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## “8 Vital Thoughts for CNY 2024”

The Chinese people gives great attention to the celebration of the Chinese New Year (CNY) with the family in reunion dinners, delectable and sumptuous food, and enjoyment of various forms. It is good that we also consider things that are relevant to us as Christians as we do or enjoy these things. **As we celebrate CNY with our family and friends this week, let us be mindful of the following thoughts as a Christian who is saved by the blood of Christ.**



### 1. Cherish & Relish your God & Loved Ones in the New Year.

*Family* ❤️

Do not take God and your significant others especially our seniors for granted for there will come a time when they will not be around. Seek first the kingdom of God and He will add all the things we need to our lives. (Matt 6:33) Acts of love should not be delayed for we do not know when the opportunity will be over one day.

Live life with no regrets and love your God with all your heart and mind and soul.

**Show genuine love and kindness to others as God gives you the opportunity for we have a short journey of life together on earth and let us number our days and apply our hearts unto wisdom. (Psa 90:12)**

### 2. Communicate with God & Others Soundly and Truthfully

Prayer is the breath of godliness and our lifeline to heaven. (Heb 4:16) Spend much time in intercession and supplication this New Year for it is the source of your strength. We share every day through WhatsApp, social media platforms with both non-verbal and oral communication and written emails in our interpersonal relationships. Your words can hurt or heal a person and be careful

what you say or do not say for it can have repercussions for another in a long time to come. **May our prayers and our God-honouring words shared during this New Year be edifying and has a potent spiritual impact in the lives of others.** (Eph 4:29, Col 4:6)

### 3. Ask & Seek God for His Divine Pardon & Forgiveness Daily

The New Year is all about newness and freshness. To start anew each day, make it a daily habit to confess to Christ and repent of your sins. His mercy and faithfulness are new each morning. (Lam 3;22-24) Do not underestimate the importance of forgiveness and being forgiven, both for oneself and others. Hatred and resentment in your life can destroy your joy and testimony and your ability to relate effectively. **Do not let Satan rob you of your happiness and do not live in the doldrums of anger, frustrations, sorrows, anger and laziness. Industry and hard work in the New Year has its own inherent rewards when we meet the Lord one day.** (2Cor 5:10)



### 4. Study, Meditate & Embrace the Promises of God.



Our God is the same yesterday, today and forever. We live in a world of constant change and the unpredictable is real. Christian can embrace the unknown for we have a God who holds tomorrow as the hymn writer says, and He holds my hands. We can adapt to unforeseen circumstances because He is sovereign and is still on the throne no matter what happens and trust in the reliable promises of God found in His inspired Word. **Read and**

**relish the inspired Word of God and seek to practice and apply it to your life as He enables you.**

### 5. Seek Contentment in God & Not Covetousness in Ephemeral Things.

The love of money or practical greed is the root of all evil as Paul correctly warned. (1Tim 6:10) Learn to be thankful to God and be content with godliness and not murmur nor complain. The Chinese love to gamble (buy 4-D or Toto to strive to be rich) and play mahjong during CNY. A Christian must not be involved in these. Instead, we should be content and to appreciate the people that God has given

us in our everyday life by cherishing the simple pleasures of life like eating, time with family and friends, worshipping God and find fulfilment and lasting contentment in the Lord and not in material things or worldly pleasure. Do not let avarice undermine or destroy your testimony or life this year.

## 6. Understand that the Lord is Coming Soon & there is Accountability to Him.

Christians have a glorious hope in the future because Christ is coming again to rule and judge the world. We have a unique opportunity to worship and serve God or self or man in this life and we need to make the right decisions whom we serve, for it affects our present life and eternal destiny. We have a God who is seated in the heaven ruling over all in His Providence.

