



COVENANT

Bible-Presbyterian Church

Preaching Christ for His Glory and His Kingdom

Order of Worship — 3 September 2017

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

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|--|---|
| Prelude | <i>The Lord Is in His Holy Temple</i> |
| Call to Worship | |
| *Opening Hymn | TP 117:1-2 |
| *Invocation & † <i>Gloria Patri</i> | |
| Scripture Reading | 2 Corinthians 2:1-17 |
| The Lord's Supper | |
| Hymn | 228 - <i>Communion Hymn</i> |
| Hymn | 318 - <i>Though Your Sins Be as Scarlet</i> |
| Tithes & Offering | |
| **† <i>Doxology</i> & Offertory Prayer | |
| Scripture Reading | Acts 13:42-52 |
| Hymn | TP 63:1-5 |
| Confession of Faith & Pastoral Prayer | |
| Sermon | "The Called Do Respond" |
| *Closing Hymn | 35 - <i>O How I Love the Saviour's Name</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

A Holy and Wise Child Makes a Glad Father

Children, today Australia celebrates Father's Day.

You may have written a card, or prepared breakfast, and given him an awkward teenager hug. But perhaps more than the cards, sausages, and hugs, your fathers probably want you to be holy, wise, attentive, and loving.

Proverbs 23:24 says, "*The father of the righteous shall greatly rejoice: and he that begetteth a wise child shall have joy of him.*" This is what makes fathers really happy - when you are wise.

Is it so wrong to make your fathers happy? After all, they have sacrificed so much time and resources to raise you and take care of you.

Your desire must be to make them happy then. Proverbs 23:25 (NKJV) - "*Let your father and your mother be glad, and let her who bore you rejoice.*"

Make it your duty to bring happiness to your father (and mother). Just how do you do this? Is it by becoming a doctor, lawyer, and engineer? Is it by being a music prodigy? Is it by being a well-rounded sportsperson?

Some fathers do expect this - and anything short of this may anger them. But what does the Bible say would please a godly father?

Be Righteous

Verse 24 says, "*The father of the righteous shall greatly rejoice.*"

Godly fathers rejoice when their children are righteous. How can you be righteous?

Firstly, to be righteous means that you are completely without sin in God's eyes. No man can do this by his own effort.

The Bible tells us that only Jesus can make a person righteous - completely without sin.

Jesus lived a perfect life and we live a sinful life. But we can exchange our sins for his perfection. All we need to do is believe in him.

Romans 3:22 tells us that this righteousness is given through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe.

Don't just call yourself a Christian, but be a Christian at heart. This makes your Christian father very happy.

Secondly, to be righteous means to live righteously. A true Christian, having the righteousness of Jesus, will want to live righteously.

This does not mean having good outward behavior. Anyone can put on good behavior - even unbelievers. But this means that we live holy lives from our hearts to please God.

A child who lives a disobedient, unrighteous, and rebellious life will bring grief to his father. But a child who loves to do God's will will bring joy.

So what do we do? We live and desire to live according to the Word of God. Psalm 119:9-10 says, "*Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? by taking heed thereto according to thy word. With my whole heart have I sought thee: O let me not wander from thy commandments.*"

Be Wise

Verse 24 says, "*he that begetteth a wise child shall have joy of him.*" If you are wise, you will make your father happy.

But if you are foolish, you will bring him grief. Proverbs 17:21 - "*...the father of a fool hath no joy.*"

So children, what must you do to be wise? Proverbs 23:23 says, "*Buy the truth, and sell it not; also wisdom, and instruction, and understanding.*"

It is one thing to do well in school - and you certainly should if you are able - but truth and wisdom in the Bible means obedience to the Scriptures.

This means - that if you are to be truly wise, you must know your Bible. So what do you do?

Firstly, you must study the Scriptures. Verse 23 tells you to "buy." When you

buy something, you give up money in exchange for it. Now, the truth of the Bible is free - but there's something we must exchange for it! Time and effort.

If you spend no effort in the Word or spiritual things, you won't be wise.

Secondly, you must pray to get wisdom. James 1:5 says, *"If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him."*

And if you are to "buy" the truth - then you must spend time in prayer.

Unfortunately, there are many foolish fathers who help their children exchange most of their time for things which are not spiritual.

That's why you need to pray for your fathers too - we are not perfect. But godly children who speak wisdom to and pray for their fathers will bring much delight to them. But always, godly Christian parents do desire their children to be spiritual.

Be Attentive

Proverbs 23:22 says, *"Hearken unto thy father that begat thee, and despise not thy mother when she is old."* Listen to your father! That will bring him great happiness.

It is very easy for children not to listen to their parents. Why? Because we are sinful and it is easy for us to despise them.

Despise means to think what they say is insignificant. "They're old fashioned! They don't know anything!"

But if God has given you fathers to care for you, he must have given them wisdom too! And because they care for you, they have your best interests at heart, that's why they are quick to give advice. Listen!

They've also had many more years experience. And a father who knows God's Word not only has wisdom from the world, but wisdom from God.

Be Loving

Proverbs 23:26 says, *"My son, give me thine heart..."* If you love your father, you will give him joy. Loving him means doing all the above. Jesus said to his disciples - *"if ye love me, keep my commandments."*

How can you celebrate Father's Day? With a paper card, a burned sausage, and a side hug? How about committing to Jesus, holiness, wisdom, attentiveness, and love?

