

28 JULY 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

## PRAY FOR EACH OTHER



## today's **program**

the **news**

**hymn** | *at the cross*

opening **prayer**

**hymn** | *all hail the power of Jesus' name*


**hymn** | *God leads us along*

**offertory**

**hymn** | *Jesus paid it all*

**exhortation** | *pastor Johnny*

**invitation** and closing

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

 Zach Alexander, Flickr

*Now I beseech you, brethren, for the Lord Jesus Christ's sake, and for the love of the Spirit, that ye strive together with me in your prayers to God for me;*

**Romans 15:30**

It is a mark of love for each other that we pray for another. Prayer brings about God's blessings to the one prayed for and blesses the one who prays as well. We often need divine help in our life, whether to overcome sin and temptation in our lives, to fight bad attitudes and

habits that hinder our testimonies, or to ask the Lord for wisdom and strength as we encounter the situations that seek to beset and conquer our hearts and souls. It is a blessed ministry to be bringing our brethren

continued on page 2

before the throne of grace. How do we do this?

**We pray for each other for the Lord Jesus' sake.** This is done for His glory, in His strength, by His instruction and example, in His name and using the character of His love and compassion that we may bring praise and honour to the Lord Jesus. When we become His children, we are to live for His glory and praise. We are lovingly obligated to the Saviour for His great love for us and His grace towards us.

**We are to pray for each other based on the love of the Holy Spirit for each other.** The apostle taught that we are keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. When the Lord Jesus saved us and placed us into His family through baptism, He gave us a bond within the people of God, within the family of God and within the local church family. This bond is precious, it is healthy and it is an encouraging bond. It is based on the love of Christ, the salvation we have and the spiritual ties in Christ through the Holy Spirit. Yet, this bond in the Spirit is very fragile as it is dependent upon God's people walking in the Spirit and yielding to His leading. Paul encourages the Roman Christians to pray with

the love of the Spirit for each other, using the love that comes only from Christ. When genuinely impressed in our hearts by the Spirit of God, it brings about closeness to Christ and each other as we live in the Spirit of God.

**We pray earnestly for each other.** Striving means, "to work with much effort and labour." Prayer is hard work and requires much self-denial. It takes effort and concentration to begin praying because we are often faced with much distraction. Whilst praying, we need to focus on what we are praying about. We need to be sensitive to pray in the Holy Spirit, to be led and directed by the Holy Spirit of God, because only when we pray in the Spirit are our prayers accepted. Earnest, sincere, heartfelt prayer for each other indicates the love that God has put in our hearts for one another.

Do we pray for each other, for the sake of the Lord Jesus, based on the love of the Holy Spirit shed in our hearts and earnestly, sincerely that God may bless our brethren and our enemies alike for His glory?

Do we even pray for each other? May the Lord help us to pray for each other based on His will.

#### thought of the week

Let us do all things to build each other up.

#### 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

28 July 2013

*"Lifting up the Weaker Brethren: The Example of the Apostle Paul. (Part 2)"*

Turn to: **2 Corinthians 12:16 - 21**

**1 Corinthians 15:58** Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord.

**1 Corinthians 10:24** Let no man seek his own, but every man another's wealth.

**1 Corinthians 10:33** Even as I please all men in all things, not seeking mine own profit, but the profit of many, that they may be saved.

**Romans 15:1-3** We then that are strong ought to bear the infirmities of the weak, and not to please ourselves. Let every one of us please his neighbour for his good to edification. For even Christ pleased not himself; but, as it is written, The reproaches of them that reproached thee fell on me.

**Romans 14:19** Let us therefore follow after the things which make for peace, and things wherewith one may edify another.

**1 Corinthians 10:23** All things are lawful for me, but all things are not expedient: all things are lawful for me, but all things edify not.

**1 Thessalonians 5:11** Wherefore comfort yourselves together, and edify one another, even as also ye do.

**1 Corinthians 10:23** All things are lawful for me, but all things are not expedient: all things are lawful for me, but all things edify not.

**1 Samuel 15:11** It repenteth me that I have set up Saul to be king: for he is turned back from following me, and hath not performed my commandments. And it grieved Samuel; and he cried unto the LORD all night.

**1 Samuel 15:35** And Samuel came no more to see Saul until the day of his death: nevertheless Samuel mourned for Saul: and the LORD repented that he had made Saul king over Israel.

**Psalms 126:5** They that sow in tears shall reap in joy.

**Acts 20:19** Serving the Lord with all humility of mind, and with many tears, and temptations, which befell me by the lying in wait of the Jews:

Sunday Worship Service

28 July 2013

"Lifting up the Weaker Brethren: The Example of the Apostle Paul. (Part 2)"

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

how do we lift up our weak brethren?

