

16 JUNE 2013



be ye **reconciled** to God

2 Corinthians 5:20

the weekly digest of ambassador|baptistchurch

find.it

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from the pastor's heart

A FATHER'S HEART



today's **program**

the **news**

hymn | *my Saviour's love*

opening **prayer**

hymn | *only a sinner*


hymn | *faithful men*


offertory

hymn | *guid me, o thou great
Jehovah*

exhortation | *pastor Johnny*

invitation and closing

 Pastor Johnny Tan (johnny@ambassador-baptist.org)

 bipolarbear, Flickr

*I will open my mouth in a
parable: I will utter dark sayings
of old: which ... our fathers have
told us*

Psalms 78:2 - 3

Asaph, the musician, writes
confidently of his conviction to
proclaim the word of God to the

next generation. The word of
God is to be shared, not stored.
It is to be spoken out from the
mouth, not stowed in the heart.
It is to be proclaimed from the
rooftops, not placed on shelves.
These words, important to be
proclaimed, were told by the
fathers to their next
generations. Asaph

remembered the words of the
fathers of old. The ancient
people of the Jews had the
Father as head to instruct, lead
and protect the family. Fathers,
let us hear these truths.

**The fathers took responsibility
for teaching the word and**

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ways of God to the children. It is a God-given responsibility for fathers to teach their children the word of God. Yet, though the responsibility was given, the question to be asked remains: has the responsibility been fully accepted? A soldier may bear arms but is he willing to fight? A father may be so by name, but will he accept the responsibility of teaching the word of God? Fathers, we must teach our children the word of God.

The fathers took responsibility for demonstrating the Word of God in their lives (*Psalms 78:4*). They not only preached but practised the word of God. Although the nation of Israel failed God and fell into apostasy time and again, we saw godly kings such as Josiah, Hezekiah, David and Solomon. We have the patriarchs such as Abraham and Moses who did many wonderful works in the name of the Lord Jehovah. Fathers, are there wonderful works that the Lord has done in our lives that we can proclaim to the next generation? Have we seen, heard and experienced the wonderful works of God? Have you known and shown in our lives the reality of Christ's salvation in changing us? In transforming us and helping us to overcome our bad habits, impure thoughts and unkindness? To begin to love one another as Christ has loved us? Many modern saints do not have first hand knowledge of the might of God. They are ignorant of the power that opened the Red Sea and held the sun for 24 hours. Yet, these are written in the Holy Scriptures, known and read of all men. Children cannot believe even if they hear unless the Holy Spirit convicts their hearts of

the truth that is impressed on them. Yet, how is the truth to be impressed on the hearts unless there is a clear testimony by the fathers in the families? Fathers, is there the testimony of Christ in our families, of genuine love and tolerance, of biblical care and concern, of godly discipline and practice, of Scriptural hatred for sin and of intense love for God in our service to God within the local church and outside? We need to take responsibility for demonstrating the love of God in our lives.

The fathers hoped that their children would set their hope in God (*Psalms 78:7*). Every father need to hope in their hearts that their children will set their hope in God. The hope of our lives should never be the money we earn, the career we have, the spouses we will marry, the homes we make but the Christ we have received, the Saviour we have accepted and the God of this Universe we have come to trust. The hope is that they will never forget what God has done for them and that the children will keep listening to the Lord with all their hearts with all their obedience.

Fathers, are we instructing our children in the word of God by our words and our works? Is our intense desire to ensure that they set their hearts and hope in God and Him alone? Though all the world may leave them and their hopes and dreams are dashed, they will know their God is always in their midst. May we inspire hope in our children by our words but, more importantly, by our godly lives.

thought of the week

Have I respected
my earthly father
and honoured him?

memory verse

Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.

