



# COVENANT

## Bible-Presbyterian Church

*Preaching Christ for His Glory and His Kingdom*

### Order of Worship – 19 February 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	75 - <i>The Love of God</i>
*Invocation & † <i>Gloria Patri</i>	
Scripture Reading	Matthew 10:16-31
Hymn	492 - <i>I Love Jesus, Hallelujah!</i>
Tithes & Offering	
**† <i>Doxology</i> & Offertory Prayer	
Scripture Reading	Acts 5:17-33
Hymn	TP 119:57-64
Confession of Faith & Pastoral Prayer	
Sermon	"Obey God Rather than Man"
*Closing Hymn	529 - <i>Take Up Thy Cross</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](mailto:pastor@covenantbpc.org.au)

## **“Grace-Paced Living in a Burnout Culture”**

*I read an article the other day that I would like to share with you. I have edited it to fit this bulletin.*

*It is an excerpt from *Reset: Living a Grace-Paced Life in a Burnout Culture*, a book by Dr David Murray, a Professor at Puritan Reformed Theological Seminary.*

*You can read the original at <http://www.desiringgod.org/articles/grace-paced-living-in-a-burnout-culture>.*

~ Pastor

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“I’m tired and I’m broken and I just need some rest.”

These words are spoken by Christians in all walks of life, who are all arriving at the same place - overwhelmed, burned out, empty, and broken.

Although no two burnouts are the same, most have one thing in common: there’s a deficit of grace.

It’s not that they don’t believe in grace. Yet grace is missing in five vital areas. There are five disconnects between theological grace and their daily lives.

### *Grace Motivates*

The motivating power of grace is missing. Take a look at five people.

Mr Dollar is asking, “How can I make more money?” Mrs Ambitious is asking, “How can I get that promotion?” Mr Pleaser is asking, “How can I make my boss happy?” Mr Selfish is asking, “How can I get personal satisfaction in my job?” They all look and feel miserable.

Then we bump into Mrs Grace, who’s asking, “In view of God’s amazing grace to me in Christ, how can I serve God and others here?”

From the outside, it looks like all five are doing the same work, but their internal motivations all differ.

The first four are striving, stressed, anxious, fearful, and exhausted. But Mrs Grace is energized by her gratitude for grace that her job satisfies and stimulates her rather than draining and dredging her (1 Cor 15:10; 2 Tim 2:1).

Where grace is not fueling from the inside out, a person will be burning from the inside out.

### *Grace Moderates*

Also absent is the moderating power of grace. With Mrs Grace, Miss Perfectionist takes pride in flawless performance. If she ever makes a mistake, she berates herself.

She carries this legalistic perfectionism into her relationships with God and others, resulting in constant disappointment in herself, in others, and even in God.

Mrs Grace’s work is just as high quality, but grace moderates her expectations.

She’s learned that she’s not perfect and will not be on earth. She accepts that her work and relationships are flawed.

But instead of tormenting herself with these imperfections, she calmly takes them to God knowing that his grace forgives and accepts her as perfect in Christ (Heb 10:22; 13:18).

She doesn’t need to serve, sacrifice, or suffer for human or divine approval because Christ has done it (2 Cor 5:21).

### *Grace Multiplies*

The multiplying power of grace is rare in burned-out lives. Some Christians are driven by targets.

If they fall short of their daily quota, they go home depressed. As everything depends on the effort, they work overtime and have no time for personal prayer.

Mrs Grace, works normal hours and has time and peace to pray for God's blessing on her work. She works hard, but she depends on God's grace to multiply her work.

She realizes that while one plants, and another waters, it's God that gives the increase (1 Cor 3:6).

She goes home happy each evening, knowing she has done what she could, praying that God would multiply her work far more than her effort could (Eph 3:20).

#### *Grace Releases*

The releasing power of grace has often been lacking when a person burns out. Mr Controller, for example, thinks everything depends on him.

He gets involved in every facet of life equally, constantly annoying others with his micromanagement. He's infuriated by mistakes, yelling at people when they mess up.

He says he believes in "sovereign grace," but he's the sovereign, and grace is limited to personal salvation.

In contrast, Mrs Grace realizes God is sovereign even in the nuts and bolts of life and releases control of everything into his hands.

She works carefully, but humbly submits to setbacks and problems, accepting them as tests of her trust in God's control (Matt 18:21-35; 2 Cor 1:9).

#### *Grace Receives*

Another void in many breakdowns is the receiving power of grace.

Unlike Mrs Grace, the others refuse to accept many of God's best gifts. They won't receive the grace of a weekly Sabbath (Exo 20:8-11; Mark 2:27), the grace of sufficient sleep (Psalm 127:2), the grace of physical exercise (1 Cor 6:13), the grace of family and friends (Prov 17:17; 27:6), or the grace of Christian fellowship (Rom 1:12; 2 Cor 1:4).

These are all gifts that our heavenly Father has provided to refresh and renew his creatures (Matt 11:30).

Yet, instead of humbly receiving them, most refuse and reject them, thinking that such graces are for the weak.

Yes, it is more blessed to give than to receive (Acts 20:35). But if we don't do any receiving, our giving will soon dry up.

