

MINISTERING TO THE SAINTS

SERVICES	11 NOVEMBER	18 NOVEMBER
CHILDREN'S CLASSES	Priscilla, Linda, Lillian, Josephine, & Ai Lin	Priscilla, Linda, Lillian, Josephine, & Ai Lin
USHERS	MEI YEAN & PAULINE	AI MEI & PENNY
SERMONETTE	JOVIN Christ's Resurrection (Matthew 28)	LIM YEW BOO Christ's Great Commission & Ascension (Matt 28 & Acts 1)
BIBLE STUDY	CHARLIE CHAN	CHARLIE DIPALMA Book Of Philippians
SERMON	ENG KIM LENG Christ's Resurrection (1 Cor 15:12-19)	
SONG LEADING	CHARLIE	YEOW
OPENING PRAYER	ALVIN	RICHARD
SCRIPTURE READING	DANIEL	OOI
LORD'S SUPPER	CHRIS & LIM YEW BOO	JOVIN & RENGA
COLLECTION	TEE CHEE LIK	ALVIN
ANNOUNCER	RICHARD	MAHIBAN
CLOSING PRAYER	FRANCIS	EDWARD
CHORES	MEI YEAN	MEI YEAN

PORTFOLIOS OF COORDINATING COMMITTEE FOR 2007

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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 #452
What and how can we learn from Bible characters?
Yeow Chin Kiong

At childhood and in youth, when we are all less cynical, we had worldly heroes we adored and sought to emulate as well as villains we despised, whose behavior we tried hard to avoid. As we grew older, we learnt that even heroes had their flaws and weaknesses, but continue to look up to towering personalities in our professions to draw encouragement and instruction.

Learning from the life of others comes naturally and Christians are required to learn from Bible characters. For example, in commenting upon the experience and reaction of the Israelites during the exodus from Egypt, Paul tells us, "Now all these things happened to them as examples, and they were written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the ages have come" (1 Cor.10:11). He also tells us "For whatever things were written before were written for our learning, that we through the patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have hope" (Romans 15:4). Hence, we are admonished to avoid the misdeeds of Bible personalities and are enjoined to be encouraged by their attitude and actions to be patient and be comforted, and not lose hope.

At the end of a long list of Bible characters who

STATISTICS FOR 4 NOVEMBER 2007

CONTRIBUTION	RM3,264
MISSION FUND	RM1,581
BIBLE STUDY	49
VISITORS CLASS	7
WORSHIP ASSEMBLY	58
FRI - PRAYER MEETING (2 Nov)	27
MANDARIN WORSHIP	8
MANDARIN CONTRIBUTION	RM80

Now if Christ is preached that He has been raised from the dead, how do some among you say that there is no resurrection of the dead? But if there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ is not risen. And if Christ is not risen, then our preaching is empty and your faith is also empty. Yes, and we are found false witnesses of God, because we have testified of God that He raised up Christ, whom He did not raise up--if in fact the dead do not rise. For if the dead do not rise, then Christ is not risen. And if Christ is not risen, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins! Then also those who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished. If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men the most pitiable.

1 Cor 15:12-19 (NKJV)

exhibited life-changing faith in God, the writer of the epistle to the Hebrews instructs us to emulate them, *"Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God"* (Hebrews 12:1-2).

Of over 2,900 people mentioned by name in the Bible, the life of some two dozen characters are described in considerable detail. Among these are Abraham, Moses, Joshua, Samson, Saul, David, Peter and Paul. Being human and not angels, many of these individuals make extremely interesting biographical studies. More important, we can identify with them since they are,- like us,- not without flaws and experience of failure. Indeed, their lives,- as ours,- testify to the truth that *"All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God"* (Romans 3:23). If imitating Jesus appears too daunting, we may walk in the footsteps of these other giants by first learning about them, considering the following elements of their individual scriptural biography:

(a) **Background:** meaning of his/her name(s), social, political and religious atmosphere in which he/she was born and in which he/she lived and how these considerations affected his/her life and service to God.

(b) **Experiences:** uplifting and bitter, accomplishments and failures, in the light of the circumstances behind each experience; preparation as a youth, opportunities grabbed or missed, crises in life and how he handled them, encounter with God and consequence, final days and death.

(c) **Family, Friends and Enemies:** how they affected or influenced his/her life and service to God, how he/she affected or influenced their life; was God his/her enemy or friend?

(d) **Character:** virtues and vices, strengths and weaknesses, effect of character on self and others; godliness (knowledge of, and relationship with, God); how he/she is viewed by the Bible's writers

(e) **Lessons:** importance of his/her character traits to life and

relationship to God, to him/her then and to us now, and

(f) **Application:** Significance of his/her attitude and behavior to modern life,- my life and yours,- principles and examples to follow or warnings to heed; virtues to acquire and fleshy vices to overcome, as he/she did or some other scriptural way.

A thought-provoking question after biographical study of a sufficient number of key Bible characters would be: whom among them do you most identify with in the Bible, in terms of your character traits now and whom would you most desire to be? An honest answer can pave the way for a change in attitude, behavior and lifestyle in the direction of godliness.

SJ NEWS UPDATE

OUR GUESTS LAST WEEK

Sun - Khoos (SJ's guests) * William (Sui Lin's husband) * David Siow (Alvin's guest) * Tee Min & Nerrine (Ai Mei's guests) * Janet (SJ's guest)

OUR VISITORS LAST WEEK

Fri - Yu Kong & Yoke Hoon and Allen & family (Malacca)
Sun - DiPalmas * Han & Carol (Eastside, Melbourne) * Kellie & Kathleen (Skudai) * Florence & Dr Mimi (Batu Pahat) * Caroline & Boon Chin (Klang); Mandarin - Bro & Sis Kwan (Klang) * Candy (Kuantan)

PRAYER REQUESTS

For the health of: Doris Chan (KL), Francis, Katherine, JC Choate, Frank Pierce, Mahiban, Sarojini, 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** * **Charlie DiPalma's eyesight and Leela's & Sarojini's health** * **SPM - Ee Jan** * **STPM - Benjamin**

AWAY FROM US THIS MORNING: Molly Lim in Texas * Yeow on teaching and preaching assignment in Kuantan together with Amy & Stephanie * DiPalmas on teaching and preaching assignment in Malacca*

NEW BABE IN THE SJ FAMILY: We welcome Andreas Kok into the family after his baptism last Sunday having had studies with Richard Lee. We pray for his steadfastness.

HAPPENING THIS WEEK: (1) Chans' home fellowship at 8pm, Wednesday, 14 November and (2) Yeows' home fellowship at 8pm, Saturday, 17 November

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS' PLANNING AND SCHEDULING

All current and prospective teachers are to meet up with Mary DiPalma after church lunch on 25 November.

PROGRAMMES COMING UP

1. Church planning session 18 November 2007
2. YDP and Children's Camp 23-27 December 2007 at Sri Warisan Resort, Malacca @ RM230 & RM180 respectively. Please sign up with Richard.