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## 10Ps to Survive the Adversities of Life

Life is full of testing and trials and God often allows it to happen to refine and develop endurance and patience in us. Consider the following 10P's as we go through this unprecedented global health crisis and other adversities in our lives.



### 1. Prudence (or Wisdom)

One of the wisest kings on earth, King Solomon speaks of the importance of the fear of God as the beginning of Wisdom in the bible (Prov. 9:10).

We who are accustomed to folly in this life need to seek God for divine wisdom daily in our decision making. It is the ability to discern and to judge the right thing and not be fearful. We need to be careful and discreet for Satan seeks to tempt or undermine us but dare to trust God and do the right thing at the right time and for the kingdom of God.

### 2. Positive among Negativity

We need to have a constructive outlook in life as we look up to Christ in hope that things (ie. even the pandemic situation in Singapore) will improve in due time, by the gracious will and mercy of God. God has a purpose in all things for his elect. Things are often not as bad as they seem when we look to Jesus rather than at the storm or the waves. Focus on God and His Will and Word for this is vital for you to triumph in trying times, and in your mind stay committed to follow His Sovereign Will without the fear and favour of man.

### **3. Progressive in the Process**

It is our sacred duty to make a conscious effort to learn from the Word of God and apply it, to read more Christian books and improve ourselves. Learn new things and keep growing and glowing in your work and family. Do not stagnate or give up in life but press on and keep on keeping on, growing and glowing in the strength of the Lord.

### **4. Planning and Pondering**

If you aim at nothing, you are bound to hit it. We need to seek God first and set measurable and achievable goals for ourselves and our children in worthy tasks like Bible reading, church ministry and missions. Plan with prayer and work towards it. Reflect upon your life and organise your life including your work and studies and family In the will of God. Discipline is needed in a confusing and fallen world.

### **5. Proficiency and Prowess**

We need to keep on developing and growing in our knowledge of the Word of God and in our skills, service and missions. Attend some courses to upgrade your Bible knowledge and your professional work competency. It is a knowledge-based economy and as Christian's we need to keep on keeping on in the spiritual realm and yet stay humble in the Lord. See 2 Pet 3:18.

### **6. Practical or Pragmatic**

By this we mean while having faith, we need to be down to earth and realistic. Do or act on things and do not just dream big with no concrete action. Like in this raging pandemic, take the precautions practically like wear a mask, keep a social distance and hygiene and sanitation. These are practical things to do as it is the will of God to protect us and keeping safe is our duty too. God expects us to use God given common sense and to do our part as well.

### **7. Proactive in Service and Missions**

Christians need to move forward in stewardship, evangelism and discipleship and in your work too. Do not be indifferent or indolent to the direction and the things of God. Take steps to invite someone to church or to share Christ to your family (even in a virtual sense in Zoom) and friends. Do what is needed rather than be passive; be industrious in the Lord. There will be good fruitfulness in due time as the Lord blesses. Rom 12:11,12.

## 8. Prayerful and Given to the Praise of God

Prayer is dependence on God. Do not only be a task-oriented person focused on getting the job done but be sensitive to God's leading and the feelings of others. Be fervently prayerful in your intercession to God and come boldly to the throne of grace in all that you do, not for yourself but for the glory of the Lord. Your PQ ie. prayer quotient, is as important as your IQ, if not more important as prayer is spiritual power for victory each day (Phil 4:6,7, Ps 5:3).

## 9. Patience (or Endurance)

Impatience kills and can undermine or even destroy our Christian witness. and good efforts. Learn to wait upon the Lord. Do not rush into things but let it take its time to fruition. (Isa 40:31, Psa 27:14) There is more to life than increasing its speed. Rather let things take their course for God has His perfect timing in all things. It takes 9 months for a baby to be fully developed and be born one day. Do not pluck a durian when it is unripe but let it drop in due time as it is sweeter and it will be worth it. Something to think about.

