29 JANUARY 2012

WEB EDITION



be ye **reconciled** to <u>God</u>

2 Corinthians 5:20

the weekly digest of ambassador|baptistchurch

from the pastor's heart

THE LAW OF THE LORD IS PERFECT



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from the pastor's heart

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hymn I *a mighty fortress is our God* opening **prayer**

hymn I are you washed in the blood?

hymn I surely goodness and mercy

offertory

hymn I trust and obey **exhortation** I pastor johnny

invitation and closing

Written by:
Evangelist-Pastor Johnny Tan

"The law of the LORD is perfect, converting the soul"

Psalm 19:7

The word "soul" is an interesting word. It may be used to refer to a person. It is interesting, though, that "person" in the Hebrew word

refers to breathing passively. In this word, we see that our physical existence is sustained by the Lord Himself and our physical life is in His hand. We need to realize that we are dependent on God for our everyday life. We are a living soul because of the breath of God, allowing us to breathe the very next second.

The soul, however, was without the life of God. Only the physical life was sustained by God. The spiritual life was sustained by self and sin and therefore needed to be converted. The word "converted" means "to turn back." We were all born in sin and were unable to turn to God unless He

continued on page 2

from the pastor's heart

showed us the way. How was that to be done? By the law of the Lord, which is perfect! How does this perfection help a sinner turn back to God? Through the written Word of God. Why is the Word of God able to turn the sinner back to Himself?

The word "perfect" speaks of integrity.

The Word of God has perfect integrity. It does not attempt to conceal the truth, neither does it speak falsely against another. A sinner wanting to change his life must change and go towards the direction of integrity. He once was without integrity but the word of God, when listened to and obeyed, will generate integrity

in the person's heart and life.

soul because salvation is only found in the blood of Christ when we truly place our faith in Him and His finished work and nothing else.

The word "perfect" speaks also of sincerity.

A sinner coming to Christ must have a changed heart, touched by the word of God and convicted by the moving of

the Holy Spirit Who moves in His people according to His will.

There must be repentance on the part of the individual who is receiving the gospel presentation and have responded favourably. Many hear God's word and consent that it is true, but few will embrace the gospel and say it is theirs!

God's word
brings life to those
who are blind and
gives strength to cope
with the everyday
issues of life.

The word "perfect" speaks of a state without blemish.

The word of God carries with it the forgiveness of sins and the directions for us to obtain that forgiveness. The forgiveness for sin is still given freely to whosoever who will ask. The gospel of the Lord Jesus opens that opportunity for another to come and be free from their sin by the shed blood of the Lord Jesus. It can convert the

God's word brings life to those who are blind and gives strength to cope with the everyday issues of life. We need the word of life, that we may be people with integrity, without blemish and with sincerity. May we stay in the Word of God till the day we see the Word of Life, that we may be converted from sinner to saint, and from a saint to be like our Saviour!

thought for the week

Experience cannot be the cornerstone of faith, only the Word of God can!

memory verse

Thy words were found, and I did eat them; and thy word was unto me the joy and rejoicing of mine heart: for I am called by thy name, O LORD God of hosts.

Jeremiah 15:16

sermon notes: Sermon guide
Sunday Worship Service 29 January 2012 Why We Can Trust the Word of God
I. The title for today's message is
II. The passage for today's message is
III. Why we can trust the Word of God?
A. We can trust the word of God because it is than our personal experience:
1. Why is personal experience not reliable as the basis of truth?
a) Because an experience is
b) Because an experience can only be i by the person who experienced the situation
c) Because we often an experience based on what we at that time:
(1) What was Peter's emotional condition at that time?
(a) He was
(2) What was Peter's physical condition at that time?
(a) He was
(3) What was Peter's spiritual condition at that time?
(a) He was
d) Because we often an experience

sermon notes: verse list

Sunday Worship Service 29 January 2012 Why We Can Trust the Word of God

Turn to: 2 Peter 1:16 - 21, Mark 9:1 - 10, 2 Corinthians 5:7

John 17:17 Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.

Luke 9:32 But Peter and they that were with him were heavy with sleep: and when they were awake, they saw his glory, and the two men that stood with him.

Mark 9:9-10 And as they came down from the mountain, he charged them that they should tell no man what things they had seen, till the Son of man were risen from the dead. And they kept that saying with themselves, questioning one with another what the rising from the dead should mean.