~ Pastor



Westminster Larger Catechism

Q. 167. How is our Baptism to be improved by us?

A. The needful but much neglected duty of improving our Baptism, is to be performed by us all our life long, especially in the time of temptation, and when we are present at the administration of it to others; by serious and thankful consideration of the nature of it, and of the ends for which Christ instituted it, the privileges and benefits conferred and sealed thereby, and our solemn vow made therein; by being humbled for our sinful defilement, our falling short of, and walking contrary to, the grace of Baptism, and our engagements; by growing up to assurance of pardon of sin, and of all other blessings sealed to us in that Sacrament; by drawing strength from the death and resurrection of Christ, into whom we are baptized, for the mortifying of sin, and quickening of grace; and by endeavoring to live by faith, to have our conversation in holiness and righteousness, as those that have therein given up their names to Christ; and to walk in brotherly love, as being baptized by the same Spirit into one body.

Worship Service Roster

| Service | This Week (3.9.17) | Next Week (10.9.17) |
|-----------------------|--|---|
| Speaker | Mark Chen | Mark Chen |
| Worship Leader | Mark Chen | Jacob Woo |
| Pianist | Elizabeth Huang | Edward Lim |
| Welcomers | Ian & Merrill Read | John & Adeline Ng |
| Offering Stewards | Rex Sriharan*, Jansen Ng* Vincent Chiu, David Lim | Terence Lee*, Kim Leow* Steven Lim, Johnny Orchard |
| Ushers | Wendy Gong, Putri Harapan | Josephine Austin, August Ng |
| Kitchen Duties | Angela Yap*, Debbie Blake August Ng, Victor Poon | Peggy Woo*, Dina Portillo May Poon |
| PA Duty | Raymond Woo | Ian Tay |
| <i>Prayer Meeting</i> | <i>8 September 2017</i> | <i>15 September 2017</i> |
| Facilitator | Mark Chen | Mark Chen |
| Pianist | Nancy Lim | Eugene Lim |

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: "In Search for Responses" (Acts 14:1-20).
4. Next week's Junior Worship message - "Falling Away from Christ" (Hebrews 6:4-12). Speaker: Ken Hong.
5. Worshiper's update form - please place filled forms in the blue box at the foyer.
6. Vacation Bible School. 2-4 October 2017, 9.00am-12.15pm. Please register by 17 September. Volunteers needed - please see Ken Chong or Valerie.

| Appointments for the Week | Last Lord's Day Tithes & Offering, & Attendance |
|---|--|
| WED 10:00 am Craft Group 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 | General Fund - \$3,287.55 (*DD - \$200.00). Missions Fund - \$920.00 (*DD - \$750.00). Building Fund - \$300.00 (*DD - \$300.00). Total Tithes & Offering - \$4,507.55. Attendance - 147. *DD: direct deposit |

| Building Fund to Date | |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| Available Building Fund | \$72,807.45 |
| Last Week's Collection | \$300.00 |
| Total | \$73,107.45 |
| Outstanding Loan | - \$396,000.00 |
| Amount Still Needed | \$322,892.55 |
| General Fund: | BSB: 036-031 A/C: 316942 |
| Missions Fund: | BSB: 036-031 A/C: 316950 |
| 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.

The Called Do Respond
Acts 13:42-52

Have you ever ministered the gospel to others and they reject it? Have you called people to obey the Word, but they don't want to? How do you react? With sadness and defeat? With anger and retaliation? With frustration and escape? The apostles experienced both success and failure in their preaching. But the called do respond.

1. They Returned to Them Despite the Hard Words
 - a. They preached hard words
 - b. They reacted with eagerness
 - c. There were many Jews and Gentiles who believed
2. They Turned On Them Because of the Hard Words
 - a. They were jealous
 - b. They blasphemed
 - c. They continued preaching hard words
 - d. They kicked them out
3. They Turned Away from Them with Lightened Hearts
 - a. They turned away from apostate Israel
 - b. They rejoiced at the successes and failures.

How do you react when the gospel is received or rejected? With tenacity to keep on ministering. We rejoice because God is in control. Successes and failures are in his plan.

Questions for Reflection:

1. In which areas do you, as a citizen of the kingdom of heaven, find yourself struggling to submit yourself to Christ's kingship? Which aspects of your life do you find the gospel being a hard word?
2. How did the theology of God's sovereignty in the salvation of souls help the apostles to move on? How can this understanding help you in your ministry?

35 - O How I Love the Saviour's Name

There is a name I love to hear;
I love to sing its worth;
It sounds like music in mine ear,
The sweetest name on earth.

Chorus:

O how I love the Saviour's name!
O how I love the Saviour's name!
O how I love the Saviour's name!
The sweetest name on earth.

It tells me of a Saviour's love,
Who died to set me free;
It tells me of His precious blood,
The sinner's perfect plea.

It bids my trembling soul rejoice,
And dries each rising tear;
It tells me in a still small voice
To trust and never fear.

Jesus, the name I love so well,
The name I love to hear;
No saint on earth its worth can tell,
No heart conceive how dear.

This name shall be a comfort still
Along life's thorny road,
Shall sweetly smooth the rugged hill
That leads me up to God.

And there, with all the blood-bought throng,
From sin and sorrow free,
I'll sing the new eternal song
Of Jesus' love to me.