

FOCUS



CHURCH *of* CHRIST
PASIR PANJANG, SINGAPORE

Sunday Morning Worship



8 May 2022

Crossing The Chaotic Waters

By Irvin Wan
Live @ 11am

Water is such a basic part of life that we often take it for granted. 70% of our bodies are made of this 'liquid life'. We're told to drink at least 8 glasses everyday. It's also the famous Asian remedy to any sickness. Got a flu? "Drink more water." Sprained your ankle? "Drink more water."

Water also appears in Scripture, and it's so frequent that we might miss its significance. Yet the biblical writers were intentional whenever they include it in their stories, and it becomes a pattern that gets developed throughout Scripture.

Last Sunday, we saw that water represents the chaotic forces that threaten to destroy life, and that God always triumphs over them to enable life to emerge nonetheless. Today we explore a pair of stories that show how God doesn't just make the waters vanish, but in fact uses them to bring about the birth of a new creation.

Sunday Morning Worship

Order of Worship

Call To Worship

You're Worthy of My Praise

To God Be The Glory

Opening Prayer

Scripture: Exodus 12:1-13

Worthy Is The Lamb

Communion And Giving

Scripture: Exodus 14:10-13a

Salvation Belongs to Our God

Sermon

God Will Make A Way / Had It Not
Been The Lord

Announcements & Shepherd's Prayer

No Other Gods

Reflection Question

What obstacles do you see in your life today? How might it be a test through which God refines and transforms you into a new creation?

Giving

Last Week's Giving: **\$8914**



General Fund
S76SS0008AGFD



Missions Fund
S76SS0008AMFD



Building Fund
S76SS0008ABFD

If you plan to make a contribution via cheque, please make sure it is made payable to "**Church of Christ, Pasir Panjang, Singapore**". Please ensure that you write the full name so that the cheque can be processed smoothly.

Upcoming Events



8 May | 9:30am

Adult Bible Class

"Preparing For The Promised Land"
Numbers 31-36
By Lim Cher Yam

GEMS Bible Class (Nursery)

Contact Agnes Lim
(9858 5935)

Youth Bible Class

"The Messiah Must Die. So Do We."
The Gospel of Mark
By John Lim

GEMS Bible Class (Kinderkids)

"The Travelling Church"
Exodus 25-Deuteronomy 33
Contact Josephine Seow (9170 4343)

GEMS Bible Class (Cradle Roll)

Contact Audrey Lee
(9855 4957)

GEMS Bible Class (P123)

"Parable of the Talents"
Matthew 25:14-30
Contact Joanne Foo (9683 8266)

GEMS Bible Class (Toddlers)

Contact Koo Hwee Yee
(9173 2365)

GEMS Bible Class (P456)

"Spreading The Gospel"
Acts 14
Contact Rosalind Lee (9621 9006)



9 May | 7:30pm

Gladiolus Place Devotional

Contact Lucy Kwan (9838 3131)



11 May | 7:30pm

Wednesday Bible Class (Zoom @ 8pm)

(The Gospel of John)
Zoom ID: 852 6167 8088
Password: Logos

Family News



Elders Prayer Session



On Monday, 2 May, we had a powerful morning of prayer led by our elders. We laid ourselves at His feet and called upon His Spirit to fill our church, our world, our mission partners, and our individual lives with the power only He can provide.

We thank everyone who made time on your public holiday to join us for this time of prayer! May God form us ever more into a family of prayer!



Youth Retreat: Dragonboat & Staycation

**PPCOC
YOUTH
RETREAT**

A WEEKEND OF FUN IN THE SUN AND
FELLOWSHIP THROUGH DISCIPLESHIP

\$10 DRAGONBOAT ONLY
\$25 STAYCATION ONLY
\$30 DRAGONBOAT & STAYCATION

4-5 JUNE
SATURDAY 10AM - SUNDAY 10AM

[LEARN MORE](#)

JOEL YEO | 9154 8155
JOHN LIM | 8689 2008

The Youth Ministry will celebrate the June school holidays with a special 2D1N retreat from Saturday to Sunday, 4-5 June!

We will kick off with a dragon boat event on Saturday morning, then proceed to a staycation at the Link Hotel for a time of games, fellowship and relaxation. Youth can sign up for the activity that fits their schedule.

