



COVENANT

Bible-Presbyterian Church

Preaching Christ for His Glory and His Kingdom

Order of Worship — 26 June 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	70 - <i>Holy, Holy, Holy</i>
*Invocation & † <i>Gloria Patri</i>	
Scripture Reading	Psalm 19:1-6
Hymn	TP 104:1-8
Tithes & Offering	
**† <i>Doxology</i> & Offertory Prayer	
Scripture Reading	Ephesians 4:15-16
Hymn	384 - <i>Where He Leads Me</i>
Confession of Faith & Pastoral Prayer	
Sermon	"The Picture of Discipleship"
*Closing Hymn	362 - <i>More Holiness Give 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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Forgiveness When There Is Repentance. Forbearance When There Is None.

We are told to forgive, if not, God would not forgive us (Matthew 6:15).

At the same time, forgiveness is given upon repentance. Luke 17:3-4 - *"If thy brother trespass against thee, rebuke him; and if he repent, forgive him."*

Does God forgive when there is no repentance? No. But he forbears.

Forgive As God Forgives

We are told in Ephesians 4:32 - *"And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you."*

Colossians 3:13 - *"Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye."*

The Christian is required to forgive as God forgives. He is required to forbear the sins of others and be patient with them.

God Forgives Upon Repentance

However, God only forgives when we repent. Luke 13:3 - *"I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish."*

Acts 3:19 - *"Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord."*

God forgives sinners when they repent of their sins. But God does not grant forgiveness to those who are stiff-necked and refuse to repent.

In order to receive pardon from God, we must recognize our sins and repent. God requires repentance and so must we.

And when there is repentance, no matter the frequency of sin, we must forgive (Matthew 18:22).

The Importance of Repentance

Repentance is important because it's a person's only hope for real change. Acts 26:20 tells us that true repentance is accompanied by evidences of change - *"they should repent and turn to God, and do works meet for repentance."*

When a person doesn't admit their sins, they can never be transformed. If they aren't cognizant of their destruction, they won't switch course.

Repentance, therefore, demonstrates that we hate not only our sins but the direction we're heading, and need God's help to change us.

Unrepentance Is Pride

Why does an unrepentant person not repent? It is because he does not want to give up control of his life to God.

Whether it is motivated by fear or reluctance to comply, it is ultimately stubbornness. Proverbs 8:13 - *"When the wicked cometh, then cometh also contempt, and with ignominy reproach."*

But a person who is repentant will break out of that cycle of wickedness and contempt for others.

Requiring Repentance of Others

This is why it is important to require repentance from our offenders who are Christian. (It is not surprising when unbelievers don't seek forgiveness.) But believers ought to - *"If thy brother trespass against thee, rebuke him; and if he repent, forgive him."*

If we don't require repentance from our offenders, then we are standing in the way of their relationship with God.

They need God; they need to experience his forgiveness. If they don't seek forgiveness for the sins they have done, how can they ever be forgiven of them? They have not merely sinned

against us, they have sinned against God! They must repent; we must forgive. This is the same with God. This is the same with us.

What If They Don't Repent?

There are several things we are to do when there is no repentance.

Firstly, we are to remember the forgiveness that we have in Christ. We have sinned grievously, but God has forgiven us when we went to him in repentance.

We are to rejoice that we are no longer enemies of God.

Secondly, we are to give our hurts to God. When we are sinned against, there will be great anger and pain.

God notices our pain. Psalm 56:8 says, *"Thou tellest my wanderings: put thou my tears into thy bottle: are they not in thy book?"* God keeps track of our sorrows - he notices them.

And in due time, he will heal us. Psalm 147:3 says, *"He healeth the broken in heart, and bindeth up their wounds."*

Thirdly, we are to know that God is just. In our hearts or by our hands we are not to take revenge. We can have faith that God will avenge if it is necessary. Romans 12:19 - *"Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord."*

Fourthly, we are to be willing to forgive and to forbear until they repent.

We are to desire their repentance. We are to love them. This requires us to be forbearing (Col 3:13). We will bear with their sins towards us.

We must show our forbearance. Romans 12:20 - *"Therefore if thine enemy hunger, feed him; if he thirst, give him drink: for in so doing thou shalt heap coals of fire on his head. Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good."*

This is what God does to the wicked. He is long-suffering, giving them mercy each day. May God give us strength to forgive and forbear.

