

MINISTERING TO THE SAINTS

SERVICES	25 MARCH	1 APRIL
CHILDREN'S CLASSES	Ai Cheng, Linda, Katherine, Ai Mei & Ai Lin	Ai Fong, Linda, Shirley, Ai Cheng & Paik Hua
USHERS	LIM YEW BOO, JENNETTE & STEPHANIE	BENJAMIN, PENNY AND SALLY
SERMONETTE	<u>RENGA</u> Moses and the Exodus	<u>JOVIN</u> Almost Persuaded
BIBLE STUDY	<u>YEOW</u> What do we mean by "rebirth"?	<u>YEOW</u> What do we mean by "Joy"?
SERMON	<u>RICK KIRK</u> A Person Reborn (Roman 6:4-6)	<u>RICHARD LEE</u> Happiness is (Proverbs 3:13-20)
SINGING LEADING	ENG	ALVIN
OPENING PRAYER	MAHIBAN	ENG
SCRIPTURE READING	YONG ENG LIM	DANIEL LIM
LORD'S SUPPER	LIM YEW BOO & CHRIS	YONG ENG LIM & RENGA
COLLECTION	FRANCIS	EDWARD
ANNOUNCER	YEOW	CHARLIE
CLOSING PRAYER	RICHARD	MAHIBAN
CHORES	STEPHANIE	BESSIE

PORTFOLIOS OF COORDINATING COMMITTEE FOR 2007

Chairman:
Charlie Chan

Secretary:
Edward Low

Treasurer:
Eng Kim Leng

Benevolence
Mahiban Daniel

Evangelism
Richard Lee

Education
Yeow Chin Kiong

Youth Work
Alvin Goh

Utilities
Khong Yau Seng

Sunday School
Richard Lee

BCC Programme
Charlie Chan

DAYBREAK



BENEVOLENCE**EDIFICATION**EVANGELISM

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A weekly handout for members of
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SUNDAYS:
9.30 AM
BIBLE STUDY
SUNDAY SCHOOL
10.30 AM
WORSHIP
2.30PM
MANDARIN WORSHIP

FRIDAYS:
8.00 PM
BIBLE STUDY

"For I am not ashamed of the gospel: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that



CHALLENGING QUERY "What does the Bible say about achieving happiness in this world?" (Continued)

Too many people are unhappy when their notion of "happiness" cannot be realized, leading them to extreme measures (like suicide) or extreme behavior in search for that added thrill that would make "life more meaningful" (like consuming harmful drugs and being licentious). At the heart of such inner,- as well as intra-personal,- conflict is the futile search for pleasure in this world which results in enmity with God. This is the diagnosis of the human condition in **James 4:1-10**, which also prescribes a cure-all for our despair.

The fundamental difference between the Bible's definition of "happiness" and the world's is the Inspired Word's insistence that the whole of man,- and this necessarily includes happiness,- must be directed towards doing the Will of God (Eccles. 12:13-14). According to the "Greatest Commandments" of Matthew 22:35-40, we are to love God with all our heart, soul and mind, and our neighbor as ourselves. The secret of happiness is thus to be in a relationship of serving God first and than other individuals,- not serving ourselves nor desiring pleasure for ourselves. In the words of the oft-sung chorus: the way to be happy is to make others, God first, happy. Only this concept of "happiness" can account for the scriptures instruction that we be happy even as we experience persecution and trials for God's sake (James 1:2-4; 5:7-11 and I Pet.3:14, which says we should be happy ["blessed"] when we suffer).

STATISTICS FOR 18 MARCH 2007

CONTRIBUTION	RM1,809
ANG POW CONTRIBUTION	RM100
BIBLE STUDY	39
YOUTH / VISITORS CLASS	3 / 2
WORSHIP ASSEMBLY	53
FRI - BIBLE STUDY (16 March)	20
MANDARIN WORSHIP	9
MANDARIN CONTRIBUTION	RM123

Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. For if we have been united together in the likeness of His death, certainly we also shall be in the likeness of His resurrection, knowing this, that our old man was crucified with Him, that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be

According to John 16:33 and 14:2-3, there is only tribulation in this world, but Jesus has overcome this world and will bring us to a better world. Thus, happiness in this world, the present realm of our existence, must be based on our desire for the next and actions in this world preparing for that. This orientation translates into a life of keeping God's commandments while resisting earthly temptations (John 15:10-11, so that "your joy may be made full").

