

MINISTERING TO THE SAINTS

SERVICES	9 DECEMBER	16 DECEMBER
CHILDREN'S CLASSES	Priscilla, Linda, Lillian, Ai Mei & Ai Lin	Priscilla, Linda, Lillian, Ai Mei & Ai Lin
USHERS	MEI YEN & MARY YEOW	EUNICE CHIN & SALLY
SERMONETTE	<u>1. BENJAMIN WONG</u> Establishment of The Church on Pentecost (Acts 2) <u>2. LIM YEW BOO</u> Christ's Great Commission & Ascension (Matt 28 & Acts 1)	<u>RICHARD LEE</u> The Killing Of Steven & Conversion Of Saul (Acts 7 & 9)
BIBLE STUDY		
SERMON	<u>JOSEPH LEE</u> Formula For Living A Victorious Life in Christ (1 Sam 30:1-19)	<u>RICHARD LEE</u>
SONG LEADING	ALVIN	ALVIN
OPENING PRAYER	RICHARD	FRANCIS
SCRIPTURE READING	DANIEL	OOI
LORD'S SUPPER	CHRIS & YONG ENG LIM	JOVIN & RENG A
COLLECTION	TEE CHEE LIK	CHRIS
ANNOUNCER	MAHIBAN	CHARLIE
CLOSING PRAYER	FRANCIS	EDWARD
CHORES	LILIAN CHAN	LILIAN CHAN

PORTFOLIOS OF COORDINATING COMMITTEE FOR 2007

Chairman
Charlie Chan

Deputy Chairman
Richard Lee

Secretary
Edward Low

Treasurer
Eng Kim Leng

Benevolence
Mahiban Daniel

Evangelism
Richard Lee

Education
Yeow Chin Kiong

Youth Work
Alvin Goh

Sunday School
Richard Lee
Ron Ying

BCC Programme
Charlie Chan

STATISTICS FOR 2 DECEMBER 2007

CONTRIBUTION	RM2,656
MISSION FUND	RB1,206.20
BIBLE STUDY	40
VISITORS CLASS	3
WORSHIP ASSEMBLY	63
FRI - BIBLE STUDY (23 Nov)	35
MANDARIN WORSHIP	8
MANDARIN CONTRIBUTION	RM201

But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellence of the power may be of God and not of us. We are hard pressed on every side, yet not crushed; we are perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed. **2 Cor 4:7-9 (NKJV)**

DAYBREAK



BENEVOLENCE***EDIFICATION***EVANGELISM

VOL. 9 No. 49
9 December 2007

A weekly handout for members of
CHURCH OF CHRIST
20, JALAN SS 19/1G,
47400 SUBANG JAYA,
SELANGOR,
MALAYSIA.

03-56380046
cocsj@tm.net.my
http://sjcoc.bizhat.com

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 #456 What can we learn from the life of Elijah? Yeow Chin Kiong

The Bible is an honest book which does not brush over the imperfections of its key characters. Rather, human weakness is starkly portrayed as a means of reminding us that we too may be overcome by the same. Admirable in conduct in times of crisis, Elijah the prophet of Israel (the Northern Kingdom) fled in depression, fear and self-pity (I Kings 19:1-10) when Jezebel (wife of Israel's King Ahab) threatened his life following the defeat of her false gods in the hands of Elijah's God (I Kings 18:1-46). Some important lessons for today's Christians may be gleaned from the weakness of this prophet.

Firstly, moods affect us as much as,- and sometimes more than,- faith (defined as "the substance of things not seen, the evidence of things hoped for", Hebrews 11:1). The most faithful among us are not immune to moments of doubt and we who think we stand must therefore "take heed lest we fall" (I Cor.10:12). Elijah had seen the hand of God working miracles to end the time of drought (I Kings 17:1-7; 18:1-16) and the time of hunger (I Kings 17:8-16). By God's power, the prophet even raised one back to life,- the son of the widow of Zarephath (I Kings 17:17-24).

Indeed, just prior to fleeing from Jezebel's wrath, Elijah was God's agent in the destruction of the prophets of the false god Baal (I Kings 18:17-46). There was therefore no reason for Elijah to doubt that the Lord was with him in the confrontation with Ahab and his wife, and thus no reason to be discouraged and undone by threats of Jezebel. However, such threats led Elijah to cry out such terrible words to God as "It is enough... Lord, take my life, for I am no better than my fathers" (I Kings 19:4) and "'I alone am left, and they seek to take my life" (I Kings 19:10, 14).

