



we are reconciled to God
2 Corinthians 5:20

be ye reconciled to God

2 Corinthians 5:20

the weekly digest of ambassador**baptistchurch**

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from the pastor's heart

HAS GOD HEARD YOU LATELY?



And the LORD said unto him, I have heard thy prayer ...

1 Kings 9:3

What an encouragement to Solomon for the Lord to tell him that He has heard his prayer! Our God is a prayer-hearing God, and He is a prayer-answering God. It is pointless for God to ask us to pray unless He is willing to answer. Yet, how often, intensely, and sincerely do we

pray? We need to ask ourselves this question: are our prayers strong and fervent, or must we admit that they are weak and lifeless? What can we learn from this simple Scripture?

NOTICE FIRSTLY: GOD RESPONDS.

God answers all our prayers. He hears the cry of the widow and the orphans (Exodus 22:23,24.) and of kings and prophets. He heard the cry of

today's program

the news

hymn | *holy, holy, holy*

opening prayer

hymn | *blessed assurance*

hymn | *what a friend we have in Jesus*

offertory

hymn | *trusting Jesus*

exhortation | *pastor johnny*

invitation and closing

Jairus, whose daughter lay dying, and the silent hopelessness of the man at the Bethesda pool. God comes to those whose heart is broken and contrite, who cry to Him sincerely and of a pure heart. He detests the proud but will answer the prayer of those who are humble and who realize their need of Him. He answers all prayer: He answers "yes" to prayers that He has

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from the pastor's heart

decided should be done in His time; He answers "no" to prayers that He knows to be of no help to us; He answers "wait" to prayers that require Him to work out details on our behalf. Herein lies a thought so simple yet so true in the lives of us as Christians: God does answer all our prayers.

NOTICE SECONDLY: GOD RESPONDS PERSONALLY.

God may use the angels to deliver His answers at times, but He hears and answers every prayer personally. He does not delegate this important task of hearing the prayer of His children. He takes personal interest and personal note of every word, whether uttered loudly or silently in the heart. Christian, take heart - your heavenly Father hears you personally, and takes note of every word and every tear that falls in prayer. He responds personally.

NOTICE THIRDLY: GOD RESPONDS TO PRAYER.

The root word for prayer implies a judgment. Prayer is a decision of the mind that has judged the importance of an issue and has known that only God in Heaven can answer that issue. Prayer is decisive, not a string of idle words or a heartless expression of language. Prayer is a heartfelt cry to God for His help, assistance and strength, without which we cannot live the life of a Christian, to

be effective and fervent for Him. We cry to Him for our families, loved ones and challenges in our lives. We cry to Him that His will be done and His work be accomplished. Work without prayer is the hope of the devil; work with sincere prayer crushes Satan's kingdom.

Has God heard you lately? Have you prayed? If so, be encouraged: God hears and responds personally to our prayer: but we need to pray and to do so fervently.

*Evangelist-Pastor Johnny Tan
Ambassador Baptist Church*



God responds to
prayer

thought for the week

When in prayer, it is better to have the heart with no words, than to have words with no heart.

memory verse

Hitherto have ye asked nothing in my name: ask, and ye shall receive, that your joy may be full.

John 16:24

Sunday Worship Service

4 September 2011

"How can I be effective in my Prayer?"

I. **The title** for today's message is _____

II. **The passage** for today's message is _____

III. **What is prayer?** Prayer is t_____ with God, c_____ with GOD.

IV. **Where can we pray?** _____ , _____

V. **In what posture do we pray?** _____

VI. **Why do we close our eyes to pray?** So that we will be able to _____

VII. **Why do we bow our heads in prayer?** It represents our hearts of _____ to God .

VIII. **What are some things that must be right** so that we can be effective in our prayers?

A. Our _____ must be right

B. Our _____ must be right

C. Our _____ must be right

D. Our _____ must be right

E. Our _____ must be right

F. Our _____ will be effective

Sunday Worship Service

4 September 2011

"How can I be effective in my Prayer?"

Turn to: **James 5: 16 – 18**

Turn to: **Mark 9:16 – 29**

Matthew 6:14 For if ye forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you:

Turn to: **Luke 18:1 – 8**

John 9:31 Now we know that God heareth not sinners: but if any man be a worshipper of God, and doeth his will, him he heareth.

Isaiah 59:1 - 2 ¶ Behold, the LORD'S hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; neither his ear heavy, that it cannot hear: But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear.