Youth can sign up by going to www.bit.ly/PPYouthRetreat or by scanning the QR Code through WhatsApp. **Registration ends TODAY!**

Family News



Young Adult Monthly Fellowship



The Young Adults had a great time of fellowship last Friday at John Lim's home! We started a series going through the book of Colossians, where we simply sit at the feet of the Word and allow God to speak.

We organise this on the first Friday of every month, and we'd love for all Young Adults to join! The next YAMF will take place on Friday, 3 June, 7:30pm, at Kenneth Kuek's home.



Happy
Mother's Day



PPCOC Young Adults Community Conversations



Are you interested in exploring how we can live out Jesus' love in the world?

Join us as we look into Christian perspectives on LGBTQ issues as a church community, and discuss what it means for us to respond in love.

Topic: How can we respond to the LGBTQ community?

Who can attend: PPCOC Young Adults

★ **Venue:** Grand Corpthorne Waterfront Hotel Paradiso Room

★ **Dates (if you can, do attend both sessions!):**

Session #1 - 21 May 2022 (Saturday), 9am to 12 noon
Sharing by a speaker from 3:16 Church on Christian perspectives

Session #2 - 28 May 2022 (Saturday), 9am to 12 noon
Discussion for PPCOC young adults

Sign up using the Google Forms link by 13 May 2022!

Visit <https://bit.ly/PPYACommConvo> for more info.

If you have further questions, do contact Clarence (90613524),
Jeremy (97820074) or Charmaine (96252950)

A Note from the Harrisons

To our family at PPCOC,

It has been our honor and blessing to worship with you and serve alongside you these last 5 years since 2017. This is Terilee's first time living overseas and we cannot thank you enough for the love, warmth and hospitality shown to us and Cole from day 1. We have loved the opportunity to experience life in Singapore and will miss it when we return to the US on 31st May 2022.



We'll miss all our wonderful friends, the orderliness, the safety, the food, the Singlish, the beauty of the country, and much more. We want to acknowledge and thank you for your immense support of SIBI-Singapore, our students, and especially our family.

We will remember for the rest of our lives how you all surrounded us with prayers, visits, and support when Terilee was gravely ill in 2018. (Some of you may wonder—Terilee was diagnosed with a chronic blood cancer, and she will take chemo pills and blood thinners the rest of her life. Thank God, her condition remains stable.) Many came forward to help allay the financial concerns of medical cost as we grappled with the payments.



In our time here, we served alongside you as much as possible. We participated in many of PP's programs and initiatives.

Editor's note: all group pictures were taken pre-COVID.

While Terry taught SIBI/Bible Class and preached, Terilee mentored female SIBI students, hosted Ladies' Days each year (even online during COVID), taught the GEMS class, sang with the SING team, and served with the India missions team, making 5 trips to India.

A Note from the Harrisons

It has been our pleasure to host student dinners twice a month over the last 5 years. Even during COVID, we delivered food to the students or sometimes had dinner at the church as restrictions dictated. We were happy to host many of you in our home as well.

It was also our blessing to travel to serve, preach, teach and attend AMF's in the Phillipines, Indonesia, Malaysia, and Thailand during our time here.



As SIBI has set up schools in Philippines, India and soon in Vietnam, SIBI Singapore closed sooner than expected (which was end-2022).

Terry will continue working with SIBI on a new assignment. He will serve ministry leaders in East Africa by starting new schools, teaching, and develop vocational training programs so that preachers in that area can afford to stay in ministry. SIBI plans to mentor and make 10,000 preachers / missionaries over the next 10 years.

Terry will be travelling to various parts of East Africa throughout the year and Terilee hopes to join him on some of the trips and serve alongside in as many ways as possible.

As we start this new mission, we will be relocating to Houston Texas to live close to our family - our granddaughter, Harper (Age 4), her little sister, Hadley (arriving this July) and our son, Jon and his wife Lauren. It is a 6-hour drive from Cole at ACU in Abilene, Texas.

We covet your prayers in the relocation and transition. Often, missionaries who transit between assignments, especially those who return home, lose financial support because many assume that support is no longer necessary since we are on home ground. Home or not, as missionaries we are very much dependent on financial support as salaries are nominal. We hand over all our uncertainties to God.

