

# GETHSEMANE

BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

## WORD ON WORSHIP

We worship on the first day of the week after the tradition of early Christians (Acts 20:7; 1 Corinthians 16:2). The first day of the week was also known as "the Lord's day" (Revelation 1:10). "The Lord's day" means the day pertaining to the Lord. It was the day of Christ's resurrection (Matthew 28:1-6; Mark 16:1-8; Luke 24:1-8; John 20:1), and it was also the day the risen Christ appeared to His disciples as they gathered together (John 20:19). Obviously, those reasons have led Christians to meet for worship on the first day of the week. The writings of the early church fathers also bear witness to those facts. So, let us also according to this biblical tradition, rejoice and worship the Lord.

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

### Call to Worship

\*Hymn 73: All Hail the Power

### \*Invocation & Gloria Patri

### \*Scripture Reading in Unison

*Isaiah 45:20-25*

Hymn 91: The Lily of the Valley

### \*Pastoral Prayer

Hymn 317: The Solid Rock

### Sermon

*Pastor Prabhudas Koshy*

"Jesus Calls the Weary to His Rest"

*Matthew 11:28-30*

\*Hymn 286: O Happy Day!

### \*Benediction & Threefold Amen



*\* Congregation Standing*

7 June 2020

# Testimonies from Participants of Online Bible Conference (III)

## **Peter & Sharon (Brunei)**

Thank you for hosting the Online Bible Conference - our first. We enjoyed the solid spiritual feeding - underscoring the focus on God's Word, biblical truths and doctrines as the basis of our faith. Obeying God and doing what is right and pleasing to God will enable us to have a good conscience. The Conference makes us more aware of the spiritual warfare we are constantly battling in. With ever so subtle and destructive an enemy as Satan, there is the real need to put on the full armour of God as a soldier for Christ. Just as Paul disciplined Timothy, it is so important to continue the teaching and discipling of our younger generation in sound biblical truths and doctrines so that they can, in turn, teach and disciple faithful men. Our thanks to Pastor Koshy and the team who co-laboured with him.

## **Dn Gee Eng & Annie (Brunei)**

We are very blessed by the messages which expounded on the theme: "Holding Faith and a Good Conscience". Sound biblical doctrines as the foundation of our true faith, as well as teaching and passing these truths on to faithful men with the charge of safeguarding the truths / doctrines

without compromising or taking God's Word lightly. Good warning and timely reminder!

## **Michelle Kho**

The Online Bible Conference certainly spurred me to be conscientious and intentional about my sanctification! I would like to thank Pastor Koshy for his courage and conviction to preach, with firmness and love, this urgent, "unappetising" truth that believers (myself included) need to hear. Amid our daily pursuits and responsibilities, it is easy to slip into longer work hours and put God in second place – when He deserves our first love, with no other gods before Him!

## **Karen Quek**

Thank God for another opportunity given to us to receive God's truth through the Online Bible Conference.

It was a timely reminder to us concerning "Holding Faith and a Good Conscience" (1 Tim. 1:19), that we may wage a good warfare against the world and Satan. We need to nourish ourselves in the Word of God so that we can be good soldiers of the Lord Jesus. Thank God that

when we are equipped with His Word and live with a good conscience, we can be overcomers, just as Christ who overcame the world (John 16:33). Praise the LORD!

### **Dorcas Koshy**

Our Lord has been very merciful – as we wait upon Him in our chambers, within shut doors, “until the indignation be overpast” (Isa. 26:20). He has not forsaken us but has tenderly visited us to feed us with the Written Word. I found that staying at home for the study on the theme of ‘Holding Faith and a Good Conscience’ in this period of ‘Circuit Breaker’ afforded us an ideal setting, possibly more conducive than having it in a resort. To “give attendance to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine” (1 Tim. 4:13b) at this time was nothing short of a blessing, and it showed how God’s Providence continues to be upon His people in love.

