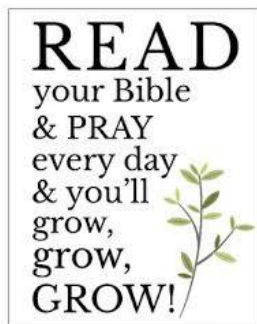


Address: 160 Paya Lebar Road, Orion@Paya Lebar #04-06, Singapore 409022  
Sun Worship Service: 10am, Sun School: 11.45am, Wed Prayer Meeting: 8pm  
Website: [www.sovereignhopebpc.org](http://www.sovereignhopebpc.org)  
Rev Dr Jack Sin: 91160948 (hp) / [jacksin710@gmail.com](mailto:jacksin710@gmail.com)  
Elder Loke Tat Luen: [tloke822@gmail.com](mailto:tloke822@gmail.com)

---

## The Reason & Practical Helps for Fruitful Bible Reading

**The entire Christian life is governed by one Book: the authoritative and sufficient Word of God in the 66 canonical books authored by the Spirit of God Himself. (2Pet 1:19-21)** This book is to be the sole directional guide for the believers' pilgrimage and the infallible manual for Church life and family. Paul in 2 Tim 3:16,17 say, *"All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works"* but the prophet Hosea in Hos 4:6 says, *"My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge: because thou hast rejected knowledge, I will also reject thee, that thou shalt be no priest to me: seeing thou hast forgotten the law of thy God, I will also forget thy children."*



### Response to the Word of God

There can be different responses to the Word of God preached or read and we need to be receptive and humble to receive the word of God given to us. A negative response to the Word is found in 2 Chron 36:16 which says, *"But they mocked the messengers of God, and despised his words, and misused his prophets, until the wrath of the LORD arose against his people, till there was no remedy."* There is a threefold action. 2 Tim 2:15 says, *"Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth."* To be disciplined and diligent to meditate and study the Word carefully to the spiritual nourishment of our souls. Consider the following, Jer 15:16 says, *"Thy words were found, and I did eat them; and thy word was unto me the joy and rejoicing of mine heart: for I am called by thy name, O LORD God of hosts."*

**There is not only to be reading but also there is to be an application and a serious commitment to keep the Word in our daily lives.** Ezra 7:10 - *"For Ezra had prepared his heart to seek the law of the LORD, and to do it, and to teach in Israel statutes and judgments."* (my life verse) There is also an instruction or inspecting of the Word to others. Rev 1:3 says, *"Blessed is he that readeth, and they that hear the*

*words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written therein: for the time is at hand."*

As food is to the strengthening of the body physically, the Word of God is to the nourishment of our souls. Peter in 1Pet 2:2 says, *"As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby."* Heb 5:13,14 say, *"For every one that useth milk is unskilful in the word of righteousness: for he is a babe. But strong meat belongeth to them that are of full age, even those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil."* There should be a desire to grow in the maturity of the most holy faith by understanding and applying the deep truths of biblical doctrine too.



There is also to be serious meditation of the word Finally in Joshua 1:8 says, *"This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success."* There is to be a constant memory and meditation of the Word to keep us effective in the ministry. The secret to happiness in this life is a holy commitment to seek to observe and obey the laws of God In our daily lives. We need to make a conscientious effort to seek out the truth systematically in listening to the word preached every Sunday at SHBPC, your daily devotion and SS class, prayer meetings and fellowship meetings and worship services. When was the last time that you set aside quality time to read the Bible or a book on the Bible and be grounded and rooted in the faith? Consider the following: -

## **A Word-Centred Life**

**Every church or Christian is to be scripture-centred or Word-based and not based on experience or other man-made foundations. There is a rich and profound source of knowledge of truth in it and you can avail to yourself to it.** Make a conscious effort to diligently read, study, memorise, apply it? Jesus says in John 5:39, *"Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me"* and Paul shares in Act 20:28, *"Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood."* One way to learn and remember the Word is to sing it. In Col 3:16, Paul says, *"Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord"* and James 1:22 says, *"But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves."*

## **Practical Tips on Effective Bible Study**

**To study the Bible properly, we must make an effort to seek first to understand the intent of the author, the dating the historical and geographical and cultural background of the book we are studying:** it's helpful to know who wrote the book,

to whom it was written, when it was written, and why it was written. This is important as it gives us a proper context to it. It is needful for us to let the text speak for itself in the context. Sometimes authors assign their own meanings to the words used in order to for the reader to get the right interpretation he or she desires. This is especially so if the book has a important history to it i.e. the book of kings or chronicles or Ezra, Nehemiah or Daniel.

