

14 JULY 2013

ambassador|baptistchurch



be ye reconciled to God
2 Corinthians 5:20

be ye **reconciled** to God

2 Corinthians 5:20

the weekly digest of ambassador|baptistchurch

find.it

from the pastor's heart

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from the pastor's heart

STRIVING TO PREACH THE GOSPEL



today's program

the **news**

hymn | *wonderful grace of Jesus*

opening **prayer**

hymn | *the Comforter has come*


hymn | *blessed quietness*

offertory

hymn | *so send I you*

exhortation | *pastor Johnny*

invitation and closing

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

 Mitch Metzger, Flickr

"I have strived to preach the gospel, not where Christ was named, lest I should build upon another man's foundation"

Romans 15:20

Paul's heart was to spread the good news to all, the gospel that set people free from the bondage of sin and hell. It was not only God's calling for him but was his personal desire as well. It is always a blessing when the will of God becomes the personal will of man. What devotion and commitment!

Paul, taking his calling seriously, firstly strives to preach the gospel. The work of saving souls is not merely to verbally tell the good news but involves the whole work of ploughing, sowing, waiting and prayerfully depending on

continued on page 2

the Lord for the harvest. It means to plough by prayer, earnestly for the working of the Holy Spirit to prepare the heart, to break up the fallow ground and for watering to be done in the heart. Then there is the need for sowing the seed, of sharing the word, of preaching the gospel and witnessing door-to-door. This work must be carried out. Then there is following up: the constant friendship, the one-on-one working and teaching and the encouragement to help the soul see the light. Then we are to pray for the Holy Spirit's conviction on this individual's life. Finally, there is the patient waiting and the persistence for the increase. It requires work, striving, effort and straining. It requires a heart for God's glory, and a heart for the lost souls. There is no real increase in spiritual life and work without effort and striving. There needs to be hard work for souls.

Secondly, Paul yearns to preach where Christ has not been heard of. There are many places in Paul's time which never heard the name of the Lord Jesus. Even in land-scarce Singapore with its some six hundred churches, it is still a sad fact that there are still

some people who have never heard of Christ, the Lord, the Creator and the Saviour of this world. Paul yearned for that opportunity to preach to those who have never heard.

Thirdly, Paul also shares that he does not want to take away glory from another man's labour and effort. We will give honour where honour is due and Paul realised the increased effort, the deep heart and hard work that goes into growing a ministry. Paul - a faithful, compassionate and understanding Christian and apostle - does not rob the rewards due to another brother.

Do we strive to preach the gospel and participate in the activities involved in the ministry of preaching the gospel? Are we concerned for the lost and for those who have never heard? Are we supportive of the brethren's hard work to build God's kingdom? Let us strive to preach the gospel in areas where His name has never been heard, considering the labour of the brother who have gone before.

thought of the week

Do we seek to lift up a brother,
Who is weak and need a hand?
To help him on the journey
through
This life to the promised land.

memory verse

And Elijah came unto all the people, and said, How long halt ye between two opinions? if the LORD be God, follow him: but if Baal, then follow him...

1 Kings 18:21

Sunday Worship Service

14 July 2013

"Lifting up the Weaker Brethren: The Example of the Apostle Paul. (Part 1)"

Turn to: **2 Corinthians 12 : 11 - 21**

1 Corinthians 1:10 Now I beseech you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you; but that ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment.

1 Corinthians 3:1 And I, brethren, could not speak unto you as unto spiritual, but as unto carnal, even as unto babes in Christ.

1 Corinthians 3:22 Whether Paul, or Apollos, or Cephas, or the world, or life, or death, or things present, or things to come; all are yours;

1 Corinthians 4:7 For who maketh thee to differ from another? and what hast thou that thou didst not receive? now if thou didst receive it, why dost thou glory, as if thou hadst not received it

1 Corinthians 5:1 It is reported commonly that there is fornication among you, and such fornication as is not so much as named among the Gentiles, that one should have his father's wife.

1 Corinthians 6:1 Dare any of you, having a matter against another, go to law before the unjust, and not before the saints?

