

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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Christian worship is Theocentric and Christocentric. Only through the Lord Jesus Christ can one ever acceptably come before God (John 14:6; 1 Peter 3:18; 2 John 9). Furthermore, if God the Father hath not granted a man to come to His Son, the Lord Jesus, no one can come to Christ (cf. John 6:45, 65). So, both the Father and the Son are engaged in mutual glorification in the hearts of the people of God (cf. John 13:31-32). In fact, the Holy Spirit is also at work in our hearts to glorify Christ (cf. John 16:13-14).

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SCRIPTURE MEMORISATION

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Be Not Deceived

Proverbs 20:1

Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging;
and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise.

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GETHSEMANE FILIPINO FELLOWSHIP 16TH ANNIVERSARY

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Call to Worship

Pr Dennis Kablingue

*Hymn 46: A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

*Invocation & Gloria Patri

*Responsive Scripture Reading

Romans 5:1- 21

Gethsemane Filipino Brethren

Hymn 256: The Bible Stands

Collection of Offerings

*Doxology & Prayer

Hymn 290: Hallelujah for the Cross!

Scripture Memorisation

*Pastoral Prayer

Sermon

Pastor Prabhudas Koshy

"The just shall live by faith"

Romans 1:17

*Hymn 310: Glorious Freedom

*Benediction & Threefold Amen

** Congregation Standing*



TODAY, 29 OCTOBER 2017

NEXT LORD'S DAY, 5 NOVEMBER 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: Dyllis Teo Flowers: Winnie Yap Refreshments: Gan Sheu Hoong Ushers: Cayson Chok & Lawrence Ng	Worship Leader: Gan Chin Hwi Preacher: Pr Daniel Lim Musician: Eunice Choy Flowers: Francis Tan Ushers: Robert Ooi & Lawrence Ng
	ENGLISH SERVICE	Worship Leader: Pr Dennis Kabingue Preacher: Pastor Prabhudas Koshy Musicians: Ellyzabeth, Jeremy Teo Ushers: Dn Low Boon Siang (i/c) Cornelius Koshy, Edwin Quek Jason Low, Low Chip Hung Marcus Lim, John Peh Greeter: Mah Lean Choo AV Ministry: Crew No. 2 Flowers: Angela Ang Refreshments: Stella Tan, Cecilia Siah Chairine Chayadi, Corliss Ooi Junior Worship: Choy Luan Kheng, (Mabel Ng) Dn Low Boon Siang, (Chloe Pawa) Pr Kelvin Lim	Worship Leader: Eld Ng Poh Kok Preacher: Pastor Prabhudas Koshy Musicians: Ellyzabeth, Sarah Lee Ushers: Dn Lok Kwok Wah (i/c) Ng Kwan Teng, Theodore Wang Benny Skariah, Cayson Chok Timotheus Liu, Chan Tuck Whye Sally Lum Greeter: Sally Lum AV Ministry: Crew No. 3 Flowers: Katherin Wu Refreshments: Roscelle Lim, Edelize Ballega Lena Chan, Rhodora Resuma Junior Worship: Pr Kelvin Lim, (Jenice Choy) Mong Jee Pawa, (Cecilia Siah) Elder Ng Poh Kok
1.30pm	FILIPINO SERVICE	Worship Leader: Preacher: Musician: Cancelled in view of Usher: Reformation Lectures Refreshments:	Worship Leader: Eric Delina Preacher: Pr Dennis Kabingue Musician: Duaine Kabingue Usher: Anthony Evangelista Refreshments: Joy Del Rosario
3.30pm	LIONS HOME	Venue: 487 Bedok South Ave 2 English Speaker: Edwin Quek Dialect Speaker: Kenneth Wong	Venue: 487 Bedok South Ave 2 English Speaker: Pr Jeremiah Sim Dialect Speaker: Pr Kelvin Lim

29 October 2017

Reformed and Reforming

Prabhudas Koshy

One of the significant theological slogans that emerged out of the Reformation was *Ecclesia Reformata, Semper Reformanda* (i.e. “The church reformed, always reforming”). It represented nothing more than the Reformers’ desire for the church to return to sound biblical theology. They never thought of their theological work as devising something altogether new. Their intent was singular – renewing or reviving the church according to the saving truths of the Word of God.

