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## The Gideons Ministry Appreciation Dinner for Pastors



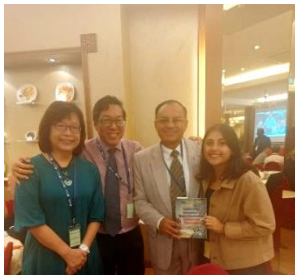
Psa 68:11 *The Lord gave the word: great was the company of those that published it.*

The Gideons Ministry is distinctive in its faithful distribution of Bibles to hotels, schools, camps and even to clinics and hospitals, and souls have been blessed by this needful ministry for there is no greater gift than the inspired Word of life.



Thank God for a fruitful night with the Gideons Ministry at the Pastors Appreciation Dinner on 25 Sep attended by about 160 people including church leaders and their spouses and many Gideonites and their wives too.

There was a meaningful time of testimony of their ministry of distribution of Bibles through the years and a blessed time for Pastors to meet and to pray and encourage one another in the work of the Lord by different speakers and a praise item by John Almon, and a time of corporate worship as well.



SHBPC has 5 Gideons in our church led by Bro Albert. I had the privilege to meet at least 5 other BP Pastors that night and we gave our book on the Christian perspective of the pandemic to the International Director, Mr. Fernando Sarabia and his daughter from Ecuador. We need to continue to support one another in the extension of God's kingdom to the saving of souls as He wills.

It was good to see Bro Henry Heng 's neighbours, Mr and Mrs Stephen Soh who came and heard the gospel last Sun-day and is receptive and we leave it to the work of the Holy Spirit. The *ad hoc* church choir also sang “Jesus is All the World to Me” and sis Joyce shared a good testimony of her father.



Luke in Act 1:8 says, *But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.*

Let us be enthused and persevere to pray and be involved In sharing the gospel of Christ and in giving tracts and Bibles. Let us serve the Lord fervently with our gifts, substance and time, and do what we can to share the glorious saving power of Christ by the strength He provides.

Paul in Rom 10:15 says, *And how shall they preach, except they be sent? as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!*

May the Lord continue to use the Gideons and SHBPC in gospel outreaches and missions as the mission team of 3 comprising Bros Paul Kong, John Wong and I ministers at Filadelfia BPC worship service today in Batam, Indonesia and at last night's Youth Combined rally to the revival and the enrichment of souls and to the FBPC Children home as God wills.



Jack Sin



SOVEREIGNHOPE  
bible presbyterian church

PRESENTS

CHURCH REFORMATION

VIDEO  
*Seminar*

OCTOBER  
**14**  
SATURDAY

TIME:  
**4:00**  
PM



JOHN WYCLIFFE  
**THE MORNING STAR**

FOLLOWED BY A CAPTIVATING MESSAGE BY REV JACK SIN,

**Historical Insights into the Dawning  
of the English Reformation**

VENUE :

SOVEREIGN HOPE BP CHURCH

160, PAYA LEBAR RD, ORION

@ PAYA LEBAR #04-06, S(409022)

[WWW.SOVEREIGNHOPEBPC.ORG](http://WWW.SOVEREIGNHOPEBPC.ORG)

PLEASE INFORM DN YUE KAY BY 7OCT AT 97450311  
IF YOU ARE COMING AS REFRESHMENT WILL BE PROVIDED

**Summary Of Wednesday Prayer Meeting (6 September 2023)**  
**“Christ, The One Who Heals and Transforms Lives”**  
**Mark 2 :1 – 13**

Pastor Jack welcomed the 13 attendees comprising a Deacon, regular members and friends and 4 overseas brethren, namely: Pastor Babu (New Covenant BPCI, Bangalore), Pastor Benjamin (Biblical Reformed Seminary, Yangon), Pastor Myitta (Yangon) and sister Hla Pui (Mercy Church, Nay Pyi Taw). We opened the Prayer Meeting with the hymn, “*God Will Take Care of You*” to remind ourselves of God's unconditional love and faithfulness towards us and to glorify and exalt His Name Thereafter, Pastor Jack led us through a word of Opening Prayer. Next, we took turns to read God's Word from Mark 2 :1 – 13 before Pastor Jack expounded on it.

The 3 salient points to consider for this account on the healing of a paralysed man by Christ, who heals and transforms sinners into what He wants them to be, as recorded only in Mark 2 :1 - 13, are:

**A) Perseverance and Ingenuity of Caring Friends. (v.1 – 4)**

By now, the Lord Jesus Christ is quite well-known, having started His teaching ministry from Galilee and going down south to Capernaum, which is still very much in the north. He arrived at a certain house in Capernaum, but we do not know who its owner was. It was quite common for the Lord to visit houses during that time. It also gives us a very good clue, a very important ministry tip, that it is actually very good to visit people's homes so as to witness the people interacting in their natural family context.

