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Sun Worship Service: 10am, Sun School: 11.45am, Wed Prayer Meeting: 8pm
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“The Body of Christ & Discipleship” (Luke 9:18-27)

- Sermon Summary -

1. Request & Recognition of Christ (vs 18-22)

- A disciple is a learner & follower of his Master.
- One cannot be a disciple unless he knows who is his Master.
- The right question one should ask is “**Whose** am I?”, and not “who am I?”
- Do you know Christ personally as your Saviour and Lord? (not just know about Him.)
- A disciple was asked by the Lord and his reply was “Thou art the Christ” - Peter was that disciple who got it right.
- In Mark 3:13-14 – we see that the disciples are chosen by the Lord and ordained by Him, they spent much time with Christ, before being sent out by Him.
- Is Jesus your Priest, Prophet & King today?

2. Requirements of Following Jesus (vs 22-25)

A Disciple has the following characteristics:

- It is **intentional** (it is never accidental but very purposive and clear). We need to be very clear and resolute on whom we follow and serve.
- it is **costly** even though salvation is rich and free (deny yourself...it may even cost you your time, substance and even your life! What are the changes in your life after you received Christ? If there is no change in your life with regard to sin, and there is no repentance, we need to examine ourselves if we may or have not have received Christ into your life.)
- it is **radical** (fundamental different from the rest of the world. It



changes the way you think, you speak, you behave, etc. And not changes merely from the outside, but changes from within your heart and mind. God give us the 10 commandments, not the 10 suggestions and we are to abide by or obey them in our lives.

- It is **sacrificial** (Take up the cross. The cross is a place of contempt, of suffering. Are you ashamed to be associated with Christ?) Do you dare to pray publicly or let others know that you are a Christian?
- It is a **commitment**. (An uncommitted Christian is an oxymoron. A fruitless Christian is a contradiction. He who desires to save his life will lose it. He who loses his life for Christ will save it.) That is the paradox of being a Christian.
- it is **rewarding** eternally as when we meet the Maker face to face one day, there may be commendation and rewards and it will be a day of blessing and surprises for some.

3. Resurrection & Return of Christ & its Effect (vs 27)

- He shall come in His glory on His return which is imminent.
- His second return is predicted & His resurrection of the dead shall follow.
- Discipleship is rewarding, a true lasting blessing.
- Just like "**Pilgrim Progress**" when we reached the celestial city after we cross the delectable mountains and survived vanity fair and the castle of fear and the slough of despond and fight Apollyon among other trials of life.

Conclusion

Pastor Jack shared that we must beware that we do not preach a defective gospel of cheap grace as some mega churches do but true costly biblical discipleship which is the will of God for every truly born-again Christian to deny self and to take up their cross and follow him in our lives till we breathe our last one day.

Kim Meng



Blessed Birthday to Albert, Devi and Kim Meng!



SOVEREIGN HOPE
bible presbyterian church

PRESENTS

*Appreciating the Titles of the
New born King*

**WHO IS THE PERSON WHO WAS BORN ON CHRISTMAS DAY?
COME AND FIND OUT AND BE BLESSED BY THE TRUTH
CONCERNING JESUS.**

BY REV JACK SIN

DECEMBER 24, SUNDAY 10:00 AM

**VENUE : SOVEREIGN HOPE BP CHURCH
160, PAYA LEBAR RD, ORION
@ PAYA LEBAR #04-06, S(409022)**

All Are Welcome

**THOSE WHO ARE COMING, KINDLY INFORM DN YUE KAY AT 97450311
BY 15 DEC 2023, AS LUNCH WILL BE PROVIDED**

INDIA Mission Trip Testimony

- By Yeo Peng Ha -

I first heard about the India Mission Trip from Pastor Jack Sin during my visit to Singapore in June 2023. I was moved to join the team as I have never been to India before and is keen to see the Mission work over there. When I told my friends they had some reservations because of the differences in food and culture.



By God's grace and wisdom, the 5 of us comprising Pastor & Angie, Elder Jeffrey Cheong, Deacon Paul Tan and I set off to Bangalore on 31/10/23. We were warmly met by Pastor Babu who helped to settle us into our Hotel Treebo Trend in Whitefield.



We visited Pastor Babu's **New Covenant BPCI** where he runs a **Kinderbees Preschool & Daycare Centre**. The church hall is situated upstairs. We shared a lovely homecooked meal prepared by his wife Satya.

As 01/11/23 was a public holiday in Karnataka, we were able to explore the sights and sounds of Bangalore with a local youth Rajesh. We bought a day trip ticket on the *Metro Namma* to visit the Parliament House, the High Court and hired 2 Autos ie 3-wheelers to show us around. Many places of interests were either crowded or closed. I missed the Asia's largest Flower market as it was too congested. We visited the Botanical Gardens inn Cubbon Park & Lalbagh Park. We did a lot of walking and lovely to see many families taking the opportunities to get out for the day. I realized that the traffic in Bangalore is very chaotic, and we needed to trust in the Lord to deliver us safely to our destinations (Pastor keeps reminding me of Hebrews 11) each time.

During this trip, sister Angie ministered to the children in each of the churches we visited. The children were all well dressed and eager to hear the Gospel



and the Word about Fear and Faith in God. She asked them simple questions to arouse their interest. They were taught some Sunday School songs with actions which they all enjoyed. Even some of the adult who stayed back participated in the action songs. Deacon Paul conducted some games with the children which they all enjoyed and wanted more. At the end of the sessions, the children were delighted to receive Goodie bags which

the Han sisters had kindly prepared beforehand.

