



COVENANT

Bible-Presbyterian Church

Preaching Christ for His Glory and His Kingdom

Order of Worship — 4 June 2017

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	19 - <i>I Sing the Mighty Power of God</i>
*Invocation & † <i>Gloria Patri</i>	
Scripture Reading	Romans 6:1-19
The Lord's Supper	
Hymn	230 - <i>Amidst Us Our Beloved Stands</i>
Hymn	TP 1:1-6
Tithes & Offering	
**† <i>Doxology</i> & Offertory Prayer	
Scripture Reading	Acts 9:1-9
Hymn	Insert - <i>We Thank You God</i>
Confession of Faith & Pastoral Prayer	
Sermon	"We Are Saul of Tarsus"
*Closing Hymn	348 - <i>Since Jesus Came into My Heart</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 Death of a Pastor Friend

Sad News

This past week, I heard news that hit me quite hard. A friend had died. Or rather, he had gone home to glory.

His name was Antony Simon. He was a pastor of a Reformed Baptist congregation in Jerusalem called Voice in the Wilderness.

He was in Iraq on a mission of mercy, ministering to the nominal Christians and the Muslims displaced by ISIS.

He was handing out audio Bibles, Christian literature, and also giving aid - he and his team were distributing food as well as 400 5 kg bottles of washing detergent and bleach.

On 29 May, he was returning to his hotel after preaching the Word, and he was hit by a car. Absent in the body, present with the Lord.

I was heartbroken. I am heartbroken.

Antony Simon

Antony was born in Manchester, United Kingdom, to Jewish parents. He went to Jewish schools and was raised as a Jew.

As a young man, he went to Israel and worked at a kibbutz. There, he met a Christian, who preached the gospel to Antony by using Isaiah 53. Antony resisted at first, but subsequently came to a saving knowledge.

Back in the United Kingdom, he enrolled to study theology at the Evangelical Theological College of Wales.

I found out that we were connected in many ways.

There at ETCW, he studied with a pastor friend of mine - who returned to pastor a Reformed Presbyterian Church in Singapore.

His studies had also brought him to the Metropolitan Tabernacle where he sat under the teaching of Dr Timothy Tow, my previous pastor, who was giving a lecture at the School of Theology one summer.

While in London, he used to preach the gospel at Speaker's Corner in Hyde Park. He used to get heckled, but he also engaged many people.

There, he ministered together with another dear pastor friend of mine, Pastor John Sherwood, and his wife Kim-Eng.

Our Friendship

I had met Antony in Israel on my Bible Study tours to Israel. I brought the participants to worship at his congregation in Jerusalem and he brought us out to Tel Aviv to do street evangelism with him. We would always bring Chinese language Bibles for him to distribute.

Another year, he came to our hotel to let our people know about the growth of Christianity in modern Israel. I heard from him that more Jews in this century have believed in Jesus than all the other 19 centuries combined.

On that trip, we talked into the night about missions. That was the year I was going to Myanmar for my first mission to visit Pastor Kima. Antony asked if any funds were needed for that work. He was a missionary with HeartCry Missionary Society and he had some funds he could obtain. He was always thinking about the Lord's work.

We had kept in touch over the years and I had hoped one day, if ever I got the opportunity, to spend about 3 months with him, shadowing and

supporting him in street preaching and missions.

His Work

In late 2014, Antony embarked on a work that would characterize his ministry for the next 2.5 years. Aside from his church work and preaching in Israel, he was led to go into Syria and Iraq to preach and reach out to those who had been displaced by ISIS.

ISIS had been active in Syria and Iraq since June 2014. Antony called for funds in October 2014 so that he could go into these war torn areas and to the refugee camps to bring the Word and relief.

Our church raised \$4,600 for his inaugural trip into Syria and Iraq. We have been praying for him ever since in our prayer meeting.

He has made countless trips since then - ministering to the Muslims and nominal Christians (of Orthodox and Catholic backgrounds). There were many professions of faith.

Reflections

He was a man who touched people in a profound way - not only the ones to which he preached and brought the gospel, but those who saw him doing it.

He could not sit still. He was always busy. If it was in Jerusalem, he was on

the streets telling nominal Christians about Christ, telling Jews about Christ, telling Muslims about Christ.

His friend said that his concern for the eternal state of each individual made him disregard the walls of propriety and dive into conversation about Christ.

Who knows how many people were shaken from complacency by hearing him speak of Christ's work on the cross?

The legacy he leaves behind is a big one. How I wish to be what he was if I weren't so timid. He was a giant of the faith, because he was completely surrendered to Christ.

I wrote him a message on Wednesday - 2 days after his death. I didn't know he had died until Thursday. He will never answer my message, nor will he be worried with something so mundane.

He is in the presence of Christ, his Lord and Master. He is enjoying his reward with all the saints in heaven.

He leaves behind Dona, his wife; and his three children; his church in Jerusalem; many friends; countless spiritual children; and work with eternal significance.

What will you leave behind? What will I leave behind?

~ Pastor



Westminster Larger Catechism

Q. 149. Is any man able perfectly to keep the commandments of God?

A. No man is able, either of himself, or by any grace received in this life, perfectly to keep the commandments of God; but doth daily break them in thought, word, and deed.