## 10. Perseverance

What does it take for Satan to stop you? Do you give up easily? If you stop every time a dog barks, you will never get there. If you dare to face the music, one day you may lead the band by the grace of God. Press on in the arduous journey of life with quiet endurance and you can finish the race of life well by the help of God when we look to Him. (Heb 12:1,2) Perseverance is an important trait to develop if we are to succeed, if you have the determined gumption and tenacity by the grace of God (2Pet 1:5-10).

## Conclusion

What is your AQ ie. adversity quotient? That is more important than your IQ.

There will always be impediments set by the enemy in the race of life to the celestial city as John Bunyan described it allegorically in *The Pilgrim's Progress* (or *Regress* for some). Face and fight obstacles with much fervent prayer and endurance and overcome them in the fullness of time by the gracious help and enablement of God. We need to pray and practice all these, faithfully pressing on by His divine grace till our Lord returns.

*Jack Sin*

## Summary of Message at the Encoffining Service of Mdm Jenny Wee on 12 Nov 2021 by Rev Jack Sin

1Thess 4:13--18

*But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope.*

*For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him.*

*For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep.*

*For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first:*

*Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.*

*Wherefore comfort one another with these words.*

Pastor Sin explained the biblical means of comfort given by Paul to the believers in the 1<sup>st</sup> century. The dead shall not remain dead, but they will be raised up one day at the rapture by the Lord and be caught up with the Lord in the air. Then they will be followed by the living who are believers. Paul shared this as the foundation of hope and comfort for bereaved families in the church of Thessalonica, that they be not overwhelmed by grief in their bereavement as we shall see one another in the Lord again in due season.

*Psa 90:10 The days of our years are threescore years and ten; and if by reason of strength they be fourscore years, yet is their strength labour and sorrow; for it is soon cut off, and we fly away.*

He added that Moses under inspiration of the Spirit predicted the life expectancy of man to be about 70 to 80 years old, a fairly accurate prediction. The prospect of eternal life in CHRIST is a basis for hope in a person's life. There is no meaning, without hope, there is no joy in life, and there is no peace without Christ.

He shared that life has a few stages:

1. We are born as a baby (feeding, sleeping, waking up, pulling, crying, laughing, crawling, standing and learning to walk),
2. Then we go to school (enlightenment, elementary school, college, university),
3. Then we build up our career and some get married (work, childbirth),

4. Finally, we grow old as we age (retire and enjoy the fruits of life's hard work for a season),
5. Then sickness sets in and death and all of us will have to leave the world in the will of God (ie going to heaven or hell?).

If you have believed in Christ when attending a memorial service or an encoffining service, you will hear a needful sobering message, and you will understand the true meaning and hope of your life. When one day, you may be surrounded by everything at death, it will become nothing as you will leave this world empty handed. He quoted Heb 9:27, "*And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment.*"

But there is heaven above and hell beneath too for the dead and we need to consider this soberly.

Rev 20:11-14

*And I saw a great white throne, and him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them.*

*And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works.*

*And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works.*

*And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death.*

Pastor Sin spoke of the glory of heaven and the pains and sufferings of hell and we need to examine ourselves on our eternal destiny. Knowing Jesus, reading and understanding the Bible - God's Word and doing God's will make our lives on earth more meaningful and hopeful. Those who have Jesus in their hearts will surely go to heaven. He ended with a challenge to all to come and trust in the Lord Jesus as their Saviour and prayed, giving the benediction. Is your name written in the book of life?

### **Conclusion**

There was a short time for the family and friends to pay their respects and to share with the bereaved family and to think soberly and pray before the closing of the coffin. The cortege then left for the Choa Chu Kang Christian Cemetery for the burial service with the word shared from 1Cor 15: 51-58. Thank the Lord for His salvation for all who trust in Him and His divine comfort for all that day.

The God of all consolation and solace be with us all.

Yue Kam Weng



Let us remember to seek the Lord in corporate worship in His sanctuary on every Lord's day.