In verse 1, the Lord had come to this particular house, where a lot of people had also congregated there, so much so that coming to this said house became an obstacle for others who gathered around to hear what the Lord had to preach and say to them, because in verse 2, it stated “*He preached the Word unto them*”.

The **most important principle** about the ministry of Christ is “**preached the Word**”, although this particular incident described in Mark 2: 1 -13 is one of healing, forgiveness of sin and restoration. The word “**preach**” means to **declare, proclaim** or **herald**.

The most important thing among the prophets, patriot tribes, priests, old and New Testament apostles is the “**preaching**”, which is the most important ministry of all time, although other physical aspects such as looking after the sick or counselling/comforting the bereaved are also just as important, but “**preaching**” has to do with the “**Word**”.

The “**Word**” refers to the **Old Testament**, the **Scriptures** and **parables** based on the Lord's own **authority**. The Word is the very substance from whence the Lord preached.

As the Lord was preaching in that overcrowded house, **a paralysed man on a bed carried by his 4 friends**, as stated in **verse 3**, was **trying** to **enter** the house but **failed**.

His 4 friends, who were caring friends, did not give up trying to enter the house. They persevered, even though there was no way they could have entered through the normal doorway, owing to the sheer massive size of the “**press**”, which means “**crowd**” as stated in verse 4. Using their **ingenuity, the 4 caring friends removed part of the roof and**

**successfully lowered the paralysed man on his bed into the house** to seek divine healing from Christ.

This also reminds us that often times, even when we obey God's bidding, we may still encounter many **hindrances /challenges** to our correct actions/responses, so that it will require us to **overcome** some obstacles. Thus we must have that **enduring and persevering spirit** to go through the right moves/decisions despite some negative vibes/sentiments. Thus God **expects** us to use our **naturally-endowed gifts** to help others, especially in the Kingdom of God, to **exalt** and **glorify His Name**. We must continue to try to help others, especially if we are Christians. The 4 caring friends faced the **risks of offending/insulting** the house owner by removing part of his roof and barging into his home and also offending Christ for disturbing Him halfway through His preaching session, but they **continued** in their efforts to help their sick friend to seek Christ for healing. Despite all the obvious obstacles, these caring, true friends **persevered on** to bring the man with the palsy to Christ, whom they all **believed**, in Christ and that He was able to **cure** him of his affliction. Only **true and faithful** friends will **prevail** and **stay by** you in times of hardship/afflictions.

### **B) Pardon from Sin by Christ to Forgive (v. 5 – 9)**

In verse 5, Christ saw the faith of the 4 friends and their love for the paralysed man. *“When Jesus saw their faith, He said unto the sick of the palsy, Son, thy sins be forgiven thee.”* (Verse 5)

The 4 friends had **faith** in Christ and **trusted** Him to **heal** their sick friend, who also **reflected** the **same faith** of his 4 friends that **Christ** could **forgive sin** and **heal him**, body and soul. Sometimes God uses **sickness** to **speak** to us or even to **punish** us. (though not all the time) Thus whenever we **minister** to the sick, especially among the **non-believers** or **backslided Christians**, we need to understand the **status** of their **relationship** with **God** and whether they are leading a life of **obedience** and **submission** to God's will and direction. Only when we **admit our sins**, **humble** ourselves and **repent** of them to get back on the right track, away from sin, may we **seek God** for **pardon, forgiveness and healing**. When we are doing well in life, we have no regard for God nor His promptings unto holiness. We only **seek God** when we are **desperate** or **gravely ill**. We need to **humble** ourselves and **seek God's forgiveness** and to make it right with him, **repent of** our sin and **know** His will for our lives. Then we may be **healed thereafter**, thus **exalting** and **glorifying** God's Name.

In verse 6, certain scribes in that crowded audience began to reason silently in their hearts regarding Christ's declaration to the paralysed man that *“Son, thy sins be forgiven thee”*. In verse 7, these scribes were wondering why Christ dared to speak so **blasphemously** as they had all learnt that **only God** can forgive sins.

*“Why doth this man thus speak **blasphemies**? Who can forgive sins but God only?”* (Verse 7)

They did **not** believe that Christ could **forgive sins**. They did not **submit and admit** that Jesus Christ was God, so how could Christ claim to forgive sin?

“And immediately when Jesus perceived in His spirit that they so reasoned within themselves, He said unto them, Why reason these things in your hearts?” (Verse 8) In verse 8, Christ, being **omnipresent, omnipotent** and **omniscient**, immediately asked the scribes why they were murmuring these thoughts silently in their hearts. Christ **purposely** told the paralysed man that his sins were forgiven him **to let** all the people there know His deity and that he had the **power** on earth to **pardon and forgive sins**. “*Whether is it easier to say to the sick of the palsy, Thy sins be forgiven thee; or to say, Arise, and take up thy bed, and walk?*” (Verse 9)

The man with the palsy was a **sinner**, like everyone else, so it was **more important to Christ** that he be **pardoned and forgiven** from his **sins** than the **actual physical healing** of his paralysis. **Sin has its consequences**. If we submit and not challenge God’s authority, sovereignty and power, and repent from our sins, God will pardon and forgive us of our transgressions and heal and restore us. Christ knew that the paralysed man had a **greater and more important need** to have **his sins forgiven** by Christ than merely have his **physical affliction healed by Him**. Thus **only Jesus Christ** can effect our **pardon from sin to forgive** us of our transgressions against God.