Knowing that the greatest enemy in the spiritual warfare is myself – the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eye, the pride of life – I pray for daily grace and mercies to “exercise myself, to have always a conscience void of offence toward God, and toward men” (Acts 24:16); to submit to the King’s servants through whom His charge is ministered to my soul; to love, cherish and pray for the many witnesses with whom I have received the words of faith; to not abandon ship based on hasty presumption; to revisit and hold “the things that (I have) heard” (2 Tim 2:2a) with a humble, teachable and peaceable spirit; as well as to strengthen my spiritual sensitivities and powers

against my unseen enemy, lest I be lifted up in pride and be made shipwreck to the shame of my Saviour’s name.

### **Connie Ng**

Praise the Lord for laying the burden in the hearts of Pastor Koshy and his team to organise the GBPC’s Online Bible Conference, and for His grace in bringing it to fruition. I have been very blessed by the 5 days of Singspiration, Morning Devotions and Theme Messages. I thank God for granting wisdom to Pastor Koshy in explaining and expounding His Word so clearly, showing how “holding faith, and a good conscience” is necessary to being a good Christian and minister. I am brought to remembrance the need to be nourished up and grounded in the Bible, and to be committed to an unwavering devotion to God’s Word. Indeed, every aspect of a genuine believer’s life must be guided by the Word of God so that he may live a life of purity for His glory. I am also reminded of the unceasing spiritual warfare I am engaged in on many fronts, and thus the need to be geared up with the armour of God to fight a good warfare.

May God help us to remember what we have learnt through this Conference, and enable us to remain steadfast, persevering in “holding faith, and a good conscience” till we can say, like the apostle Paul in 2 Timothy 4:7-8, “I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall

give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing.”

### **Aileen Yan**

All praise and thanks be unto our God Almighty for enabling us to participate in the Online Bible Conference. What an opportunity it was for all of us to receive spiritual nourishment from His precious word! The main messages based on 1 Timothy 1:19, “Holding faith, and a good conscience; which some having put away concerning faith have made shipwreck”, were very edifying. I thank God for blessing Pastor Koshy to deliver God’s Word faithfully to exhort us to live an obedient and godly life all through our life on earth.

I have been convicted of my many sins from which I must repent and seek God. I acknowledge my lack of obedience and diligence, which have fragmented / shipwrecked my life in some areas. I pray the Lord to teach me to be a better Christian, bearing a good testimony, especially to my loved ones at home. Being a retiree, I hope to use my time to continue with the study of His Word and to serve the Lord in the church.

I am happy that I have learned many spiritual truths, particularly regarding (i) what ‘holding faith’ means, (ii) what a good conscience is, and (iii) what it means by “some having put away concerning faith have made shipwreck”. I put my trust in my God, my King and my Saviour, that He will enable me to be diligent to hold fast my faith and have a good conscience.

I also give thanks to God for our preachers – Ho Kee How, Jeremiah Sim, Daniel Lim and Samson Hutagalung – who preached God’s Word in the morning devotions, and for our church elders who led the Singspiration sessions and prayer. Thanks also to our Pr Kelvin, Pr Jeremiah, Bro Cornelius and Sis Luan Kheng for teaching the children participants.

I would like to thank my brethren in GBPC Online Bible Conference Committee for their heartiest service to the Lord with their time and efforts in managing registration, logistics and monitoring of our daily meeting times, operating Zoom conferencing, etc. “Praise him for his mighty acts: praise him according to his excellent greatness” (Psalm 150:2). All glory to God.

### **Edeliza Ballega**

“And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose” (Romans 8:28).

It is amazing how the mighty hand of the Lord works upon His people. I praise and thank God for the zealous labour of our church, led by our devoted Pastor Koshy, elders, deacons, preachers and brethren to organise a well-coordinated Online Bible Conference in a very short time. Despite the unprecedented pandemic we are facing, our God brought about so much good through the faithful preaching of God’s Word to the rest of the world. May the Lord continue to bless and use them mightily for His glory.

The purpose of the Conference has been well served. Many of our relatives in the Philippines were able to join freely. We were very delighted that my parents, parents-in-law, siblings, nephews and nieces participated in the Conference. They were very enthusiastic about listening to the exhortation of the Scriptures (even though the internet connection was unstable in their place). We pray that the Holy Spirit would lead them to repentance and faith in Jesus Christ, and that they will worship and walk with the Lord with gladness, and enjoy Him forever.

