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Gospel Focus on Evangelism and Missions in a Pandemic World



We are living in dangerous times when the pandemic is still a great threat to many, but should the gospel witness be curtailed and forsaken? The Great Commission given by our Lord must not be our Great Omission. The Word of God is replete with many injunctions of the dire need of evangelism to a dying world especially so in this global health disaster. How can an average believer give attention to this vital task of gospel propagation to the lost, especially in the midst of these trying perilous days? We shall deliberate on this subject together.



Personal witness must be appreciated as a sacred duty.

It is first a duty because it is a commission not a suggestion. It is a clear clarion call to Christian evangelistic action (Matt 28:18–20), not an optional proposal. We can send a e-tract or give a physical gospel tract to someone or invite them to hear the gospel in church. We are under instruction from the Lord of Hosts to bring the message of hope and redemption to those who have not heard it, peradventure they may be saved according to the sovereign will of God. Be good stewards and faithful soldiers to obey the order of our Commander. It is a grave and sober responsibility to be carried out with all the safety measures in place too. We continue to engage souls and our missionaries in our virtual meetings, webinars and sending of practical love gift to pray and support their missions which SHBPC did this year to our missions in Myanmar and India even though we are unable to go. The latest pandemic book published by our church was also sent to our missionaries and the Spanish version is used by other churches in Latin America.



It is also to be seen as a spiritual prerogative.

It is a privilege because of the great importance of the message that we are bringing. What would you think of the special envoy sent by the Secretary-General of the UN to Afghanistan to bring a word of peace and conciliation, or an emissary from the President of the US to North Korea for talks to mend strained relations? I think it is a great privilege for the person selected for the job. I have an announcement to make. Congratulations! We are ambassadors (2 Cor 5:20) sent on a heavenly mandate to proclaim a glorious message of eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord (Mark 5:19). But there is one complication. Most of these earthly ambassadors are not doing their job very well. We fail to comprehend the immensity and gravity of the task committed to us. One day, we have to report back and account for our actions at the Judgment Seat of Christ (2 Cor 5:10; Rom 14:12). Let us be responsible and carry out our tasks honourably and carefully.



Gospel witness is a matter of readiness and heart preparation.

The Apostle Peter puts it this way in 1 Peter 3:15, *"But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear."* We are called always to be ready to give an answer (*apologia*), a defence of the hope that is in us. That requires preparation and alertness. That behooves us to be watchful for opportunities of witness and gospel sharing in our office, camp, school, home and even in public places, where asked upon and with all safety measures too. One afternoon, I was asked by a former University friend to go to TTSH to share the gospel with her father who was ill. By the regenerating work of the Holy Spirit, Swee Huat prayed and accepted Christ in Chinese as his personal Saviour about 3 years ago and we had bible study in his home for about 9 months in his house before the Lord took him home less than 2 years ago. We are to be on 24-hour alert. We never know when opportunity knocks. So be ready at all times to answer the call of duty.



Sharing the gospel is a matter of perseverance and prayer.

Sometimes, we are discouraged when people are not interested and we stop the work of the gospel as though conversion has to be instantaneous and is dependent on our efforts. Know that God is sovereign, we need to pray, persevere and wait upon the Lord. Many waited for years to see the conversion of their friends and parents. It took more than 20 years of prayer and outreach and by the grace of God, my father and mother accepted Christ as their personal Lord and Saviour and were baptised in Kim Tian church. Heed Ps 27:4, *"One thing have I desired of the Lord, that will I seek after; that I may dwell in the house of*

the Lord all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the Lord, and to inquire in his temple." Do not give up on your loved ones and colleagues as it affects their eternity. Keep praying for their salvation



Sharing the gospel is also a matter of boldness and conviction.

Often, we are afraid to share for the fear of embarrassment, rejection and repercussions. We are afraid of what people will think of us. I must confess I experienced that too in my life before, especially sharing with certain groups of people. Often, I have given a tract to the attendant each time I pump petrol and one day, a particular Chinese attendant came for our worship service and he came to faith in Christ a few weeks later, after hearing the gospel. You never know what the Lord will do. Look at the example of the Apostles Peter and John in Acts 4:20, *"For we cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard."* We need a dauntless spirit, not a spirit of fear or timidity (2 Tim 1:7); but a valiant spirit to stand up and speak the truth in love and meekness. Have that holy boldness for the sake of the gospel. In SHBPC, evangelism in the vicinity of our church over these 2 and a half years, we have witnessed the salvation of a Vietnamese family and 2 Indian boys among others who received the tracts. In our teaching and outreach at the SAF Detention Barracks, we have the opportunity to share the gospel with the inmates there and have given them Gideon Bibles. The Lord knows those who have truly believed and are saved by His grace.

Conclusion

In conclusion, let me end with this poser. If a doctor or researcher has found a cure for COVID19 and he or she conceals it, how would you describe him or her? Cruel, selfish, inhumane—these would be appropriate adjectives.

Wait a minute! What about us who know the only cure for the remedy of sin that will deliver us from eternal condemnation through Jesus Christ who is the only true Saviour? Have you shared with someone the need to trust in the Lord Jesus and to repent of our sins? Have you a burden for the lost or have you lost that burden? Are we any better than this doctor? Something to ponder and act upon as the Lord leads while we have yet breath in our nostrils.