**I. By Being \_\_\_\_\_ In Our Christian Life.**

*Persecution against those who wanted to follow Christ became frequent towards the close of the second century. Following the tide of the day, many Christians followed their compromising church leaders and surrendered to mounting pressures to forsake sound doctrine. However, many still believed in soul liberty and the absolute authority of the Bible, though they were sliding towards a minority. These believers were willing to die rather than obey demands of the government contrary to Scripture. Many did die for the cause of Christ, yet their numbers multiplied. Tertullian said, "Our number increases the more you destroy us. The blood of the Christians is their seed." (14)*

*Baptist History*

**II. By Doing All Things For The Purpose Of \_\_\_\_\_ Each Other \_\_\_\_\_**

**III. By \_\_\_\_\_ them**

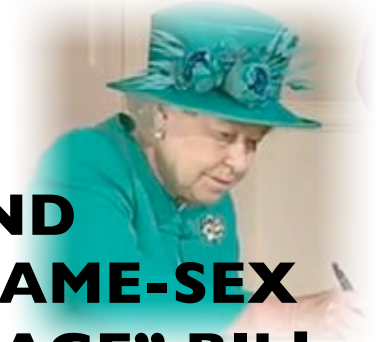
# FRIDAY CHURCH NEWS NOTES

## POPE CALLS MARY “REFUGE OF SINNERS”



In his visit to the Italian island of Lampedusa on July 8, Pope Francis called Mary the star of the sea, Mother of God, Protector of migrants, Mother of mercy, and Refuge of sinners (“Pope’s Marian Prayer at Lampedusa,” Zenit, July 8, 2013). He began the prayer with these words: “Mary, star of the sea, once again we recourse to thee, to find refuge and serenity, to implore your protection and help.” He asked Mary to “obtain the conversion of heart” for sinners and to “bless all men and women of good will.” Only 80 miles from the coast of Tunisia, Lampedusa has been the target for tens of thousands of Africans who are attempting to reach Italy and Europe. The island’s native population of 6,000 is overwhelmed by the thousands of illegal migrants living in impoverished camps awaiting relocation to the European mainland. It is believed that 20,000 have died since 1988 in the attempt to cross the passage of water in rickety boats.

## QUEEN OF ENGLAND SIGNS SAME-SEX “MARRIAGE” BILL



The following is excerpted from “Queen Signs,” Religion News Service, July 17, 2013: “England and Wales became the 16th and 17th countries in the world to recognize gay marriage after Queen Elizabeth II gave ‘royal assent’ to a same-sex marriage bill. Under the new law, gay men and women will be able to join together in civil ceremonies or in church services--although no religious denomination will be forced to carry out such services. Cheers, laughter and clapping broke out in the House of Commons when Speaker John Bercow announced the bill had been approved. ‘The fact that the bill passed through both Houses (Commons and Lords) undefeated is a huge accomplishment for the government,’ said Equalities Minister Maria Miller. ‘This is an historic moment that will resonate in many people’s lives. I am proud that we have made it happen and I look forward to the first same sex wedding by next summer. The title of this bill might be “marriage” but its fabric is about freedom and respect.’ ... Separate legislation has been presented to the Scottish government to make same-sex marriage legal. Debates are expected to begin in Edinburgh, the Scottish capital, in October or November.” NOTE FROM BROTHER CLOUD: On many trips to England I have asked Church of England people if they are “born again,” and I have yet to get a biblical reply. I realize there are exceptions, but it is sad when it becomes an exception for people who name the name of Jesus Christ to not understand the new birth and its necessity.

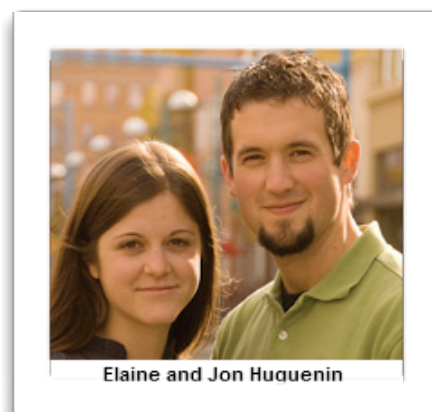
**FYI:** *There will be no Friday Church News Notes August 2, 2013.*



## VAST MAJORITY OF AMERICANS SAY CHRISTIAN PHOTOGRAPHER HAS RIGHT TO DENY GAY WEDDING REQUEST

The following is excerpted from "Most Americans Say," *Christian Post*, July 17, 2013: "A vast majority of Americans say that a Christian photographer should be able to deny a same-sex couple's wedding request, internet polling company Rasmussen Reports has found. Eighty-five percent of adults said 'yes' to the question, 'Suppose a Christian wedding photographer has deeply held religious beliefs opposing same-sex marriage. If asked to work a same-sex wedding ceremony, should that wedding photographer have the right to say no?' Only 8 percent said 'no,' and 6 percent sat on the fence.

