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When You Say Amen

Prayer is the breath of godliness. Someone coined this acrostic that when you say Amen at the end of your prayer, it means the following (parentheses and the elaboration mine):



Agree with God (God's will be done)

Move with God (God's guidance, I accept)

End with God (God's destiny, I submit)

Never doubt God. (God's Word, I obey and trust)

Amen is not a meaningless cliché we say at the end of each prayer.

Prayer is a privilege and duty of every Christian and Christ is our Great high Priest. As we need with his name, think soberly of these 4 things every time you pray and mean what you say when you say Amen at the end of each prayer you made to the Lord. It is a humble submission to the Lord as we wait patiently upon God for his answers

We have a God who hears every petition, and it is recorded in Rev 5:8 which says, *"And when he had taken the book, the four beasts and four and twenty elders fell down before the Lamb, having every one of them harps, and golden vials full of odours, which are the prayers of saints."* and He answers according to His Sovereign will and timing.

Phil 4:6,7

Jack Sin



Pastoral Musings from South Island, New Zealand

On 12 Nov, I was sitting outside our AirBnB at Hokitika facing the Tasman Sea and hearing the hypnotic roaring waves and meditating on Isa 45 from that only inspired Book by God. There is a

companion that you must bring with you everywhere you go besides your passport; it is the Bible which is the compass and map of life and the Best GPS - God's Plan of Salvation. Wherever we are, we need guidance and protection and provisions. We work hard to try to achieve all these and may not get it all the time.

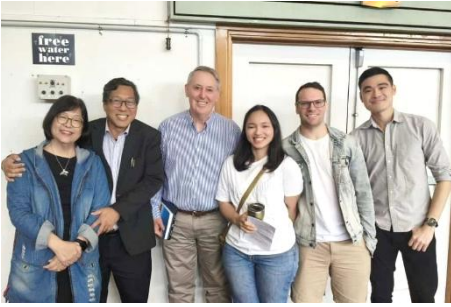


On a driving road trip, weather changes and dangers of driving abound. Bro Joseph Chan kindly sent me an advisory about three weeks ago of a storm in the South Island with winds up to 190 km per hour and many trees and houses and roads were affected. We were in Auckland during that time and have not commenced our trip to the South Island then. While pumping petrol after driving for more than 1,700 km in the first 9 days, the cashier told me that the weather of the previous 6 weeks was terrible. It only turned for the better during the week that we arrived in South Island and started driving. Sheer Coincidence or the Providential Hand of an Almighty God who is Still on the Throne? I let you decide. We have been reminded, and we start each journey with prayer for the Lord's safety and protection. Some of that roads are very winding and quite treacherous, and we need the Lord desperately here as we have much driving ahead and safety is coveted here by prayers. We cannot take things for granted, yet at the same time we rest in quiet confidence in our Almighty God.

We arrived in Christchurch on Friday 7 Nov. It was sad to see an Anglican church turned into a pub called The Church where many were drinking and dancing and smoking. The pews are used for revellers and the pulpit area is now a stage for performance. The pipe organ is still visible above and it is now used to store wine and other spirits. We need to pray for a spiritual awakening in this land that the gospel and the Word be preached again to the saving of souls in perilous times.



The highlight of our road trip is always the Lord's Day. We have planned our itinerary around the various Reformed churches that we can worship at the major towns/cities to hear His Word and fellowship with the brethren. On Sunday morning, we worshipped at Grace Baptist Church (using the auditorium of Heaton Intermediate School) where Pastor Rob has been ministering for many years. He preached on 1Tim 6:1-3. A point that struck Angie was when he mentioned we have 168 hours each week and is spending just 1.5 hours in church on a Sunday considered sufficient to build ourselves in sound doctrine that we may have spiritual discernment. It is an opportune time to do a audit our lives as the end of the year is fast approaching and the new year 2026 is dawning. We spoke to a number of



We then had lunch at a Malaysian eatery and gave a Chinese tract to the cook from Fujian and pray for his salvation.

people including Bro Ivan Pang from Singapore who is pursuing his PhD in Geology, Julita from Sarawak and her fiancé Micheal as well as other Elders and leaders of the church.



On Sunday evening, we went to the Reformed Church of Christchurch and were warmly received. The Pastor was away and so an Elder read a sermon on “God’s Amazing Promises (Isa 40:28-31) – by Rev John de Boer”. The sermon was on the God of Covenant, the God of Creation and the God of Promises. The last point was taken from the much-loved verse of Isa 41:31 on God renewing our strength that we may mount up as eagles through Prayer, Bible

and Refreshing encouragement from brothers and sisters-in-Christ. An example is Onesimus from the New Testament. Is there someone we can refresh and encourage? This was put to practice by a family who invited us to their home for dinner fellowship. They have a big family of 7 children; yet they are hospitable to receive 2 visitors to join them for a simple dinner at last minute notice. We spent a delightful time with Ed & Liana Havelaar and their children and gave them a set of 10 pairs of chopsticks. The family had fun learning to use the chopsticks and pastor shared the Word and prayed for the family .



We thank God for good rest and reflection in our travels, and where opportunities arise to give a tract to people we meet, including staff at the motel and the restaurant. Do continue to uphold us in prayer as much as we remember all of you in our prayers as we witness and serve the Lord together .

Pastor & Angie

Memory Verse

Acts 9:15 But the Lord said unto him, Go thy way: for he is a chosen vessel unto me, to bear my name before the Gentiles, and kings, and the children of Israel:

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 Eric Kwan brings us God's Word this morning on "***The Spiritual Transformation of Saul to Paul (Acts 9:1-20)***", continuing the quarterly series on "***Understanding Church Growth from the Early Church (Book of Acts)***."
3. Next Sunday, Bro Joseph Wee will preach on "***The Salvation of a Gentile Military Officer (Acts 10:1-38)***",
4. Sunday School classes after the worship service are:
 - Sunday School on "The Fruit of the Spirit" (Bro Joseph Wee)
 - Studies in Job (Dr Kwong Leen)
 - Youth Class (Eld Yue Kay)
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 Oct 21 to Dec 4. Rev Tan Eng Boo and Bro Joseph Wee 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. Pray for:
 - **Travels: Pastor & Angie** [New Zealand, 21/10-4/12],
 - **Geok Pin's family** [health and spiritual growth of father Mr Low and salvation of family members], **Pit Yuen** [post-radiotherapy recovery], **Agnes' Parents** [health & salvation], **Mrs Philip Heng** [stroke recovery]
 - **Lily Almon**: Singapore Citizenship Application
 - **John Almon**: Application for course at Nanyang Polytechnic
 - **Joseph & Rachel**: GPS ministry and Hokkien outreaches
 - **SHBPC Bible Study at All Saints Home (Tampines)** on **Thu 27 Nov**.
 - **Dec Mission Team**
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.