

# 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 a time when the LORD’s redeemed gather together to glorify and exalt Him with their hearts and voices. “Oh that men would praise the LORD for his goodness, and for his wonderful works to the children of men! Let them exalt him also in the congregation of the people, and praise him in the assembly of the elders” (Psalm 107:31-32).

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## SCRIPTURE MEMORISATION

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*Edify*

**Romans 15:2**

Let every one of us please his neighbour  
for his good to edification.

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## ORDER OF WORSHIP

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### Call to Worship

\*Hymn 42: Praise the Lord! Ye Heavens, Adore Him

### \*Invocation & Psalm 90:1-2

### \*Scripture Reading in Unison

*2 Peter 1:1-11*

Hymn 135: Wonderful Peace

### Scripture Memorisation

Hymn 124: Jesus, Still Lead On

### \*Pastoral Prayer

### Sermon

*Pastor Prabhudas Koshy*

*“Supreme Assurance for Believers—IV”*

*2 Peter 1:2-4*

\*Hymn 289: Grace Greater Than Our Sin

### \*Benediction & Threefold Amen

*\*Congregation Standing*



23 August 2020

# Testimony of Calling

*Ho Kee How*

As a young Christian in the 1980's, I used to look forward to attending missions rallies and conferences organised by missionary groups (such as Keswick Convention, Overseas Missionary Fellowship) and missions-minded churches (many of which had since gone ecumenical). My heart was stirred whenever I heard reports of the Gospel work in the mission fields, and the oft-repeated refrain that "the harvest truly is great, but the labourers are few" (Lk 10:2). But even at that young age, I understood (through my reading of the Bible and stirring Christian books) that not any eager or zealous fellow can enter into that "labour force" – it's skilled labour! I knew I didn't have the calibre to be a pastor. To me, a minister of the Gospel requires some ability. He must have the mental capacity to study, for he needs to be able to expound, to feed the flock! Though I did fairly well in school, it was all in the area of written work, not speaking assignments. Knowing my aversion to public speaking and my rather reserved nature, I realise I'm not cut out to be a minister of the Gospel. But the burden to serve the Lord full-time didn't leave

me – though my uninitiated thinking of full-time ministry referred only to "pastor" or "missionary".

As secular work didn't interest me very much, I believe I'd have given up all and serve full-time if I had received a clear call from God. Yet I knew I should not go ahead of the Spirit's leading in my life. Such biblical discretion has stood me in good stead – for had I gone ahead on my own indiscriminately, I'd probably have gone to study theology at SBC or BTS. These being non-committed against inroads made by charismatism and liberal theology, I'd probably come out having my doctrines tainted and faith subverted! I haven't heard of FEBC or Life Church then. Well, God has His timing...

In the course of time, another door did open for me – "schoolteacher". Upon becoming preoccupied with pursuing a career as a schoolteacher, I did not expect God to call me into full-time ministry. I've always believed that God, in the normal course of affairs, would call His servants while they are young and still in their prime. (Scriptural examples and godly examples throughout church history

attest that God's choicest servants are plucked out of the world and set apart for His ministry early in life.) In the meantime, God providentially led me to Life BP Church in 1990, where my faith was strengthened by Rev Tow's faithful, scholarly preaching (and incidentally, where I also got married). Some years later, my wife and I met Pastor Koshy through Newton NBS, where we were further nourished by his impassioned teaching of God's Word. Over time, we were made aware of the needs of the small church at Gethsemane, and felt led to contribute there with our humble gifts and service. Hence our transfer in 1999, with Rev Tow's blessings. We were asked to serve in the Gethsemane Adults' Fellowship committee, and were happy serving the Lord in a small way, giving wholehearted support to the ministry in Gethsemane.

Over the years, however, there was an increasing sense of emptiness as I did not find much fulfilment in my work. I felt as if I was engrossed in things that do not matter to God's kingdom. This heaviness and unease came to a head when I was confronted by God's Word in Isa 55:2: "Wherefore do ye spend ... your labour for that which satisfieth not?" There came a point when I told my wife that I find no more joy in preparing classroom lessons; I'd rather prepare Bible-lessons! By God's providence, we hear of Pastor Koshy sharing more and more of his burden for an enhanced literature / publications ministry. I felt I could contribute. I don't have many skills, but I realise I have a knack for words. My "tools" are the 26 letters of the English alphabet – whereby I'm able, by God's grace,

to use a combination of these and organise words into stirring sentences! It was also around about this time that we heard of the need for an assistant editor to help in Bible Witness ministry – in the wake of the church not being able to get an employment pass for the previously appointed personnel, despite repeated attempts at applying. I felt the urge to step in and help; to continue doing my own thing without due consideration for the Lord's work is downright disobedience and ingratitude! I shared my inner thoughts and burdens with Pastor some time in early 2010, and with Pastor's encouragement, I enrolled in FEBC in July 2010 for theological studies.

