22 JULY 2012

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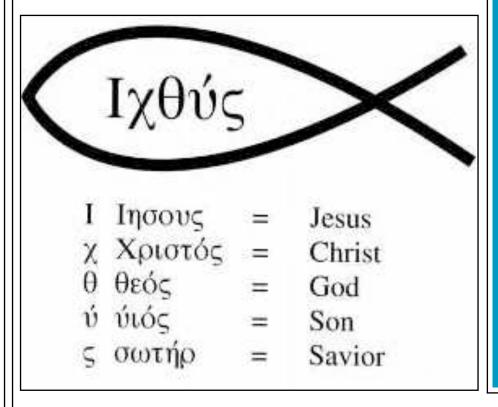
# be ye reconciled to God

2 Corinthians 5:20

the weekly digest of ambassador|baptistchurch

#### from the pastor's heart

#### A FISH OUT OF WATER



## today's program

from the pastor's heart

news highlights

week at a glance

sermon materials

Bible-reading schedule

#### the **news**

**hymn** I *there is power in the blood* opening **prayer** 

hymn | higher ground

**hymn** I come thou fount

offertory

**hymn** I nothing between

exhortation | pastor johnny

invitation and closing

ye are not of the world, but I have chosen you out of the world, therefore the world hateth you.

John 15:19

There are many believers today who feel "if I live according to the Bible, then I will not be able to fit into this world. Biblical Christianity cannot fit into my lifestyle;

therefore, I need to adapt my Christianity to this world". Some of these who have this thought are genuine believers who seek to live by the faith of Christ, yet finding no middle ground, create some of their own. The Bible tells us that those who will live according to the word of God will be different! Notice the Lord's words.

#### We are not of this world

As a genuine believer, we no longer belong to this world. We were originally born in this world, but by faith in the Lord Jesus, we have been born again (John 3:3) and made the children of God by faith (John 1:12). We therefore have a different nature from

continued on page 2

#### from the pastor's heart

the people of this world, and we operate by different principles - heavenly principles. We are not of this world.

#### We are chosen to be out of this world

In our salvation, the Lord Jesus did a marvellous work of setting us out of this world. He elected us by His grace and mercy through the work of the cross and by our obedience to the faith. We are chosen in Him to live separate from the world. This is the current platform of every believer: they belong to Christ, because He had different principles chosen them.

Therefore the world hateth you

The word hate has the idea of loving less to the point of dislike, detest and persecution. This world will hate the principles that the Christian stands for. In a culture of lying, people will hate those who tell the truth. In a society of compromise, those who hold a standard for Christ will be despised and other will shun those who will live biblically moral lives

Christians who love the Lord, realise that when we follow Christ, the world will hate us. If the world does not hate us, then it may show that we do not belong to Christ, because there is nothing to demonstrate a change of our life. The goal is not to be be weird, but to be different from the world and for the Lord. There is a purpose for being different.

> But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light:

> > 1 Peter 2:9

Christians, do you feel like fish out of water? You are in good company, for the disciples of old were!

#### thought for the week

"A little leaven leaveneth the whole lump" A little sin spreads and influences all What sin are we allowing in our lives?

#### memory verse

We operate by

heavenly principles.

To whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is Christ in you, the hope of glory: Whom we preach, warning every man, and teaching every man in all wisdom; that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus:

Colossians 1:27-28

#### sermon notes: sermon guide

Sunday Worship Service 22 July 2012

The Appropriate Response to the Mercies of God (Part 2)

Turn to: **Romans 12:1-2** 

**Psalms 24:1** The earth is the LORD'S, and the fulness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein.

**John 3:16** For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

**Ephesians 2:2** Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience:

Turn to: Psalm 1:1

**Job 31:1** I made a covenant with mine eyes; why then should I think upon a maid?

**Ephesians 4:27** Neither give place to the devil.

**Romans 13:14** But put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make not provision for the flesh, to fulfil the lusts thereof.

**Psalms 101:3** I will set no wicked thing before mine eyes: I hate the work of them that turn aside; it shall not cleave to me.

