

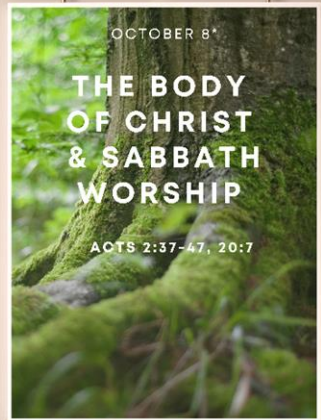
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## **“The Body of Christ & Sabbath Worship”**

**(Acts 2:37-47, 20:7)**

- A summary of the sermon by  
Pastor on 8 Oct 2023 -



### **1. Steadfast in the Apostolic Doctrine (vs 42)**

- the word “ecclesia” means the gathering of people, actually the called-out ones.
- the church is a body of believers with certain doctrinal convictions, beliefs & practices.
- Acts 7:38 - *“This is he, that was in the church in the wilderness with the angel which spake to him in the mount Sina, and with our fathers: who received the lively oracles to give unto us:”* - Stephen testified that the church was in the wilderness in the OT.
- Mathew 16:18 - *“And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.”* - Jesus mentioned about the church.
- Act 11:26 - *“And when he had found him, he brought him unto Antioch. And it came to pass, that a whole year they assembled themselves with the church, and taught much people. And the disciples were called Christians first in Antioch.”*
- the church is also a place where believers gathered/physical assembly.
- steadfast in the apostle doctrine is solid feeding of the Word to them, and the apostles’ doctrine was from Christ, and they continued teaching it.

### **2. Strong in Christian Fellowship & Mutual Sharing (vs 42-45)**

- the Greek word “Koinonia” means fellowship or partnership.
- 1 John 1:3,6 - what is fellowship and its basis?
- “That which we have seen and heard declare we unto you, that ye also

may have fellowship with us: and truly our fellowship is with the Father, and with his Son Jesus Christ.”

- “If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth.”
- it has a basis in the truth of the Word of God.
- you can have friendship with non-believers but not fellowship which is only for believers.
- we are to make time for a fruitful time of sharing & communal in Christ.
- we need to set aside quality time for fellowship with fellow believers which is the will of God for us in the church.

### **3. Sober in Worship, Prayer & Praise (vs 46-47)**

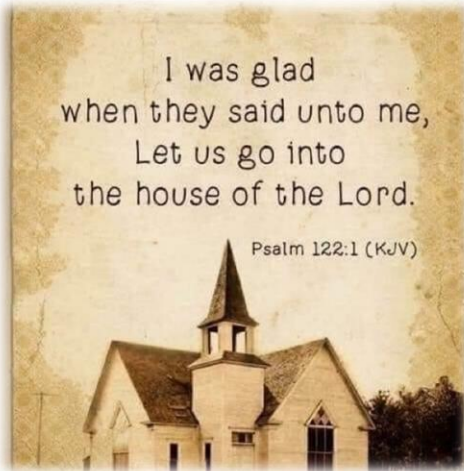
- they were gathered in one accord in the temple and in houses for worship.
- praising God (worship)
- having favor with all the people (encouragement, not cold & callous). There will be preaching of the Word there.
- “And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved.” which means that they have been evangelising as well.

### **Conclusion**

God blesses the church which honours Him in the teaching of sound apostolic doctrines, the commitment to fellowship and sharing and sabbath worship of the Lord.

*Ng Kim Meng*

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## ***A Sharing on the SHBPC Service on 22 Oct 2023***

The sermon by Rev Jack Sin is relevant and is about the definition of Christian Stewardship, that we are not owners but trustees and custodians and will have to give an answer to God one day.

We should be concerned about the discovery and distribution and use of our gifts and resources for the ministry of the church and others by the will of God for His glory and not self (Matthew 25:13-14). Ultimately, being a good steward is about recognising that everything we have come from God and using it in a way that honours Him. In doing so, we are to be careful that our time or resources are being used for eternal purposes and that we are fulfilling our responsibility as believers in Christ and not for worldly or selfish reasons.



One of the primary characteristics of good and faithful stewards is they have learned to live a sacrificial and God-controlled life and not just a temporal view of this short life. Paul tells us the fruit of the spirit includes “self-control”. We are to wisely manage our time, faculties in their bodies, talents and finances, families, tempers and even their careers that it be according to the will of God.

The importance of stewardship is to examine ourselves if we get our priorities right in life and to possess a wise ability to make use of resources entrusted to us by God and to multiply it for the kingdom of God and not self. The sovereign God will do an evaluation of our lives and judge on our work of stewardship to see if we are faithful and accountable.

The believer’s death involves an eternal Reward for those who has given their lives to serve God (Revelation 14:13). Those who remain faithful will be rewarded by God in eternal ways. As verse 13 makes it clear; believers who have served God will rest from their labor. They will enjoy eternity with Christ. Whatever our circumstances in life, we know that this promise is given only to believers and not for all of us.

We must pray to possess a willing and selfless and accountable spirit and attitude to serve God in His Kingdom as a responsible steward and lay our treasure in heaven.

There is much to be meditated upon prayerfully and to work on too.

*Aloysius Chan*

## Memory Verse

*Luke 9:23* And he said to them all, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me.

## 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 & Discipleship (Luke 9:18-27)***", the quarterly series on "***The Nature and Duties of the Body of Christ***".
3. Next Sunday, Pastor will preach on "***The Body of Christ & Missions (Acts 13:1-16)***".
4. Sunday School classes after the worship service are as follows:
  - Westminster Confession of Faith - Pastor
  - Studies in 2 Chronicles - 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 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]
6. Thank God for the safe return and fruitful ministry of the **India Mission Team (Pastor, Angie, Dn Paul Tan, Eld Jeffrey, Sis Peng Ha)** from **31 Oct to 11 Nov 2023**. Detailed reports will be shared in the coming weeks.
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:218178]
8. 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.
9. 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.

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