### **C) Power to Heal our Body and Soul. (v. 10 – 13)**

(Verse 10) “*But that ye may know that the Son of man hath power on earth to forgive sins, (he saith to the sick of the palsy.*”

Jesus Christ stated that He has the power on earth to forgive sins in verse 10 and then turned to the paralysed man to do 3 actions, as in verse 11.

(Verse 11) “*I say unto thee, Arise, and take up thy bed, and go thy way into thine house.*”

The paralysed man promptly “**arose**”, “**took up**” his bed and “**went**” forth into his house. This sick man had **faith and obedience** which helped him to be **granted pardon and forgiveness** from sin and **healing and restoration** from sickness. We should also **emulate** his example to achieve this end in life.

(Verse 12) “*And immediately he arose, took up the bed, and went forth before them all; insomuch that they were all amazed, and glorified God, saying, We never saw it on this fashion.*” The paralysed man promptly obeyed and carried out all the 3 actions ordered by Christ. At the **end of all the preaching**, the people will **glorify** God and lead fruitful and righteous lives that God has ordained for them.

(Verse 13) “*And he went forth again by the sea side; and all the multitude resorted unto him, and he taught them.*”

After the paralysed man was healed and walked home, Christ **continued** with his **preaching, teaching, healing and comfort** ministry near the seaside again.

#### **Conclusion:**

From this interesting account of the healing of the man with palsy, we perceive that **Christ** is the **supreme authority** on earth to **pardon and forgive sin** and **heal, restore and transform** our **lives** into what He **ordains us to be**, through our **faith, humility, obedience and submission to His will**. Amen.

*Han Kin Hoong*

LORD'S DAY PROGRAMME FOR OCTOBER TO DECEMBER 2023

# THE NATURE AND DUTIES OF THE BODY OF CHRIST

What constitutes the Body of Christ? (Eph 1:1-13)

Oct 1

The Body of Christ & Sabbath Worship (Acts 2:37-47, 20:7)

Oct 8\*

The Body of Christ & the Sacraments (1 Cor 11:23-30, Acts 2: 39-41)

Oct 15

The Body of Christ & Stewardship (Matt 25:14-30)

Oct 22

**REFORMATION SUNDAY**  
The Cause & Case for a Zealous Reformation Spirit (Jude 1-13)

Oct 29

The Body of Christ & Fellowship (Heb 10:19-25)

Nov 5

The Body of Christ & Discipleship (Luke 9:18-27)

Nov 12\*

The Body of Christ & the World (Romans 12:1-13)

Nov 26

The Body of Christ & Missions (Acts 13:1-16)

Nov 19

The Body of Christ & its Future (Heb 12:22-29)

**Christmas Eve Service:**  
Appreciating the Titles of the Newborn King (Isa 9:1-7)

Dec 24

The Body of Christ & its Doctrinal Stand (1 Tim 4:6-16)

Dec 3

The Body of Christ & Effectual Evangelism (Matt 28:1-10)

Dec 10\*

The Body of Christ & Spiritual Warfare (Eph 6:10-21)

Dec 17

**WATCHNIGHT SERVICE**  
What will Happen When I Die? (Luke 16:19-31)

Dec 31

Our Family

SOVEREIGNHOPE  
BY THE GRACE OF GOD

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## Memory Verse

*Eph 4:16* From whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love.

## 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. Rev Matthew Yong brings us God's Word this morning on ***What Constitutes the Body of Christ (Eph 1:1-13)***", commencing a new quarterly series on ***The Nature and Duties of the Body of Christ***".
3. Next Sunday, Pastor will preach on ***The Body of Christ & Sabbath Worship (Acts 2:37-47, 20:7)***".
4. Pray for the **Batam Mission Team (Pastor, John Wong & Paul Kong)** who are at Filadelfia BPC, Batam **30 Sep – 1 Oct** to minister at the Youth Rally and Worship Service.
5. Pray for the **Myanmar Mission Team (Pastor, Angie, Kin Kheng & Phaw)** who will be in **Yangon 2-7 Oct** to minister at the Myanmar Theological Seminary, Gilead Balm Home and encourage the Pastors and Missionaries.
6. Sunday School classes after the worship service are as follows:
  - Westminster Confession of Faith ]
  - Studies in 2 Chronicles ] Combined Class (Dr Kwong Leen
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. 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]
9. 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.
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**

Kindly indicate **"Church Building Fund"** if you would like to designate towards this cause.

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