Psalms 66:18-19 If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear me: But verily God hath heard me; he hath attended to the voice of my prayer.

Proverbs 15:29 The LORD is far from the wicked: but he heareth the prayer of the righteous.

1 John 3:22 And whatsoever we ask, we receive of him, because we keep his commandments, and do those things that are pleasing in his sight.

Friday Church News Notes

John Piper - Reformed Theology and Charismatic Worship

Friday Church News Notes, September 2, 2011 www.wayoflife.org

On a research visit to a service at John Piper's Bethlehem Baptist Church in Minneapolis this year I had charismatic flashbacks! The sermon was Reformed theology but the music was charismatic rock & roll mysticism. In the past few years I have also visited Saddleback Church, Willowcreek, a Calvary Chapel, a Vineyard Church, a couple of Southern Baptist churches, Roman Catholic services, a liberal Baptist conference, a charismatic conference, and an emerging church conference. One thing they all have in common is the rock music and the experience-centered worship. This is one of the most powerful aspects of the ecumenical movement and it is effectually drawing all types of churches together. One of the major themes of contemporary worship is ecumenical unity, the "body," "we are one." It was a theme that came across in the contemporary worship service at Piper's church. The music brings a church and its members into association with the most radical of ecumenists, such as Darlene Zschech of Hillsong (who PIPER CONTINUED NEXT PAGE....

EMERGING LEADER BRIAN MCLAREN JOINS FORCES WITH NEW AGERS TO CREATE NEW WORLD

Brian McLaren, one of the most influential emerging church leaders, a man whose books are published by the supposed evangelical publisher Zondervan, has joined forces with New Agers, evolutionists, earth worshippers, animists, Hindus, and Buddhists in the Vision Project. Fellow "visionaries" include Michael Dowd, who teaches Evolutionary Christianity; Jean Houston, who believes in the divinity of man and claims that she communicates with the Hindu goddess Sarasvati; Barbara Marx Hubbard, who believes she is in communion with visitors from outer space; Dadi Janki of the Hindu Brahma Kumaris World Spiritual University; Hans Küng, who says that it is not possible to say that one religion is true while others are false; Sara McKechnie, president of the Lucis Trust, formerly Madam Blavatsky's Lucifer Trust, so named because she believed Lucifer to be an agent of light who is "higher and older than Jehovah"; Robert Muller, who says the world must prepare for "an interdependent, safe, prosperous, friendly, loving, happy planetary age as has been heralded by all great prophets" but that peace will not be possible without "the taming of fundamentalism"; David Steindl-Rast, a Catholic-Buddhist who says that man is not separated from God and that all religions are the same at their "mystical core"; Llewellyn Vaughan-Lee, sheikh of the Naqshbandi Sufi Order; and Native American animists Wind Eagle and Rainbow Hawk of the Ehama Institute. [For documentation of the previous quotes see books *The New Age Tower of Babel* and *Contemplative Mysticism: A Powerful Ecumenical Bond*, which are available in print and eBook formats from Way of Life Literature.]



DOCTORS RECOMMENDED BY RICK WARREN PRAISE DALAI LAMA



Mark Hyman and Mehmet Oz, two of the doctors chosen by Southern Baptist pastor Rick Warren to develop his Daniel health plan, are pointing people to the Dalai Lama. At his web site, Hyman says that he and Oz recently participated in a conference on "longevity and Tibetan medicine," joining the Dalai Lama and an assortment of Tibetan monks, Buddhist scholars, biomedical scientists, etc. Hyman claims that "the Dalai Lama can help you live to 120+ years" and recommends Buddhist meditation and Hindu yoga. Hyman says that "the body can regenerate at any age," which is contrary to the Bible's teaching that death is the wages of sin and that God has limited the length of man's life because of sin (Rom. 6:23; Psalm 90:10). Pagan meditation techniques are spiritually dangerous and can bring one into contact with demons. This is why that meditation, even of the Catholic contemplative type, often results in an unscriptural pantheistic or panentheistic view of God. As we have warned in the book *The New Age Tower of Babel*, one of the marks of New Age alternative health care is the false promise of lifelong health, and Hyman's "Adult Essentials Kit" does exactly this. Rick Warren is the blind leading the blind, and the fact that he is not plainly and loudly condemned by the "conservatives" in the Southern Baptist Convention is irrefutable evidence of their deep spiritual compromise and cowardice.

