



BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF W.A.

For the Testimony and Glory of Jesus Christ

May 29th, 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

Adrian Ng

Prelude

Winnie Lim

Call to Worship

Robert Wong/Yew Jinn Chieng

*Hymn

HOP 46 Our Great Saviour

*Invocation/Gloria Patri 1

Responsive Reading

Psalm 105:1-10

Hymn

HOP 221 Yesterday, Today, Forever

Presentation of Tithes & Offerings

*Doxology 2/Offertory Prayer

Scripture Reading

Daniel 6:1-10, 16-23

Hymn

HOP 297 Encamped Along the Hills of Light

Pastoral Prayer/Message

Elder James Wong/Sonny Lim

Excellent Spirit

*Hymn

HOP 263 Thou My Everlasting Portion

*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. Monogamy, monotony

The temptation of some woman younger and more attractive than one's ageing wife will raise the question, "Can't a believer have more than one wife? Abraham (father of the faithful) had three and Jacob had four. Why can't I have just one more?" Perhaps you had occasion to doubt God's wisdom in making the marriage union for just two persons. Perhaps you have thought out some very good reasons for polygamy, e.g. the monotony of the same old spouse! It's time for a change!

Not quite. Firstly, let us relearn our theology. God's ways are always perfect. He ordained it to be one-plus-one and no more. He made no mistake about it. If there is ever any mistake or miscalculation, it is never on God's part. Rather, it is always on man's part.

Monotony? Yes, indeed, says the carnal mind. The flesh with its lust clamours, "A change! Variety! New experience!" It all sounds very exciting. Unnumbered millions have gone the way of the flesh, only to find that the payment is not as the promise. My dear reader, the monotony of monogamy is not to be compared with the bitterness and strife of polygamy!

Read again the passage from 1 Kings 11. Solomon loved women. With his kingly power and wealth he gathered 1,000. Some perverse wit remarked, "Variety is the spouse of life." Those women turned away Solomon's heart after other gods, and his heart was not perfect with the Lord. Read also the lives of Abraham and Jacob and the price they had to pay for their multiple wives.

No, my friend, polygamy was never God's plan. It was the work of man's carnal desire. A believer must not be ruled by his carnal mind, *"For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace So then they that are in the flesh cannot please God"* (Rom 8:6, 8).

Monogamy in the Lord gives you and your spouse a monopoly of each other, within a fidelity one to the other. Consider the instruction from God's Word: *"Whoso findeth a wife findeth a good thing, and obtaineth favour of the LORD"* (Prov 18:22). *"Let thy fountain be blessed: and rejoice with the wife of thy youth"* (Prov 5:18). *"Who can find a virtuous woman? for her price is far above rubies. The heart of her husband doth safely trust in her ..."* (Prov 31:10, 11).

But godliness with contentment is great gain!

What if our Heavenly Husband should get tired of us?

2. Single but not solitary

By definition the unmarried are single. Our concern is with those who stay single past the average age of marriage – the confirmed bachelor and spinster. Why do some people stay single? Generally it is a matter of the person's urge and occupation. With the majority the course of nature (the "mating instinct") works toward a settlement in marriage. For a few, the instinct may be less urgent, or may be sublimated into the pursuit of career or hobby. Consequently the individual is busy and contented with life, somewhat oblivious to the advance of the years.

There is no question of which is better: to marry or not to marry. Neither can be said to be better for any particular person. He or she has to decide. The more important thing is to be contented, whatever state one is in, and

to devote oneself to strive for the glory of God. *“Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God”* (1 Cor 10:31). Whether you marry or remain single, do it to the glory of God!

A single person has an advantage over the married person in serving the Lord. As Paul says, He that is unmarried careth for the things that belong to the Lord, how he may please the Lord. Similarly, with the woman. The single, unattached person will be more mobile (e.g. to become a foreign missionary), and can afford more time serving in the Church. This is true only if the person is fully devoted to God’s service.