Jack Sin

Thanksgiving to God for His Provisions

(SHBPC sent love gifts to 3 mission stations in Myanmar and 2 in India, especially to help out the needy and poor widows and the Rakhine refugee families who are badly affected by the political and health crisis in Myanmar.)



Dear Dr Jack and Session of SHBPC,

We are so thankful for your love and concern. We have received the love gift from Dr Tan and we thank the Lord for His provision through brethren of Sovereign Hope BP Church.

This fund will go to support the Rakhine refugees (8 families) who came down from Rakhine State to Myaungta near Yangon city. Since there is no job, they all need our support for their daily food including clothes etc. So this fund will be used to buy rice and cooking oil and other necessities for them.

Because of the Covid restrictions, we are not allowed to get into their place but we will try to get things done for them soon, and will try to have photos to send back to you.

Thank you and may God bless you!

In Christ

Rev Salai

General Secretary

Evangelical Presbyterian Church

Myanmar





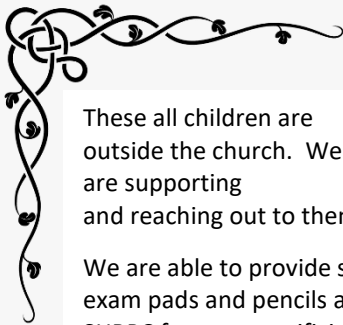
Firstly, we thank God for His Amazing works. Even though we do not deserve it, He still uses us in His Ministry. Secondly, we really thank you, Pastor and your Church, Sovereign BP Church. When we shared yesterday, all the widows were so glad and they wanted to cry because they are happy. I hope they can see the Love of God and His Salvation and this is our prayer.

Thank you so much for your financial help.

May God bless you more and more.

Sis Hlu Pui
Mercy church
Naypidaw, Myanmar





These all children are outside the church. We are supporting and reaching out to them.



We are able to provide school needs like material needs like notebooks, exam pads and pencils and other needs. Thank you, Pastor Jack and SHBPC for your sacrificial love gift to our Sunday school ministry. May the name of Lord be glorified.

Pastor Lazarus
Calvary Reformed Church
Bangalore, India

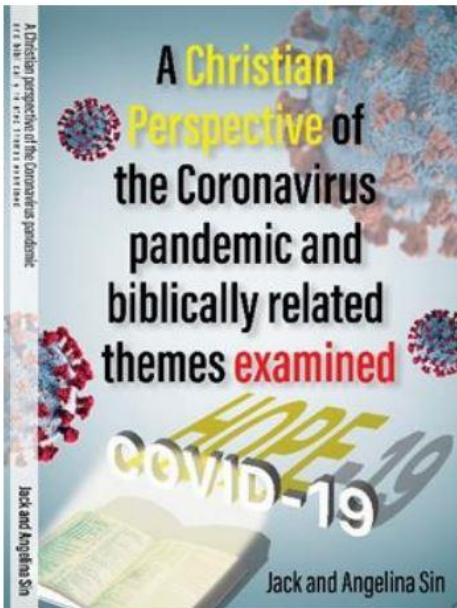


A Biblical Paradigm for Triumphant Christian Service

Lord's Day Programme
October - December 2021

OCTOBER

- 3 A Love for God and the Brethren (Neh 1:1-11)
- 10* A Heart of Prayer and Action (Neh 2:1-20)
- 17 How to Renew & Repair our Lives (Neh 3:1-10)
- 24 The Elements of Healthy Church Life (Neh 4:1-9, 16-23)
- 31 **REFORMATION SUNDAY**
The Call & Convictions of the Reformers (Phil 1:12-27)



The Pandemic book that you & Angie produced, is helpful for a believer's walk & growth in our Most Holy Faith. And in such a time as this. Important topics on Christian living have been addressed on the basis of God's Word. The book is also gospel-centric, pointing men & women to our Blessed Lord Jesus as The Only Way to The Father, for The Salvation of man.

Rev Ronny Khoo

(NB This book is available from Xi An Christian Bookstore, Fide Vitae Resources and SHBPC. Those interested can contact Dn Yue Kay.)

Memory Verse

Neh 3:5 And next unto them the Tekoites repaired; but their nobles put not their necks to the work of their Lord.

Announcements

1. Welcome to our Worship Service! For our visitors, do leave us your contact numbers in our guest book before you leave..
2. Pastor speaks today on “***How to Renew & Repair our Lives***” (*Neh 3:1-10*), commencing the new quarterly theme of “***A Biblical Paradigm for Triumphant Christian Service***”.
3. Pastor speaks next Sunday on “***The Elements of Healthy Church Life***” (*Neh 4:1-9, 16-23*).
4. Sunday School classes continues after worship service:
 - WCF Shorter Catechism Class – Pastor Jack
 - Understanding Biblical Eschatology & related Topics – Joseph
 - Studies in Numbers – 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 study on Church History in China 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. Neighbourhood Bible Class meets monthly on the first Friday of each month in church on the study of 2 Samuel.
8. Those who wish to bring a new friend to the worship service, kindly inform the safety officer Dn Yue Kay or Pastor at least a day in advance.
9. The Pandemic book can be purchased through Dn Yue Kay (Hp: +65 97450311) or via email at sovereignhopebpc@gmail.com.
10. Do kindly observe the safety measures of the church and assist with the weekly cleaning of the premises.
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**
