

FOCUS



CHURCH *of* CHRIST
PASIR PANJANG, SINGAPORE

Sunday Morning Worship



15 May 2022

The Chosen One and the Chaotic Waters

By Irvin Wan
Live @ 11am

'The Chosen One' is a common idea in many books, films, TV series and more. It's where one individual is selected to represent a larger group, and whether the group succeeds or fails hangs solely on the Chosen One. No pressure!

Arguably, it was the story of the Bible that kickstarted this idea. Time and again, we see that it's God's plan to choose one out of the many to carry out His divine plan on earth. Sometimes that Chosen One is faithful and righteous and all goes well. At other times, that Chosen One abuses his privilege and rebels, and chaos and death ensue.

Today, we continue to see how God rescues His creation through the chaos of life - represented by stormy, destructive oceans - by appointing a Chosen One to have mastery over the chaos. Everyone else is called to trust this Chosen One in the hope that their mastery and victory will also be ours.

Sunday Morning Worship

Order of Worship

Call To Worship

10,000 Reasons

Shout To The Lord

Opening Prayer

Scripture: Exodus 34:4-10

Salvation Belongs To Our God

Communion And Giving

Scripture: Psalm 69:1-3

Deep Calls To Deep

Sermon

Still

Announcements

Shepherd's Prayer

Days Of Elijah

Reflection Question

What are the storms you face in your life that threaten to sink your ship? Do you believe that Jesus is near to you, awaiting your cry for help?

Giving

Last Week's Giving: **\$11,251**



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



15 May | 9:30am

Adult Bible Class

"Unwavering Faith"

Deuteronomy 1

By Lim Cher Yam

GEMS Bible Class (Nursery)

Contact Agnes Lim

(9858 5935)

Youth Bible Class

"The Triumphal Entry"

The Gospel of Mark

By Kenneth Kuek

GEMS Bible Class (Kinderkids)

"A New Place"

Deuteronomy 34 - 1 Samuel 8

Contact Josephine Seow (9170 4343)

GEMS Bible Class (Cradle Roll)

Contact Audrey Lee

(9855 4957)

GEMS Bible Class (P123)

"Parable of the Sheep and Goats"

Matthew 25: 31-46

Contact Joanne Foo (9683 8266)

GEMS Bible Class (Toddlers)

Contact Koo Hwee Yee

(9173 2365)

GEMS Bible Class (P456)

"Conference at Jerusalem"

Acts 15

Contact Rosalind Lee (9621 9006)



18 May | 7:30pm

Wednesday Bible Class (Zoom @ 8pm)

The Witness (John 1:6-8)

Zoom ID: 852 6167 8088

Password: Logos



21 May | 9am

Young Adults Community Conversation

Contact Clarence Lim (9061 3524) or

Kenneth Kuek (9338 9698)

More details on page 7



Rebuilding @ 347



This is what 347 Pasir Panjang Road looks like! The Rebuilding Project is in full swing as the old bungalow is fully torn down, and the front building is almost finished.



Yes, it looks messy, even chaotic. Even so, as we've been exploring in this month's sermon series, God brings beautiful things out of chaos! Out of destruction comes a new creation, and out of 'death' comes new life! What we see is simply a stepping stone to what we've been hoping and praying for a long time.

We hope that you will begin fulfilling your pledges to the Rebuilding project as we make headway. Better yet, consider making a new pledge so that we can reach our target of \$9.6 million!



Collection for the Harrisons



Our beloved Terry and Terilee Harrison will be returning to the US on 31 May after 5 years of faithful service at SIBI-Singapore. Having sold everything to come to Singapore at the start, they will need to purchase everything all over again to continue their lives there. This includes expenses such as the house, car, furniture, and so forth.

If you would like to contribute to the Harrisons' going-home fund, please approach the booth outside the Riverfront Ballroom. Sister Lim Lai Fun, Morene Lim, Grace Mariaraja and Janet Gant will be at the booth to receive your contribution.



Collection for sister Alma



We received the tragic news last Sunday that sister Alma's husband, brother Lito Abiva, age 58, passed away suddenly in the Philippines due to acute kidney failure. He leaves behind sister Alma and their two sons, both young adults. Sister Alma has made the hard choice to remain in Singapore to work in order to support her family's expenses.

We appeal to the church to support sister Alma and her family during this difficult time with a freewill offering. Sister Maribel will be collecting funds on her behalf, so you can pass her cash or PayNow/PayLah to ???

The late brother Lito was a member of the Gonzaga Church of Christ in Cagayan Valley.



