



# COVENANT

## Bible-Presbyterian Church

*Preaching Christ for His Glory and His Kingdom*

**Order of Worship — 14 May 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	16 - <i>To God Be the Glory</i>
*Invocation & † <i>Gloria Patri</i>	
Scripture Reading	Daniel 7:1-14
Hymn	TP 2
Tithes & Offering	
**† <i>Doxology</i> & Offertory Prayer	
Scripture Reading	Acts 7:54-8:4
Hymn	556 - <i>Only One Life</i>
Confession of Faith & Pastoral Prayer	
Sermon	"The First Christian Martyr"
*Closing Hymn	362 - <i>Rock of Ages</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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## Testimonies from Bible Conference (Part III)

### *I Am Blessed By the Conference*

When I signed up for the conference back in January, I didn't expect much from it. The theme "Love One Another Fervently" sounded cliché to me. It turned out that I was wrong.

I didn't realize that love had so many dimensions when we look carefully in the Bible.

Firstly, love needs to be forgiving. One quote which made a strong impression on me is that God as the offended party sought peace with us as the offender.

Because of love, God took the initiative to forgive us first, even while we were still engulfed in sin (Romans 5:8). We are expected to do the same with others.

Christian love should also be encouraging and protecting. We discussed passionately on the topic of loving protectingly in our group. The discussion continued as we fellowshiped over supper with some of the participants, talking about which doctrines we should not compromise at all, and which ones we should keep as a church without causing division among believers. Those are matters which the Bible may not clearly state, but as a church we may have a stand.

Overall, I am blessed by the conference - the sessions, morning devotions, group discussions, the Q&A session, fellowship with fellow brethren and (fabulous) food. ~ *Chris Budiman*

### *Our Fourth Church Camp*

This is our fourth church camp. I was truly inspired by Dr Bob Jones' testimony and God's word on love. It

was a great reminder for me is to love sacrificially.

We are all sinners and deserve punishment but God loved sacrificially by sending His only begotten Son into the world to save us from our sins.

What a tremendous truth that I often have failed to keep. Remembrance of His love being unselfish and unconditional should become the true driver for me to love.

I am also reminded not to hold on to the "precious" things in our lives but rather should make honouring Christ by loving one another our goal as I ponder again what Christ had done on the cross for me. ~ *Aliza Chiu*

### *I Was Wrong*

I went to many camps before, but this is the first that I went with a one year old baby.

Amazingly, I have been blessed abundantly above what I thought. I was very blessed by the messages by the speaker.

I went to the camp thinking that there is not much to talk about "Loving One Another". But I was wrong.

Dr Bob Jones elaborated on many ways of loving one another, i.e. love encouragingly, love patiently, love forgivingly and etc.

Each topic was preached with many life examples of his, which encouraged me. I remember especially the 90/10 rule that he talked about, which means instead of focusing on the 10% (the bad side of a person/thing), we should focus on the good side (the 90%).

On the other hand, I am very much blessed by the love shown by

brothers and sisters in Christ in many ways: they readily made breakfast, the free flow of mineral water supplied, the free "child care" to lessen my load and many more.

I am so encouraged by how they demonstrated sacrificial love. I thank God truly that I was able to attend this camp. May the Lord help me to love others as how He has loved me.

~ *Hannah Chiang*

### *The Theme Really Is a Challenge*

Throughout the camp I learned how to love one another fervently. The speakers for our messages were Aunty Diana and Aunty Lorita Lim.

They took our morning devotion, arts and crafts, and our messages. They really taught me to love one another fervently. The theme really is a challenge through my daily life, but I know that GOD will help me to love others fervently.

I hope that next year's camp will be as fantastic as this year's. ~ *Caleb Sriharan*

### *We Wish We Could Replay the Entire Bible Conference*

I found this year's Bible Conference theme, "Love One Another Fervently", went extremely well with the theme of our church this year, "What Would Jesus Say About Your Church".

During Jesus' final hours with His disciples, he gave them a new commandment – Love one another. Jesus, as the prince of peace, has demonstrated through His life to His disciples and others around Him what love is all about.

Hence, as a young church, 7 years since inauguration, it is prudent for us to gather together to be reminded of this commandment.

We were blessed to have Dr Bob Jones deliver five messages on these topics: Love Forgivingly, Love Encouragingly, Love Protectingly, Love Patiently and Love Sacrificially. Each of these messages was filled with life changing examples and faith challenging discussion questions.

My take home message from these 5 messages is that God's love to us is unmeasurable. He (as the offended) seeks peace with us (the offender).

I remember countless times seeking peace with my family and friends, because I have offended them. But God the offended seeks peace with the offending first. This is real grace, and only by the strength of the Holy Spirit, can I humbly attempt to imitate.

Besides learning, I spent the most wonderful time with likeminded friends. Every day after the morning messages, we were dismissed for lunch and activities. This was the time I eagerly waited for, to fellowship with friends over recreations and meals.

There was one night after the final message of the day, a few brothers and sisters gathered for supper until midnight. A vast range of activities were covered, from eating the most delicious salted peanuts to discussing the doctrines of the church.

Whether it was catching up with friends over meals, defending my court during tennis games or simply eating ice cream with the children, I share Ray Hao's opinion that this year's Bible Conference passed exceptionally fast.