Matthew 22:37-39

Sunday Worship Service

16 June 2013

Father's Day Special: *"Five Principles for our Relationship With God (Part 1)"*

Turn to: **Deuteronomy 6: 1 - 10**

Turn to: **Deuteronomy 32:45 - 47**

Deuteronomy 1:11 (The LORD God of your fathers make you a thousand times so many more as ye are, and bless you, as he hath promised you!)

Deuteronomy 4:1 Now therefore hearken, O Israel, unto the statutes and unto the judgments, which I teach you, for to do them, that ye may live, and go in and possess the land which the LORD God of your fathers giveth you.

Nehemiah 9:2 And the seed of Israel separated themselves from all strangers, and stood and confessed their sins, and the iniquities of their fathers.

Daniel 9:16 O Lord, according to all thy righteousness, I beseech thee, let thine anger and thy fury be turned away from thy city Jerusalem, thy holy mountain: because for our sins, and for the iniquities of our fathers, Jerusalem and thy people are become a reproach to all that are about us.

Galatians 5:17 For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh: and these are

Jeremiah 9:24 But let him that glorieth glory in this, that he understandeth and knoweth me, that I am the LORD which exercise lovingkindness, judgment, and righteousness, in the earth: for in these things I delight, saith the LORD.

Luke 12:5 But I will forewarn you whom ye shall fear: Fear him, which after he hath killed hath power to cast into hell; yea, I say unto you, Fear him.

Hebrews 12:28 - 29 Wherefore we receiving a kingdom which cannot be moved, whereby we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear. For our God is a consuming fire.

Joshua 1:8 This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success.

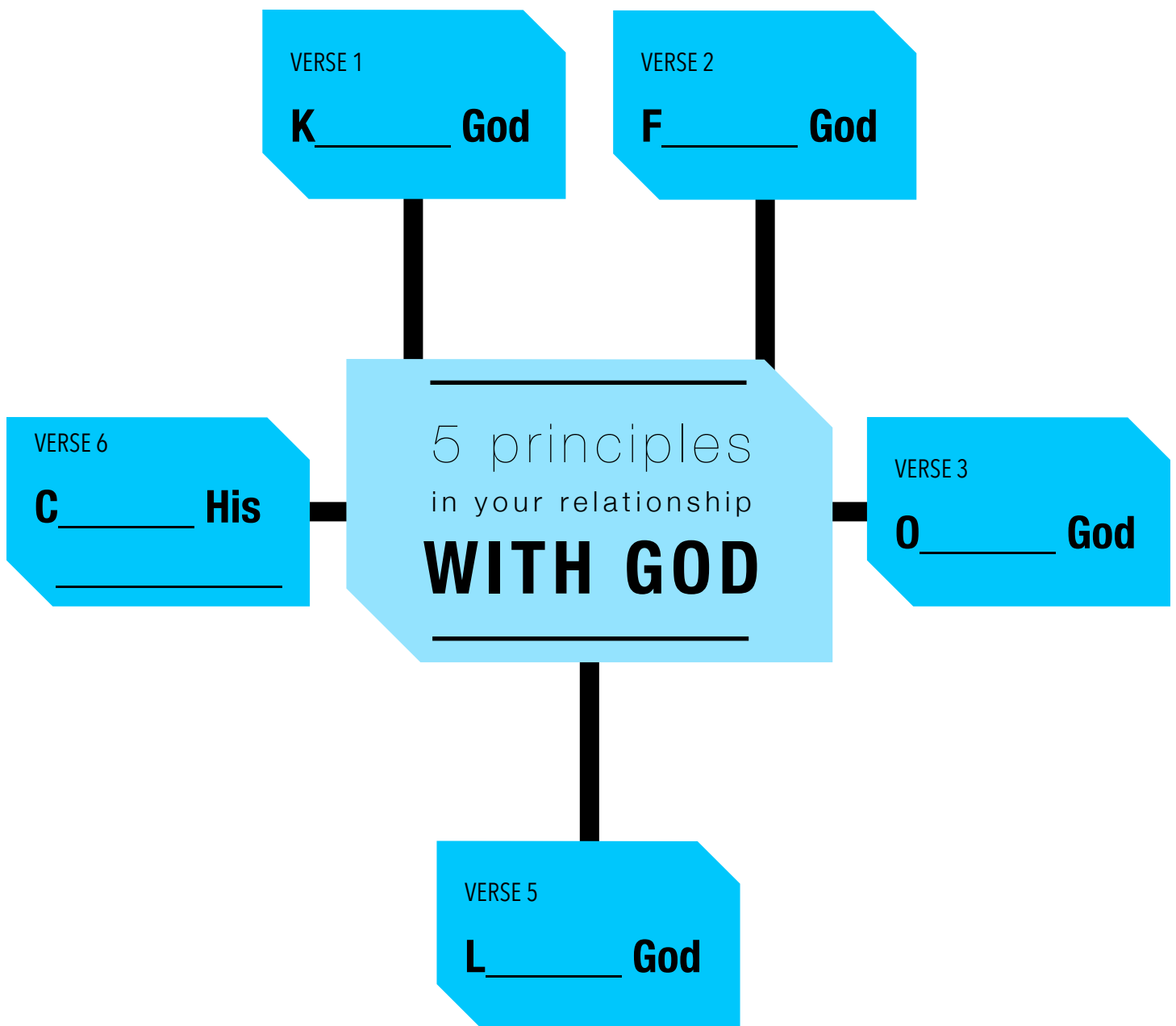
2 Timothy 2:15 Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