A Note from the Harrisons

As we have no home to return to, we are completely starting over. Thankfully, we have secured a rental apartment and will need to set up home upon our return: furniture, appliances, utensils. We literally need EVERYTHING including a car!

Although the relocation cost is partly covered by SIBI, our need is big and we covet your ardent prayers and encouragement. If you feel called to support us in any way, we would be most grateful!

We will always love you, our PPCOC family, and pray God gives us opportunities in the future to see you again. We will always love Singapore and be grateful for our time here. If you visit the US, please reach out. We would love to see you!

*Blessings,
Terry and Terilee*



For the next 2 Sundays (8 and 15 May), sisters Lim Lai Fun, Morene Lim, Grace Mariaraja, and Janet Gant will set up a booth at the table outside the Riverfront Ballroom to collect money for the Harrisons. Please approach them before or after the worship service if you wish to contribute to the Harrisons.

NEW Wednesday Bible Class

The Gospel According to John

—— An Introduction by Lim Cher Yam ——

Author, Date, and Recipients

In Christian tradition, John's gospel has always been referred to as the fourth gospel, meaning it was composed after the other three. Polycarp, a second-century Christian martyr who knew John personally, told Irenaeus (a student of Polycarp) that John had written the book during the apostle's time serving the church in Ephesus. This suggests that John wrote the book between AD 85 and AD 95.

John was a Palestinian Jew, one of the 12 disciples, and a member of Jesus' inner apostolic circle. He was referred to as the disciple "whom Jesus loved" (Jn 13:23).

His original audience consisted of Jews and Gentiles living in the larger Greco-Roman world in Ephesus and beyond, toward the close of the first century A.D.



Theme and Purpose

The big theme of John's Gospel is that Jesus is the long-awaited promised Messiah and Son of God. By believing in Jesus, people can have eternal life (20:30-31). As evidence that Jesus is the Messiah, John relies on several selected messianic signs performed by Jesus and a series of witnesses to Jesus.

In presenting this, John's Gospel makes it clear that Jesus is God. In the opening verse (1:1), John plainly declares that in the beginning, Jesus (the Logos) was with God and was God. Throughout the Gospel, many references are made to Jesus' deity. Most notable of these is 8:57-58 where Jesus declares, "Before Abraham was born, I am!"

It is often thought here that Jesus is making an allusion to Ex 3:14 where God refers to himself as "I am the one being/existing." Another indication of Jesus' deity can be found in 10:30-33. In this instance Jesus said, "I and my Father are one."

NEW Wednesday Bible Class

After this, the Jews picked up stones that they might stone him on grounds of blasphemy because he claimed to be God. At the end of the Gospel (20:28) Thomas makes a climatic confession of faith by declaring Jesus as his God.

John also specifically states the purpose of the book in 20:31, "But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name." Therefore, the purpose of John's Gospel is to "confirm and secure Christians in the faith."

Theology

John presents man as either belonging to one of two things: the darkness or the light. There is no in between. The darkness is associated with death, while the light is associated with life.

This theme is developed throughout the Gospel. In 1:4-9, John portrays Jesus as being the light of men and demonstrates that the darkness does not understand the light. John the Baptist came to bear witness of the light in order that men would believe through him.



In 3:19-21, Jesus states that the light has come into the world, but men have loved the darkness instead of the light because their works were evil. Evil doers hate the light and are afraid to go into the light lest their works be exposed. On the other hand, the ones who practice the truth come into the light so that it can be seen that their works were done through God. Jesus is also referred to as the Light of the World (8:12; 9:5).

In 12:35-36 Jesus tells the crowd that it is necessary to walk in the light because the person that walks in the darkness does not know where he is going. He also tells the crowd to believe in the Light in order to become sons of the light. Lastly in 12:46, he states that he has come as light into the world so that those who believe in him will not remain in darkness.