**The right manner to study the Bible is to prayerfully, diligently and humbly rely on the leading of the Holy Spirit to give us understanding; in their context, knowing that the Bible interpret itself; as John Calvin has shared in his teaching of the analogy of the scriptures.** Bear in mind, the Holy Spirit is the real author of the word of God and He will guide us into the proper understanding and application of it. (2Tim 3:16,17)

Consider the following as you read your Bible Daily:

1. Begin your Bible reading with prayer (Ps 119:18; Jn 16:13-15).
2. Take brief notes what you read. Keep a small notebook for your Bible Study.
3. Read slowly through one chapter or 2 or 3 chapters or perhaps just one paragraph. After reading ask yourself what this passage means. Then reread it. It is helpful to find out the true meaning of a chapter or passage to ask yourself the following questions, then write the answers in your notebook.
4. What is the main subject of this passage?
5. Who are the persons revealed in this passage? Who is speaking? About whom is he speaking? Who is acting?
6. What is the key verse of this passage?
7. What does this passage teach me about the Lord Jesus Christ?
8. Does this passage contain any command for me to obey?
9. Is there any promise for me to claim?
10. Is there any instruction for me to follow?

## Conclusion

**God has given to us an inspired, inerrant and sufficient manual of life to guide and lead us in our walk of faith. It is a joy and privilege to have the indestructible, infallible and inerrant Scripture as our constant compass or map or GPS to guide and lead our footsteps daily lest we go astray.**

Ps 119:105 says, *"Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path"* and Isa 40:8 says, *"The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: but the word of our God shall stand for ever."*

Let us strive to be disciplined to search, study and memorise and meditate on the Holy Word and be revived and refreshed by it daily to the nourishment of our souls.

*Jack Sin*

## ***Pastoral Musings - Gospel Opportunities in Alaska -***

Alaska is the 49<sup>th</sup> state and the largest state in USA in physical area but one of the smallest in population with only 740,000 and 56% will call themselves Christian although only 26% are actually evangelical Protestants.



There are 8 churches in Ketchikan and 2 Reformed evangelical churches, and the rest are Catholic, Anglican, Lutheran and even cults like the Jehovah Witnesses and Mormons are here too. We had a blessed day of worship on Sunday 11 May and fellowship over lunch with the congregation of White Cliff Church, a conservative Reformed church at Ketchikan. Pastor Alan gave a good message on Rom 9, and the church has warm leaders and worshippers with some of them receiving our church weekly.

We had an opportunity to reach out to a shop owner and gave her our gospel tract.





At Sitka, we visited the Russian Orthodox Church and the official residence of the ex-Bishop Innocent. The Russians were here in the 18<sup>th</sup> century to annex the land with the lucrative fur trade and tried to convert the local indigenous people with some success. The Lutherans came in 1840 and established churches here and the Presbyterians came in 1882. A missionary named Sheldon Jackson came in 1877 and Rev Lindskey in 1869 and established mission schools and colleges and churches. The former became the General Agent for Education in Alaska and expanded its evangelistic efforts. It is encouraging to see that God has his faithful remnant in every state and his elect will never be lost and his church is present in every age and place as He wills.

In our travels, we also had a wonderful time of admiring God 's creation learnt much about wildlife like the grizzly and black bears, whales, otters, raptors such as the bald eagles, owls and falcons. One quarter of the world's population of 400,000 bald eagles (wingspan of up to 7.5 feet) is found here in Alaska for there are huge Pine trees and Douglas Fir for them to build their nest and birth their young and salmon and other prey are aplenty here as food sources.

The eagle reminds us of Isa 40:31 of the importance of waiting patiently upon the Lord to renew our strength and walk and not be weary. Patience is the key to this mighty bird to catch its prey, and we have much to learn from it.

The eagle is mentioned 33 times in the Bible. The eagle's ability to soar high and carry its young is used to illustrate God's strength and care for His people. Exo 19:4 describes God as "*bearing them on eagles' wings*" when leading Israel out of Egypt. We are in the good hands of God no matter what happens when we are his people. (Deut 32:11) This majestic creature, the King of the air is created by our Almighty Jehovah to showcase the wonder of His creative power.

We did feel like pilgrims and strangers as what the apostle Peter describes us as we are moving from one place to another. That is the life of the believer in this ephemeral world and an ambassador too as we represent Christ wherever we go.





We had opportunities to meet and reach out to different people as the Lord leads and God open doors for us to minister to some of them. We reached out to Sree (formerly from Bangalore) but is now living in Townsville, Queensland Australia with a gospel tract - pray for her salvation and her husband Ian.



At Talkeetna, our shuttle driver Jaren is a junior in a Las Vegas university doing vacation work here in Alaska and we gave him our church gospel tract.

There is another couple Carole and her husband who were previously in a Methodist church. When



we shared that we are Presbyterians and attended a Presbyterian church in Pensacola when we were studying there, she said that she will consider attending the Presbyterian church in Florida where she lives.



We gave a Gideon Bible to Lorraine, our fitness trainer onboard and she was very receptive and appreciate the Bible.

While walking around Juneau, we saw this book exchange box that is near the library and museum. I put in the Gideon NT and our church gospel tract. You never know what



that Lord will do when a student or adult comes and have access to the Word of God freely here. God's Word of everlasting life is the best gift for anyone. Wherever you are, pray for an opportunity to share Christ with someone and you never know what that Lord will do in their hearts.

