

11 AUGUST 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

page 1-2

news highlights

page 7

week at a glance

page 8

sermon materials

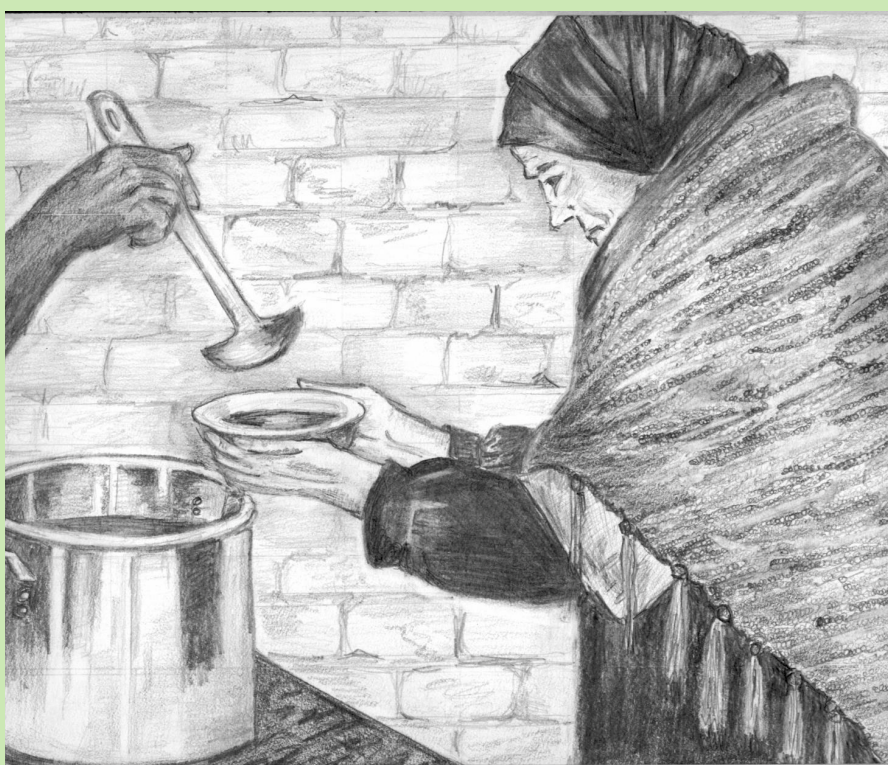
page 3-6

Bible-reading schedule

page 8

from the pastor's heart

HELPING THE POOR SAINTS



today's program

the **news**

hymn | *my Saviour's love*

opening **prayer**

hymn | *the old account settled*

hymn | *nothing but the blood*

offertory

hymn | *God leads us along*

exhortation | *pastor Johnny*

invitation and closing

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

 United Way of Greater St. Louis, Flickr

For it hath pleased them of Macedonia and Achaia to make a certain contribution for the poor saints which are at Jerusalem.

Romans 15:26

There were significant trials and temptations in the lives

of the Christians in Jerusalem. There was opposition, persecution and a large proportion of the believers were materially poor and unable to manage daily needs. Paul knew of this situation and instructed, on the basis of love and care for the brethren, to take up a practical collection of financial resources to help

the situation of the poor brethren. When there is a need that is expressed, those with a kind and helpful attitude will contribute, but what should a Christian's response be when there is a need? We need to contribute and assist to relieve the poor, found in the apostolic

continued on page 2

instruction, "As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith." (Galatians 6:10)

Paul, in expressing the contributions of the Macedonians and those of Achaia, tell us how these believers helped other poorer believers.

It was a pleasure for them to help. It was a worthy and pleasurable cause and an approved task in the mind of the Christians. To help was not a chore or something to complain about. They thanked God that they had a privilege to share and care. It is always a privilege and a worthy cause to help a brother. Is it possible that sometimes, there is the help that is given to other believers without a heart to do so? We need to love our brethren from our hearts. This is the will of God our Saviour.

It was an indication of fellowship. When the Christians gave to help other Christians relieve their poverty, it was not only a pleasure, but their contribution meant that they shared in the suffering of their Christian brethren. "Contribution" refers to sharing what we have. When we give to help, we not only give with a willing heart, but we also need to desire to be partakers of the other Christians' lives and suffering. The saints were poor at Jerusalem,

and the Christians at Macedonian and Achaia knew this. Therefore, they gave to contribute in care for the saints at Jerusalem. We need to do the same.