Rather than the question of “*Who am I?*”, a question often asked by young people, we should instead ask “***Whose am I?***” **Whom do I belong to ultimately? That will define your life, your goals, and your future too when you know who is in charge of you. Do you belong to God and is under His guidance or rule or do you do what is right in your own eyes? Something to pray and ponder this CNY.**

## 7. Be an Active Part of a Witnessing, Working and Worshipping Christian community in the Church.

The Chinese people is a closely knit community in the villages and CNY is a time for reunion and the rebuilding of relationships. Be committed to the local church and serve and grow and get involved in the ministry of the Lord. We are all spiritual



and social beings, and we seek meaningful relationships and fellowship and a sense of belonging in a community. Through the avenue of the gathered church every Lord's Day In corporate worship, we find growth, consolation and support, in a Christian network of the church in lasting caring profound meaningful relationships among the people of God. (Heb 10:24,25) **Do not be a passive or uncommitted Christian this year but one that is zealous for the Lord fervent in spirit serving Him as an individual or couple or family.**

## 8. Live Life with an Eternal Purpose & Intent in Mind.

The heart and the mind are important centres of our live and we need to discipline our thoughts and intents of our hearts. As we read the obituary in the newspapers (the passing away of a famous Chinese tycoon in Singapore), we are reminded again that life is fleeting and ebbing away every day. **By soberly knowing the brevity of life and the nearness of eternity, let us live life with purposeful goals and aims that will have a lasting value.**

Give up selfish worldly dreams of being rich and famous, and worldly gain and temporal assets. Instead, let God lead you to live a meaningful humble but fulfilling life filled with spiritual meaning and lasting fulfilment as we worship and serve Him with our time, talent and treasure. Let us be prepared to meet our God one day. (Amos 4:12)

**With the help of the Holy Spirit who indwells within us, let us unpack and repack our lives in 2024 in the will of God for the journey is temporal.**

**In running the race of life, do not bring unnecessary baggage and worldly luggage which ought not to be there but press on forward with sound godly prudence in the wisdom of God and spirited resilience. Let us learn from the legendary Chinese doll, the 不倒翁 *bu dao weng* with its resilience despite all difficulty and possible challenges.**



Let us keep on keeping on for Christ's sake in the New Year for His glory.



## Conclusion

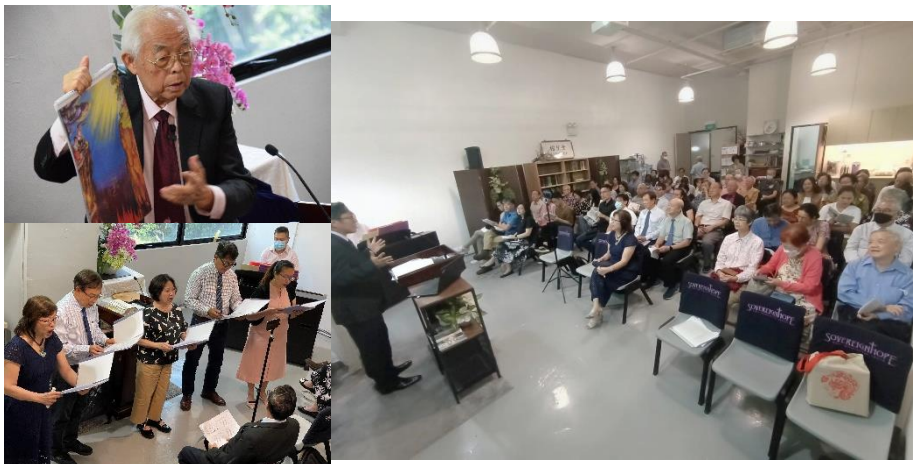
Enjoy your New Year festive season with an opportunity to share Christ and the blessings of the Lord in scrumptious food, time with family and friends, and clean fun too. **But do also ponder deeply about these things concerning life as we soberly and thankfully celebrate the Chinese New Year in the Grace and Mercy of our Great God. Psa 65:11**

*Jack Sin*

## *More Anniversary Greetings from Local & Overseas Brethren*

Rev Jack, Session & members,

May the Lord bless SHBPC richly as you gather to celebrate the church's 6<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, recounting the many blessings that the Lord has bestowed upon you the last twelve months. We praise and thank God for Rev Jack's faithful teaching and preaching of His Word. Every member and regular worshipper has benefited richly, to grow in grace and in the knowledge of Him.