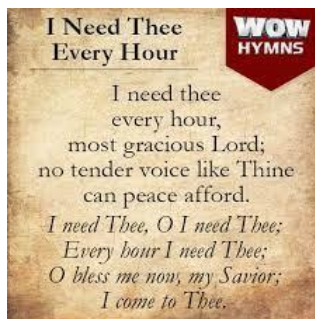



We had the opportunity to walk gingerly for more than 3km on the magnificent Matanuska Glacier (that runs for more than 40 km) off Anchorage at 2 degrees and it was an experience of a lifetime. It reminded me of Eph 5:15,16 that we are to walk circumspectly redeeming the time for the days are evil. The walk on that glacier is very slippery and we need special micro spikes attached to our shoes and a trekking pole and follow the guide as some place can be a crevice that you can fall through that glacier. Thank God for safety and protection and followed by a delicious Alaskan salmon meal and back to the hotel for a good rest. We can only marvel at God's marvellous creation which does not come with evolution.

We have been praying for all of you at home, including Mrs Heng, Bro Simon, Agnes' mom's health and salvation and the Sunday pulpit ministry and Sunday School, the Chinese Evening Fellowship meeting and our coming church camp and missions too.

Let us continue to uphold one another in fervent prayer daily.

**Pastor & Angie**







**TEACHING GENESIS 1 - 11**  
*History and Science*

22 (Fri) and 23 (Sat) August 2025  
Keynote Sessions on 22 August 7:30pm - 9:30pm


The Salvation Army  
Worship Centre @Hillview  
500 Upper Bukit Timah Road  
Singapore 678106




**SPEAKERS for KEYNOTE SESSION**  
22 Aug 7:30pm




**DR DON BATTEN**  
Creation Ministries International



**REV DR JACK SIN**  
Sovereign Hope  
Bible Presbyterian Church




**DR ANDY MCINTOSH**  
Emeritus Professor  
University of Leeds




**DR MONA BIAS**  
East Asia School of Theology

Other sessions with speakers from Australia, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Japan, Mongolia, Singapore, South Korea, Taiwan, United Kingdom and United States.

Organiser



Registration starts on 21 April



**Creation Or Evolution?  
Six Days Or Billions of Years?  
Adam or Apemen?  
Global Flood Or Local Flood?**

## Memory Verse

1Cor 4:2      Moreover it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful.

## Announcements

1. Welcome to our Worship Service! If you are here for the first time, do leave us your contact numbers in our guest book before you leave. Those who share the church vision to acquire a place of worship in due time, may designate your offerings to the SHBPC Church Building Fund.
2. Rev Ian Heng brings us God's Word this morning on "**Approaching God as Faithful Stewards (1Cor 4:1-10)**", continuing the quarterly series on "**Approaching God with the Right Disposition**".
3. Next Sunday, Pastor will bring us on God's Word on "**Approaching God with Holiness (Isa 6:1-8)**".
4. Sunday School classes after worship service are as follows:
  - The Apostle Paul's Solution to Church Problems – Lessons from 1 Corinthians (Joseph)
  - Studies in Job (Dr Kwong Leen)
5. Chinese Fellowship meets on every Sunday night at 7pm via Zoom with both local and overseas brethren. We have systematic studies on New Testament Foundations and the Psalms. [Zoom ID:883 9662 4157 Passcode: 218178].
6. Pastor & Angie are on sabbatical leave from Apr 23 to Jun 5. Rev Nathan and Bro Joseph will be available to provide pastoral support during this period. Do contact the session members for assistance when needed.
7. 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. [Zoom ID:863 7527 5431 Passcode: 625551].
8. The **Church Camp Briefing** will be held on **Sunday 8 Jun at 12 noon** in church. All campers are requested to attend.
9. The **All Asia Creation Ministry International Conference** will be held on **22 & 23 Aug** at the Salvation Army Hall in Upper Bukit Timah. See page 7 for details.
10. Pray for:
  - **2025 Annual Church Camp**, Jun 10-13 at Forest City Marina Hotel, Johor, Malaysia on the theme "*Wise or Foolish Living in a Smartphone Era*" by Rev Tan Eng Boo. Praise God for approval of Amulya's (Pastor Babu's daughter) visa to Singapore arriving on Sat 7 Jun.
  - **Travels: Pastor & Angie** (23/4-5/6 Sabbatical), **Dn Paul** (22/5-5/6, Japan), **John A** (31/5-7/6, Philippines), **Dn Yue Kay** (3-5 Jun, Bintan).
  - **Medical: Simon** [liver issues and depression], **Agnes' mother** [medical investigations], **Dr KL & CP's daughter: An Yan & baby** [postnatal recovery], **Mrs Philip Heng** [home care], **John W's sister Angeline** [lung cancer], **John W's daughter** [dialysis treatment].
11. 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**

Kindly indicate "**Church Building Fund**" if you would like to designate towards this cause.