

GETHSEMANE

BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

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PRAY FOR OUR NATION

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May God bless Singapore
as she celebrates her 52nd National Day.

Let us pray for our government,
and our society that it may progress
in righteousness and justice,
so that God's blessings be upon our nation.

"Righteousness exalteth a nation:
but sin is a reproach to any people."
Proverbs 14:34

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SCRIPTURE MEMORISATION

❧

Dying

2 Corinthians 5:8

We are confident, I say,
and willing rather to be absent from the body,
and to be present with the Lord.

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ORDER OF WORSHIP

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Call to Worship

Elder Ng Poh Kok

*Hymn 1: Worship the King

*Invocation & Gloria Patri

* Scripture Reading in Unison

Psalms 119:97-104

Hymn 113: It Is Glory Just to Walk with Him

Collection of Offerings

*Doxology & Prayer

Hymn 234: Spirit of God, Descent upon My Heart

Scripture Memorisation

Pastoral Prayer

Sermon

Pastor Prabhudas Koshy

"Savourest Christ or Men?"

Matthew 16:21-23

Holy Communion

Hymn 187: It Is A Thing Most Wonderful

*Hymn 183: Jesus Paid It All

*Benediction & Threefold Amen

** Congregation Standing*



TODAY, 6 AUGUST 2017

NEXT LORD'S DAY, 13 AUGUST 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: Gan Chin Hwi Preacher: Pr Daniel Lim Musician: Gan Sze Huey Flowers: Winnie Yap Ushers: Lawrence Ng & Robert Ooi	Worship Leader: Elder Alan Choy Preacher: Pr Daniel Lim Musician: Angeline Wong Flowers: Roscelle Lim Refreshments: Roscelle Lim Ushers: Francis Tan & Lawrence Ng
	ENGLISH SERVICE	Worship Leader: Elder Ng Poh Kok Preacher: Pastor Prabhudas Koshy Musicians: Ellyzabeth, Jasmine Low Ushers: Dn Low Boon Siang (i/c) Andy Lee, James Chen Jonathon Lim, Ricky Yang David Ng, Linus Kok Greeter: Lee Kim Lei AV Ministry: Crew No. 1 Flowers: Pansy Ng Refreshments: Stella Tan, Cecilia Siah Chairine Chayadi, Corliss Ooi Junior Worship: Pr Kelvin Lim, (Mabel Ng) Mong Jee Pawa, (Cecilia Siah) Kenneth Wong	Worship Leader: Elder Mah Chin Kwang Preacher: Pastor Prabhudas Koshy Musicians: Eunice Choy, Sarah Lee Ushers: David Tan (i/c) Amoz Choy, Lee Shing Shyan Lijoy George, Stephen Yap Ho Kee How, Linus Kok Greeter: Diana Chan AV Ministry: Crew No. 3 Flowers: Lee Kim Lei Refreshments: Catherine Choy, Chong Shu Mun Jolyne Cho, Lim Hua See Junior Worship: Lee Kim Lei, (Jenice Choy) Pr Jeremiah Sim, (Cornelius Koshy) Carolyn Koshy
1.30pm	FILIPINO SERVICE	Worship Leader: Eric Delina Preacher: Pr Jeremiah Sim Musician: Duaine Kabingue Usher: Jordan Ballega Refreshments: Erly Calaro	Worship Leader: Eric Delina Preacher: Pr Dennis Kabingue Musician: Ayn Tindaan Usher: Jomart Tindaan Refreshments: Tomei Tan
3.30pm	LIONS HOME	Venue: 487 Bedok South Ave 2 English Speaker: Edwin Quek Dialect Speaker: Kenneth Wong	Venue: 9 Bishan Street 13 English Speaker: Elder Ng Poh Kok Dialect Speaker: Pr Jeremiah Sim

6 August 2017

CHILDREN & WORSHIP - I

(Previously published on 2 March 2008)

Prabhudas Koshy

This topic has been a great concern in my heart for a long time. As I have recently mentioned in the church, I strongly believe that we must let our children join the main worship service with the adults as early as possible. There is no biblical warrant for separating children from the main worship, especially those who have grown beyond their toddler stage. I sincerely think that there is great godly wisdom in integrating our children into the main worship, especially those who are 8 years old and above. (In fact, most children can be trained to sit through the main worship service from the age of 6, and some even earlier.)

Biblical Evidence of Children in the Main Congregation

When God's people in the Old Testament were required to come together to worship the LORD in the hearing and exposition of the Law, the children came together with them. Children were neither excluded nor segregated from the adults who came for worship. The

following are some examples of adults and children coming together to hear the Word of God.

At the renewal of the covenant in Deuteronomy 29, we are specifically told that the "little ones" were present together with all the adults and even dignitaries. "Ye stand this day all of you before the LORD your God; your captains of your tribes, your elders, and your officers, with all the men of Israel, your little ones, your wives, and thy stranger that is in thy camp, from the hewer of thy wood unto the drawer of thy water: that thou shouldest enter into covenant with the LORD thy God, and into his oath, which the LORD thy God maketh with thee this day" (vv. 10-12). The word translated as "little ones" refers to little children.