2 Peter 1:20-21 Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation. For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man:

Acts 17:24 God that made the world and all things therein, seeing that he is Lord of heaven and earth, dwelleth not in temples made with hands;

Hebrews 11:9-10 By faith he sojourned in the land of promise, as in a strange country, dwelling in tabernacles with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise: For he looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God.

Luke 9:31 Who appeared in glory, and spake of his decease which he should accomplish at Jerusalem.

John 10:18 No man taketh it from me, but I lay it down of myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again. This commandment have I received of my Father.

Matthew 28:6 He is not here: for he is risen, as he said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay.

Isaiah 7:14 Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.

Matthew 1:23 Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us.

Micah 5:2 But thou, Bethlehem Ephratah, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall he come forth unto me that is to be ruler in Israel; whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting.

Matthew 2:6 And thou Bethlehem, in the land of Juda, art not the least among the princes of Juda: for out of thee shall come a Governor, that shall rule my people Israel.

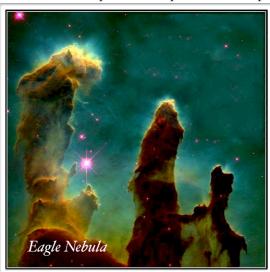
Psalms 22:18 They part my garments among them, and cast lots upon my vesture.

Matthew 27:35 And they crucified him, and parted his garments, casting lots: that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet, They parted my garments among them, and upon my vesture did they cast lots.

FRIDAY CHURCH NEWS NOTES

SPACE TELESCOPES AND THE GLORY OF GOD

The Psalmist said the heavens declare the glory of God, and that has never been more true than in the age of modern science. The evidence for God has never been greater, and the skepticism has never been deeper. If it weren't for Bible prophecies such as Psalm 2 and 2 Peter 3, it would be an unfathomable situation. The age of space telescopes began in 1990 with NASA's Hubble, which was placed in orbit by a U.S. space shuttle. NASA also launched the Compton Gamma Ray Observatory in 1991, the Chandra X-ray Observatory in 1999, and the Spitzer Space Telescope in 2003. These space telescopes were joined by the European Space Agency's (ESA) Herschel Space Observatory and Planck Space Observatory in 2009. With no need to pierce the planet's atmosphere,

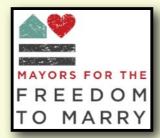


unprecedented telescopic power and multi-spectrum capabilities, space telescopes have captured neverbefore-seen images of the heavens. The most iconic is "Pillars of Creation," composed of columns of interstellar gas and dust from the Eagle Nebula captured by Hubble in 1995. Knowing the willful skepticism that predominates within the American space program, it probably wasn't named that in honor of the Creator, but it should have been. A more recent example is a new view of the Eagle Nebula created from combined multi-spectrum images from the ESA's Herschel Space Observatory and x-ray readings from the XMM-Newton space probe. If men don't want to believe in God, that is their business, but what a joy it is to know the Almighty Saviour God through Jesus Christ and to learn of Him by His incredible creation. "The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handywork. Day unto day uttereth speech, and night unto night sheweth knowledge. There is no speech nor language, where their voice is not heard" (Psalms 19:1-3).

MAYORS BAND TOGETHER IN SUPPORT OF HOMOSEXUAL "MARRIAGE"



More than 70 majors of U.S. cities have banned together in support of homosexual "marriage." The "Mayors for the Freedom to Marry" include the highest elected officials of New York, Los Angeles, Boston, Houston, and San Diego. The objective is to overturn the Defense of Marriage Act that was passed by the U.S. Congress in 1996 and signed by President Bill Clinton. This landmark federal law defines marriage as "a legal union between one man and one woman" and says that no state may be required to recognize as a marriage a same-sex relationship considered marriage in another state. In blatant disregard for U.S. law, Barack Obama's administration, which has an avowed homosexual rights agenda, has refused to defend the act in court. The normalization and even acclaim of homosexuality is a sign of the end times, like earthquakes, wars and rumors of wars, the return of Israel to her land, and sweeping apostasy. In His prophecies of the last days, the Lord Jesus specifically mentioned Sodom. "But the same day that Lot went out of Sodom it rained fire and brimstone



from heaven, and destroyed them all. Even thus shall it be in the day when the Son of man is revealed" (Luke 17:29-30). Sodom is also mentioned in the prophecies of Peter and Jude.