**Proverbs 19:27** Cease, my son, to hear the instruction that causeth to err from the words of knowledge.

**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.

**1 Corinthians 10:31** Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God.

**Colossians 2:8** Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ.

Matthew 6:33 But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

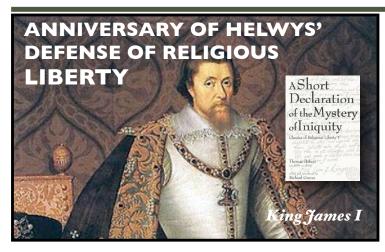
**Micah 6:8** He hath shewed thee, O man, what is good; and what doth the LORD require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?

sermon notes: Verse list
Sunday Worship Service 22 July 2012 The Appropriate Response to the Mercies of God (Part 2)
I. The title for the message is
II. The passage for today's message is
III. How should our dedication look like?
A. W, ws, wI, our b, our o, logical r s
IV. But there is another dimension that we must also realize that our dedication will influence and affect: our dedication also should affect our relationship with this world.
V. "The World" has three meanings
A. The physical
B. The p
C. The pt and f of this world
VI. How should our relationship to this world be when we have dedicated ourselves to the Lord?
A. We are to to this world:
1. What does it mean to to this world?
a) To conform one's self (i.e. one's mind and character) to
b) Be not conformed to this world "do notyourselves to be into the f, p and o a of this world
2. How does this take place?
a) E
b) P
c) H
3. What does it involve?
a) A rejection of outward fashions of this world that will lead usfrom Christ or someone else

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## FRIDAY CHURCH NEWS NOTES



This is the 400th anniversary of the publication of the first defense of full religious liberty in the English language. Thomas Helwys' A Short Declaration on the Mystery of Iniquity, published in 1612, was a brave appeal for liberty of conscience for all people and a bold condemnation of the Roman Catholic papacy from which the spirit of persecution stemmed. In The Mystery of Iniquity Helwys wrote, "If the King's people be obedient and true subjects, obeying all humane laws made by the King, our Lord the King can require no more: for men's religion to God is betwixt God and themselves; the King shall not answer for it, neither may the King be judge between God and man." Helwys sent King James I an autographed copy of the book and a personal appeal for religious liberty. That was a year

after the publication of the renowned Bible that King James had authorized, but the king was no friend of religious liberty. In fact, he was guilty of the blood of the martyrs. Helwys, a Baptist pastor and the father of seven children, was rewarded with imprisonment in Newgate, where he died in 1616 at age 40. His wife was also imprisoned. Many, like the Pilgrims, fled to America and elsewhere because of King James' persecution. In fact, the last person burned at the stake in England perished during this king's reign. This was the Baptist preacher Edward Wightman, who was burned in Smithfield on April 11, 1611. The Mystery of Iniquity was a very important book, in that Helwys argued not only for full religious liberty and separation of church and state, but also for believer's baptism, congregational church polity, and the right of the believer to read and interpret Scripture for himself. Helwys was one of the founders of the General Baptist churches in England, so called because they believed in general election as opposed to "particular" or "sovereign" election. Adam Taylor's History of the General Baptists of England (1818) gives the early history of the non-Calvinist Baptists. (In 2001 I spent a day at Spurgeon's library at William Jewell College in Liberty, Missouri, and scanned Taylor's two-volume history; this rare set is available in Way of Life's Fundamental Baptist Digital Library. Today Spurgeon's library is owned by Southwestern Baptist Seminary in Texas.) The copy of A Short Declaration of the Mystery of Iniquity that Helwys presented to the king is preserved in the Bodleian Library at Oxford University.

## ENTERTAINER BLASPHEMES GOD AS "ANGRY ALCOHOLIC STEP-GOD"

While interviewing lesbian country singer Chely Wright and celebrating her homosexual coming out and her lesbian "marriage," entertainer John Fugelsang claimed that the Bible represents two Gods: "a God of love and light" and "an angry alcoholic step-God." The interview took place while Fungelsang was filling in for Eliot Spiter on the Viewpoint program. Wright told Fugelsang that she grew up in a Christian home, made a profession of faith in Christ as a child, first realized she was "gay" at age 9, and for years prayed: "Dear God, please don't let me be gay. I promise to be a good person. I promise to do all the things you ask me to do. Please take it away. In your name I pray, amen" ("Gay Country Singer Chely," The Blaze, July 1, 2012). Eventually she came to the conviction that "God made her who she was" and "lying about her feelings was wrong." She believes that the fact that God didn't answer her prayer is evidence that God is pleased with her homosexuality. The sad fact is that there is no biblical testimony that she was ever born again. When she speaks of her conversion, she does not mention repentance of sin or faith in the blood of Christ. Further, even if an individual is born again, the Bible does not say that God will remove the old nature with its lusts. Answered prayer must be in accordance with God's Word. "And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask any thing according to his will, he heareth us" (1 John 5:14). Every person has sinful passions, whether "gay" or "non-gay." When we are saved, the source of those passions remains, which is the "old man" inherited in our fallen flesh from

