

SOVEREIGNHOPE

bible presbyterian church

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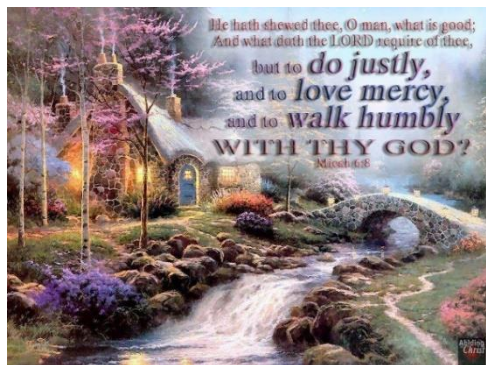
Knowing and Meeting Divine Requirements

*Micah 6:8 "He hath shewed thee, O man, what is good;
and what doth the LORD require of thee,
but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy
God?"*

As a contemporary of Isaiah and Hosea, Micah prophesied during the trying times before and during the defeat of Israel by the strong Assyrian Empire (722 BC), a historic occasion he also predicted). Micah prophesied during the reigns of Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah in Judah, during the time of bad monarchs of the northern kingdom of Israel.

At this point in time, Israel had unsound national leadership. Judah went up to its glory one generation, only to fall into the depths again in the next. In Judah, the good and evil kings seemed to alternate, a pattern seen in the reigns of Jotham (good -2 Kings 15), Ahaz (evil - 2 Kings 16), and Hezekiah (good – 2 Kings 18). We need to pray to God for godly leaders to rule over us.

It was during the momentous season that the Prophet shared 3 things that is required of the Christian by Jehovah which is pleasing to God. These three things are given in Mic 6:8.



The first is **to do justly**. There is much dishonesty and falsehood in this world and the Christian is to stand up to it. Truth and justice go together. A believer is upright, has the integrity of the heart, and maintains a good conscience in all he or she does.

The second is **to love mercy**. We are often indifferent to the cause and sufferings of others. A selfish spirit and worldly callous heart has gripped many. Do we care if someone is hungry or in pain? When an old lady needs help, are we nonchalant about it? This ought not to be so. The elect of God who has experienced the grace and covenant mercy of God is to have compassion, kindness, and love for others too just like their Heavenly Father. Let us be conscious to show our affection for others with practical acts of love and kindness.



The expositor, John Gill added that we are “not only to show mercy to miserable objects, to persons in distress; to relieve the poor and indigent; to clothe the naked, and feed the hungry; but to delight in such exercises; and which a king especially should do, whose throne is established by mercy, and who is able, and should be munificent”.

The third is **to walk humbly**. John Calvin once said that the 3 important principles of service are *Humility, Humility, and Humility*. The depraved man is often proud and arrogant and God resists the proud and haughty (Jas 4:6). Pride is what caused the fall of Satan and many have been stumbled by it as well (Isa 14:13-15). The regenerate is mindful that he or she is a sinner saved by Sovereign grace and is thoroughly humbled by this fact. He or she will want to walk in meekness before God and men. Give God the glory and do not rob others of their credit too. Be humble and God will raise you up in due time.

The famous British pastor, Charles Spurgeon adds here that “Walk humbly when you are spiritually strong. Walk humbly when you have much work to do. Walk humbly in all your motives. Walk humbly studying God’s word. Walk humbly when under trials. Walk humbly in your devotions. Walk humbly between you and your brothers in Christ. Walk humbly when dealing with sinners. True humility is thinking rightly of thyself, not meanly. When you have found out what you really are, you will be humble, for you are nothing to boast of.

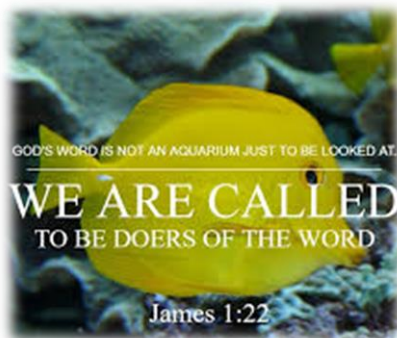
To be humble will make you safe. To be humble will make you happy. To be humble will make music in your heart when you go to bed. To be humble here will make you wake up in the likeness of your Master by-and-by.”