The following is excerpted from "Chinese Bible Exhibition," *China Aid News*, Oct. 13, 2011: "China Aid Association issues the following solemn declaration with regard to the Bible exhibition 'Thy Word is Truth,' currently touring the United States, that was organized by the "Bible Ministry Exhibition of the Protestant Church in China," which is part of China's official Protestant Three-Self Patriotic Movement. ... [Though Bibles can be printed and distributed on the Chinese mainland within the official Chinese Protestant Three-Self Patriotic Movement network] any Christian organization or individual outside the Three-Self system that engages in not-for-profit printing, shipping and warehousing of Bibles is deemed to have engaged in

illegal activities and is punished according to the law. ... In November 2005, Beijing house church pastor Cai Zhuohua was sentenced to a three-year prison term because he had transported and warehoused a large quantity of Bibles and other Christian materials. During his imprisonment he was subjected to forced labor: making soccer balls for the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games. In June 2009, Beijing house church leader Shi Weihan was given a 3-1/2 year sentence for printing and transporting a large quantity of Bibles and Christian materials. In August 2009, Uyghur Christian Alimujiang was sentenced to a 15-year prison term for his work as a house church leader, and he is still serving that sentence today. This is the real 'truth' of Red China. ... such a Bible exhibition is a political propaganda show, the intent of which is to mislead members of the public, politicians, and church leaders overseas who are unaware of the realities in China and to cover up the Chinese government's persecution of house churches and any government-approved church that dares to adhere to the principles of the Christian faith and refuses to submit to the government's political control and go against those principles." The communist propaganda display was welcomed by the Billy Graham Library and Dallas Theological Seminary. Information sent to these organizations by China Aid were ignored.



WASHINGTON D.C.'S LAW AGAINST KILLING RATS

The following is excerpted from "Cuccinelli Smells a Rat," ARL Now, Arlington, Virginia, Jan. 12, 2012: "Virginia Attorney General Ken Cuccinelli called a local talk radio show on Tuesday to complain about rats in D.C. Specifically, Cuccinelli was peeved about a D.C. law--the Wildlife Protection Act--which, since March 2011, has outlawed some common pest control practices including the use of lethal traps on certain species of rats and mice (and on other wild animals that get stuck in homes). 'Last year, in its finite wisdom, the D.C. City Council passed a new law--a triumph of animal rights over human health,' he told the hosts of WMAL's 'The Morning Majority' show. 'Those pest control people... aren't allowed to kill the rat. They have to relocate the rat. And... that's actually not the worst part. They cannot break up the family of the rat.' ... Industry leaders say the Wildlife Protection Act makes it prohibitively expensive for homeowners to pay for a letter-of-the-law pest control service. Such a service, they say, would involve trapping an entire family of animals in and around a home and then driving around the District looking for an uninhabited wooded spot to let the critters out." "Because that, when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened: (Romans 1:21).

HEADPHONE-RELATED DEATHS ON RISE

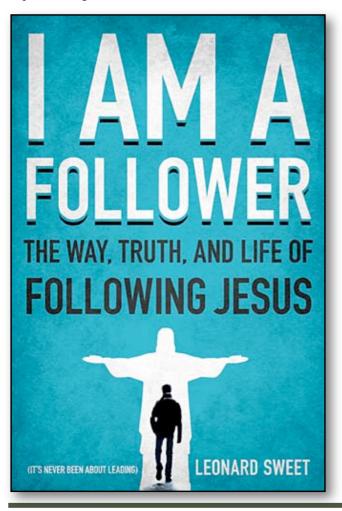
The journal *Injury Prevention* reports that the number of young people killed and injured while wearing headphones has tripled in the past six years in Australia. In six years there were 116 cases, the number jumping from 16 in 2004-05 to 47 in 2010-11. "Most of the



incidents involved young people--with an average age of 21--and 70 per cent of the time the collision was fatal. Sixty-four of the 116 victims (55 per cent) were hit by a train. Eighty-one of the 116 collisions (70 per cent) resulted in death, researchers Richard Lichenstein, Daniel Clarence Smith, Jordan Lynne Ambrose and Laurel Anne Moody wrote. They say distraction and sensory deprivation are the two likely factors. 'The actual sensory deprivation that results from using headphones with electronic devices may be a unique problem in pedestrian incidents, where auditory cues can be more important than visual ones,' they wrote." Hughie Seaborn observes, "If they can't hear a train bearing down upon them because of the loud, pounding rock music, it makes you wonder how they're ever going to hear the call of God. It's one of the instruments of deception that the devil is foisting upon the masses."