What about the state of celibacy, i.e. remaining single for life? Certain religious groups teach that celibacy is an expression of the pure life (the renunciation of dirty sex) and is a way of gaining merit with God. Such a doctrine has no Scriptural support and is a clear contradiction of God’s will for man in creation (that a man shall leave father and mother and shall cleave unto his wife). This doctrine originated in the fourth century by the introduction of pagan philosophies and practices into the Church of Rome. We therefore reject monasticism, asceticism and celibacy as unChristian practices.

The single believer may take comfort in belonging to the greater family of believers in the Church community, a blessing which renders him or her neither solitary nor sorry!

Let us do all to the glory of God. In whatever state, may we be contented.

Yours faithfully in the Saviour’s Service,

Dr SH Tow

ANNOUNCEMENTS, PRAISE & PETITION

- 1. Lunch Fellowship:** today after the worship service. Everyone is welcome.
- 2. City Evangelism:** this afternoon we will be going to the Perth city malls to share the gospel. We will meet at church at 1:45 pm for a short briefing before heading to the city. The outreach will conclude at 5 pm in church, with testimonies.
- 3. Church Family Camp:** registrations (including Part-Time) for the Family Camp will be closing today. Please submit your registration forms and fees to the Registration Team by the end of the day to secure your place. Please let the Registration Team know if you have difficulty in submitting your forms and fees today.
- 4. Mandarin Family Care Group Meeting:** will be held next Sunday the 5th of June at the home of Edward and Joanne Teng. Address: 2 Stowe Gardens, Aubin Grove. Elder James will continue to share on the series taken from Gospel of John, Jesus said “ I am.....” Dinner starts at 6 pm with the meeting starting at 7 pm. Please bring a dish to share. We warmly welcome everyone to come and learn God’s word and have fellowship with each other.
- 5. Children’s Holiday Bible Program:** will be held from Monday 11th – Wednesday 13th July from 9 - 12 pm on the week after church camp. This will be for children ages 3 - 12. Please avail your children for this precious opportunity to learn God’s Word and to invite their school friends to hear the Gospel during their school holidays. More details will be available soon.
- 6. Please pray and participate in the program planned for June:**

DATE	TIME	PROGRAM
5 th June Sunday	6:00 pm	Mandarin Family Care Group Meeting Address: 2 Stowe Gardens, Aubin Grove WA 6164
19 th June Sunday	6:00 pm	Men’s Fellowship and Ladies’ Fellowship

7. Thanksgiving and Prayer Items:

- Thank God for keeping everyone safe during last week's windy and rainy weather.
- Thank God for seeing Brother Yew Jinn through another semester of study. Pray that he will serve God effectively during his study break at BPCWA.
- Pray for Uncle Seethor Weng, Brother Stephen Cheng and Sister Rowena Cheng. May God be gracious unto them and grant them a speedy recovery from their respective illnesses and surgery.
- Pray for journey mercy for Rev Joseph and Sister Sharon as they return to Perth.
- Pray for the church Session as they serve the Lord.
- Pray for physical and spiritual protection to those who are participating in the City Evangelism this afternoon.
- Pray for the camp planning committee with the preparation of the July camp. Also pray for the camp speaker Rev Koshy.
- Pray for the design, translation and compilation of the 30th year thanksgiving magazine.
- Pray for the students who are preparing for their forthcoming examinations.
- Pray for God's will and leading in re-starting the Mandarin Sunday Worship Service once a month.
- Pray for the re-development of the Nehemiah House project.
- Pray that God's grace will be upon those who are sick, struggling spiritually or suffering from persecution for the Lord.
- Pray for the brethren who are still searching for a job. May God's protection and grace be with the brethren who are working away from home and those who are travelling.
- Pray for physical and spiritual safety in and around the church and in the homes of worshippers.

