

GETHSEMANE

BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

A WORD ON WORSHIP

Worship arises from grateful hearts, for it is the expression of heartfelt gratefulness towards God. Psalm 100:4 says, "Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, and bless his name."

God welcomes only grateful hearts into His courts for worship. Ungrateful hearts have no right to be in His presence. So let us remember all His benefits as we draw nigh unto God to worship Him (cf. Psalm 103:1-2).

SCRIPTURE MEMORISATION

Discretion

Psalm 112:5

A good man sheweth favour, and lendeth: he will guide his affairs with discretion.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Call to Worship *Elder Mah Chin Kwang / Pr Kelvin Lim*

*Hymn 136: Come, Ye Thankful People

***Invocation & Gloria Patri**

***Responsive Scripture Reading** *Matthew 27:27-44*

Hymn 27: Now Thank We All Our God

Collection of Offerings *Gethsemane Combined Choir
Chinese Congregation Special Item*

***Doxology & Prayer**

Hymn 253: Standing on the Promises

Scripture Memorisation

***Pastoral Prayer**

Sermon *Pastor Prabhudas Koshy / Pr Daniel Lim*

"Crucifixion of Christ, the King"

Matthew 27:27-44

Holy Communion

Hymn: Meditation of the Cross

*Hymn 178: At the Cross

***Benediction & Threefold Amen**

**Congregation Standing*



TODAY, 7 JULY 2019

NEXT LORD'S DAY, 14 JULY 2019

8.00 – 9.00am	CHURCH CHOIR	CHURCH CHOIR
9.00am	CHINESE SERVICE (Combined with English Service)	CHINESE SERVICE
	ADULTS' BIBLE STUDY	ADULTS' BIBLE STUDY
	CHILDREN'S CHOIR & CHILDREN'S BIBLE STUDY	CHILDREN'S CHOIR & CHILDREN'S BIBLE STUDY
11.00am	<p style="text-align: center;">ENGLISH SERVICE</p> <p>Worship Leader: Elder Mah Chin Kwang (int. Pr Kelvin Lim) Preacher: Pastor Prabhudas Koshy (int. Pr Daniel Lim) Musicians: Ellyzabeth, Dorcas Koshy Ushers: Dn Low Boon Siang Amoz Choy, Edwin Quek Edward Wong, Stephen Yap Timotheus Liu, Sean Lee Greeter: Aileen Yan AV Ministry: John Ku, Andy Lee, Matthew Peh Aidan Kang, Rayson Tan Flowers: Chua Beng Hwee Refreshments: Catherine Choy, Khoo May Ping Mary Lee, Mary Ong Junior Worship: Kamala, (Stella Tan) Elvin Siew, (Cecilia Siah) Adrian Lim</p>	<p>Worship Leader: Elder Alan Choy Preacher: Pastor Prabhudas Koshy Musicians: Choong Kai Shuin, Sarah Lee Ushers: David Tan Cornelius Koshy, Marcus Chee Andrew Teong, Cayson Chok Marcus Lim, John Peh Greeter: Diana Chan AV Ministry: John Zhang, Goh Yong Wei Gideon Lee, Zacharias Tan Flowers: Karen Quek Refreshments: Lena Chan, Clara Tai Lok Qian Hui, Rachel Teo Junior Worship: Sharon dela Cruz, (Rhodora Resuma) Pr Jeremiah Sim, (Violet Quek) Dn Lok Kwok Wah</p>
2.00pm	<p style="text-align: center;">OTHER MINISTRIES</p> <p>FILIPINO FELLOWSHIP Preacher: Pr Ho Kee How</p>	<p>FILIPINO FELLOWSHIP Preacher: Pastor Prabhudas Koshy</p>
	MALAYALAM FELLOWSHIP	MALAYALAM FELLOWSHIP
	YOUTH CHOIR PRACTICE (Cancelled)	YOUTH CHOIR PRACTICE
3.30pm	<p style="text-align: center;">LIONS HOME</p> <p>Venue: 487 Bedok South Ave 2 English Speaker: Bro. Arvind Pawa Dialect Speaker: Elder Alan Choy</p>	<p>Venue: 9 Bishan Street 13 English Speaker: Elder Mah Chin Kwang Dialect Speaker: Bro. Stephen Yap</p>

7 July 2019

Born Again (I)

Prabhudas Koshy

Do you know what it is to be born again? Much confusion remains on this vital subject. It is important that we understand what it is to be born again.

