



# be ye **reconciled** to God

2 Corinthians 5:20

the weekly digest of ambassador|baptistchurch

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### from the pastor's heart

## HE SHALL TURN THE HEART OF THE FATHERS TO THE CHILDREN



## today's program

### the news

**hymn** | *the God of Abraham praise*

opening **prayer**

**hymn** | *great is thy faithfulness*


**hymn** | *and can it be*


**offertory**

**hymn** | *grow in Jesus*

**exhortation** | *pastor Johnny*

**invitation** and closing

 Pastor Johnny Tan ([johnny@ambassador-baptist.org](mailto:johnny@ambassador-baptist.org))

 United States Marine Corps, Flickr

"He shall turn the heart of the fathers to the children"

### Malachi 4:5 - 6

Malachi, towards the end of his prophecy, looked ahead to a day when the fathers and the sons will be restored to

one another. Implied in this verse and prophecy is the distraction of the heart. The heart of man was created to centre on the Lord His Creator and all things good and wonderful. Men, however, sought out other inventions because of its own deceitfulness. The heart says it loves the Lord but it chases after other pleasures. The

heart deceives itself that it is right with God but it has left the Lord it should love. The heart is distracted and is unstable because its foundations are not anchored on Christ the Rock: therefore, the foundations are shaky and in seeking to stabilize itself, the heart seeks out

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other anchors, which are not anchors at all. These distractions draw away the heart from meaningful relationships within the family and it removes the Christ-centeredness in the home.

**The solution for the family.** He shall turn the heart of the fathers to the children and the heart of the children to the fathers. Both are equally distracted and apart from one another. Both are equally responsible for reconciliation. Yet, it is clear that the pride, instability and deceitfulness of the human heart will refuse the reconciliation God intends for the family.

**It has to be facilitated by God's instrument, not us, but the Lord Jesus.** John the Baptist was instrumental in his uncompromising preaching that brought many back to repentance to Christ. The change is not merely an outward reformation but inward change. The heart of the father will be convicted to repent of his wandering away from the children and be turned back to the family. The heart of the children will be convicted to return to the submissive and humble position before His father and the Lord Jesus. There is no solution for family unity without the Lord Jesus. There is no ability in the human strength for bringing people back together in the Spirit without a mediator. There needs to be a quiet revival

within the heart of each father and each child for complete family healing and restoration of this is enabled only by the Holy Spirit.

**The judgement to come.** The forerunner of Christ works to bring people back to Christ and for each brother to be reconciled to each other. A failure to heed the word of God will bring judgment. When God speaks in His word, and where there is a refusal to heed the word, there is a coming judgment. In Proverbs 1:23, 24, God says "I have called and ye refused ..." God has to send judgment not because He wants to, but because He has to in order to bring us back to Himself. God does not judge before giving warning.

Beloved, what is the state of our families? What is the state of our hearts before God? Is it in humble submission, that we will love God and love people with everything in our hearts? Is the heart of us Fathers, firmly attached to our children, to bring them up in the fear and admonition of the Lord? Are we, children, bowed in humble obedience towards our father? May Ambassador Baptist Church have strong fathers who will love their children and children who are submissive, who will love their fathers and will honour them.

thought of the week

How much have we invested in our children and families for the glory of God?

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

23 June 2013

**Father's Day Special:** "Five Principles for our Relationship With Your Family (Part 2)"

Turn to: **Deuteronomy 6: 4 - 12**

**Haggai 2:12 - 13** If one bear holy flesh in the skirt of his garment, and with his skirt do touch bread, or pottage, or wine, or oil, or any meat, shall it be holy? And the priests answered and said, No. Then said Haggai, If one that is unclean by a dead body touch any of these, shall it be unclean? And the priests answered and said, It shall be unclean.

**1 Corinthians 15:33** Be not deceived: evil communications corrupt good manners.

**Proverbs 17:16** Wherefore is there a price in the hand of a fool to get wisdom, seeing he hath no heart to it?

Turn to: **Judges 2:7 - 11**

**Proverbs 22:6** Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.

Turn to: **Psalms 78:4 - 8**

**2 Timothy 3:14 - 15** But continue thou in the things which thou hast learned and hast been assured of, knowing of whom thou hast learned them; And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.

