

# GETHSEMANE

## BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

### WORD ON WORSHIP

God demands that His worshippers separate themselves from all worldliness and devote themselves to know and to do all that are pleasing to Him. Scripture says, "And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God" (Romans 12:2). True worshippers live to do His will and glorify Him.

### SCRIPTURE MEMORISATION

*Door*

**Ephesians 2:18**

For through him we both have access by one Spirit unto the Father.

### ORDER OF WORSHIP

#### Call to Worship

*Elder Mah Chin Kwang*

\*Hymn 17: Begin, My Tongue, Some Heavenly Theme

#### \*Invocation & Gloria Patri

#### \*Responsive Scripture Reading

*Titus 1:10-16*

Hymn 23: O Splendour of God's Glory Bright

#### Collection of Offerings

#### \*Doxology & Prayer

Hymn 130: I Waited for the Lord My God

#### Scripture Memorisation

#### \*Pastoral Prayer

#### Sermon

*Pastor Prabhudas Koshy*

"The Depictions of Apostates"

Jude 8-10

#### Holy Communion

Hymn 201: According to Thy Gracious Word

Hymn 174: There Is a Fountain Filled with Blood

\*Hymn 184: Rock of Ages

#### \*Benediction & Threefold Amen

*\* Congregation Standing*



# **LORD'S DAY WORSHIP AT 11.00AM**

**TODAY, 2 FEBRUARY 2020**

**NEXT LORD'S DAY, 9 FEBRUARY 2020**

<p><b>Worship Leader:</b> Elder Mah Chin Kwang  <b>Preacher:</b> Pastor Prabhudas Koshy  <b>Musicians:</b> Eunice Setiawan, Sarah Lee  <b>Ushers:</b> Gerry Lee                            Ng Kwan Teng, Melvin Mendoza                            Andrew Teong, Hendrick Foo    <b>Greeter:</b> Sunyani  <b>AV Ministry:</b> Aron Ong, Gideon Lee                            Jumar Balicao, Tan Yeh Wen    <b>Flowers:</b> Katherin Wu  <b>Refreshments:</b> Rhodora Resuma, Lok Qian Hui                            Charlene Mae Abrena, Chong Shu Mun  <b>Junior Worship:</b> Diana Chan, (Rhodora Resuma)                            Dn Low Boon Siang, (Violet Quek)                            Elder Ng Poh Kok</p>	<p><b>Worship Leader:</b> Dn Low Boon Siang  <b>Preacher:</b> Pastor Prabhudas Koshy  <b>Musicians:</b> Ellyzabeth, Sarah Lee  <b>Ushers:</b> Benny Skariah                            Juffrey Balicao, Edward Wong                            Andrew Teong, Timotheus Liu    <b>Greeter:</b> Eunice Wong  <b>AV Ministry:</b> Zacharias Tan, Goh Yong Wei                            John Zhang    <b>Flowers:</b> Evelyn Lee  <b>Refreshments:</b> Catherine Choy, Cecilia Siah                            Nydel Fernandez, Lim Hua See  <b>Junior Worship:</b> Lee Kim Lei, (Lok Qian Hui)                            Gina Sim, (Corliss Ooi)                            Pr Kelvin Lim</p>
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*Chinese Worship Service is held concurrently at 11.00am at the foyer area.*

## **OTHER SUNDAY MINISTRIES**

**TODAY, 2 FEBRUARY 2020**

**NEXT LORD'S DAY, 9 FEBRUARY 2020**

2.00pm	FILIPINO FELLOWSHIP <i>Preacher: Pr Jeremiah Sim</i>	FILIPINO FELLOWSHIP <i>Preacher: Pastor Prabhudas Koshy</i>
	MALAYALAM FELLOWSHIP	MALAYALAM FELLOWSHIP
	CATECHISM CLASS	CATECHISM CLASS
	YOUTH CHOIR PRACTICE	YOUTH CHOIR PRACTICE
3.30pm	LIONS HOME MINISTRY	LIONS HOME MINISTRY
	<b>Venue:</b> <b>English Speaker:</b> Cancelled until further notice <b>Dialect Speaker:</b>	<b>Venue:</b> <b>English Speaker:</b> Cancelled until further notice <b>Dialect Speaker:</b>
6.00pm	EVENING TEACHING SERVICE (GBI) @ GMC	EVENING TEACHING SERVICE (GBI) @ GMC

2 February 2020

# Errors of Those Who Act Outside of God's Will

*Prabhudas Koshy*

Is your mind made up before getting any counsel? Christians who are young in the faith may lack the necessary biblical knowledge to make certain decisions in life. This may be due to their lack of understanding concerning some biblical doctrines. When certain situations arise, they do not know what to do. They would usually ask more spiritually mature Christians for advice, as they genuinely want to know and do God's will.

