



# COVENANT

## Bible-Presbyterian Church

*Preaching Christ for His Glory and His Kingdom*

### Order of Worship — 8 November 2015

**Theme for the Year: "Out of Myself and into the Savior" (Ezekiel 14:4-6)**

Prelude	<i>The Lord Is in His Holy Temple</i>
Call to Worship	
*Opening Hymn	13 - <i>Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty</i>
*Invocation & † <i>Gloria Patri</i>	
Scripture Reading	Psalm 132
Hymn	TP 132:11-17
Tithes & Offering	
*†† <i>Doxology</i> & Offertory Prayer	
Scripture Reading	Hebrews 11:32-40
Hymn	359 - <i>My Faith Looks Up to Thee</i>
Confession of Faith & Pastoral Prayer	
Sermon	"What Faith Can Accomplish"
*Closing Hymn	402 - <i>Faith Is the Victory</i>
*Benediction & <i>Threefold Amen</i>	
Silent Prayer & Postlude	
Announcements	* <i>Congregation standing</i>

† 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.

†† Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise him, all creatures here below;  
Praise him above, ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.  
Amen.

Covenant Bible-Presbyterian Church meets every Sunday at 10:00 am  
at 47 Davis Road, Attadale, Western Australia

Website: [www.covenantbpc.org.au](http://www.covenantbpc.org.au)

Contact: [pastor@covenantbpc.org.au](mailto:pastor@covenantbpc.org.au)

## **"Robert Raikes and How We Got Sunday School"**

Robert knelt beside his father's grave after the funeral. Where would he go now?

What would he do with his life? He'd always worked beside his father in the printing shop. But now those days were gone forever.

He mopped his teary face with a handkerchief and stood to his feet. Leaving the graveyard, Robert walked toward the printing shop that now belonged to him.

He and his father had spent the last several years there, working on Gloucester, England's newspaper, the Gloucester Journal.

Robert opened the creaky front door of the shop and slowly walked inside. The familiar smell of ink and machinery greeted him.

Robert picked up the last copy of the Gloucester Journal published by his father that year, in 1757. "I'll make you proud, Father," he said aloud. "With God's help, I'll keep your Gloucester Journal alive."

The days passed and Robert worked hard. He made the newspaper larger, improved its layout, and hired new writers. Soon even more people wanted to read the Gloucester Journal!

On his days off, Robert often visited prisoners in Gloucester. There he found the castoffs of society living in the most appalling circumstances. Most of them were sick or even dying from overwork. They lived in crowded, filthy spaces with almost no food. Even children were sometimes imprisoned along with the worst criminals. Robert felt sad to see these sick and starving prisoners. But what could one person do to ease the pain of so many? He decided to write about the terrible prisons in his newspaper.

### *The White Slaves of England*

One evening he walked down St. Catherine's Street to look for his gardener. Suddenly, he saw a group of

ragged children. They looked just as poor and overworked as the prisoners he visited. A little boy in a tattered blue shirt swore as he tackled another boy half his size.

"Git your hands offa me!" the little boy yelled as the two of them wrestled on the cobblestones. Soon a crowd of children gathered around, noisily cheering.

"Hey, stop fighting!" Robert shouted at them as he pulled the two boys apart. "Go home, all of you."

As the children walked away, Robert asked the gardener's wife, "Who are these children?"

"Ah, pay no mind to them," she answered. "Everyone calls them the white slaves of England."

"Slaves?" asked Robert.

"They work 12 hours a day or longer in the mills and sweatshops," the woman answered. "Most of their parents are in prison or dead."

Robert cringed. He knew that if his father had died when he was little, he could have been one of these poor children. "When do they go to school?" he asked.

"School? They don't go to school. They have to work to live," she answered.

"And Sundays are the worst. It's their only day off and they run around like wild animals!"

### *Sunday Schools Started*

Robert knew that the future was grim for these children who had to work all the time with no hope of an education.

Worse yet, with no one to teach them the good news of the Gospel or how to live God's way, they were likely to end up cold, sick and starving in the dreadful prisons.

An idea began to form in Robert's mind which he shared with his friend, Reverend Thomas Stock.

"Let's start a Sunday school!" said Robert.

"School on Sunday?" asked Thomas.

"Yes, school on Sunday!" answered Robert. "We'll teach them to read and write part of the day and teach them the Bible for the rest of the day."

"It's a great idea!" said Thomas.

Robert waited expectantly the first Sunday for the children to come to the new school, but only a few came.

"Marcy, why don't more of the children come to Sunday school?" he asked the little red-haired girl with freckles.

Marcy looked down. "Cuz our clothes ain't no good," she answered.

"Now I understand," answered Robert.

"Well, you tell your friends that all they need is a clean face and combed hair, okay, Marcy?"

Marcy smiled. "You're nice."

Robert squatted down beside her. "I'll tell you what, Marcy, I think you're nice, too. Here's a penny for coming to class today. If you work very hard and learn your lessons, you'll get a special reward."

"Really?" asked Marcy, her sparkling eyes fixed on the candy Robert held in his hand. "I'll do my very best!"

### *Sunday Schools Stop Crime*

It didn't take long until Robert Raikes and Reverend Thomas Stock had 100 children ages 6 to 14 attending their Sunday schools.

Even though the children were taught only one day a week, their behavior began to improve. Now they had something to look forward to after working so hard every day. The policemen of the city told Robert that the

children weren't stealing and fighting like before.

Robert waited three years to see if his Sunday schools were a success. Then he printed a story about the new Sunday schools.

Soon, about 4,000 new Sunday schools were started in towns all over England. Robert even used his printing press to publish reading books, spelling books, Bible study books, and copies of the Scriptures for the Sunday schools.