Praise God for enabling and sustaining Pastor Koshy as he expounded the Scripture portion of 1 Timothy 1:19, on the theme: “Holding Faith and a Good Conscience”. Not to mention how the Lord helped everyone to persevere in studying the Scriptures. I thank God for the week-long programme, which provided abundant spiritual blessings, including the respective sessions of “Singspiration and Prayer” led by our dedicated elders, which cheered our hearts and prepared us for the Morning Devotions by our faithful preachers. Likewise, the “Bible Trivia” sessions during the Fellowship Time in the afternoon, conducted by our kind brethren, refreshed our memory concerning the biblical events and GBPC’s history. It reminded me of how wonderful the Lord is in preserving and nurturing our church till this day.

I pray that our church will be found faithful and steadfast until the day of Christ’s return. Thank God also for the passionate labour of our sisters and Children’s Choir. I

rejoiced as I listened to their joyful singing of “Thank you, Lord” and “Bringing in the Sheaves”. Indeed, our salvation is so rich and free! Those songs gave us comfort that despite the hard work, heavy burdens and tears during the planting of the Gospel seed, we shall reap the fruit of our labour as people come to the Lord for eternal life.

Indeed, as I am being nourished and equipped with the great truths of the Bible, I also desire to walk worthy of God as I exercise my faith and grow spiritually. I pray that by God’s grace and wisdom, I will submit and obey His “charge” with a good conscience. May the Lord teach me to relate to my husband with a humble and submissive heart as his godly wife and good help meet (though not an easy task for me). As a mother, I pray the Lord will strengthen me in this God-given role to raise my son according to His sovereign purpose. “Lo, children are an heritage of the LORD: and the fruit of the womb is his reward” (Psalm 127:3). May the Lord bless my husband and me as we minister to the spiritual needs of our son and cultivate him for the Master’s use. Also, I am greatly thankful to God for providing us with Gethsemane Children’s Ministry, where God’s Word is faithfully and lovingly taught for the care of our children.

Finally, I thank God for preserving our family by leading us to Gethsemane Bible-Presbyterian Church, which has been a true vessel of God for our spiritual growth. I pray that my family shall be joyfully committed to carrying out the sovereign will of our great King in our lives (cf.

Luke 22:42), lest we be made shipwreck, engulfed by our sin and unfaithfulness. May our Almighty Lord keep and preserve us in His most loving hand, and His glory be exalted in our life. Amen.

### **Carolyn Koshy**

I am thankful to God, who has helped my family to ‘co-host’ the recent Online Bible Conference in our home. I thank God for Andronicus and Dorcas who handled the technical aspects ‘behind Pastor’ in the confines of our flat. I thank God that amid this busy schedule of the Online Conference, He has enabled Dorcas not to miss any message, though she was busy working on her final submissions of the last year of her musical studies.

Praise God also for all who have a part in handling the administrative, technical, organisational aspects of the Conference. Indeed, thanks to God for giving grace to Cornelius (amongst other teachers) to teach the children; for all our elders who chaired and prayed for God’s blessings upon all the meetings; for all the singers who laboured to pre-record the hymns to guide us in our singing, as well as all who have mixed those individual recordings of the brethren to make them into congregational singing; and for all our devotional speakers who have delivered to us the infallible Word of God. Last but not least, I thank God for using Pastor to preach on the topic, “Holding Faith, and a Good Conscience”, taken from 1 Tim. 1:19 – “Holding faith, and a good conscience; which some having put away concerning faith have made shipwreck”. Below, I share an

excerpt of Pastor’s messages – (i) to remind participants what have been expounded to us from the Word, and (ii) to benefit those who could not participate in the Conference.

The theme of the Conference encapsulates a genuine Christian’s life and ministry. The word “faith” here means the whole Bible, not just the act of believing. Pastor exhorted us that our lives must hold forth the Bible (“faith”). We must not only learn the biblical doctrines but also live by them. When our desires, thoughts and motivations are biblical, we will have a good conscience before God and man. Thus, we can live in the strength of a good testimony borne out of faith and a good conscience. We then become like the one who builds his house upon the rock: strong, happy, calm and without fear amidst all the temptations and trials of life.