Reformers knew that the church had become corrupt, and a change in the church’s beliefs and ministry was critical. Hence, they worked relentlessly to have the church reformed and always reforming according to the Word of God. John Calvin wrote in the preface of his tract, *The Necessity for Reforming the Church*:

“We maintain, then, that at the commencement when God raised up Luther

and others, who held forth a torch to light us into the way of salvation, and who, by their ministry, founded and reared our churches those heads of doctrine in which the truth of our religion, those in which the pure and legitimate worship of God, and those in which the salvation of men are comprehended, were in a great measure obsolete. We maintain that the use of the sacraments was in many ways vitiated and polluted. And we maintain that the government of the Church was converted into a species of foul and insufferable tyranny.”

In that article, Calvin’s greatest attempt was to express “how to restore the Church to its proper state.” He dealt with four topics, which he remarked as “soul and body” of the church. He referred to the topics of worship and salvation as the “soul” of the church, while sacraments and church government were called the “body” of the church. He sought to

call for prompt actions to remedy the evils in the church related to worship, salvation, sacraments and church government.

One of the most significant outcomes of the Reformation was the prominence that the preaching of the Word received in the church worship services. In the late-medieval period, sermons were not the common feature of church worship. People had to go out of the church into open fields to hear preachers. Such preachers [e.g. Bernardino of Siena (1380–1444); Girolamo Savonarola (1452–1498)] faced excommunication and even execution. In those days, people went to church to see ceremonies attached to Mass. Preaching was so neglected that it virtually ceased to exist in the church. However, Reformation brought preaching of the Word from the obscurity and secrecy of the fields back into the worship service of the church. The Reformers' battle for the Word of God had reinstated its preaching to its rightful place in the church.

The Reformers would not leave the souls of the spiritually hungry churchgoers in the hands of irresponsible clergymen who were not keen to

feed them with the Word. So, like the faithful and concerned shepherds, the Reformers strived – even though it would mean death to them – to nourish the flock of God with the truths of the Holy Scriptures. Soon the activities of the churches, where the Reformers had laboured, became thoroughly Word-centred. The proclamation of God's Word became their greatest concern. In Saint Pierre's Church of Geneva, where Calvin ministered, the church building was rid of all the statues of saints, relics, crucifixes and even the altar where the Mass was conducted. Even the walls and pillars were whitewashed to hide Rome's unbiblical iconography. A wooden pulpit was brought into the church and was placed in such a way that the worshippers would be seated around it. By placing the pulpit at the centre from which the sermon would be preached, Scripture was given centre stage. Such changes were also made in other churches in the surrounding areas. Thousands of sermons were preached by the Reformers, thus making available to God's flock the indispensable means of grace that provided them with salvation, sanctification, wisdom, comfort and revival.

Indeed, the Reformers were eager to get the church aligned to the Scriptural depiction of its faith and practice. Their efforts were not in vain. Eventually, Reformed Confessions of Faith (such as the Three Forms of Unity and the Westminster Confession and Catechisms) were drawn up to guide the church in the truths of God's Word. These standards of faith testify that the Reformers' efforts to reform the church were truly a movement to bring the church back to biblical theology. A Reformed church is a church that yields to the doctrines of Scripture. Churches in all ages and in all places must be committed to remain faithful to Scriptural doctrines and living – all the more so because of the Scriptural warning that false teachers will arise to bring damnable heresies in to the flocks of God (Matthew 24:5, 11, 24; Acts 20:29-30; 1 Corinthians 11:19; 2 Corinthians 11:13-15; Ephesians 4:14; Colossians 2:8, 18; 1 Timothy 4:1-3; 2 Timothy 3:1-9; 4:3; Titus 1:11; 2 Peter 2:1).