Conclusion

Matthew Henry concludes with this advice “Moral duties are commanded because they are good for man. In keeping God’s commandments there is a great reward, as well as after keeping them. God has not only made it known but made it plain. The good which God requires of us is, not the paying a price for the pardon of sin and acceptance with God, but love to himself; and what is there unreasonable, or hard, in this? Every thought within us must be brought down, to be brought into obedience to God, if we would walk comfortably with him. We must do this as penitent sinners, in dependence on the Redeemer and his atonement. Blessed be the Lord that he is ever ready to give his grace to the humble, waiting penitent.”

These are 3 important precepts or guidelines for God-honouring Christian living that we are to prayerfully consider and live it out each day by the grace of God. Let the poignant and relevant words of the prophet Micah get us out of our spiritual apathy to help us to act fairly and justly with our staff, family, or friends, and with love, concern, and kindness to others who are in need. Let us resolve to live as God desires us to — **“to do justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with our God”**.

Jack Sin



How Do We Teach the Proper Memorisation of Scripture to Our Children and Youths?

That is a good question. This is a good habit and practice that is sadly lacking today in Christian homes and churches. The Jews have an effective and creative way of communicating biblical truths to their children and helping them to remember.

Deut 6:6-7 says, *“And these Words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart: And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up”*.

Use every occasion and opportunity to share the relevance of the word of God. In teaching children or even adults and youths to memorise scripture, the following can be considered:



1. Select an appropriate verse that is relevant to the child.
2. Learn the verse well and memorise it first yourself.
3. Present the verse in an interesting setting. Either teach it as a lesson, sing it as a song, tell a story where the verse can be weaved in picture to illustrate, through scripture or relate to a natural setting.
4. Give the whole context by explaining the paragraph from which the verse is taken from.
5. Break down these verses into several parts and analyse each part carefully, in adverbs, nouns, and verbs, and in relationships, with illustrations for clarity and interest.
6. Memorise first by parts, then do the verse(s) as a whole again.
7. Do it for a few times and aloud each time for the mind to remember the words clearly. Meditate on the meaning of it.
8. Review it again the next time for better result.
9. Encourage the application of the verse with follow up in a real-life situation. Make the Word of God come alive to the child/youth, i.e., pray for the understanding of God's Holy Word for them.

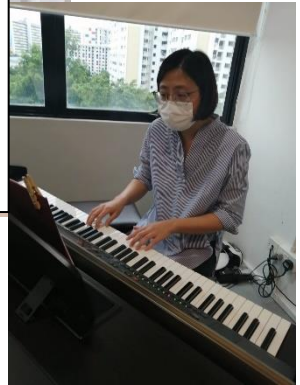
Psa 119:11 - *“Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee.”*

Do it together with your children or in a SS class, NBC, or cell group setting. Hope these few practical steps will be useful for the development of an effective memorization programme for you and the youths, your own family, friends, and with your children too.

Jack Sin



Reformation Seminar on 10 Oct 2020 with Dr Poh Wee as our pianist.



Sunday Fellowship Lunch & Outreach with Poh, Bronson & Marvin (visitor).

From Our Readers

Thank you for the book on the Christian Perspective of the Pandemic plus your church weekly and the 2 Chinese tracts. I thank the Lord for the preaching from Isaiah too, Sunday's sermons. I am so grateful for the Word of God that we so desperately need now more than ever. I've shared it with my brother in KL too.

Mrs Patricia Lin
Former Principal
Jurong Christian Kindergarten
Calvary BPC

Deeply appreciate your timely book and received in good order. Thank you. May the LORD use it to edify readers to His Glory.