SIBI Graduation and Luncheon



On Sunday, 29th May, SIBI Singapore will be graduating its final class of students: Paul Palacio, Lydia Li, and Jamicah Delayun. It is a season for celebration to recognise their hard work, and an occasion to commission and bless them as they enter a new phase in their service of God's kingdom!

The graduation ceremony will begin at 1:30pm in the Paradiso room at Grand Copthorne Waterfront Hotel. Thanks to the relaxed safe management measures, lunch will be served at the hotel for the convenience of members who want to attend the graduation.

If you would like to attend the graduation and have lunch, sign up with brother Terry Harrison who will be outside the Galleria Ballroom. (It's a good old pen-and-paper sign up sheet, so no funky QR codes and bit.ly links!)

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)

Biblical Parenting | Wan Xin Tian

Editor's note: Sister Wan Xin Tian recently wrote an article for a Christian website about her experience and insights as a young mother seeking to glorify God in her situation. We praise God for her faithfulness and the way she shines the light of Christ to her family and to others!

This article was first published in Biblical Wisdom for Parents © Our Daily Bread Ministries. For more articles like this, visit: <https://biblical-parenting.org/>



Irvin and Xin Tian with sons
Joshua, 4 (left) and Johnny, 2 (right)

As a young girl, the image I had of a stay-at-home mother held a cosy appeal. I pictured a sweet, huggable lady wearing her apron and a sunny smile, welcoming her children into a fresh home where freshly baked cookies were waiting on the table.

But I wasn't sure if this was my cup of tea. Our local culture told me that with the extent of education and career choices available today, choosing such a path of motherhood would seem backward. Could I really do this all day?

Right after my first child was born, the maternity leave gave me some time away from work, which gave me a taste of what a life at home was like. It also influenced my husband's and my thoughts on how we would raise our child.

As a new mother, I felt the magnitude of being bestowed with a great honour. God had given us a child, and now, we had a life and soul to steward.

Deep down, I felt that God was moving me into a new season. I had a yearning for our home to be a vital wellspring of life, a place where our family could love, seek, and serve God together.

So, I decided to jump in with both feet. I resigned from my job as a teacher, determined to devote my time and effort to this endeavour of full-time mothering.

It was scary to have the security of a job pulled out from under my feet, and it came with considerable sacrifices. But I looked forward to it, expecting to enjoy greater peace and focus. I was full of anticipation of what the coming years would hold.

Beyond a child, God had given us a vision for our family. And the home was where this vision would begin to unfold.

The Unending Tunnel of Motherhood

That vision, however, very quickly became an unending tunnel of tedious, laborious, and mundane days. It was especially so in the beginning, when running a home and tending to a baby were new to me—and absolutely exhausting and dishevelled.

As the days stretched into months, I began to lose track of time and my bearings. It was a far, far cry from the image of the sweet, sunny lady with her apron and cookies.

Desperate to learn the ropes of mothering, I turned to Google for tips on every imaginable thing about caring for a baby, about how-tos for efficient meal preparation—and, most importantly, strategies for sleeping through the night!

I also sourced for ideas from family and friends. Some of them encouraged me to take any opportunity I had, such as when nursing my baby, to pray to God for joy, strength, and guidance. In the spare time I could afford, I read books about Christian motherhood, which gradually and powerfully reshaped my perspective of mothering with God's intent.

Interestingly, this meant rethinking what work really meant when seen in the context of seemingly mundane and laborious chores.

The God of Order in Homemaking

In Genesis 1, our Creator God revealed himself as a God of order. From dark chaotic waters, He called forth the sun, moon, stars, waters, land, vegetation, and every living creature to take their rightful places, producing order and harmony.

Biblical Parenting | Wan Xin Tian

There was order in hierarchy, as God placed Adam in authority over the earth (Genesis 1:26–28). There was also order in repetition, with the sun rising and setting every day, to distinguish day and night.

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I’ve come to appreciate the routine aspect of my work as a homemaking mum, because it has given our home a sense of stability.

I realised that God has established an orderliness in this world that is so predictable and stable that we often take it for granted. Yet, it is this predictability that the premise of our daily lives and sense of time rests upon.

In the same way, homemaking and mothering may seem repetitively mind-numbing on the surface.

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Get the house cleaned, laundry done, meals prepared, children fed, children bathed, children put to sleep, and repeat, repeat, and repeat.

Yet, these are not just tasks that serve a mere logistical purpose. They are, in themselves, tasks that restore order out of mess.