1 Corinthians 7:1 Now concerning the things whereof ye wrote unto me: It is good for a man not to touch a woman.

1 Corinthians 8:8-10 But meat commendeth us not to God: for neither, if we eat, are we the better; neither, if we eat not, are we the worse. But take heed lest by any means this liberty of yours become a stumblingblock to them that are weak. For if any man see thee which hast knowledge sit at meat in the idol's temple, shall not the conscience of him which is weak be emboldened to eat those things which are offered to idols;

1 Corinthians 10:20-22 But I say, that the things which the Gentiles sacrifice, they sacrifice to devils, and not to God: and I would not that ye should have fellowship with devils. Ye cannot drink the cup of the Lord, and the cup of devils: ye cannot be partakers of the Lord's table, and of the table of devils. Do we provoke the Lord to jealousy? are we stronger than he?

1 Corinthians 11:5 But every woman that prayeth or prophesieth with her head uncovered dishonoureth her head: for that is even all one as if she were shaven.

Sunday Worship Service

14 July 2013

"Lifting up the Weaker Brethren: The Example of the Apostle Paul. (Part 1)"

Passage: _____

introduction

I. The character of the Corinthian church

A. D_____

B. Living in the _____

C. M_____

D. P_____

E. I_____

F. S_____

G. P_____

H. Being _____ to each others' faith

I. Eating food offered to _____

J. Having inappropriate _____ to reflect the world's ways

K. Abuse of the _____

L. D_____ I_____ for each other

M. Abuse of s_____

N. Disorderly _____

O. F_____ doctrines

P. Association with _____

Q. S_____

II. Are we our brother's keeper? Yes / No

III. A true friend will highlight the w_____, the s_____ so that the weakness can be _____

FRIDAY CHURCH NEWS NOTES

SOUTHERN BAPTIST PRESIDENT SAYS WE SHOULDN'T ARGUE THEOLOGY WHILE THE WORLD GOES TO HELL



In his speech after being re-elected to the presidency of the Southern Baptist Convention, Fred Luter, Jr., said the time for arguing theological differences among church members should be used instead to reach unbelievers with the gospel. "Time is running out. We do not have time for debate. We do not have time for arguing. The world needs to know that Jesus saves" ("SBC's Fred Luter," *Christian Post*, June 12, 2013). To prove his point, Luter quoted from 2 Timothy 3 but misinterpreted the passage by saying that "this is an accurate picture of our culture today." In fact, in 2 Timothy 3-4 Paul is describing the apostasy of professing Christians. He refers to those who have a form of godliness and who turn their ears from the truth (2 Tim. 3:5; 4:3-4). That is not a

description of the world of unbelievers. It is a description of those who profess Christ but who pursue the lusts of the flesh and tickle their ears with fables and heresies such as those found on the shelves of SBC bookstores and in the personal libraries of SBC pastors and deacons and SS teachers: *The Shack*, contemplative prayer, the emerging church, modern textual criticism, salvation apart from faith in Christ (e.g., C.S. Lewis and Max Lucado), and acceptance of "Christian" homosexuals (e.g., Philip Yancey), Barthian Neo-orthodoxy, to name a few. I agree with Luter that it is time to preach the gospel. That is why the Lord is waiting. He is "longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance" (2 Peter 3:9). That much is clear, and we are personally devoted to preaching the gospel to as many people as possible while we have the opportunity. But 2 Timothy 3-4 demands that we also pay attention to sound doctrine (2 Tim. 3:14-16), reproof of sin and error (2 Tim. 3:16; 4:2), discipleship in all good works (2 Tim. 3:17), separation from false teaching (2 Tim. 3:5), defense of the faith (2 Tim. 4:7), and other such things, even while we give attention to evangelism (2 Tim. 4:6). I find it fascinating that the head of the Southern Baptist Convention holds the same basic philosophy of ministry as many of the most prominent leaders among independent Baptists, which is that we should get along and focus on evangelism.