BORN AGAIN & ITS EQUIVALENT TERMS

Various biblical and theological words have been synonymously used with the word “born again” (John 3:3). Knowing those equivalent terms would help to gain clarity on the word “born again”. They are regeneration (cf. Titus 3:5), spiritual quickening [spiritual resurrection/being spiritually made alive (cf. Ephesians 2:1, 5; Colossians 2:13)], new birth, etc.

WHY SHOULD WE BE BORN AGAIN?

According to the Scriptures, every soul is spiritually dead - “dead in trespasses and sins” (Ephesians 2:1). There are two major aspects to the spiritual deadness of mankind. Firstly, every child, no matter how physically healthy, is born as spiritually dead. This is because the fall (disobedience) of the first man, Adam, brought the

whole human race under sin. “Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned” (Romans 5:12). Adam was the representative head of mankind; and when he sinned, “death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned”. This is why David said, “Behold, I was shapen in iniquity; and in sin did my mother conceive me” (Psalm 51:5). Every descendant of Adam is therefore spiritually ‘stillborn’, and eventually, his physical death will follow.

Furthermore, Scripture tells us that every man under the influence of the fallen (sinful) nature, Satan and the sinful world, live in disobedience to God. While explaining the spiritual deadness in Ephesians, the apostle Paul wrote, “Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience: Among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the

lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others” (Ephesians 2:2-3).

So, every man, in his natural state, is not just spiritually sick, but spiritually dead! Man is “alienated from the life of God” (Ephesians 4:18; cf. Colossians 1:21). Spiritually dead persons cannot enter into God’s kingdom, unless they are spiritually made alive (or regenerated or born again) by God’s Spirit. Those who are dead in sins are estranged from God and godliness. That’s why Jesus said, “Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God” (John 3:3). Without being born again, one cannot enter God’s kingdom; he remains outside God.

WHAT IS IT TO BE BORN AGAIN?

Regeneration is not a sinful man’s personal efforts to make spiritual improvement or progress. The Scriptures insist: “Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost” (Titus 3:5). It is not by one’s own effort to be righteous that one is born again, but by the work of the Holy Spirit. If it were a natural, human work, it would not require the intervention of God the Holy Spirit.

This is the reason for Jesus’ words to Nicodemus – “Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit” (John 3:5-6). Here, Jesus completely rules out any notion of human or physical (“flesh”) involvement in the regeneration of a soul.

But some would ask, “What about Jesus’ mentioning of being born of water? Doesn’t it mean that water baptism is necessary for regeneration or new birth?” Here, Jesus was certainly not talking about water baptism. If baptism were essential for regeneration, Jesus would have baptised those who had come to Him, but “Jesus himself baptised not” (John 4:2). Jesus was using a familiar Old Testament symbolic usage of water and Spirit for spiritual renewal and cleansing (cf. Numbers 19:17-19; Isa. 4:4; 32:15; 44:3; 55:1; Joel 2:28-29; Zechariah 13:1). Jesus’ words in John 3:5 was evocative of the Old Testament teaching concerning regeneration in passages such as Ezekiel 36:25-27, where water and Spirit are mentioned together to represent God’s work of regeneration.

Ezekiel 36:25-27 – “Then will I sprinkle clean water upon you, and ye shall be clean: from all your filthiness, and from all your idols, will I cleanse you. A new heart

also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh. And I will put my spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes, and ye shall keep my judgments, and do them.”

