

18 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

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from the pastor's heart

## A SERVANT



## today's program

the **news**

**hymn** | o worship the King

opening **prayer**

**hymn** | wonderful grace of Jesus


**hymn** | o God, our help in ages  
past

**offertory**

**hymn** | when we see Christ

**exhortation** | pastor Johnny

**invitation** and closing

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

 United Way of Greater St. Louis, Flickr

*I commend unto you Phebe our sister, which is a servant of the church which is at Cenchrea:*

### Romans 16:1

In this final chapter of Romans, Paul identifies many Christians who have been

integral and helpful in the ministry of Christ. Paul first introduces Phebe whose name means "bright". It is clear from her life and Paul's comments that the brightness of Christ radiated from her life. What did Paul comment about Phebe that we can learn to apply our own lives?

**She was a servant of the**

**church.** Paul did not say that she was a servant of Christ, but she was a servant of the church. She was a servant of the people of God - the assembly at Cenchrea. We cannot serve Christ when we are unwilling to serve His people. When we serve His

continued on page 2

people, we serve the Lord Jesus. To serve men means to do the tasks for men, and for their sakes. It may mean buying lunch for a brother who is sick, or responding to another's need of care for a child when they have a urgent crisis. It may involve forgoing our rest that someone else may rest. Many say, "I serve God, but I choose not to serve men." It is a meaningless argument because God says we cannot love the God whom we cannot see if we fail to love the people whom we can see. A servant of Christ serves people with a heart of love overflowing to bring the people to the Lord Jesus. Our Saviour is clear. In Matthew 25:40, He said, "the King shall...say...Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me." Phebe's life of service to people shone brightly for the Lord Jesus.

**She was busy.** She was busy serving the Lord in different areas within the local church. Whatever she found her hands on, she served and did her utmost. Paul admonished the church to help her in whatever business she may have been involved in. A servant looks for opportunities to be busy for the Lord Jesus and strives to always be occupied for the Lord's sake.

**She was a supportive help to many, including Paul himself** (*Romans 16:2*). Paul, writing of this humble servant, noted that she was a succourer of many. She had been kind to many and also was a constant source of comfort, support and practical help to many. This servant was a great encouragement to many of the brethren because she lifted them up. However, it is noted that she not only helped them with her hands. Being filled with the Holy Spirit of God, she helped many with her heart. Her heart of love, grace, concern and humility for the people must have been a great reservoir of support and love, both practically and spiritually, that even the great apostle Paul was a recipient of such kindness.

Are we a servant of people? Do we serve each other with a love that comes only from God, looking for nothing in return? Are we filled with His love, seeking no other reward but a "well done" from our Saviour? Are we busy for the Lord with a heart that loves the Father's business? Do we consider God's business more important than our necessary meat? Are we a supportive help to many, including the servants of God? Do we practically and spiritually support people with needs? Bringing relief in their situations and hope to the hearts? May we be servants of the Lord, serving people, busy and helpful in hand and heart.

thought of the week

The unity of saints is  
the consolation of the  
feeble

Spurgeon

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*

*18 August 2013*

*"The Apostle Paul's Farewell Thoughts"*

Turn to: **2 Corinthians 13:11-14**

**2 Corinthians 13:11** Finally, brethren, farewell. Be perfect, be of good comfort, be of one mind, live in peace; and the God of love and peace shall be with you.

Turn to: **2 Corinthians 1:5**

**2 Corinthians 13:11** Finally, brethren, farewell. Be perfect, be of good comfort, be of one mind, live in peace; and the God of love and peace shall be with you.

**2 Corinthians 1:4** Who comforteth us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort them which are in any trouble, by the comfort wherewith we ourselves are comforted of God.

**Mark 9:50** Salt is good: but if the salt have lost his saltness, wherewith will ye season it? Have salt in yourselves, and have peace one with another.

**1 Thessalonians 5:13** And to esteem them very highly in love for their work's sake. And be at peace among yourselves.

*Sunday Worship Service*  
*18 August 2013*  
*"The Apostle Paul's Farewell Thoughts"*

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

introduction

reflections

I. B \_\_\_\_\_

II. B \_\_\_\_\_ B \_\_\_\_\_

III. B \_\_\_\_\_ P \_\_\_\_\_

IV. B \_\_\_\_\_ of G \_\_\_\_\_ C \_\_\_\_\_

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# FRIDAY CHURCH NEWS NOTES

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## WILD GOOSE: BUILDING THE ONE-WORLD CHURCH IN N.C.



