



BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF W.A.

For the Testimony and Glory of Jesus Christ

April 15th, 2018

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 Sharon Poon/Deacon Eugene Leong

The Lord Is in His Holy Temple 1

Call to Worship Deacon Joel Wong/Sonny Lim

*Hymn HOP 360 We Praise Thee, O God

*Invocation/Gloria Patri 2

Responsive Reading Proverbs 6:1-5

Hymn HOP 212 How Firm a Foundation

Presentation of Tithes & Offerings HOP 383 Something for Thee

*Doxology 3/Offertory Prayer

Scripture Reading Ephesians 4:27

Hymn HOP 139 Wonderful Words of Life

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.

Living With the Devil

*Hymn HOP 309 Yield Not to Temptation

*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 2018:

"...what doth the LORD thy God require of thee, but to fear the LORD thy God, to walk in all his ways, and to love him, and to serve the LORD thy God with all thy heart and with all thy soul," (Deuteronomy 10:12)

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PASTORAL LETTER

The Cost of Discipleship

Dear BPCWAians, In my Pastoral on Easter Sunday, I wrote about the church's charter to make disciples of Christ. A disciple is a learner and follower for Christ. Discipleship begins with ourselves, before we can be disciples of Christ. What was our response to that? Perhaps some of us may have thought in our hearts "Yes, I have believed in Christ and so I am His disciple". Certainly, salvation is the first step to discipleship, but it doesn't end there. In Matt 4:19, we see Christ calling the brothers Peter and Andrew to "Follow me". We teach our children how Peter and his brother "straightway left... and followed him." (Matt 4:20) But following comes with a cost. Many are not willing to "go all the way" in discipleship because they are not willing to give up something in their lives.

Following may cost us physically. Peter left his nets and livelihood behind. So many of you may be thinking ... yes, that's for those called full time. But it does not mean that there is no relevance for lay people here. All of us have our calling on earth. But Christ calls all believers to this same principle of discipleship – to learn from and to obey Him at all costs. Christ declared that "No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon." (Matt 6:24) Mammon refers to money. Even when we work, it is not for the money. But the world has a saying, "follow the money" when it comes to making choices in studies, careers, even where to live. At some point of time

in our lives, that test of discipleship may come. Satan may throw a bait in the form of a job that is against God's commands. Or it may come in the form of worldly pursuits that will help you to advance in this world – academically, materially, or socially. It may come in the form of living a more comfortable life. Don't mistake me – God may, in His Sovereignty, give some riches and comfort. We do not teach ascetism – there is no spiritual glory to be derived from being poor. But that bait may come at a cost of discipleship to be an ongoing student and follower. It may be a cost between obedience and a life of physical ease and luxury. You know from God's Word that that's wrong, but the enticement of the pleasure of that bait is so appealing to the fleshly lust that is in us. When that bait comes, will you bite? If you do, it will ensnare you. You may make a decision and commitment that is very difficult to undo later down the road. Remember, discipleship can cost us physical comforts.

Following may cost us emotionally. True discipleship can cost us relationships and friendships. Perhaps some of the other fishermen didn't understand why the brothers Peter and Andrew had to leave. Many are willing to leave friends at work places to join another company for better prospects or pay increases. Or leave family and friends to go study and work in another country if there are better prospects there. But would we be willing to leave relationships and friendships for the sake of Christ's glory if it is needed one day? Emotional ties built up over many years are perhaps the most difficult to untie when following Christ, "(34) Think not that I am come to send peace on earth: I came

not to send peace, but a sword. (35) For I am come to set a man at variance against his father, and the daughter against her mother, and the daughter in law against her mother in law. (36) And a man's foes shall be they of his own household. (37) He that loveth father or mother more than me is not worthy of me: and he that loveth son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me. (38) And he that taketh not his cross, and followeth after me, is not worthy of me" (Matt 10:34-38). Even to the closest relationships, Christ wants our unwavering loyalty and priority in love. We should not compromise our beliefs to please others. But this is not about a martyr syndrome too where one feels he must always pick a fight. Neither is it about being an isolationist. It is about forgoing some relationships that is keeping us from living a life of full obedience.

Following will cost us in pleasing self. What happened before the "Tell Peter" when Christ resurrected? We are all familiar with the account – in the face of choosing between self-protection and loyalty to Christ, Peter chose to protect himself. When he saw what happened to his Lord, abused, scorned, battered, he played the coward and denied his Lord. Ultimately, this is what discipleship boils down to. Every Christian that is true to Christ must be willing to deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Christ. Peter started well, he was well warned (Matt 26:34) but stumbled. But Peter repented and never denied His Lord after that and was willing to die for him. Let us learn true discipleship.

