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## The Importance of the Biblical Definition of Marriage and the Family

The recent decision by the authorities to repeal section 377A is a matter of grave concern for Singapore. It will have a serious impact on our society, and it concerns our understanding of marriage and the traditional family in the face of the LGBT challenge here. While we

understand the need to reach out to the different segments of the community, it is prudent that we do so in the right manner for the long-term moral wellbeing of our delicate social fabric to uphold sound marriage and family values as it will affect the generations to come for the better or for the worse.

As a church guided by the inspired Word of God as our rule of faith and practice, we stand on the biblical principle of a man and woman in a monogamous heterogenous marital relationship that is instituted by our Creator since the creation of man. (Gen 2:21-24). Homosexuality is clearly condemned and forbidden in the Word of God but there is a place for repentance and change (Rom 1:26-32, 1Jn1 :9) and we pray for all to abide by this divine precept that is meant for our spiritual and social wellbeing.

The family that is formed as a result of the marital union of two persons of different gender is blessed with the procreation of children in the sovereign will of God. To go against this biblical injunction is unwise to say the least and there may be serious consequences that may follow. We agree that we should reach out to others struggling with the understanding or practice of this biblical institution of marriage with compassion and counsel with the right perspective to assist and guide them in the right manner in obedience to the Word of God for our own good. That is the best way forward for the sake of a well-ordered society that is right and proper in the sight of our thrice holy Almighty God who is not only Creator but Redeemer and the righteous and holy Judge of every soul one day.

The following is a positional statement on this grave matter signed by 31 Bible-Presbyterian Pastors and Elders in Nov 2015 for our edifying read and prayerful consideration.





# POSITIONAL STATEMENT ON HOMOSEXUALITY

*Signed by 31 Bible-Presbyterian Pastors & Elders  
Nov 2015*

## **Preamble**

We note with grave concern the recent developments, both locally and abroad, concerning the promotion of homosexuality and same-sex marriages. In response to queries by our church members and friends, we affirm the following:

- 1. Marriage was instituted by God.** It is defined biblically as the uniting of one man and one woman in a covenant and exclusive lifelong commitment, and its purpose includes procreation. The Bible's teachings on marriage are authoritative, and shall not be redefined by fallen mankind. ([Genesis 1:27-28](#); [2:20-24](#); Malachi 2:15)
- 2. Human sexuality is a gift of God.** It is sanctified by Him and is designed for-monogamous, heterosexual marriage relationships that are binding as long as we live. ([Matthew 19:3-9](#); [Hebrews 13:4](#))
- 3. This gift of God has been abused since the Fall of man.** We inherited original sin from Adam. This has resulted in total human depravity and the proliferation of sexual sins. ([Genesis 6:5](#); [Leviticus 18:6-24](#))
- 4. God will ultimately judge all forms of sin, including fornication, adultery and homosexual acts.** All these bring God's holy wrath and righteous judgment against the children of disobedience. ([1 Corinthians 6:9-10](#); [Jude 7](#))
- 5. Mankind needs the deliverance from sin, which Jesus Christ offers.** All of mankind need Christ to redeem and deliver them from the bondage of sin. Those who turn to Christ by faith in repentance will receive salvation and the forgiveness of sin. In addition, they will experience the liberating power of God, and will be empowered to overcome their sinful desires. ([John 8:32-36](#); Acts 3:19, 26:20; [Romans 3:23-26](#), [6:14-23](#), [8:2](#))

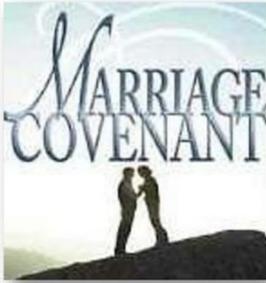
6. **Homosexual orientation is not conclusively proven to be inborn.** The Bible describes it as unnatural and against the original intent of God. It is the result of man's total depravity, thus ensnaring him in the temptations of a fallen world, and guiding him to live for himself and not for God's purpose and glory. ([Romans 1:21-27](#); [Psalm 51:5](#))
7. **God's power to change is freely available to all through Jesus Christ.** By this power, all who repent of their homosexual lifestyles can be renewed in their mind to alter their thinking and behaviour in conformity to God's holy will. There are many authenticated examples of those who were previously under the delusion and enslavement of homosexual tendencies, but have experienced deliverance victoriously by the gracious enablement of God. (Philippians 4:13, [Romans 12:1-2](#); 8:37)
8. **God's grace is sufficient to overcome sinful tendencies.** By relying on the Spirit's enabling through God's sovereign grace, any person can overcome same-sex attraction, and be transformed against a homosexual mindset and demeanour. ([2 Corinthians 12:9](#); [Galatians 5:16-17](#))
9. **We do not discriminate, nor are we prejudiced, against anyone.** We will exhibit a benevolent love generally for all, including homosexuals. We will pray for them and reach out to them, to assist them by God's enablement to overcome their sinful sexual orientation, by committing themselves to God's sovereign pardoning grace through faith and the admission of their sins, if they are willing to do so. ([Matthew 9:10-13](#); [1 John 1:9](#))
10. **We seek to demonstrate a greater faithfulness to Christ in our convictions and relationships.** We will reach out with God's love to counsel and assist persons with homosexual orientation. We will do so with the truths of inspired Scripture and the everlasting hope of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, as the Lord leads. (John 14:21, [Ephesians 2:8-9](#))

## Conclusion

We thank God for blessing Singapore in many ways with peace and stability all these years (despite the recent pandemic which was well managed by the authorities). We need to pray for our national leaders for godly wisdom to make the right moral decisions for our nation and to govern and rule the land in equity, righteousness, truth, justice and in the fear of God that we may live a quiet and peaceable life and promote the kingdom of God in the midst of a turbulent world of international conflict and moral and spiritual declension. (1 Tim 2:1-4, Rom 13:1-8, 2Tim 3:1-5)

As a church, we have a responsibility to do our part also as pilgrims and temporal earthly citizens as well as we testify and witness for Christ as light and salt to this world and reach out to souls as we await the soon coming of our Lord Jesus Christ one day as we live in these perilous times.

