



COVENANT Bible-Presbyterian Church

Preaching Christ for His Glory and His Kingdom

Order of Worship — 12 July 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	TP 117
*Invocation & † <i>Gloria Patri</i>	
Responsive Reading	Leviticus 9:1-24
Hymn	127 - <i>Hallelujah, What a Savior</i>
Tithes & Offering	
*† <i>Doxology</i> & Offertory Prayer	
Scripture Reading	Hebrews 5:1-10
Hymn	58 - <i>Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee</i>
Confession of Faith & Pastoral Prayer	
Sermon	"Jesus, a Better High Priest"
*Closing Hymn	494 - <i>It's Just Like His Great Love</i>
*Benediction & † <i>Threefold Amen</i>	
Silent Prayer & Postlude	<i>The Lord Bless You and Keep You</i>
Announcements	† <i>Inside cover of hymnal</i>

**Congregation standing*

Covenant Bible-Presbyterian Church meets every Sunday at 3:00 pm
at 47 Davis Road, Attadale, Western Australia
Website: www.covenantbpc.org.au
Email: pastor@covenantbpc.org.au

How to Talk to Your Kids About Same Sex Marriage and Homosexuality

Introduction

There are many things which are painfully embarrassing to talk about in the Scriptures.

Parents struggle to talk to their children about sex, sexual sins, and also about issues of Christian liberty.

It is often easier to condemn sins outrightly and hope that our children will condemn them as vehemently as we do.

And it is definitely easier to condemn things that we perceive to be traditionally sinful and hope that our children will share our convictions.

This may work for younger kids. It certainly does not work for older kids who are interacting with other people who do not share our convictions, whether they are biblical and binding or personal and cultural.

The Bible not only has law but it also has principles that can be brought to bear. It is important to address these issues maturely and biblically before the world and their peers influence their perspective.

Your Responsibility

Christian parents are to talk to their children about this. It is not a question of should but a matter of how and when.

It is wrong to shelter them. It is not realistic. Neither is it Christian - the Bible talks excessively about sexual sin. The Scriptures are not antiseptic or sanitary on these issues. They address these issues.

If we are teaching our children the Scriptures, we will and we must address these issues. And if we do not speak about these issues, our children will

assume that we are unable to speak about them.

And if we rely merely on the staid and usual traditional arguments, yea condemnation, they will eventually seek out a secular worldview.

Give Scripture and Perspective

Marriage Between Man and Woman

We teach what the Bible says. Plainly. They will have, or already have, lots of other questions. "Where do babies come from?" "Why do my friends only stay with their mother/father?" "What is divorce?"

We give them age appropriate teaching. As with the other questions, it is unnecessary to inform little kids about all the graphic details. Teaching faithfulness and marriage need not extend to those details.

We can explain to them what the Bible teaches from Genesis to Revelation, about the permanence of marriage between a man and a woman.

We can explain that God's view of marital relationships is different from other relationships. While friendship can exist between same sexes, and while family relations can exist between same sexes, marriages can only exist between men and women.

Explain that there are people who would like to change that definition - that marriages can exist between people of the same sex. Explain that their reasoning and justification for this belief is love.

Explain that the source of love is God (1 John 4:8). And God's love cannot contradict God's truth. Explain that love rejoices in the truth (1 Corinthians 13:6).

While love is very noble, and people desire to love each other, true love - God's love - the kind of love he wants us to have for one another is governed by his perfect laws and that love is better and purer.

Loving God and Your Neighbors

Because God loves, we ought to love those who may not agree with God's Word.

Loving them does not mean agreeing with them. Because to agree with them, would mean to hate God's Word.

Loving them means not to mistreat them or to ridicule them. People struggle in their marriages and get divorced unjustly. We show compassion on them as friends.

Likewise, we are to teach our children to show compassion, to befriend, and to be kind to those who do not think the same way.

Warn them also. Those who do not accept the Bible and God's design may eventually treat our children badly. But we are not to be hostile towards them.

This is also important for us to model. Many of us have friends, colleagues, or

acquaintances who are gay. We are to extend love to them. This educates our children to love them as well.

We may have family friends who fall short of a Christian sexual ethic. If our children perceive outrage in us and intolerance, they may eventually neglect and abandon the "traditional values" that we desire them to embrace.