PIPER, Cont.

music is bring together Catholics, Anglicans, and charismatics), Jack Hayford (who says that God told him not to judge the Catholic church), Graham Kendrick (one of the founders of March for Jesus), Chris Tomlin (who rejoices that contemporary music is bringing “conservatives and charismatics” together), and Stewart Townend (who wants to bring conservative churches into fellowship with the “broader church”). A fundamental Baptist pastor who wrote recently to criticize my so-called “warning ministry” said that music is strictly a local church matter and that the only preacher who has a right to warn about music is a church’s own pastor. He apparently thinks that 2 Timothy 4:2; Titus 2:15; 1 Peter 4:11; and Jude 3 are addressed only to pastors and only have application to one pastor and one church. He also thinks that every pastor is equipped to deal with the music issue and needs no help. That view sounds more like the philosophy of Diotrephes to me! I intend by God’s grace to continue to sound a warning about the adaptation of contemporary Christian music and the movement toward contemporary worship for those who have ears to hear, and if someone doesn’t want to listen that is between him and the Lord. I believe in religious and soul liberty, both the liberty to preach and the liberty to hear.

**PSYCHIATRISTS TRYING TO DE-STIGMATIZE PEDOPHILIA PERVERSION**

The following is excerpted from *WorldNetDaily*, August 22, 2011: “While a highly controversial campaign featuring doctors and psychiatrists seeks to normalize sexual activity between adults and children of almost any age, the principal expert investigator for a U.S. Justice Department study on child sex abuse warns that the pedophilia advocates are using the same strategy that was successfully employed to make homosexuality a classroom subject for small children in the nation’s public schools. Dr. Judith Reisman recently attended a symposium held by the ‘MINOR-ATTRACTED PEOPLE’ advocacy group B4U-ACT to disseminate ‘accurate information’ on the position that pedophilia is just one more alternative sexual orientation. ... The speakers promoted the idea that the American Psychiatric Association should remove pedophilia from the list of mental defects in its Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders. Reisman explained the same strategy was used by homosexual activists in the 1970s when same-sex attractions were removed from the APA’s list of disorders. Eventually, the legalization of ‘gay marriage,’ the mandatory homosexuality lessons in public schools and the brand-new policy of allowing open homosexuality in the U.S. military resulted. The recent event wasn’t a meeting of minor unknowns: ‘Dr. John Sadler (University of Texas) argued

that diagnostic criteria for mental disorders should not be based on concepts of vice since such concepts are subject to shifting social attitudes and doing so diverts mental-health professions from their role as healers’... Another celebrity was Fred Berlin of Johns Hopkins who argued in favor of ‘acceptance of and compassion for people who are attracted to minors,’ the report continued. J. Matt Barber, vice president of Liberty Counsel Action and an ardent advocate for Judeo-Christian values and the traditional family, told WND the symposium was ‘the North American Man-Boy Love Association all dolled up and dressed in the credible language of the elitist Ph.Ds.’ NAMBLA openly advocates for the legalization of sex between adults and children. ‘This is a bunch of morally relative, highly educated people in the mental health community who are trying to achieve the ultimate in tolerance,’ Barber said. ‘These are the people who are the disciples of Alfred Kinsey.’”

TEARS

The eyes are self-cleaning and self-maintaining. They produce three different types of tears, each with its own complex chemical makeup. *Basal tears* are the normal lubricating tears that keep the eye clear of dust. The composition of these tears include lysozyme which fights against bacterial infection as part of the body's mind-bogglingly complex immune system. *Reflex tears* are produced to flush the eye of irritants, such as onion or pepper vapors. *Emotional tears* are produced as a result of emotional stress and contain a natural painkiller and calming hormones. Tears have three layers, an outer layer which contains oils that prevent evaporation and control the flow of tears onto the cheek; a middle layer, which contains the proteins and hormones, and a mucous layer touching the eye itself which coats the cornea and provides for even distribution of the tear film. "Thus saith the LORD, the God of David thy father, I have heard thy prayer, I have seen thy

tears" (2 Kings 20:5). "Thou tellest my wanderings: put thou my tears into thy bottle: are they not in thy book?" (Psalms 56:8). "They that sow in tears shall reap in joy" (Psalms 126:5). "And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes" (Revelation 21:4).



