

Address: 160 Paya Lebar Road, Orion@Paya Lebar #04-06, Singapore 409022
Sun Worship Service: 10am, Sun School: 11.45am, Wed Prayer Meeting: 8pm
Website: www.sovereignhopebpc.org
Rev Dr Jack Sin: 91160948 (hp) / jacksin710@gmail.com
Elder Loke Tat Luen: tiloke822@gmail.com

Practical Steps Towards the Quest for Godliness

The child of God redeemed and justified by the blood of Christ is called to holiness and sanctification, which is the will of God for us. For as our God is thrice holy (Lev 11:44,45, Rev 4:11), how can we grow in the fear of God? Below are 5 important practical steps to consider.



1. Continue in Fervent Intercessory Prayer.

Prayer is the breath of godliness and the source of spiritual strength. The privilege of the Christian is the joy of incessant and fervent praying to God, asking for His covenant mercy and aid. That is the way to grow in holiness. Prayerfulness is where we give our heart and mind to Christ Jesus through intimate communion with God, for without His Spirit, we have no hope to succeed. God-honouring intercession and supplication (Dan 6:10, Psa 5:3) helps us to direct our thoughts to honouring and pleasing God before the throne of grace according to His will and purpose (1Thess 5:16–18; Matt 26:41). Let us bend our knees and seek the mercy of the Lord in intercession for our families, church and nation.

2. Consult the Inspired and Inerrant Word

There is no greater infallible guide in life than the one-and-only authoritative manual inspired by God (2Pet 1:19-21). God's Word is the only sure, steadfast rock upon which to build the Christian life (2Tim 3:15-17). Without God's revelation in the Bible, we will never know God Himself, or what the will of God is for us or how Christ has saved us from the bondage of sin. His Word is a lamp to our feet and the Spirit is a down payment affirming we have been granted power to fight against evil and to flee from depravity (Eph. 6:10–20; James 4:7). Search and apply the scripture in your live, for in it we find the principles of everlasting life if we bother to study, read and obey it daily.

3. Connect with God's Covenant People

No Christian is to be isolated. We are blessed with the benefit of Christian assembly and edifying relationships when we are together with God's people.

(see Heb 10:24,25). Christian fellowship is important for a healthy social and spiritual life, as is heeding the advice of godly men and avoiding worldly company and counsel that draws us away from God. The covenant people of God need one another to encourage them in their growth in sanctification. God uses pastors, preachers, missionaries and other God-fearing Christians to be examples for us, that we may grow in the fear of God. We need the witness and testimony of one another to challenge and provoke us unto love and good works (Heb. 10:24,25). No person is to be a loner in the faith. Let us make an effort to unite in Christian partnership and strengthen and build good and strong friendships among the elect (Heb. 13:1–17; Rom. 12; 1Cor. 15:33).

4. Commit to the walk of faith.

The OT is full of men of tested faith in the Lord. Faith is trusting fully in the promises of God, which is necessary for the strength to godliness even though we may not be able to see it with our eyes (Heb. 11:1,6). Without accepting the promises of God and the glorious gospel of Christ, any attempt at holiness is futile. But when we discard our depravity and acknowledge Christ as our God, repent of our sins and walk prayerfully in the fear and knowledge of God, there is the peace and joy of the Lord and an effective witness for him. Saving faith in Christ, with vigilance together with the gospel's promises, gives us wisdom and strengthens us for the many battles that we have to face daily in the grace of our God, putting on the full armour of God (Eph. 6:10-18; James 1:2–6).

5. Consider Worshipping and Serving God

There is a joy and privilege for believers to worship God every Sunday and serve the King of kings in spirit and in truth. Walking in the path of responsible stewardship is needful for the elect and to exercise our gifts and talents to advance His kingdom in His church (Rom 12:4-8). We need to consciously equip and nurture ourselves in holiness and be strengthened by the Spirit to devote ourselves to serve Him in the way of the Lord. As a faithful steward, be filled with thankfulness to God and faith in Him. Serve him fervently and faithfully. Beware of the wiles of the devil who seeks to undermine our stand and faith (James 1:16–27; 2:14–26; 3:13–4:10). God sent his Son to die on the cross for our sins and deliver us from slavery to sin so that we may serve a glorious cause for eternity. Let us strive to not to miss sabbath worship services, develop our God given talents and use our substance and time and talents to extend the kingdom of God, to glorify God and be a faithful steward of Christ till He comes.

6. Concentrate on Spiritual Priorities

Our Lord in Matt 6:33 says *“But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you,”* and Paul in Col 3:12 exhorts us *“If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are*

above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God.” Col 3:2 says, “set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth.”

It is important that we know where we are heading in life and how we should get there. Do not be distracted by the cares of the world and the deceitfulness of riches (Matt 13). We need to examine our hearts to ensure that we love the Lord and that we seek the glory of Christ and not selfish gain. Set your affection above as the right purpose in life and do not be caught up with the temporal things of this fleeting life lest we forget the eternal realities of the next (Col 3.1,2). Let us seek the pleasure of the Lord and set our hearts in heaven above. Walk aright and in the fullness of time, as we are all accountable one day before the master at the judgement seat of Christ (2Cor 5:10).

7. Commune with your Family in Daily Devotion

The two most important institutions of society are at stake, the church and the family. There are many dysfunctional homes today and divorce, recalcitrant children and marital separation is on the increase. Many have often neglected God and even their spouses and family in a modern exacting life of work and leisure. Often the head of the house who is responsible has neglected his duties. The high priest Eli was guilty of this and his children grew up disobedient to God and there were serious consequences. Parents need to spend quality time with our families, that they may grow in the fear of God. We need to communicate these biblical truths to our spouses and children that they may be interested to learn the way of the Lord. Let us, like Job in Job 1:t5, who was a godly father, pray for our children and with our family regularly. Like Abraham in Gen 18;19, fathers are to command the children and bring them up in the way of the Lord and truth and justice together with their wives.

Conclusion

The world searches and desire temporal happiness, but we are interested in the holiness of God for without holiness, no one can see God (Heb. 12:14). Do you desire to grow in the fear of God? There are important precepts that should govern our lives in sanctification which is the will of God for us. Walk in the Spirit and not in the flesh (Gal 5:16). Holiness is a command, a joy and a privilege for us (1Pet 1:16).

There is much to be done in the pursuit of godliness and personal sanctification in this life as we exercise and strive towards holiness with spiritual discipline and diligence. It is the mark of our salvation and will lead us to a consecrated fight against the corruptions and seductions of this world and the evil one. A willingness to be conformed to the image of Christ is the sovereign will of our almighty God for us and to the enrichment of our souls.

Let us strive to exercise unto godliness for this profit is eternal.

Jack Sin

Memory Verse

1 John 2:2 And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world.

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 "**Christ, the Propitiation for Sinners (1 John 2:1-11)**", commencing a new quarterly series on "**Discovering and Applying the Johannine Epistles – Studies in the Book of 1, 2 and 3 John**".
3. Bro Joseph Wee will preach on next Sunday on "**Beware of a Secret Affair with the World (1 John 2:12-29)**".
4. Sunday School classes will follow the after the worship service:
 - Westminster Confession of Faith – Pastor
 - Studies in 1 Chronicles – Dn 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 Basic Theology, and the Parables of Jesus. Join us for a time of profitable learning. [Zoom ID:883 9662 4157 Passcode:625551]
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. [Zoom ID:863 7527 5431 Passcode:218178]
7. 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.
8. 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.