Sunday Worship Service
16 June 2013

Father's Day Special: "Five Principles for our Relationship With God (Part 1)"

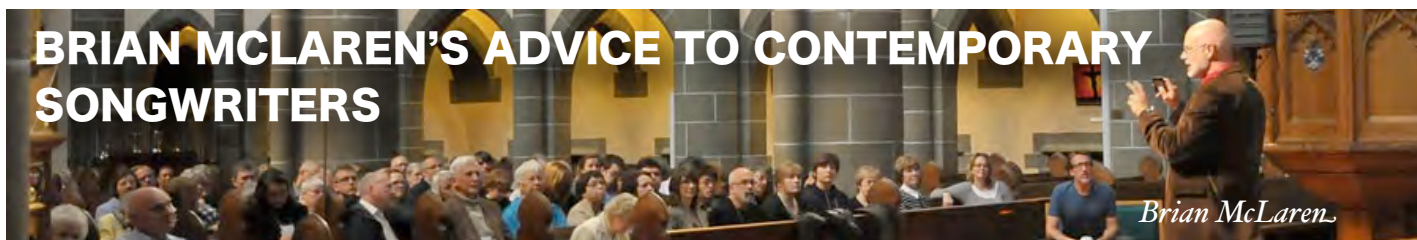
Passage: _____

introduction



FRIDAY CHURCH NEWS NOTES

BRIAN McLAREN'S ADVICE TO CONTEMPORARY SONGWRITERS



Brian McLaren, one of the most influential voices of the most liberal side of the “emerging church,” has published an “Open Letter to Worship Leaders” in which he offers “a list of Biblical themes to explore in our lyrics.” Note the word “Biblical.” McLaren loves to use biblical terminology, but he defines it with a heretic’s dictionary. He has rejected the dispensational theology of his godly missionary grandfather, having launched his boat onto the waters of end-time apostasy. McLaren and his emerging pals are a fulfillment of 2 Timothy 3. They have a form of godliness but deny the power thereof (v. 5), which is the blood atonement of Christ and the infallible Scripture. They are “ever learning, and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth (v. 7). Indeed, McLaren’s theology is never settled. He loves to cast doubt on “the old,” but he has few solid answers for the present, and the answers he does have are wrong. What themes does this man suggest for contemporary songwriters? He suggests that they sing about building the kingdom of God in the here and now rather than about “being evacuated to heaven with Jesus, leaving the earth to be