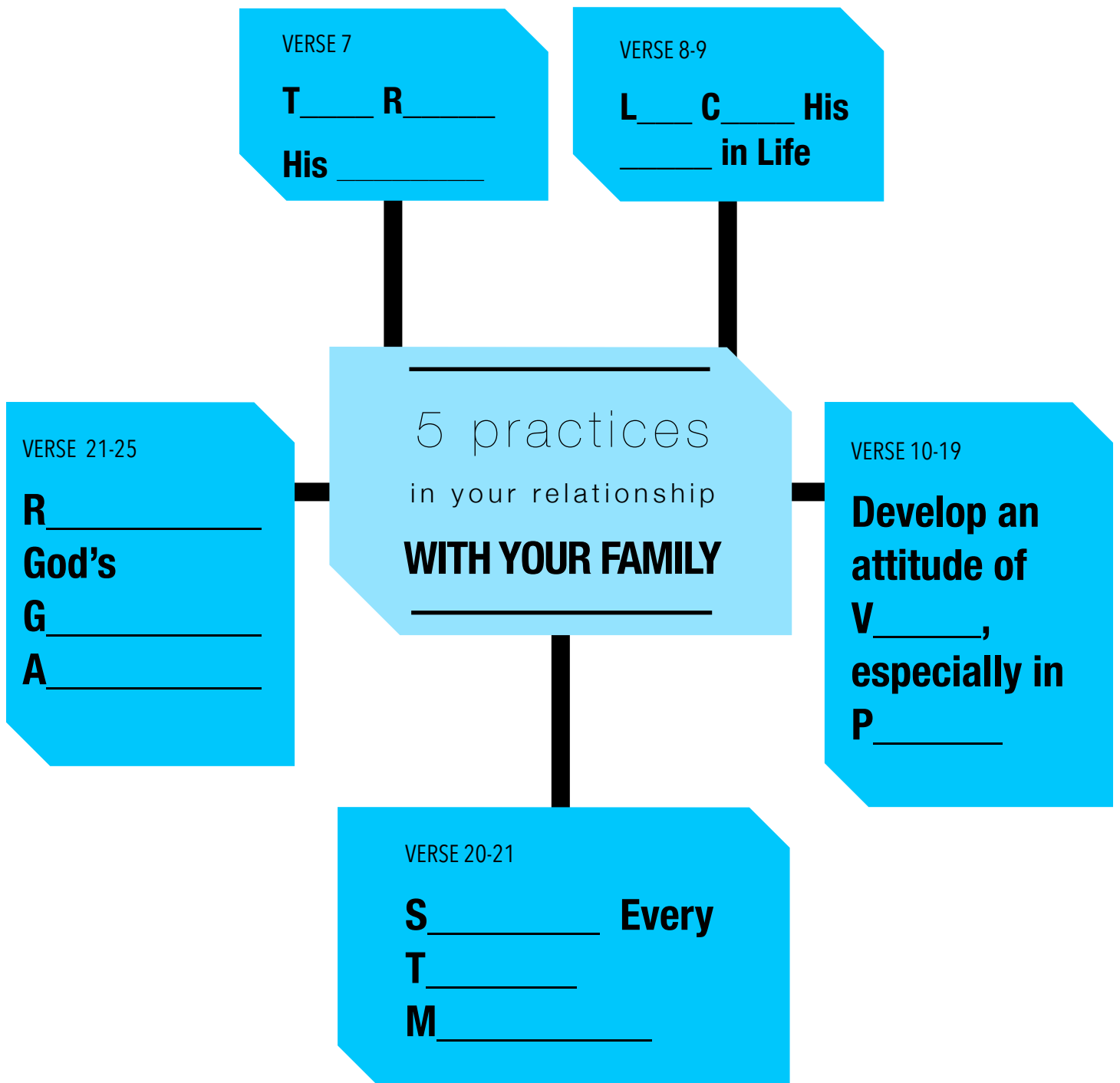
**1 Thessalonians 5:18** In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.