The third annual Wild Goose Festival, attended by 2,000 people last week in North Carolina, was focused on unity through social action. Speakers included emergents (“progressives”) such as Phyllis Tickle, Brian McLaren, Philip Yancy, and Frank Schaeffer. Speakers represented “Catholic, Orthodox, Protestant and Muslim.” In attendance were Episcopalians, Presbyterians, Baptists, and others. Kingdom building (e.g., saving the planet, disarmament, eliminating poverty), the downplaying of the importance of doctrine, contemporary music, and contemplative prayer are four of the elements that are uniting progressives and evangelicals, liberals and “conservatives,” Catholics and Protestants, Christians and non-Christians, and thus creating the end-time one-world “church.” Eric Elnes, one of the Wild Goose speakers, said that “Christians from different denominations and cultural backgrounds begin to see that theology becomes less important than the relationships necessary for addressing social challenges” (“So Many Baptists at Wild Goose,” *Associated Baptist Press*, Aug. 9, 2013). Phyllis Tickle, one of the founders of Wild Goose, rejoices that evangelicals, charismatics, Protestants, and Catholics are merging. “Where the quadrants meet in the center there’s a vortex like a whirlpool and they are blending” (“The Future of the Emerging Church,” *Leadership Magazine*, Mar. 19, 2007). These people are not merely changing



doctrines; they are changing Gods. This is evident by the popularity of *The Shack*, which presents God as a non-judgmental woman. Sarah Cunningham, another Wild Goose speaker this year, concluded her talk with a prayer to “the God of the evangelicals and the progressives and everyone in between.” But God is not the God in a redemption sense of those who deny or downplay the necessity of the blood atonement and the new birth, doubt the divine inspiration of Scripture, and corrupt the doctrines of the New Testament faith. These are spiritual high crimes that Phyllis Tickle, Brian McLaren, and many other Wild Goose participants are guilty of, as we have documented in the book *What Is the Emerging Church?* Tickle says that the doctrine of “sola scriptura” is outdated and must be left behind (*The Great Emergence*, pp. 47, 151). McLaren says the Bible is “not a look-it-up encyclopedia of moral truths” and he has “a strong conviction that the exclusive, hell-oriented gospel is not the way forward” (*A Generous Orthodoxy*, p. 190 and p. 120, f. 48). McLaren’s objective is not to preach the gospel to lost sinners before it is too late; his objective is “about changing this world” (*Everything Must Change*, p. 23). McLaren wrote a glowing recommendation of Alan Jones’ book *Reimagining Christianity*, in which Jones calls the gospel of the cross a vile doctrine, claims that there is no objective authority, and says that Hindus and Buddhists are God’s people.

## VINEYARD RETURNS TO ITS “ROOTS”

A July 24 report by Vineyard Pastor Duke Taber announces that “Vineyard USA Returns to Roots.” He is referring to a return to the position of the late Vineyard leader John Wimber, a position that was called “The Third Wave” of the Holy Spirit (the first

being Pentecostalism, the second, the charismatic movement). Wimber conducted “signs and wonders” conferences, teaching the error that effective evangelism requires the working of apostolic-style sign miracles (though he never did such miracles). In

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*Anaheim Vineyard 2003 photo by David Cloud*

his healing seminar, Wimber made the following statement, “It’s evil when you hide behind doctrinal beliefs that curtail and control the work of the Spirit.” (Wimber, *Healing Seminar Series*, cited from *Testing the Fruit of the Vineyard* by John Goodwin). In a 1994 visit to the Anaheim Vineyard pastored by Wimber, Phillip Johnson was an eyewitness when one of the elders said to the crowd, “Don’t be alarmed by anything you see ... And above all, don’t try to rationally evaluate the things you will see. ... Subjecting the revival to doctrinal tests is the surest way to put out the fire” (“My Visit to the Anaheim Vineyard,” 1995). At the same meeting at the Anaheim Vineyard a female church staff member led in public prayer with these words: “We refuse to

critique with our minds the work that You want to do in our hearts. We refuse to subject Your work to our little doctrinal tests.” This is the same philosophy that is encapsulated in the popular charismatic saying, “Don’t put God in a box.” If the “box” referred to is human tradition, that saying is true; but more often than not, the “box” refers even to the Bible. Such a mindset leaves one open to spiritual delusion. If the Holy Spirit operates contrary to the Scripture in any sense whatsoever, there is no way to discern between the true Spirit and the false. This subtle undermining of biblical authority is one reason why unscriptural things such as spirit slaying, spiritual drunkenness, “holy laughter,” and imperfect prophesying have been accepted in Vineyard churches. As evidence that the Vineyard is returning to its Wimber roots, Taber points to the participation by “notable” Pentecostal preachers Jack Hayford and Reinhard Bonnke in the 2013 Association of Vineyard Churches annual forum at the Anaheim Vineyard. Hayford is notable for his claim that God spoke to him and told him not to judge the Catholic Church and for his heresy that tongues speaking is a learning process that begins with “baby tongues,” and Bonnke is “notable” for his bogus healing crusades. (For more about John Wimber and the Vineyard Churches and their influence in the contemporary worship movement, see *The Directory of Contemporary Worship Musicians*, available as a free eBook from [www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org).)