CALIFORNIA'S "BATHROOM BILL"

The following is excerpted from "California Lawmakers," *Christian News*, July 5, 2013: "California lawmakers have passed a bill mandating schools to allow boys to use girls' restrooms and vice versa if they identify with the opposite gender. As previously reported, AB 1266, also known as the 'Bathroom Bill,' serves as an amendment to the Education Code and requires all schools in the state to comply with its mandates. 'A pupil shall be permitted to participate in sex-segregated school programs, activities, and facilities, including athletic teams and competitions, consistent with his or her gender identity, irrespective of the gender listed on the pupil's records,' the legislation reads. ... Similar legislation recently passed in Delaware despite outcry from Christians, and in Colorado, the state Civil Rights Division ruled that a school district discriminated against a 6-year-old boy when it stopped him from using the girls' restroom after he began to dress as--and identify as--a girl."



U.S. EVANGELIST ARRESTED IN LONDON FOR PREACHING AGAINST IMMORALITY



The following is from the *Christian Post*, July 4, 2013: “Tony Miano, a retired deputy sheriff from Los Angeles County, Calif., was arrested in London, England, earlier this week for preaching on abstaining from sexual immorality, both heterosexual and homosexual, in downtown Wimbledon. He was found to be in violation of Public Order Act Section 5, for ‘using homophobic speech that could cause people anxiety, distress, alarm or insult,’ Miano said in a YouTube video posted on Wednesday. Preaching from 1 Thessalonians 4:1-12, Miano spoke about sexual sins for 25 minutes before being cut off by Metropolitan Police officers who said that although preaching in itself is not an offense, the specific part of the Bible he was preaching from was interpreted as homophobic by the woman who called to complain. Miano told police officers that he doesn’t hate homosexuals, and then reiterated that he was preaching about all forms of sexual immorality--lust, fornication and addiction to pornography. He said that he ‘loves homosexuals enough to bring them the truth of the Gospel.’ Subsequently, Miano was arrested and escorted uncuffed to the police station, where he was booked, photographed and fingerprinted. Police also took a DNA sample to ensure that he was not a wanted criminal. During the seven hours he spent in jail, Miano said he was interrogated about his faith in Jesus Christ, and was asked a series of questions. ‘I was asked if I believe homosexuality is a sin. I was asked what portion of the Bible I was reading. I was asked that if a homosexual was hungry and walked up to me, would I give them something to eat.’ ... On Thursday, he posted a transcript from the interrogation on his website, Cross Encounters. ... In time, Miano said a peace came over him. He later found out that although he was expecting the worst, the inspector had decided to release him ‘without further action.’ He was released just after midnight on Tuesday.”

POPE OFFERS INDULGENCES FOR WORLD YOUTH DAY



Pope Francis has offered an indulgence for Roman Catholic participants in the 28th World Youth Day in Rio de Janeiro. To receive the indulgence the individual must confess his sins to a priest, participate in mass, and “invoke the Blessed Virgin Mary, Queen of Brazil” (“Papal Indulgences,” Vatican Information Service, July 9, 2013). An indulgence is “the remission of the temporal punishment due to sin that has been forgiven.” According to the *Catholic Encyclopedia*, sin is forgiven in baptism, but “there still remains the temporal punishment required by Divine justice, and this requirement must be fulfilled either in the present life or in the world to come, i.e., in Purgatory.” The pope claims the authority to remit this temporal punishment. From top to bottom, this is a blatant denial of the sufficiency of Christ’s atonement to take away sin and the sufficiency of His High Priesthood by which He is able to “save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them” (Heb. 7:25). Rome’s sacramental gospel of grace-works clearly falls under the curse of Galatians, and the fact that very few Protestants, Baptists, evangelicals, and charismatics sound a clear warning about Rome’s error proves the deep apostasy of the hour. “But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed” (Gal. 1:8).



