

FOCUS



CHURCH *of* CHRIST
PASIR PANJANG, SINGAPORE

Sunday Morning Worship



10 July 2022

Biblical Leadership **The Eldership**

By Keith Gant
Live @ 11am

Every community needs leaders. Companies have chief executive officers. Nations have presidents and prime ministers. Schools have principals and armies have generals. As a church, we have...well, it depends on what church you're asking.

In the New Testament, Paul refers to the church's leaders using different terms, including presbyters, pastors, shepherds, bishops and elders (which we in churches of Christ use). They all refer to a group of men called to nurture, protect and love the body of Christ. In PP, the elders hold the highest spiritual authority and are called to exercise that authority to build up the church in love.

To our men, we pray that you will be inspired to answer the call of God to leadership. To the rest, let us appreciate the great task of eldership and learn to respect and pray for those who take up that office.

Sunday Morning Worship

Order of Worship

Call To Worship

Looking To Thee

Each Step I Take

Scripture: Psalm 80:1-3, 7-11, 14-19

Opening Prayer

Saviour Thy Dying Love

Communion And Giving

Lovest Thou Me More Than These

Scripture: Matthew 20:25-28

Sermon

I Want To Be A Worker

Announcements

Shepherd's Prayer

Take The Name of Jesus With You

Giving

Last Week's Giving: **\$10,569**



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



10 July | 9:30am

Adult Bible Class

Fighting Idolatry
Deuteronomy 12-13
By Lim Cher Kiat

GEMS Bible Class (Nursery)

Contact Agnes Lim
(9858 5935)

Youth Bible Class

"The Messiah and Pilate"
The Gospel of Mark
By Kenneth Kuek

GEMS Bible Class (Kinderkids)

"A Messenger"
Luke 1:5-25
Contact Josephine Seow (9170 4343)

GEMS Bible Class (Cradle Roll)

Contact Audrey Lee
(9855 4957)

GEMS Bible Class (P123)

"I AM - the True Vine"
John 15:1-8; Galatians 5:22-23
Contact Joanne Foo (9683 8266)

GEMS Bible Class (Toddlers)

Contact Koo Hwee Yee
(9173 2365)

GEMS Bible Class (P456)

"Paul's Defense Before The New Governor" - Acts 23
Contact Rosalind Lee (9621 9006)



11 July | 7:30pm

Gladiolus Place Devotional

Contact Lucy Kwan (9838 3131)



13 July | 7:30pm

Wednesday Bible Class (Zoom @ 8pm)

"Zeal For Your House"
Zoom ID: 852 6167 8088
Password: Logos

Rebuilding Pledge Barometer (correction)

We would like to announce a correction to last week's Focus regarding when the current funds in the Building Fund account will run out. It should be **March 2023** instead of end 2023. As a result, we appeal to members to give if not already done so in order to cover the cost of the rebuilding and relocation; and for those who have pledged, to fulfill their pledges soon to enable payments to be made promptly.

Pledge and Building Fund Committee

Godspeed to the Chen Family!



By Rosie Ooi

17 years have flown by since Jerry Chen first arrived in Singapore! He came with his lovely wife Judith and 2 children: Emily (top middle) and Kevin (top right). Since then, they have had 2 more wonderful children, Sarah (bottom left) and Christopher (bottom right).

God's plans, purpose and protection over the Chen family started way before they left their original home of Victoria, Texas. The brethren at Blyth Road Church of Christ in Texas had got them connected to PPCOC via email even before their arrival. The day after they landed, Lynda and Roland Wee welcomed them into their home and were instrumental in helping them to settle in smoothly. They constantly checked in on them and visited them, offering their generous Christian love and services.

Family News

Since then, the Chen family and their children have been worshipping and serving God at PPCOC faithfully every Sunday. The children have enjoyed much love and fun during Sunday school and have grown to know and love the Lord. Judith was touched by the warmth and love of the brothers, sisters and leaders at PP. She herself taught Sunday school and became an active member of a care team.

Adrian and Doreen Teo had taken them under their wings, showering them with the love of Christ, mentoring and journeying with them. The four children fondly address them as “grandpa” and “grandma”. In Judith’s own words, PPCOC actually ‘defines’ their sojourn in Singapore!

Thus, it is a bittersweet time for us when the Chens have to say goodbye as they return to the US. Even so, as children of God, we look forward to being reunited once again, whether on this side of heaven or the next! The Chens will miss the safe and secure streets of Singapore, the efficient and reliable transport system and the convenient and affordable fine cuisines at the hawker centers, especially the chicken rice, duck rice, mutton briyani (though not the durian yet!)