Similarly, at the sabbatical year convocation, we are told that men, women, strangers and children were instructed to gather. "When all Israel is come to appear before the LORD thy God in the place which he shall choose, thou shalt read this law before all Israel in their hearing. Gather the people together, men, and women,

and children, and thy stranger that is within thy gates, that they may hear, and that they may learn, and fear the LORD your God, and observe to do all the words of this law: and that their children, which have not known any thing, may hear, and learn to fear the LORD your God, as long as ye live in the land whither ye go over Jordan to possess it” (Deuteronomy 31:11-13).

Then again, in Joshua 8:35, we are told that “There was not a word of all that Moses commanded, which Joshua read not before all the congregation of Israel, with the women, and the little ones, and the strangers that were conversant among them.” And again we read of similar gatherings during the time of Jehoshaphat – “And all Judah stood before the LORD, with their little ones, their wives, and their children” (2 Chronicles 20:13).

In Nehemiah 8:2-3, we read, “And Ezra the priest brought the law before the congregation both of men and women, and all that could hear with understanding, upon the first day of the seventh month. And he read therein before the street that was before the water gate from the morning until midday, before the men and the women, and those that could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive unto the book of the law.” Here the phrases “all that could hear with

understanding” and “those that could understand” were not referring to adult men and women, because they were already mentioned. So these would be children who were able to perceive what was being read from the Law and also the exposition.

In chapter 12 of Nehemiah, we are told of a thanksgiving service held in the house of God. Children are mentioned along with the adults as rejoicing before the Lord – “Also that day they offered great sacrifices, and rejoiced: for God had made them rejoice with great joy: the wives also and the children rejoiced: so that the joy of Jerusalem was heard even afar off” (v. 43).

Just imagine all these happened long before the day of cushioned pews and air-conditioned sanctuaries!

What’s more, in the New Testament, during the ministry of Jesus and the apostles, we see no segregation of children from the adults when people gathered to hear them preach or for worship. The entire family would worship the Lord together. When the people gathered to hear our Lord, the young children were usually present too (cf. Matthew 14:21; 15:38). On one occasion, we are told that the people began bringing their young children to the Lord to be touched by Him (Mark 10:13). For some reasons, the disciples tried to stop them. They even rebuked the parents. “But when Jesus saw it, he

was much displeased, and said unto them, Suffer the little children to come unto me, and forbid them not: for of such is the kingdom of God” (Mark 10:14).

There is little doubt that the practice of having children in the worship service was the norm in the early church. This is corroborated by the fact that the apostolic epistles, which were read during congregational worship in the early church, addressed the children directly (cf. Ephesians 6:1; Colossians 3:20; 1 John 2:12; etc.). In general, the biblical pattern is that the Christian family ought to worship together.

Exclusion of Children from the Congregation is a Modern Innovation

In many churches today, bringing children into the full session of the main worship is postponed as long as possible. After Junior Worship, children are provided with Teen and Youth worship services. All these are held separately from the main worship services. As they grow up, they are rather unwilling to participate in the Scriptural form of worship. They look for fun and entertainment, such as what they were given in their Children and Teen worship services. They dislike the solemnity of biblical worship, and prefer a light-hearted and entertaining worship service.

Today, we may be considered radical for suggesting that children go to “big church”. Some would surely consider it to be an impractical thing. I will not be surprised if we also would receive such responses. Over the past 50 years, the church has been encouraging parents to be segregated from children during worship time. In many churches, children are left at home alone, while parents go for prayer meetings.

By the grace of God, in Gethsemane we have seen the blessings when parents encourage their children to join the main worship and even prayer meetings. Though there are difficulties, it is possible to overcome them if we (parents and the congregation as a whole) are willing to train the children to worship our sovereign God with patience and forbearance. Can we teach our children to worship God as we teach them to walk, talk and tie their shoelaces? Certainly. But first, we must see it as a biblical pattern which we must be committed to.

God willing, I will discuss more of the practical aspects of “Children and Worship” in the next article. Let us continue to pray that our children would grow up to be a generation that will worship the Lord in spirit and in truth.



Angels' Ministry to Jesus While He Was on Earth

1. They predicted His birth: We read in Matthew 1:20-21, "Behold, the angel of the Lord appeared unto him in a dream, saying, Joseph, thou son of David, fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife: for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost. And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins" (cf. Luke 1:31).
2. They announced His birth: Read Luke 2:9-14, and you will see the record of the angelic proclamation to the shepherds that Jesus was born.
3. They helped protect Him. Matthew 2:13 shows us how the angel help to protect the baby Jesus – "And when they were departed, behold, the angel of the Lord appeareth to Joseph in a dream, saying, Arise, and take the young child and his mother, and flee into Egypt, and be thou there until I bring thee word: for Herod will seek the young child to destroy him."
4. They ministered to Him in the wilderness. After the devil tempted Jesus, the angels came to attend to Him. "Then the devil leaveth him, and, behold, angels came and ministered unto him" (Matthew 4:11).
5. They ministered to Him in the garden. While Jesus was in the garden of Gethsemane with a very troubled heart, the angels came to minister to Him. "And there appeared an angel unto him from heaven, strengthening him" (Luke 22:43).
6. They rolled away the stone from His tomb. The angels rolled away the huge stone that covered the mouth of the tomb where Jesus' body was laid (Matthew 28:2).
7. They announced His resurrection. "And the angel answered and said unto the women, Fear not ye: for I know that ye seek Jesus, which was crucified. He is not here: for he is risen, as he said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay" (Matthew 28:5-6).