OBESITY A “DISEASE”

The following is from “It Might Be Harder to Fire People for Being Fat Now,” *Business Insider*, Jul. 8, 2013: “The American Medical Association’s decision to call obesity a ‘disease’ instead of a medical condition could make it harder to discriminate against fat employees, The *Wall Street Journal Law Blog* reports. Now that obesity is a disease, people with body mass indexes of more than 30 are almost certainly covered under The Americans with Disabilities Act, attorney Jon Hyman told the *Law Blog*. That 1990 law says employers have to provide disabled workers with ‘reasonable accommodations’ to help them do their jobs. It also makes it illegal

for employers to fire workers for being disabled. ‘Conventional wisdom has been that normal, run-of-the-mill obesity, unlinked to an underlying medical condition such as diabetes, is not a disability protected from discrimination by the Americans with Disabilities Act,’ Hyman has written on his blog. ‘This decision by the AMA, however, will likely flip that conventional wisdom on its head.’ The AMA’s decision isn’t legally binding but will likely influence courts, which have previously been reluctant to consider obesity to be a disability, Hyman told the *Journal*.”

THE MYSTICAL POWER OF ROCK & ROLL

Rock music is the most powerful form of mysticism operating in modern society. It is the sound track for end-time apostasy and Mystery Babylon. Rock & roll is all about being “hooked on a feeling.” The lyrics have never been the most important element. Rock is not so much about thinking as it is about emoting. It is enjoyed more with the body than the mind. Bob Pitman, founder of MTV, said: “The strongest appeal you can make is emotionally. If you can get their emotions going, make them forget their logic, you’ve got ‘em’” (“MV Is Rock Around the Clock,” *Philadelphia Inquirer*, Nov. 3, 1982). The life of Bob Gersztyn illustrates the mystical power of rock & roll. During the Jesus People movement in California in the 1970s he was “converted to Christ,” destroyed his rock albums, joined a Pentecostal church, and became a preacher. Today “his religious fervor has mellowed; he rarely attends church and calls himself an ‘allegorical Christian’” (“Former ‘Jesus freak’ traces the evolution of Christian rock,” *Religion News*, Apr. 17, 2013). What happened? He says his “horizons widened” in 1987 when he



attended a Bob Dylan/Grateful Dead concert. He went to see Dylan, who at the time was professing to be an “evangelical Christian.” (He subsequently renounced that profession.) Gersztyn says, “I was still really into the Christian thing, and being a minister, and didn’t want to get too close to the Deadheads because I thought God wouldn’t be happy about it.”

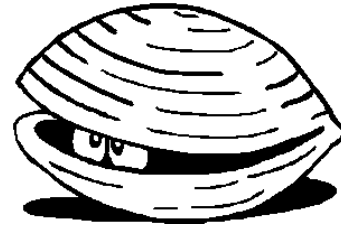
He was exactly right about that (e.g., 1 Corinthians 15:33; 2 Corinthians 6:14; Ephesians 5:11; 1 John 2:15-17). The spirit of rock is the spirit of the god of this world, “the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience” (Ephesians 2:2). This world system is at enmity against God and to love it is to be the enemy of God (James 4:4). God’s people are warned, “Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour” (1 Pet. 5:8). By messing around with the devil’s music, Gersztyn had a fresh conversion experience in a different direction when he was swept along by the “emotionalism and improvisational spirit.” He came to believe that the spirit of secular rock is “not that much different than the Holy Spirit.”

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

“When my father and my mother forsake me, then the LORD will take me up” (Psa. 27:10). The love of a mother and father for their children is one of the greatest loves in this world, but it is nothing compared with God’s love. Unlike God’s love, the love of human parents is not perfect: it is often partial; it is limited by human frailty; it is corrupted by sin; it is affected by the cares and afflictions of life, as parents have their own problems; and it is eventually cut off by death. The truth expressed by the Psalmist applies to every earthly relationship. While it is true that “when my father and my mother forsake me, then the LORD will take me up,” this is also true when my wife forsakes me or my husband forsakes me or my children forsake me or my best friends forsake me.