Sunday Worship Service  
23 June 2013

**Father's Day Special:** "Five Principles for our Relationship With Your Family (Part 2)"

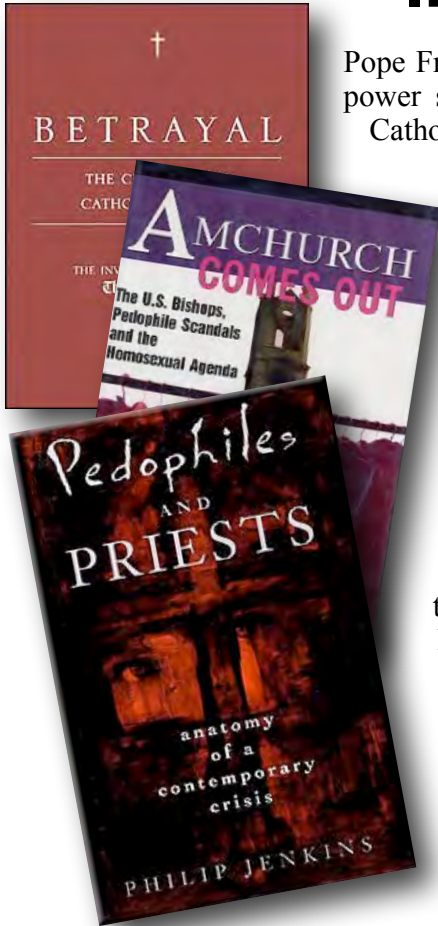
Passage: \_\_\_\_\_

introduction



# FRIDAY CHURCH NEWS NOTES

## POPE SAYS THERE IS A STREAM OF CORRUPTION IN THE ROMAN CURIA



Pope Francis has acknowledged that a “gay lobby” exists in the Curia, which is the power structure of the Roman Catholic Church. In a meeting with leaders of

Catholic communities of priests and nuns from Latin America, the pope said: “In the Curia, there are holy people. But there is also a stream of corruption.

The ‘gay lobby’ is mentioned, and it is true, it is there. We need to see what we can do” (“Pope Francis,” *CNN Belief Blog*, June 11, 2013). The pope was referring to reports that appeared in Italian newspapers in 2012 based on leaks to journalists from Vatican insiders. *La Repubblica* said there are “high-level Vatican clergy involved in homosexual affairs.” Of course, there is no real news here. In 2003 the Roman Catholic Church in Ireland agreed to pay \$110 million to avoid further sex scandal litigation. There could be as many as 3,000 sex abuse victims there. In America, the Catholic Church has paid out more than \$1 BILLION to settle lawsuits against immoral priests. The Bishop Accountability organization said that more than 4,000 priests have been accused of abusing children (“US Church to Pay 12.6 Million,” *AFP*, Aug. 11, 2008). That represents roughly 10% of the Catholic priests in America, and those statistics only include those that have been formally accused. A conservative Catholic organization documented this wretched business in the fall/winter 2002 issue of the magazine *Ad Majorem Dei Gloriam*, observing: “... the overwhelming majority of sexual abuse cases in the Catholic Church--about 90%--involve homosexual priests preying on teenage boys. The major media and the U.S. culture at large want to deny or spin the homosexual factor out of the scandal.” Many books have documented this issue, including *Pedophiles and Priests* by Philip Jenkins (1996), *Lead Us Not into Temptation: Catholic Priests and the Sexual Abuse of Children* by Jason Berry (2000), *A Gospel of Shame: Children, Sexual Abuse, and the Catholic Church* by

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## WHY ARE SOME SBC LEADERS MAINSTREAMING ISLAM?

The following is excerpted from *The Balfour Post*, May 31, 2013: “In a *USA Today* piece from April 26, Ed Stetzer, president of research at LifeWay, advances his agenda of mainstreaming Islam within the evangelical world. It is an agenda item that his friends like Rick Warren and Bob Roberts Jr. have been engaged with for some time. ... Ed Stetzer doesn’t speak for me, and many, many other Christians. ... it’s obvious that there are still many Southern Baptist pastors and leaders and laypersons who are staunch supporters of Israel, and who recognize the agenda of the jihadists to infiltrate the church. The problem is that visible leaders like Stetzer, Rick Warren, and Bob Roberts Jr. seem

intent on pushing their Muslim friends on the rest of us. (By the way, as an interesting aside, readers should know that Brian McLaren links to Stetzer’s column on his own blog, thus giving McLaren legitimacy also in SBC circles--warmly, as McLaren himself might put it. Note to Stetzer: if Brian McLaren endorses you, it might be time to re-think those positions that garnered the endorsement.) In his attempt to appear as a tolerant, reasonable person, Stetzer makes the following point at *USA Today*: ‘For many Americans, their knowledge of Muslims is what they see on television news rather than what they know from experience. Yet, forming your view of any group based solely on what you

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see on the news is a bad idea.' I disagree. 'Many Americans,' as is painfully obvious, have accumulated their knowledge of Muslims from violent acts committed by Muslims since at least 9/11 ... In fact, we 'know from experience' that Islam sanctions murder and mayhem in order to establish a new caliphate. Stetzer wishes to convince his readers that only a tiny, almost infinitesimal group of Muslims are committed to jihad. ... If most of them weren't extreme in their views, wouldn't we hear that on a large scale? ... Sadly, perhaps tragically, there are those among evangelical leadership who seem to be lost in the fog of this war."