"EVANGELICAL" BELIEVES IN BREATHING GOD

Leonard Sweet, a very influential "evangelical," believes you can breath God in your nostrils. In his 2012 book I Am A Follower, Sweet quotes Sufi poet Kabir who says, "God is the breath inside the breath." Sweet then makes the following blasphemous, pagan comment: "All of creation is made alive with the holy breath of the Creator. Breathing Yahweh breath is breathing the holy breath of life. Yahweh. ... Our breathing and heartbeat are in tune with the name. Breathe in 'Yah' and breathe out 'weh' ... I guarantee you will relax." This heresy is the product of contemplative prayer, which Sweet is recommending in this passage. Sweet is the author and co-author of more than 30 books. He was twice voted "one of the 50 Most Influential Christians in America" by ChurchReport magazine. Rick Warren recommends Sweet's book Soul Tsunami (his recommendation is printed on the cover). Warren and Sweet collaborated on an audio set entitled Tides of Change, and Sweet spoke at Saddleback Church in January 2008 for a small groups training conference. Sweet has spoken at Bill Hybels' Willowcreek Community Church. Sweet's book Jesus Manifesto (co-authored by Frank Viola) was recommended by Southern Baptist Ed Stetzer, who has spoken at Southwide Baptist Fellowship and Trinity Baptist College, Jacksonville, Florida.



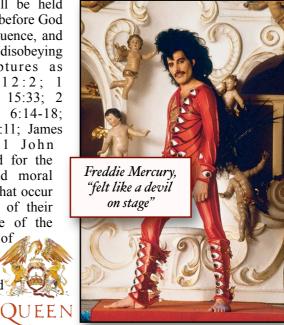
ANOTHER REMINDER OF THE WORLDLINESS OF CCM



One reason why contemporary Christian music has such powerful transformative power, so much so that it is at the heart and soul of transforming hundreds of formerly fundamentalist churches to contemporary ones, is its worldliness. From its inception in the Jesus People movement of the 1970s, Christian rock has been a bold renunciation of the Bible doctrine of separation from the world. Marc Martel, lead singer for Downhere, recently exhibited his love for the world by entering the Queen Extravaganza, a contest that honors a filthy rock band. In an attempt to join Queen drummer Roger Taylor onstage for the Extravaganza live tour, Martel submitted his rendition of Queen's sensual rock song "Somebody to Love." He emulated lead singer Freddie Mercury, who flaunted his homosexuality, pushed for homosexual rights, said he "felt like a devil on stage," and died of AIDS in 1991. Martel's rendition on YouTube received millions of views and thus encouraged multitudes of young people to listen to vile rock groups like Queen and to emulate the Freddie Mercury's of the rock world. Martel has also appeared on the talk show of lesbian entertainer Ellen Degeneres. Martel says that he has often been told that he sounds just like Freddie Mercury and his reply is that "it's always just a huge compliment when people tell that to me." Christian rockers think of all of this as "innocent fun" and

"mere entertainment" but they will be held accountable before God for their influence, and for brazenly disobeving such Scriptures as Romans 12:2; 1 Corinthians 15:33; 2 Corinthians 6:14-18; Ephesians 5:11; James 4:4; and 1 John 2:15-16, and for the spiritual and moral shipwrecks that occur in the lives of their fans because of the breakdown of the walls of separation from sin and

error.



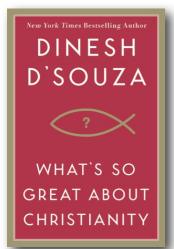
SCIENTISTS DISCOVER FOUNTAIN OF YOUTH?