It was an indication of gratitude to God. The Macedonians and Achaians were Gentiles. They knew that their salvation, new life in Christ and redemption from sin and hell came from a Jewish Messiah. Their help of the poor brethren of Jerusalem reflected not only their willingness to help their brethren in need but also their gratitude to God for His grace, mercy and constant guidance and comfort in their lives through the nation of Israel and their God. Their contribution reflected their gratitude to the God they loved. When we love God, we will love the brethren. Our help and service for the brethren ought to be a reflection of our heart of love for God.

Is it a pleasurable thing to help our brethren? Do we give to share in the fellowship of their pain and trials? Do we have gratitude towards God for His love? As a gift for His grace, do we serve the brethren and love them in His name? These are important questions to ponder, because when we find the answer and do it, God will change our lives and help us grow.

thought of the week

The true, living faith,
which the Holy Spirit
instills into the heart,
simply cannot be idle.

memory verse

And he sat down, and called the twelve, and saith unto them, If any man desire to be first, the same shall be last of all, and servant of all.

Mark 9:35

Sunday Worship Service

11 August 2013

"Genuine Salvation: Am I a Christian?"

Turn to: **2 Corinthians 13:1 - 10**

John 5:24 Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life.

Matthew 3:8 Bring forth therefore fruits meet for repentance:

John 8:29 And he that sent me is with me: the Father hath not left me alone; for I do always those things that please him.

Romans 15:1 - 2 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.

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.

Sunday Worship Service

11 August 2013

"Genuine Salvation: Am I a Christian?"

Passage: _____

introduction

What is genuine salvation, according to this passage?

I. Genuine salvation is the _____ of _____ the Word of God (v.3-4)

II. Genuine salvation _____ to be _____ (v.5)

A. The first word examine means to put to a _____ .

B. The second word in this verse we want to learn is the word _____. It means to put through the _____. The first word _____ and the second word _____ are two different words. It means to put to the _____

C. The best way to prove our faith is to subject it to actual trial in the various _____ and _____ of life.

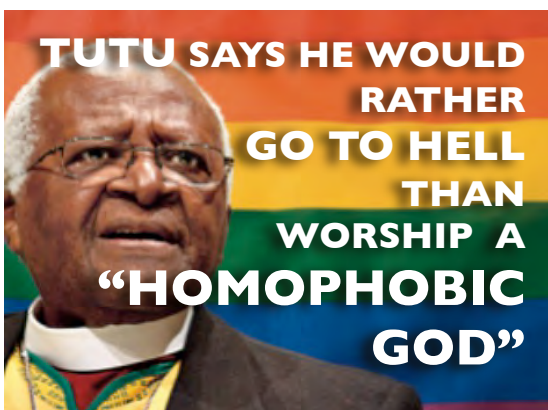
FRIDAY CHURCH NEWS NOTES

COOL PASTOR SAYS “CESSATIONISTS ARE WRONG”

Mark Driscoll, super cool pastor of Seattle’s hard rocking Mars Hill Church, says cessationists are wrong. Speaking on June 9 in a series entitled “Acts: Empowered for Jesus’ Mission,” Driscoll said that the gift of tongues is for today and will only cease when Christ returns. As far as we know, Driscoll doesn’t claim to speak in tongues, but he opens the door to and is an enabler of the charismatic movement by this position. I would ask Driscoll exactly where tongues are operating scripturally today. When I was led to Christ by an old-line Pentecostal in 1973 from a hitch-hiking lifestyle, I had no reason to disbelieve in tongues, but as an earnest Bible student I could see that the gift of tongues had to operate according to strict apostolic rules (1 Corinthians 14). Though I have attended dozens of Pentecostal and charismatic churches and conferences in many countries, forty years later I have never witnessed the scriptural operation of tongues. This is because certain of the spiritual gifts were apostolic sign gifts (2 Cor. 12:12), and tongues was one of these. By its very nature a sign gift had to be limited in scope. Tongues, the ability to speak a language one has never learned, was a sign to the Jewish nation of the new thing that God was doing in proclaiming the gospel to all nations (Acts 2:4-12; 1 Cor. 14:20-22). Every time tongues were spoken in the book of Acts, Jews were



present. It was a truly amazing gift, together with its twin, the interpretation of tongues. To speak or interpret a language one has never learned is a great miracle. In contrast, that which passes for “tongues” today is ridiculous. Something that can be taught, learned, and imitated is no miracle! (That which passes today as the gift of healing is equally ridiculous.) A careful study on the origin of the Pentecostal movement at the turn of the 20th century should convince any Bible believer of its bogus character. The charismatic movement and contemporary worship music are two of the most powerful elements of the building of the end-time one-world “church,” and Mark Driscoll is a huge promoter of contemporary worship music. (For extensive documentation of the statements made in this brief report and for the Bible’s teaching on apostolic sign gifts, see *The Pentecostal-Charismatic Movements: The History and the Error*, available in print and eBook formats from Way of Life Literature.)



