



BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF W.A.

For the Testimony and Glory of Jesus Christ

April 10th, 2016

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

Allan Ang

Prelude

Ruth Wong

Call to Worship

Elder James Wong/Dn Joel Wong

*Hymn

HOP 20 A Mighty Fortress Is My God

*Invocation/Gloria Patri 1

Responsive Reading

Psalm 102:1-11

Hymn

HOP 201 "Are Ye Able." Said the Master

Presentation of Tithes & Offerings

*Doxology 2/Offertory Prayer

Scripture Reading

1 Corinthians 5:9-13

Hymn

HOP 258 Beneath the Cross of Jesus

Pastoral Prayer/Message

Rev Joseph Poon/Sonny Lim

The Practice of Biblical Separation

*Hymn

HOP 179 I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord

*Benediction/Threefold Amen

Announcements

*The Lord Bless You and Keep You 3

*Congregation Standing



Theme for 2016: "SANCTIFIED, AND MEET FOR THE MASTER'S USE" (2 Timothy 2:21)

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WORDS FROM OUR FOUNDING PASTOR

My dear readers,

(Excerpts from Building Firm Foundations, Dr SH Tow)

1. Of tempers and tantrums

Childhood tempers and tantrums usually respond to father's firm hand. Repeated fits and outbursts require careful investigation into the cause and its removal, but generally speaking the rod (with reasonableness) will cure. What if the cause is parental tempers and tantrums? As they say in China, "*Monkey see monkey do.*" Can one blame a child for copying from parents? Obviously some adult soul-searching is needful.

Adult tempers and tantrums are a serious malady and not easily cured, but no matter how resistant to treatment, relief must be earnestly sought. A Christian home ought not to emit angry sounds from internal commotions. Outbursts between husband and wife or parent and child are hurtful to the spirit, degrading to neighbours and a shame to God's name.

Dear reader, if your home is afflicted by this disease, pray earnestly to God for deliverance. Then yield yourself to the Spirit. Violent temper and unreasonable clamour are simply giving in to the carnal mind and falling into the devil's snare. The devil's chief ambition is to cause us to go back to our old ways, to quench the Spirit of God and to let our old Adam take control again. The devil makes us feel self-righteous, self-important and puffed up. Then we forget our submission to God, and down we fall. Nothing delights the devil more than this. You can frustrate him by saying **No!**

"He that is slow to anger is better than the mighty; and he that ruleth his spirit than he that taketh a city" (Pro 16:32). Let the father and mother of the home set the example. Determine that your home will be a haven of peace, a house of quiet retreat, a refuge for every troubled soul. Men are not impressed by our service in church, by our witnessing everywhere, by our eloquent prayers. But when peace and harmony reign supreme and love evidently fills every heart, men will stop and take notice.

Even unbelievers will give glory to our Saviour's name.

2. Like parents like children

It is no little thing to mock a prophet. For their insulting behavior toward Elisha, forty-two children were killed by wild bears from the forest. If God were to dispense comparable justice to the juvenile offenders of today, one shudders to think what the outcome might be! An appalling assortment of juvenile crimes appears in the daily newspapers. In every major city of the world the age of criminal offenders creeps lower each year. As God's Word warns: In the last days perilous times shall come. For men shall be lovers of their own selves ... disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, without natural affection, truce-breakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good ...

Juvenile crime reflects the state of our homes. It is in the home that young thugs, hooligans, thieves, gangsters, kidnappers, rapists, sex perverts, swindlers, robbers and murderers are bred. Parents must bear the major accountability for their children's anti-social performance.

Chief Justice William H. Waste of the California Supreme Court commenting on the rising tide of lawlessness among the youth of today observes that the criminal indifference of parents is largely responsible. He agrees with the then American President that "What the youths of the country need is not more public control through governmental action, but more home control through parental action." He continues:

"Through indifference or because of an ill-considered belief in the dangerous doctrine of the "new freedom," parents have given over the reins of authority, and they now watch with horror the resulting runaway. You cannot give youth the reins and say, Drive! Without inviting a smash. Youth lacks judgment. It is dominated to a large extent by the physical urge. Without a guiding hand it will run amok and smash itself."