I thank God for the undreamt-of privilege to have studied theology in a sound Bible College (founded expressly to teach a 100% perfect Bible). Though I had not the privilege of studying at the feet of its late founding principal, Rev Tow, I'm nonetheless thankful to have learnt from some of his eminent students, one of whom is our pastor himself. It has been a privilege to be taught by him, and is now an even greater privilege to "co-labour" with him in the editorial ministry.

And now there is this growing awareness that many long-held biblical truths are being systematically distorted and misrepresented by a proliferation of modern English Bible versions, as well as liberal and ecumenical material flooding the Christian market through the media out there. God's flock, in order to be protected and nurtured, must have constant access to sound biblical reading (and even

study) material. In this age of “information explosion”, having good Christian literature is simply not an option but an indispensable channel for biblical teachings to be disseminated. Thus, the need for our church’s enhanced literature ministry has never been greater.

Indeed, “the gospel must first be published among all nations” (Mk 13:10) before the end comes. One ubiquitous and effective way is through the printed page, for “the pen is mightier than the sword”. Truly, while I never expected God to call me at such a “late” age, I realise that God, in His mysterious outworkings, has somehow set me apart to “labour” in the (written) word, which entails essentially

the ministry of writing and editing. I feel unworthy, and yet at the same time, honored. God has granted me the desires of my heart. Having put my hand to the plough, I am not unmindful of my ever lurking tendency to fall back and slide into my old ways. My greatest fear is, in the words of Paul, “lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway (or disqualified)” (1 Cor 9:27b). Realising that I cannot do without the prayers, encouragement and even admonition of church leaders and God’s people, my prayer is that the Lord may help me walk worthy of Him, and “establish ... the work of [my] hands upon [me]” (Ps 90:17) – for His glory and for the edification of His saints.



## OUR ONLINE RESOURCES

In this period where our regular church meetings are curtailed, we hope that our online resources will continue to be a source of encouragement and edification for you.

- For Christian literature, please visit [biblewitness.com/magazine](http://biblewitness.com/magazine) to find past issues of our BW Magazine.
- For 24/7 fundamental Christian music, please visit our Bible Witness Web Radio at [biblewitness.com/webradio/radio-player/](http://biblewitness.com/webradio/radio-player/)
- For our sermons, you may visit our church’s YouTube channel at [youtube.com/user/gethsemaneipc/](http://youtube.com/user/gethsemaneipc/) or [gbi-online.com](http://gbi-online.com)
- Finally, you may also follow our church’s Facebook page at [facebook.com/Gethsemane.BP.Church/](http://facebook.com/Gethsemane.BP.Church/) to stay updated with any urgent announcements from our church leaders.

Please pray for our BWMM staff as they labour to maintain all these services and resources.

## Junior Worshipper's Page

# Pleasing and Edifying Others

*“Let every one of us please his neighbour for his good to edification.”  
(Romans 15:2)*

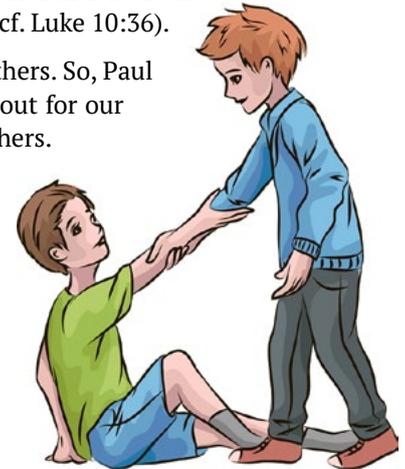
The Lord saves us from our sins, that we may be a channel of His blessings to others, especially to His people whom He brings to have communion with us in the church. So, every Christian has a biblical duty to “please his neighbour for his good to edification”.

In the context of this passage, the word “neighbour” refers to the other members of the church. It is often used, however, in a much broader sense, to refer to all who are in dire need of our help (cf. Luke 10:36).

Our greatest concern is not what we can get for ourselves, but what we can give to others. So, Paul says that every one of us must “please his neighbour for his good”. Instead of looking out for our own ease, comfort and pleasure, we must think, talk and act in a way that will benefit others. This would entail us to render selfless service to others, even with much sacrifice, as well as put up with patient enduring of inconvenience, disappointment and troubles.