*Jack Sin*



**Gen 1:26-28 ~ Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth." 27 So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. 28 Then God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth."**

# THE HOLY SPIRIT & THE BELIEVER TODAY

## Lord's Day Programme for Oct-Dec 2022



### OCTOBER

- |    |  |    |   |
|----|--|----|---|
| 2  | <b>The Work &amp; Nature of the Holy Spirit</b><br>(John 14:16-31) | 23 | <b>Walking in the Spirit</b><br>(Galatians 5:1-16)  |
| 9* | <b>The Holy Spirit &amp; Regeneration</b><br>(Titus 3:1-8)         | 30 | <b>REFORMATION SUNDAY</b><br><b>Why We Should Persevere</b><br><b>in Our Reforming Spirit</b><br>(Jude 1-9) |
| 16 | <b>The Holy Spirit &amp; Prayer</b><br>(Romans 8:20-34)            |    |   |

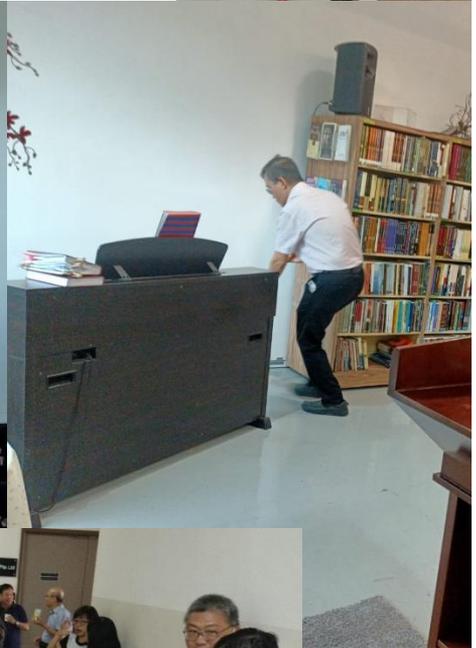
### NOVEMBER

- |     |  |    |   |
|-----|--|----|---|
| 6   | <b>The Filling of the Holy Spirit</b><br>(Ephesians 5:15-21) | 20 | <b>The Holy Spirit &amp; Sanctification</b><br>(2 Peter 1:1-11) |
| 13* | <b>The Fruit of the Spirit</b><br>(Galatians 5:1-23)         | 27 | <b>The Holy Spirit &amp; Witnessing</b><br>(Acts 1:1-11)        |

### DECEMBER

- |     |  |    |  |
|-----|--|----|--|
| 4   | <b>The Holy Spirit &amp; Worship</b><br>(John 4:20-30)                           | 25 | <b>CHRISTMAS SERVICE</b><br><b>When the Heavenly King Condescended</b><br>(1 Timothy 3:1-16) |
| 11* | <b>The Holy Spirit &amp; the Charismatic Movement</b><br>(1 Corinthians 13:1-13) | 31 | <b>WATCHNIGHT SERVICE</b><br><b>Guidelines for End Times Living</b><br>(Mark 13:20-37)       |
| 18  | <b>The Gifts of the Spirit</b><br>(Romans 12:1-12)                               |    |  |

*Every work for Jesus will be blest,  
But He asks from everyone his best.  
Our talents may be few, these may be small,  
But unto Him is due our best, our all.*



**3 SESSIONS  
BIBLE STUDY**

**1. CONTRIBUTION OF THE PRE  
REFORMERS TO THE REFORMATION  
CAUSE**

**2. PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICES OF  
THE REFORMATION MOVEMENT**

**3. THE LEGACY AND CONTINUATION  
OF THE REFORMED FAITH**



**REFORMATION  
MESSAGES**

**SPEAKER**

**Rev Dr Jack Sin**

**PASTOR OF  
SOVEREIGN HOPE BP CHURCH**

**ZOOM ID: 818 4391 6370  
PASSCODE: 482950**

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**DATES :  
6TH, 13TH & 20TH OCT 2022**

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**TIME :  
8.00 PM TO 9.30 PM**

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## Memory Verse

*Rom 5:11* And not only so, but we also joy in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom we have now received the atonement.

## Announcements

1. Welcome to our Sunday Worship Service! For our visitors, do leave us your contact numbers in our guest book before you leave.
2. Pastor speaks this morning on “**Seeking Reconciliation with God**” (**2 Cor 5:11-21**).
3. Pastor speaks next Sunday on “**The Work & Nature of the Holy Spirit (Jn 14:16-31)**”, commencing a new quarterly series on “**The Holy Spirit & The Believer Today**”.
4. The following Sunday School classes continue after worship service:
  - Westminster Confession of Faith – Pastor
  - Addressing Objections to the Gospel – Joseph Wee
  - Studies in Deuteronomy – 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 video study on Fundamentals of Theology 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. The **Annual Reformation Seminar** will be held virtually **via Zoom on Thu nights, 6, 13 & 20 Oct, 8 to 930 pm**. Refer to the flyer for the topics, Zoom ID and password.
8. Monthly Neighbourhood Bible Class will next meet on **Fri 7 Oct 2022, 7.30pm in church** on the study of 2 Samuel. Come and join us!
9. Do kindly observe the safety measures of the church and assist with the weekly cleaning of the premises.
10. 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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