There are countless tiny, seemingly inconsequential decisions being made on how, when, and why I do the chores. But when strung together and repeated every single day, they add up to something that has a huge impact on the environment, atmosphere, and dynamic that characterise our home life, as well as on the people and relationships that grow out of it.

I’ve come to appreciate the routine aspect of my work as a homemaking mum, because it has given our home a sense of stability. The repetitive work creates the base rhythm on which our family flourishes.

For example, I have learnt to protect every late afternoon as a time for rest, refreshment, and reset. We schedule the day around it, and try to be home for it as much as we can.

This afternoon block is when a lot of menial and repetitive work happens, like cooking and cleaning. The children chip in before their nap, with my older child sorting and cleaning alongside me, and my toddler keeping away the toys he’s been playing with. (Sometimes, though, he takes out even more toys, or goes on a spraying spree while cleaning!)

Their help may seem insignificant—and some-times can result in even more mess that requires fixing—but I see it as them learning to bless others with the gift of orderliness.

The effort we put into tidying and cooking every afternoon allows our family to enjoy a welcoming atmosphere for bonding in the evening, especi-

ally when my husband joins us after work. It is a time when we ask God to draw us closer to one another and to Him, as we give thanks and share about our day together.

In my heart, the menial, repetitive work holds a bigger purpose. It helps to build a home that nourishes and flourishes. And so, I'm motivated to do homemaking well, and to seek God's strength to persevere in it.

Breathing God's Beauty into Our Days

God created the world not just for the purpose of order and function, but also with beauty and creativity in mind. The sun rises and sets with magnificence, drawing us into worship of Him. As Genesis 1:31 tells us: "God saw all that he had made, and it was very good."

Figuring out a suitable rhythm for our life at home has required constant adjustments to meet our family's evolving needs. But we have tried to apply this principle to one staple: our gathering at the breakfast table.

Every morning, the children and I gather around a hearty breakfast to nourish both hungry stomachs and souls. A sumptuous meal hopefully invites the little ones to stay longer at the table. We pray and sing our favourite songs to God, and read and talk about Scripture, a Bible story, or books that narrate and illustrate Scripture.

As He meets us in His Word and Spirit, there is a palpable sense of a new beginning. Some mornings, our time gets abruptly cut off by milk spills and meltdowns. Other mornings, we linger for a read-aloud from a beloved Bible story or two.

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Biblical Parenting | Wan Xin Tian

This time of beauty weaves its way through the rest of our day. When sinful behaviour (my own included) threatens temper-aments and relationships, God's stories and statutes from our morning time help us to come back together in repent-ance and forgiveness.

Even in seasons when our home life unravels or is undergoing an upheaval, this source of beauty has anchored us and helped me to find my footing again.

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**I ask God to guide our home life,
that we might devote ourselves to
Him as a family, and that we
might seek, dwell with, and
behold Him as the One who is
perfectly beautiful in character
and creative power.**

As I think about how God's beauty could be breathed into the order of our daily lives, I also feel led to pray from Psalm 27:4:

One thing I ask from the Lord,
this only do I seek:
that I may dwell in the house of the Lord
all the days of my life,
to gaze on the beauty of the Lord
and to seek him in his temple.

————— ” —
I ask God to guide our home life, that we might devote ourselves to Him as a family, and that we might seek, dwell with, and behold Him as the One who is perfectly beautiful in character and creative power.

Reflecting God in Chores and Childcaring

I have learnt that homemaking and mothering are extremely creative endeavours. They are work that produce order, harmony, and beauty that is God-honouring and life-giving.

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God had created a garden in Eden where every tree was pleasing to the eye and good for food, and He had placed Adam to “work it and take care of it” (Genesis 2:8-9, 15). Similarly, our homes can be a sanctuary that mirror this garden—a place of beauty, abundance, and rest that is cultivated through chores and childcaring work. Prayerfully, they will become a place that beckons us to delight in God.

As I seek to reflect God’s character of order and creativity, I am encouraged to build a home that is a wellspring of life for our family. And while I neither wear an apron nor bake cookies often, I hope that my daily homemaking helps to usher my family into a welcoming freshness, like the stay-at-home mother I had pictured all those years ago as a young girl.

NEW Sunday Bible Class

The Book of Deuteronomy

—— An Introduction by Lim Cher Yam ——

Author and Date

Deuteronomy means “second law,” a term mistakenly derived from the Hebrew word “mishneh” taken from Deuteronomy 17:18 where Moses commands the king to make a “copy of the law.” Deuteronomy offers a restatement of the Law for a new generation, rather than a mere copy of what had gone before. The book records a series of sermons delivered by Moses in which he restated God’s commands originally given to the Israelites some forty years earlier recorded in the books of Exodus and Leviticus.

