

# 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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The way to come to God the Father is through Christ. He is the sure and only way to God (cf. John 14:6). "Now in Christ Jesus ye who sometimes were far off are made nigh by the blood of Christ" (Ephesians 2:13). All those who have trusted in Christ's atoning sacrifice on the cross can now draw nigh to God, rejoicing in that wonderful privilege. Paul said, "For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by his life. And not only so, but we also joy in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom we have now received the atonement" (Romans 5:10-11).

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## SCRIPTURE MEMORISATION

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*Be Not Deceived*

**Matthew 24:4-5**

Take heed that no man deceive you.  
For many shall come in my name, saying,  
I am Christ; and shall deceive many.

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## ORDER OF WORSHIP

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### Call to Worship

*Elder Ng Poh Kok*

\*Hymn 27: Now Thank We All Our God

### \*Invocation & Gloria Patri

### \*Responsive Scripture Reading

*John 16:1-7*

Hymn 101: Leaning on the Everlasting Arms

### Collection of Offerings

### \*Doxology & Prayer

Hymn 293: Burdens Are Lifted at Calvary

### Scripture Memorisation

### \*Pastoral Prayer

### Sermon

*Pastor Prabhudas Koshy*

"What is Your Response to Christ's death?"

*Matthew 17:22-23*

### Songs of Praise

*Gethsemane Seniors' Ministry*

### Holy Communion

Hymn 196: Blessed Redeemer

Hymn 188: O Sacred Head, Now Wounded

### \*Benediction & Threefold Amen

*\* Congregation Standing*



**TODAY, 5 NOVEMBER 2017**

**NEXT LORD'S DAY, 12 NOVEMBER 2017**

9.00 – 10.00am		CHURCH CHOIR & CHILDREN'S CHOIR	CHURCH CHOIR & CHILDREN'S CHOIR
		MALAYALAM FELLOWSHIP	MALAYALAM FELLOWSHIP
10.30am	CHINESE SERVICE	<b>Worship Leader:</b> Gan Chin Hwi <b>Preacher:</b> Pr Daniel Lim <b>Musician:</b> Eunice Choy <b>Flowers:</b> Francis Tan <b>Ushers:</b> Robert Ooi & Lawrence Ng	<b>Worship Leader:</b> Elder Alan Choy <b>Preacher:</b> Pr Daniel Lim <b>Musician:</b> Gan Sze Huey <b>Flowers:</b> Winnie Yap <b>Refreshments:</b> Roscelle Lim <b>Ushers:</b> Cayson Chok & Jonah So
	ENGLISH SERVICE	<b>Worship Leader:</b> Eld Ng Poh Kok <b>Preacher:</b> Pastor Prabhudas Koshy <b>Musicians:</b> Ellyzabeth, Sarah Lee <b>Ushers:</b> Dn Lok Kwok Wah (i/c) Ng Kwan Teng, Theodore Wang Benny Skariah, Cayson Chok Timotheus Liu, Chan Tuck Whye <b>Greeter:</b> Sally Lum <b>AV Ministry:</b> Crew No. 3 <b>Flowers:</b> Stephanie Lee <b>Refreshments:</b> Roscelle Lim, Edeliza Ballega Lena Chan, Rhodora Resuma <b>Junior Worship:</b> Pr Kelvin Lim, (Jenice Choy) Mong Jee Pawa, (Cecilia Siah) Elder Ng Poh Kok	<b>Worship Leader:</b> Eld Francis Lee <b>Preacher:</b> Pr Jeremiah Sim <b>Musicians:</b> Eunice Choy, Jeremy Teo <b>Ushers:</b> Dn Low Boon Siang (i/c) Andy Lee, James Chen Jonathon Lim, Ricky Yang David Ng, Julius Del Rosario <b>Greeter:</b> Violet Quek <b>AV Ministry:</b> Crew No. 4 <b>Flowers:</b> Mah Lean Choo <b>Refreshments:</b> Stella Tan, Cecilia Siah Chairine Chayadi, Corliss Ooi <b>Junior Worship:</b> Melissa Neo, (Jolyne Cho) Melissa Mah, (Cornelius Koshy) Elder Alan Choy
1.30pm	FILIPINO SERVICE	<b>Worship Leader:</b> Eric Delina <b>Preacher:</b> Pr Dennis Kablingue <b>Musician:</b> Duaine Kablingue <b>Usher:</b> Anthony Evangelista <b>Refreshments:</b> Joy Del Rosario	<b>Worship Leader:</b> Norefel Resuma <b>Preacher:</b> Pr Dennis Kablingue <b>Musician:</b> Ayn Tindaan <b>Usher:</b> Julius Del Rosario <b>Refreshments:</b> Edeliza Ballega
3.30pm	LIONS HOME	<b>Venue:</b> 487 Bedok South Ave 2 <b>English Speaker:</b> Pr Jeremiah Sim <b>Dialect Speaker:</b> Pr Kelvin Lim	<b>Venue:</b> 9 Bishan Street 13 <b>English Speaker:</b> Arvind Pawa <b>Dialect Speaker:</b> Pr Jeremiah Sim