Desmond Tutu, retired Anglican archbishop of South Africa, says that he would rather go to hell than worship a “homophobic God.” Speaking at the launch of a “gay rights” campaign backed by the United Nations, Tutu said, “I would refuse to go to a homophobic heaven. No, I would say sorry, I mean I would much rather go to the other place. I would not worship a God who is homophobic and that is how deeply I feel about this” (“Archbishop Tutu,” *BBC News*, July 26, 2013). We are reminded of the prophecy of Psalm 2 that the world’s rulers will take counsel against Jehovah God and His anointed (Christ), saying, “Let us break their bands asunder, and cast away their cords from us.” This refers to a rejection of God’s holy laws, and Desmond Tutu is exhibit A in this regard. He is a man who is acclaimed by the world and who

represents the world’s most modern thinking--a man who received such awards as the Nobel Peace Prize, the

continued on next page

Presidential Medal of Freedom, and the Albert Schweitzer Prize for Humanitarianism. And he openly and brashly hates the holy God of the Bible. Of course, God is not “homophobic.” God has no phobias; fallen man has all of the phobias. But God has laws, and according to His laws any sexual relationship outside of holy marriage is sin, and marriage is only legitimate between a man and a woman.

RUSSIAN BEAR GROWLING

In July Russia conducted the largest military maneuvers since the days of the Soviet Union, “in a massive show of the nation’s resurgent military might” (“Russia Holds Biggest,” CNSNews, July 16, 2013). The maneuver involved 160,000 troops, 5,000 tanks, dozens of ships, and 130 combat aircraft. At a time when Russia is in resurgence and its president is a black-belt warrior who understands military might, America is led by a man who doesn’t seem to have a clue, a man under whose regime the nation’s most important secrets have been lost and its military weakened to a frightful degree. While Russia’s elite soldiers train in secret, America’s brag and blab, writing books and making movies about their exploits. This is God’s judgment on a once-great nation because of the apostasy and worldliness of her churches and the wickedness, selfishness, foolishness, and near-



sightedness of a majority of her citizens. But no matter what happens in the near future, we know the last chapter. Russia is the great Gog and Magog power that will invade Israel in the last days only to meet her Waterloo (Ezekiel 38-39). As we have stated in our new book *The Future According to the Bible*, there are at least seven reasons to believe that Gog and Magog refers to Russia: The genealogy, the name, the location, the size of the army, the alliance (e.g., Persia, Ethiopia, Libya, Gomer), the equipment, and the power’s hatred of Israel. Russia has a long history of anti-Semitism, stemming back to ancient times. *The Israel Insider*, June 30, 2005, stated: “It seems that just as anti-Semitism was at the very core of the old Russia, it is at the very core of the new Russia.” Russia has been arming Israel’s Muslim enemies since the early 1950s.

POLITICAL COMMENTATOR SAYS “GOD IN OLD TESTAMENT IS A PSYCHOTIC MASS MURDERER”

Bill Maher, comedian and political commentator, claimed recently that the Bible is filled with indefensible things, stating that “the God in the Old Testament is a psychotic mass murderer” (“Real Time with Bill Maher,” July 26, 2013). Those are the sentiments of a law breaker. An unrepentant rapist or thief or even a red-light runner doesn’t like the law and doesn’t think law enforcers are fair. I



once sat on a jury to judge a man who was charged with drunk driving. When we convicted him, he considered us to be unjust and unreasonable.

The God of the Bible (Jesus said that He and Jehovah God are one) is the most compassionate Being in the universe. He is love and He is the source of all love. But He is also a God of law and order. He is holy and just. He is a Judge as well as a Saviour. As the Creator, He owns man and has the right to tell man how to live. He gave the first man Adam only one law, and Adam broke that law and suffered the punishment of death. God could have left things like that, but He Himself came into this world in the form of His Son and took our just punishment upon Himself. Jesus, the Son of God, died for His enemies, and as He was suffering unjustly on the cross He prayed, “Father, forgive them for they know not what they do.” Are those the words of a “psychotic mass murderer”? In the Old Testament, God waited 400 years before destroying the Canaanites (Genesis 15:13-16). Those nations could have repented like

continued on next page

POLITICAL COMMENTATOR
SAYS "GOD IN OLD TESTAMENT
IS A PSYCHOTIC MASS
MURDERER"

