

FOCUS

For the Week of 20th December 2009



Why does the church use unleavened bread for the Lord's Supper?

As a followup to last week's article on 'How We Can All Agree' on Bible matters, I want to answer the above question that is often asked.

The short answer is that Jesus instituted the Lord's Supper while celebrating the passover feast (Matthew 26:19). The bread used at the passover was unleavened.

While the above is true, a deeper understanding of the facts of the Lord's Supper is also important.

1. The elements of the Lord's Supper are the bread and fruit of the vine (Matthew 26:26-29). The Bible abounds with teachings on the significance of these two objects but makes no specification to the kind of bread (leavened or unleavened) nor to the container (one cup or many).

2. In fact, reading from the context, we are convinced that the early Christians used the ordinary bread rather than the unleavened bread when partaking the Lord's Supper. For example in I Corinthians 11:20-22, Paul makes reference to the abuse of the Lord's Supper carried to the point of indulgence. This seems to suggest ordinary bread (as those used in their 'agape feasts') rather than unleavened bread.

3. Church history records that ordinary bread was used by the early church for the first 800 years. The Roman Catholic church then introduced unleavened bread for the Lord's Supper to enforce their doctrine of "transubstantiation". Thus, they changed the Lord's Supper into a mystic ritual, teaching that the bread and wine are transformed into the actual body and blood of Christ.

COMING SOON

Sunday 27 December
9:30am - Junior BC Annual Awards Sunday
6pm - Annual Thanksgiving Service

28th-31st December
Youth Camp at Camp Challenge, Sembawang (meet at church building for coach transport).

1st January 2010
8am-12noon - Annual Church Planning Day (breakfast provided)

3rd January 2010
9:30am - Welcome New Members

MISSIONS



WHILE UNTO HARVEST

1:00pm - PPCIG meeting at our minister's office. Please confirm your attendance with either brothers Pat or Henry if you need lunch. If you plan to participate in our China missions in 2010, you should not miss this meeting. Please let brothers Pat or Henry know if you cannot attend this meeting as we will be allocating the available slots first to those attending. In a series of sessions with brothers Anthony and elder William, we have agreed to revamp our China missions with clear new guidelines.

PP FAMILY NEWS

Right: PP Tuao Team at the Budget Terminal. We warmly welcome home more than 30 members of both our Tuao and Nias mission teams.



Brother **Charles Cook** will speak on the topic of "Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace" at our worship this morning. Come back at 6pm when **brother Cheng Chong** will exhort the congregation.

Our 9:30am Bible Class sessions came to a close last week. This morning, **brother Daniel Ng** will lead us in the quarterly singspiration. Next week, we will enjoy the annual Awards Sunday presented by our Junior Bible Class.

The first Sunday of each year will be devoted to **welcoming our new members** in 2009. Start the new year on the right note by making the 9:30am Bible Study Hour part of your Christian growth.

Our **Hearing Impaired** and **House Helpers** Bible classes have once again join forces to celebrate their end-of-year thanksgiving at the NTU Alumni Club this afternoon.

Join us this Wednesday at 10am for SIBI's Open Bible Study. **Brother Charles Cook** will conduct the new series, "Angels & Demons", which was attended by many last week.

There will be no SPC class until the first Wednesday of 2010 (6th January). Brother Charles Cook will kick off the new year with a new series on Evangelism, starting with "You catch 'em; He cleans 'em".

Thanksgiving

Plan to join the congregation in closing a great year in thanksgiving at the last worship of 2009 - 27th December at 6pm. Come to give thanks and ask for God's blessings for 2010.

Start the year right by participating in our **Annual Church Planning Day** on January 1st. We will begin with a devotion at 9am and should end by 12 noon. Breakfast will be served from 8am.

Only 1 more Sunday left: **The final 2010 color directory printout** outside the church staff offices will be taken down after our Annual Church Planning Day on 1st January 2010. Check your data today.