destroyed.” McLaren wants to hear songs about smokestacks giving way to wind generators, about bullets being melted down and recast as plows, about polar bears making a comeback. He suggests singing about God as female, singing about the God who used billions of years of evolution to “create” the world. He urges songwriters to reject “a sinners’ prayer gospel” that focuses on forgiveness of sin and Jesus’ blood and to sing rather about a God “not needing appeasement.” Brian McLaren is very much a part of the confused waters of modern “evangelicalism.” The emerging church is a big house with many interconnecting rooms. For example, McLaren links from his blog to the Southern Baptist Ed Stetzer’s blog. They all link to Rick Warren. All evangelicals aren’t liberal in theology like McLaren, but almost all of them hold hands to various degrees. They don’t believe in or practice biblical separation, which is a fundamental error. Even “conservatives” like Al Mohler of Southern Baptist Seminary wholeheartedly support Billy Graham-style ecumenism. Dangerous bridges exist everywhere. The extremely liberal McLaren is

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OBAMA SENDS WARM GREETINGS TO TEL AVIV’S “GAY PRIDE FESTIVAL”



Tel Aviv hosted its 15th annual “Gay Pride Festival” last Friday, with a record-breaking 100,000 spectators and participants (“Tel Aviv celebrates gay pride,” *The Times of Israel*, June 7, 2013). U.S. Ambassador Dan Shapiro “conveyed warm wishes from President Barack Obama, Secretary of State John Kerry and the American people,” calling Tel Aviv “the friendliest city in the world for the LGBT community.” Tel Aviv’s mayor Ron Huldai gave the keynote speech to kick off the festivities, reminding the crowd that he emceed the first Gay Pride Parade in 1998. Israel’s enthusiastic support for the homosexual rights movement is clear evidence of her continued apostasy.

BRIAN MCLAREN'S ADVICE TO CONTEMPORARY SONGWRITERS

.....continued from previous page

welcome with open arms to forums such as the 2009 National Pastor's Conference, which I covered with media credentials and where I personally interviewed McLaren. Other speakers included Andy Crouch, a senior editor of *Christianity Today*, Bill Hybels, Rob Bell, Leighton Ford, Gordon Fee, John Ortberg, Scot McKnight, and Paul Young, author of *The Shack*. Brian McLaren knows what he is doing. He is a change agent. He has openly stated that he is targeting the children and grandchildren of today's fundamentalists. Today his very liberal thinking is in the minority within "evangelicalism," but it will soon be the majority because of the spiritual carelessness and brazen disobedience of the "conservatives" and the foolishness of the "fundamentalists" who are messing around with evangelicalism and its contemporary worship rather than plainly and unequivocally rejecting it and separating from it.

AN INORDINATE LOVE FOR MUSIC



The following testimony is by the late Evangelist Gordon Sears, who died in 2001. "Recently I talked with a Baptist church pastor in the state of Michigan who lost fifty members of his congregation over the

subject of CCM. This pastor had refused to allow CCM to be a part of his church music program. The fifty people who left all went to another church where they could enjoy their contemporary music. The fact is that the music became more important to these people than their convictions and doctrinal beliefs. They were willing to give up their church, where they had attended for many years, to join a church of another denomination, where the teaching and standards would be entirely different. This, dear reader, is 'a mark of apostasy'—personal preference becomes more important than biblical truth. Similar experiences like the one in Michigan are happening all over the nation. People who are addicted to contemporary music seem to gradually lose whatever love and appreciation they may have had for the great traditional hymns of the church. If the church they attend takes a stand against CCM, the reaction is to retaliate by moving to another church."