However, there are those who ask for counsel for the wrong reasons. Some, being driven by personal lusts, seek God's help to gratify their desires. When they ask for counsel, they ask with the hope that the counsel they receive will be in line with their intentions. In other words, they have already decided on their course of action even though the counsel they seek might be different!

This all-too-familiar scenario in the church also happened during the time of the prophet Jeremiah. Certain individuals went to Jeremiah to seek counsel concerning God's will but only to act contrariwise.

## ACTING BEFORE ASKING FOR COUNSEL (JEREMIAH 41:17 – 42:3)

Judah was in ruins in the year 586 BC. The “terrible and dreadful” Babylonians (Habakkuk 1:7) destroyed the city of Jerusalem and burned down the Temple and all the houses of Jerusalem. They also carried off many people and the treasures of the Temple, leaving behind the poor ones (2 Kings 25:9-13). In the chaos that ensued, a man named Johanan took some of the Jews and “dwelt in the habitation of Chimham, which is by Bethlehem, to go to enter into Egypt” (Jeremiah 41:17).

He was already on the move to go into Egypt for fear of the Babylonians (Jeremiah 41:18). However, Johanan and the people still asked Jeremiah to show them God's will concerning them so that they might act accordingly (Jeremiah 42:1-3).

Sadly, even today, there are some who seek counsel only after having taken steps towards a particular direction. Though such an action seems to be irrational, many are

found making this mistake. For example, some, having established relationships with unbelievers, approach their preachers or elders to ascertain whether such relationships are okay. Some others proceed to make investments before praying earnestly about those matters. There are others who apply for jobs without considering whether those professions are God-honouring or not. They act before asking for or finding out God's will. If a Christian is sincere in seeking spiritual counsel, he should not act before getting an answer from God.

### **PLACING SELF-GRATIFICATION OVER OBEDIENCE (JEREMIAH 42:5-6)**

Another characteristic of people who have made up their minds before asking for counsel is that their decisions are based on what is most pleasing to themselves. Such people tend to give only lip service to God. Johanan and the people professed that they would do all that the Lord said, whether they liked it or not (Jeremiah 42:5,6). Yet, Johanan and the people had already presumed that which would please them the most would be the best. They claimed that they would obey God so that His favour would be upon them. But in reality, they only wanted God to approve what they had decided beforehand as the best course of action. Being overwhelmed by fear of Nebuchadnezzar, they were only concerned about their own survival and safety, rather than doing God's will.

When a person has decided on his own what pleases him the most, he will be very hesitant to obey God's will. Although God's will may at times not make sense to us, we

just have to trust it to be our perfect guide. We just need to do what God requires of us. Our heavenly Father always knows what is best for us. Therefore, it is better to pursue His will than follow what we think to be the best.

### **LEVELLING BLATANT ACCUSATIONS AGAINST FAITHFUL COUNSEL (JEREMIAH 43:1-4)**

Jeremiah gathered Johanan and the people after receiving an answer from God. He then made known to them that God wanted them to stay back in the land that God might build them up. God also encouraged them not to be afraid of King Nebuchadnezzar, as He had promised to be with them. A warning was also issued against Johanan and the people that if they were to flee to Egypt, they would die in Egypt and none of them would escape (Jeremiah 42:7-22).

When they realised that Jeremiah's counsel was not in line with their plan, they turned against Jeremiah. They accused Jeremiah of lying. They also disputed that Jeremiah was sent by God to give such a message. They even charged Jeremiah for being involved in a conspiracy to deliver them into the hands of the Babylonians. Thereafter, Johanan and the rest of the people acted against "the voice of the LORD". Their self-pleasing attitude emboldened them to blatantly accuse God's appointed servant (Jeremiah 43:1-4).

Pastors and preachers are often attacked by self-seeking, disobedient people. Such people have no regard for God's messengers. Neither do they reverence God's Word. Oh, what tragic errors are found in those who made up their minds even before seeking spiritual counsel! ❀

# Report on Gethsemane Malayalam Fellowship Retreat

*(by Bro. Benny Skariah)*

Psalm 16:11 — “Thou wilt shew me the path of life: in thy presence is fulness of joy; at thy right hand there are pleasures for evermore.”

