

25 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

## CO-LABOURERS OF THE SERVANT OF GOD



### today's program

the **news**

**hymn** | *there's power in the blood*

opening **prayer**

**hymn** | *since Jesus came into my heart*


**hymn** | *heaven came down*


**offertory**

**hymn** | *the old rugged cross*

**exhortation** | *pastor Johnny*

**invitation** and closing

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

 tortipede, Flickr

*Greet Priscilla and Aquila my helpers in Christ Jesus:*

*Who have for my life laid down their own necks: unto whom not only I give thanks, but also all the churches of the Gentiles.*

**Romans 16:3-4**

Priscilla and Aquila were a couple highly esteemed by the apostle Paul. They had no status in society and were mere labourers, earning their keep in the same trade as dear Paul. Their first meeting was in Acts 18:2 and ever since these two Jewish couples were a very part of

the ministry of Paul. Servants of God usually work individually but the Lord sends labourers in the work to support, encourage and build them up. Paul was very thankful for this couple for their involvement and labour in the Lord's work.

continued on page 2

**Notice firstly, they were helpers to Paul in his ministry.** The word helpers means to co-labour, to work together. This may involve having the same direction, and motivation. Priscilla and Aquila helped and labored with Paul in his ministry with their work. This notable couple gave themselves to work with Paul. Paul calls them his helpers in Christ. They were God-sent helpers to the ministry of Paul. They were a blessing and help to Paul's work.

**Secondly, they were selfless in their ministry.**

"To lay down the neck is to lay the head on a block to be cut off with the axe" This means they put their lives and exposed themselves to imminent danger, to save the life of Paul. To be willing to be persecuted for a personal cause is noble, but to be willing to suffer on another's behalf for their cause is selfless. Why were they willing to do this? There is no other reason except that they had to learn to deny themselves, take up their cross and follow Christ. Knowing the will of God on Paul's life, they gave selflessly, that Paul may continue the work of God and that many may be brought to Christ.

**Thirdly, their testimony of help encouraged the heart of the servant of God.** Paul wrote thanking this couple for the sacrifice they had made for Christ. The Lord Jesus had Lazarus, Mary and Martha, but Paul had Luke and this couple, of course. Others, too, also had groups of Christians who supported them in the work. This made them successful, and Paul was grateful. It is heartening and encouraging to know that there are couples and individuals who have vowed their support for the servant of God.

**Fourthly, their testimony also edified other brethren.** A work for God cannot be hidden. It will be made known and those of the faith will receive encouragement from the deed. The light for God must shine both into hearts of those recipients and to others watching the deed.

Are you a helper to the ministry of the servant of God? Are you selfless in the ministry and willing to lay down our lives for the work of God? Are we willing to put the ministry before self and are we an encouragement in our labours for Christ? Are we co-labourers with the servant of God for His glory

thought of the week

.... the faith which accepts one word of God and rejects another is evidently not faith in God, but faith in our own judgment, faith in our own taste.

*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*  
*25 August 2013*  
*"Continue in My Word"*

Turn to: **John 8:30 - 32**

**John 14:15** If ye love me, keep my commandments

**1 John 2:3** And hereby we do know that we know him, if we keep his commandments.

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

**Romans 10:17** ...faith cometh by hearing and hearing by the Word of God.

**1 John 2:27** But the anointing which ye have received of him abideth in you, and ye need not that any man teach you: but as the same anointing teacheth you of all things, and is truth, and is no lie, and even as it hath taught you, ye shall abide in him.

**John 7:17** If any man will do his will, he shall know of the doctrine, whether it be of God, or whether I speak of myself.

**Hebrews 5:14** But strong meat belongeth to them that are of full age, even those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil.

**1 Timothy 1:9** Knowing this, that the law is not made for a righteous man, but for the lawless and disobedient, for the ungodly and for sinners, for unholy and profane, for murderers of fathers and murderers of mothers, for manslayers,

**Galatians 5:23** Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.

**Psalms 119:105** Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.

**John 6:68** Then Simon Peter answered him, Lord, to whom shall we go? thou hast the words of eternal life.

Sunday Worship Service  
25 August 2013  
"Continue in My Word"

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

## introduction

God want us to \_\_\_\_\_ in His word.

## reflections

### **I. If we will continue in the word, Jesus calls us \_\_\_\_\_ disciples**

Abiding in the word of God is an \_\_\_\_\_ of a \_\_\_\_\_ Christian.