Worship Service	Today (20 December)	Next Week
8am		
Scripture Text:	Psalms 119:105-112	Psalms 119:121-128
11am		
Call to Worship:	Henry Kong	Elder Adrian Teo
SR/OP:	Liu Ming Hui	Paul Quek
S. Leader:	Lee Hock	Irvin Wan
Communion:	Jim Kawi	Mike Yam
Preacher:	Charles Cook	Elder Simon Goh
Shepherd's Prayer:	Elder Adrian Teo	Elder Winston Chong
Ushers	Richard Leow	Nehemiah Tan
Balcony	HI Team	HI Team
6pm		
Call to Worship	Henry Kong	Elder Adrian Teo
Scripture Text:	Psalms 119:113-120	Psalms 119:129-136
SR/Prayer:	Deacon Li Chhoan	Patrick Ong
S. Leader:	Charles Pang	Deacon Paul Lim
Communion:	Elder Simon Goh	Ban Haw Leong
Preacher:	Teng Cheng Chong	Thanksgiving Service
Closing Prayer:	Elder Adrian Teo	Elder Winston Chong

CALENDAR of events

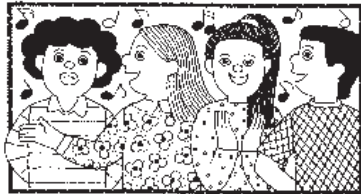
Sunday, 20th December 2009

- 7:30am Shuttle Bus Service
- 8:00am First Morning Worship
Speaker: Charles Cook
- 9:30am Quarterly Combined Singing
led by brother Daniel Ng
- 11am Second Morning Worship
- 1:15pm Shuttle Bus Service ends
- 6pm Evening Worship
Speaker: Teng Cheng Chong

Wednesday, 23rd December 2009

- 10am SIBI Open Bible Study on
"Angels & Demons"
by Charles Cook
- 7:30pm SPC breaks for two weeks.
New Series start Wednesday
6th January 2010

Sunday, 27th December 2009



- 9:30am Awards Sunday

Thanksgiving

- 6:00pm Annual Thanksgiving Service
Come to give thanks for 2009
and ask for 2010 blessings

FAMILY CONCERNS

Please pray for:

PP church and churches in India. Brother Philemon Raja.
Our health. Me to understand and speak English well - Kumar

My wife's birthday and my son's birthday this month.
Immanuel and Kumar family. Philemon Raja in India - David Dass

My exams. God bless me to remember well and pass the exams - Mac

Travel mercy for Maribel back to the Philippines. My niece Editha to adjust herself in Singapore - Fabila Elvira

PP missions. David Dass' health. My family in India. My study at SIBI. Travel mercy for me when I return to India on 21st December - Immanuel

Andy Wee's right shoulder to get well from injury. The year end youth camp - Julie Wee

God's protection for my family, friends and my employer's family - Adelma

Wisdom of heart and understanding in God's Word and obeying Him - Maribel

Thank God for:

Brother Siow Hwee's sermon - Julie Wee, Henry Kong

Brother Henry Kong's sermon - Patrick

The safe return of the two mission teams from Nias and Tuao - Julie Wee

June Dhanabalan's excellent job for the ladies class. God bless her as she continues to serve Him and give her best - Phyllis Ng

Brother Kian Hwee who helped me in time of need - Maribel

His blessing of my promotion to secondary school in 2010. May God continue to be with me so I can adjust well when the term starts in January 2010 - Audrey Wee

Special Thanks:

The Pang family would like to thank God for His grace and mercy on Tee Shan (Tee Liang's younger brother) and all who prayed for him. He is recovering well from a blocked artery. Praise God for His everlasting love - Foon Yoong

FACTS & FIGURES

8am Worship	127
11am Worship	288
6pm Worship	46
Total:	461
Morning Giving	\$8370
Evening Giving	\$ 763
Total Contribution	\$9133



Receipt No. Donor Amount

3RsF 1330	Chinese Cong.	\$700
3RsF 1331	Anonymous	\$50
3RsF 1332	Anonymous	\$300
3RsF 1333	Anonymous	\$120



SHINING LIKE STARS: We rounded off our 9 part series with a presentation by each of the discussion groups. The 9 groups each covered one lesson, interpreting it in their own way - only limitation, their creativity! What a great time we had, hugging, appreciating each one, not a dry eye in the room by the end of the Bible class hour.

Thanks to the wonderful group facilitators and teachers of the series! Yew Noi, Ann Loo, Lay Chai, Soo Lang, Jessie Chua, Lai Fun, Woon Ching, Jenny Tan, Jenny Kwa, Ai Tee, Chiew Yen, Li Mei, Wai Leng, Doris Seah, Catherine Leow, Hedy Wong, Iris Leow, Bee Suan, Serene Kuek, Evelyn Mak - and many more who I may have inadvertently left out - **June Dhanabalan**



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