

GETHSEMANE

BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

A WORD ON WORSHIP

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."

SCRIPTURE MEMORISATION

Decision

Deuteronomy 30:19

I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, *that* I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Call to Worship

Elder Alan Choy

*Hymn 88: Praise Him! Praise Him!

*** Invocation & Gloria Patri**

*** Scripture Reading in Unison**

Matthew 18:10-14

Hymn 372: More Holiness Give Me

Collection of Offerings

*** Doxology & Prayer**

Hymn 338: Show Me Thy Way, O Lord

Scripture Memorisation

*** Pastoral Prayer**

Sermon

Pastor Prabhudas Koshy

"The Parable About God's Care for His Children"

Matthew 18:10-14

*Hymn 407: Jesus Calls Us

*** Benediction & Threefold Amen**

** Congregation Standing*



TODAY, 14 JANUARY 2018

NEXT LORD'S DAY, 21 JANUARY 2018

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: Gan Sze Huey Flowers: Tay Soo Thian Refreshments Rose Chua Ah Moey Ushers: Cayson Chok & Robert Ooi	Worship Leader: Elder Alan Choy Preacher: Pr Daniel Lim Musician: Angeline Wong Flowers: Roscelle Lim Refreshments Maggie Ho Ushers: John Peh & Chong Ah Huat
	ENGLISH SERVICE	Worship Leader: Elder Alan Choy Preacher: Pastor Prabhudas Koshy Musicians: Eunice Choy, Sarah Lee Ushers: Dn Low Boon Siang (i/c) Andy Lee, Lee Shing Shyan Jonathon Lim, Ricky Yang David Ng, Julius Del Rosario Greeter: Lee Kim Lei AV Ministry: Crew No. 2 Flowers: Pansy Ng Refreshments: Lena Chan, Karen Quek Lok Qian Hui, Rhodora Resuma Junior Worship: Pr Kelvin Lim, (Jenice Choy) Angeline Wong, (Jasmine Low) Dn Lok Kwok Wah	Worship Leader: Elder Francis Lee Preacher: Pastor Prabhudas Koshy Musicians: Eunice Choy, Sarah Teo Ushers: David Tan (i/c) Samuel Yong, Andrew Teong Marcus Peh, Randy Laurencio Arvind Pawa, George Chee Greeter: Mong Jee Pawa AV Ministry: Crew No. 3 Flowers: Chua Beng Hwee Refreshments: Catherine Choy, Cecilia Siah Edeliza Ballega, Khoo May Ping Junior Worship: Edwin Quek, (Adeline Lim) Dn Low Boon Siang, (Cecilia Siah) Samuel Yong
1.30pm	FILIPINO SERVICE	Worship Leader: Norefel Resuma Preacher: Pr Kelvin Lim Musician: Ayn Tindaan Usher: Jomart Tindaan Refreshments: Jean Tindaan	Worship Leader: Eric Delina Preacher: Pr Dennis Kablingue Musician: Duaine Kablingue Usher: Julius Del Rosario Refreshments: Arlene Igoy
3.30pm	LIONS HOME	Venue: 9 Bishan Street 13 English Speaker: Eld Mah Chin Kwang Dialect Speaker: Kenneth Wong	Venue: 487 Bedok South Ave 2 English Speaker: Edwin Quek Dialect Speaker: Pr Jeremiah Sim

14 January 2018

Boasting in the LORD

Prabhudas Koshy

The psalmist David said, “My soul shall make her boast in the LORD” (Psalm 34:2). Similarly, in another psalm it is said, “In God we boast all the day long, and praise thy name for ever. Selah” (Psalm 44:8). “Boasting” in the Lord is all about duly and joyfully acknowledging and exalting the Lord above oneself and everything else. It is about rejoicing in the Lord and all that He has done. An elevated feeling of gratitude, praise and rejoicing overwhelms the man who boasts in the Lord, and he spontaneously and sincerely exalts the Lord.

Since the soul that boasts in the Lord is most concerned about the Lord’s praise, it will be least concerned about its own glory. When the glory of the Lord is the soul’s uppermost passion, the soul boasts in nothing but the Lord alone. That soul will be self-denying and full of thanksgiving before the Lord. As one strives to give all glory to God, not only will arrogance and self-glorying dissipate, God’s praise alone will also fill one’s mouth all the time. The passion of every Christian then is to boast in the Lord!

Scripture instructs us, through many exhortations and examples, how we ought to boast or glory in the Lord.

Boast in the Knowledge of the Lord

The Lord has declared, “let him that glorieth glory in this, that he understandeth and knoweth me, that I am the LORD which exercise lovingkindness, judgment, and righteousness, in the earth: for in these things I delight, saith the LORD” (Jeremiah 9:24).

Intellectual apprehension of the truth of God and His character is an absolute necessity to engender pure, genuine boasting. The people who have neglected or forsaken the Lord have nothing at all to really boast about. Their boasting is in vain! Their confidence in themselves – be it in their own knowledge or strength or riches – would prove futile. Only the knowledge and experience of God and His goodness provide steadfast rejoicing. There is no greater glory than that we live to know God, who has made us for His glory.