In Luke 6:20-26, the Lord sets His definition of "happiness" (i.e. being "blessed") against that for "sadness" (or "woe"). We are to rejoice when men heap scorn and harm upon us for the Lord's sake, but we are to be very unhappy when we live comfortably here and now, basking in the praise and tributes of this world. It is not that there is no happiness in this world; it is just that happiness in this world is to be found in pursuit of the concerns of the next world. We attain true happiness in this existence only insofar as we do God's Will, awaiting His reward.

Firstly, happiness comes with *being identified as the "people of God"* who have obtained mercy (I Pet.2:1-10). "Happy are the people whose God is the Lord (Psalm 144:15)". We are identified as the Lord's disciples and friends when we obey His commandments (Matt.7:21-23; Luke 6:46-49). The whole point of Jesus last words to His disciples in John to 17:26 was that true "joy made full" comes with the knowledge of one's relationship as a disciple to the Lord, giving access to the Father's benevolent attention (John 16:20-24). Indeed, upon coming out of the waters of baptism, which seals an individual's association with the Risen Christ, one begins to truly rejoice (see Rom.6:3-4; Acts 8:39)

Secondly, happiness comes when we *exhibit the appropriate response to our Lord, which is fear and obedience along with love*. "Blessed is every one who fears the Lord, Who walks in His ways" (Psalm 128:1). "Where there is no revelation, the people cast off restraint; But happy is he who keeps the law" (Prov.29:18).

Thirdly, happiness results from *placing our hopes on God and His promises*. "He who heeds the word wisely will find good, And whoever trusts in the Lord, happy is he" (Prov.16:20). Faith in the Lord and His Word lies at the heart of Christian existence as it looks into the future (Heb.11:1-2, 6, 13-16 and John 14:1-4). In this sense, Christian happiness is not based on the here and now but on the glorious future that awaits us at the Coming again of the Lord.

Fourthly, happiness comes about when we have access to the wisdom of God necessary for navigating through this life while preparing for the next. This wisdom is obtained from the inspired scriptures (II Tim.3:14-17) as well as a gift from God to those who ask (James 1:5-7). "Happy is the man that finds wisdom, and the man that gets understanding" (Prov.3:13) and "For the Lord gives

wisdom: out of his mouth comes knowledge and understanding" (Prov.2:6).

Sixthly, happiness come from fellowship with the saints. "And they, continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, did eat their meat with gladness and singleness of heart" (Acts 2:46). This fellowship sustains us as we make our difficult way through this life happily and not downcast.

SJ NEWS UPDATE

OUR GUESTS LAST WEEK

Sun - William (Sui Lin's husband) * Mr Gopi & Peggy (SJ guests)

Mandarin - David (Li Li's brother) * Mr & Mrs Kwan (Jason's parents) * Yit Meng (Karen's guest)

OUR VISITORS LAST WEEK

Sun - Sister Wong, Lawrence & family (Klang) * Andrew & Kelly (Ipoh) * Yoke Hoon, Allan & Goh (Malacca); Sun Mandarin - Candy (Kuantan) * Karen (JB)

PRAYER REQUESTS

For the health of: Doris Chan (KL), Francis, Katherine, Leela, JC Choate, Mahiban, Sarojini, Gary, Mdm Pang (Bessie's mother), Mr Chiah Tee Sang (Sis Tee's brother-in-law), Ah Ngen (Han's brother), Steven How (*Daybreak* printer) * Santhi and family * For Dr Ken Lee in Taipei * Mary DiPalma's mum's health * Napoleon Ng's wellbeing.

E-MAIL FROM THE DIPALMAS

"Please pray fervently for the work and us at this time. There are some very difficult challenges that we are facing. We cannot divulge more than that right now, but earnestly solicit your fervent prayers. Thanks."

AWAY FROM US THIS MORNING: Charlie preaching in Klang

APPRECIATION : To our guest speaker, Rick Kirk for preaching to us this morning.

CHURCH LUNCH: After worship today. We thank all who brought food to share, Amy for coordinating and those who will be doing the washing up.

AGM TODAY: All SJ members are requested to attend. This is to comply with requirements of the Registrar of Societies.

HAPPENINGS THIS WEEK

- Chans' home fellowship at 8pm, Wednesday, 28 March 2007
- Tract Distribution at 9.45 am, Saturday, 31 March. Meet at the church building.

NEW MEETING PLACE FOR TEBRAU JB

Lot E, Apt No. 1-2A, Jalan Bestari 5/5, Taman Nusa Bestari Jaya, 81300 Skudai, JOHOR BHARU

PROGRAMMES COMING UP

1. Ladies fellowship with Mary DiPalma, 28 April 2007
2. Sunday School workshop 2 - 5pm, tentatively on Saturday 5 May 2007