### **II. If we continue in the word, we will know the \_\_\_\_\_ of God**

Notice three lessons about this knowing:

- A. It is knowledge based on the \_\_\_\_\_ of the word of God.
- B. This knowledge is only made possible by the \_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_
- C. This knowledge is based on \_\_\_\_\_

### **III. If we will continue in the word, we will be \_\_\_\_\_**

# FRIDAY CHURCH NEWS NOTES

## IMPORTANT FREE SPEECH CASE



Scott Lively (second from left) and lawyers from Liberty Counsel

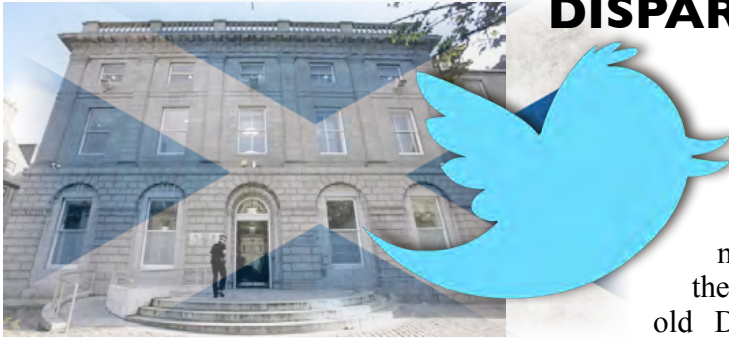
A U.S. federal judge has ruled that a lawsuit against an evangelist for allegedly stirring up hatred against homosexuals in another country can go to trial. SMUG (Sexual Minorities Uganda) filed suit against Scott Lively (Abiding Truth Ministries) for allegedly stirring up hatred by teaching that homosexuality “is more destructive to society than abortion.” He taught this on trips to Uganda as well as on his web site. Last year SMUG accused Lively of “crimes against humanity of persecution,” using the Alien Tort Statute that allows foreigners to bring cases in U.S. courts when alleging violations of international law. “The lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex organization in its lawsuit alleges that Lively organized and carried out ‘strategies to dehumanize, demonize, silence, and further criminalize the LGBTI community’ in Uganda” (“Christian Evangelist’s Lawsuit Goes Forward,” *The Christian Post*, Aug. 16, 2013). “SMUG is seeking ‘compensatory, punitive, and exemplary damages,’ a declaration that Lively’s conduct ‘has been in violation of the law of nations,’ and a court order prohibiting Lively from ‘undertaking further actions, and from plotting and conspiring with others, to persecute’ the LGBTI organization and those whose interests it represents in Uganda” (Ibid.). A federal judge in Massachusetts ruled last week that Lively’s attorneys have not proven that he was not partly responsible for inciting persecution and that the case can go to trial. The Liberty Counsel, which is representing Lively, says, “The suit is a direct attempt to silence Rev. Lively and intimidate other pastors against teaching the Biblical position on homosexuality.”

## PREACHERS ACQUITTED BY SUPERIOR COURT JUDGE

The following is excerpted from “Verdict in for Pastor,” *WorldNetDaily*, Aug. 14, 2013: “A Superior Court judge in California has acquitted two men of charges filed after they were caught by officers reading a Bible aloud near a line of people waiting to enter a state driver’s license office in Hemet, Calif. Attorneys for the defendants said the state was required under state law, Title 13, Section 1860 of the California Administrative Code to show that the defendants were engaged in a ‘demonstration or gathering.’ But Judge Timothy Freer concluded there was not enough evidence to reach that conclusion. ‘The prosecution failed to meet its burden of proof that our clients committed a crime when they read the Bible aloud in front [of] a line of people,’ said Robert Tyler, general counsel for Advocates for Faith & Freedom, which worked on the case. Nic Cocis, co-counsel for the defense, said: ‘These men were exercising their First Amendment right of free speech. They were simply sharing their faith on public property and the criminal charges should never have been filed.’ ... Cocis, who emigrated from Romania at the age of 13 when the nation still was controlled by a communist regime, said: ‘This case has particular importance to me because my family was persecuted for our Christian faith in communist Romania, and I will fight to protect the freedom of speech and to ensure that the same persecution doesn’t occur in the United States.’”



