

GETHSEMANE

BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

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WORD ON WORSHIP

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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."

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SCRIPTURE MEMORISATION

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Ear

Proverbs 25:12

As an earring of gold, and an ornament of fine gold,
so is a wise reprover upon an obedient ear.

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ORDER OF WORSHIP

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Call to Worship

*Hymn 3: Love Divine

***Invocation & Psalm 29:1-2**

***Scripture Reading in Unison**

2 Timothy 4:1-8

Hymn 113: It Is Glory Just to Walk with Him

Scripture Memorisation

Hymn 429: We Have Not Known Thee as We Ought

***Pastoral Prayer**

Sermon

Pastor Prabhudas Koshy

"Understanding the Times—I"

Jude 18, 19

*Hymn 402: His Way With Thee

***Benediction & Threefold Amen**

** Congregation Standing*



12 July 2020

The Power of Faith

Prabhudas Koshy

Faith in the Lord Jesus Christ is the foundational principle of a genuine and triumphant spiritual life. No spiritual realities promised in the Bible – holiness, knowledge, power, courage, fruitfulness, etc. – can ever be experienced without an abiding faith in Christ. “But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him” (Hebrews 11:6).

Jesus denounced those who refused to put their faith in Him, even though He had taught them the divine truths and done many miracles that proved His divinity. He chided them, “O faithless and perverse generation, how long shall I be with you? how long shall I suffer you?...” (Matthew 17:17). He disapprovingly asked His disciples (being frightened by a great storm of wind, where the waves beat into the ship), “Why are ye so fearful? how is it that ye have no faith?” (Mark 4:40).

While Jesus reprimanded people who lacked faith or had little faith, He commended those who expressed

extraordinary faith. He told the centurion who exhibited extraordinary faith in His power to heal his servant who was sick with palsy, “Verily I say unto you, I have not found so great faith, no, not in Israel” (Matthew 8:10). When a woman, “which was diseased with an issue of blood twelve years, came behind him, and touched the hem of his garment” (Matthew 9:20) for healing, Jesus said to her, “Daughter, be of good comfort; thy faith hath made thee whole” (Matthew 9:22). To the two blind men who “followed him, crying, and saying, Thou Son of David, have mercy on us” (Matthew 9:27), He responded with the words: “According to your faith be it unto you” (Matthew 9:29). That’s not all. Hear the words of Jesus to the woman of Canaan, who sought deliverance for her daughter who was “grievously vexed with a devil” (Matthew 15:22): “O woman, great is thy faith: be it unto thee even as thou wilt” (Matthew 15:28). Whoever came to Jesus with a prayer of faith received not only answers to his / her prayer, but also His commendation.

Like the apostles who said unto the Lord, “Increase our faith” (Luke 17:5), we too must pray that our faith will steadfastly grow. An increase of faith is greatly to be desired by all Christians. We enjoy “boldness and access” to God “with confidence by the faith of him” (Ephesians 3:12). Paul reminds all Christians that it is “by faith ye stand” (2 Corinthians 1:24b). Daily spiritual joy and hope are gained as “we walk by faith, not by sight” (2 Corinthians 5:7). Victories in spiritual battles belong to those who take “the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked” (Ephesians 6:16). Indeed, “this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith” (1 John 5:4b). Thus, we can be sure of a life that is steadfast and sanctified, successful and safeguarded for the glory of God – “the just shall live by faith: but if any man draw back, my soul shall have no pleasure in him” (Hebrews 10:38).

Scripture tells us that the ancient spiritual heroes “through faith subdued kingdoms, wrought righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched the violence of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, out of weakness were made strong, waxed valiant in fight, turned to flight the armies of the aliens” (Hebrews 11:33-34). The stories of the valiant deeds of God’s servants who exercised their faith in God’s Word are strewn all over the pages of the Scriptures.

Consider a few examples of the valiant men of God who gained great victories through faith:

- “By faith Abel offered unto God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain” (Hebrews 11:4).
- “By faith Enoch was translated that he should not see death.... for before his translation he had this testimony, that he pleased God” (Hebrews 11:5).
- “By faith Noah...prepared an ark to the saving of his house... and became heir of the righteousness which is by faith” (Hebrews 11:7).
- “By faith Abraham, when he was called to go out into a place which he should after receive for an inheritance, obeyed; and... by faith he sojourned in the land of promise... for he looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God” (Hebrews 11:8-10).
- “Through faith also Sara herself received strength to conceive seed, and was delivered of a child when she was past age...” (Hebrews 11:11).
- So also, by faith, Isaac, Jacob, Joseph, Job, Moses, Joshua, Caleb, Samuel, David and many more did great things in their generations.

My beloved brethren, “Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith” (Hebrews 12:1-2a). “Let us hold fast the profession

of our faith without wavering; (for he is faithful that promised;)” (Hebrews 10:23).

