



COVENANT

Bible-Presbyterian Church

Preaching Christ for His Glory and His Kingdom

Order of Worship – 23 October 2016

Theme for the Year: "What Would Jesus Say About Your Church?" (Rev 3:22)

Prelude	<i>The Lord Is in His Holy Temple</i>
Call to Worship	
*Opening Hymn	7 - <i>Praise Our God</i>
*Invocation & † <i>Gloria Patri</i>	
Scripture Reading	Isaiah 28:1-13
Hymn	TP 119:25-40
Tithes & Offering	
**† <i>Doxology</i> & Offertory Prayer	
Scripture Reading	Acts 2:14-36
Hymn	162 - <i>Fill Me Now</i>
Confession of Faith & Pastoral Prayer	
Sermon	"The Spirit Preaches"
*Closing Hymn	475 - <i>Redeemed</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

Contact: pastor@covenantbpc.org.au

Your Children Are Not Too Young to Go to Hell

"Your children are not too young to die; they are not too young to go to hell."

These words were written by the Puritan James Janeway in his book, *A Token for Children*.

There, he compiled numerous accounts of the conversion of children and their testimonies before their early deaths.

One account of a girl name Priscilla is especially amazing.

Priscilla "was remarkably grave, devout, and serious, very inquisitive about the matters of eternity. She pressed that some other pious children of her acquaintance might, with her, keep a day of humiliation together that they might get power against their sinful natures."

Wow! Many of us would already be overjoyed if our children brought their Bibles and asked us to read with them!

But what sort of girl would ask her friends to join her for a day of repentance to overcome their sins?

And her spiritual disciplines bore fruit. Listen to what she said as she lay dying, comforting her grieving mother:

"Mother, why do you weep when I am well in my soul? Will you mourn when I am so full of joy? I pray, rejoice with me."

Marvelous.

Now, why is it that we lack such spiritual children today? Are they not far and few between? Why is that? Where is holiness?

Hannah More, a member of John Newton's church, wrote in her book *Practical Piety*, that *"many Christians make but small progress in holiness because their difficulties may be great;*

their natural capacity may be weak; their temptations may be strong; and their instruction may be defective."

She speaks of circumstance which are all uncontrollable; all except one – Christian instruction. Sometimes Christian instruction is defective.

Christian instruction is the equipping and building up of saints – to teach them to persevere in their sanctification and to help them understand the love, grace, and power of God, on whom they can rely.

But the question is this – do we lack Christian instruction? Are we so far gone in our instruction of God's Word that all the young people have gone the way of the world? No.

But Christian instruction is more than just imparting lessons from the Word of God. It is discipleship!

That is why the Sunday School and the Junior Worship ministries are such hard ministries.

It is not just instruction, but it is follow-up. It is difficult enough for teachers to prepare lessons, but they also have to pray for and love the children.

Their burden and love both constrain them to instruct and disciple to the best of their abilities. But it is an uphill task.

It is difficult because the world's siren songs try to lure our children away – they tell them that Christian education is unimportant – that Sunday School homework is unnecessary. They tell them that Sunday activity is not as important as real world life.

Teachers are fighting this trend in the church. They are fighting this tendency in the young people. And often times, it is a losing battle.

JC Ryle says, "we ought to remember this in the training and education of children. In all our management we must never forget, that the seeds of all mischief and wickedness are in their hearts. It is not enough to keep boys and girls at home, and shut out every outward temptation. They carry within them a heart ready for any sin, and until that heart is changed they are not 'safe,' whatever we do."

So if Sunday School teachers are fighting this trend, and are at the losing end, what can be done?

Richard Baxter says, "Parents! It is in your hands to do your children the greatest kindness, or cruelty, in all the world! Help them to know God and to be saved, and you do more for them than if you helped them to be lords or princes. If you neglect their souls, and breed them in ignorance, worldliness, ungodliness, and sin; you betray them to the devil, the enemy of souls, even as truly as if you sold them to him! You sell them to be slaves to Satan! You betray them to him that will deceive them and abuse them in this life, and torment them in the next!"

Strong words from Baxter. But is there hope? If so, what can we do? Mary Winslow asks, "Did you but see your children standing on the edge of an awful precipice, and know that none but God could prevent their destruction, would you not cry day and night to Him? Will you not pray, that your dear children may escape from the wrath to come?"

Have your children seen the glory of the risen Christ? Have they tasted of His goodness? Have they understood and desired the separated life? How can lives be changed?

It is only by much prayer and comprehensive instruction. The Sunday School teachers cannot do it alone. In fact, they are not appointed by God to teach your children. Parents are.

Parents, do you know your child's spiritual growth? What are they learning in Sunday School and Junior Worship? What are you teaching them?

May the Lord bless you in discipling your children, that true piety and holiness may be a hallmark of the young people in Covenant Church.

