



BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF W.A.

For the Testimony and Glory of Jesus Christ

Vol. 32 No. 20
May 24th, 2015

SUNDAY COMBINED WORSHIP SERVICE

1 Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father
And to the Son
And to the Holy Ghost,
As it was in the beginning,
is now and ever shall be,
World without end.
Amen. Amen.

Preparatory Hymn

Claude Yiu

Prelude

Ruth Wong

Call to Worship

Dn Joel Wong/Kong Vui Yip

*Hymn

HOP 23 How Great Thou Art!

*Invocation/Gloria Patri 1

Responsive Reading

Psalm 73:17-28

Hymn

HOP 232 Wonderful Peace

Presentation of Tithes & Offerings

*Doxology 2/Offertory Prayer

Scripture Reading

Numbers 28:1-11, 29:39-40

Hymn

HOP 139 Wonderful Words of Life

Pastoral Prayer/Message

Rev Joseph Poon/Sonny Lim

My Continual Offerings

*Hymn

HOP 397 I Gave My Life For Thee

*Benediction/Threefold Amen

Announcements

*The Lord Bless You and Keep You 3

*Congregation Standing



Theme for 2015: "WALK WORTHY OF THE LORD UNTO ALL PLEASING" (Colossians 1:10)

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WORDS FROM OUR FOUNDING PASTOR

My dear readers,

1. “Feed the flock of God” (1 Pet 5:2)

Peter is well remembered for denying the Lord three times. But Jesus did not give up on Peter, for He loved him still, and would use him in the founding of the infant Church. By the Galilean lakeside, the resurrected Lord recommissioned Peter. Three times He challenged the disciple to feed the flock of God. Peter did not fail the Lord thereafter. What transformed Peter?

It was our Lord’s plan. After the Last Supper, Jesus told Peter: *“Simon, Simon, behold, Satan hath desired to have you, that he may sift you as wheat: But I have prayed for thee, that thy faith fail not: and when thou art converted, strengthen thy brethren”* (Luke 22:31-32).

Peter’s conversion came at Pentecost, after ten days of intense continuous prayer (Acts 1:11-14; 2:1-3). Peter was a changed person. **Before Pentecost**, Peter said to Jesus: *“Lord, I am ready to go with thee, both into prison, and to death”* (Luke 22:33). **After Pentecost**, Peter’s bold words became action. Peter was changed, converted at Pentecost when the Spirit came. Thereafter, Peter never again failed the Lord. True to his promise, spoken three times, Peter faithfully fed the flock of God, till his dying day.

Today, the Apostle exhorts us, *“Feed the flock of God!”* Nurture them, care for their spiritual needs, defend them against wolves, feel for them, protect them very well, for they are the Lord’s flock – precious beyond words. Let us do as the Apostle says. Let us *“Feed the flock of God”* faithfully and cheerfully, until the Chief Shepherd appears. *“Be thou faithful ... I will give thee a crown of life”* (Rev 2:10). Feeding the flock of God ... earnestly contending for the faith.

2. Grow in grace and in knowledge

God wills that every Christian should *“... grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ”* (2 Pet 3:18). Such growth comes by feeding on the Word of God which is spiritual milk, bread and meat. Every Christian who reads God’s Word daily and meditates, as the Psalmist says, *“O how love I Thy*

law! it is my mediation all the day” (Ps 119:97), will grow. By regular reading and prayerful meditation, the Christian will grow in grace and in knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ, our wonderful Saviour.

RPG is written specially to help believers, young and old, to grow to be strong and useful Christians for God’s use. It is written in simple language so that even the youngest believer can understand.

Prayer is the key to understanding God’s Word. Dear reader, pray before you read. Pray whenever you come across a difficult word or passage. Pray when you have finished reading. God bless you mightily, and make you a blessing to all in your home and community.

3. Pray with understanding

O friends, we must mature in our prayers! Think of what we are missing because we do not pray with understanding. Mere recitation of needs in a routine fashion must give way to praying “with understanding.” In the Lord’s Prayer we say, *“Thy will be done.”* How can we pray this unless we also know what His will is? And, how can we know God’s will? By His Word, of course!