The survey of 1,000 adults was conducted July 7-8, 2013. ... even 88 percent of atheists agreed that the photographer has the right to say no. This comes four months after the latest development in the famous Willock v. Elane Photography case, where Vanessa Willock and her partner, Misti Collinsworth, sued Christian couple Elaine and Jon Huguenin for this very denial in 2006. In 2008, the New Mexico Human Rights Commission found the Huguenins guilty of sexual discrimination, and the New Mexico Court of Appeals upheld this ruling last May. The Alliance Defense Fund, which defended the Huguenins and their company, Elane Photography LLC, has taken their case to the New Mexico Supreme Court. The court heard ADF Senior Counsel Jordan Lorence's oral arguments on March 11. On Wednesday, an ADF spokesman told CP that 'ADF attorneys are still waiting for the decision from the New Mexico Supreme Court.'



Elaine and Jon Huguenin

## THREE RECOMMENDED RESOURCES



The following are helpful resources that we recommend: *THE FUNDAMENTALIST DIGEST* by Don J as m i n ([psalms1715@frontier.com](mailto:psalms1715@frontier.com)). *HIDDEN TREASURES* by Bob Kirkland, Sarnia, Ontario (Local Church Ministries, [www.fairhavensbaptist.net](http://www.fairhavensbaptist.net), [bobkirkland7@gmail.com](mailto:bobkirkland7@gmail.com)). *HEADS UP* by Buddy Smith, Malanda, Queensland ([smiletex@bigpond.net.au](mailto:smiletex@bigpond.net.au)). I know and appreciate each of these men. They are very different individuals who would not agree on everything, but they are studious men who think for themselves and are not committed to any "good old boys network."

They come from widely divergent backgrounds -- one is a graduate of BJU and another, of Baptist Bible College Springfield, and one used to be a big proponent of Hyles Pastors School -- though you would never know it today! They are Christ-centered rather than man- and human-institution centered, and Bible-centered rather than tradition bound. (I have long said that most independent Baptists are as tradition-bound as Episcopalians.) It encourages me that men who graduate from divers institutions can

learn to think for themselves on the authority of God's Word and by the wisdom of the indwelling Christ and that we do not have to follow a crowd. I thank the Lord for the good things that I learned at Tennessee Temple in the 1970s, but I also thank the Lord for the things God has taught me by His Word and Spirit that have led me to reject some of the things I was taught and to modify others. I can respect Lee Roberson as a man of God without being a blind loyalist in an idolatrous way. This is my challenge to the graduates of and current students of any Bible College. Make Christ your only Master and the Bible your only authority. Maintain a godly attitude as opposed to a hyper-critical attitude, but be a true Berean and "prove ALL things." Include Psalm 119:128 and Acts 17:11 and 1 Thessalonians 5:20-21 among your life verses. One young preacher mocked me in his blog by saying, "I am NOT Cloud's Timothy." (He was referring to my monthly magazine which is called *O Timothy*.) Apparently he thought that this would be a blow to my pride, but the Lord knows that I have never wanted anyone to be *my* Timothy! I want us all to be the Lord's Timothys, and this has always been the theme of my ministry.

# GOD'S OMNISCIENCE

"Great is our Lord, and of great power: his understanding is infinite" (Psa. 147:5). God knows the beginning and the end (Isa. 46:9-10). God knows the thoughts of every man's heart and every word that he speaks (1 Ki. 8:39; 1 Chr. 28:9; Psa. 139:1-6). He sees all things and is aware of all things that happen (Mat. 10:29; Prov. 15:3). He knows all possibilities (Mat. 11:23; Isa. 48:18). He knows the number of the hairs on man's head (Lk. 12:7). Scientists say the average number of hairs on the head of a young adult is 100,000, but it varies greatly, with blonds averaging 140,000 and red heads, 90,000. And the human head is dynamic environment, with 100 or so hairs falling out daily, some hair follicles producing and others resting after producing for two to six years. To know the number of hairs on every



person's head requires intimate, moment-by-moment knowledge. God also knows the number of and names of the stars (Psa. 147:4). Using the Hubble telescope and the European Space Agency's infrared space observatory and other high-tech equipment, astronomers have estimated that there are 400 billion galaxies. Assuming there are 100 billion stars in each (which is the estimated number in our own galaxy, the Milky Way), that would be 40 billion

trillion stars. But this is only a vague estimate, as man, even with his vaunted modern science, cannot begin to count the individual stars of the universe, let alone know their names. As the European Space Agency's web site says, "No one would try to count stars individually, instead we measure integrated quantities like the number and luminosity of galaxies." No one, that is, but God!