“Holding faith, and a good conscience” was mentioned by the apostle Paul in connection to a Christian’s responsibility to “war a good warfare” (1 Tim. 1:18). Christians are God’s soldiers in the spiritual battle against Satan and his minions’ attack on His kingdom. To equip us against these formidable enemies, who are mightier than us, God has provided us with “the whole armour of God”. This potent spiritual arsenal for every Christian’s use is the Word of God. All of God’s truths, wise counsels and commands are our aid in the battle. The royal command from the King eternal (1 Tim. 1:17) is to fight this noble war for Him. Hence, as soldiers, we have a great responsibility to remain loyal to Him. Nothing should deter us from

His charge to fight a good fight of faith. We must bravely march onward through all trials of life, enduring hardness, undeterred and undistracted. We cannot retreat but fight on. Then we'll have victory over the Satanic foes.

Our conscience will accuse us if our outward religion is without inward faith in all that God has charged us in His Word. A soldier of Christ cannot abandon God's call. He must not quit where the Lord has appointed him unless the divine providence transfers him to another area of service. We do well to bear in mind that we are not called to serve among a group of holy angels, but among sinners in this terrible world of satanic ambushes. But God will give us the grace to fulfil our responsibility to fight a good warfare, not a weak one. Then our fight will end well, and finally, we can echo Paul's words: "I have fought a good fight" (2 Tim. 4:7)!

No Christian knows fully the vastness of his work, but as he moves forward, defeating all enemies, it slowly comes to full light. Ministry is a service for the King and His Kingdom which has no end. So, everyone in the church must be dedicated to his King's cause with reverence and fidelity. Why do we insist on right doctrine? Because right doctrine drops "as the rain" and "as the showers upon the grass" (cf. Deut. 32:2), transforming Christians to live a godly and pure life which pleases God. Even preachers must renew their mind constantly and nourish up continually on right doctrine to be able to "put the brethren in remembrance of these things" (cf. 1 Tim. 4:6).

There are many fronts to a Christian's warfare, of which I will only mention two.

Firstly, false doctrine by brethren or teachers. They are licentious seducers, fun-loving at the expense of Christ, bringing us back into the bondage of sin. Paul has cautioned us against them in the following verses: "For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ. And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light" (2 Cor. 11:13-14); "For of this sort are they which creep into houses, and lead captive silly women laden with sins, led away with divers lusts" (2 Tim. 3:6).

Secondly, Satan and demonic hosts. 1 Cor. 7:5 counsels regarding husband and wife relationship: "Defraud ye not one the other, except it be with consent for a time, that ye may give yourselves to fasting and prayer; and come together again, that Satan tempt you not for your incontinency." Furthermore, 1 Tim. 5:14 advises young unmarried ladies: "I will therefore that the younger women marry, bear children, guide the house, give none occasion to the adversary to speak reproachfully", which unfortunately, some did not take heed – "For some are already turned aside after Satan" (1 Tim. 5:15). In this regard, we read of Paul chastising so-called believers, by leaving them to Satan because they had gone after Satan (1 Tim. 1:20). This means that no ministerial attention would be offered to that person, as a form of chastisement. The church needs to take disciplinary action against those

who unrepentantly walk in defiance of His truth and holiness. Otherwise, their ill influence would cause terrible shipwreck to others in the congregation concerning faith and good conscience.

What are the dangers of not holding faith and a good conscience? The enemy may take advantage of the soldiers, who have slept instead of keeping watch, to tarnish the testimony, unity and faithfulness of the church. They may become spiritually lethargic, disappointing the church amidst her battle!

**Allan A. Ebarle**

I, for one, have been greatly blessed by the sermons and exhortations heard during the Online Bible Conference. The precious lessons I received were edifying to me. To know and see that I am not alone in this spiritual battle enables me to stand up together with brothers and sisters of like-minded faith. I praise the Lord for the singing of hymns and for the faithful preaching of God's Word.

I thank Rev. Koshy, the elders, deacons and preachers for sharing the Word and guiding us in the 'Singspiration' sessions. I also would like to thank those who worked behind the scenes - brothers and sisters who laboured to organise this Online Conference.

May God bless us all!