Jesus expected Nicodemus to know the Old Testament teaching on being born again, so He asked him, “Art thou a master of Israel, and knowest not these things?” (John 3:10). Nicodemus’ ignorance concerning regeneration in the Old Testament was so apparent when he asked Jesus in bewilderment, “How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother’s womb and be born?” (John 3:4).

Even today, many, like Nicodemus, miss the point of Jesus’ words, “ye must be born again”. Spiritual birth is not something that one produces or attains by human effort or action, but what he is subjected to by the sovereign work of God through His Spirit and the Word (cf. Titus 3:5; 1 Peter 1:23). Just as our birth had nothing to do with our effort, in the spiritual realm, regeneration or being born again is not a work of ours.

But when the Holy Spirit regenerates sinners, they are liberated from their bondage to sin and made alive from their spiritual deadness. Consequently, they become alive towards the spiritual realities that God has

prepared in Christ Jesus. As the Spirit of God quickens or makes alive their spiritually dead soul, they become capable of repentance of their sins and putting their faith in Jesus Christ for the salvation of their souls.

So, regeneration (or new birth) is the gracious sovereign action of the Holy Spirit through His Word that changes the inner man. Regeneration extends to the whole nature of man, transforming his sinful disposition, illuminating his mind, freeing his will enslaved by sin, and renewing his nature.

The Reformed theologian, B. B. Warfield defines regeneration as “a radical and complete transformation wrought in the soul (Romans 12:2; Ephesians 4:23) by God the Holy Spirit (Titus 3:5; Ephesians 4:24), by virtue of which we become ‘new men’ (Ephesians 4:24; Colossians 3:10), no longer conformed to this world (Romans 12:2; Ephesians 4:22; Colossians 3:9), but in knowledge and holiness of the truth created after the image of God (Ephesians 4:24; Colossians 3:10; Romans 12:2)” (Biblical and Theological Studies, p. 351).

“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead” (1 Peter 1:3).

Junior Worshipper's Page

Discretion Leads to Compassion

*"A good man sheweth favour, and lendeth: he will guide his affairs with discretion."
Psalm 112:5*

The Old Testament Hebrew word translated as "discretion" means judgment. It speaks of applying God's Word accurately in all circumstances of life to make the right choice or decision.

Every child of God who desires to be good in the sight of his heavenly Father, must conduct himself by applying God's Word. He decides what to say or do by considering what God has spoken in His Word. The responses of God's children to life's various situations are guided by the wisdom and knowledge of God's Word. This makes them individuals with discretion.

They will not only avoid behaviour that is contrary to the Bible, but also actively pursue the things God has instructed in the Bible. A discreet person is one who acts according to God's Word. Such biblical conduct transforms him to be kind, loving and holy. Hence, the Bible calls such a person "a good man".

A good man will show compassion ("favour") and generosity (for he "lendeth") towards the needy. A man with discretion will act as God requires of him, even to help those in need of things. If you are a child of discretion, you will not be unkind or cruel, but sympathetic and helpful to others around you.

Prabhudas Koshy





COLLECTIONS

LORD'S DAY on 30th June 2019

Tithes: 6,920.00

Offerings: 8,310.00

GBWL: 56,752.00

Designated Gifts: General Fund 550.00; Ethiopian Student Meals 100.00; Rev. Ephrem 100.00; GBPC-Ethiopia 100.00; Pr Kelvin Lim 100.00; Pr Daniel Lim 100.00

Non-Sunday Love Gifts

GBWL: 15,300.00; 96.00; 47.60; 16.70; 100,000.00; 2,000.00

LOVE GIFTS TO GBWL

Please direct all love gifts related to the renovation and operational costs of 33 Ubi Crescent to Gethsemane Bible Witness Limited (DBS Current Account 025-904568-2).



