

GETHSEMANE

BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

VOLUME 33, ISSUE 40 6 DECEMBER 2020 11.00AM

WORD ON WORSHIP

The way to come to God the Father is through Christ. He is the sure and only way to God (cf. John 14:6). "Now in Christ Jesus ye who sometimes were far off are made nigh by the blood of Christ" (Ephesians 2:13). All those who have trusted in Christ's atoning sacrifice on the cross can now draw nigh to God, rejoicing in that wonderful privilege. Paul said, "For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by his life. And not only so, but we also joy in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom we have now received the atonement" (Romans 5:10-11).

SCRIPTURE MEMORISATION

Employee

1 Peter 2:18

Servants, be subject to your masters with all fear; not only to the good and gentle, but also to the froward.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Call to Worship

Pr Jeremiah Sim

*Hymn 32: Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

*Invocation & Gloria Patri

*Scripture Reading in Unison

1 John 4:1-6

Hymn 151: O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Announcements

Hymn 260: The Church's One Foundation

Scripture Memorisation

*Pastoral Prayer

Sermon

Pastor Prabhudas Koshy

"Antichrist!"

2 John 7

Holy Communion

Hymn 188: O Sacred Head, Now Wounded

*Hymn 226: The Lord is King!

*Benediction & Threefold Amen

** Congregation Standing*



LORD'S DAY WORSHIP

TODAY, 6 DECEMBER 2020

NEXT LORD'S DAY, 13 DECEMBER 2020

8.30am	Worship Leader: Pastor Prabhudas Koshy Preacher: Pastor Prabhudas Koshy Ushers/Greeters: Lijoy George, Amoz Choy, Chong Khai Siang, Samuel Yong	Worship Leader: Pastor Prabhudas Koshy Preacher: Pastor Prabhudas Koshy Ushers/Greeters: Timotheus Liu, Benny Skariah, Chan Tuck Whye, Lee Kim Lei
9.00am	Chinese Worship Service is held at Gethsemane Media Centre, 33 Ubi Crescent. (Preacher: Pr Daniel Lim)	
11.00am	Worship Leader: Pr Jeremiah Sim Preacher: Pastor Prabhudas Koshy Ushers/Greeters: Marcus Chee, George Chee, David Tan, Aileen Yan	Worship Leader: Pr Kelvin Lim Preacher: Pastor Prabhudas Koshy Ushers/Greeters: Ng Kwan Teng, Randy Laurencio, Sean Lee, Mah Lean Choo
2.00pm	Worship Leader: Elder Alan Choy Preacher: Pastor Prabhudas Koshy Ushers/Greeters: Gerry Lee, Violet Quek, Hendrick Foo, Diana Chan	Worship Leader: Elder Ng Poh Kok Preacher: Pastor Prabhudas Koshy Ushers/Greeters: Jordy Kay, David Cho, Dn Low Boon Siang, Theodore Wang
6.00pm (Evening Teaching Service @ GMC)	Worship Leader: Pastor Prabhudas Koshy Preacher: Pastor Prabhudas Koshy Ushers/Greeters: Jeffrey Setiawan, Cornelius Koshy	Worship Leader: Pastor Prabhudas Koshy Preacher: Pastor Prabhudas Koshy Ushers/Greeters: Juffrey Balicao, Samuel Yong

Duty Roster

FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMMES/ROSTERS (JANUARY TO JUNE 2021)

Leaders of all fellowship groups are kindly asked to submit your programme/roster for January to June 2021 to Bro. Norefel at norefel.gbwl@gmail.com for consolidation and Sunday's bulletin announcement purposes. Please do so by 14th December 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.

2021 BIBLE WITNESS CALENDARS ARE NOW AVAILABLE!

Bible Witness Media Ministry is giving a set of 2021 Desk and Wall Calendars to each family worshipping in Gethsemane (one set per family). For additional sets of these calendars, the special price is \$10 per set. If you would like to purchase only the desk calendar, limited quantities are available. The prices are as follows:

- 1 to 9 pieces: \$8 each
- 10 pieces and above: \$7 each

You may also place your order via this link: bit.ly/2021-bwcalendar. This link can be shared with your friends who are interested to purchase.