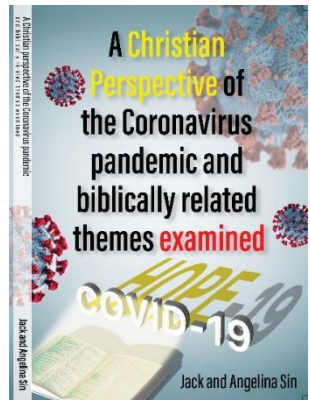
Rev Frank Low
Calvary BPC.

Thank you for your book on, Christian perspective of COVID19 pandemic and biblically related themes.

I like to congratulate you for a masterful appraisal of challenges faced by the Christian family amid the COVID 19 Outbreak. This book could not have been more timely. As the world reels from the impact of the Pandemic, this book comes in handy, as a helpful biblically sound compendium to guide believers to cope with the current 'new normal'.

Not only is it thoroughly Biblical and Reformed in content, it also provides wise and deep insights into the application of God's timeless and unchanging truth to an everchanging world. It is a recommended read not just for the laity but also for pastors.

Rev Dr Lim Yew Cheng
Pastor and Cardiologist
Evangel BPC (Kuala Lumpur, Malacca and Tangkak)
Malaysia



**PROPHETIC AND PRACTICAL INSIGHTS
FROM ISAIAH FOR TODAY**

Lord's Day Programme from Oct - Dec 2020

OCTOBER

- 4 The Case for Divine Reasoning (Isaiah 1:1-18)
- 11* The Holiness of God and the Prophet's Response (Isaiah 6:1-8)
- 18 When the Top Angel became the Devil (Isaiah 14:1-15)
- 25 Reformation Sunday: The Refuge of God in the Reformation (Isaiah 25:1-12)

NOVEMBER

- 1 The Basis for Peace of Mind (Isaiah 26:1-9)
- 8* The Gospel Highway and Streams of Life (Isaiah 35:1-10)
- 15 The Almighty Comforter for Souls (Isaiah 40:1-14)
- 22 Fighting Phobia with Courage in God (Isaiah 41:1-14)
- 29 Triumph over Distress as Witnesses (Isaiah 43:1-28)

DECEMBER

- 6 The Only One True God of the World (Isaiah 45:5-28)
- 13* The Call to Extend the Kingdom of God. (Isaiah 54:1-17)
- 20 The Foundation for Contentment (Isaiah 55:1-13)
- 24 Christmas Eve: Mary and the Lamb of God (Luke 1:27-47)
- 27 Reforms through the Hand of God (Isaiah 59:1-21)
- 31* WATCHNIGHT SERVICE: Am I a Wise or Foolish Virgin? (Matthew 25:1-13)

Memory Verse

James 4:7 Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

Announcements

1. Welcome to our Worship Service! For our visitors, do leave us your contact numbers in our guest book before you leave.
2. Rev Jack Sin speaks today on “**When the Top Angel became the Devil**” (Isa 14: 1-15), the Oct to Dec series on “*Prophetic & Practical Insights from Isaiah for Today*”.
3. Rev Jack Sin speaks next week on Reformation Sunday, “**The Refuge of God in the Reformation**” (Isa 25: 1-12).
4. Sunday School classes continues in church after the worship service:
 - Catechism Class – Pastor Jack
 - “Rules for Walking in Fellowship by John Owen” – Dn Choo Siang
 - Studies in Leviticus – Dr Kwong Leen
5. Chinese Fellowship meets on Sunday night at 7pm via Zoom.
6. Do send your prayer items to Pastor and join us for Church Prayer Meeting on Wed at 8pm via Zoom. Do collect your Oct prayer list from Dn Choo Siang.
7. The Pandemic book can be purchased through Dn Yue Kay (Hp: +65 97450311) or via email at sovereignhopebpc@gmail.com.
8. Those who would like to help with the cleaning or safe management procedures of the church, please see Dn Yue Kay.
9. Those who have a testimony to share may submit to Pastor for the weekly.
10. Pastor is still available for counselling via WhatsApp, Email or Mobile.
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**