Yours in our Lord's service

Pastor

ANNOUNCEMENTS, PRAISE & PETITION

- 1. Church Family Camp 2018 Full Time Campers Registration (Today in Fellowship Hall):** Please register and book your place in the camp and join the church family in renewing our walk with God and with each other. All worshippers are strongly encouraged to join.
- 2. Adelphe Bible Study (Today, 3:30 pm):** In this meeting, we will be learning about the Punitive and Chastitive Will of God, and discussing the example of God's Will for Balaam in Numbers 22:20-22. All ladies are encouraged to attend this Bible study to learn and grow together spiritually.
- 3. Men's and Ladies Fellowship (Next Sunday, 22 April, 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. There will be translation to Mandarin.
- 4. Seniors Fellowship (Saturday, 28 April, 10:30 am):** Meeting will be held in church for us to study God's Word together. It is also a good opportunity for the young to mingle with the elderly in church and fellowship so all are warmly welcome to join. Other details will follow next week.

5. **Thanksgiving and Prayer Items:**

- Thank God for everyone who came to serve at the Busy Bee yesterday. Thank God for safety and opportunity to work together and get to know each other better.
- Thank God for Church Combined Fellowship last two Fridays. Pray that members will learn about and build convictions on this God honoring doctrine and be grounded upon the Truth.
- Pray for God to guide the discussion and decisions at the Session Meeting this Saturday to be directed according to His Truth and His will for BPCWA. Pray for unity of hearts and minds.
- Pray for many to make the effort to come for the family camp and grow spiritually together as a family in Christ.
- Pray for worshippers at BPCWA to grow together in unity of heart and faith. Pray for protection against spiritual and physical attacks that may weaken God's work here.
- Pray for Yew Jinn as final exams begin this week. Pray that he will solidify his understanding of God's Word to prepare to serve with us when he returns thereafter.

SERVICE DUTY	15/4 COMBINED	22/4 COMBINED
Speaker/Interpreter	Pastor Joseph Poon/Kong Vui Yip	Pastor Joseph Poon/Sonny Lim
Worship Leader/Interpreter	Deacon Joel Wong /Sonny Lim	Deacon Eugene Leong/Deacon Joel Wong
Preparatory Hymn	Deacon Eugene Leong	Claude Yiu
Musician(s)	Sharon Poon	Karen Ee
Welcomers	Colin Tey, May Chee Tey, Lily Liow	Wei Yan, Bei Li, Mark Heath
Offering Stewards *To Help Count Offering	*Kenny Chia, *Alex Luu, Yi Choong Liew Jason Tey, Michael Lee, Mark Heath	*Terry Chong, *Allan Ang, Caleb Cheng Eddie Foo, Kenny Tan, Yi Choong Liew
Ushers	Kenny Tan, Yi Mey Tan Jay-Son Lim	Caleb Cheng, Rowena Cheng Shie Tian Wong
Audio Visual	Albert Ho	Kenny Chia
Kitchen Duties	Lee Lian Yong, Victoria Lew, Christine Chia Ilihoa Ramachandran, Lee Chin Yong	Yung Tsing Mew, Andy Ho, Lee Fung Fong Ming Ming Th'ng, Mable Soon
Transport	Allan Ang (0433 032 709) / Deacon Eugene Leong (0401 155 386)	

Nursing Home Ministry

Subiaco	Edward Ee (Hannah Th'ng)	Allan Ang (Hannah Th'ng)
South Perth	A: Kenny Tan B: Mark Heath	A: Alex Luu B: Yi Choong Liew
Berrington	Edward Ee (Hannah Th'ng)	Allan Ang (Hannah Th'ng)
Bull Creek	Mark Heath	Alex Luu

APPOINTMENTS FOR TODAY AND THE WEEK

Sunday	15/4	3:30 pm	Adelphie Bible Study
Tuesday	17/4	10:00 am	Chinese Bible Study
		7:30 pm	Prayer Meeting: Pastor Joseph Poon/Kong Vui Yip, Deacon Joel Wong, Yi Mey Tan
Friday	20/4	7:30 pm	Fellowships Meeting: Regen/Youth 180°/CAF/CSF
Sunday	22/4	8:30 am	Pre-Service Prayer Meeting
		9:00 am	Chinese Adults 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's and Ladies Fellowship

LAST WEEK'S ATTENDANCES & OFFERINGS

Attendances - Sunday Worship: 195 (Combined: 164; CSS: 31); Prayer Meetng: 80; Combined Fellowship: 91
 Tithes and Offerings - Sunday Worship: \$11,451.90; (#4420: Combined Fellowship: \$1,178.50)