EUGENE NIDA, FATHER OF DYNAMIC EQUIVALENCY, DEAD AT 96

Eugene Nida, the father of the dynamic equivalency method of Bible translation, died on August 25 at age 96. Originally with Wycliffe Bible Translators, Nida was associated with the American Bible Society and the United Bible Societies from 1943 forward. Through his writings and consultations Nida wielded a vast influence in the field of Bible texts and translations. He traveled to 90 countries to confer with translators working in more than 200 different languages. Nida had an important role in the formation of the very liberal United Bible Societies (UBS) and "initiated, organized, and administered" the UBS Greek New Testament (Preface to the first edition, 1965). It was Nida who insisted upon the graded evaluations for each textual variant (Aland, *The Text of the New Testament*, p. 44). Under this scheme the variants are rated A, B, C, or D, depending upon the editors' relative "certainty" of a reading. Nida's greatest influence, though, was as the father of the dynamic equivalency theory of Bible translation, beginning in 1947 with the publication of *Bible Translating*. He promoted the "thought by thought" method of translation. Nida taught that the translator has the liberty to change the form of the Scripture and even to contextualize the Scripture into modern cultures, such as changing the word "snow" to "coconut" if snow is unknown in a particular culture. He could do this because he did not believe in the infallible inspiration of Scripture. Nida mocked the doctrine that the Bible is "written in a kind of Holy Ghost language" (*Language Structure and Translation*, 1975, p. 259). He wrote: "Biblical revelation is not absolute and all divine revelation is essentially incarnational. ... The words are in a sense nothing in and of themselves. ... The word is void unless related to experience" (Nida, *Message and Mission*, 1960, pp. 222-226). This is the heresy of Neo-orthodoxy. Throughout Scripture, it is the very words of the

Bible that are said to be important, not just the meaning. Three times we are told that "man doth not live by bread only, but by EVERY WORD that proceedeth out of the mouth of the LORD doth man live" (Deut. 8:3; Mat. 4:4; Lk. 4:4). Nida held that the accounts of angels and miracles are not necessarily interpreted literally (*Message and Mission*, p. 41). And he denied the substitutionary blood atonement of Jesus Christ (*Theory and Practice*, 1969, p. 53), claiming that Christ's blood in Romans 3:25 and other passages is symbolic of violent death (*A Translator's Handbook on Paul's Letter to the Romans*), whereas Romans 5:8-10 teaches us that salvation required BOTH the blood and death of Christ. Blood is required for the atonement (Lev. 17:11; Heb. 9:22). Over the past 100 years the field of Bible scholarship and translation has been deeply corrupted by end-time apostasy. We have documented this extensively in *The Modern Version Hall of Shame*, which is available in print and eBook formats from Way of Life Literature.



APOSTATE BAPTIST “PASTOR” SAYS BLOOD HYMNS BELONG IN VAMPIRE MOVIES

Amy Butler, senior “pastor” of Calvary Baptist Church, Washington, D.C., claims that hymns about the blood of Christ belong in a vampire movie. Of hymns such as “There Is a Fountain,” Butler says: “With due respect to the great tradition that has shaped our denominational faith practice, lyrics like these make us sound like we belong in one of the *Twilight* [vampire] movies. Aside from questionable theology, the metaphors in many of these hymns have no real meaning for modern-day worshippers. I mean, who wants to approach the ‘throne of grace’ (if they even know what that means) at all if it’s sprinkled with blood?” (“There Is Power in the ‘Blood’ Hymns,” Associated Baptist Press, Aug. 25, 2011). Butler decided to devote a Sunday service to the “ritual” of singing some of the old “blood hymns,” but only to “build identity and remember our roots.” This reminds us that most Baptist churches today are either totally apostate or deeply compromised with the world and the emerging church philosophy. These are the treacherous waters that many fundamental Baptists are building bridges to through such things as the adaptation of contemporary Christian music and flirting with “conservative” evangelicals. [See <http://www.wayoflife.org/thepath/index.html>]. Apostasy of a church doesn’t happen all at once. It happens gradually, usually over generations, and begins with “little” steps of compromise. We would say to Butler that the doctrine of atonement taught in the old “blood hymns” is not “questionable theory.” It is biblically

true that “sin stains are lost in its life-giving flow” and that “His blood atoned for all our race, and sprinkles now the throne of grace.” There is no salvation apart from the blood of Christ. His death alone did not purchase the atonement. This is one of the major themes of the book of Hebrews. “And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission. ... Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus” (Hebrews 9:22; 10:19).