6 December 2020

If Our Family Ought to Matter to God

Prabhudas Koshy

As a church, we joyfully and prayerfully anticipate, within a short period of three months, holy matrimonyes of ten young adults. The prospective weddings are those of Darrell & Dahlia, Cornelius & Abigail, Jordy & Sarah, Yeh Wen & Hua See, Benjamin & Clara. May the Lord's blessings be upon each of their families, that they may live together for His glory!

I write this pastoral exhortation to every family in Gethsemane, especially to all young Christian couples, to tell you that if your family ought to matter to God, your family must focus on matters that matter to God – and that's what really matters to be a blessed Christian family.

WHY DO OUR FAMILIES MATTER TO GOD?

It is God who has ordained family life. Families are God-ordained institutions. The family is meant to be a spiritual institution which ought to reflect Christ's loving leadership of the church, and the church's loving submission to Him. God's Word – in Ephesians 5:22-33 – declares in no uncertain terms those divine intentions and plans concerning Christian families: ²² Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord. ²³ For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and he is the saviour of the

body. ²⁴ Therefore as the church is subject unto Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in every thing. ²⁵ Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it; ²⁶ that he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the Word, ²⁷ that he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish. ²⁸ So ought men to love their wives as their own bodies. He that loveth his wife loveth himself. ²⁹ For no man ever yet hated his own flesh; but nourisheth and cherisheth it, even as the Lord the church: ³⁰ for we are members of his body, of his flesh, and of his bones. ³¹ For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall be joined unto his wife, and they two shall be one flesh. ³² This is a great mystery: but I speak concerning Christ and the church. ³³ Nevertheless let every one of you in particular so love his wife even as himself; and the wife see that she reverence her husband.

As the above biblical exhortation insists, the goal of every Christian family is to promote the glory of Christ and His redemptive, sanctifying love and truth. God expects every Christian's domestic life to exist and function for His glorious purpose concerning His church – that is the theology of the Christian family.

WHAT SHALL THEN MATTER TO OUR FAMILIES?

Knowing God's particular purpose for Christian families, nothing ought to matter to Christian couples more than being the servants of the LORD, be it within their domestic life or without. Every Christian home ought to be covenanted to the Lord to be His servants, as reflected in the words of Joshua: "as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD" (Joshua 24:15).

Every family must avow to be a biblical family, committing itself only to desires, pursuits and conduct that are in total conformity with God's Word. God expects Christians' families to be spiritually-minded in all aspects of life. The life and activities of the family members must be characterised by reverence and devotion to the LORD.

"Fear of the LORD" must characterise every Christian husband, the head of the household, as he labours and guides his wife and children (cf. Psalm 128). Nurturing a God-fearing family must be his primary goal. For this purpose, he himself must be a man of strong faith and abiding devotion to the LORD. Though there are situations when special grace is given to a lady (like a widowed mother, or the wife of a severely disabled man) to guide the family in the ways of God, it is the unalterable duty of the Christian man to nourish and nurture his family. Husbands who are negligent or complacent, and fail to actively guide their families into godly living and service to the Lord are guilty of dereliction of the most solemn duty that God has entrusted to them.

Every man must examine himself always to keep himself focused and committed to his God-given task of nurturing his family. He must persistently ensure that the counsels of God's

Word guide his thoughts and affections, that he may carry out the solemn charge of building his family for the Lord's glory. It is indeed an accursed thing to encourage or allow the family to pursue an unscriptural, worldly manner of life. Every man who would not instruct his family to follow the Scriptures strictly is like Eli, the priest, who spurned his fatherly duty of rebuking and correcting his sons. Let none of us be vessels of God's wrath "because his sons made themselves vile, and he restrained them not" (1 Samuel 3:13).

Christian wives must steadfastly support and encourage their husbands to build a thoroughly devout, God-fearing family. The wife must be submissive and meek, prayerfully fulfilling her duties at home. For this purpose, she must examine herself and see whether she adheres to God-given duties of the young married women: "to be sober, to love their husbands, to love their children, to be discreet, chaste, keepers at home, good, obedient to their own husbands, that the Word of God be not blasphemed" (Titus 2:4-5). It is for the accomplishment of this divine calling for every Christian wife that Scripture admonishes every young woman in the church to "marry, bear children, guide the house, give none occasion to the adversary to speak reproachfully" (1 Timothy 5:14). Concerning women who neglect their biblical duties to be homely and godly wives, it is written as a warning that "some are already turned aside after Satan" (1 Timothy 5:15)!

