



BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF W.A.

For the Testimony and Glory of Jesus Christ

October 15th, 2017

SUNDAY COMBINED WORSHIP SERVICE

1 The Lord Is in His Holy Temple

The Lord is in His holy temple, The Lord is in His holy temple: Let all the earth keep silence, Let all the earth keep silence before Him Keep silence, keep silence before Him. Amen.

Prelude/Preparatory Hymn Karen Ee/Deacon Eugene Leong

The Lord Is in His Holy Temple 1

Call to Worship Deacon Joel Wong/Kong Vui Yip

*Hymn **HOP 5** The God of Abraham Praise

*Invocation/Gloria Patri 2

Responsive Reading Psalm 142:1-7

Hymn **HOP 205** Blessed Assurance

Presentation of Tithes & Offerings **HOP 383** Something for Thee

*Doxology 3/Offertory Prayer

Scripture Reading Ephesians 2:19-22

Hymn **HOP 125** Open My Eyes, That I May See

Pastoral Prayer/Message Pastor Joseph Poon/Kong Vui Yip

2 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.

3 Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Built For God's Habitation

*Hymn **HOP 178** The Church's One Foundation

*Benediction/Threefold Amen

Announcements

*The Lord Bless You and Keep You 4

*Congregation Standing

4 The Lord Bless You and Keep You

The Lord bless you and keep you; The Lord lift His countenance upon you, and give you peace, and give you peace; The Lord make His face to shine upon you, And be gracious unto you, be gracious, The Lord be gracious, gracious unto you. Amen.



THEME FOR 2017:

“... STAND FAST IN ONE SPIRIT, WITH ONE MIND STRIVING TOGETHER FOR THE FAITH OF THE GOSPEL” (Philippians 1:27)

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PASTORAL LETTER

Faith and Works

Dear BPCWAIans, The relationship between works and faith is a subject that has stirred much controversy in Christendom. This very topic prompted the beginnings of the Protestant Reformation, and continues to stir much debate in many Christian circles. Importantly, do you personally know if you were to die today, you will surely go to heaven? There are 2 extremes today – one is “I believe in Christianity, so I am going to heaven even if I hardly have any works in my life”, and the other is “I do what Christians do, so I will go to heaven.” What is the relationship between genuine saving faith and good works?

Can genuine faith exist without works? The answer simply is “no”. True, genuine saving faith will always be evident in a believer’s life. The Bible makes this point clear. “For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also.” (James 2:26) A body that is alive shows some signs of life, no matter how weak the breath may be. Likewise, a true faith will always be demonstrated in the life – in varying degrees, according to the strength of that faith. But it is without a doubt that there will be some evidence in that life. Mere mental understanding of a “concept” is not faith. Faith begins with the understanding of the mind, received into the heart and eventually demonstrated in the life. True and genuine conviction – which is what true faith is – always brings about signs of it in the life of the person. Everyone believes in something, exercises some degree of faith. And often, what we do will be an outward representation of what we trust in, what our beliefs are.

What kind of works does true faith produce? The fruit will be reflective of that faith. Because of this, Christ tells us that “Ye shall know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles?” (Matt 7:16). What you do and how you live your life will reflect what you believe in. *1) Works that demonstrate saving faith.* Saving faith is through the gracious gift of God. One evidence of saving faith is a profession and trust in Christ as Saviour as the only way to be saved (Rom 10:9). This means that you will readily reject all other “gods” and all other ways of salvation. Another fruit of saving faith is that there will be signs of repentance in the person’s life (Lk 3:8). This is because of the work of the Holy Spirit in his life that will change his way of thinking, and hence his walk – “behold, all things are become new” (2 Cor 5:17). This newness of life will be demonstrated by *2) Works that follow saving faith. This will be demonstrated in varying degrees in the lives of Christians.* That new life will be evidenced by a *love and desire* for God’s Word. “As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby.” (1 Pet 2:2). Adopted as children of God, God puts in every one of His children that desire to know Him and to please Him – and He does this through His Word. Once enemies of God before salvation and haters of His Truth, God’s law is now his delight and he will love to learn more about His heavenly Father (Ps 1:2). A person who hardly reads or has little regard for God’s Word must surely be very alarmed and should take care to check his salvation. Moreover, true and genuine faith produces a work of *obedience* in the life of God’s children. True faith will produce a natural and genuine desire

to obey God's commandments. A person who outwardly acts like a Christian at church but bears no semblance of honouring God in secret or at home must also be concerned if he has genuine faith. While the Christian's obedience will not be perfect in this life, the Holy Spirit working in his heart will cause him to know that he is living in sin. He cannot be happy while he lives away from the fellowship of God. Even when he is backslidden, the sin in his life and of those around him will vex him (2 Pet 2:7). So, the good works that God expects in a believer's life is the life of obedience to His commandments. And throughout his life, God progressively works in the believer's life through His Word to increase our sanctification (Eph 5:26).

The Apostle James was not advocating salvation by works in James 2:26. His great concern was that professing believers have false sense of security because of their false faith. He was teaching that genuine saving faith is always accompanied by an obedient life of works according to God's Word. Do you truly have a such saving faith? Well, examine your own public and private life in the mirror of God's Word. This is a very important question that you must answer for yourself today.

