



COVENANT

Bible-Presbyterian Church

Preaching Christ for His Glory and His Kingdom

Order of Worship – 10 June 2018

Theme for the Year: "King Jesus Must Reign" (1 Corinthians 15:25)

Prelude	<i>The Lord Is in His Holy Temple</i>
Call to Worship	
*Opening Hymn	69 - <i>O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing!</i>
*Invocation & † <i>Gloria Patri</i>	
Scripture Reading	Luke 6:27-49
Hymn	216 - <i>Wonderful Words of Life</i>
Tithes & Offering	
**† <i>Doxology</i> & Offertory Prayer	
Scripture Reading	James 3:1-12
Hymn	464 - <i>Nearer, Still Nearer</i>
Confession of Faith & Pastoral Prayer	
Sermon	"The Right and Wrong Use of the Tongue"
*Closing Hymn	560 - <i>Take My Life and Let It Be</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

The Need for Godly Speech

A Talking God Created Us to Talk

Our God is living God. He is a powerful God who spoke the world into existence. He said, *"Let there be light"* and there was.

He revealed himself to Adam by calling to him. He also spoke to Abraham. From the burning bush, he called Moses. And when he came to be born as a man, he was called the Word.

And God has created us to be people who talk. And he expects our speech to reflect his likeness.

This is why 2 of the 10 commandments deal with speech. Every idle word will be judged by God.

We Are Not Perfect in Speech

All of us will fail in our speech. We will take the name of God in vain and we will bear false witness.

We are sinners.

But God always gives us the opportunity to repent.

When Adam and Eve sinned, they had the chance to repent. But because of the fall, Adam blamed Eve and God; and Eve blamed the serpent.

When Isaiah was called, he admitted that he was a person of unclean lips from a people of unclean lips.

In order for Isaiah to do the work of God, an angel had to cleanse his lips with a piece of coal from the altar.

As a redeemed people, our lips have also been cleansed. We use them to bring life and preserve life.

The Power of Our Speech

Proverbs 18:21 says, *"Death and life are in the power of the tongue."*

By the tongue, death can be caused. And by the tongue, life can be preserved.

The judge can pronounce a guilty verdict or he can grant amnesty.

Death and life may not just be physical death and life but also emotional. People are discouraged or encouraged by words.

Words can be life giving. Proverbs 12:18 - *"...but the tongue of the wise is health."*

But unfortunately, words have been used to hurt. Proverbs 25:18 - *"A man that beareth false witness against his neighbour is a maul, and a sword, and a sharp arrow."* Words can be used like a maul (club) to hurt others.

All of us have been victims. But more than that, we are all perpetrators. We have all wielded the club on others.

The tongue can be used to hurt a family, a community, and a church.

It only takes 2 people. One to start the negativity and another who doesn't confront the sin. What you permit, you promote.

The tongue can be used to heal a relationship. *"Hey, I wanna talk to you about John Smith."* *"Oh, he's over there - let's go and talk to him now."*

The Beauty of Our Speech

Because we are sinful, we are prone to speaking ugly things. Why? Because our hearts are ugly. *"Out of the abundance of the heart, the mouth speaketh."*

But as believers, we have been cleansed. We are new creatures in Christ. Our hearts are filled with the grace of God.

Therefore, we are to speak gracious words. Proverbs 16:24 - *"Pleasant (or gracious) words are as an honeycomb, sweet to the soul, and health to the bones."*

These are words that bring health and healing. We may speak right words, but our words may not be gracious.

And gracious words are persuasive. Proverbs 16:21 says *"The wise in heart shall be called prudent: and the*

sweetness of the lips increaseth learning (increase persuasiveness)."

Gracious words must also be timely. And this is where we fail. *"I must tell the truth and I must say it now!"*

But timely words are good. Proverbs 15:23 - *"A man hath joy by the answer of his mouth: and a word spoken in due season, how good is it!"*

We may have a legitimate complaint against others. But the Bible tells us to bring it to them and not others.

Proverbs 27:6 - *"Faithful are the wounds of a friend."* A friend will minister to a friend and not complain to others.

The beauty of our speech is seen in its graciousness, its timeliness, and its motivation.