## 32ND CHURCH ANNIVERSARY THANKSGIVING SERVICE AND LUNCH

In light of the current Covid-19 situation, the Board of Elders has decided to cancel this event. Brethren who have registered and paid for the lunch will receive a refund through bank transfer in the coming weeks. More details will be made known to you.

## ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING (ACM) REPORT

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 Dn Low Boon Siang at [lbs83@yahoo.com](mailto:lbs83@yahoo.com) by 26th July 2020.

## FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMMES/ROSTERS (JULY TO DECEMBER 2020)

Leaders of all fellowship groups are kindly asked to submit your programme/roster for July-December 2020 to Bro. Norefel at [norefel.gbwl@gmail.com](mailto:norefel.gbwl@gmail.com) for consolidation and Sunday's bulletin announcement purposes. Please do so by 21st June 2020.

To facilitate the collation and announcement of information, please include the following information in your schedule: (i) the preacher, (ii) the topic, and (iii) the name of the chairperson.

## Junior Worshipper's Page

# Online Bible Conference: Testimony from a Child

### Jored Ballega

Attending the Online Bible Conference was a joyful and wonderful experience. I thank God for the blessed time of learning the Scriptures, cheerful singing, interesting Bible trivia and happy fellowship with my friends here in Singapore and even in other countries. I am thankful that my friends in the Philippines, even my cousins – Kuya Ayen and Ellyse – were able to attend the Conference and hear the preaching of God's Word. I pray that both my cousins and the rest of our relatives would know Jesus and be saved.

I also thank God for my teachers, Pr Kelvin, Pr Jeremiah, Korkor Cornelius and Auntie Luan Kheng, for patiently and lovingly teaching the Bible lessons, that all the children may understand God's will, with the help of the Holy Spirit.

“Blessed is he that readeth, and they that hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written therein: for the time is at hand” (Revelation 1:3). As my teacher expounded, there's a blessing in reading and hearing the Bible. In my daily life, I must also keep and obey faithfully the things that are written in the Scriptures. Then only I can be a good testimony for Jesus. I pray that Jesus will help me to be diligent in studying the Scriptures, and give me good understanding. The time is hastening for Jesus' return, so I must also be quick to reach out to my friends and relatives. May God give me the boldness to speak of His goodness to other people, tell them how Jesus can save their souls from the evil of sin, and tell them of the blessings of believing on Jesus. May I be like Paul who preached everywhere bravely. May the Lord help and bless me. Amen.

## COLLECTIONS

LORD'S DAY on 31st May 2020

**Tithes:** 6,084.00

**Offerings:** 10,782.00

**GBWL:** 1,370.00

**Designated Gifts:** Cebu Building Fund 80.00; Dn Imane 200.00; Jenny Lok 120.00; Annie Ho 120.00; Jasmine Lim 120.00

Non-Sunday Collections

(25th to 30th May 2020)

**General Fund:** 24,802.70

**GBWL:** 1,200.00

**Designated Gifts:** GBPC-Pangasinan 100.00

*“Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver.”*

(2 Corinthians 9:7)

## FOR TITHES & OFFERINGS TO THE CHURCH

Send in your gifts to ‘Gethsemane Bible-Presbyterian Church’ via bank transfer (DBS Current Account 025-011173-7), or you may scan the QR code to transfer via Paylah! or PayNow.



## FOR LOVE GIFTS TO GBWL

Send in your gifts to ‘Gethsemane Bible Witness Limited’ via bank transfer (DBS Current Account 025-904568-2), or you may scan the QR code to transfer via Paylah! or PayNow.



## UPCOMING ZOOM MEETINGS FOR FELLOWSHIP

*Links to the meetings will be provided in the respective Whatsapp Groups.*

### MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

**Topic:** The Book of Judges

**Speaker:** Pastor Prabhudas Koshy

**Chairperson:** Bro. Gerry Lee

**Date & Time:** Sat, 13 June 2020, 4.00pm

### YOUTH FELLOWSHIP

**Speaker:** Bro. Cornelius Koshy

**Chairperson:** Bro. Andronicus Koshy

**Date & Time:** Sat, 20 June 2020, 4.00pm

### **Prayer Hotline:**

8138 8139

*SMS or WhatsApp  
your prayer item*

### **Our Office:**

33 Ubi Crescent  
Singapore 408584

### **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