Yours in our Lord's service
Pastor

ANNOUNCEMENTS, PRAISE & PETITION

- 1. Adelphe Bible Study (Today, 3:30 pm):** All ladies are invited and encouraged to come join us at this bible study as we continue to look at the nature of God's decrees, how God executes His decrees, and the different kinds of providence mentioned in Scripture. Pastor will be leading this in-depth bible study, which will be held at church.
- 2. Mandarin Care Group (This Saturday, 21 October, 10:30 am):** The meeting will be held in Church. Pastor will be speaking on "The Christian Armour - The Helmet Of Salvation" taken from Ephesians 6:17. As there will be fellowship lunch after the message, please kindly bring a dish to share. All are welcome to attend and learn God's Word together.
- 3. BPCWA Church Group Photo (Next Sunday, 22 October)** will be taken after Worship Service. All worshippers are requested to gather immediately in front of the church building at the conclusion of Worship Service for the photo taking.
- 4. Men Fellowship & Ladies Fellowship (Next Sunday, 22 October, 6:00 pm):** Come and join us as we study how to live a God honouring life as a Christian man or woman. Dinner starts at 6 pm with both programs starting at 7 pm. More details next week.

5. Thanksgiving and Prayer Items:

- Thank God for the opportunity to get to know one another better at the Husbands and Fathers lunch gathering yesterday. Pray that the stronger bonds built will help them to encourage each other to be more godly heads in their homes.
- Thank God for the Adelphe Bible Study and opportunity for sisters to learn about the manifold aspects of God's will. Pray that this will equip them to make more godly choices in life.
- Pray for the Mandarin Care Group to strengthen believers in their faith and in their knowledge of God together.
- Pray for parents who are bringing their children for infant baptism to be faithful to their vows to bring up their children in the knowledge of God in their homes and among God's people at church.
- Pray for the peace, unity and steadfastness of BPCWA to strive together for the faith of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Pray for physical and spiritual protection against Satan's attacks.
- Pray for those that are Transferring Membership and Affirming their faith to continue to grow spiritually and serve together with us.

SERVICE DUTY	15/10 COMBINED	22/10 COMBINED
Speaker/Interpreter	Pastor Joseph Poon/Kong Vui Yip	Pastor Joseph Poon/Kong Vui Yip
Worship Leader/Interpreter	Deacon Joel Wong/Kong Vui Yip	Deacon Adrian Cheng/Deacon Joel Wong
Preparatory Hymn	Deacon Eugene Leong	Claude Yiu
Musician(s)	Karen Ee	Winnie Lim
Welcomers (Foyer)	Claude Yiu, Esther Yiu, Yi Choong Liew	Alex Luu, Grace Luu, Yi San Chieng
Offering Stewards *To Help Count Offering	*Allan Ang, *Claude Yiu, Wei Yan Yi Choong Liew, Pei Shion Chai, Colin Chng	*Kenny Tan, *Allan Ang, Caleb Cheng Alex Luu, Jonathan Woo, Wei Yan
Ushers (Sanctuary)	Colin Chng, Mable Soon, Shie Tian Wong	Kenny Tan, Yi Mey Tan, Jay-son Lim
P.A. System	Albert Ho	Yi Choong Liew
Kitchen Duties	Yi San Chieng, Lily Liow, May Chee Tey Edward Teng, Joanne Teng	Yung Tsing Mew, Andy Ho, Lee Fung Fong Ming Ming Th'ng, Xuan Rui Yong
Transport	Allan Ang (0433 032 709) / Deacon Eugene Leong (0401 155 386)	

Nursing Home Ministry

Subiaco	Edward Ee (Benjamin Kan)	Colin Tey (Hannah Th'ng)
South Perth	A: Mark Heath B: Alex Luu	A: Caleb Cheng B: Kenny Tan
Berrington	Edward Ee (Benjamin Kan)	Edward Ee (Hannah Th'ng)
Bull Creek	Mark Heath	Kenny Tan

APPOINTMENTS FOR TODAY AND THE WEEK

Sunday	15/10	3:30 pm	Adelphe Bible Study
Tuesday	17/10	10:00 am	Mandarin Bible Study
		7:30 pm	Prayer Meeting: Pastor Joseph Poon/Kong Vui Yip, Deacon Joel Wong, Hannah Th'ng
Wednesday	18/10	7:30 pm	Far Eastern Bible College Online Courses: Deuteronomy
Friday	20/10	10:00 am	Mothers Fellowship
		7:30 pm	Fellowship Meeting: Regen/Youth 180°/CYAF/CYPG
Saturday	21/10	10:30 pm	Mandarin Care Group
Sunday	22/10	8:30 am	Pre-Service Prayer Meeting
		9:00 am	Mandarin Sunday School/English Basic Bible Knowledge Class
		10:00 am	Sunday Combined Worship Service
		2:00 pm	Nursing Home: Concorde – 25 Anstey Street, South Perth Onslow Gardens – 39 Hamersley Road, Subiaco
		3:30 pm	Nursing Home: Berrington, Subiaco – 45 Bishop St, Jolimont Bull Creek – RAAFA Memorial Estate, 2 Bull Creek Drive, Bull Creek WA 6149
		6:00 pm	Men Fellowship & Ladies Fellowship

ATTENDANCE & OFFERINGS (8/10)

Attendance: 212 (Combined-182; JSS-30); Prayer Meeting: 77

Offerings in Total: \$8,357.60; General Fund: \$8,357.60 (#4322-\$838.20; #4323-\$57.00; #4324-\$77.05)

SHORTER CATECHISM: What is a sacrament? A sacrament is a holy ordinance instituted by Christ; (Matthew 28:19; Matthew 26:26-28; Mark 14:22-25; Luke 22:19-20; 1 Corinthians 1:22-26) wherein, by sensible signs, Christ, and the benefits of the new covenant, are represented, sealed, and applied to believers. (Galatians 3:27; 1 Corinthians 10:16-17)