Moses is the author of Deuteronomy. “These are the words which Moses spoke to all Israel...” (Deut. 1:1). Mosaic authorship of this book finds the usual support from Jewish tradition and also from within the biblical text. Several times, Deuteronomy asserts Moses as author (1:1; 4:44; 29:1).



Deuteronomy was written around 1406 BC, towards the end of the forty years of wandering in the wilderness endured by the nation of Israel. The people camped on the eastern side of the Jordan River, on the plains of Moab, across from the city of Jericho (Deut 1:1; 29:1). They were on the verge of entering the land of Canaan that was promised centuries earlier to their forefathers (Genesis 12:1, 6–9).

The children who had left Egypt were now adults, ready to conquer and settle in the Promised Land. Before that could happen, the Lord reiterated through Moses His covenant with them.

Why Study Deuteronomy?

The book of Deuteronomy contains Moses’ final words to the children of Israel before they entered the land of Canaan with Joshua as their leader. Moses repeated to the Israelites many of the laws and commandments that were part of their covenant with the Lord previously made at Mt Sinai. He also exhorted them to remember and keep their covenant as he warned them of the consequences of either obeying or disobeying the Lord’s commandments.

NEW Sunday Bible Class

Deuteronomy restates the Ten Commandments and many other laws given in Exodus and Leviticus. The book delivered to Israel reveals God's instructions on how to live a blessed life in the Promised Land. Chapters 27 and 28 specify the blessings of obedience and the curses of disobedience.



Moses addressed his words to “all Israel” (recorded at least twelve times). This phrase emphasized the nation’s unity, initiated by their covenant with God at Mount Sinai and forged in the wilderness. In the midst of widespread polytheism, Israel was distinctive in that they worshipped one God, Yahweh. Their God was totally unique; there was none other like Him among all the “gods” of the nations surrounding them.

Distinctive features of Deuteronomy

The book of Deuteronomy contains Moses’ three great final sermons to the children of Israel. “The first discourse is found in Deut. 1–4 and is introductory. The second discourse (Deut. 5–26) consists of two parts:

- (1) 5–11, the Ten Commandments and a practical exposition of them,
- (2) 12–26, a code of laws, which forms the nucleus of the whole book.

The third discourse (Deut. 27–30) contains a solemn renewal of the covenant between God and Israel and an announcement of the blessings of obedience and the curses upon disobedience”.

These sermons contain Moses’ heartfelt pleas for the Israelites to remember the Lord and live His laws in the Promised Land. The instructions recorded in Deuteronomy were specifically directed to a new generation whose parents had died in the wilderness following their rebellion (see Numbers 14:26–33; 26:63–65).

One of the most notable features of the book of Deuteronomy is the frequency with which it is quoted in the rest of Scripture. Of the five books of Moses, Deuteronomy is the one most often quoted by the Old Testament prophets.

NEW Sunday Bible Class

It is also quoted or alluded to almost 100 times in the New Testament. Jesus used verses from Deuteronomy to dismiss the temptations of Satan (see Deuteronomy 6:13, 16; 8:3; Matthew 4:1-11) and to explain which commandment was greatest in the law (see Deuteronomy 6:5; Matthew 22:36-38).

Applications

Unlike the unconditional covenant God made with Abraham, the covenant between Yahweh and Israel was bilateral - a two-way street. God would keep His promises to bless the nation if the people remained faithful. The adult Israelites at the plains of Moab then were too young to have participated in the first covenant ceremony at Mount Sinai. Therefore, Moses reviewed the Law at the doorstep to the Promised Land, urging this new generation to re-covenant with Yahweh, to recommit themselves to His ways.

In Moses's conclusion, he entreated the people, "I have set before you life and death, the blessing and the curse. So choose life in order that you may live, you and your descendants, by loving the Lord your God, by obeying His voice, and by holding fast to Him; for this is your life and the length of your days." (Deut 30:19-20).

"This" in verse 20 refers to loving the Lord your God, obeying and holding fast to Him. That is life! Our relationship with God is to be marked by faithfulness, loyalty, love and devotion.

How closely do you cling to God? Pray and recommit your heart to that all-important relationship with Him.

Connect With Us

Prayer Requests/ Feedback



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



Meet Our People

Elders

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Peter Lim

Lim Swee Aun

Deacons

Dennis Law

Lim Kok Hin

Vincent Lim

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