Does this not give you the clue to more effective prayer? We have our Bibles. In our QT (Quiet Time) devotions, let us combine the reading of the Word and our speaking with the Lord. Our prayer communion must not be a “one way speech.” Let us take time also to hear God speak to us—through the Word and the prompting of the Holy Spirit. The Word of God is also our best guide to teach us what to pray for. We are lost for words and ideas. Let the Holy Spirit help *“our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us . . .”* (Rom 8:26).

Let God’s Word be our daily guide in prayer. Every passage which has a relevant application should become our prayer. Let us pray God’s Word for ourselves, for in so doing we can be sure that we are asking for God’s will to be fulfilled in our lives. This is to pray with understanding. This is God’s will for us!

4. For we wrestle in prayer

A Christian who says that he has never had to wrestle in prayer truly has not entered into the prayer life. Prayer being the central and vital activity of our spiritual life, it is only natural that the enemy of our souls would direct his most dangerous and hurtful darts at our prayer life. For Satan does not like us to pray. It is said that:

The weakest Christian on his knee
Makes Satan tremble, turn and flee.

Satan understands full well that our prayers are our most potent weapons of defence and attack against him. That is why he directs his most subtle attacks at our prayer life. If he can somehow weaken or cripple our devotion to the Lord, he would have scored a crucial victory. Foolishly we are lulled into a sense of false security by his suggestion that we are quite all right. We have not committed any grave sin, we are regular in church attendance and our souls are at peace. Take your ease, therefore. Why all the praying?

Behind our complacency hides the adversary, mobilizing everything in his power to destroy our prayer life. He has a ready ally in our old Adam, our carnal nature, the flesh. The carnal mind is enmity against God (Rom 8:7). Our flesh lusteth against the Spirit ... so that we cannot do the things we would (Gal 5:17). The carnal mind is ever ready to supply reasons for not praying: you are busy, you are tired, you woke up late, you may miss an important appointment, your boss is waiting, your studies are behind, you must go to the market early, wait for a better time.

Are these strange to you, dear reader? Or are they old excuses? Unless we have a strong resolve, a rock firm discipline, a sacred hour for prayer, our prayer life will be in ruins even before we start. Everything is legitimate: newspaper, telephone, washing, getting ready for the day's work. But not prayer. So we wrestle! God help us.

Dear readers, yield to God. He gives the victory. Keep a definite appointment with God daily.

Yours faithfully in the Saviour's Service,
Dr SH Tow

ANNOUNCEMENTS, PRAISE & PETITION

- 1. City Evangelism:** Today our church will be going into the Perth City to share the Gospel. Please meet at 1:45pm for a short briefing before we depart. After the outreach, we will meet back at Church for testimonies at 5pm. If you are interested in coming, even if just to observe, please let Dn Adrian or Julia know. Say not ye, There are yet four months, and then cometh harvest? behold, I say unto you, Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest. – John 4:35
- 2. Myanmar and Cebu Mission:** Immediately after the Worship Service today, Elder James Wong and Sister Joyce Yip will be sharing some of the photos taken from the recent mission family camps in the main Sanctuary. All are welcome to stay behind to watch the short presentation. Sunday School children are warmly welcome.
- 3. BPCWA Family Camp:** The opportunity to sign up for this year's Family Camp is closing soon. Please submit your registration forms and fees by next Sunday to secure your spot at this year's camp. For more information please see the registration team in the fellowship hall at the conclusion of today's worship.
- 4. Mandarin Family Care Group Meeting:** will be held next Sunday the 31st of May at the home of Sister Camilia Sin, Address: 3 Marra Way, South Lake. Elder James will be sharing. Dinner is at 6:30 pm and the meeting starts at 7:30 pm. Please bring a dish to share. All who understand mandarin are warmly welcome to study God's Word together and have fellowship with one another.
- 5. Holy Land Pilgrimage:** Bethel BPC is organising a holy land pilgrimage to Israel and Jordon in December 2015. We will arrive on Monday morning (06/12) in Amman, Jordon and depart from the same airport on Thursday night (17/12). For any inquiries and to express interest, please contact Bro Kenny Cheong (kennychong@bethelbpc.com.au, +61 413 511 345) or Rev Paul Cheng (paulcheng@bethelbpc.com.au, +61 447 174 206) soon as there are limited spaces.