WCC GENERAL SECRETARY ENCOURAGES WORKING TOGETHER WITH THE POPE

Speaking in Germany recently Olav Fykse Tveit, General Secretary of the World Council of Churches (WCC) "expressed positive hopes for the leadership of Pope Francis" and urged working with him (oikoumene.org, May 7, 2013). Tveit made this comment in a forum together with Robert Zollitsch, chairman of the conference of Roman Catholic bishops in Germany, and Katajun Amirpur, professor of Islamic studies at the University of Hamburg. When asked about the current situation of worldwide ecumenism, Tveit said, "Ecumenism is living together in this world on a local, national and international level. As Christians we have the common goal to be united. Our unity is a sign of God's uniting all human beings." Thus we see that the ultimate objective of the one-world church is the unity of all of mankind. No wonder the Bible calls it the mystery Babylon, as it is the same spirit as that of ancient Babel, and eventually it will be led by the ultimate Nimrod, the antichrist. (Our book *The World Council of Churches* is available as a free eBook from www.wayoflife.org.)

GOVERNMENT SURVEILLANCE REACHES ORWELLIAN LEVEL



Last week *The Washington Post* broke the story that the NSA and the FBI are “tapping directly into the central servers of nine leading U.S.

Internet companies, extracting audio and video chats, photographs, e-mails, documents, and connection logs that enable analysts to track foreign targets” (“U.S., British Intelligence Mining Data,” *Washington Post*, June 6, 2013). “London’s *Guardian* newspaper reported Friday that GCHQ, Britain’s equivalent of the NSA, also has been secretly gathering intelligence from the same internet companies through an operation set up by the NSA. ... Firsthand experience with these systems, and horror at their capabilities, is what drove a career intelligence officer to provide PowerPoint slides about PRISM and supporting materials to *The Washington Post* in order to expose what he believes to be a gross intrusion on privacy. ‘They quite literally can watch your ideas form as you type,’ the officer said.” At the same time the *Wall Street Journal* reported that the National Security Agency is monitoring credit card transactions (“U.S. Collects Vast Data Trove,” *WSJ*, June 7, 2013).

ANGLICAN AUTHOR CENSURED AFTER ATHEISTS DECRY HIS TED TALK

The organization that sponsors the popular TED talks has censured an Anglican author for opposing the philosophy of materialism. Rupert Sheldrake, a Harvard- and Cambridge-educated biologist, brought the ire of intolerant atheists when he said that “materialism” is a belief system like religion and that its principles, which have become entrenched dogmas, are hindering an honest search for truth and information. Proving Sheldrake’s point, shrill materialistic atheists attacked his talk and pressured TED to stop distribution of the video. In response, the video was removed from TED’s YouTube channel and placed in a separate section of their website. Sheldrake is not a Bible believer or a creationist, but anyone in higher education who dares challenge the evolutionary view on any level is attacked by those who consider themselves the defenders of the Darwinian faith. The online TED videos have exceeded a billion views.



Rupert Sheldrake

RELIGIOUS PERSECUTION IN THE U.S. ARMY



The following is excerpted from “Army Punishes Soldier who Served Chick-fil-A,” Todd Starnes, *Fox News*, June 5, 2013: “An Army master sergeant was punished after he hosted a promotion party and served Chick-fil-A sandwiches in honor of the Defense of Marriage Act. The unidentified soldier was investigated, reprimanded, threatened with judicial action and given a bad efficiency report, according to the Chaplain Alliance for Religious Liberty. ‘They say he is no longer a team player and was not performing up to standards,’ Chaplain Alliance Executive Director Ron Crews told Fox News. ‘This is just one little example of a case of a soldier just wanting to express his views and now he’s been jumped on by the military.’ ... The soldier’s story was included in a letter to the U.S. Commission on Civil

Rights documenting concerns about attacks on religious liberty within the Armed Services. ... One service member received a severe reprimand for expressing his faith’s religious position about homosexuality in a personal religious blog. A chaplain was relieved of his command over a military chapel

RELIGIOUS PERSECUTION IN THE U.S. ARMY continued from previous page.

because he could not allow same-sex weddings to take place in the chapel. And a chaplain who asked senior military officers whether religious liberty would be protected in the wake of the repeal of the law against open homosexual behavior in the military was told to 'get in line' or resign. Crews said they are sharing these stories to let other service members know there is a place to get help. He said Chaplain Alliance publishes a religious liberty palm card--explaining constitutionally protected liberties to service members."

