



COVENANT

Bible-Presbyterian Church

Preaching Christ for His Glory and His Kingdom

Order of Worship — 14 February 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	45 - <i>Ye Servants of God, Your Master Proclaim</i>
*Invocation & † <i>Gloria Patri</i>	
Scripture Reading	Psalm 2
Hymn	TP 107:10-16
Tithes & Offering	
**† <i>Doxology</i> & Offertory Prayer	
Scripture Reading	Jonah 1:1-16
Hymn	397 - <i>I Have Decided to Follow Jesus</i>
Confession of Faith & Pastoral Prayer	
Sermon	"God Is Not Mocked"
*Closing Hymn	303 - <i>Jesus, Savior, Pilot Me</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

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Contact: pastor@covenantbpc.org.au

The Importance of Christian Fellowship

I had made mention in a previous bulletin article about stirring our children's hearts for God and the people of God. How about us?

Christians who are serious about spiritual growth are serious about the Body of Christ.

Growth is never a matter of mere individual pursuit of God. It is always pictured as something we pursue as a community.

The importance of fellowship for growth is seen, not just in experience, but in the pages of the Bible.

Christians Need One Another

No Christian can claim he or she doesn't need ministry from and to other believers.

1 Corinthians 12:21 says, "And the eye cannot say unto the hand, I have no need of thee: nor again the head to the feet, I have no need of you."

The context of this statement makes it clear that we have all been given gifts for the edification of others.

By implication, if we cannot say we don't need them, they cannot say they don't need us! Notice that it is not just the presence of the other members that we need but also their function.

Christians Need One Another's Gifts

We need their function. And God has given us gifts. These gifts are for the good of others and not for our own good.

1 Corinthians 12:7,14 says, "But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal...For the body is not one member, but many."

Because we are a part, and not the whole, of the Body of Christ, we need

what the other parts of the Body supply. God has not gifted any of us so much that we can meet all our own needs.

Christians Must Meet Together

If we need one another and the gifts of one another to grow as Christians, we must meet together often.

Hebrews 10:24-25 says, "And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works: not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching."

The meeting together is not merely for Christian instruction. But it is for the purpose of encouraging one another toward good works.

Christians can gather together for instruction but never spend enough time together building one another up.

If we fail to assemble, or if we fail to have fellowship when we assemble, we miss out on spiritual growth. Therefore, it is important to devote time to doing this.

Christian Fellowship Grows the Church

What happens when we come together for fellowship? There will be Christian growth. Not only will there be individual Christian growth, but there will be corporate Christian growth.

Acts 2:42,44,46-47 says, "And they continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers..And all that believed were together, and had all things common..And they, continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, did eat their meat with gladness and singleness of heart, praising God, and

having favour with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved."

When the believers came together to study and to encourage one another, and to use their gifts on one another, the Lord added numbers to the church.

Why wouldn't this happen? As we grow closer to the Lord and to one another, we would be more focused on spiritual matters. And when we are more focused on spiritual matters, the souls of people matter to us.

Christian Fellowship Pleases God

1 Corinthians 12:18 says, "But now hath God set the members every one of them in the body, as it hath pleased him."

The Body of Christ is constituted by God, not by man. The local manifestation of the Body of Christ can take different forms.

Obviously, there is the church. But sometimes the church is large, and it is hard to have fellowship and to know one another intimately.

Therefore, there are groups of the church. There are fellowship groups to help in fellowship. Naturally, each group is part of the church and should never be separate in identity.

There are also friendships. There are those who have a greater affinity with one another. They should meet as friends to encourage one another, but careful never to form cliques.

Whenever we meet together to have fellowship - not just instruction, not just gathering together - it pleases the Lord. When we gather for prayer and to use our gifts, and to encourage one another to pursue Christ - it pleases the Lord.

But we must meet.

Are you meeting frequently with the people of God? Are you meeting with the intention to fellowship?

Growth is never a matter of mere individual pursuit of God. May you consider the importance of Christian fellowship.

~ Pastor



Westminster Larger Catechism

Q. 43. How doth Christ execute the office of a prophet?

A. Christ executeth the office of a prophet, in his revealing to the church, in all ages, by his Spirit and Word, in divers ways of administration, the whole will of God, in all things concerning their edification and salvation.

Q. 44. How doth Christ execute the office of a priest?

A. Christ executeth the office of a priest, in his once offering himself a sacrifice without spot to God, to be reconciliation for the sins of his people; and in making continual intercession for them.