# TOUCH NOT GOD'S ANOINTED

One of the many tactics that some Independent Baptist preachers have used to remain above reproof and discipline is the misapplication of Scripture. Perhaps the chief of the passages that are so abused is Matthew 18:15-20. We have dealt with this many times. The context has nothing to do with warning about a public preaching and teaching ministry. It has to do with personal offense. Another Scripture that I have heard misapplied repeatedly over the past decades is 1 Samuel 24:10, the basis for the misguided doctrine of "touch not God's anointed." David said, "Behold, this day thine eyes have seen how that the LORD had delivered thee to day into mine hand in the cave: and some bade me kill thee: but mine eye spared thee; and I said, I will not put forth mine hand against my lord; for he is the LORD'S anointed." The context has to do with killing an anointed king of Israel. Killing him dead. Apparently some Independent Baptist preachers are so delusional that they think they are kings and that someone who reproves them with God's Word is trying to kill them.

Jack Hyles certainly acted like a king and put himself far above reproof and discipline, and so do many others who follow this unscriptural pastoral model. But even a full-blown Israelite king was not above reproof. Samuel did not draw back from reproofing Saul, and Nathan did not draw back from reproofing David, and Jehu did not draw back from reproofing Jehoshaphat (2 Chronicles 19:2). It is obvious that even kings could be reproofed by God's Word, and so can

Baptist preachers  
when the  
situation  
warrants!







Engineer Stuart Burgess says, "A flight feather is a masterpiece of design and is one of the most efficient structures known to man" (*Hallmarks of Design*, p. 38). Jack Cohen, who is an evolutionist, nevertheless says that the flight feather is "engineered to the utmost precision" and that examining it "is a humbling process" ("Feathers and Pattern," *Advances in Morphogenesis*, edited by Abercrombie and Bracket, 1966, pp. 9, 12). A "simple" pigeon feather is composed of more than one million individual parts made up of billions of cells perfectly organized into a marvel of design. The flight feather has the following three major features (adapted from Burgess, p. 39). (1) a hollow stem containing air or foam, which starts out as a circle near the root of the feather and changes into a rectangular shape which is structurally stronger; (2) barbs angle off of the stem forming the basic feather shape; (3) two sets of barbules angle off of the barbs, with one set of

barbules having hooks that interlock with a set of non-hooked barbules; there can be hundreds of thousands of barbules in one feather. With the barbules hooked, the wing has a lightweight flat surface that the bird uses to push against the air. The barbules prevent air from passing through the wing on the downward motion while allowing air to pass through on the wing's upward motion. Michael Pitman, who taught biology at Cambridge, describes the marvelous design of the flight feather: "Some large feathers contain over a million barbules, with hooks and eye-

lets to match, in perfect order. The feather is useless without this interlocking mechanism which acts something like an automatic zip fastener whose disturbance preening rearranges. When outstretched in flight, the hooks cause the whole wing-assembly to form a continuous sheet to catch the wind. The whole feather is a cohesive, elastic and light structure, well-designed to function as an air-resistant surface. Sensory receptors record its precise position. Over both wings they effect the continuous variations and fine adjustments of more than ten thousand tiny muscles attached to the bases of the feathers. Behold the parts of a precious instrument of aerospace, unparalleled in design and workmanship by human technology" (*Adam and Evolution*, p. 222). There is no such things as a simple living creature or a simple organ. The entire universe testifies of an omnipotent God for those who have eyes to see.



## 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).



**IV. By being \_\_\_\_\_ over the \_\_\_\_\_ of others**

personal reflection and application

**Revelations 21:4** And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away.

# welcome to AMBASSADOR

Ambassador Baptist Church welcomes you! We aim to honour the name of our Saviour and we are blessed to have you with us today. May the Lord speak to you clearly so that you can leave this place knowing what He would have you do through His Word.

## IN BRIEF



### Church-wide fellowship

*Ambassador is planning a church-wide fellowship on August 8. Please approach Bro. Lee Thay Liong or Bro. Joshua Poon if you are able to contribute to the planning or execution of the event. More to be released.*

## THE VISION AND MISSION OF AMBASSADOR

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

issues of the  
HEART

Why do people behave the way they do?  
Why do I behave the way I do?  
How do I **overcome** bad behaviour?  
What does the Bible say?

Find out in Sunday Bible Hour

**29 JULY - AUGUST 4 2013**

ambassadorbaptistchurch


"Let us 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 Bible Hour<br>Sunday Worship Service<br>Mandarin Service |

*"All weekly 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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**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

- 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 29** Leviticus 12-13

**JUL 30** Leviticus 14-15

**JUL 31** Leviticus 16-18

**AUG 1** Leviticus 19-21

**AUG 2** Leviticus 22-23

**AUG 3** Leviticus 24-25

**AUG 4** Leviticus 26-27