~ Pastor



Westminster Larger Catechism

Q. 76. What is repentance unto life?

A. Repentance unto life is a saving grace, wrought in the heart of a sinner by the Spirit and Word of God, whereby, out of the sight and sense, not only of the danger, but also of the filthiness and odiousness of his sins, and upon the apprehension of God's mercy in Christ to such as are penitent, he so grieves for and hates his sins, as that he turns from them all to God, purposing and endeavoring constantly to walk with him in all the ways of new obedience.

Q. 77. Wherein do justification and sanctification differ?

A. Although sanctification be inseparably joined with justification, yet they differ, in that God in justification imputeth the righteousness of Christ; in sanctification of his Spirit infuseth grace, and enableth to the exercise thereof; in the former, sin is pardoned; in the other, it is subdued: the one doth equally free all believers from the revenging wrath of God, and that perfectly in this life, that they never fall into condemnation the other is neither equal in all, nor in this life perfect in any, but growing up to perfection.

Worship Service Roster

Service	This Week (26.6.16)	Next Week (3.7.16)
Speaker	Mark Chen	Mark Chen
Worship Leader	Johnson Lim	Mark Chen
Pianist	Eugene Lim	Elizabeth Huang
Welcomers	Kim & Jessalyn Leow	Jacob & Marilyn Woo
Offering Stewards	Ken Hong*, Paul Butler* David Pang, LH Chua	Ken Chong*, Rex Sriharan* John E Tan, Ian Read
Usher	Joyce Ng, Josephine Austin	Eva Chiu, Angela Yap
Kitchen Duties	Grace Wang*, August Ng Lydia Orchard	May Poon*, Marilyn Woo Rosemary Fitzpatrick, Ken Hong
<i>Prayer Meeting</i>	<i>1 July 2016</i>	<i>8 July 2016</i>
Facilitator	Jimmy Orchard	Mark Chen
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. We will be celebrating Lord's Supper next Lord's Day. Please bring a dish to share at the fellowship lunch.
3. Next week's message: "Why Nehemiah?" (Nehemiah 1:1-3).
4. Next week's Junior Worship message - "Fear God, Honor the King" (Esther 2:19-23). Speaker - Yen Fye Yap.
5. Retirees' Bible Study. Tuesday, 28 June 2016, 10 am. The movie "Courageous" will be screened. For more information please contact Kim Leow at 0405 407 838.
6. Creation Ministries International. Have you wondered why your witnessing falls flat and people fail to respond? Many comment that science has disproved the Bible and therefore it is not relevant to today's modern world. But what's the answer? Can the majority of scientists really be wrong? Dr Don Batten will speak on *Creation: A Key to the Gospel* at 7.30pm on Friday, 29 July 2016 at Covenant Bible-Presbyterian Church. Please keep the date free.

Appointments for the Week	Last Lord's Day Tithes & Offering, & Attendance
TUE 10:00 am Retirees' Bible Study WED 10:00 am Craft Group FRI 7:45 pm CBI & Prayer Meeting SAT 4:30 pm JF & TF SUN 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship	<i>General Fund - \$7,020.00 (#579 - \$2,800.00, #580 - \$210.00, #581 - \$1,000.00). Missions Fund - \$790.00. Building Fund - \$110.00 (#379 - \$110.00). Total Tithes & Offering - \$7,920.00. Attendance - 163.</i>

Building Fund to Date		
Available Building Fund	\$81,700.47	Building Fund Account:
Outstanding Pledges	\$5,895.00	
Last Week's Collection	\$110.00	Covenant Bible-Presbyterian Church
Total	\$87,705.47	(Westpac Bank, Applecross)
<i>Outstanding Loan</i>	<i>- \$430,000.00</i>	BSB: 036-031 Acct: 316969
<i>Amount Still Needed</i>	<i>\$342,294.53</i>	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.

The Picture of Discipleship
Ephesians 4:15-16

To be a disciple is to follow Jesus, his teachings, his example, and to propagate his teachings. We are called to be disciples in the context of a community. What happens to a church that is filled with growing disciples who are engaged in mutual teaching, accountability, and holiness?

1. Truth Professing
 - a. The Source and Boundaries of Truth
 - b. Defending the Truth
2. Full Maturity
 - a. Growing in Grace
 - b. Means of Grace
 - c. Marks of Grace
3. Connected to Christ
 - a. Fitly Joined Together and Compacted
 - b. By Every Part

Questions:

1. In your experience, how have Fundamentalists defended the truth? How can you critique or praise ourselves?
2. If a person were to look at your church, would he be able to see a united church founded on the truth of the Scriptures, graciously articulating and living out these truths, and serving one another?
3. God is not done with his church and will change the church by changing you; but what are specific duties you believe he is calling you to perform in your life and the life of the church?