Christian families, where husbands and wives throw the biblical instructions and admonitions to the wind, and pursue their self, material and worldly glory, are in great danger of reaping shame and sadness. If any of you has failed in your God-given family duties, repent and plead for God's mercy, and amend your ways at once.

Testimony of God's Goodness in My Life

Juvy Lynn Anaviso

All praise and glory be unto God for His goodness and faithfulness for giving me an opportunity here in Anda, Bohol, to serve Him in teaching the children. Who could have thought before the Covid-19 pandemic that I would be staying here, but God in His providence has brought me here. Indeed, God's ways are higher than our ways. Isaiah 55:8 declares, "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD."

When my application to travel to Bohol was approved after two months of waiting, I believe it was an open door for me to go – and it was confirmed by Pastor Koshy's and Pastor Reggor's approval and support. But Anda was never part of the original plan. It was only later that Preacher Edsel decided it would be better if I could stay in Anda and minister to the children there. It started with only four of them, then the Lord slowly added more children, Sunday after Sunday. So much so that we started to face a good problem, when we came to a point of not having enough chairs for them. By God's goodness and timely provision, we were able to make long chairs and tables for the children. Praise God for His goodness and faithfulness! I am thankful to God for this opportunity to impart to them the spiritual truths from the Word of God. May God be pleased to grant them salvation, in His own time and according to His will.

I thank God also for the many opportunities He has opened for me wherein I can minister to the brethren here and even be of help in the neighbourhood. Thank God for one instance whereby He enabled me to assist a neighbour in the delivery of her twins (a boy and a girl)! And may God enable

us to share the Gospel with the parents of the twins, their relatives and neighbours.

Being hands-on in the field is never easy, for I often find myself inadequate for the tasks in front of me; but God is so good in sustaining and helping me week after week, and His grace is always sufficient. There were many challenges and trials along the way which sometimes did cause me to be drained emotionally, physically and mentally. But God has His ways of cheering me up, and giving me strength to press on and move forward through His Word, as well as through the children whom God used to remind me of my calling – which is to go and "preach, saying, The kingdom of heaven is at hand" (Matthew 10:7)!

I am thankful also for using the messages preached by Pastor Koshy (especially those on the Book of Ecclesiastes) to rebuke and comfort me. Of particular note to me are the lessons drawn from: Ecclesiastes 3:1 – "To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven"; and Ecclesiastes 3:11a – "He hath made every thing beautiful in his time".

Indeed, every thing has a time, every thing has a season, and it is determined by God. Every thing has a purpose, every thing has a set of direction in God's plan. Only God can make all things beautiful for us – in His time, of course. God is sovereign and He is in control of everything. May God continue to help us to patiently wait for His perfect time. While waiting, may God continue to sanctify us to be ready for the work He has purposed for us to do.

Brethren, please continue to pray for us.

Junior Worshipper's Page

The Conduct of the Employees

*“Servants, be subject to your masters with all fear;
not only to the good and gentle, but also to the froward.”
(1 Peter 2:18)*

It is God’s will that Christian employees render respect and display submissive conduct before their employers. They must avoid manifesting bitterness and rudeness at work. An attitude of graciousness and honour to those who are above us in authority is a spiritual matter. Submissive attitude at work honours and pleases God.

Indeed, not to show respect and submission to the bosses is equivalent to being irreverent to our God Himself. To neglect God’s counsel that Christians should maintain proper, honourable conduct before the employers, is to act without the fear of God!

Such a God-fearing attitude is to extend beyond “the good and gentle” masters. even to those who are “froward” (*skoliois*: crooked, perverse, dishonest, etc.). Even if the bosses are unreasonable and crooked, Christians must still be careful to conduct themselves respectfully and honourably.