"True religion and good citizenship are inseparable. Supplementing the work of the Church is the Sunday School. I am sorry that the Sunday School and the Church must often do, unaided, what the home should co-operate in doing." (*The Wesleyan Methodist*).

The sad fact is that Christian homes are failing in their duty. Believing parents, be warned. The problem is more important than your golf and club activities.

Christian parents with time to spare should spend it serving in Church, not in clubs. Lord, help our parents to save their children from the world of crime.

3. Herein is love

The superlative love of God is matchless and incomparable. Its depth can never be fully fathomed. John, the Apostle of love, said: "Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his son to be the propitiation of our sins. We love him because he first loved us." (1 Jn 4:10, 19)

We see something of God's love in the way fathers love their sons and daughters. Children will not really understand parents' love until they have become parents themselves. King David was under attack by his rebellious son Absalom. He had to flee for his life. In the ensuing battle, Absalom was killed by David's men. The King was overwhelmed with grief at the news and wept, "O my son Absalom, my son, my son Absalom! Would God I had died for thee, O Absalom, my son, my son!"

The prodigal son returning from his disastrous venture in that far country received a royal welcome from his heartbroken father, who said, "For this my son was dead, and is alive again: he was lost, and is found." All of the son's past ingratitude and misdeeds were forgotten and forgiven. Both this father and King David reveal to us, only faintly, the loving heart of God, our Heavenly Father.

Now, my young readers, do you appreciate your parents better? Listen further to this account of another father's love for his child. "When I return home tired after my day's work, I am refreshed when I see my baby daughter. I hold her in my arms, look into her blue eyes and every little sound she makes is music to my ears. I whisper to her my tender affection although she understands not a word, and neither can she love me now.

"I lay her down to sleep, and if I were troubled by some sudden illness she will not stir a finger to help. If I should die she would likely forget me in a few days. And while I live she is a constant expense to me. I earn only a little but I will not part with her for all the money in the world. How is it? Does she love me? Not really. Do I then withhold my love until I know she loves me? Do I wait for her to prove her love before I love her?"

Herein is love, not that you loved your father or mother, but that they first loved you, and gave their best for you, when you were little and helpless.

Yours faithfully in the Saviour's Service,

Dr SH Tow

ANNOUNCEMENTS, PRAISE & PETITION

- 1. Mandarin Basic Bible Knowledge Class:** Will commence this afternoon at 3.00pm in the church library. If you would like to join this class please see Elder James for details.
- 2. Church Busy Bee:** If you are able, do come and serve with us this Saturday (16/4) from 9:00am to 12noon to help clean and tidy up the church. Lunch will be provided.
- 3. Men's Fellowship & Ladies' Fellowship:** Will be held next Sunday, 17th April, starting with dinner at church at 6pm. Messages start at 7:15pm with the ladies meeting downstairs. Sister Sharon will be speaking on "Unnamed But Not Unknown In Affliction" (Mark 1:29-31). The men will be meeting in the upstairs sanctuary. Rev Joseph will be speaking on "David: One Difference Between Men and Women." Mandarin interpretation will be available. All are welcome.
- 4. Church Combined Fellowship:** 7:30pm on Fridays, 22nd and 29th April. Topic will be "Church History - Denominations". How did denominations come about in the Christian church today? What are the differences? Are denominations divisive, as the Roman Catholic church often says of Protestants? Hence, are denominations bad? If you have ever wondered or have ever been asked such questions, come and learn more at the upcoming Combined Fellowship meetings. There will be Mandarin interpretation and these sessions are open both to the young and old alike. All are encouraged to attend. Anyone with questions on this topic can submit them to Rev Joseph.

5. Church Family Camp: Will be held from 3rd to 7th July at Orchard Glory Farm Resort. The camp speaker is Reverend Koshy, Pastor of Gethsemane BP Church in Singapore. Please do apply for leave early to avoid disappointment. More details to follow.

6. Mission to Myanmar (26-29 May): Please pray about this mission trip. If you are willing or wanting to participate, please see Rev Joseph for details.