SERVICE DUTY	29/5 COMBINED - Lunch Fellowship	5/6 COMBINED - Holy Communion
Speaker/Interpreter	Elder James Wong/Sonny Lim	Rev Joseph Poon/Yew Jinn Chieng
Worship Leader/Interpreter	Robert Wong/Yew Jinn Chieng	Dn Adrian Cheng/Dn Joel Wong
Prep Hymns	Adrian Ng	Claude Yiu
Musician(s)	Winnie Lim	Ruth Wong
Welcomers	Alex Luu, Grace Luu, Angeline Yong	Jonathan Woo, Bonnie Woo, Mark Heath
Offering Stewards *To Help Count Offering	*Alex Luu, *Adrian Ng, Yi Choong Liew Eugene Leong, Eddie Foo, Dn Michael Lee	*Jonathan Woo, *Claude Yiu, Kenny Chia Yan Wei, Mark Heath, Kenny Tan
Ushers	Yi Choong Liew, Lee Lee Yong, Li Xin Cheo	Kenny Chia, Yi San Chieng, Ellainne Cheng
P.A. System	Kenny Chia	Yi Choong Liew
Kitchen Duties	Yi Min Chieng, Yi San Chieng Lily Liow, Shuin Ning Jong	Lilian Yong, Victoria Lew, Mew Yung Tsing Julia Sun, Ilhoa Ramachandran
JSS Singspiration	Valerie Wan/Yi Jye Chieng	-
Toddler Class Assistant	Lee Lian Yong/Victoria Lew	Yi Mey Tan/Shirlyn Lee
Transport	Eugene Leong (0401 155 386) / Allan Ang (0433 032 709)	

Old Folks' Home Ministry

Subiaco	Edward Ee (Karen Ee)	Rev Joseph Poon (Sharon Poon)
South Perth	Hall A: Yew Jinn Chieng Hall B: Caleb Cheng	Hall A: Yew Jinn Chieng Hall B: Allan Ang
Berrington	Yew Jinn Chieng	Rev Joseph Poon

APPOINTMENTS OF THE WEEK

Tuesday	31/5	10:00 am	Mandarin Bible Study
		7:30 pm	Prayer Meeting: Rev Joseph Poon/Yew Jinn Chieng, Caleb Cheng, Yung Tsing Mew
Wednesday	1/6	7:30 pm	FEBC Inter Semester Course Screening: Leviticus
Friday	3/6	10:00 am	Mother's Fellowship Group
		7:30 pm	Fellowship Meeting: Regen/Youth 180°/CYAF/CYPG
Sunday	5/6	8:30 am	Pre-Service Prayer Meeting
		9:00 am	English & Mandarin Sunday School/English Basic Bible Knowledge Class
		10:00 am	Sunday Combined Worship Service
		12:00 pm	Mandarin Choir
		12:15 pm	Church Van Depart
		2:00 pm	Nursing Home: Concorde – 25 Anstey Street, South Perth Onslow Gardens – 39 Hamersley Road, Subiaco
		3:30 pm	Nursing Home: Ben Ritcher Lodge – 480 Guildford Road, Bayswater (Recess) Berrington, Subiaco – 45 Bishop St, Jolimont
		6:00 pm	Mandarin Family Care Group Meeting Address: 2 Stowe Gardens, Aubin Grove WA 6164

ATTENDANCE & OFFERINGS (22/5)

Attendance: 198 (Combined-160; JSS-38); Prayer Meeting: 54
 Offerings in Total: \$5963.75; General Fund: \$5963.75
 (#4036-Library-\$25.00; #4037-\$175.00; #4038-\$78.00; #4039-\$172.00; #4040-\$122.00; #4041-Family Camp-\$215.00)

SHORTER CATECHISM: Did God leave all mankind to perish in the estate of sin and misery? God, having out of his mere good pleasure, from all eternity, elected some to everlasting life (Acts 13:48; Eph 1:4-5; 2 Thess 2:13-14), did enter into a covenant of grace to deliver them out of the estate of sin and misery, and to bring them into an estate of salvation by a Redeemer (Gen 3:15; 17:7; Exo 19:5-6; Jer 31:31-34; Matt 20:28; 1 Cor 11:25; Heb 9:15).