Faith shall make us a people of great spiritual conquests and accomplishments. Jesus said, “If ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye shall say unto this mountain, Remove hence to yonder place; and it shall remove; and nothing shall be impossible unto you.” (Matthew 17:20). The “mountain-moving” faith is not faith in oneself, much less faith in faith, but faith in God. It is not faith itself – no matter how great – that moves mountains, but the God in whom the faith is grounded. Faith has only as much power as its object. If we persist in prayer with faith, we will receive God’s promised forgiveness, peace, joy, freedom, guidance, fruitfulness, protection, wisdom, victory over sin and trials, and countless other blessings.

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 by 26th July 2020.

DO STAY UPDATED!

Members & regular visitors are urged to keep abreast of church matters through our church’s virtual meetings, holy communion services & updates via the Prayer Hotline.

To be kept informed of the above, do sign up by sending a WhatsApp message to the Hotline, indicating your name. Remember to save the Prayer Hotline number (8138 8139) on your phone to receive the broadcast messages.

UPCOMING ZOOM FELLOWSHIP MEETING

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

YOUNG ADULT’S FELLOWSHIP

Topic: The Book of Ephesians

Speaker: Pastor Prabhudas Koshy

Chairperson: Bro. Aron Ong

Date & Time: Fri, 17th July 2020, 8.00pm

LADIES’ FELLOWSHIP

Topic: Finding Joy in God When Trouble Comes

Speaker: Pastor Prabhudas Koshy

Chairperson: Sis. Mah Lean Choo

Date & Time: Sat, 18th July 2020, 4.00pm

YOUTH FELLOWSHIP

Topic: Living in the Knowledge of God

Speaker: Bro. Cornelius Koshy

Chairperson: Bro. Jeremy Teo

Date & Time: Sat, 18th July 2020, 4.00pm

Junior Worshipper's Page

A Golden Earring

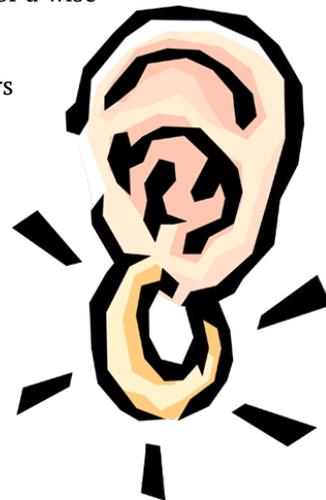
*“As an earring of gold, and an ornament of fine gold, so is a wise reprove upon an obedient ear.”
(Proverbs 25:12)*

We often see young ladies, who want to appear beautiful, wearing jewellery of fine gold. This observation is used by Solomon to depict a biblical lesson. Like a young lady who happily wears a golden earring to beautify her appearance, a humble and obedient person will gladly receive the rebuke of a wise man. The chiding of a wise person is more valuable and beneficial than even an ornament of fine gold.

A wise man who reproofs us would have the good intention of turning us away from errors and guiding us in the right path. If we take such reproof well with an obedient ear, it will beautify and bless our lives with sanctity and wisdom. Like the good comments and praise given to a well-groomed person, honour and commendation will also come to those who accept the reproof of a wise man.

Those who desire to know and do right, are the ones who would most highly esteem good counsel. The listening ear is better than the one that has gold hung on it. Let us pray for God to bring into our lives, matured Christians who are prudent in lovingly reproofing and counselling us, that we may be enlightened and edified (cf. Prov 9:9; 15:31).

Prabhudas Koshy



COLLECTIONS

LORD'S DAY on 5th July 2020

Tithes: 7,395.00

Offerings: 11,618.00

Designated Gifts: Cebu Building Fund 2,350.00; Rev. Ephrem 200.00; Pr Zhu Xinkai 500.00; Roscelle Lim 250.00; Jasmine Lim 250.00; Jenny Lok 250.00; Cornelius Koshy 250.00; TGCM 500.00; Sharon Ng 250.00; Missions 50.00; Pastor Koshy 200.00

Non-Sunday Collections

(29th June–4th July 2020)

Offerings: 2,878.00

Tithes: 2,392.00

Designated Gifts: Andronicus Koshy 100.00; Dorcas Koshy 100.00; Pastor Koshy 200.00; Dn Lok 200.00; Matthew Peh 125.00; Melissa Mah 100.00; Cebu Building Fund 410.00; Ethiopia Missions 500.00; Pr Kelvin Lim 200.00

Total Funds Collection

(as of 10th July 2020)

Cebu Building Fund: 43,622.50

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.



BIBLE WITNESS MAGAZINE

The latest issue on

"Out of Darkness into God's Marvellous Light"

(Volume 20, Issue 3)

is available as a digital magazine.

Download it from biblewitness.com/magazine. You may also collect a hardcopy after the Holy Communion session today.

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your prayer item*

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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