Q. 45. How doth Christ execute the office of a king?

A. Christ executeth the office of a king, in calling out of the world a people to himself, and giving them officers, laws, and censures, by which he visibly governs them; in bestowing saving grace upon his elect, rewarding their obedience, and correcting them for their sins, preserving and supporting them under all their temptations and sufferings, restraining and overcoming all their enemies, and powerfully ordering all things for his own glory, and their good; and also in taking vengeance on the rest, who know not God, and obey not the gospel.

Worship Service Roster

Service	This Week (14.2.16)	Next Week (21.2.16)
Speaker	Mark Chen	Mark Chen
Worship Leader	Ken Chong	Jacob Woo
Pianist	Valerie Ong	Eugene Lim
Welcomers	Ian & Merrill Read	John & Adeline Ng
Offering Stewards	Kim Leow*, LH Chua*, Ian Read, Chris Budiman	Paul Butler*, David Ong*, John E Tan, Micah Chiang
Usher	Angela Yap, August Ng	Josephine Austin, Jesslyn Leow
Kitchen Duties	Eileen Tay*, May Poon, Sally Tan	Angela Yap*, Mary Loh, Vincent Chiu
<i>Prayer Meeting</i>	<i>19 February 2016</i>	<i>26 February 2016</i>
Speaker	Mark Chen	Jimmy Orchard
Chairperson	Jacob Woo	Ken Hong
Pianist	Eugene Lim	Jerome Ng

Announcements

1. A warm welcome to all worshipers. May God richly bless you. Please stay behind after the service for fellowship and tea.
2. Next week's message: "Into and Out of the Depths" (Jonah 1:17-2:10).
3. Today after the service. Discussion for JF and TF parents. Please meet in the sanctuary at 11:45 am.
4. Young People's Meeting. Saturday, 20 February 2016, 4:30 pm at Micah and Hannah Chiang's residence. Please call 0420 625 551 for details. Speaker: Philip Gardiner (Perth Free Presbyterian Church). Topic: Music in Worship and Contemporary Christian Music.
5. Bible Conference. Speaker: Mathews Abraham. Theme: What Would Jesus Say About Your Church? Venue: Bayview Geographe Resort, Busselton. Please register with Rex and Carmel Sriharan.
6. Membership Covenant in March. Those wishing to be baptized, transfer their membership, or reaffirm their faith, please approach an elder.

Appointments for the Week	Last Lord's Day Tithes & Offering, & Attendance
WED 10:00 am Craft Group	<i>General Fund - \$4,081.80 (#533 - \$400.00, #532 - \$120.00). Missions Fund - \$560.00 (#534 - \$100.00). Building Fund - \$331.00 (#335 - \$105.00, #336 - 126.00, #337 - \$100.00). Total Tithes & Offering - \$4,972.80. Attendance - 155.</i>
THU 9:30 am Attadale Friendship Group	
FRI 7:45 pm Prayer Meeting	
SAT 4:30 pm YPG	
SUN 9:00 am Adult Bible Class	
10:00 am Worship & Sunday School	

Building Fund to Date	
Available Building Fund	\$65,664.60
Outstanding Pledges	\$21,554.00
Last Week's Collection	\$331.00
Total	\$87,549.60
<i>Outstanding Loan</i>	<i>- \$430,000.00</i>
<i>Amount Still Needed</i>	<i>\$342,450.40</i>
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.

God Is Not Mocked

Jonah 1:4-16

All of us disobey as children, and our parents pursue the matter - to bring us back to obedience. God is the perfect parent. He shows mercy and he punishes. Our response must be repentance. But we are sometimes defiant.

1. God Will Respond Strongly to the Defiance of Man.
 - a. "But Jonah"
 - b. The Emperor strikes back
 - c. No one can defy God
 - d. God laughs at man's defiance
2. Man's Fearful Response to the Justice and Mercy of God.
 - a. The sailors feared the storm
 - b. The sailors feared Jehovah
 - c. The sailors worshiped Jehovah
3. Man's Hardened Response to the Justice and Mercy of God.
 - a. Jonah's hardened conscience to the storm
 - b. Jonah's hardened conscience to the call of mercy
 - c. Jonah's hardened conscience to the mercy of the sailors
 - d. Jonah would rather die than obey

God is not mocked. Jonah refuses to preach to pagans, but the pagans are saved. No one can defy God's purposes. Following the defiance of Jonah leads to destruction. Following the compliance of Jesus leads to peace.

Questions for Reflection:

1. If you are defiant, with a sin that needs to be forsaken, but you refuse; how long do you think God will wait before he sends a storm into your life?
2. Are all storms of life a result of defiance in your life? If not, how can you tell the difference? How can you prevent those kinds of storms from befalling you?