

## MINISTERING TO THE SAINTS

SERVICES	6 APRIL	13 APRIL
CHILDREN'S CLASSES	Sui Lin, Priscilla, Josephine, Lillian & Ai Lin	Sui Lin, Priscilla, Josephine, Lillian & Ai Lin
USHERS	BENJAMIN & SALLY	PAULINE & AI LIN
BIBLE STUDY	<b>YEOW</b> Leadership Lessons from Bible Women	<b>YEOW</b> Leadership Lessons from Bible Women
SERMON	YEOW : The Virtuous Wife, According To King Lamuel's Mother (Prov.31:10-31)	<b>SEE ING OR</b> Discover The Hidden Strength In You Matt. 5:3-10
SONG LEADING	BENJAMIN WONG	CHARLIE CHAN
OPENING PRAYER	ENG KIM LENG	ALVIN GOH
SCRIPTURE READING	YONG ENG LIM	DANIEL LIM
LORD'S SUPPER	OOI CHONG HAI & TEE CHEE LIK	JOVIN & LIM YEW BOO
COLLECTION	CHRIS LEOW	FRANCIS LAI
ANNOUNCER	CHARLLIE CHAN	YEOW CHIN KIONG
CLOSING PRAYER	MAHIBAN	RICHARD LEE
CHORES	BESSIE YEOW	JENETTE

### PORTFOLIOS OF CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE FOR 2008

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# 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 #467 What lessons can be learned from the women of the Bible? Yeow Chin Kiong

Scant as their recorded stories are, the maidens in the Word are truly maidens of worth. Their life-experience teach us,- both men and women,- many lessons by positive or negative example how to conduct ourselves before God. In the Bible, God has provided us with many examples of godly women to be emulated (Rom.15:4; Hebrews 11:39 to 12:2) and quite a number of ungodly ladies whose lives we are warned not to imitate (1 Cor.10:1-12).

Some women of the Old and New Testaments displayed the positive traits of obedience, submissiveness, graciousness, and worshipfulness even in difficult circumstances. Others were as mean and ungodly as can be imagined.

There is no denying that there are anti-heroines in the Bible, as there are in the literature of most civilizations. After all, **Eve** was in fact the first of humankind to disobey God and the first human cause of other humans to sin (Genesis 3:1-24). **Jezebel**, wife of Ahab, King of Northern Israel, has attained the rank of one of history's most vicious, scheming women for her actions against the prophet Elijah (1 Kings 19:1-3) and Naboth, whose vineyard her husband desired (1 Kings 21:1-24). In the New Testament, **Sapphira** aided her husband Ananias in concealing the true amount of money they had pledged to give to the Lord's work, suffering as he did for the

### STATISTICS FOR 30 MARCH 2008

CONTRIBUTION	RM2,313
BIBLE STUDY	44
VISITORS CLASS	5
WORSHIP ASSEMBLY	62
FRI - BIBLE STUDY (28 MAR)	48
MANDARIN WORSHIP	9
MANDARIN CONTRIBUTION	RM60

**Charm is deceitful and  
beauty is passing,  
But a woman who fears the  
LORD, she shall be praised.  
Give her of the fruit of her  
hands,  
And let her own works  
praise her in the gates.**

Proverbs 31:30-31

dishonesty (Acts 5:1-11). However, anti-heroines are very few in number, overshadowed by the Bible's heroines of faith.

When Jesus was arrested, falsely accused, unjustly tried, wrongly sentenced to be crucified and finally abused on the cross, all of his (male) apostles except John and most of his (male) disciples fled. As a testimony to their bravery and faithfulness, the faithful women in his life, - his mother **Mary**, **Mary Magdalene** and **Mary the wife of Clopas** lingered sorrowfully at the foot of the cross at Calvary and were indeed among the first to be aware that the Lord had been resurrected.

The unnamed **Samaritan woman** at the well at Sychar exhibited honest, reasoned faith in the Lord after He presented evidence of His prophethood. She then communicated her belief to many in her community (John 4:5-42), - an excellent example of effective, spontaneous "personal evangelism". Her sister-in-faith, the Greek **Syrophenician woman** of Mark 7:24-30 exhibited the trust and humility with which all men should approach the gracious presence of God, especially when in great need. As examples of the right response to the word and work of the Lord and His apostles, these women rivaled their male counterparts whose great need was also satisfied by Divine intervention: blind Bartimaeus (Mark 10:46-52) and the Capernaum centurion (Luke 7:2-10), among many.

