

# 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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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.

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## SCRIPTURE MEMORISATION

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*Elders*

**1 Timothy 5:17**

Let the elders that rule well be counted worthy of double honour, especially they who labour in the word and doctrine.

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## ORDER OF WORSHIP

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### Call to Worship

\*Hymn 32: Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

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

### \*Scripture Reading in Unison

*John 14:1-7*

Hymn 72: Take the Name of Jesus with You

### Scripture Memorisation

Hymn 215: I Know That My Redeemer Liveth

### \*Pastoral Prayer

### Sermon

*Pastor Prabhudas Koshy*

"Supreme Assurance for Believers—VI"

*Selected Scripture Verses*

\*Hymn 230: What a Gathering!

### \*Benediction & Threefold Amen

*\*Congregation Standing*



6 September 2020

# Brief Testimony of Calling

*Samson Hutagalung*

Testimony

## CALLING TO THE MINISTRY

I am thankful to the Lord for saving me in my teens while I was still in high school. I realise that I was a destitute sinner, deserving nothing but judgment. Though I was brought up in a Christian family and lived in a Christian community, that did not make me a Christian. It was the Word of God preached, that caused me to realise that I was a condemned sinner who needed God's mercy and grace for all my sins to be forgiven.

Upon completion of my high school, I came to Batam to search for a job. For several months, I was searching for a church which could help me to grow spiritually. I attended different churches for that purpose. By God's providence, in the midst of searching for a room to stay, I met a brother who was also searching for a place like me, and we rented a room together. He subsequently invited me to join him for an evening Bible study in the shipyard dormitory, which I did – though reluctantly at first, as it was quite a distance away, and travelling there would require passing through

a rural area in the night. There I met a FEBC graduate conducting the Bible Study.

When I attended the Bible study, I loved the way the Word of God was expounded and felt being blessed and encouraged to follow and love the Lord. I continued to join the meeting and the church in town. After some time, I got involved in various ministries of the church. Joining the preacher in various ministries every Sunday, from morning to evening, was a joy for me!

As I continued to worship and serve the Lord in whatever area I could, I felt the call of the Lord when I first heard Matthew 9:37-38 preached during a Sunday service. I continued to meditate on that passage when I got home. I felt the call and a burden to serve the Lord, and to preach the Gospel to unsaved ones. "Then saith he unto his disciples, The harvest truly is plenteous, but the labourers are few; Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth labourers into his harvest."

Then, Romans 10:14-15 was another passage that spoke to me in the same period of time: "How then shall

they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher? And how shall they preach, except they be sent? as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!”

I knew that the Lord had called me and laid a burden in my heart to serve Him, but I dared not speak to anyone. I felt that I was unworthy for such a holy ministry. Often, I tried to forget the burden by telling myself that I still had to fulfil my responsibility towards my parents and to support my siblings’ education. In my heart was a great struggle, and at the same time I lost interest to continue my job in a company as I was thinking about serving the Lord.

It took me more than a year to finally make a decision. Matthew 6:33 was used by the Lord to comfort and strengthen me in making a decision when the Lord said, “But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.” I entrusted all things unto God, trusting that the Lord would help my parents in their needs.

With the strength and comfort from the Lord, on October 1994, I resigned from my work and stayed in the church in preparation for my theological study. On 2nd January 1995, I came to Far Eastern Bible College.

I thank the Lord for His grace and mercy in seeing me through my studies. After 5½ years, I completed my

studies and went back to serve the Lord at Calvary Batam as a preacher, as well as a librarian and academic dean in the Bible College there. What a joy I had, as at last I could serve the Lord and God’s people! I was grateful to the Lord for His enabling grace in all the ministries I had for 6 years in serving the Lord in the church and Bible College.

In July 2006, I came back to FEBC for further studies, which I completed in 2007 (pending completion of my thesis). Upon my return, however, I felt that I did not have a place to serve. So, I started a service in my home, attended by my family, a maid, a friend and his wife. In 2009, upon the invitation of Gethsemane BPC (Batam), I joined the church – until November 2012.

In December 2012, my family and I came over to Singapore for the purpose of my daughter’s primary school education. We started attending Gethsemane BPC (Singapore) for the first time. In August 2013, by the grace of God, Pastor Koshy, together with the Board of Elders, accepted me as a missionary preacher, designated with the main task of establishing GBI Online.

### **GETHSEMANE BIBLE INSTITUTE ONLINE**

It has been 7 years since I have become part of the ministry of Gethsemane BPC. During this period of time, the Lord has been so good and gracious in guiding me to serve Him in GBI Online. Being new to the Learning Management System, and without any background or pre-knowledge and experience in the internet field, I leaned upon the

Lord's guidance. I believed the Lord has directed me to this ministry and He would help me through all the challenges.

Day and night, I came to the Lord and surrendered everything to Him, that He might direct me to the right source and information as I tried to learn everything needed to start GBI Online. He guided me step by step to learn MOODLE (the platform which is used to run GBI Online), to the end that GBI Online may be a useful ministry for His kingdom (cf. Psalm 32:8). He granted me patience to learn, and wisdom to understand things that were needed.