Secondly, we are creatures who tire and are easily stressed. If it could happen to Elijah, it could happen to us today if we are not careful to preserve our faith. Depression can come very quickly after a triumph. The road to victory may have been arduous and energy-sapping, as Elijah's was, and we may need to step back a little to recover before the next battle. Elijah's flight to the wilderness, the mountain and eventually the cave was necessary for his rejuvenation, made complete by his conversation with God.

A **third** lesson is that we are to resist evil (James 4:7) and not flee. There will be no end of running away from tribulations and fiery trials in this world (John 16:33; I Peter 4:12). We must confront our fears, as God directed Elijah to do (I Kings 19:11-18). In his conversation with God at Mount Horeb, Elijah was commanded, "Go forth, and stand upon the mount before the Lord" (I Kings 19:11). In effect, the prophet was told to come out from the cave in which he had been hiding, - where he did not belong (I Kings 19:9). To fortify Elijah's faith, there followed a magnificent display of God's control over the elemental forces of nature, - of wind, earthquake and lightning, - as there was when Moses and the Israelites needed convincing (Exodus 19:16-18).

When Elijah protested a second time that, "I alone am left; and they seek to take my life" (I Kings 19:14), God's response was to command him to anoint the kings of the region as a prelude to the fall of Ahab's house (I Kings 19:15-18). A command to act was also needed to calm Moses' nerves (Exodus 3:1-22; especially verses 7 to 18). Often, we are shaken from our apathy and discouragement by the need, and the call, to act. As Jesus puts it in Mark 8:34: "Whoever desires to come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me".

Fourthly, if in obedience to God we must act alone, we should do so and trust that others will follow. Elijah thought he was the only one left (I Kings 19:10), but God could still depend on seven thousand Israelites who had not fallen to apostasy (I Kings 19:18). In the face of potential conflict with the Jews of Corinth, Paul was encouraged by the Lord thus: "Do not be afraid, but speak, and do not keep silent for I am with you, and no one will attack you to hurt you; for I have many people in this city" (Acts 18:10). The Great Commission of Matthew 28:19-20 is sealed with the promise that, as we carry it out, the Lord will be with us until the end of the age. In obeying God, unlike in any worldly undertaking, we need not be overcome with fear of acting alone.

SJ NEWS UPDATE

OUR GUESTS LAST WEEK

Fri - Albert (Mary's husband) * Gopi, Evelyn, Mr & Mrs Lim (Gopi's guests)

Sun - Tee Min (Ai Mei's guest) * William (Sui Lin's husband) * The Khoos (SJ's guests) * Peggy, Mr & Mrs Liu (Amy's guests) * Mr Lau (Chans' guest) * Lee Swee Imm (Jessica's cousin); *Mandarin* - Gerard (Li Li's brother)

OUR VISITORS LAST WEEK

Fri - Tim Burroughs (USA) * Yu Kong & family, Allen & family (Malacca) *

Sun - Caroline & Boon Chin (Klang) * Karen & Yik Min (JB) * Chan Khoon & family (Malacca) ; *Mandarin* - Ah Soon & Bro Kwan (Klang)

PRAYER REQUESTS : For the health of: Doris Chan (KL), Francis, Katherine, JC Choate, 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 * Charlie DiPalma's eyesight and Leela's & Sarojini's health *

AWAY FROM US THIS MORNING: Molly Lim in Texas * Charlie and Katherine in Melbourne on holiday * Eng & family from 7-26 Dec in New Zealand on holiday *

BAPTISMS: We rejoice with the Engs over the obedience of Eng Weng Kye when he obeyed the lord last Sunday, 2 December. On the same day 16 souls were baptized in Sabal Tabang Kruin, Kuching and the church now has 45 Christians. Please pray for the steadfastness of these precious souls.

HAPPENINGS THIS WEEK:

- Chans' home fellowship at 8pm, Wednesday, 12 December
- Yeows home fellowship at 8pm, Saturday, 15 December

PROGRAMME COMING UP

1. YDP and Children's Camp 23-27 December 2007 at Sri Warisan Resort, Malacca @ RM230 & RM180 respectively. Please sign up with Richard.
2. Year end Thanksgiving nite 8pm, Monday 31 December. Please make preparation to attend and to invite your friends to join us.