Though the Roman Catholic Church had long presented itself as the true, biblical apostolic church, a host of its doctrines and practices were unknown to the apostles and the early church, not to mention the

New Testament. So, the Reformers called the church to reform itself by submitting to the sound theology of the Holy Scriptures.

Sadly, many protestant churches of our time make changes to their faith, worship and practice based on contemporary culture. They attempt to legitimise the implemented changes by holding them up as consistent with the Reformation principle of "The church ... always reforming". This motto was never meant to justify unbiblical changes made to the faith, life and practice of the church. Instead, it demands that the church subject itself to the scrutiny of God's Word and that it continually remain faithful to the truths of the Word of God. Making the timeless authority of God's Word subordinate to changing cultural values and scientific theories is contrary to the Reformation motto of "always reforming".

The true intent of Reformation is to reform the church back to Scripture. Even after 500 years, the church needs this same Reformation. The Bible is the only authority for the church, and it is sufficient and efficient to bring salvation and edification to His people. ■

Martin Luther & the Protestant Reformation

On 10 November 1483 in Eisleben, Germany, a baby boy was born to Hans and Margaret Luther whom they baptised the next day on St Martin's day. So they named him "Martin".

Martin Luther studied law and became an Augustinian monk in the Roman Catholic Church after completing his M.A. (Master of Arts) degree in 1505. In 1508, he was appointed to be a teacher of the Bible at the new university in Wittenberg, where he also regularly preached in the town church. His study and understanding of Scripture soon led him to question the Roman Church's efforts to sell salvation.

One day while studying the Bible, he came across Romans 1:17 – "The just shall live by faith." It dawned on him that God had made him righteous through Christ, who had died on the cross for his sins. No one could earn this righteousness by doing good works or through buying indulgences (which are slips of paper granting forgiveness of sins obtained by paying money to the pope). When he understood this great truth of salvation by faith in Christ, Luther said, "I feel as though I have been reborn and gone through open gates into paradise"!

Martin Luther began to preach against the sale of indulgences and eventually came up with his 95 theses (or arguments) against it. On the eve of All Saints Day, 31 October 1517, Luther nailed these theses firmly to the famous Wittenberg church door. Luther further contributed to the Reformation of the church by translating the Bible into German, which gave his native people access to the pages of the Bible. This in turn influenced other Reformers to translate the Bible into the common tongue of their people, in contrast to Latin which most people could not understand.

Truly, when Martin Luther protested against the Roman Church's distortion of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, little did he know that the posting of his 95 theses in 1517 would ultimately lead to the Protestant Reformation that transformed Europe. And its influence continues to be felt till this day – because God's Word can now be read and understood in the common tongue.

COLLECTIONS

LORD'S DAY on 22 October 2017

Tithes: 2,160.00

Offerings: 6,273.40

Bldg Fund (Project): 1,000.00; 550.00;
100.00; 8.00

Designated Gifts: Bible Witness 3,000.00;
GBPC (Ethiopia) 500.00; Pastor Koshy
500.00; Kelvin Lim 50.00; 50.00; 30.00; Lok
Kwok Wah 50.00; Esther Ratnam 100.00

NON-SUNDAY GIFT

Bldg Fund (Project): 500.00

General Fund: 800.00

SPECIAL FUND UPDATE

(as of 22 October 2017)

Building Fund (Project): \$2,325,954.70

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

CALENDAR 2018

Bible Witness Media Ministry is in the process of producing a new calendar for next year – with a view to making this available for personal use and as an excellent Christmas/New Year gift for friends and loved ones.