Setting up a course in the GBI Online website and framing up quizzes for every subject is challenging. Praise be to God, GBI Online has been running well since we launched it on January 2015. My heart is thankful and joyful when I see God's people from different parts of the world learning God's Word through GBI Online! To date, 166 students are learning God's Word online, and more would join us when we let the world know about this ministry (cf. Matthew 28:19).

### **EDITING VIDEO LECTURES**

In June 2015, I was involved for the first time in the editing of video lectures taught by Pastor Koshy. The aim was to enhance the presentation of the video lectures

for students' greater spiritual enjoyment. It took hours to edit each lecture. However, it is a double blessing for me as I listened to each lecture again and again. It gave me a better understanding when I spent time in editing all the video lectures.

### **CALVARY KUCHING**

On Friday, 13th May 2016, I had my first ministry to Calvary Kuching, attended by Bro. Jeremy Teo and family. It was basically a Bible Study on a Friday evening. In December 2016, I spent (for the first time) two weeks ministering in Kuching – for prayer meeting, Sunday service, Christmas Eve service and New Year service. Since then, I have been staying there for about two weeks every time I was scheduled to go there – until the disruption caused by the global pandemic.

During this global pandemic, I was given an opportunity to serve the Lord at Calvary Kuching via Skype for prayer meeting, youth fellowship and Sunday service. By God's grace, our services were never interrupted hitherto.

Truly, the Lord is gracious and merciful to His people. May the Lord continue to help and use me for the ministry. All praise be to the Lord. Amen.

## Junior Worshipper's Page

# Elders and You

*“Let the elders that rule well be counted worthy of double honour, especially they who labour in the word and doctrine.”*

*(1 Timothy 5:17)*

This verse teaches us how we ought to regard the elders, the officers of the church. The elders are ordained by God to oversee or supervise the church. Acts 20:28 reminds the elders to “take heed... to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers...” As overseers of the church, the elders must rule the church according to God’s Word. That is why, in our memory verse taken from 1 Timothy 5:17, we find the expression, “the elders that rule well”.

By the way, do you know that the New Testament uses the Greek word presbuteroi (*πρεσβύτεροι*) for elders? And do you know the reason why our church’s name has the word “Presbyterian”? It is to indicate that we are a church ruled by elders whom God has appointed. Generally, all elders are responsible for taking care of the administrative matters of the church. But there are some elders whom God appoints to rule and to teach God’s Word. These elders, as our memory verse says, “labour in the word and doctrine”. They study the Word of God and faithfully teach us the truths of God’s Word. Such spiritually gifted men whom God has enabled to be elders who rule and teach are called “pastors”.

God wants us to count our pastors and elders, who carry out their duties faithfully and fervently, to be “worthy of double honour”. They are deserving of the respect, submission and esteem of all the people of the church. So, make sure that you are courteous towards your elders, and obey their faithful, biblical counsels.

*Prabhudas Koshy*



## COLLECTIONS

LORD'S DAY on 30th August 2020

**Tithes:** 7,235.00

**Offerings:** 9,067.00

**GBWL:** 1,000.00; 200.00

**Designated Gifts:** Cebu Building Fund 50.00; 180.00; 20.00; 100.00; 500.00; 50.00; Charity Fund 180.00; 100.00; GBI-Cebu 120.00; Ethiopia Missions 500.00; General Missions 300.00; Rev. Ephrem 100.00; Pr Zhu Xin Kai 100.00; Pr Daniel Lim 50.00; Cornelius Koshy 300.00; Gladys Ratnam 100.00

Non-Sunday Collections  
(24th to 29th August 2020)

**Offerings:** 4,240.00

**GBWL:** 100.00

**Designated Gifts:** Cebu Building Fund 300.00; 5,000.00; Gladys Ratnam 100.00; Matthew Peh 35.00; Pr Donald dela Cruz 500.00; Annie Ho 100.00

Total Funds Collection  
(as of 30th August 2020)

**Cebu Building Fund:** 202,002.50



### 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

### Filipino Fellowship (via Zoom)

Sunday @ 2.00pm

### Sunday Catechism Class

2.00pm via Zoom

### 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)

## 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.

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.



## WORSHIP SERVICE IN THE COMING WEEKS!

**Chinese Service @ 9am, English Service @ 11am, Evening Teaching Service @ 6pm**

All active members will be divided into groups of 50 for the English Worship Services. Two groups of brethren will gather in GMC every Lord's Day starting next Sunday, 13th September 2020. One group of brethren will gather in the morning and another in the evening. More details including the list of names per group will be communicated via Whatsapp broadcast. Live streaming of the worship services will continue.

## UPCOMING ZOOM FELLOWSHIP MEETINGS

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

### MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

**Topic:** Book Study of Ecclesiastes

**Speaker:** Pastor Prabhudas Koshy

**Chairperson:** Bro. Norefel Resuma

**Date & Time:** Sat, 12 Sept 2020, 4.00pm

### YOUNG ADULTS' FELLOWSHIP

**Topic:** Book Study on Ephesians

**Speaker:** Pastor Prabhudas Koshy

**Chairperson:** Bro. Tan Yeh Wen

**Date & Time:** Fri, 18 Sept 2020, 8.00pm

### **Prayer Hotline:**

8138 8139

SMS or WhatsApp

*your prayer item*

### **Our Office:**

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Singapore 408584

Tel: 6741 1910

### **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