MEDITATIONS ON THE PROMISES OF GOD'S WATCHCARE IN THE PSALMS

"He restoreth my soul..." Psalm 23 is one of the most famous and beloved passages of the Bible. It is often wrongly applied to all people, whereas it rightly applies only to the believer who has put his faith in God's redemption in Christ. The Psalm describes the Lord's most intimate watchcare over His people: feeding, leading, protecting, comforting, restoring their souls, preparing a table before them in the presence of their enemies. I have often been amazed in my Christian life at how the Lord restores our souls. Because of sin, spiritual warfare, and the general troubles of this life, the soul can become discouraged and downcast and filled with self, but the Good Shepherd restores it. 2 Corinthians 4:16 says the "inward man is renewed day by day." The Psalmist described the troubles of his soul in Psalm 119. His soul *cleaved to the dust* (Psa. 119:25), *melted for heaviness* (Psa. 119:28), and was *like a bottle in the smoke* (Psa. 119:83), which refers to a leather bottle that was dried out and lifeless because the moisture had been removed by the hot smoke of a fire. The soul of

the child of God can go through a myriad of troubles in this sin-cursed world, but the Lord is faithful to restore it. There have been times during my Christian life that I have felt as if my soul were spiritually dead and that it would not live again to serve God with blessing and joy, but it always does "live again" by God's grace, because it is restored by the Good Shepherd as we abide in Christ (John 15:5). Tea plants have to be severely pruned at times, and after such pruning it appears that the plants are finished, yet the pruning is a necessary aspect in the process of producing the best quality tea leaves. Likewise, God is the husbandman who prunes every believer so that he will bring forth more fruit to Christ's glory (John 15:1-2).



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.

Blessed Father's Day!

IN BRIEF

Filipino Service

There will be a Filipino Service after the service today at 1:45PM. Be in prayer for the Filipino Ministry as they reach out to their fellow countrymen.

*Ambassador Baptist Church wishes all fathers a **blessed father's day!***

As you come and worship the Lord Jesus, may God touch your hearts and strengthen you for the tasks of fathering and leading your family for Christ.

COMING UP • CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

The LAMBS

The Children's Ministry is Ambassador's primary ministry to children ages 3-12.

The Ministry seeks innovative and engaging ways to help children understand the Gospel and other important truths from Scripture. One such way is the bi-annual Vacation Bible School which just concluded last week.

The Children's Ministry will be initiating a follow-up program called the LAMBS. Be in prayer for the program and for the children who will be participating.

If you'd like to find out more or render your assistance, contact the Ministry at children@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."

17 - 23 JUNE 2013

ambassadorbaptistchurch


"Be reconciled to God"
1 Corinthians 5:20

monday	tuesday	wednesday	thursday	friday	saturday	sunday
	Outreach Efforts (SEM)	Outreach Efforts (YIS)		Rivers in a Dry Place	ABC Youth	Sunday Worship Service Mandarin Service

"All activities running normally"

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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Twitter: @abc_singapore

weekly activities

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

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

Outreach Efforts

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

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

prayer requests

- **For the URA to approve our change of use application.**
- The various ministries
- For God's leadership in the transition of Ambassador Baptist Church to a Discipleship church
- Souls to be saved, baptized and added to the church in 2013
- Bro. Terry's palliative care.
- **Sis Kym's parents**
- **Sis Lydia's parents**

the old testament in 9 months

JUN 17 Genesis 1-3

JUN 18 Genesis 4-7

JUN 19 Genesis 8-11

JUN 20 Genesis 12-16

JUN 21 Genesis 17-19

JUN 22 Genesis 20-23

JUN 23 Genesis 24-25