...continued from previous page

Nineveh did and God, in His grace, would have forgiven them (Jonah 3:5-10). When the destruction came it was an act of justice. Just like the rapist or child murderer who suffers the vengeance of man's law, the Canaanites destroyed themselves by their brazen rebellion to God's moral laws, which are written in man's very conscience (Romans 2:14-15). They brought God's judgment upon themselves by their idolatry, fornication, bestiality, incest, and other high crimes against a holy God (Leviticus 18:1-3, 19-25). They even burned their children to death (Deuteronomy 12:31). It is not morally wrong for a holy, lawgiving God to punish those who willfully, flagrantly, and unrepentantly break His laws. When Maher and his liberal friends support the killing of unborn children in the womb, that is fine, but when God punishes lawbreakers, He is a monster in their eyes. What hypocrisy! I'm glad to say that God doesn't answer to Bill Maher or any other man.

MILITARY CENSORS CHRISTIAN CHAPLAIN

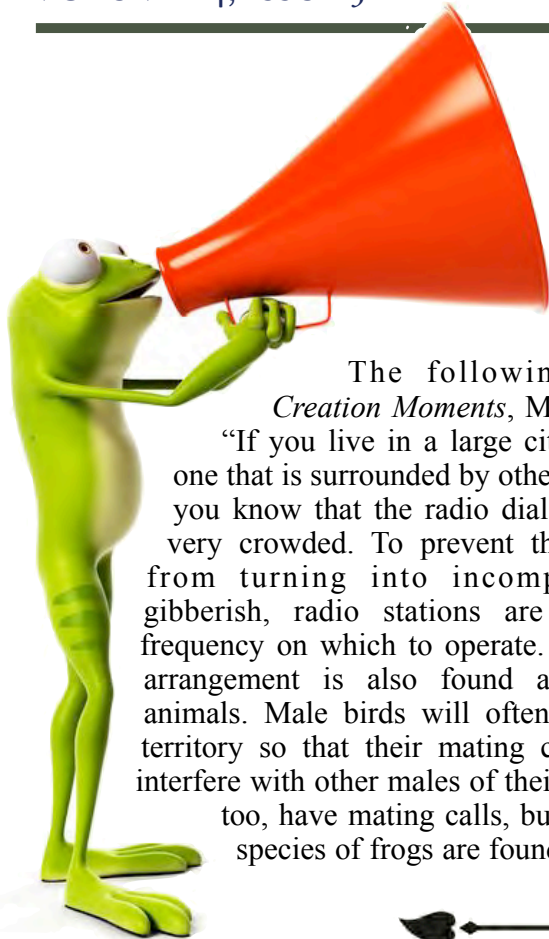


Mikey Weinstein MRFF

The following is excerpted from Breitbart.com, July 24, 2013: "A Christian chaplain in the military is being officially censored for engaging in free speech, and anti-Christian activists are demanding he be punished. Lt. Col. Kenneth Reyes is a Christian chaplain currently serving in the U.S. Air Force. He is stationed at Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson in Alaska. As an ordained clergyman whose duties are to provide religious instruction and spiritual counseling, he has a page on the base's website called

'Chaplain's Corner.' Reyes recently wrote an essay entitled, 'No Atheists in Foxholes: Chaplains Gave All in World War II.' This common saying is attributed to a Catholic priest in World War II, made famous when President Dwight D. Eisenhower said during a 1954 speech: 'I am delighted that our veterans are sponsoring a movement to increase our awareness of God in our daily lives. In battle, they learned a great truth that there are no atheists in the foxholes.' As reported by Fox News's Todd Starnes, when Reyes referenced this famous line in his essay, the Military Religious Freedom Foundation (MRFF) contacted the base commander, Col. Brian Duffy, demanding he take action on Reyes's 'anti-secular diatribe.' ... They accuse him of violating military regulations. My legal research on this issue uncovered no regulation prohibiting Reyes's speech, which looks like expression protected by the free speech and religious freedom provisions of the First Amendment. Military leaders did not respond to Fox's inquiries asking the Air Force to identify any such rules. Nonetheless, only five hours after MRFF's complaint, the essay was removed from the website. Duffy has

profusely apologized in MRFF for not stopping this religious leader from sharing religious thoughts. But this response--which again appears to be a violation of Reyes's First Amendment rights—is insufficient for MRFF. They said, "Faith based hate, is hate all the same," and, "Lt. Col. Reyes *must be appropriately punished.*" (Emphasis added). ... MRFF is activist Mikey Weinstein's organization. He called observant Christians 'fundamentalist monsters' seeking to impose a 'reign of theocratic terror,' and he described sharing the gospel of Jesus Christ as an act of 'spiritual rape' that makes believers 'enemies of the Constitution' who are committing an act of 'sedition and treason' against this nation."