The media is abuzz with speculation about a recent announcement that scientists have stalled aging in mice with a stem cell treatment. Some reporters have treated the announcement with passionate hope that it could point to a fountain of youth within the foreseeable future. The study, which was published January 3 in Nature Communications, involved the injection of cells from young healthy mice into ones with advanced progeria (an aging disease). The life span of the injected mice increased by three or four times and they experienced a decrease in the symptoms of aging. The Bible believer has both good news and bad news for those who are waiting with bated breath for the discovery of a fountain of youth. The bad news is that it's not going to happen. The Bible says the wages of sin is death, and it isn't mice that have sinned against God; it is man. Every man. Science can redeem neither man's body nor his soul. It is appointed unto men once to die and after this the judgment (Heb. 9:27). The good news is that Jesus Christ offers salvation and those who know Him as Lord and Saviour have eternal life. Though this sinful body



will die, the spirit cannot be separated from Christ and upon His return the body will be resurrected to immortality. "For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord" (Romans 6:23).

INQUISITION REVISIONISM



One way that Rome's apologists have downgraded the brutality of the inquisition is in dramatically decreasing the number of its victims. Recently a reader asked the following question: "We sometimes listen to pastor David Jeremiah. On September 18th, in a sermon entitled 'When Atheists Would Be Angry,' he referred to a book by Dinesh D'Souza, 'What's So Great about Christianity,' in which the writer referred to the Spanish inquisition and claimed that the total number of people that were executed for heresy was approximately 2,000, and that this occurred over a period over 350 years. Can that be true? Is David Jeremiah on the Catholic side, although being a pastor in an evangelical church?"

REPLY FROM BROTHER CLOUD: Those figures about the Spanish inquisition are the product of historical revisionism. The following web page summarizes the statistics given by other historians: http://answers.yahoo.com/question/index?qid=20060903192705AAZ0Dnd Will Durant, in *The Reformation*, cites Juan Antonio Llorente, General Secretary of the Inquisition from 1789 to 1801, as estimating that 31,912 people were executed from 1480-1808

(Llorente's *Histoire critique de l'Inquisition espagnole,* 1817-18). Durant also cites Hernando de Pulgar, a secretary to Queen Isabella, as estimating that 2,000 people were

burned before 1490. Philip Schaff, in *History of the Christian Church*, gave a number of 8,800 people burned in the 18 years of Torquemada alone. Matthew White (*The Great Big Book of Horrible Things*), in reviewing these and other figures, gives a median number of deaths at 32,000, with around 9,000 under Torquemada. R.J. Rummel (*Death by Government*) describes similar figures as realistic, though he cites some historians who give figures of up to 135,000 people killed under Torquemada. This number includes 125,000 asserted to have died in prison due to poor conditions, leaving 10,000 sentenced to death. (Death rates in medieval and early modern prisons were generally very high, thanks in part to inadequate sanitary conditions and a poor diet.) There are no death toll figures available for the massacres of 1391, 1468, or 1473. These numbers will likely never be known. Evangelicals have capitulated to the ecumenical spirit of the age and are busy building the apostate one-world church. Most of the influential evangelical leaders have become deeply sympathetic with Rome.



sermon notes: verse list

Psalms 22:16 For dogs have compassed me: the assembly of the wicked have inclosed me: they pierced my hands and my feet.

Luke 23:33 And when they were come to the place, which is called Calvary, there they crucified him, and the malefactors, one on the right hand, and the other on the left.

Isaiah 53:9 And he made his grave with the wicked, and with the rich in his death; because he had done no violence, neither was any deceit in his mouth.

Matthew 27:57 When the even was come, there came a rich man of Arimathaea, named Joseph, who also himself was Jesus' disciple:

Luke 9:44-45 Let these sayings sink down into your ears: for the Son of man shall be delivered into the hands of men. But they understood not this saying, and it was hid from them, that they perceived it not: and they feared to ask him of that saying.

John 16:13 Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come.

Numbers 23:19 God is not a man, that he should lie; neither the son of man, that he should repent: hath he said, and shall he not do it? or hath he spoken, and shall he not make it good?

1 Samuel 15:29 And also the Strength of Israel will not lie nor repent: for he is not a man, that he should repent

Titus 1:2 In hope of eternal life, which God, that cannot lie, promised before the world began;

Hebrews 6:18 That by two immutable things, in which it was impossible for God to lie, we might have a strong consolation, who have fled for refuge to lay hold upon the hope set before us:

Psalms 119:130 The entrance of thy words giveth light; it giveth understanding unto the simple.