In the "Chapter of Faith's Champions" (Hebrews 11), **Sarah** is listed as an example of faith along with her husband Abraham (Hebrews 11:11-12). Therein also, **Rahab** is identified by her profession but also by the faith which moved her to aid God's people (Hebrews 11:31). Women constituted an important portion of the "great cloud of witnesses" whose faith conjoined with obedience encourages us to remain faithful as we travel life's difficult road doing His Will (Hebrews 12:1-2).

Women in the Bible are also examples of correct action in the most trying circumstances. **Ruth** and **Esther** lived through challenging times but both triumphed as much by God's intervention as by their firm resolve to just "do the right thing". Ruth the Moabite was an interesting foil to her Israelite mother-in-law **Naomi**, whose faith failed her when she returned to her people in poverty (Ruth 1:1-21). Esther, Israelite queen to the Medo-Persian monarch, reminds us of Joseph and Daniel, both of whom worked among non-Israelites in foreign lands to look after the interest of God's people.

Interestingly, there are some women who are often ignored by Bible students because they are overshadowed by their fellow-women. We remember Bathsheba as the most prominent of David's wives for their adultery and the fact that she bore Solomon, but surprisingly not **Abigail**, whom David married before Bathsheba. Abigail was described as "woman of good understanding,

and of a beautiful countenance" (1 Samuel 25:3) whose wisdom and tact prevented an unnecessary confrontation between her future husband and the inhospitable shepherds of Nabal. Then there are the many mothers and grandmothers who shaped the national of Israel and the early days of spiritual Israel through their parental roles.

In many cases, the Bible's women exhibited the resilience and reliability, as well as the courage, wisdom, commitment and trust that we all can aspire to attain, regardless of our gender. Living during times in history when women were generally sidelined and placed in a subordinate position in all walks of life, the women of the Revealed Word are true heroines simply because they had faith in God and were prepared to act on that faith. We are in their debt for their example.

## SJ NEWS UPDATE

### OUR GUESTS LAST WEEK

*Fri* - Seow Leng (Bessie's guests)\* Penny (Ai Lin's guest) \* Stephanie, Maxine & Wilton (Karen's daughter and parents). *Sun* - Angel & Joon Hong (SJ's guests) \* Ekeh Josiah (Yau Kong's guest)\* Pui Yee (Daniel's wife) \* William (Sui Lin's husband) \* Mr Khoo, Stephanie, Maxine & Wilton (Karen's family & parents) \* Kok Seng & Lavina (Jennette guests)

### OUR VISITORS LAST WEEK

*Fri* - Mollie (Kuantan) \* Yu Kong, Jennifer, Allan & Family (Malacca) \* Lawrence & Li Li (Klang) \* Chang (Jurong) \* Bee Leng & John Cooper (Melbourne) \* Barry Hatcher (US) *Sun* - Mollie (Kuantan) \* Allan & family (Malacca) \* Stuart Danial and Philip & Helen George (KL) \* Karen Lee (JB) \* *Mandarin* - Candy, Tze Yean & Margaret (Kuantan)

**PRAYER REQUESTS :** For the health of: Doris Chan (KL), Francis, Katherine, Frank Pierce, Mahiban, Gary, Mr Chiah Tee Sang (Sis Tee's brother-in-law), Ah Ngen (Han's brother), Steven How (*Daybreak* printer) \* Santhi and family \* Yik Min's grandmother \* DiPalmas' work in India \* Charlie DiPalma's eyesight\*

**ANOTHER ADDITION TO SJ FAMILY:** We welcome Ruth Didik Vijaya, a domestic helper of Shirley's friend who obeyed the Lord in baptism last Sunday after having studied with us. Ruth hails from Jakarta.

**SPECIAL PRAYERS FOR LEELA :** As she undergoes another round of chemotherapy

**AWAY FROM US THIS MORNING:** Renga in Singapore to attend a seminar

### HAPPENINGS THIS WEEK:

- Chans' home fellowship at 8pm, Wednesday, 9 April 2008
- Health talk on allergy by Dr See 4 pm, Saturday 12 April organized by Ladies Fellowship. Please invite your friends and come in full force

### UPCOMING PROGRAMMES

1. Evangelism Seminar 1 May
2. Ladies Fellowship - Kuantan trip on 10 May co-ordinated by Bessie
3. Sunday School Open Day Saturday, 24 May