However, how do we know what is good for others? When Christians assume that in all circumstances they know what is good for other people, great harm instead of good may be done. As such, we are urged to do what is “good to edification” for our neighbour. In other words, we must always have in mind the building up of the other in the faith and service of Christ, especially in the area of biblically encouraging and strengthening the weak.

*Prabhudas Koshy*



## COLLECTIONS

LORD'S DAY on 16th August 2020

**Tithes:** 7,945.00

**Offerings:** 9,177.00

**Designated Gifts:** Cebu Building Fund 100.00; 50.00; 20.00; 100.00; Charity Fund 100.00; Gladys Ratnam 100.00; Rev. Ephrem 200.00; GBWL 500.00

Non-Sunday Collections

(10th to 15th August 2020)

**Offerings:** 3,185.00

**Tithes:** 900.00

**Designated Gifts:** Charity Fund 1,330.00; Cebu Building Fund 1,000.00; Matthew Peh 25.00; TGCM 150.00

Total Funds Collection

(as of 16th August 2020)

**Cebu Building Fund:** 195,632.50



### 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 above 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 above to transfer via Paylah! or PayNow.

## OUR WEEKLY MEETINGS

### Sunday English Worship Service LIVE

9.00am on YouTube Live

### Sunday Chinese Worship Service

9.00am on YouTube Premiere

### Sunday Evening Teaching Service (GBI–Nehemiah)

6.00pm on YouTube Live

### Campus Bible Studies (via Zoom)

NAFA-Lasalle: Monday @ 2.00pm

SUTD: Thursday @ 3.00pm

SIT: Friday @ 3.00pm

### Staff Prayer Meeting

Tuesday @ 10.15am

### Tuesday Night Bible Study & Prayer Meeting

8.00pm on YouTube Live

### Seniors' Ministry (via Zoom)

Thursday @ 11.00am (Please contact Pr Jeremiah Sim)

### Malayalam Fellowship (via Zoom)

Thursday @ 8.00pm

### Children's Ministry Meetings

Saturday @ 11.00am (younger children)  
& 2.00pm (older children)

### Filipino Fellowship (via Zoom)

Sunday @ 2.00pm

## EARLY ADVICE OF ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING (ACM)

In view of the Covid-19 restriction orders in Singapore, the ACM will be held by electronic means pursuant to the relevant order under the Covid-19 (Temporary Measures) Order 2020. The indicative date of the upcoming ACM (via Zoom) is on **27th September 2020**. A unique link will be emailed to each member nearer to the date, and one device is to be used per member to login for the ACM. All active communicant members are to register via this link (<http://gg.gg/GBPCACM2020>) or scan the QR code to update your particulars for the ACM by 23rd August 2020.

A *clinic session* will be held on *19th September 2020 from 2.00pm to 3.00pm*. This is to help members to familiarize with Zoom access and the use of various functions on this digital platform. If you wish to register for this session, please indicate when you update your particulars. *Closing date for registration is **today***.



## UPCOMING ZOOM FELLOWSHIP MEETINGS

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

### YOUNG MOTHERS' FELLOWSHIP

#### SEMINAR

**Topic:** Family Devotion

**Speaker:** Pastor Prabhudas Koshy

**Chairperson:** Dn Low Boon Siang

**Date & Time:** Sat, 29th Aug 2020, 2.00pm

*Note: There are no GCM meetings (11am & 2pm) on 29th August. All are encouraged to join the Seminar.*

### KABABAYAN BIBLE STUDY

**Speaker:** Pr Jeremiah Sim

**Chairperson:** Bro. Randy Laurencio

**Date & Time:** Fri, 4 Sept 2020, 7.30pm

### YOUNG ADULTS' FELLOWSHIP

**Topic:** Combined Fellowship with Truth BPC

**Speaker:** Pastor Prabhudas Koshy

**Date & Time:** Sat, 5 Sept 2020, 7.00pm

*Please register via the Google forms link provided in the YAF Whatsapp Group.*

#### **Prayer Hotline:**

8138 8139

*SMS or WhatsApp*

*your prayer item*

#### **Our Office:**

33 Ubi Crescent

Singapore 408584

#### **Our Websites:**

gethsemaneipc.com

biblewitness.com

gbi-online.com

#### **Our Pastor:**

Pastor Prabhudas Koshy

Mobile: 9001 1119

Email: [pastor.gbpc@gmail.com](mailto: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