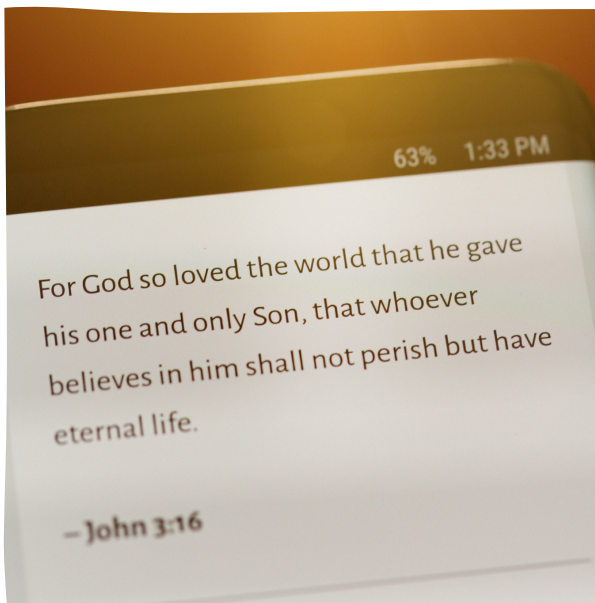
Prologue

John did not include the nativity story in his gospel. Instead, he introduced his book by going back even further into history. Invoking the "in the beginning" language of Genesis 1:1, John made a direct link between the nature of God and the nature of the Word, Jesus Christ.

NEW Wednesday Bible Class

The prologue to the Gospel states, "In the beginning was the word (logos), the word (logos) was with God, and the word (logos) was God." As it is translated here, the word logos is usually translated as "Word."

When the 'word of God' is used throughout the Old Testament, it often refers to God being in action, particularly in regards to "creation, revelation and deliverance." With the use of 'logos', John revealed Christ's deity to both Jews and Greeks alike. John uses 'logos' in direct reference to the person of Christ (1:1, 14), his message (4:50; 5:24; 15:3), and within his message (4:47; 5:38; 17:17).



Why study this book?

With increasing persecutions against Christians, growing apostasy, and disputations about the nature of Jesus Christ, the Apostle John recorded his testimony of the Saviour.

Studying the Gospel of John can help students come to know our Heavenly Father through the ministry of His Son, Jesus Christ. John's account teaches that those who live according to the teachings of Jesus Christ can receive great blessings, including eternal life.

Distinctive features of John

About 90 percent of the material in the Gospel of John is not found in the other Gospel accounts. This is probably because John's intended audience already had an understanding of Jesus Christ and was decidedly different from Matthew's, Mark's, and Luke's intended audiences.

Of the seven miracles reported by John, five are not recorded in any other Gospel. While Matthew, Mark, and Luke presented considerable information about Jesus's ministry in Galilee, John recorded numerous events that took place in Judea.

John's Gospel is richly doctrinal, with some of its major themes being the divinity of Jesus as the Son of God, the Atonement of Christ, eternal life, the Holy Spirit, the need to be born again, the importance of loving others, and the importance of believing in the Saviour.

NEW Wednesday Bible Class

One of John's major contributions is that he includes Jesus' teachings to His disciples in the hours before His arrest, including the Great Intercessory Prayer, offered on the night He suffered in Gethsemane. This portion of John's account (John 13-17) represents over 18 percent of the book, providing us with a greater understanding of the Saviour's teachings and what He expects of His disciples.



While the other three gospels portray Jesus as the King, the Servant, and the Son of Man, John portrays Jesus as the Son of God. John used a variety of techniques to communicate this to his readers. These include his citation of Jesus' seven "I am" statements, in which Jesus spoke of Himself in terms such as "the light of the world" (8:12), "the resurrection and the life" (11:25), and "the way, the truth, and the life" (14:6).

Much of John's gospel (chapters 2-12) might be called the Book of Signs, as it recounts Jesus performing seven different miracles—such as the turning of water to wine at Cana and raising Lazarus from the dead at Bethany. These miracles illustrate His identity as the Son of God.

Conclusion

Jesus' identity as the divine Son of God sets Him apart from any other man who ever lived. He carries with Him the transcendence that comes only with God Himself. Therefore, His work on our behalf makes our salvation sure.

Because He is God, His sacrifice on the cross has eternal implications, unlike the limited effect of the animal sacrifices in the Old Testament. Jesus, the God-Man, has atoned for our sins. We can place our confidence in Him because of His divine nature.

For readers of John's gospel, the question is a simple, though significant one: Do you believe that Jesus is Lord? If you believe, you will have the right to receive eternal life, claiming the truth that you will one day live in the presence of God in a place with no more pain, no more tears, and no more death.



Facing 21st Century Challenges as Christian Families & as a Church Community

2 Cor 13:5-9: "Examine yourselves, to see whether you are in the faith. Test yourselves. Or do you not realize this about yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you? — unless indeed you fail to meet the test! I hope you will find out that we have not failed the test.