REFORMATION LECTURES 2017

*in commemoration of the 500th
Anniversary of the Reformation*

Theme: “Historical Relevance
of the Reformation”

Time: 1.30pm - 3.30pm

Date/Topic/Speaker

29th October – Reformation
Breakthrough:
Defining Moments and Key Figures
by Eld Richard Tiu

BIBLE WITNESS MAGAZINE

The latest issue on:
“Reformation Commemoration - 500”
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.)*

GETHSEMANE YOUTH FELLOWSHIP

Topic: Book Study of 2 John

Speaker: Pastor Koshy

Chairman: Bro Titus Ho

Date: Sat, 4 Nov 2017

Time: 4.00pm - 6.00pm

Venue: Home of Mr & Mrs Gerry Lee
121, Jalan Jurong Kechil
Terrene @ Bukit Timah
Singapore 598679

GETHSEMANE YOUNG ADULTS' FELLOWSHIP

Activity: Home fellowship

Speaker: Pr Kelvin Lim

Chairman: Bro Matthew Mah

Date & Time: Sat, 4 Nov 2017, 5pm
(Bring-a-dish dinner)

Venue: Home of Mr & Mrs Samuel Yong
Blk 301 Ubi Ave 1, #04-241
Singapore 400301

GETHSEMANE CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Daily Vacation Bible School

Venue: TGCM premises

Date: Wed-Fri, 29th Nov - 1st Dec 2017

Time: 10.00am - 4.00pm

Fee: \$15

*Registration form is available at the
reception table.*

Closing date: 12th November 2017

Those who want to help as volunteers,
please contact Pr Kelvin
Lim@ 8268 2828.

SUNDAY FELLOWSHIP LUNCH

Those who would like packet lunch
after worship service for the month
of November 2017, kindly place your
order with Sis Aileen Tan.

GAF CHRISTMAS CAROLLING 2017

Date: Saturday, 23 Dec 2017

Time: 4 – 6 pm

Venue*: 2 Homes (1 in the East zone & 1 in the West zone) to be confirmed

** As homes can only accommodate a limited number of people, carolling participants will be limited to **40-45** persons per home (with both homes to host simultaneously).*

Please sign up on respective list (either the “**East**” or “**West**” list) at the reception table to facilitate planning and coordination.

COMBINED GYF/GYAF CAMP

Speakers: Pastor Koshy & Pr Andrew Koh

Date: Sun - Wed, 24-27 December 2017

Venue: Resort Lautan Biru, Mersing, Johor

Please sign up at the reception today and make your payment to Bro Ernest or Bro Gideon.

CHURCH CAMP 2018

Date: 4-8 June 2018 (Mon-Fri)

Venue: Lexis Penang

Camp Fees (excluding airfare):

Twin-sharing \$480/camper

Triple-sharing \$405/camper

Quad-sharing \$360/camper

Child up to 5 years old free

Child > 5 years old – Fee will depend on configuration

An additional night in Lexis is at RM400 per room.

(Campers will settle the costs of additional night/s directly with the hotel.)

Participants are advised to book plane tickets on their own as soon as possible. Registration will commence on 7th Jan 2018. If you have any questions, please approach Eld Francis Lee.

POST-WORSHIP ACTIVITIES

Please stay back after worship to join us for:

Refreshments & Fellowship

12.30pm – 1.30pm

Reformation Lecture

1.30pm – 3.30pm

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)

Thursday Campus Bible Study
4.00pm-5.00pm @ SUTD
6.30pm-7.30pm @ NAFA

Friday Morning Prayer
7.45am – 8.30am @ Church Resource Centre

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
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Our Websites

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Our Pastor

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Mobile: 9001 1119
Email: pastor.gbpc@gmail.com

Our Session

Pastor Prabhudas Koshy
Elder Mah Chin Kwang
Elder Alan Choy
Elder Ng Poh Kok
Elder Francis Lee
Deacon Daniel Lim
Deacon Lok Kwok Wah
Deacon Kelvin Lim
Deacon Low Boon Siang