may become a blessing rather than a burden.

Prabhudas Koshy



COLLECTIONS

LORD'S DAY on 25 June 2017

Tithes: 1,980.00

Offerings: 20,843.40

Bldg Fund (Project): 1,220.00; [400.00
(Chinese Svc)]

Designated Gifts: TGCM (local) 2,800.00;
GBPC (Ethiopia) 100.00; Engida Zeleke
50.00; Imane Dola 50.00; Andrew Koh 50.00;
Kelvin Lim 50.00; Lok Kwok Wah 100.00

NON-SUNDAY GIFT

General Fund: 400.00; 10.00

Bldg Fund (Project): 1,750.00

Bible Witness: 200.00

TGCM (local): 100.00

SPECIAL FUND UPDATE

(as of 25 June 2017)

Building Fund (Project): \$2,261,182.70

**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 MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Speaker: Pastor Koshy

Chairman: Bro Eric Delina

Date & Time: Sat, 8 July 2017 at 4pm

Venue: TGCM premises
202B, Ponggol Seventeenth Avenue
*(Take LRT (West Loop) from Punggol MRT
station to Punggol Point LRT station.)*

There will also be a concurrent children's
programme.

GETHSEMANE LADIES' FELLOWSHIP

"Vanities of Life" is a new theme for
the 2nd half of the GLF's programme.

Topic: The Vanity of Human Wisdom

Speaker: Pastor Koshy

Chairperson: Sis Gina Sim

Date: Sat, 15 July 2017

Time: 3.00-5.00pm

Venue: Home of Sis Cassy Thum
Blk 5 Jalan Mata Ayer
#02-19, Euphony Gardens
Singapore 759151

*(Transport from Yishun MRT station at
2.40pm.)*

Children aged 4-12 will have concurrent
GCM programme.

HOLY MATRIMONY

of

Lee Shing Shyan & Lim Siu Chen

Venue: Calvary Pandan B-P Church

Date: 8 July 2017

Time: 10.30am

All are cordially invited.
*(There will be a lunch reception
thereafter.)*

PASTORAL VISITATION

**SERANGOON/TOA PAYOH/
BISHAN/ANG MO KIO**

Date & Time: Fri, 14 Jul 2017, 8.00pm

Venue: Home of Dr & Mrs John Zhang
Blk 79E Toa Payoh Central, #09-75
Singapore 315079

Please sign up at the reception table
if you are joining the meeting.

BIBLE WITNESS MAGAZINE

The latest issue on:
"Serving God"

is available at the reception table.
*(Feel free to take as many copies as
you need to give to others for their
spiritual admonition and edification.)*

CATECHISM CLASS

The next Catechism Class for brethren who wish to seek baptism, transfer of membership or affirmation of faith will begin from **Sunday 16 July, 2017** at 9.30am. Interested brethren are asked to register as soon as possible with Sis Diana Koh. If further information is needed, please see either Eld Alan Choy or Eld Mah.

GETHSEMANE BIBLE INSTITUTE (GBI-ONLINE)

Duration: 19th Jul – 8th Nov 2017

Day: Every Wednesday night, 7.30pm-9.30pm

Ephesians will be taught by Pr Andrew Koh
(7.30pm-8.20pm)

Eschatology (Systematic Theology VI) will be taught by
Pastor Koshy. (8.30pm-9.30pm)

Venue: TGCM premises

Only limited places available.
Please register at the reception table today!

13TH BIBLE WITNESS RETREAT

*(held in conjunction with
Gethsemane Ladies' Fellowship Seminar)*

Theme: "An Empowered Woman of God"

Speaker: Pastor Prabhudas Koshy

Date: 6th – 8th September 2017 (Wed-Fri)

Venue: Tanjong Puteri Golf Resort
Pasir Gudang, Johor

A non-refundable deposit of \$70.00/person is required.

*Registration form is available at the reception table or
can be downloaded from www.biblewitness.com/retreat.*

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, SingPost Centre

Wednesday Lunch Hour Bible Study

Resume on 12 July 2017

Wednesday Campus Bible Study

3.00pm-4.30pm @ SUTD

Wednesday Night GBI-Online

Semestral Break

Thursday Seniors' Ministry

11.00am (Please contact Pr Jeremiah Sim)

Friday Morning Prayer

7.45am – 8.30am @ Church Resource Centre

Friday Campus Bible Study

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