But that's the thing - as Christians, we do not promote traditional values. We promote Biblical values.

The Need to Desensitize Them

Don't be afraid to talk about the subject. The Bible talks about it.

By teaching our children what the Bible says about marriage, homosexuality, and showing love, we are desensitizing them to homophobia. Christians are not to be homophobic.

The world will desensitize them in another way - to be accepting of homosexuality and same-sex marriage.

The race is on for the hearts of our children. This is not something that can wait until they face it head on. This is something we need to do today.

~ Pastor



Westminster Confession of Faith XXX - Of Church Censures

3. Church censures are necessary, for the reclaiming and gaining of offending brethren, for deterring of others from the like offenses, for purging out of that leaven which might infect the whole lump, for vindicating the honor of Christ, and the holy profession of the Gospel, and for preventing the wrath of God, which might justly fall upon the Church, if they should suffer His covenant, and the seals thereof, to be profaned by notorious and obstinate offenders.¹
4. For the better attaining of these ends, the officers of the Church are to proceed by admonition; suspension from the sacrament of the Lord's Supper for a season; and by excommunication from the Church; according to the nature of the crime, and demerit of the person.²

1. 1 Corinthians 5; 1 Timothy 5:20; Matthew 7:6; 1 Timothy 1:20; 1 Corinthians 11:27-34; Jude 23.

2. 1 Thessalonians 5:12; 2 Thessalonians 3:6, 14-15; 1 Corinthians 5:4-5, 13; Matthew 18:17; Titus 3:10.

Worship Service Roster

Service	This Week (12.7.15)	Next Week (19.7.15)
Speaker	Mark Chen	Mark Chen
Worship Leader	Ken Chong	Raymond Woo
Pianist	Eugene Lim	Evelyn Lee
Welcomers	Kim & Jesslyn Leow	Danny & Susie Tan
Offering Stewards	David Lim, Ken Hong	Rex Sriharan, LH Chua
Usher	Jesslyn Leow	Jerome Ng
Kitchen Duties	Jackie Hong*, Julian Poon, Sarah Siew	Sandy Chua*, Sally Tan, Eileen Tay
<i>Prayer Meeting</i>	<i>17 July 2015</i>	<i>24 July 2015</i>
Speaker	Mark Chen	Mark Chen
Chairperson	Ken Chong	Terence Lee
Pianist	Wendy Gong	Jerome Ng

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: "Why We Do Not Grow Spiritually" (Hebrews 5:11-6:3).
3. Perth Free Presbyterian Church Vacation Bible School. Theme: "Rescue Mission Bible Club" Ages: *Kindy to Year 7*. Date: *13 - 15 July (Mon-Wed)*. Time: *10 am - 12 pm*. Venue: *10 Alexander Road, Padbury*. Contact: *Philip Gardiner - pcgardiner@hotmail.com, 0459 693 339*.
4. JF and TF Parent Meeting. Today at 4:20 pm in the JF room. Parents of those who attend the JF and TF are invited to attend and discuss the format and running of the meetings and the proposed changes from Term 3 onwards.

Appointments for the Week	Last Lord's Day Tithes & Offering, & Attendance
FRI 7:45 pm Prayer Meeting SAT 4:30 pm YPG SUN 2:00 pm Adult Bible Class/Catechism 3:00 pm Worship & Sunday School	<i>General Fund - \$2,346.05 (#482 - \$100.00). Missions Fund - \$270.00. Building Fund - \$21,025.00 (#255 - \$20,000.00, #256 - \$140.00, #257 - \$30.00, #258 - \$855.00). Total Tithes & Offering - \$23,641.05. Attendance - 117.</i>

Building Fund to Date		
Starting Fund	\$54,185.68	Building Fund Account:
Pledges Collected	\$257,665.00	Covenant Bible-Presbyterian Church
Non-Pledged Gifts	\$116,945.26	(Westpac Bank, Applecross)
<i>Subtotal Building Fund</i>	<i>\$428,795.94</i>	BSB: 036-031 Acct: 316969
<i>Outstanding Pledges</i>	<i>\$114,055.00</i>	SWIFT: WPACAU2S
<i>Grand Total</i>	<i>\$542,850.94</i>	

Elders: **Mark Chen (Pastor)** 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. **SK Loh** 9386 1660.