Chely Wright and "wife"
Lauren Blitzer

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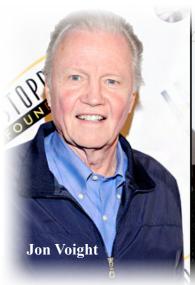
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Adam, but the believer also has the "new man" and the Spirit of God to enable him to deny the flesh and to walk according to righteousness. We also have the glorious provision of confessing our sins to purify our daily fellowship with God so that we might remain in the light (1 John 1). Wright is following her feelings rather than God's Word. She is deceived by end-time mysticism. No amount of Scripture wresting can make the Bible approve of homosexual passions or of same-sex marriage. From Genesis to Revelation the Bible teaches that the only lawful outlet of the sexual drive is holy marriage, and holy marriage is a covenant made between one man and one woman. Jesus emphasized this truth in the plainest, most

forceful way in Matthew 19. Every perversion of the divinely-established marriage covenant is an abomination before God. As for there being two Gods in the Bible, that is a figment of Fugelsang's imagination. Every Bible prophet from Moses to John presents the same God. He is both terribly holy and magnificently merciful. Because of His holiness He punishes every infraction of His righteous laws and judges the impenitent, but because of His mercy He Himself took the punishment that every man deserves, and He offers forgiveness of sin and eternal life those who repent and believe in Christ as Lord and Savior. The modern entertainment industry is fulfilling Psalm 2 in its pitiful rage against the Almighty.

## MOVIE STAR'S MOM RECEIVES DEATH THREATS FOR OPPOSING HOMOSEXUAL "MARRIAGE"





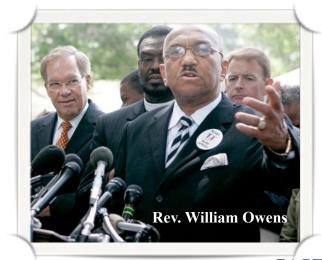
Jane Pitt, mother of Hollywood superstar Brad Pitt, received a deluge of vicious responses, including death threats and an outpouring of filthy vulgarities, for simply expressing her opinion against abortion and homosexual "marriage." In a letter to the editor of the Springfield News-Leader in Missouri, Mrs. Pitt stated that Barack Obama is "a liberal who supports the killing of unborn babies and same-sex marriage," which is the undeniable truth. As a state senator in Illinois, Obama even OPPOSED a bill that would have required that infants who survived abortion be given medical attention. With the mainstream media as their gleeful helpers, homosexual activists have the objective of quieting every voice that is opposed to their lifestyle, and any time a prominent person utters so much as a peep against them, the response is immediate, outrageous, and vicious. In this case, it worked, as Mrs. Pitt has reportedly refused to make any further comment. There should be voices sounding everywhere

in the "land of the free and home of the brave" in defense of Mrs. Pitt's constitutional right of freedom of speech and religion, but even her famous son hasn't said a word to rebuke his mother's vile attackers. Her other son, Doug, though, has bravely spoken out in support, as has actor Jon Voight, the father of her daughter-in-law Angelina Jolie. He said, "Good for her" and even expressed agreement with her point of view.

#### **BLACK PASTORS: PRIDE IN OBAMA HAS TURNED TO SHAME**

The following is excerpted from "Black Pastors Group," NewsMax.com, July 6, 2012: "A coalition of African-American pastors is calling on blacks to boycott President Barack Obama and sign a petition demanding that the administration withdraw support for gay marriage. The group, the 1,300-member Coalition of African-American Pastors, says it was snubbed by Obama and Attorney General Eric Holder when it demanded a meeting to discuss same-sex unions. The group had requested the meeting last month. 'By embracing gay marriage, President Obama is leading the country down an immoral path,' Rev. William Owens, president of the Memphisbased coalition, said on Friday, The Washington Examiner reports. 'Some things are bigger than the next election.' ... The coalition supports African-American pastors who believe marriage should be between a man and a woman. ... '... today we are calling on black pastors and

black Christians to withhold support from President Obama until he corrects course,' Owens said."



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## **MOVIE STAR SAYS HE IS GOD**

Hollywood movie star Morgan Freeman said in a recent interview that he is God. When asked, "Do you think there is a God?" Freeman replied, "Um yea. I am God." When the

interviewer responded, "Because every man is created in God's image," Freeman said, "Yes or God is created in my image" ("Morgan Freeman on Why He Believes He Is God," FoxNews, July 6, 2012). The Psalmist wrote: "I have said, Ye are gods; and all of you are children of the most High. But ye shall die like men, and fall like one of the princes. Arise, O God, judge nations" (Psalms 82:6-7).