#### *Conclusion*

As long as these five grace-disconnects dominate the lives of Christians, the wrecking yard is going to keep filling with broken and burned out believers.

But by connecting God's grace more and more to our daily lives - by growing in grace - we can learn how to live a grace-paced life in a burnout culture.



### **Westminster Larger Catechism**

Q. 125. Why are superiors styled "father" and "mother"?

A. Superiors are styled father and mother, both to teach them in all duties towards their inferiors, like natural parents, to express love and tenderness to them, according to their several relations; and to work inferiors to a greater willingness and cheerfulness in performing their duties to their superiors, as to their parents.

Q. 126. What is the general scope of the fifth commandment?

A. The general scope of the fifth commandment is, the performance of those duties which we mutually owe in our several relations, as inferiors, superiors, or equals.

## Worship Service Roster

Service	This Week (19.2.17)	Next Week (26.2.17)
Speaker	Mark Chen	Mark Chen
Worship Leader	Mark Chen	Jacob Woo
Pianist	Jabez Huang	Merilyn Woo
Welcomers	Jacob & Merilyn Woo	Josephine Austin & Wendy Gong
Offering Stewards	Ken Chong*, Terence Lee* LH Chua, David Lim	Kim Leow*, Paul Butler* Ken Hong, John E Tan
Ushers	Jerome Ng, Wendy Gong	Jesslyn Leow, Joyce Ng
Kitchen Duties	Mary-Anne Chan*, Julian Poon Adeline Ng	Peggy Woo*, Sarah Siew Lisa Lim
<i>Prayer Meeting</i>	<i>24 February 2017</i>	<i>3 March 2017</i>
Facilitator	Mark Chen	Mark Chen
Pianist	Eugene Lim	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: "If It Be of God, Ye Cannot Overthrow It" (Acts 5:33-42).
3. Next week's Junior Worship message: "It Is Hard for You to Go Against God" (Jonah 1:17-2:10). Speaker: Jerome Ng.
4. Presentation by Creation Ministries International on 17 March 2017, Friday at 7.30pm. Dr Mark Harwood will speak on "The Heavens Declare - Astronomy and the Bible".
5. Men's & Ladies' Seminar. 22 April 2017, Saturday, 4.30pm. Speakers: Dr Bob Jones and Mrs Beneth Jones.
6. Bible Conference 2017. Dates: 18-21 April 2017. Theme: "Love One Another Fervently". Speaker: Dr Bob Jones III. Venue: Bayview Geographe Resort. Register ASAP with Ken and Jackie Hong. Electronic payment option - CBPC General Fund: BSB: 036-031, Acct: 316942, Ref: BC(Surname)(Initial). Please email Jackie (pihfong@gmail.com) the amount paid and attach the electronic transfer record.

Appointments for the Week	Last Lord's Day Tithes & Offering, & Attendance
WED 10:00 am Craft Group	<i>General Fund</i> - \$4,278.65 (#665 - \$333.00, #666 - \$600.00, #667 - \$10.00). <i>Missions Fund</i> - \$1,385.00 (#668 - \$155.00, #669 - \$1,000.00). <i>Building Fund</i> - \$100.00 (#515 - \$100.00). <i>Total Tithes &amp; Offering</i> - \$5,763.65. <i>Attendance</i> - 164.
FRI 7:45 pm CBI & Prayer Meeting	
SAT 4:30 pm JF & TF	
7:30 pm Ladies' Bible Study	
SUN 9:00 am Sunday School	
10:00 am Worship Service	

Building Fund to Date		
Available Building Fund	\$81,733.93	Building Fund Account:
Last Week's Collection	\$100.00	Covenant Bible-Presbyterian Church
Total	\$81,833.93	(Westpac Bank, Applecross)
<i>Outstanding Loan</i>	- \$416,000.00	BSB: 036-031 Acct: 316969
<i>Amount Still Needed</i>	\$334,166.07	SWIFT: WPACAUZS

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.

## Obey God Rather Than Man

Acts 5:17-33

When you are obedient to God to preach the gospel, there will be persecution. Most of the apostles died for their faith. They were obedient unto death. But not all who are obedient witnesses will suffer death - but they will certainly suffer persecution. But when we preach, people are saved. There will also be success and joy.

1. The Threatening Response to Obedience
  - a. Who they were
  - b. How they reacted
  - c. Why they reacted
2. The Motivation for Obedience
  - a. They had experienced God's power
  - b. God frustrated the devices of man
  - c. They went back to the danger zone
3. A Godly Obedient Defiance Confounds
  - a. Their obedience was immediate
  - b. The people were confounded and deluded
4. A Godly Obedience Preaches the Gospel to Those Who Need It
  - a. They obeyed and preached
  - b. Peter's 3 point sermon to the Sanhedrin
  - c. Their response

The preaching of the word in obedience will prick the conscience of the hearer. The response will be either acceptance or rejection. Will we obey God and preach?

### Questions for Reflection:

1. How does God's sovereignty and your knowledge of the testimony of salvation of others spur you on to preach the gospel?
2. What do you find difficult about preaching about sin and pointing out personal sin in others? How does an avoidance of the topic of sin in witnessing diminish a person's understanding of forgiveness?