So to the Chen family: PPCOC bids you a fond farewell and prays that God will be with you always, till we meet again!



Congratulations Graduates!



From January-April 2022, sisters Catherine Leow, Rosie Ooi and Lim Li Mei taught a special Apologetics class to our P6s, covering topics such as the argument for God, the divinity of Jesus, and the New Testament church. Gabriel Foo, Angel Shanmugam, Katelyn Tan and Zhang Rui Ying completed the course after a 160-question quiz. We are proud of their hard work and pray that they will continue to grow in faith and wisdom! They will receive certificates of completion at this Sunday's worship service.



Spiritual Leaders

“Character is not limited to having wisdom to comment on the behaviour of others. Intellectually knowing how to act, think and feel consistently with Bible principles may be a far cry from actually living in harmony with those principles. A person with true character doesn’t just verbally tell other people what to do, but lives as an example worthy of following.”

- Frank Damazio

Many assume that great leaders must be gifted with talents, charisma, and other competencies. But is that really so? Consider the following passages:

“But the LORD said to Samuel, “Do not look at his appearance or at his physical stature, because I have refused him. For the LORD does not see as man sees; for man looks at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart.” (1 Samuel 16:7)

Every way of a man is right in his own eyes, but the LORD weighs the hearts. (Proverbs 21:2)

The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked; who can know it? I, the LORD, search the heart, I test the mind, even to give every man according to his ways, according to the fruit of his doings. (Jeremiah 17:9-10)

1. The heart is the most important aspect of a leader.

“For whatever is in your heart determines what you say. A good person produces good words from a good heart, and an evil person produces evil words from an evil heart. And I tell you this, that you must give an account on judgment day of every idle word you speak. The words you say now reflect your fate then; either you will be justified by them or you will be condemned. (Mt. 12:33-37). NLT.

2. The leader's heart has a big impact on the leader's fruit.

According to the biblical worldview, the heart has many functions, including thought (Matt 9:4; Mark 2:8), remembrance, reflection and meditation (Psalm 77:5-6; Luke 2:19). It is the generator of our physical, intellectual and emotional lives. Every aspect of our life is affected by our heart. (Proverbs 4:23). The heart is where you make choices motivated by your desires. David "had it in his heart to build a temple for God." 1 Kings 8:17

3. Keep your heart with all diligence, for out of it springs the issues of life.

Which brings us all the way back to the Shema. Every day, God's people were called to devote to God their body and mind, feelings and desires, futures and failures. This is what it means to love the Lord your God with all your heart. It affects everything we do.

Spiritual Biblical leaders:

- a. Submit to the laws of God with their hearts.
- b. Are humble before God and the people they serve.
- c. Do not use their positions for self-gratification.

God's family needs godly, spiritual leaders with a heart for God to:

- a. Provide the flock with spiritual sustenance.
- b. Keep them accountable.
- c. Guide them in their decision-making.
- d. Correct or discipline them when needed.
- e. Equip them for ministry.
- f. Keep them from going astray.

Conclusion: The greatest commandment according to Jesus is to "Love the Lord your God with all your heart" (Matt 22:37). Love here is more than emotion; it is a conscious commitment to the Lord. We need leaders whose hearts are aligned to God. Leaders are:

1. Teachers of God's disciples, helping them build a biblical foundation and preparing them for their spiritual calling and service.
2. Guides to spiritual sojourners, leading them to reach their eternal destination.
3. Sherpas to spiritual mountain climbers, helping them draw nearer to God.
4. Master-craftsmen to spiritual apprentices, helping them learn and gain competencies for their spiritual character building.

Reflection, Prayer, and Meditation

1. God looks at us on the inside, not just on the outside.

“And you shall love the Lord your God with your whole heart” Mark 12:30. What are the essential characteristics of godly, spiritual leaders?

2. “Keep your heart with all vigilance, for from it flows the springs of life. Put away from you crooked speech, and put devious talk far from you. Let your eyes look directly forward, and your gaze be straight before you. Ponder the path of your feet; then all your ways will be sure” Proverbs 4:23-26. As we face the challenges in our personal character development in each stage of life, what solutions can we identify from God’s Word of Life to overcome them?

3. “Let us come forward to the Holy of Holies with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience and having our bodies washed with pure water” Hebrews 10:22.

Review our “heart” in our personal character development and reflect on our actions needed to grow as a spiritual leader of God.

Prayer:

Thank You, Heavenly Father for giving us our life. Forgive us as we tend to adopt a secular worldview to make a living. Grant us strength, Lord, to grow and become the godly spiritual example in our home and family, church and our community in accordance to Your Holy Spirit inspired Word. In Christ's 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

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Pledge and Building Fund Committee

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