If we were given a chance, we wish we could replay the entire Bible conference all over. ~ *Ken Hong*

# Worship Service Roster

Service	This Week (14.5.17)	Next Week (21.5.17)
Speaker	Mark Chen	Mark Chen
Worship Leader	Jimmy Orchard	Mark Chen
Pianist	Evelyn Lee	Eugene Lim
Welcomers	Kim & Jesslyn Leow	Ian & Merrill Read
Offering Stewards	Ken Hong*, Vincent Chiu* Kim Leow, Steven Lim	John Tan*, Chris Budiman* David Pang, Ken Chong
Ushers	Wendy Gong, Putri Harapan	Joyce Ng, Rebecca Lee
Kitchen Duties	Jenni Budiman*, Helen Wong Eileen Tay	Carmel Sriharan*, Grace Wang Vincent Chiu
PA Duty	Joel Chua	Ken Hong
Prayer Meeting	19 May 2017	26 May 2017
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. Next week's message: "Simony" (Acts 8:4-25).
3. Next week's Junior Worship message: "Knowing Christ Intimately" (Philippians 3:10-4:1). Speaker: Micah Chiang.
4. Covenant Bible Institute's new course: "Sermon on the Mount" by Sinclair Ferguson. Please contact Pastor to register.
5. Combined Church Youth Camp. Dates: 14-15 July 2017. Theme: "Living as a Christian in a Non-Christian World". Speaker: Pastor Ron Nugent. Cost: \$55. Age range: High schoolers to working adults. Registration closes 4 June 2017. 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 - \$3,273.60.
FRI 7:30 pm CBI & Prayer Meeting	Missions Fund - \$335.00 (#702 - \$155.00).
SAT 4:00 pm YPG	Building Fund - \$600.00 (#533 - \$600.00).
4:30 pm JF & TF	Total Tithes & Offering - \$4,208.60.
SUN 9:00 am Sunday School	Attendance - 147.
10:00 am Worship Service	

Building Fund to Date	
Available Building Fund	\$84,835.93
Last Week's Collection	\$600.00
Total	\$85,435.93
Outstanding Loan	- \$416,000.00
Amount Still Needed	\$330,564.07
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. **Johnson Lim** 0402 145 682.  
**Jacob Woo** 0421 212 206.

The First Christian Martyr  
Acts 7:54-8:4

What is your response to the gospel? What is your response to your filthy good works, your offense of God, and his redemption of you? Do you love it or hate it? What is your response to the demands of the gospel? Do you still eschew your righteousness? Will you show patience and love to your offenders as God showed to you? We see how the gospel affected Stephen and the Sanhedrin in opposite ways.

1. A Rage-Filled Opposition
  - a. Anger
  - b. Defiance
  - c. Volatility
  - d. Murder
2. A Faith-Filled Vision
  - a. Christ in heaven strengthened him
  - b. Christ in heaven angered them
3. A Gospel-Filled Death
  - a. He did not fear death
  - b. He prayed to forgive them
4. A Persecution-Fueled Growth
  - a. Saul persecuted the church
  - b. The church dispersed to fulfill the Great Commission
  - c. Stephen's prayer answered in Saul

Stephen was a witness, a martyr for Christ. He knew Christ and he lived the gospel - that's why he could die for the gospel. Our victory over sin in life and the effectiveness of our witness is dependent on our death to self to live the gospel of peace.

Questions for Reflection:

1. What do you think is, in our church, the singular most important thing that we need to die to in order to live the gospel victoriously and be a successful witness?
2. Which do you fear more? Death or dying to self in this life? Do you fear dying mean, selfish, hateful, unloving, etc ? How much do you desire to die well?

## **Westminster Larger Catechism**

Q. 145. What are the sins forbidden in the ninth commandment?

A. The sins forbidden in the ninth commandment are, all prejudicing of the truth, and the good name of our neighbors, as well as our own, especially in public judicature; giving false evidence, suborning false witnesses, wittingly appearing and pleading for an evil cause, outfacing and overbearing the truth; passing unjust sentence, calling evil good, and good evil; rewarding the wicked according to the work of the righteous, and the righteous according to the work of the wicked; forgery, concealing the truth, undue silence in a just cause, and holding our peace when iniquity calleth for either a reproof from ourselves, or complaint to others; speaking the truth unseasonably, or maliciously to a wrong end, or perverting it to a wrong meaning, or in doubtful or equivocal expressions, to the prejudice of truth or justice; speaking untruth, lying, slandering, backbiting, detracting, talebearing, whispering, scoffing, reviling, rash, harsh, and partial censuring; misconstructing intentions, words, and actions; flattering, vain-glorious boasting, thinking or speaking too highly or too meanly of ourselves or others; denying the gifts and graces of God; aggravating smaller faults; hiding, excusing, or extenuating of sins, when called to a free confession; unnecessarily discovering of infirmities; raising false rumors, receiving and countenancing evil reports, and stopping our ears against just defence; evil suspicion; envying or grieving at the deserved credit of any, endeavoring or desiring to impair it, rejoicing in their disgrace and infamy; scornful contempt, fond admiration; breach of lawful promises; neglecting such things as are of good report, and practicing, or not avoiding ourselves, or not hindering what we can in others, such things as procure an ill name.