### RINGO **STARR CALLS FOR** WORLD **PEACE**



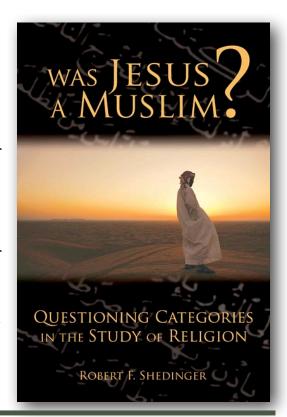
Former Beatles' drummer Ringo Starr celebrated his 72nd birthday recently with a call for world peace. Since 2008 he has encouraged fans to host a "peace and love" get together at noon on his birthday in their time zones. This year Starr joined fans at the Hard Rock Cafe in Nashville, where they shouted "peace and love," flashed peace signs, and sang the chorus of John Lennon's "Give Peace a Chance." The Bible says there is no peace to the wicked. There can be no peace on earth until men are right with their Maker. The modern peace movement is blind mysticism with no power to change the fundamental problem that has brought turmoil to the earth, that problem being sin. The Beatles sang a lot about peace, but they are hypocritical. The breakup of the band was anything but amicable and they have had nine marriages between the four of them. That doesn't add up to a lot of peace. "For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night. For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape" (1 Thessalonians 5:2-3).



#### LUTHERAN TEACHER SAYS **IESUS WAS A MUSLIM**

In yet another nutty turn of events in these apostate last days, a Lutheran teacher is claiming that Jesus was a Muslim. Robert Shedinger of Luther College promotes this view in his book Was Jesus a Muslim:

Questioning Categories in the Study of Religion. Jesus Himself warned about the coming of false christs (Matthew 24:4, 5, 24), and Shedinger's "christ" is a social justice hero rather than what the Bible says He is, which is the Son of God, the Creator of all, and the Saviour of the world. Approaching the Bible through a liberal, unbelieving, syncretistic mindset, Shedinger finds whatever christ he pleases in its pages, and indeed his "Jesus" is closer to the "Isa" of Islam than the Jesus of Scripture, as his "Jesus" is not God, is not the Son of God, and did not die for man's sins or rise from the dead. The book is published by Fortress Press, which describes itself as ecumenical and inclusive. Jerry Johnson, a spokesman for Luther College, says, "The administration is very, very comfortable" with Shedinger's book ("College Professor," Jul. 11, 2012, CampusReform.org).



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#### NO CLOSING OF THE EYES ON THE TEMPLE MOUNT



Recent activities on the Temple Mount in Jerusalem remind us of where we are in the context of Bible prophecy. Israel is back in the land and has her own state, but she is there by the skin of her teeth and she is still under Gentile dominion, as the times of the Gentiles, which began when Babylon conquered Jerusalem, has not yet come to an end. This is why Israel has often had to bend to American and European opinion even at risk to her own security, and this is also why Israel doesn't control her own holiest site. After Israel took back the Temple Mount during the Six Day War in 1967, defense minister Moshe Dayan, a "secular Jew" and a profane man with no faith in God's Word, returned control of the Mount to the Palestinian Waqf and the Israeli Knesset approved the decision. The Waqf had controlled the Mount since it was assigned this task by the British in 1931. Jews are severely restricted in their ability to worship on the Mount. New rules issued in May 2012 forbid closing the eyes, rocking the body back and forth, taking a note out of one's pocket, or anything else that could be construed as prayer. On June 1 of this year a Jewish Israeli man was detailed by police after moving his lips in silent prayer when he was "overwhelmed with emotion" as he and his son stood on the mount. A complaint had been made by a Waqf agent. On June 20 a young man visiting from London, England, was told by Waqf officials to remove his kippah (or yarmulke) because it was offensive to them. On July 7 an appeal was filed with the Israeli High Court to stop Muslim work on the foundation stone which is located in the Dome of the Rock mosque and which was probably the site of the holy of holies in Solomon's Temple. Muslims have done great damage to archaeological artifacts beneath the Mount, and Israel has been unable to do anything about it. In 1986 the Temple Institute was founded with the objective of seeing "Israel rebuild the Holy Temple on Mount Moriah in Jerusalem." They are building "the temple in waiting" by preparing architectural designs and constructing the actual articles to be used in the new Temple. They have spent at least \$20 million on this project, not knowing that the Third Temple will be occupied by the antichrist. "... he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God" (2 Thess. 2:4).