~ Pastor



Westminster Larger Catechism

Q. 103. Which is the first commandment?

A. The first commandment is, Thou shalt have no other gods before me.

Q. 104. What are the duties required in the first commandment?

A. The duties required in the first commandment are, the knowing and acknowledging of God to be the only true God, and our God; and to worship and glorify him accordingly, by thinking, meditating, remembering, highly esteeming, honoring, adoring, choosing, loving, desiring, fearing of him; believing him; trusting, hoping, delighting, rejoicing in him; being zealous for him; calling upon him, giving all praise and thanks, and yielding all obedience and submission to him with the whole man; being careful in all things to please him, and sorrowful when in any thing he is offended; and walking humbly with him.

Worship Service Roster

Service	This Week (23.10.16)	Next Week (30.10.16)
Speaker	Mark Chen	Mark Chen
Worship Leader	Chris Budiman	Johnson Lim
Pianist	Elizabeth Huang	Eugene Lim
Welcomers	Danny & Susie Tan	Yen Fye & Angela Yap
Offering Stewards	Ian Read*, Jansen Ng* Terence Lee, Kim Leow	David Lim*, Vincent Chiu* LH Chua, David Pang
Usher	Jemima Ng, Jesslyn Leow	Marilyn Woo, Joyce Ng
Kitchen Duties	Nancy Lim*, Carmel Sriharan, Sally Tan	Jenni Budiman*, Sandy Chua, Jemima Ng
<i>Prayer Meeting</i>	<i>28 October 2016</i>	<i>4 November 2016</i>
Facilitator	Mark Chen	Mark Chen
Pianist	Jerome Ng	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 Spirit Convicts" (Acts 2:37-41).
3. Next week's Junior Worship message - "Heading for Heaven One Day" (Colossians 3:1-4). Speaker - Yen Fye Yap.
4. Retirees' Bible Study. Tuesday 25 October 2016, 10 am. Topic: "Spiritual Maturity". For more information, please contact Yen Fye Yap at 0419 915 874.
5. Combined Youth Camp. "Living as Christians in a Non-Christian World." 1-3 December at Serpentine Camping Centre. Speaker: Pastor Ron Nugent. Fee: \$55. For more information, see Eugene Lim or Jerome Ng.
6. Reformation Day Meeting. Wednesday, 26 Oct 2016, 7 pm. Speaker: Rev David Silversides, Pastor of Loughbrickland Reformed Presbyterian Church, and Director of the Trinitarian Bible Society (Australia). Topic: "God's Word's All We Need."
7. Junior Fellowship and Teens Fellowship on recess this Saturday.

Appointments for the Week	Last Lord's Day Tithes & Offering, & Attendance
TUE 10:00 am Retirees' Bible Study	<i>General Fund - \$3,118.95. Missions Fund - \$270.00 (#629 - \$100.00). Building Fund - \$1,500.00 (#396 - \$1,000.00, #397 - \$500.00). Total Tithes & Offering - \$4,888.95. Attendance - 164.</i>
WED 10:00 am Craft Group	
7:00 pm Reformation Day Meeting	
FRI 7:45 pm CBI & Prayer Meeting	
SAT 10:00 am Wedding of Jansen and Eva	
SUN 9:00 am Sunday School	
10:00 am Worship Service	

Building Fund to Date		
Available Building Fund	\$70,915.39	Building Fund Account:
Outstanding Pledges	\$0.00	
Last Week's Collection	\$1,500.00	Covenant Bible-Presbyterian Church
Total	\$72,415.39	(Westpac Bank, Applecross)
<i>Outstanding Loan</i>	- \$416,000.00	BSB: 036-031 Acct: 316969
<i>Amount Still Needed</i>	\$343,584.61	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. **Johnson Lim** 0402 145 682. **Jacob Woo** 0421 212 206.

The Spirit Preaches

Acts 2:14-36

What defines you? If people were to think of you, how would they describe you? Some people are defined by their work, hobbies, politics, temperament, and culinary choices. But as Christians we should be chiefly defined by Christ. Our life and words must witness for Christ.

1. The Beginning of the End Is Here
 - a. Prophecy of the Final Judgment Day
 - b. Outpouring of the Spirit and the Last Days
 - c. Trouble characterizes the Last Days
2. Our Salvation Is Not Random
 - a. Jesus' works were done by God
 - b. Jesus' death was planned by God
 - c. Jesus' resurrection was prophesied by God
 - d. Implications of our salvation
3. There Is a Coming Judgment
 - a. Jesus' ascension speaks of his power
 - b. Tongues and judgment
 - c. Footstool

What is the Spirit preaching to you today? It's the beginning of the end. How urgent are you to live for Christ? And your salvation is planned by God - how do you live? And you have been saved from judgment, why should you live any longer to your sins? For those who are not sure of their salvation, anyone who calls on the name of Jesus will be saved. Otherwise, there is judgment.

Questions for Reflection:

1. Your salvation is not a random act of God - you are saved, dead to sin, and headed to heaven. What impact should that have on you?
2. What is the sense of urgency of Christian parents concerning their children's spiritual welfare and status in Christ? Do you think it is disproportionate to their concern for their worldly success?
3. In light of the last days, what aspect of your Christian life do you desperately need to work on? Which aspects of your Christian character and your service to God's people and the lost should you focus on?