Prabhudas Koshy



COLLECTIONS

LORD'S DAY on 30 July 2017

Tithes: 2,640.00 **Offerings:** 10,970.10
Bldg Fund (Project): 1,084.00; 1,000.00
Designated Gifts: General Fund 500.00;
TGCM (local) 1,000.00; 1,000.00; 560.00;
GBPC (Ethiopia) 300.00; GBI (Ethiopia)
100.00; Reggor Galarpe 50.00; Engida Tefera
50.00; Imane Dola 50.00; Kenneth Wong
100.00; 100.00; Kelvin Lim 100.00; Jeremiah
Sim 100.00; Aron Paiva 100.00; Cornelius
Koshy 200.00

NON-SUNDAY GIFT

Building Fund: 30,000.00
Designated Gifts: General Fund 10,000.00;
1,200.00; TGCM (local) 20,000.00; 522.60;
500.00; 200.00; 50.00; Bible Witness
10,000.00; GBI-Online 8,000.00; Pangasinan
(Vehicle) 10,000.00

SPECIAL FUND UPDATE

(as of 30 July 2017)

Building Fund (Project): \$2,288,566.70

GETHSEMANE CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Daily Vacation Bible School (DVBS) will be held from 29th Nov-1st Dec 2017 (Wed-Fri). Parents with school-going child(ren), please take note of the dates.

Brethren who are serving in the Children's Ministry in one way or the other, please write your contact details on the list at the reception table if you have not done so.

THE GETHSEMANE CARE MINISTRY 12TH THANKSGIVING SERVICE

Date: Tue, 8 Aug 2017

Time: 7.30pm

Venue: Level 5 Auditorium
Singapore Post Centre
10 Eunos Road 8, Singapore 408600

We encourage all worshippers to attend and also to invite your friends. Please sign up at the reception table.

PASTORAL VISITATION CENTRAL/SOUTH

Date & Time: Fri, 11 Aug 2017, 8.00pm

Venue: Home of Mr & Mrs Aron Ong
Blk 3 Queen's Road, #07-157
Singapore 260003

If you live in this region, please check that your name is on the list placed on the reception table. If it is not, please add it in.

ANNUAL REPORTS OF MINISTRIES & FELLOWSHIP GROUPS

Leaders of respective ministries/fellowship groups are to submit a short write-up for collation as Annual Report for the upcoming ACM. Please send it to Elder Mah Chin Kwang (chinkwangmah@yahoo.com.sg) by 15 Aug 2017.

GETHSEMANE MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Speaker: Pastor Koshy

Chairman: Bro David Tan

Date & Time: Sat, 12 August 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

Topic: The Vanity of Pleasure & Mirth

Speaker: Pastor Koshy

Chairperson: Sis Annie Ho

Date: Sat, 19 Aug 2017

Time: 3.00-5.00pm

Venue: Home of Sis Beng Hwee
Blk 7 Jervois Close, #08-12
(function room)
Singapore 249103

(Transport from Redhill MRT station Exit A at 2.40pm.)

Children aged 4-12 will have concurrent GCM programme.

CHURCH DIRECTORY 2017

Attention to all members of GBPC:
Kindly check and update your particulars at the reception table.

GYAF SEMINAR 2017

“Sure & Stedfast (Hebrews 6:19)”

Speaker: Pr Clement Chew

Date & Time: Sat, 2 Sept 2017, 2.00-6.00pm

Venue: City Beach Resort (Small Function Room),
8 Port Rd, Singapore 117540

Notes: Transport pick-up from Labrador Park MRT station would be arranged. More details on transport will be given later. Please sign up on the list at the reception table.

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. The retreat fees are all stated on the registration forms which are available at the reception table or can be downloaded from www.biblewitness.com/retreat.

CHINESE BIBLE CONFERENCE

Theme: Earnestly Contending for the Faith

Speaker: Pr Daniel Lim

Date & Time: Sat, 30 Sept 2017, 10.00am-2.00pm

Venue: City Beach Resort
8 Port Road, Singapore 117540

(Transport from Labrador Park MRT station from 9.30am.)

We encourage Chinese-speaking brethren to attend this conference and to invite your Christian friends. Do sign up at the reception table. If you are joining the lunch (\$5.00 per person), please make payment to Sis Aileen Tan.

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

TGCM 12th Anniversary Thanksgiving

Wednesday Lunch Hour Bible Study

Cancelled

Wednesday Campus Bible Study

Semestral Break

Wednesday Night GBI-Online

Cancelled

Thursday Seniors' Ministry

11.00am (Please contact Pr Jeremiah Sim)

Friday Morning Prayer

7.45am – 8.30am @ Church Resource Centre

Friday Campus Bible Study

SUTD @ 1.00pm

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