I believe that Pastor Jack started helping Pastor Babu's church a few years ago and over the years the church has grown and now continue to need nourishment. We attended the **New Covenant BPCI Family Retreat** at the Nirjhari Conference Centre.

Pastor Jack spoke on a message about Covenant Family Life with Pastor Babu translating into Kannada language. The message focussed on:

- **A**uthority in the Family (Genesis 18:19)
- **B**ible-based Family Teaching (Deuteronomy 6:5-9)
- **C**ares & **C**oncerns of with the upbringing of their children (Prov. 22:6) and the
- **D**iscipline and **D**iligence in reaching out to the children (Psalm 128:1--6)



We noticed that some of the children did not have Bibles and Pastor Jack suggested that we go to the Bible Society to purchase some Bibles for them.

On the next day at the Conference Centre, Pastor Jack spoke to a group of Pastors on the topic of Reformations. A few of the pastors have never heard of the Reformation. They were informed of the Authority and sufficiency of the Scriptures.

On Sunday 5th November, we arrived at the **New Covenant BPCI** to see the ladies cooking 8 kg of rice and 7 kg of chicken curry for their congregation lunch after service. The Mission Team presented a song item called "*To India with God's Love*" to encourage and thank them for their kind hospitality. I

noticed that when they welcome visitors to their homes only the head of the family will join us for meals while the ladies are busy cooking & serving behind the scenes. They are so humble.

The next church we visited is **Calvary Reformed Church** led by Pastor Lazarus who work together with his wife who was a schoolteacher. He started his church in 2015 and is committed to sharing the gospel with uneducated, and downtrodden people in Bangalore. He does a lot of outreach and visitations to villagers. He has a few committed believers who are helping in his ministry.



Pastor Lazarus' church is a bumpy ride away from our hotel and the driver even drove on the wrong side of the road to avoid traffic jam. There were about 40 children all neatly dressed and eager to hear from Sister Angie's gospel message. They enjoyed the action songs and games and so did the adults who were seated at the back of the hall. Some of them sat on a mat on the floor. Pastor Lazarus also has a Mercy ministry, Literacy Program, Sunday School Ministry and a Discipleship training. It is evident that there is a great need for the Lord's work but they lack laborers and resources.

Pastor Jack presented a love gift to Pastor Lazarus to assist a few needy families which was warmly received. After we left, he sent photos of the provisions he bought for each of the families with smiles on their faces. It is heartwarming to see how God is working in the hearts of the Indian people.



The last church we visited was at **CALM Church** in the outskirts of Hyderabad pastored by an enthusiastic young pastor John Caleb. He had recently returned from 3 years study at Emmanuel Reformed Bible College in Singapore.

He was delighted to receive us with his friends and gave us each a bouquet of flowers. His father is also a preacher who has a worship service at his house 60 kms away. The

worshippers sit along the 2 corridors of their house to listen to the messages preached.



Once again, we can feel the love they have for the Word of God. It is wonderful to see that all the churches have a strong Children's ministry as they are the future of the church. During the Night Revival Seminar, we experienced

electricity blackout a few times which interrupted the delivery of the messages. John Caleb was able to broadcast his service through a big loudspeaker on top of the roof so that he can reach out to other villagers who are not able to attend the service in person. He is quite innovative and full of zeal and energy to spread the word of God to his people. Before we left the Mission Team presented him with a love gift so that he can get an inverter for his church to manage future blackouts.

I truly thank God for this opportunity to join Pastor Jack and sister Angie on this very special India Mission. I have gained some invaluable experiences and to witness the way God has blessed his faithful and dedicated Pastors in India to spread His Word.



(Note: Sister Peng Ha lives in Adelaide, South Australia and is a member of Hope BP Church, Adelaide.)

Memory Verse

Matt 28:18 And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth.

Announcements

1. Welcome to our Lord's Day Sunday 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. Pastor brings us God's Word this morning on ***The Body of Christ & Effectual Evangelism (Matt 18:1-20)***", the quarterly series on "***The Nature and Duties of the Body of Christ'***".
3. Next Sunday, Pastor will preach on "***The Body of Christ & Spiritual Warfare (Eph 6:10-21)***".
4. Sunday School classes after the worship service are as follows:
 - Westminster Confession of Faith - Pastor
 - Studies in 2 Chronicles - Dr Kwong Leen
5. The Sunday morning worship service on **24 Dec** will be a special **Christmas Eve Service**, followed by a **Fellowship Lunch**, and **Carolling Outreach at All Saints Home (Tampines St 44) at 2.30pm**. Those who are interested to come must **inform Dn Yue Kay by 17 Dec.**
6. **Sovereign Hope Worshipers Christmas Lunch Fellowship** is hosted by Albert and Janet at their home on **Sat 23 Dec 11am (max capacity of 20 persons)**. **Register with Dn Yue Kay by 17 Dec.**
7. Chinese Fellowship meets on every Sunday night at 7pm via Zoom with both local and overseas brethren. We have systematic studies on Kingdoms, Covenants and Canon of the Old Testament and the Parables of Jesus. Join us for a time of profitable learning. [Zoom ID:883 9662 4157 Passcode:625551]
8. Pray for our brethren in their travels: Dn Paul (28/11- 18/12).
9. 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:218178]
10. We need willing hands and hearts to assist in the weekly cleaning of the premises. Do let Dn Yue Kay if you are available to serve in this area.
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.