## ASIAN ARMS RACE

In the last two weeks, Japan and India have unveiled new aircraft carriers that increase the arms race in Asia. Japan’s carrier is called a “destroyer,” but it is capable of launching war planes, and it’s name, *Izumo*, was the name of the heavy cruiser that kicked off the invasion of China in 1937 (“India’s New Carrier Joins the Big Asian Arms Race,” *Business Insider*, Aug. 12, 2013). India’s new carrier, the INS Vikrant (“Courageous”), is smaller than the U.S. super-carriers, but it is still a very large ship and has two runways. It is India’s first indigenously built carrier, joining a carrier built by the U.K., with a third planned to be commissioned by the end of 2013. China’s first aircraft carrier began maneuvers in 2012, with two more scheduled for completion by 2015-17. China is developing its own multipurpose fighter for its carrier fleet. Russia, England, Spain, Brazil, Thailand, and France each have one carrier in service, while Italy has two. America

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*Izumo*

## DISCIPLES OF CHRIST WELCOMES HOMOSEXUALS AS MEMBERS AND LEADERS

The General Assembly of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) voted to welcome “open members of the homosexual and transgender community to worship and serve in the denomination’s churches the same way members of different races and ages do” (“Disciples of Christ Church Votes to Affirm,” *Christian Post*, July 19, 2013). Cheryl Williams, a member of the denomination’s Marketing and Communications Team, says, “Our resolution is about welcoming everyone to the Lord’s Table in the way God welcomes each and every one of God’s children into God’s embrace regardless of creed, race, ability or any other wall that divides.” This is complete apostasy, a brazen rejection of God’s Word as the sole authority for faith and practice. The Gospel of Jesus Christ invites all men to come to God through Christ, but they must come as repentant sinners, acknowledging their own unrighteousness and receiving the righteousness that is only available through Christ’s atonement. Jesus said that men must be born again to enter the kingdom of heaven (John 3:3). The early churches provide the example that we are to follow. The membership of those churches included every type of sinner--idolaters, adulterers, thieves, drunkards, murderers, and homosexuals--but they had been converted by the saving power of the Gospel, and they lived their Christian lives by putting off the old man and putting on the new. Any homosexual or adulterer can be saved, but to pretend that they are fine in an unrepentant condition is a lie. The Disciples of Christ is a small and dying denomination, having declined in membership from nearly 2 million in the 1960s to its current 600,000 members (and active members would be much fewer). “Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind, nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God. And such were some of you: but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God” (1 Cor. 6:9-11).



## ASIAN ARMS RACE

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has 10 Nimitz-class nuclear super-carriers in operation. The United Nations has been unsuccessfully trying to disarm the nations since its inception. Inscribed on a wall across from the U.N. headquarters in New York City is part of Isaiah 2:4 -- “They shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks. Nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.” The first part of the verse -- “And he shall judge among the nations, and shall rebuke many people” -- is omitted, but there will be no peace on earth until the Lord returns with the power to force the nations to do His will. Isaiah 2:1-4 describes the establishment of Christ’s global kingdom with its headquarters in Jerusalem. What the United Nations should be quoting is Joel 3, which describes the preparation for Armageddon: “Beat your plowshares into swords, and your pruninghooks into spears: let the weak say, I *am* strong. Assemble yourselves, and come, all ye heathen, and gather yourselves together round about: thither cause thy mighty ones to come down, O LORD. Let the heathen be wakened, and come up to the valley of Jehoshaphat: for there will I sit to judge all the heathen round about” (Joel 3:10-12).



# THE BODY'S FLEETING WORKERS

“Inside your body there is a large and amazing family of chemical workers who, although they usually last less than a minute, make life possible. There are so many different kinds of these chemicals, called prostaglandins, that science is just beginning to learn how important they are to life. Prostaglandins are made by just about every tissue in your body. They are made by tissue cells from stored fatty acids. When triggered, fatty acids swarm out of the cell walls and are quickly changed into the necessary prostaglandin. Prostaglandins are involved in regulating reproduction, breathing and circulation, among other things. Prostaglandins made by the cells lining our blood vessels relax the muscles around them so that more blood can flow through them. And blood platelets also produce another prostaglandin; when triggered, it enables the blood to clot and seal wounds. In the lungs, prostaglandins regulate the openings of air passages. They help protect the inside of your stomach. It is because aspirin inhibits prostaglandin production that it helps headaches and can cause stomach problems in some people. Prostaglandins have been implicated in the swollen, painful joints caused by arthritis. The human body is literally a symphony of thousands of carefully designed systems, each one playing in harmony with the others and all of them working together. This fact alone leaves no justification for the claim that we are designed by genetic accidents.”



## 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).



V. Be Of   O     M   With One Another

VI. Be At P            With One Another

VII. Be S            Towards One Another

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**

**19 - 25 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:

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(pastor's email)

**Facebook:**  
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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](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
- 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 19** Deuteronomy 1-2
- AUG 20** Deuteronomy 3-4
- AUG 21** Deuteronomy 5-7
- AUG 22** Deuteronomy 8-10
- AUG 23** Deuteronomy 11-12
- AUG 24** Deuteronomy 13-15
- AUG 25** Deuteronomy 16-18