7. Thanksgiving and Prayer Items:

- Thank God for a blessed Mandarin Family Care Group Meeting last Sunday night.
- Pray for the program planned for April and the various church ministries.
- Pray for the design and compilation of the 30th year thanksgiving magazine.
- Pray for the spiritual and physical health of the session members, Rev Joseph and the church congregation. May God enable them to serve Him to the best of their abilities.
- Keep in prayer those who have physical infirmities or who may be struggling spiritually.
- Pray for the re-development of Nehemiah House project.
- Pray for God's will and leading in re-starting the Mandarin Sunday Worship Service once a month.
- Pray for those who are searching for a job, working away from home, or travelling.
- Pray for safety in and around the church and in the homes of worshippers.

| SERVICE DUTY | 10/4 COMBINED | 17/4 COMBINED |
|--|---|--|
| Speaker/Interpreter | Rev Joseph Poon/Sonny Lim | Rev Joseph Poon/Kong Vui Yip |
| Worship Leader/Interpreter | Elder James Wong/Dn Joel Wong | Dn Michael Lee/Sonny Lim |
| Prep Hymns | Allan Ang | Kenny Tan |
| Musician(s) | Ruth Wong | Winnie Lim |
| Welcomers | Eddie Foo, Carol Wee, Albert Ho | Claude Yiu, Esther Yiu, Lily Liow |
| Offering Stewards *To Help Count Offering | *Eddie Foo, *Albert Ho, Adrian Ng Allan Ang, Mark Heath, Dn Adrian Cheng | *Alex Luu, *Kenny Tan, Eugene Leong Edward Ee, Claude Yiu, Yan Wei |
| Ushers | Adrian Ng, Lilian Cheo, Ellainne Cheng | Edward Ee, Yi Jye Chieng, Yi Mey Tan |
| P.A. System | Caleb Cheng | Albert Ho |
| Kitchen Duties | Yi Min Chieng, Yi San Chieng Lily Liow, Shuin Ning Jong | Lilian Yong, Victoria Lew, Yung Tsing Mew Julia Sun, Ilhoa Ramachandran |
| JSS Singspiration | Valerie/Terry | Yung Tsing/Yi Mey |
| Toddler Class Assistant | Mary/Lee Chin | Shirlyn/Lilian |
| Transport | Eugene Leong (0401 155 386) / Allan Ang (0433 032 709) | |

Old Folks' Home Ministry

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|-------------|--|---|
| Subiaco | Edward Ee (Karen Ee) | Edward Ee (Karen Ee) |
| South Perth | Hall A: Allan Ang Hall B: Jason Tey | Hall A: Mark Heath Hall B: Caleb Cheng |
| Bayswater | - | - |
| Berrington | Mark Heath | Mark Heath |

APPOINTMENTS OF THE WEEK

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| Tuesday | 12/4 | 10:00am | Mandarin Bible Study |
| | | 7:30pm | Prayer Meeting: Rev Joseph Poon/Dn Joel Wong, Mark Heath, Angeline Yong |
| Wednesday | 13/4 | 7:30pm | FEBC Online Course Screening: Revelation |
| Friday | 15/4 | 7:30pm | Fellowship Meeting: Regen/Youth 180°/CYAF/CYPG |
| Saturday | 16/4 | 9:00am | Church Busy Bee |
| Sunday | 17/4 | 8:30am | Pre-Service Prayer Meeting |
| | | 9:00am | English & Mandarin Sunday School/English 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 (Recess) Berrington, Subiaco – 45 Bishop St, Jolimont |
| 6:00pm | Men's Fellowship & Ladies' Fellowship | | |

ATTENDANCE & OFFERINGS (3/4)

Attendance: 228 (Combined-192; JSS-36); Prayer Meeting: 67

Offerings in Total: \$8979.90; General Fund: \$8979.90 (#4019-Mandarin Church Family Camp-\$870.00; #4020-Library-\$80.00)

SHORTER CATECHISM: Did our first parents continue in the estate wherein they were created? Our first parents, being left to the freedom of their own will, fell from the estate wherein they were created, by sinning against God (Gen 3:6-8; 13; 2 Cor 11:3).