Q. 150. Are all transgressions of the law of God equally heinous in themselves, and in the sight of God?

A. All transgressions of the law of God are not equally heinous, but some sins in themselves, and by reason of several aggravations, are more heinous in the sight of God than others.

Worship Service Roster

<i>Service</i>	<i>This Week (4.6.17)</i>	<i>Next Week (11.6.17)</i>
Speaker	Mark Chen	Mark Chen
Worship Leader	Mark Chen	Ken Chong
Pianist	Valerie Ong	Nancy Lim
Welcomers	Danny & Susie Tan	Josephine Austin & Wendy Gong
Offering Stewards	John Tan*, Paul Butler* David Lim, Lye Heng Chua	Kim Leow*, David Pang* Chris Budiman, Micah Chiang
Ushers	Eva Ng, Jemima Ng	Jesslyn Leow, Joyce Ng
Kitchen Duties	Florence Orchard*, Chris Budiman Rosemary Fitzpatrick, Sandy Chua	Lisa Lim*, Josephine Austin Jesslyn Leow
PA Duty	Raymond Woo	Joel Chua
<i>Prayer Meeting</i>	<i>9 June 2017</i>	<i>16 June 2017</i>
Facilitator	Mark Chen	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 are celebrating the Lord's Supper today. First time visitors wishing to partake the Lord's Supper should see an elder before the service.
3. Next week's message: "An Amazing Testimony" (Acts 9:10-31).
4. Next week's Junior Worship message - "Learning to Be Satisfied in Christ" (Philippians 4:10-23). Speaker: Vincent Chiu.
5. Hymns of Grace and Glory. Limited new copies are available for sale, 1 per household - please register your interest with Valerie. Church copies #1, #35, #45 & #179 are missing - kindly return them and inform Val.
6. Combined Church Youth Camp. Dates: 14-15 July 2017. Registration closes today. Please register with Eugene Lim, Jerome Ng or Micah Chiang.

Appointments for the Week	Last Lord's Day Tithes & Offering, & Attendance
WED 10:00 am Craft Group	General Fund - \$2,870.25. Missions Fund - \$3,925.00 (#711 - \$400.00, #712 - \$1,000.00, #713 - \$500.00, #714 - \$1,200.00, #715 - \$400.00, #716 - \$65.00, #717 - \$200.00). Building Fund - \$100.00 (#539 - \$100.00). Total Tithes & Offering - \$6,895.25. Attendance - 150.
FRI 7:45 pm CBI & Prayer Meeting	
SAT 4:30 pm JF & TF	
7:30 pm Men's Bible Study	
SUN 9:00 am Sunday School	
10:00 am Worship Service	

Building Fund to Date

Available Building Fund	\$64,837.89	General Fund:	
Last Week's Collection	\$100.00	BSB: 036-031	A/C: 316942
Total	\$64,937.89	Missions Fund:	
<i>Outstanding Loan</i>	<i>- \$402,000.00</i>	BSB: 036-031	A/C: 316950
<i>Amount Still Needed</i>	<i>\$337,062.11</i>	Building Fund:	
		BSB: 036-031	A/C: 316969

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.

We Are Saul of Tarsus

Acts 9:1-9

We don't think that we are as bad as we are. And whether we are conscious or not, we compare ourselves with others - and we persecute others. Very religious people can be persecutors of one another and others, when they perceive themselves as being righteous and others less righteous. This was Saul of Tarsus.

1. The Opposition of Religious People to the Gospel
 - a. Saul
 - b. His persistence
 - c. His personal quest
2. The Relentless Pursuit of the Self-Righteous by Jesus
 - a. Jesus Sought Paul tenderly
 - b. Resistance is futile
3. The True Surrender of the Righteous to God
 - a. Servant
 - b. True sight
 - c. Grief for sin

We often judge others like the pre-converted Saul because we don't see our guilt. But when we realize that we are the chief of sinners, guilt and grief consume us - which lead to further surrender to God. Are you Saul of Tarsus? We must pray for the grace of God to see ourselves as such. Only then can we surrender to God and love the church.

Questions for Reflection:

1. Do you agree that the very religious can be the worst persecutors? Why? And why is this the case even with Christians who should have a basic understanding of the gospel? Think about church splits and disagreements between brethren.
2. Saul did not seek after Christ, but Christ relentlessly pursued Saul till he was saved. Is that fair on the part of God?

We Thank You God

Voice

Lyrics by Mark Chen
Music by Mark Chen
and Jabez & Elizabeth Huang

1 Moderato ♩ = 92
4

The musical score is written in 4/4 time with a tempo of Moderato (♩ = 92). It consists of eight staves of music. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a 4-measure rest. The melody starts on the second measure. The lyrics are: "We thank you God for your thank you God for the Word is preached, That more of you we'd doc - trines learned, Which from your Law we're know. The Gos - pel taught, our hearts are reached, More taught. 'Tis for these truths the mar - tyrs burned, And love to you we'd show. We thank you, Lord, for for your Word they fought. So help us, Lord, to all who speak, In grace and in your wor - ship you, To raise our songs in love, That we may grow from week to week, And praise, To hear your voice, to watch and pray, And

7

9

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1. 2.

live seek for heav'n a-bove. We days.
you all our