Pray to join our Sunday School classes as the Word is taught every Sunday after the worship service.



Pray for guidance and protection for bro Benjamin who has returned to serve in Biblical Reformed Seminary in Yangon, Myanmar upon graduating with Masters in Divinity having completed 4 years of theological study at Emmanuel Reformed Bible College.

# A Biblical Paradigm for Triumphant Christian Service

Lord's Day Programme  
October - December 2021

DECEMBER

5 The Exemplary Fervent Intercession (Neh 9:1-21,35-38)

12\* Why we Need to Keep the Covenants (Neh 10:28-39)

19 Serving with Accountable Stewardship (Neh 12:31-47)

24 **CHRISTMAS EVE GOSPEL SERVICE**  
When God became Man (1 Tim 3:16)

26 Biblical Separation Learnt & Practiced (Neh 13:1-31)

31 **WATCHNIGHT COMBINED SERVICE**  
A Better Heavenly Place (John 14:1-6)

SOVEREIGNHOPE  
bible presbyterian church  
*presents*

# CHRISTMAS

*Eve Service*

## WHEN GOD BECAME MAN

24 Friday  
DEC

SPEAKER  
REV PHILIP HENG

LOCATION  
160 Paya Lebar Road Orion @ Paya Lebar  
#04-06 Singapore 409022

ALL ARE WELCOME  
Please inform Dn Yue Kay by 20 Dec 2021  
at 97450311

WATCH NIGHT SERVICE  
31 December 2021

# A BETTER HEAVENLY PLACE

John 14:1-6

THE SERVICE

The service will be held at  
SOVEREIGN HOPE BIBLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
160 Paya Lebar Road, Orion @ Paya Lebar  
#04-06 Singapore 409022  
www.sovereignhopebpc.org

## Memory Verse

*Neh 8:8* So they read in the book in the law of God distinctly, and gave the sense, and caused them to understand the reading.

## Announcements

1. Welcome to our Worship Service! For our visitors, do leave us your contact numbers in our guest book before you leave.
2. Pastor speaks today on “**Awakenings from the Word**” (*Neh 8:1-18*), continuing the quarterly theme of “**A Biblical Paradigm for Triumphant Christian Service**”.
3. Pastor speaks next Sunday on “**The Exemplary Fervent Intercession**” (*Neh 9:1-21, 35-38*).
4. Sunday School classes continues after worship service:
  - WCF Shorter Catechism Class – Pastor Jack
  - Understanding Biblical Eschatology & related Topics – Joseph
  - Studies in Numbers – Dn Kwong Leen
5. Chinese Fellowship meets on Sunday night at 7pm via Zoom with both local and overseas brethren. Included in the programme is a study on Church History in China on alternate Sundays. Join us for a time of profitable learning.
6. Do send your prayer items to Pastor and join us for Church Prayer Meeting on Wed at 8pm via Zoom. The prayer list is available in church.
7. Neighbourhood Bible Class meets **this Friday 3 Dec, 7.30pm in church** on the study of 2 Samuel. Come and join us!
8. Fide Vitae is giving a 20% discount on all books for the month of December.
9. Those who wish to bring a new friend to the worship service, kindly inform the safety officer Dn Yue Kay or Pastor at least a day in advance.
10. The Pandemic book can be purchased through Dn Yue Kay (Hp: +65 97450311) or via email at [sovereignhopebpc@gmail.com](mailto:sovereignhopebpc@gmail.com).
11. Do kindly observe the safety measures of the church and assist with the weekly cleaning of the premises.
12. Love gifts, Offering and Tithes to the Lord can be given in the following ways:
  - **Cheque** payable to **Sovereign Hope Bible Presbyterian Church** and mail to church address. (Kindly write the full name of the church as indicated.)
  - **Fund transfer** to Church **UOB** Account **392-308-825-1**
  - **PayNow** to Church UEN: **T19SS0116FSOV**

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