#### **CONCLUSION:**

The Friday Church News Notes is designed for use in churches and is published by Way of Life Literature's Fundamental Baptist Information Service. Unless otherwise stated, the Notes are written by David Cloud. Of necessity we quote from a wide variety of sources, but this obviously does not imply an endorsement. We trust that our readers will not be discouraged. 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. The News Notes remind us that the hour is very late, and we need to be ready for the Lord's coming. Are you sure that you are born again? Are you living for Christ? "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 mailing list. To SUBSCRIBE, go to http://www.wayoflife.org/wayoflife/subscribe.html. TO UNSUBSCRIBE OR CHANGE ADDRESSES, go to the very bottom of any email received from us and click "Manage My Subscription." Way of Life Literature, P.O. Box 610368, Port Huron, MI 48061, 866-295-4143, fbns@wayoflife.org.

sermon notes: Sermon guide							
b) A rejection of the of this world							
B. We are to be away from this world							
1. Be ye transformed:							
a) How?							
(1) Teaching (doctrine)							
(2) Rebuke (reproof)							
(3) Retraining (correction)							
(4) Following the right way (for instruction in righteousness)							
C. We need to be with the faith of Christ							
Personal Reflection and Application							

#### sermon notes: verse list

**Jeremiah 17:9** The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?

- **1 Corinthians 4:5** Therefore judge nothing before the time, until the Lord come, who both will bring to light the hidden things of darkness, and will make manifest the counsels of the hearts: and then shall every man have praise of God.
- **2 Corinthians 5:17** Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.

**Galatians 6:15** For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision availeth any thing, nor uncircumcision, but a new creature.

**Ephesians 4:24** And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness.

- 1 Peter 2:2 As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby:
- **2 Timothy 3:16 17** All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works.

**John 4:34** Jesus saith unto them, My meat is to do the will of him that sent me, and to finish his work.

**Galatians 6:14** But God forbid that I should glory, save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world is crucified unto me, and I unto the world.

#### news highlights

CHURCH NEWS • COMING UP

#### **Church Anniversary**

## called to follow

ambassador**baptistchurch**'s third anniversary

For even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that **ye should follow his steps**:

1 PETER 2:21

THIRD ANNIVERSARY "Called to Follow"

Date: 29 July 2012 Time: 10AM - 12PM (Single Service)

With Mandarin interpretation and lunch

God has been gracious to Ambassador over the years and He has showed Himself faithful. This year marks the third year of the church's independence and the start of its transition towards being a discipleship church in obedience to the Word of God in the Great Commission.

Ambassador will be commemorating this milestone with its anniversary on 29 July. Under the theme "Called to Follow", the event will recall God's goodness to us as well as looking on expectantly to what He will do for Ambassador in the coming years. All are invited!

CHINESE MINISTRY • COMING UP

#### In The Chinese Ministry

AMBASSADOR is embarking on a two-month direction in the months of June and July of bringing people to the Lord and to its worship services.

We aim to reach every language group for Christ. If you have family, friends or contacts who need the gospel, who are churchless or who otherwise need the Word of God, pray and let the Chinese ministry know so we can pray for, visit, invite and win these precious souls to Christ.

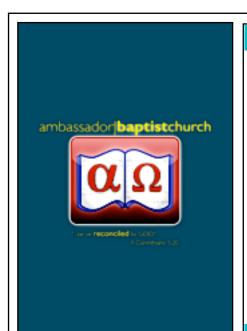
# Welcome to A M B A S S A D O R

## 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:

Presenting Every Person Perfect in Christ



#### the week at a glance

#### 23 - 29 JULY 2012

23 JUL	24 JUL	25 JUL	26 JUL	27 JUL	28 JUL	29 JUL
monday	tuesday	wednesday	thursday	friday	saturday	sunday
	Outreach and Visitation (SEM)	Outreach and Visitation (YIS)		Rivers in a Dry Place		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:

Phone: +65 91000305

#### 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

#### 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 - TERM BREAK *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 <a href="https://www.ambassador-baptist.org">www.ambassador-baptist.org</a>

#### prayer list

- Our new facility
- The various ministries
- New direction for Ambassador Baptist Church
- Souls to be saved, baptized and added to the church in 2012
- Salvation of loved ones
- THANKSGIVING: Bro. Terry's successful operation.
- · Bro. Terry's treatment and recovery.

## the Bible in 4 months

23 JUL Luke 3

**24 JUL** Luke 4-5

**25 JUL** Luke 6

**26 JUL** Luke 7

27 JUL Luke 8-9

28 JUL Luke 10

29 JUL Luke 11