6. Thanksgiving and Prayer Items:

- God's protection during last week's stormy weather.
- For evangelism in the city this afternoon. Pray for spiritual and physical protection for those who are participating in the outreach, and for the non-believers to have a receptive heart.
- For the sharing of Mission photos this morning. Pray that the church will be encouraged and have a greater burden for mission work.
- Planning and preparation for the July family camp. Pray for the camp speakers, families and individuals will come with prepared hearts to learn God's Word.
- Students who are working on their assignments and their preparation for the forthcoming examinations.
- Re-building of Nehemiah Place and the building committee to have wisdom and a clear direction to proceed with the project.
- God's leading and timing in re-starting the Mandarin Worship Service once a month.
- Those who are working away from home and travelling.
- God's protection towards the elderly brethren and young children during the cold winter season and those who are spiritually and physically unwell.
- Safety and security in and around the church and homes of worshippers.

SERVICE DUTY	24/5 COMBINED	31/5 COMBINED - Lunch Fellowship
Speaker/Interpreter	Rev Joseph Poon/Sonny Lim	Rev Joseph Poon/Yew Jinn Chieng
Worship Leader/Interpreter	Dn Joel Wong/Kong Vui Yip	Elder James Wong/Kong Vui Yip
Prep Hymns	Claude Yiu	Jason Tey
Musician(s)	Ruth Wong	Lydia Pui
Welcomers	Terry Chong, Lydia Chong, Julia Sun	Dn Michael Lee, Irene Lee, Lee Lee Yong
Offering Stewards *To Help Count Offering	*Terry Chong, *Caleb Cheng, Yi Choong Liew, Steven Sun, Claude Yiu, Dn Stephen Chia	* Jason Tey, *Allen Liew, Alex Luu, Allan Ang, Eddie Foo, Dn Michael Lee
Ushers	Caleb Cheng, Rowena Cheng, Shie Tian Wong	Allan Ang, Lilian Cheo, Li Xin Cheo
P.A. System	Adrian Ng	Kenny Chia
Kitchen Duties	Lisa Ho, Andy Ho, Margaret Ng, Christine Chia, Ming Ming Th'ng	Lilian Cheo, Irene Yap, Yi Jye Chieng, Valerie Wan, Edward Ee
JSS Singspiration	Valerie Wan/Yi Mey Tan	Karen Ee/Yi Jye Chieng
Toddler Class Assistant	Lee Lee Yong/Ka Yii Yip	Lilian Yong/Victoria Lew
Transport	Eugene Leong (0401 155 386) / Allan Ang (0433 032 709)	

Old Folks' Home Ministry

Subiaco	Robert Wong (Ruth Wong)	Edward Ee (Karen Ee)
South Perth	Hall A: Kenny Tan Hall B: Jason Tey	Hall A: Mark Heath Hall B: Caleb Cheng
Bayswater	Elder James Wong	Yew Jinn Chieng

APPOINTMENTS OF THE WEEK

Tuesday	26/5	10:00am	Mandarin Bible Study
		7:30pm	Prayer Meeting: Rev Joseph Poon/Kong Vui Yip, Dn Adrian Cheng, Audrey Liow
Wednesday	27/5	7:30pm	FEBC: Names of God & Bible and Science
Friday	29/5	7:30pm	Fellowship Meeting: Regen/Youth 180°/CYAF/CYPG
Sunday	31/5	8:30am	Pre-Service Prayer Meeting
		9:00am	English & Mandarin Sunday School/English & Mandarin Basic Bible Knowledge Class
		10:00am	Sunday Combined Worship Service
		12:00pm	Mandarin Choir
		12:15pm	Church Van Depart
		2:00pm	Nursing Home: Concorde – 25 Anstey Street, South Perth Onslow Gardens – 39 Hamersley Road, Subiaco
		3:30pm	Nursing Home: Ben Ritcher Lodge – 480 Guildford Road, Bayswater
6:30pm	Mandarin Family Care Group Meeting - 3 Marra Way, South Lake		

ATTENDANCE & OFFERINGS (17/5)

Attendance: 201 (Combined-171; JSS-30); Prayer Meeting: 58

Offerings in Total: \$9677.00

General Fund: \$9677.00 (#3902-Family Camp-\$430; #3903-\$217.90; #3904-\$1000)

SHORTER CATECHISM: What is forbidden in the seventh commandment? The seventh commandment forbiddeth all unchaste thoughts, words and actions (Matt 5:28; Eph 5:3-4).