John 7:17 If any man will do his will, he shall know of the doctrine, whether it be of God, or whether I speak of myself.

Matthew 9:28 And when he was come into the house, the blind men came to him: and Jesus saith unto them, Believe ye that I am able to do this? They said unto him, Yea, Lord. Then touched he their eyes, saying, According to your faith be it unto you.

Mark 9:24 And straightway the father of the child cried out, and said with tears, Lord, I believe; help thou mine unbelief.

John 8:31-32 Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.

sermon notes: Sermon guide
B. We can trust the word of God because what is said in it has been to the I
1. 330 prophecies fulfilled in the bible, exactly as it is written! What is the probability of that happening?
a) The chances of that happening in a person's life is
b) Truth may not in, but it is truth
C. We can trust the word of God because it is the
1. Why can we trust the word of God?
a) Because God cannot
2. What should we do?
a) what you see, hear and understand under the of the word of God
b) Seek to the word of God even though we do not understand it nor do we believe it:
c) Apply to our hearing of the word of God
d) in the word and it with your whole heart!

news highlights

A M B A S S A D O R

A very warm welcome to everyone to our church services! As we start the new year, may God bless you with the richest of His blessings and His direction. May the Lord Jesus speak to your heart this day!

THE VISION AND MISSION OF AMBASSADOR

"To win the north of Singapore for Christ and a thousand souls for Christ in five years."

THEME FORTHE MONTH:

The Word of God
THE FINAL AUTHORITY

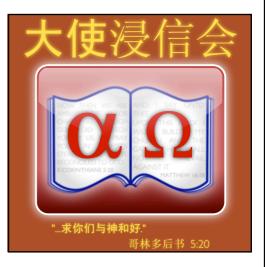
HIGHLIGHTS • MINISTRY NEWS

Chinese Ministry Special Dinner

29 January 2012

The Chinese Ministry will be holding a special dinner after its service later. The service is held every Sunday at 3:30PM.

Everyone is invited and is encouraged to bring their Mandarin-speaking friends and relatives to hear a clear presentation of the Gospel and to fellowship with the brethren.

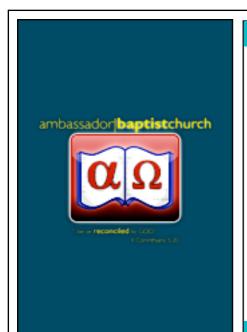


The Chinese Ministry is Ambassador's key outreach ministry to the Chinese ethnic majority in Singapore.

MINISTRY DINNER: FAST FACTS

Date: 29 January 2012

Time: After the Chinese Service starting at 3:30PM



the week at a glance

30 JANUARY - 5 FEBRUARY 2012

23 Jan	24 Jan	25 Jan	26 Jan	27 Jan	28 Jan	29 Jan
monday	tuesday	wednesday	thursday	friday	saturday	sunday
Faith Bible Institute	Outreach Efforts (SMB)	Outreach Efforts (YIS)		Rivers in a Dry Place (Lord's Supper Service)	ABC Youth	Sunday Worship Service Mandarin Service

get in touch

We'd love to hear from you, be it feedback about this bulletin, requests for material, or just about any other query you may have about Christ, His Kingdom, and Ambassador. Contact us by:

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Facebook:

www.facebook.com/ ambassador.baptist.church.SG

Twitter: @abc_singapore

timings

Sunday Services

Children's Bible Hour 09:30AM Sunday Bible Hour 09:30AM Mandarin Service 03:30PM English Worship Service 11:00AM

Routine Weekly Activities

Faith Bible Institute Mondays, 07:45PM

"Rivers in a Dry Place" Fridays, 08:00PM

Ambassador Youth Saturdays, 10:30AM

Outreach Efforts

SEMBAWANG Person-in-Charge: Bro. Robert Tuesdays, 08:15PM

YISHUN

Person-in-Charge: We need one. Wednesdays, 08:15PM

For more information on our weekly activities, visit our website at www.ambassador-baptist.org

prayer list

- Our new facility
- The various ministries
- Growth of Ambassador and its members
- New direction for Ambassador Baptist Church
- Souls to be saved, baptized and added to the church in 2012
- Salvation of loved ones

Let us pray with you. Send your prayer requests to <u>pray@ambassador-baptist.org</u> and we'll gladly be prayer partners together with you.