But we pray to God that you may not do wrong—not that we may appear to have met the test, but that you may do what is right, though we may seem to have failed. For we cannot do anything against the truth, but only for the truth. For we are glad when we are weak and you are strong. Your restoration is what we pray for."

21st Century Challenges

PPCOC is a multi-generational church. We have Pioneers (<1945), Seniors- Baby-Boomers (1945-64), Gen X (1965-1983), and Millennials (1984-96) & Gen Y (after 1996). As a family church, we want to meaningfully engage every generation that God places in our care. These include preferences for different worship styles, differing perspectives of social, gender issues, etc. Yet above all is our love for the PP family, regardless of preferences and differences.

2 Cor 12:19-20: "Have you been thinking all along that we have been defending ourselves to you? It is in the sight of God that we have been speaking in Christ, and all for your upbuilding, beloved. For I fear that perhaps when I come, I may find you not as I wish, and that you may find me not as you wish—that perhaps there may be quarrelling, jealousy, anger, hostility, slander, gossip, conceit, and disorder."

For example, as the Lord's church, we may be pressured to adopt unscriptural ways of the corporate business world into key areas of church governance and structure. This may lead to a worldly set of religious procedures not in accordance with God's Word.

Consequential Impact on our Families

1) The Christian family as a unit will continue to be attacked and weakened. The core values of the home will be assaulted by the prevailing culture and the institutions of the world.

The church must teach the Biblical principles of marriage, family, and child rearing (Ephesians 5:21-33). We cannot ignore this reality. We must address these issues biblically and model godly behaviour in our homes and congregation (2 Corinthians 4:1-6).

2) The distortion of the truth will intensify. “Who or which source of truth can we trust?” This is a vital and major question. As God’s disciples, we must never be complacent and be guilty of false witness. The truth must be told in every classroom, leadership meeting, worship service, and publication (John 14:16-18).

3) Jesus taught, “When these things begin to take place, stand up and lift up your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.” (Luke 21:28)

2 Timothy 3:1-5: “But understand this, that in the last days there will come times of difficulty. For people will be lovers of self, lovers of money, proud, arrogant, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy, heartless, unappeasable, slanderous, without self-control, brutal, not loving good, treacherous, reckless, swollen with conceit, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, having the appearance of godliness, but denying its power. Avoid such people.”

We as God’s church must understand that Jesus Christ is the Head of the Church, and the Biblical order of organization is to be followed.

Solution: Abide in God’s Presence.

Christians ought to be people of God’s presence, connected to God and to one another through the inhabiting, unifying power of the Holy Spirit. In our 21st century world, our lives get distracted every moment pulling us away from God’s Presence.

My hope is that the PP church must prioritize its vocation (calling) as ‘touch-points of God’s presence in this world’. To cultivate habits and life-styles that create the space and moments for God’s Presence to be felt and known.

Weekly Nugget | Kuek Lee Hock

John 15:9-12: "Now remain in my love. If you keep my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commands and remain in his love. I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. My command is this: love each other as I have loved you."

Reflect and Respond

1. Review the 21st century challenges as a Christian family, which of these challenges concerns you most?
2. Reflect on it, start praying and seeking God's gentle whisper (the Bible) and guidance for a godly solution.
3. Guided by God's wisdom, apply it to our daily family life for the next 30 days. Meditate on the verse(s) you have chosen. Pray and encourage one another as a family unit to find strength to become more and more like Christ daily.

Prayer

Father, may we desire to listen to Your whispers of truth and loving guidance so that we can focus and be mindful of Your will and purpose for us. May Your peace fill our hearts today. To God be the Glory! In Jesus' Name we pray, Amen.

Connect With Us

Prayer Requests/ Feedback



<http://bit.ly/35FTEyp>



Meet Our People

Elders

Simon Goh

Peter Lim

Lim Swee Aun

Deacons

Dennis Law

Lim Kok Hin

Vincent Lim

Ministers

Tan Beng Chuan

Patrick Ong

John Lim

Pledge and Building Fund Committee

Peter Lim

Jim Kawi

Grace Mariaraja

Temporary Office Address:

16 Boon Lay Way #01-42 (level 2)

TradeHub 21

Singapore 609965