## HOMESCHOOLING SKYROCKETING



The following is excerpted from "Home Schooling," *CBN News*, June 10, 2013: "The number of home-schooled children in the United States has increased by 75 percent since 1999, according to a

new report published in *Education News*. The study's findings serve as more proof that a growing number of parents are rejecting public schools. According to the report, discrepancies in achievement between sexes, income levels, and ethnicity are non-existent in home schooling. 'Recent studies laud home-schoolers' academic success, noting their significantly higher ACT-Composite scores as high schoolers and higher grade point averages as college students,' the report said. Researchers also found the number of primary-aged home school kids is growing seven times faster than public school kids. ... Currently, 4 percent of all school-age children are educated at home."

## FACIAL RECOGNITION SOFTWARE BEING PERFECTED AND EMPLOYED

Joseph Atick, one of the inventors of facial recognition software, is calling for government regulation on the technology to avoid infringement of privacy. Atick says, "What's unique about face recognition is the fact that you can do it surreptitiously, from a distance, and continually" ("Big Brother is big business?" *60 Minutes*, May 16, 2013). Atick is concerned not only about the government's abuse of the technology, but

## POPE SAYS THERE IS A STREAM OF CORRUPTION IN THE ROMAN CURIA

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Frank Bruni (2002), *Religious Life without Integrity: The Sexual Abuse Crisis in the Catholic Church* by Australian Catholic historian Barry Coldrey (2001), *Betrayal: The Crisis in the Catholic Church* by the investigative staff of the Boston Globe (2002), and *AMChurch Comes Out* by Paul Likoudis, editor of *The Wanderer*, the oldest independent Catholic newspaper in the U.S. (2002). In 2000, the Kansas City *Star* newspaper published a book-length series of articles documenting that "Catholic seminaries in the 1960s joined in the sexual liberation frenzy of the decade; that many seminarians and priests embraced an active homosexual lifestyle in and out of the seminary; that many of these homosexual seminarians went on to ordination and were groomed for and entrusted to high positions by their superiors." One result has been a large number of AIDS cases among Catholic priests.

also about business, saying, "Big Brother is no longer big government; Big Brother is big business." Companies are installing cameras in billboards and mannequins to observe customers and learn their habits. A system called Facedeals, now in testing, recognizes a customer when he or she enters a store and searches for information on the individual to instantly offer tailor made deals, such as a special offering on a favorite food or other item, sent to the customer's phone.



## GOOGLE'S PLAN TO TAKE OVER THE WORLD



The following is excerpted from "Google's Plan," *Business Insider*, May 18, 2013: "Google's big keynote at its I/O developers conference this week wore me out. ... With every new product update, every new feature, every new virtual service, it became more and more clear that Google isn't just a search company that makes loads of cash by showing you ads. ... Google isn't just the backbone of the Internet anymore. It's rapidly becoming the backbone of your entire life, all thanks to data you're voluntarily giving up to a private company based on your Web searches, photos, Gmail messages, and more. After spending three days at I/O this week, it became more apparent than ever that unless millions (billions?) of people suddenly change their mind and start using alternative tech tools, or unless the government steps in waving the anti-trust banner, our lives, our history, and our personal wealth could be managed by one company--Google. It's most apparent in Google Now, a voice-powered personal assistant that launched on Android phones last year. Google Now ... is the embodiment of that geeky dream of a 'Star Trek Computer,' an intelligent machine that understands natural language and real-world context to assist you before you even know you need assistance. Google Now scans your email and

knows when your Amazon package is arriving. It knows what sports scores to show you based on the teams you've searched for. It knows what stock prices to show you based on the companies you search for. It scans your calendar and reminds you when to leave to make your appointment on time. And all that data is delivered to you without you having to ask. ... Google recently launched the app on iPhones and iPads, and it's coming to the desktop soon if you use the Chrome Web browser. Next year, you'll be wearing Google Now on your face if you buy Google Glass."



## NEW CLONING RESEARCH DESTROYS HUMAN LIFE

The following is excerpted from "Barbaric: Scientists clone human embryo for the first time," Baptist Press, May 16, 2013: "The 'brave new world' of human cloning apparently has arrived, and critics are waving the warning flags. Oregon-based scientists reported Wednesday (May 15) they had cloned human embryos, reportedly the first successful attempt at such cloning, as a means of producing embryonic stem cells. The researchers extracted

stem cells from the clones, destroying the days-old human embryos in the process. The scientists used basically the same cloning method utilized in 1996 by Scottish researchers to create the first cloned mammal, Dolly the sheep. News of the successful experiment seemed certain to revive the cloning controversy, which has been dormant in recent years. ... Critics--who point out cloning an embryo for experimentation is reproductive by nature because a new human being has been created--criticized the successful research announced in the journal *Cell* as both unethical and unnecessary. ... 'Let's be clear -- what these researchers are doing is creating a cloned human being in order to destroy that human being to harvest its stem cells for the benefit of older and bigger human beings,' Southern Baptist ethicist Richard Land told Baptist Press. 'There are words for such activity--barbaric and uncivilized.'"