ONE FOOT AND A SAIL



The following is from *Creation Moments*, May 24, 2013: “It was about 50 years ago that Chinese immigrants to the United States brought some freshwater clams with them. It is known that today the clam is found in at least 35 states. That’s an amazing amount of territory to cover in only 50 years for a creature that only has one foot. The spread of the Asian clam costs industry over a billion dollars per year to unclog water intake pipes. Scientists began to wonder how the creature could travel so rapidly, even going from lake to lake and stream to stream. What scientists learned was that when the Asian clam encounters a current, it sets sail. Lifting off with its one foot, it releases a transparent film that catches the current like a sail. It sails off, using its foot like a rudder. This explains not only why it spreads so rapidly down rivers, but how the clam could spread from one body of water to another during floods. The Asian clam's ability to sail is a clever design. So, too, is the balance of nature which prevents creatures from over-populating. Unfortunately, the Asian clam in the United States has few enemies to keep it under control. If evolution were true, such lack of balance would be the rule in nature. But balance exists, keeping each creature fed but not over-populated in their natural settings, and is another witness to our Creator.”

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.

how do we help lift one another up?

- I. Aim not to _____ them _____

- II. Aim not to be a _____ on the individual

- III. Aim to seek the _____ of these brethren

- IV. Be prepared to be _____ for them to do them good

personal application and reflection

1 Corinthians 11:15 But if a woman have long hair, it is a glory to her: for her hair is given her for a covering.

1 Corinthians 11:20-22 When ye come together therefore into one place, this is not to eat the Lord's supper. For in eating every one taketh before other his own supper: and one is hungry, and another is drunken. What? have ye not houses to eat and to drink in? or despise ye the church of God, and shame them that have not? What shall I say to you? shall I praise you in this? I praise you not.

Turn to: **1 Corinthians 13**

1 Corinthians 14:4 He that speaketh in an unknown tongue edifieth himself; but he that prophesieth edifieth the church.

1 Corinthians 14:40 Let all things be done decently and in order.

1 Corinthians 15:12 Now if Christ be preached that he rose from the dead, how say some among you that there is no resurrection of the dead?

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

1 Corinthians 15:34 Awake to righteousness, and sin not; for some have not the knowledge of God: I speak this to your shame.

Galatians 6:1 Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such an one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted.

James 5:19-20 Brethren, if any of you do err from the truth, and one convert him; Let him know, that he which converteth the sinner from the error of his way shall save a soul from death, and shall hide a multitude of sins.

Proverbs 27:6 Faithful are the wounds of a friend; but the kisses of an enemy are deceitful. A true friend will highlight the wrong, the sin so that the weakness can be overcome. Like a doctor who tells clearly that there is a cancer, an infection, and then proceeds to deal with it, is a good doctor.

Romans 14:13 Let us not therefore judge one another any more: but judge this rather, that no man put a stumblingblock or an occasion to fall in his brother's way.

leaving Egypt

moving on

ambassador's fourth anniversary

“This day have I rolled away the reproach of Egypt from off you”

Joshua 5:9

July 21, 2013

10am to 12pm

1096 Sembawang Road
Singapore 758518

With Mandarin translation
Lunch to follow

Image courtesy Nico Kaiser

IN BRIEF

Fourth Anniversary Presentations

The Lord has greatly blessed Ambassador these past four years. If you have a testimony or item of praise you'd like to present during the Anniversary, please inform Bro. Robert Alamon who is in charge of the day's programming. Alternatively, you can tweet or write on our Facebook wall! More details can be found online.

New Semester of Faith Bible Institute

A new term of Faith Bible Institute approaches. While early enrollment discounts no longer apply, persons interested in enrolling may continue to do so. Please contact our FBI directors for more information

THE VISION AND MISSION OF AMBASSADOR

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

15 - 21 JULY 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	ABC's Fourth Anniversary

"Please note the anniversary next week!"

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

- Holiness of life to God and Man
- 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' salvation
- Sis Lydia's parents' salvation
- The LAMBS program

the old testament in 9 months

- JUL 15** Exodus 33-35
- JUL 16** Exodus 36-38
- JUL 17** Exodus 39-40
- JUL 18** Leviticus 1-4
- JUL 19** Leviticus 5-6
- JUL 20** Leviticus 7-8
- JUL 21** Leviticus 9-11