The only appropriate basis for boasting is that a person knows and understands the Lord and His greatness, even His “lovingkindness, judgment, and righteousness”. Real, perfect lasting glory belongs to God, and only in Him can there be legitimate boasting. Only in the Lord can His people find unflinching love, judgment and righteousness, which can grant them satisfaction, confidence, hope and joy. Only those who are given to enjoy God’s great glory can really have reason for proper glorying or boasting. As the Westminster Catechism states, “The chief end of man is to glorify God, and to enjoy him for ever.” Until man subjects his passion and power to the glory and joy in the Lord, he has nothing worthy of boasting. True glory of man comes about only when he has known his glorious God.

Much of the religiosity of our time is generated through the use of sensory appeals in church worship services. It is built upon the philosophy of getting people to attain emotional elation. Very little is achieved when it comes to filling the minds of the people with the sacred knowledge of God with clarity and precision. The religious “boasting” of many modern churchgoers is spiritually weak, for it is not built on sound knowledge of God’s truth. They are like ancient Israel, whom the

prophet Jeremiah rebuked: “For my people is foolish, they have not known me; they are sottish children, and they have none understanding: they are wise to do evil, but to do good they have no knowledge” (Jeremiah 4:22). Likewise, the emotionalism of modern churchgoers, being without deep-seated understanding of and total devotion to God’s glorious truths, is nothing but vain boasting!

What are you boasting about? Let it not be in any transient, perishing things of this temporal life, but in the unchanging glorious truths of our eternal God. Do you understand the truth of your God and proclaim it? Does your life show forth His righteousness and lovingkindness? Do you thus glory in the Lord? Rejoice in the Lord’s greatness and His wonderful works in your life!

Boast in the Cross of Christ

Instructively, the apostle Paul, while denouncing the glorying of the Judaizers who had infiltrated the Galatian church, unequivocally declared, “But God forbid that I should glory, save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world is crucified unto me, and I unto the world” (Galatians 6:14). Here, Paul contrasts his own sentiments and behaviour in relation

to the cross of Christ with those of the Judaizers. Those false Jewish teachers taught the people to take glory in ceremonial rites, such as circumcision, as something which would secure and confirm their good standing before God. Instead of totally trusting and rejoicing in the atoning work of Christ on the cross, they foolishly boasted in their own self-righteousness, based on their keeping of religious ceremonies.

So, Paul cautioned the Galatian Christians against glorying in circumcision: “As many as desire to make a fair shew in the flesh, they constrain you to be circumcised; only lest they should suffer persecution for the cross of Christ. For neither they themselves who are circumcised keep the law; but desire to have you circumcised, that they may glory in your flesh” (Galatians 6:12-13). One of the reasons why Judaizers despised the cross of Christ (whereby Christ has achieved our redemption), was that they might escape persecution that was unleashed against Christians. They were lovers of themselves and were cowards, having nothing to show for themselves. While they ostentatiously spoke of their preference for circumcision, Paul gloriously spoke rather of his fascination with the perfect work of salvation accomplished on the cross of Christ. Though Christ’s cross was sneered at by the

Gentiles and abhorred by the Jews, Paul boasted of its infinite preciousness. It was the cross which had freed him from the servitude and guilt of sin, on top of the Pharisaic Jewish ceremonialism.

As for Paul, everything else in the world pales in significance in the face of the glory of the cross. The world, he says in Galatians 6:14, is to him a thing “crucified”. It has no more attraction for him. He loathes everything that this world presents to him which distracts him from the cross of Christ. “The world” – i.e. the unregenerate men and their distorted philosophy of life – holds no pleasantness or value to Paul. The world’s allurements, fleshly displays and religions of human effort are tossed aside by Paul. The world has become absolutely distasteful and repulsive to him; he is instead totally absorbed by the fascinating glory of Christ and His redemption, which was effected in the cross. Paul thereby boasts in Christ and His cross.

Do you boast of Christ or of your worldly achievements? Do you boast of His cross or of your self-righteousness? What is your greatest fascination – Christ, the flesh or the world?



Creation: The Second Day

Genesis 1:6-8

Dear children, do you know what happened on the second day of Creation? The Bible tells us God created a firmament and called it Heaven. The word "firmament" has the idea of a flat, stretched "container" that acts as a support. God used it to divide and to support the waters both under and above it (v. 7). The earth was then without form (shapeless), and void (having no inhabitants). There were waters covering the entire earth. God divided the waters with this firmament, which He called "Heaven".

Now, the word "heaven" can refer to the sky (cf. Psalm 104:12), the galaxy (cf. Isaiah 13:10), or the place where God is (cf. Deuteronomy 26:15). The heaven mentioned here is the sky, the beautiful blue sky where we see clouds, rainbows and flying birds today. Among other purposes, the sky that God made serves to protect all the inhabitants of the earth – the human race, the animal kingdom, the plants, etc. – from those waters "above the firmament".

Perhaps two humble examples can help us understand this truth about the purpose of the firmament. The first is a glass display panel (commonly seen in shopping malls) which protects those Lego-bricks toys, which are placed within them, from dust and mischievous hands that seek to touch them. The second would be a plastic sheet which we wrap our books with, to protect them from getting dirty. Likewise, God "wrapped" the sky around the earth to protect it!