5 November 2017

# ***When God Does Not Hear***

*Andrew Koh*

## **Introduction**

“Do not I fill heaven and earth?” (Jeremiah 23:24b) – the omnipresent God asked. There is neither nook nor corner where God is not there. God’s presence fills the vast entire universe. Because of God’s omnipresence, we can be sure that He hears us when we pray. When we pray to Him in the quiet of the night at our bedside, He hears. Out in the field, when a little boy walks and whispers his silent prayer to Him, He hears. Up in the mountain, when a lone hiker cries out to God in his heart, He hears. We pray because He hears us. The psalmist in Psalm 145 expressed this confidence when he sang, “The LORD is nigh unto all them that call upon him” (Psalm 145:18).

However, there are times when God shuts His ears towards those who pray. Regardless how loudly we shout out our prayers to God or how earnestly we pray, He does not hear. Our prayers, no matter how doctrinally sound or beautifully worded, will be uttered in vain. This is especially so when we regard iniquity in our hearts. Psalm 66:18 says, “If I

regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear me”. If we are unwilling to forsake any sin, having the purpose to commit transgressions again, God will not acknowledge our prayers. God will turn away from our prayers. John 9:31a says, “God heareth not sinners”. God has no regard for the prayers of habitual sinners who have no repentance for their transgressions. Even though unremorseful sinners may be in fervent prayer, their prayers matter nothing to God.

Why is it that God does not hear sinners? The Bible gives us the reasons. As Christians, the fact that God hears our prayers comforts us. We must therefore be very concerned with the reasons why He shuts His ears to prayers.

## **God is against sinners**

1 Peter 3:12 says, “For the eyes of the Lord are over the righteous, and his ears are open unto their prayers: but the face of the Lord is against them that do evil.” The omnipresent God sets His eyes upon those who

do His will with favour and is ever willing to listen to their prayers. On the other hand, God is against those who do evil even though they may pray unto Him. Habitual sinners face an angry God who is determined to punish them. Not only will their prayers not be answered, the wrath of God awaits them.

People who regard iniquity in their hearts must not think that their many prayers will in any way alleviate their situation. In fact, their “prayer shall be abomination” (Proverbs 28:9) to Him. An abomination is something that God utterly hates. Prayers from a sinful person furthermore incur the wrath of God. The prayers of an evildoer “add oil” to the fire of God’s anger. Proverbs 28:9 says, “He that turneth away his ear from hearing the law, even his prayer shall be abomination.” The prayers from anyone who has no regard for the commandments of God are abominable to God. God has no delight in these “sacrificial” prayers of the wicked (cf. Proverbs 15:8).

### **God is far from them**

God does not hear the prayers of evildoers because their sins have separated them from their God. The prophet Isaiah cried out to Judah, “But your iniquities

have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear” (Isaiah 59:2). Judah was praying fervently to God to deliver them from national calamity while they refused to repent from steep idolatry. The prophet Isaiah warned them that it was not because God was not able to deliver but because the sins of Judah acted like a vast expanse that separated them far away from their God. God chose not to be close or favourable to them anymore. He deliberately remained remote from Judah even though they might pray to Him.

The distress of wicked Judah did not move the hand of God to help them even though they prayed. Despite the desperate situation they were in, God would be far from hearing their cries and helping them. Proverbs 15:29a says, “The LORD is far from the wicked”.

### **Conclusion**

Let us therefore put away our every hidden desire to sin against God. If we do so, God has promised that He will not “turn away” from our prayer (cf. Psalm 66:20). Truly, “if any man be a worshipper of God, and doeth his will, him he heareth” (John 9:31b). ■

## Provision of a vehicle for Pr Donald dela Cruz's ministry in Pangasinan

Pr Donald testifies with thanksgiving to God:

“We praise the Lord for the provision of the church MPV. Yesterday, Se Jin, Jeshar and I, together with one mechanic, test-drove the MPV. We travelled with the seller for a total of more than 8 hours, with occasional stops as we secured the necessary papers for the procurement of the car. We also went to the seller's house. Our mechanic likewise inspected the vehicle and drove it on the expressway and on rough roads. He gave his approval, and we closed the deal. We chose this MPV because it has the lowest odometer reading at less than 50k km. The interior and exterior are also well-kept and in brand new condition. The engine condition is also good and without leaks. The air-con is also cold even under the heat of the sun and with five adults inside.

