

FOCUS



CHURCH *of* CHRIST
PASIR PANJANG, SINGAPORE

Sunday Morning Worship



24 July 2022

Biblical Leadership Through Crisis

By Peter Lim
Live @ 11am

Quick English lesson: the word "crisis" doesn't always mean something bad. It could just mean a turning point or tipping point: things could go very well or very poorly depending on how well we handle the situation.

By that definition, many times in Scripture, God's people face crisis moments. When under threat by enemies or imminent death, things could go very poorly (they could actually die) or things could go very well (they survive and score a major victory). What makes the difference is most often the choices of the leader: will they humbly trust God or arrogantly rely on their own strength?

Today we look at the story of Hezekiah, one of Judah's greatest kings - not because he was great but because he trusted in God's power. What would it look like for our church leaders today - in our own time of "crisis" and transition - to lead like Hezekiah? What would it look like for our community to trust God, united under a God-focused leadership?

Sunday Morning Worship

Order of Worship

All Hail The Power of Jesus' Name

Opening

My Hope Is Built On Nothing Less

Mighty To Save

Scripture: Psalm 138

Prayer

Had It Not Been The Lord

Communion And Giving

Cornerstone

Scripture: 2 Kings 18:1-7

Sermon

Servant Song

Announcements

Shepherd's Prayer

We Praise Thee O God

Giving

Last Week's Giving: **\$12,855**



General Fund
S76SS0008AGFD



Missions Fund
S76SS0008AMFD



Building Fund
S76SS0008ABFD

If you plan to make a contribution via cheque, please make sure it is made payable to "**Church of Christ, Pasir Panjang, Singapore**". Please ensure that you write the full name so that the cheque can be processed smoothly.

Upcoming Events



24 July | 9:30am

Adult Bible Class

Love Your Neighbour
Deuteronomy 19-25
By Lim Cher Kiat

GEMS Bible Class (Nursery)

Contact Agnes Lim
(9858 5935)

Youth Bible Class

"The Enemy Gets It"
The Gospel of Mark
By John Lim

GEMS Bible Class (Kinderkids)

"It's A Boy!"
Luke 2:1-40
Contact Josephine Seow (9170 4343)

GEMS Bible Class (Cradle Roll)

Contact Audrey Lee
(9855 4957)

GEMS Bible Class (P123)

"The Ten Lepers"
Luke 17:11-19
Contact Joanne Foo (9683 8266)

GEMS Bible Class (Toddlers)

Contact Koo Hwee Yee
(9173 2365)

GEMS Bible Class (P456)

"Paul's Defence Before King Agrippa"
Acts 25
Contact Rosalind Lee (9621 9006)



25 July | 7:30pm

Gladiolus Place Devotional

Contact Lucy Kwan (9838 3131)



27 July | 7:30pm

Wednesday Bible Class (Zoom @ 8pm)

"New Birth Part 1"
Zoom ID: 852 6167 8088
Password: Logos



28 July | 7:30pm

Online Prayer Warriors

Worship & Ministry Staff
Zoom ID: 637 679 3407
Password: Kumbaya



Congratulations Sister Mimi!



Our very own sister Mimi Ng was recognised at the Istana for her involvement in the 2022 National Day Parade! She helped to design the goodie bag, which showcases scenes of life in Singapore during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Sister Mimi, who is one of our Deaf brethren, also designed the slogan "Stronger Together Majulah" using sign language for the first letter of each word. This is an inspiring example of using our circumstances and experiences for the glory of God and to bless those around us! We are proud of sister Mimi for using her God-given talents to make a difference!



Honouring the Late Brother Lim Peng Hui



Few of us will remember this gentleman. The late brother Lim Peng Hui and his wife Cynthia were baptised into the church during our Tanglin Halt days. While we lost contact with them after moving to YWCA, the family contacted the church to conduct his funeral. He was 65 years old and leaves behind his wife, daughter, son-in-law and two grandchildren.

Let us continue to pray over this family: for God's peace to increase during their time of mourning, for Christ's comfort to surround them, and for the Holy Spirit to awaken them to the hope of salvation in Jesus.



Donation from Brother Lim's family



Following the passing of brother Lim Peng Hui, the family wishes to donate his motorised scooter. It is only 3 months old.

Interested members can contact minister John Lim for details.



Clarification from the Elders



With regard to last week's sermon, it is our understanding that in PPCOC, Elders and Deacons are roles for men. We hope this clarifies any unintended meaning.

The Eldership



PAUL

A Model of Leadership

Paul's life is proof that God can save and use anyone in His Kingdom. One does not have to be good looking to be a good leader. According to tradition, Paul actually means "little". Paul was "ugly, short, stout, plump, of small head, bald, pale, his face covered with a thick beard, an eagle nose, piercing eyes, dark eyebrows." (cited in Philip Schaff, "History of the Christian Church", 1:295),

Paul appears to acknowledge this assessment (2 Cor 10:10; Gal 4:13-15). He endured many physical persecutions which undoubtedly added to his unattractiveness (2 Cor 4:10, Gal 6:17).

Still, neither Paul's pre-conversion actions nor his physical unattractiveness could disqualify him from spiritual leadership. Remember, he was an enemy of God, prior to his conversion (1 Cor 15:9-10, 1 Tim 1:12-16)!