My young readers, as we look at the beautiful blue sky today, let us thank God for creating it for our protection. We must learn to appreciate God's creation, and also tell others about it!

Kelvin Lim



COLLECTIONS

LORD'S DAY on 7 January 2018

Tithes: 6,430.00

Offerings: 7,882.45; €10.00

Building Fund (Project): 1,900.00;

1,000.00; 2,000.00; 2,500.00; 250.00; 50.00

Designated Gifts: Bible Witness 20.00;

1,500.00; TGCM 100.00; General Fund

500.00; GBI (Ethiopia - Student Meals)

100.00; Andrew Koh 100.00; 50.00;

Cornelius Koshy 20.00; Sharon dela Cruz

50.00; Pr Kelvin Lim 50.00; Pr Ho Kee

How 300.00; Pr Daniel Lim 50.00; Dn Lok

100.00; Pastor Koshy 200.00

SPECIAL FUND UPDATE

(as of 7 January 2018)

Building Fund (Project): \$2,386,604.20

GETHSEMANE YOUNG ADULTS' FELLOWSHIP

Bible Study: Ecclesiastes

Speaker: Pastor Koshy

Chairman: Bro Ernest Lim

Date & Time: Fri, 19 Jan 2018, 7.30pm

Venue: Home of Elder & Mrs Mah
45A Jalan Senang, Singapore 418335

(Bring-a-dish dinner)

GETHSEMANE LADIES' FELLOWSHIP

Topic: Be Sure Your Sin Will Find
You Out! (Numbers 32:23)

Speaker: Pastor Koshy

Chairperson: Sis Carolyn Koshy

Date & Time: Sat, 20 Jan 2018, 2-4pm

Venue: Home of Sis Stephanie Lee
35 Moonbeam Terrace
Singapore 277308

*(Transport from Buona Vista MRT station
Exit C at 1.40pm.)*

Refreshments will be provided by the host.

There will also be a concurrent children's
programme for children aged 4-12.

GETHSEMANE YOUTH FELLOWSHIP

Topic: Q&A regarding 1 Timothy 3

Speaker: Pastor Koshy

Chairman: Bro Andronicus Koshy

Date: Sat, 20 Jan 2018

Time: 4.30-6.30pm

Venue: Home of Pastor & Mrs Koshy
Blk 826 Tampines St 81, #02-92
Singapore 520826

(Please come prepared with your questions.)

SENIORS' DAY RETREAT

Date: 25 Jan 2018, Thursday

Venue: Pontian, Johor, Malaysia

There are limited seats available for this day
retreat. For information and registration,
please see Sis Gina Sim.

GETHSEMANE YOUNG MOTHERS' FELLOWSHIP

Topic: Biblical Family Figures

Speaker: Pastor Koshy

Chairperson: Sis Low Hui Lin

Date & Time: Fri, 26 Jan 2018, 4-6pm

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 EUNOS/UBI REGION

Date & Time: Fri, 26 Jan 2018, 8.00pm

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

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.

CATECHISM CLASS

The next Catechism Class for brethren who wish to seek baptism, transfer of membership and affirmation of faith will begin from Sunday, 28 January 2018. The class begins at 9.30am. Interested brethren are asked to register with Sis Joey as soon as possible. If further information is needed, please see either Elder Alan Choy or Elder Mah.

CAMPUS BIBLE STUDY

Students studying in SUTD & NAFA, please coordinate your timetables with Bro Yeh Wen and Sis Dorcas Koshy respectively in order to facilitate the planning of the Bible Study session.

14TH BIBLE WITNESS RETREAT

14-16 March 2018 (Wed-Fri)

Theme: Heavenly Mindedness

Speaker: Pastor Prabhudas Koshy

Venue: Amansari Residence Resort, Johor

Retreat Fees (incl. transportation):

Deluxe Room

Single Occupancy: \$280/person

Twin Sharing: \$240/person

Junior Suite

Twin Sharing: \$250/person

Triple Sharing: \$240/person

Quad Sharing: \$230/person

Child with Bed (Aged 7 to 11): \$150/child

Child without Bed (Aged 4 to 6): \$120/child

**Registration
now open!**

POST-WORSHIP ACTIVITIES

Please stay back after worship to join us for:

Refreshments & Fellowship

12.30pm – 1.30pm

Bible Study (Adults, Youths & Children)

GBI-Revelation & CBS (1.45-3.00pm)

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

Tuesday Night Bible Study & Prayer

8.00pm @ L5 Auditorium, SingPost Centre

Wednesday Lunch Hour Bible Study

1.00pm @ Bible Witness Bookroom

Thursday Seniors' Ministry

11.00am (Please contact Pr Jeremiah Sim)

Thursday Campus Bible Study

Semester Break @SUTD

Semester Break @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

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Our Websites

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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

Elder Francis Lee

Deacon Daniel Lim

Deacon Lok Kwok Wah

Deacon Kelvin Lim

Deacon Low Boon Siang