The Source of Our Speech

Why do we find it so hard to speak like God does? It is because of our hearts.

We've all gone through relationship problems and controversy. And this is due to our inopportune speech.

And we berate ourselves and vow - *"I've said too much, it's best I remain silent from now on!"* But we find ourselves soon again vowing not to do it! Why?

It is because our tongues are tied to our hearts. And if our hearts don't change, neither can our speech.

Proverbs 10:20 - *"The tongue of the just is as choice silver: the heart of the wicked is little worth."* The tongue is related to the heart. The heart produces the words, and the words exposes the heart.



Westminster Shorter Catechism

Q. 25. How doth Christ execute the office of a priest?

A. Christ executeth the office of a priest, in his once offering up of himself a sacrifice to satisfy divine justice, and reconcile us to God; and in making continual intercession for us.

Proverbs 4:23 says, *"Keep thy heart with all diligence for out of it are the issues of life."* This means that everything, including words, flow from the heart.

If hearts aren't changed and washed, divisive words will continue. If they are not spoken in public, nor to the ones they concern, then they will be spoken in small groups.

Conclusion

Our words are a barometer of our spiritual lives. We must recognize our love for gossip, lying, profanity, and contention.

And this is true of all of us except Jesus. He never spoke in a wrong way. He was always perfect and wise in speaking to the people.

But when what he said shamed them, they killed them. When he spoke the truth, they killed them.

But that is why he died - so that in his body, he would bear every foolish word we have ever spoken. He took our lies, slander, gossip - all we have wrongly spoken; and he bore our guilt for all that we should have rightly spoken but didn't.

This is why God accepts us even though we are so unwise in our speech.

And such a knowledge drives us to Christ - to live the gospel by forgiving, by encouraging, and by asking God to renew our speech.

~ Pastor, preached at CBPC Bible Conference 2017.

Worship Service Roster

<i>Service</i>	<i>This Week (10.6.18)</i>	<i>Next Week (17.6.18)</i>
Speaker	Glen Lock	Mark Chen
Worship Leader	Jacob Woo	Mark Chen
Pianist	Edward Lim	Eugene Lim
Welcomers	Kim & Jesslyn Leow	Yen Fye & Angela Yap
Offering Stewards	Lye Heng Chua*, Jansen Ng* Julian Poon, Kim Leow	Vincent Chiu*, John Tan* Chris Budiman, Ethan Huang
Ushers	Wendy Gong, Putri Harapan	Jerome Ng, Rebecca Lee
Kitchen Duties	Sarah Siew*, Grace Wang Josephine Austin	Sandy Chua*, Jenni Budiman Adeline Ng
PA Duty	Ian Tay	Ken Hong
<i>Prayer Meeting</i>	<i>15 June 2018</i>	<i>22 June 2018</i>
Facilitator	Mark Chen	Mark Chen
Pianist	Nancy 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. We welcome Pastor Glen Lock to our pulpit today.
3. Next week's message: "Accomplishments Are Vain" (Ecclesiastes 2:1-26).
4. Next week's Junior Worship message: "They Could Not Say Anything" (Acts 4:13-31). Speaker: Jimmy Orchard.
5. Pastor Mark is ministering in Emmanuel Reformed Baptist Church today.
6. Visitation this week by Pastor Mark Chen and Deacon Johnson Lim.

Appointments for the Week	Last Lord's Day Tithes & Offering, & Attendance
WED 10:00 am Craft Group	General Fund - \$3,196.30 (*DD - \$200.00). Missions Fund - \$260.00 (*DD - 100.00). Building Fund - \$5,650.00 (*DD - \$5,400.00, #589 - \$200.00, #590 - \$50.00). Total Tithes & Offering - \$9,106.30. Attendance - 143.
FRI 7:30 pm CBI & Prayer Meeting	
SAT 4:30 pm JF & TF	
SUN 9:00 am Sunday School	
10:00 am Worship Service	
	<i>*DD: direct deposit</i>

Elders: **Mark Chen (Pastor)** 6114 4242, 0415 932 373. **Jimmy Orchard** 0413 274 407.
 Deacons: **Johnson Lim** 0402 145 682. **Jacob Woo** 0421 212 206. **Vincent Chiu** 0417 929 149.