We thank God for helping Gethsemane Malayalam Fellowship to organise a retreat on Monday, 27th January 2020. We are grateful for the good feasting of God’s Word during this year’s Chinese New Year holiday. Including children, 34 Malayalees gathered at Gethsemane Media Centre. Malayalees are from Kerala (a south Indian state), and we speak the Malayalam language. Roughly 30,000 Malayalees live in Singapore. For the past 13 years, we gather together every Sunday in Gethsemane BP Church as Malayalam Fellowship, with our pastor teaching us from various Scriptural books/topics. During this fellowship, we sing spiritual songs, pray, read the Scriptures and study the Word in our mother tongue, and it is a great blessing for our spiritual growth.

During this year’s retreat, Pastor Prabhudas Koshy preached two messages on the topic of “Living in the Awareness of God’s Presence”, and Sister Abigail Skariah taught our children from the same topic. During the first session of the retreat, Pastor explained from the Scriptures that no one can hide from the presence of God (Psalm 139). His presence will be unbearable for those who live in sin, and try to flee from Him. But believers who sinned against God, fearing that God will cast them away from sin, would pray, “Cast me not away from thy presence; and take not

thy holy spirit from me” (Psalm 51:11). To all those who repent, the Lord shall not only grant forgiveness, but also His fellowship. 1 John 1: 6-9 declares, “If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth: But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin. If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.” In the second session, from the life of Moses and Joshua, we learned how to rejoice in the presence of God. It is very important to learn how to live in the presence of God, which is a life of heavenly joy. If we live a moment without the awareness of the presence of God, we may fall into terrible sins. God’s presence will give us real peace in our life.

We thank God for bringing some new contacts to this retreat. We are planning to follow up with those new contacts and invite them for our regular meetings. Please pray for the Holy Spirit’s working in the hearts of all those who came so that they, being convicted of the truth, may join our main worship services and Malayalam fellowship gatherings. If you have friends, neighbours or colleagues who speak the Malayalam language, please invite them to our church and to our Malayalam Fellowship. May our God use all of us to reach people around us, even people of various languages and cultures, with His glorious Gospel. All glory to God!

## Junior Worshipper's Page

# Access Through Christ

*"For through him we both have access by one Spirit unto the Father."  
(Ephesians 2:18)*

When we have Jesus Christ ("him"), we also have access by the Spirit to the Father. The moment we receive Christ, we have access to all the resources of the entire Holy Trinity. Jesus Christ brings us into a real, intimate relationship with our Great Triune God.

The word "access" (Greek: *prosaḡōgē*) is used here, as in its other occurrences, to depict the believer's access to God (see also Romans 5:2; Ephesians 3:12). As sinners, everyone is prohibited from having access to God. But now through Jesus Christ, we are granted the right to come to the presence of God with boldness, knowing we will be welcomed. It is only through our Saviour's shedding of His blood in sacrificial death on Calvary, and by faith in Him, that we have this privilege to enter into fellowship with the Father.

We will be guided by the Holy Spirit to draw continually to God. Whether they be Jews or Gentiles, upon trusting in Christ, both of these groups are united in Christ and guided by one Spirit to draw near to God. The Spirit leads all of us to come to God, crying, "Abba! Father!" (Romans 8:15). All those who are in Christ will never again be alienated from God.

Now we have direct and immediate access unto God. Therefore, we can "come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need" (Hebrews 4:16). Nearness to God the Father is the highest and sweetest privilege which none has, except Christians.

Prabhudas Koshy



## COLLECTIONS

LORD'S DAY on 26th January 2020  
(11.00am service)

**Tithes:** 870.00

**Offerings:** 4,189.00

**Designated Gifts:** Matthew Peh 50.00;  
Andronicus Koshy 200.00

(6.00pm Teaching Service)

**Offerings:** 948.00

NON-SUNDAY LOVE GIFTS  
(20th to 25th January 2020)

**Designated Gifts:** Cebu Building Fund  
5,000.00

## FOR NON-SUNDAY GIFTS TO THE CHURCH

Use the QR code below (through  
PayLah! or PayNow) to send in your  
non-Sunday love gifts to Gethsemane  
Bible-Presbyterian Church.