*We praise God for all who gave cheerfully for the purchase of this vehicle.*



## **DID ALL PEOPLE COME FROM THE SAME FAMILY?**

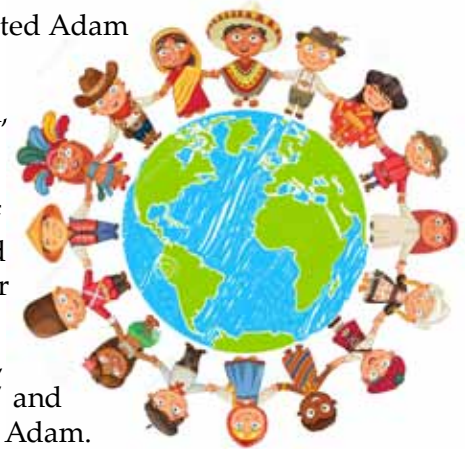
**Y**es, all the people in the world come from Adam and Eve. God created Adam and Eve as the first parents of the whole humankind.

So we are all related, whether we are Chinese, Indian, Malay, African, Arab, Jewish or Caucasian. However different people's complexion, features, language, etc. may be, all of us descended from the first couple whom God made. In Acts 17:26, the Bible says that God "hath made of one blood all nations of men for to dwell on all the face of the earth, and hath determined the times before appointed, and the bounds of their habitation."

All people are descendants of Adam and Eve. In Deuteronomy 32:8, it is said that "the most High divided to the nations their inheritance" and that "He separated the sons of Adam". We all have one common parent, Adam.

God has set the limits and boundaries for people as they grew in number. He has designated the Chinese and Indians to Asia, the black people to Africa, the white men to the northern regions of the world, the Americans to the wilds of the western continent, etc. God is the One who has fixed the boundaries of their habitations, and caused them to live there.

God is the Creator of all mankind. His Word commands that all the people, no matter what race they belong to, should come and praise Him. So let us pray to God that the Gospel will be preached to all people and "all nations whom thou hast made shall come and worship before thee, O Lord; and shall glorify thy name" (Psalm 86:9).



*Prabhudas Koshy*

## COLLECTIONS

LORD'S DAY on 29 October 2017

**Tithes:** 3,500.00

**Offerings:** 9,555.00; PHP1,100.00; RM6.00

**Bldg Fund (Project):** 8,000.00; 1,864.00;  
1,000.00; 650.00

**Designated Gifts:** General Fund 50.00;  
TGCM (local) 5,600.00; Ephrem Chiracho  
100.00; Engida Tefera 50.00; Imane Dola  
50.00; Sujith Samuel 70.00; India Mission  
2,500.00; Kelvin Lim 50.00; Lok Kwok Wah  
50.00; Kenneth Wong 100.00; Eric Delina  
100.00; Aron Paiva 100.00; Gladys Ratnam  
200.00

### NON-SUNDAY GIFT

**Bldg Fund (Project):** 2,410.00; 1,200.00;  
600.00

**General Fund:** 500.00; 300.00

**Bible Witness:** 300.00

### SPECIAL FUND UPDATE

*(as of 29 October 2017)*

**Building Fund (Project):** \$2,330,164.70

## APPOINTMENT OF NEW STAFF

Sister Joey Lim has come forward from our midst to serve as Executive Assistant in the church office. The Board of Elders conducted an interview and approved her appointment. Praise God for leading Sister Joey to serve the Lord in the church.

## GETHSEMANE MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

**Speaker:** Pr Jeremiah Sim

**Chairman:** Dn Low Boon Siang

**Date & Time:** Sat, 11 Nov 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 Wealth & Fame

**Speaker:** Pr Andrew Koh

**Chairperson:** Sis Stephanie Lee

**Date & Time:** Sat, 18 Nov 2017, 3-5pm

**Venue:** Home of Sis Alice Chee  
Blk 10 Tao Ching Road #14-23  
Singapore 618725

*(Transport from Lakeside MRT station  
Exit C at 2.40pm.)*

Children aged 4-12 will have concurrent GCM programme.

## CHINESE SERVICE RETREAT

**Speakers:** Pr Daniel Lim & Bro Zhu Jianwei

**Date:** Mon - Thur, 18-21 Dec 2017

**Venue:** Tropical Inn, Johor Bahru  
*Please sign up at the reception.*

## 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.

## COMBINED GAF/GYAF CHRISTMAS CAROLLING 2017

**Date:** Saturday, 23 Dec 2017

**Time:** 4 - 6pm

**Venue\*:** Home of Mr & Mrs Eric Delina ("East" zone), &

Home of Sis Aileen Tan ("West" zone)

*\*As each home can only accommodate a limited number of people, carolling participants will be limited to 40-45 persons per home.*

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 Lim or Bro Gideon Lee.*

## 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.

The Church camp briefing slides are available for reference on the church's website.

Registration will commence on 7th Jan 2018.

If you have any questions, please approach Eld Francis Lee.

## 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.

## 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)

**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

Tel: 6741 1910

Fax: 6741 1016

**Our Websites**

[gethsemanebpc.com](http://gethsemanebpc.com)

[biblewitness.com](http://biblewitness.com)

**Our Pastor**

Pastor Prabhudas Koshy

Mobile: 9001 1119

Email: [pastor.gbpc@gmail.com](mailto: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