### *The World Marches On*

One Sunday, Thomas and Robert walked up the street to the Sunday school building. Thomas said, "Robert, your father would be proud of what you've done with his newspaper. He'd be proud of your Sunday schools, too, although you know - everyone is calling you 'Bobby Wild Goose and his ragged regiment.'"

Robert laughed. "I've been called worse names than 'Wild Goose,' I think," he answered.

Robert looked around at the hundreds of children now attending his Sunday school and his face grew quite serious.

"Thomas, my father died and his father before him died. One day we will grow old and die, too. But the world won't die with us. The world marches forth on the feet of little children."

Thomas patted his friend on the back. "So it does, Robert. So it does."

<http://www.christianity.com/church/church-history/church-history-for-kids/robert-raikes-and-how-we-got-sunday-school-11635043.html>



## **Westminster Larger Catechism**

Q. 22. Did all mankind fall in that first transgression?

A. The covenant being made with Adam as a public person, not for himself only, but for his posterity, all mankind descending from him by ordinary generation, sinned in him, and fell with him in that first transgression.

Q. 23. Into what estate did the fall bring mankind?

A. The fall brought mankind into an estate of sin and misery.

# Worship Service Roster

Service	This Week (8.11.15)	Next Week (15.11.15)
Speaker	Mark Chen	Mark Chen
Worship Leader	Jimmy Orchard	Raymond Woo
Pianist	Eugene Lim	Jabez Huang
Welcomers	Yen Fye & Angela Yap	Jacob & Marilyn Woo
Offering Stewards	David Pang*, LH Chua*, Vincent Chiu, David Lim	Yen Fye Yap*, Kim Leow*, Chris Budiman, Jacob Woo
Usher	Angela Yap	Marilyn Woo
Kitchen Duties	Angela Yap*, August Ng, Lisa Lim	Jenni Budiman*, Evelyn Lee, Jackie Hong
<i>Prayer Meeting</i>	<i>13 November 2015</i>	<i>20 November 2015</i>
Speaker	Mark Chen	Mark Chen
Chairperson	Jacob Woo	Ken Hong
Pianist	Eugene Lim	Ian Tay

## Announcements

1. A warm welcome to all worshippers. May God richly bless you. Please stay behind after the service for fellowship and tea.
2. Next week's message: "The Christian's Endurance and Discipline" (Hebrews 12:1-2).
3. Bible Conference. Speaker: Mathews Abrahams (Pastor, Ebenezer B-P Church, Melbourne). Venue: Bayview Geographe Resort, Busselton. Date: 19-22 April 2016.
4. Sunday School meeting on 15 November 2015 after service. All Sunday School teachers and song leaders are requested to be present.
5. Men's Bible Study on Saturday, 14 November 2015 at 7:30 pm at the residence of Terence Lee. Please contact him at 0418 845 617 for more details.
6. For a soft copy of the bulletin, please sign up at [www.covenantbpc.org.au/newsletter](http://www.covenantbpc.org.au/newsletter).
7. **Special Meetings.** Speakers: Dr Bob Jones III and Rev David McIlveen. Time: 7 pm. Venue and Dates: Perth Free Presbyterian Church (9-10 November 2015) and Covenant Bible-Presbyterian Church (11 November 2015).

Appointments for the Week	Last Lord's Day Tithes & Offering, & Attendance
WED 10:00 am Attadale Craft Group FRI 7:45 pm Prayer Meeting and JF SAT 7:30 pm Men's Bible Study SUN 9:00 am Adult Bible Class	<i>General Fund</i> - \$4,532.75 (#498 - \$100.00). <i>Missions Fund</i> - \$760.00 (#499 - \$100.00, #500 - \$150.00). <i>Building Fund</i> - \$510.00 (#301 - \$310.00, #302 - \$100.00, #303 - \$100.00). <i>Total Tithes &amp; Offering</i> - \$6,091.10. Attendance - 161.

Building Fund to Date	
Available Building Fund	\$40,445.41
Outstanding Pledges	\$31,590.00
Last Week's Collection	\$510.00
Total	\$72,545.41
<i>Outstanding Loan</i>	- \$430,000.00
<i>Amount Still Needed</i>	\$357,454.59
Building Fund Account:	
Covenant Bible-Presbyterian Church (Westpac Bank, Applecross)	
BSB: 036-031 Acct: 316969	
SWIFT: WPACAU2S	

Elders: **Mark Chen (Pastor)** 6114 4242, 0415 932 373. **Jimmy Orchard** 0413 274 407.  
 Deacons: **Ken Chong** 0402 553 313. **LH Chua** 0435 601 373. **Terence Lee** 0418 845 617. **Johnson Lim** 0402 145 682. **Jacob Woo** 0421 212 206.

## What Faith Can Accomplish

Hebrews 11:32-40

Life does not necessarily get better after we trust in Jesus. It can become worse. God loves us and gives us power over death and sin; but he also promised suffering. Those who live by faith will go through victories and suffering.

### 1. Faith Gives Weak Men the Power to Triumph (vv 32-35).

- a. They were weak
- b. They subdued kingdoms
- c. They ruled justly
- d. They obtained the promise
- e. They stopped the mouths of lions
- f. They quenched fires
- g. Their weakness turned to strength
- h. They were strong in battle
- i. Their women had their dead resurrected

### 2. Faith Gives Faithful Men the Power to Suffer (vv 35-38).

- a. They endured suffering and refused freedom
- b. They were stoned and cut because of their faith

They lived by faith despite not having seen Christ. We have more reasons to live in faith and accomplish much more, because we have seen Christ.

Questions for Discussion:

1. What do you hold dear in life that prevents you from living by faith, knowing that when you do, these things are threatened?
2. Living with integrity is a mark of living by faith. Why?
3. Are you suffering persecution for your faith in Christ? How?