A FROG'S CREATIVE BROADCASTING SOLUTION

The following is from *Creation Moments*, May 17, 2013: "If you live in a large city, especially one that is surrounded by other large cities, you know that the radio dial can become very crowded. To prevent the radio dial from turning into incomprehensible gibberish, radio stations are assigned a frequency on which to operate. This orderly arrangement is also found among many animals. Male birds will often stake out a territory so that their mating call does not interfere with other males of their kind. Frogs too, have mating calls, but often many species of frogs are found in the same

swamp. They avoid interfering with each other by each using a unique frequency for their calls. Otherwise, no one's call could be clearly understood. This orderly arrangement is evidence enough of the Creator's hand. But there are two South American frogs, often found in the same locations, which use the same frequency. How can they do that? One frog calls only above water while the other frog uses his call only under water. Since the surface of the water is an effective barrier for sound, neither call interferes with the other. Frogs could have never gotten together and agreed on limiting themselves to unique frequencies. What should be clear, especially in our technological age, is that the Creator Himself set up this arrangement for the good of everyone."

Meditations on the Promises of God's Watchcare in the Psalms

"As far as the east is from the west, so far hath he removed our transgressions from us" (Psa. 103:12). This is an infinite measure. If you travel east across the globe you never come to a point where you are going west. East and west never meet (whereas north and south do meet at the poles). This is how great God's mercy is. This is how completely He forgives our sins when we put our trust in Jesus Christ for once-for-all salvation and when we confess our sins for daily fellowship. Since Satan is the accuser of the brethren (Rev. 12:10), let's send him on an errand to find our sin that is forgiven in Christ. Let him find the place where east and west meet, and when he does that he will find my forgiven sin.

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, fibs@wayoflife.org.

III. Genuine salvation is _____ for others' _____ (v.7-10)

That religion which will enable a man to imitate the example of Paul, or the great Master himself, in doing good, is genuine.

That religion which will enable a man to endure persecution for the name of Jesus; to bear calamity without murmuring; to submit to a long series of disappointments and distresses for Christ's sake, is genuine.

That religion which will prompt a man unceasingly to a life of prayer and self-denial; which will make him ever conscientious, industrious, and honest; which will enable him to warn sinners of the error of their ways, and which will dispose him to seek the friendship of Christians, and the salvation of the world, is pure and genuine.

It is like the good axe with which a man can chop all day long, in which there is no flaw, and which does not get dull, and which answers all the purposes of an axe. Any other religion than this is worthless."

Christian Commentator

personal reflection and application

IN BRIEF

Family Meeting

There will be a family meeting after the service on 18 August 2013. All members are requested to be present. Pack lunch will be provided.

HIGHLIGHTS • FAITH BIBLE INSTITUTE

New Semester - Fall 2013



Faith Bible Institute is a three-year intensive Bible study program that examines every verse of Scripture, one verse at a time. It is an extremely useful tool in a Christian's spiritual growth.

Such a treasure is now available to you as a new term approaches. Classes begin 19 August 2013 at the church premises. For more information, contact the FBI directors.

FAITH BIBLE INSTITUTE Semester 2, 2013

- Begins 19 August 2013
- Includes studies of *Exodus and the Life of Christ*
- Every Monday, 7:45-10:45PM

Contact FBI directors for more information:

Lau Song Leng - 81881071
Huong Shioh Lin - 91254586

THE VISION AND MISSION OF AMBASSADOR

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

HAVE ONE OF THESE?



SINGAPORE CLASS 3 DRIVERS' LICENSE

CONTACT THE SERVICE SUPPORT MINISTRY NOW!
BRO. JOSHUA POON - 92768590

12 - 18 AUGUST 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 Bible Hour 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
johnny@ambassador-baptist.org
(pastor's email)

Facebook:
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

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
- 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

AUG 12 Numbers 19-21

AUG 13 Numbers 22-23

AUG 14 Numbers 24-26

AUG 15 Numbers 27-29

AUG 16 Numbers 30-31

AUG 17 Numbers 32-33

AUG 18 Numbers 34-36