## KABABAYAN BIBLE STUDY (KBS)

**Speaker:** Pr Jeremiah Sim

**Chairperson:** Bro. Anthony Evangelista

**Date & Time:** Fri, 7 Feb 2020, 8.00pm

**Venue:** Home of Mr & Mrs  
Julius Del Rosario  
Blk 122, Bishan Street 12, #04-47  
Singapore 570122

## MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

**Topic:** Book Study of Judges

**Speaker:** Pastor Prabhudas Koshy

**Chairperson:** Bro. Norefel Resuma

**Date & Time:** Sat, 8 Feb 2020, 4.00pm

**Venue:** Gethsemane Media Centre  
*A concurrent, separate programme will  
be catered for children aged 4-12.*

## PASTORAL VISITATION

### CENTRAL/SOUTH REGION

**Date & Time:** Fri, 14 Feb 2020, 8.00pm

**Venue:** Home of Mr & Mrs  
Kwok Kian Yi  
Blk 7, Jervois Close, #08-12  
Singapore 249103

*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.*

## LADIES' FELLOWSHIP SEMINAR

**Topic:** Biblical Response to  
Inter-Denominational Activities

**Speaker:** Pastor Prabhudas Koshy

**Chairperson:** Elder Francis Lee

**Date & Time:** Saturday, 15 Feb 2020,  
2.00pm-6.00pm

**Venue:** SingPost Level 5 Auditorium

All are welcome. Please register  
early at <https://tinyurl.com/GLF-seminar-2020>.  
(There will be a  
programme for children aged 4-12.)

## GETHSEMANE DEFENDERS' MINISTRY (GDM) SEMINAR

**Topic:** Flat Earth Controversy &  
Evidence for a Young Earth

**Speakers:** Bro. Samuel Gan &  
Pr Ho Kee How

**Date & Time:** Saturday, 29 Feb 2020,  
2.00pm

**Venue:** Gethsemane Media Centre

Please sign up at the reception table.  
(There will be a programme for children  
aged 4-12.)

## 18TH BIBLE WITNESS RETREAT

**Dates:** 18th-20th March 2020

Please sign up quickly at the  
reception table.

## 32ND CHURCH ANNIVERSARY THANKSGIVING SERVICE

**Date & Time:** Lord's Day, 29th March 2020, 10.00am

**Venue:** Swissotel Merchant Court Hotel

**Payment:** Adults \$35; Children (aged 3-12) \$20;  
Free for children under the age of 3

There will be a buffet lunch after the service. Please sign up through the online link <https://tinyurl.com/GBPC-Anniv> and make your payment to Sis. Aileen Yan. Registration closes on 8th March 2020. For any clarifications, please approach Elder Francis Lee.

## MISSIONARY CONFERENCE 2020

**Dates:** 8th to 12th June 2020 (Monday – Friday)

**Venue:** Holiday Inn Resort, Batam, Indonesia

*Registration is now open.* Please sign up through the online form available from this link (<https://qrqo.page.link/eUrr1>) or scan the QR code at the side. If you have any question, please approach Elder Choy.



## BIBLE WITNESS WEB RADIO (BWWR)

Bible Witness Web Radio is now back, 24/7, with full programming. You can hear biblically sound and edifying hymns, spiritual songs, devotions, sermons, as well as special programmes for youths, ladies, and men. Listen at <https://biblewitness.com/webradio/radio-player/>

Please pray for: (i) all who are involved in producing, editing, and uploading the programmes—our staff in GMC, preachers, elders, choirs, and all other brothers and sisters who contribute their skills and labour; (ii) more able men and women to come forward to serve; (iii) the edification of listeners around the world; (iv) continued financial support toward Bible Witness Media Ministry to set the work forward.

## WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

### Campus Bible Study

NAFA-Lasalle: Mondays @ 1.00pm  
SUTD: Fridays @ 1.30pm

### Tuesday Night Bible Study & Prayer

8.00pm @ L5 Auditorium, SingPost Centre

### Thursday Seniors' Ministry

11.00am (Please contact Pr Jeremiah Sim)

### Saturday Church Choir Practice

2.00pm @ Gethsemane Media Centre

### Sunday First Worship Service

8.30am @ L5 Auditorium, SingPost Centre

### Sunday Children's Choir Practice

9.30am @ L6 Powder Room, Singpost Centre

### Sunday Lions Home Ministry

Cancelled until further notice

### Sunday Teaching Service (GBI)

6.00pm @ Gethsemane Media Centre

### 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:

33 Ubi Crescent  
Singapore 408584  
Tel.: 6741 1910

### Our Websites:

gethsemanebpc.com  
biblewitness.com  
gbi-online.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