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

"He shall cover thee with his feathers, and under his wings shalt thou trust: his truth *shall be thy* shield and buckler" (Psa. 91:4). This is a wonderful metaphor, which speaks both of God's tender compassion and His almighty ability to protect. Of course, a chicken is a weak creature; her wings are not very strong and she is not very wise; but in the first two verses, the Psalmist has emphasized God's capability as Protector. First, He is *elyon*, the most High. This is first used in Genesis 14:18-22, where the emphasis is on the fact that God rules over all and is the possessor of all things. Second, He is *Shaddai*, the Almighty. The Hebrew word *shadday* is from *shadad*, which means "to be burly, i.e. (figuratively) powerful (passively, impregnable)" (Strong). Our God is the Warrior of warriors, the invincible One. Third, He is Jehovah, the self-existent, eternal I Am, the faithful and all-dependable covenant-keeper. Fourth, He is *elohiym*, the trinitarian Creator. "*Elohiym* always occurs in a plural form accompanied by a singular verb, which would be bad grammar in connection with anyone but

God. But God can say, 'We is' because He exists in three persons and yet is one God. The first occurrence of *elohiym* links it with creation. *Elohim* is God as creator. The thought is that of power" (Phillips). Thus, to hide under the shadow of God's "wings" is to hide in an impregnable place! God will not run from danger; He will not change His mind; He will not break His promises. His defenses are impregnable. Jesus also used the metaphor of a hen and her chicks. "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, which killest the prophets, and stonest them that are sent unto thee; how often would I have gathered thy children together, as a hen *doth gather* her brood under *her* wings, and ye would not!" (Luke 13:34). Israel refused her Messiah's tender entreaty, but any lowly Gentile today can flee to Him for salvation and take eternal and daily shelter under His all powerful wings.



### 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](mailto:fbns@wayoflife.org).



## Forgive Me When I Whine

Today upon a bus, I saw a lovely maid with golden hair;  
 I envied her -- she seemed so gay, and how, I wished I were so fair;  
 When suddenly she rose to leave, I saw her hobble down the aisle;  
 She had one foot and wore a crutch, but as she passed, a smile.  
 Oh God, forgive me when I whine, I have two feet -- the world is mine.

And when I stopped to buy some sweets, the lad who served me had such charm;  
 He seemed to radiate good cheer, his manner was so kind and warm;  
 I said, "It's nice to deal with you, such courtesy I seldom find";  
 He turned and said, "Oh, thank you sir." And then I saw that he was blind.  
 Oh, God, forgive me when I whine, I have two eyes, the world is mine.

Then, when walking down the street, I saw a child with eyes of blue;  
 He stood and watched the others play, it seemed he knew not what to do;  
 I stopped a moment, then I said, "Why don't you join the others, dear?"  
 He looked ahead without a word, and then I knew he could not hear.  
 Oh God, forgive me when I whine, I have two ears, the world is mine.

With feet to take me where I'd go; with eyes to see the sunsets glow,  
 With ears to hear what I would know. I am blessed indeed.  
 The world is mine; oh, God, forgive me when I whine.

personal application and reflection



Image courtesy Tomas Hellberg

# w e l c o m e t o AMBASSADOR

Welcome to Ambassador Baptist Church! We thank the Lord for bringing you safely even with the haze today.

May the Lord richly bless you as you seek His face, worship Him and leave this place to do His will!

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](mailto: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."*

**24 - 30 JUNE 2013**

ambassador**baptist**church



"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:

**Phone:** +65 91000305

**Post:**  
1096 Sembawang Road  
Singapore 758518

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

**Facebook:**  
[www.facebook.com/ambassador.baptist.church.SG](http://www.facebook.com/ambassador.baptist.church.SG)

**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](http://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 24** Genesis 26-27
- JUN 25** Genesis 28-30
- JUN 26** Genesis 31-32
- JUN 27** Genesis 33-35
- JUN 28** Genesis 36-37
- JUN 29** Genesis 38-40
- JUN 30** Genesis 41-42