PASTORAL VISITATION SERANGOON / TOA PAYOH REGION

Date & Time: Fri, 12 July 2019, 8.00pm

Venue: Home of
Elder & Mrs Ng Poh Kok

Blk 414, Serangoon Central, #06-361
Singapore 550414

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



GETHSEMANE MEN'S FELLOWSHIP SEMINAR

Theme: "Men of Faith (V) –
Shadrach, Meshach, & Abednego"

Speaker: Pastor Prabhudas Koshy

Chairperson: Bro. Benny Skariah

Date & Time: 13 July 2019, Saturday,
2.00pm-6.00pm

Venue: City Beach Resort, 8 Port Rd,
Singapore 117540

*(Transport from
Labrador Park MRT from 1.30pm)*

More details are available in the seminar flyers. Do sign up at the reception table to facilitate arrangements for refreshments and seating.

A concurrent, separate programme will be catered for children aged 4-12.



GETHSEMANE LADIES' FELLOWSHIP

Topic: "Freed, Yet Serving"
(Romans 6:18)

Speaker: Pastor Prabhudas Koshy

Chairperson: Sis. Choy Luan Kheng

Date & Time: Sat, 20 July 2019, 2.00pm

Venue: Home of Sis. Jean Tindaan
Blk 980A, Buangkok Crescent, #09-97
Singapore 531980

(Refreshments will be provided
by the host.)

*A concurrent, separate programme will
be catered for children aged 4-12.*



MISSION CEBU 2019

Theme: "He Hideth Me"

Dates: 18th-21st July 2019
(Thursday-Sunday)

A mission team of 21 brethren will be leaving for Mission Cebu from 18th to 21st July 2019. Please uphold the brethren in prayer, that the Lord will bring some souls to Christ, and many would be strengthened spiritually through the preaching of the Word.



CALLED HOME TO BE WITH THE LORD

Bro. Harry Chew (cousin of Sis. Stella Yang) was called home to be with the Lord on Friday, 5th July 2019. The vigil service will be held **tonight at 8.00pm**. The address is 145 Tanah Merah Kechil Road South, Singapore 466674. The funeral service will be held on Tuesday.



ANNUAL REPORTS OF MINISTRIES AND FELLOWSHIP GROUPS

Leaders of respective ministries and fellowship groups are to submit a short write-up for collation as part of the Annual Report for the upcoming ACM. Please send it to Elder Francis Lee at francis_savedbygrace@yahoo.com by 28th July 2019.



CATECHISM CLASS

The next Catechism Class for brethren who wish to seek baptism, transfer of membership and affirmation of faith will begin from Sunday, 21st July 2019. The class begins at 2.00pm. Interested brethren are asked to register as soon as possible with Bro. Norefel Resuma. If further information is needed, please see either Elder Alan Choy or Elder Mah.

POST-WORSHIP ACTIVITIES

Please stay back after worship to join us for:

Refreshment & Fellowship

1.00pm – 2.00pm

Filipino Fellowship, Malayalam Fellowship

2.00pm onwards

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

Tuesday Night Bible Study & Prayer

8.00pm @ L5 Auditorium, SingPost Centre

Wednesday Lunch Hour Bible Study

Resumes in Mid-July

Thursday Seniors' Ministry

11.00am (Please contact Pr Jeremiah Sim)

Campus Bible Study

Break @ NAFA

Break @ SUTD

Sunday Lions Home Ministry

Please contact Pr Jeremiah Sim

PRAISE & PRAYER ITEMS

Please send your praise and prayer items for publication in the church prayer list to Bro. Norefel at norefel.gbwl@gmail.com latest by 10.00am every Tuesday.

Time & Place of Worship:

11.00am

Singapore Post Centre,
Level 5 Auditorium,
10 Eunos Road 8,
Singapore 408600
(next to Paya Lebar MRT Station)

Prayer Hotline:

8138 8139

SMS or WhatsApp
your prayer item

Our Office

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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