Conclusion

Friends in Christ, do not be discouraged by any of this. It is God’s will that we know the times (1 Ch. 12:32; Mat. 16:3) and that we be as wise as serpents and harmless as doves. These things remind us that the hour is very late, and we need to be ready for the coming of the Lord. Are you sure that you are born again? Are you living for Christ day by day? “And that, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep: for now is our salvation nearer than when we believed. The night is far spent, the day is at hand: let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armour of light. Let us walk honestly, as in the day; not in rioting and drunkenness, not in chambering and wantonness, not in strife and envying. But put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make not provision for the flesh, to fulfil the lusts thereof” (Rom. 13:11-14). This material is sent only to those who personally subscribe to the Fundamental Baptist Information Service list. To SUBSCRIBE or UNSUBSCRIBE or CHANGE ADDRESSES go to <http://www.wayoflife.org/fbis/subscribe.html>. Way of Life Literature, P.O. Box 610368, Port Huron, MI 48061, 866-295-4143, fbns@wayoflife.org. David Cloud is the director of Way of Life Literature and author of the Friday Church News Notes.

Lord! Hear us!

SEPTEMBER - MONTH OF PRAYER

The Lord Jesus lived by prayer. Even at the cross, He was praying, not for Himself, but for the lost and the needy.

This month, we will be focusing on this all-important, but sadly, seldom applied, principle for the believer. May the Lord move us to be more prayerful this month and beyond. If we have already been fervent in prayer, may the Lord use us to move mountains for Him.



COUNTDOWNS

days to:



**Prayer Retreat
2011**

7 - 9 September

Details online

NOTICE

FAITH BIBLE INSTITUTE NEW SEMESTER

Early bird signup discounts.

For those who missed the current semester of FBI, sign up for the next semester by 19 September 2011 to qualify for discounts on your tuition fees. The semester starts 16 January 2012 through 14 May 2012 and is conducted weekly.

For more information, visit our website or email us at fbi@ambassador-baptist.org

THE VISION AND MISSION OF AMBASSADOR

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

THEME FOR THE MONTH:

The Christian and His Culture

RECAP • COMING UP

CALL FOR WORKERS

Ambassador Youth Camp 2011

Be a:

- Preacher
- Counsellor and devotion group leader
- Worship leader
- Games coordinator/ helper
- Food coordinator or cook
- Treasurer
- First-aider
- T-shirt designer

Registration will begin in October. For more details or to serve, get in touch with the Youth Camp team at youthcamp@ambassador-baptist.org

YOUTH CAMP 2011

Dates: 21 - 25 November 2011

Venue: Aloha Changi Fairy Point Chalet 7



the week at a glance

5 - 11 SEPTEMBER 2011

5 Sep	6 Sep	7 Sep	8 Sep	9 Sep	10 Sep	11 Sep
monday	tuesday	wednesday	thursday	friday	saturday	sunday
Faith Bible Institute	Outreach Efforts (Visitation Only)	PRAYER RETREAT			ABC Youth	Worship Service New Chinese Service timings

timings

Sunday Services

- Children's Bible Hour 09:30AM
- Sunday Bible Hour 09:30AM
- Mandarin Service 09:30AM
(new service timings begin 11 Sep)
- English Worship Service 11:00AM

Outreach Efforts -

- SEMBAWANG
Person-in-Charge: Bro. Robert
Tuesdays, 08:15PM
- YISHUN
Person-in-Charge: *We need one.*
Wednesdays, 08:15PM

Routine Weekly Activities

- Faith Bible Institute
Mondays, 07:45PM
- "Rivers in a Dry Place"
Fridays, 08:00PM
- Ambassador Youth
Saturdays, 10:30AM

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

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:

Post:
1096 Sembawang Road
Singapore 758518

Email:
info@ambassador-baptist.org
johnny@ambassador-baptist.org
(pastor's email)

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

Twitter: @abc_singapore

prayer list and thanksgiving

- **The new place**
- The vision of Ambassador: To Win the North for Christ!
- The various ministries
- Growth of Ambassador and its members

church building fund - project tabernacle

Ambassador Baptist Church has been blessed with more people. God has also miraculously provided us with a more permanent place of worship at Woodlands which is due in 2nd quarter 2013 to cater for our expansion.

We will need the Lord to provide us with \$180,000 to be used for renovating the new place; we will need to raise \$25,715 every three months.

If you are a Christian and believe in the Lord's work in Ambassador, you may contribute regularly by enclosing it in an envelope indicating "Church Building Fund" and dropping it into the offering bag during the service.