In the workplace, Christian employees must not be involved in rebellions, protests, strikes, etc. – even when the employer is unreasonable. Their conduct of humility, politeness and submission at secular work must be like that of serving Christ Himself.

Prabhudas Koshy



COLLECTIONS

LORD'S DAY

on 29th November 2020

Tithes: 5,843.00

Offerings: 6,210.00

Designated Gifts: Cebu Building Fund 500.00; 450.00; 210.00; 120.00; 100.00; 30.00; Charity Fund 100.00; Elder Ng 117.00; Pastor Koshy 50.00; Zhu Chuan 117.00

Non-Sunday Collections

(23rd–28th November 2020)

Tithes: 1,590.00

Offerings: 2,652.00

Designated Gifts: BWMM 100.00; Cebu Building Fund 500.00; 250.00; 200.00; 150.00; 85.00; 50.00; Philippines Missions 500.00; Corenius Koshy 500.00; Dorcas Koshy 200.00; Ignatius Law 200.00; Jordan Ballega 200.00; Sharon Ng 200.00; Matthew Peh 25.00

Total Funds Collection

(as of 29th November 2020)

Cebu Building Fund: 268,972.50

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Topic: Book Study of Ecclesiastes

Speaker: Pastor Prabhudas Koshy

Chairperson: Pr Ho Kee How

Date & Time: Sat, 12 Dec 2020, 4.00pm

Venue: Gethsemane Media Centre

Please register at
doodle.com/poll/r8e2768vh2ha4i2w
(Availability of seats at GMC is on a
'first come, first served' basis.)

2020 DAILY VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL (DVBS) VIA ZOOM

Speakers: Pr Kelvin Lim
& Bro. Cornelius Koshy

Date: 16th–18th December 2020

Timings: 10am–11.30am (younger children), 2pm–3.30pm (older children)

Please register at
doodle.com/poll/fz4gy59eky4nbp9d
or using the QR code below.



COMBINED YAF-YF RETREAT

Topic: What should the Church Leadership Be?

Speaker: Pastor Prabhudas Koshy

Date: 24th to 26th December 2020

Morning Devotions on the topic, "Offering Spiritual Sacrifices", will be taught by Bro. Cornelius Koshy. Please sign up at <https://forms.gle/Dp1JrdRfZJn3Pbhx8>.

The mode of meeting will be confirmed in early December.

BIBLE WITNESS MAGAZINE

The latest issue on

"Beware: Spiritual Pitfalls Lurking!"

(Volume 20, Issue 5)

is available at the reception table.

(Feel free to take as many copies as you need to give to others for their spiritual admonition and edification.)

FEBC'S UPCOMING BTFE COURSES

In the new semester (4 January–30 April 2021), FEBC will be offering 12 courses. Registration will open on 13 December 2020 (DV). Please check FEBC's website for updates (www.febc.edu.sg/v15/).



GETHSEMANE BIBLE- PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Tithes, offerings and love gifts can be sent to the church account using the QR code above or via bank transfer (DBS Current Account 025-011173-7).

FOR GIFTS TO GETHSEMANE BIBLE WITNESS LIMITED

Love gifts to GBWL can be sent using the QR code below or via bank transfer (DBS Current Account 025-904568-2).



OUR WEEKLY MEETINGS

Sunday English Worship Service I

8.30am @ SingPost L5 Auditorium

Sunday Chinese Worship Service

9.00am @ GMC

Sunday English Worship Service II

11.00am @ SingPost L5 Auditorium (YouTube Live)

Sunday English Worship Service III

2.00pm @ SingPost L5 Auditorium

Sunday Catechism Class

2.00pm via Zoom

Sunday Evening Teaching Service (GBI—Nehemiah)

6.00pm @ GMC (YouTube Live)

Campus Bible Studies (via Zoom)

NAFA-Lasalle: Wednesday @ 3.00pm

SIT: Wednesday @ 4.00pm

SUTD: Friday @ 2.00pm

Staff Prayer Meeting

Tuesday @ 10.15am

Tuesday Night Bible Study & Prayer Meeting

8.00pm @ SingPost L5 Auditorium (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 (via Zoom)

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

Place of Worship:

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:

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Our Websites:

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Our Pastor:

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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