Paul's personal encounter with Christ on the road to Damascus (Acts 9) had a profound impact upon his life and leadership. Many other spiritual leaders before him (Moses, Joshua, Isaiah, Peter) likewise had personal encounters with God that transformed their lives.

We may not have such a physical experience today, but we can still have daily encounters with Christ after our conversion. We have the means of Christian prayer, reading His Word and shining forth the light!

Paul was a servant leader. There are no celebrities in God's ministry, only servants. Paul identified himself as a servant (slave) of his Saviour (Rom 1:1, Gal 1:10, Phil 1:1, Titus 1:1) and to those to whom he ministered to. "For we preach not ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord; and ourselves your servants for Jesus' sake" (2 Cor 4:5). Thus, he serves as a servant leader with an interest in getting Christ's purposes accomplished.

Weekly Nugget | Kuek Lee Hock

Paul was an instrument of God. Paul rebuked the Corinthian church for creating rifts in the congregation by rallying around separate leaders, be it himself, the planter of the church, or Apollos, their first pastor (1 Cor 3:3-4; 1 Cor 1:11-12). Yet they were both merely the ministers of the same God (1 Cor 3:5-7).

Paul is our Living Example. Paul called Christians to copy him (1 Cor 4:16; Phil 3:17; 2 Thess 3:7, 9). He spoke not of what he did, but of what God did through him (Acts 14:27, 15:4, 12, 21:19, Rom 15:18).

Paul had the courage to confront. When the gospel is undermined, Paul let Peter know about the truth in no uncertain terms (Gal 2:11-14). In God's calling, He has a plan. He wants us to be instruments of His plan, not just be people-pleasers. Speak the truth out of our love for others. Eternity is at stake!

Paul was zealous. Whatever Paul did, he did it fervently. Once a passionate persecutor (Acts 9:1-2, 26:11), after coming to Christ, he became an enthusiastic go-getter for God.

Paul was a mentee. He was mentored by Gamaliel (a prominent Jewish rabbi) before his conversion and by Barnabas after his conversion. It was Barnabas who convinced the believers in Jerusalem that Paul was a fellow believer no longer to be feared, but to be befriended (Acts 9:26-27). It was Barnabas who retrieved Paul from Tarsus to assist with the ministry in Antioch of Syria (Acts 11:25-26). And it was Barnabas who accompanied Paul on the first missionary journey (Acts 13:1-14:28).

Paul was also a mentor to many, most notably to Timothy, his spiritual son (1 Cor 4:17, Phil 2:22, 1 Tim 1:2, 18, 2 Tim 1:2, 2:1; Titus 1:4 and Philemon 10).

Paul was resilient. A good leader can take punches. "A just man falleth seven times, and riseth up again" (Prov 24:16). This can be seen in Lystra on his first missionary journey (Acts 14:19-22). You can't keep a good man down.

God's providential preparation proved his ministerial proficiency. Paul was groomed to be the next Gamaliel (Acts 22:3; Acts 5:34). The intense Old Testament training made it possible for him to preach within days of being saved (Acts 9:20). The training he received in his Hebrew home (Phil 3:5) was providential preparation for his ministry as a missionary.

Reflection:

“We are asking that Jesus makes us like He was: a servant. It sounds good, but do we really want this? Servants are obedient without grumbling; servants do the hard work; servants are responsible and accountable; servants do not get the praise and rewards of men; servants do service, that is what they are about. One thing for sure: servants are not ‘cool.’” - Mike Mazzalongo

Pause, reflect, have a conversation with God. He calls us to be a leader not just an ‘ordained office-holder’. Merely a servant and not a hired-hand. Love God with all our heart, soul and with our daily living.

God has also prepared us to serve in His Kingdom for many years! What is holding us back?

Are we as willing and as fully committed as we were on the day of our baptism and confession that Christ is the Son of God, our Saviour?

Were we immersed into death to self and raised to a new life in Christ?

Discussion Questions

1. What skills or abilities do you use the most in service to others? Which skill or ability do you use least? Why?
2. Identify one circumstantial and one spiritual obstacle in your life that prevents you from effectively serving the Lord.
3. Name an area of ministry in your congregation that needs help. If put in charge, what would you do to improve it?

Prayer

Heavenly Father, thank you for sending Your Holy Spirit to comfort us in our weaknesses. Give us strength when we cannot bear to take another step.

Guide us into all truth, remind us of Your ways. Lord, give us boldness to testify about what You’re doing in our lives. Instruct our hearts to be faithful by the light of the Holy Spirit. Grant us the Spirit, to be truly wise, and ever to rejoice that You are moulding us into a ‘pure porcelain vase’ in the likeness of Your Son. Through Christ our Lord, we pray and give thanks. Amen.

Connect With Us

Prayer Requests/ Feedback



<http://bit.ly/35FTEyp>



Meet Our People

Elders

Simon Goh

Peter Lim

Lim Swee Aun

Deacons

Dennis Law

Lim Kok Hin

Vincent Lim

Ministers

Tan Beng Chuan

John Lim

Pledge and Building Fund Committee

Peter Lim

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