We also praise and thank God that His work under the SHBPC banner reaches out to countries beyond the shores of Singapore. Many are blessed by your labour of love in faithful obedience to the great commission calling & the encouragement and substance to the needy, all to the Glory of His Holy Name.

***Eld Loke Tat Luen***

***Melbourne***

Dear Pastor Jack, Angie and folks of SHBPC,

Thank you so much for your kind invitation to attend the 6th anniversary. I had a great time of fellowship with these brethren: Mok, Daniel, Raymond, Alex, John and others. The food was delicious, the fellowship was warm and great, and the message was priceless. Praise the LORD! GOD BLESS.

***Rev Mathew Yong***

***Jesus Saves Mission***





Dear Pastor Jack,  
Congratulation on the 6th anniversary of Sovereign Hope BP church.  
Thanks to the Lord for all His blessing for the past 6 years of faithfully preaching His Word and worshipping Him at Sovereign Hope BPC.

May the Lord continue to shower you and your session with His love and blessings, as you continue to preach His Word and saving many souls for Him, for many more years to come.

***Dn John Tann  
Ebenezer BPC  
Melbourne***



Pastor Jack Sin,  
Blessed 6th Thanksgiving Anniversary to Sovereign Hope BPC. Thanks to God for sustaining His work amongst His people. We rejoice with you on this special occasion and see the hand of God at work. All glory and praise be to Him. My apology for not being able to join in the blessed occasion yesterday. God bless and continue to have a blessed time serving in His vineyard amongst God's people. God bless.

***Steve Tan  
New Life BPC***



SOVEREIGNHOPE  
bible presbyterian church

# 2024 CHURCH CAMP 4D3N



**Date:**

11-14 June 2024 Tuesday - Friday

**Place:**

Lotus Desaru Beach Resort

**Theme:**

Biblical Pathway for Church Growth & Church Health

**Speaker:**

Rev. David Khobal

Principal - Biblical Reformed Seminary, Myanmar

**Camp Fee:**

Twin Sharing @ S\$ 380

Single @ S\$ 510

Child (with Bed ) @ S\$ 295

Child (without Bed ) @ S\$ 180

Child (from age 4 to below 12 Years Old )

**Register with:** Dn Yue Kay at 97450311

by latest 30 April on first come first served basis



## Memory Verse

*Heb 5:14* But strong meat belongeth to them that are of full age, even those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil.

## Announcements

1. Welcome to our 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 Perfect Great High Priest (Heb 5:1-14)***", continuing the quarterly series on "***The Majesty & Supremacy of the Son of God (Book of Hebrews)***".
3. Next Sunday, Pastor will preach "***Appeal to Spiritual Maturity (Heb 6:1-12)***".
4. In place of Sunday School classes, there is a special seminar after the worship service on "***Casting Down Imaginations 1&2: The Attack – Why Creation Matters & Evidence for Biblical Timeline***" by Prof Samuel Gan of Creation Ministries International.
5. 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].
6. Outreach to **All Saints Home (Tampines)** is confirmed on **Sun 3 Mar 2024, 2.00-2.45pm**. Kindly register with Dn Yue Kay (hp:97450311) **by 18 Feb 2024**.
7. Our **Annual Church Camp** will be held on **June 11-14, 2024**, at **Lotus Desaru Beach Resort** on the theme "***Biblical Pathway for Church Growth & Health***". Rev David Khobal, Principal of Myanmar Theological Seminary, will be our Camp Speaker. Contact Dn Yue Kay (hp:97450311) or Dn Paul (hp:97314733) for more details and registration by 30 April 2024.
8. Pray for our brethren in their:
  - Health: Janet's full recovery from hand and leg op, Kin Hoong's continuing medical investigations, Anthony's radiotherapy treatment, Pastor's bro-in-law Edwin in his recovery from a heart mitral valve repair surgery on 6 Feb.
  - Travels: Marilyn (9-19/2).
9. 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].
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.