## SCOTTISH COURT FINES TWITTER USER \$60,000 FOR DISPARAGING HOMOSEXUALITY



The following is excerpted from “Scottish Court,” ChristianNewsNet, Aug. 17, 2013: “A high court in Scotland has charged a man with the equivalent of over \$60,000 for criticizing a homosexual woman on Twitter. Earlier this month, the Court of Session in Edinburgh--known as the supreme civil court of Scotland--ruled that 54-year-old David Shuttleton should give Jaye Richards-Hill \$62,000 as restitution for Tweets he posted last year. Richards-

Hill is an open homosexual, described by some as one of Scotland’s ‘leading gay rights campaigners.’ Last summer, Shuttleton--an antiques-dealer--and Richards-Hill--an education technologist--exchanged heated messages on Twitter, with Shuttleton labeling Richards-Hill a ‘fraud’ whose homosexuality is ‘a danger to children.’ Eventually, Richards-Hill filed a lawsuit against Shuttleton, citing defamation of character charges. According to reports, the \$62,000 fine was actually not decided by judges, but was instead a default punishment, since Shuttleton failed to file proper defense paperwork. He is vowing to appeal the decision, however. ... Shuttleton defended himself in a *Daily Record* interview, declaring that he was simply ‘an innocent Scotsman’ who is being attacked by ‘the homosexual machine.’ ‘It’s an absolute scandal that homosexuals have got such power in our community,’ he continued. ‘It’s an absolutely scandalous abuse of our laws. ... We are talking about one of the most notorious and infamous extremist homosexual activist fanatics in the whole of Scotland here. She is an infamous, notorious Internet troll.’”

## CALIFORNIA CONSIDERS PUNISHING YOUTH GROUPS WHO DO NOT EMBRACE HOMOSEXUALITY

The following is excerpted from “Failure to Embrace Homosexuality Could See Nonprofits Lose Tax-Exempt Status,” *CharismaNews*, Aug. 14, 2013: “A California committee approved legislation that would revoke tax-exempt status from any nonprofit organizations that do not embrace homosexuality. It was approved on the same day Gov. Jerry Brown signed into a law Assembly Bill 1266, which forces schools to allow children to use the bathroom correlating to their own gender identity. Democratic Sen. Ricardo Lara, an open homosexual from Los Angeles and a member of the California Legislative LGBT Caucus, first introduced Senate Bill 323 in mid-February. According to the bill’s introduction, it would ‘provide that an organization that is a public charity youth organization that discriminates on the basis of gender identity, race, sexual orientation, nationality, religion, or religious affiliation is not exempt from [state taxes].’ The



legislation lists about 25 youth organizations that would have to embrace these ‘gender identity’ and ‘sexual orientation’ guidelines to keep their tax-exempt status. Little League, Boy Scouts, Cub Scouts, Girl Scouts, Young Men’s Christian Association (YMCA), Young Women’s Christian Association (YWCA), Future Farmers of America, Future Homemakers of America, 4-H Clubs, Boys’ Clubs, Girls’ Clubs and Future Business Leaders of America are all included. ... California Family Alliance’s Lori Arnold argues that the ‘Anti-Boy Scouts Bill’ is self-contradicting and unconstitutional. ‘The irony of the proposed law,’ she wrote in

a release, ‘is that its blatant use of extortion--by holding nonprofit groups financially hostage--instills its own form of discrimination by trampling individual and organizational religious beliefs by labeling them “outdated practices,” practices that are protected by the First Amendment.’”

## CALIFORNIA'S "BATHROOM BILL" NOW LAW



The following is from "Stage Set for Molestations," *OneNewsNow*, Aug. 13, 2013: "With the stroke of a pen on Monday, California became the first state to enshrine rights for transgender students in state law--setting the stage, say pro-family leaders, for young girls to be molested in school locker rooms by boys who believe they are girls. Without comment, California Governor Jerry Brown yesterday signed into law a bill (AB 1266) strengthening the rights of transgender students (K-12) in the state's public schools. It makes the Golden State the first state in the nation to allow participation in 'sex-segregated programs, activities, and facilities' in public schools based on a student's gender identity Under the new law, public schools will be required to allow the students access to whichever restroom and locker room they want--and it would allow boys to take showers with girls just because they say they feel they are female. ... Brad Dacus of the Pacific Justice Institute is among those reacting strongly to Brown's signing of the measure. 'It's

an outrageous and egregious violation of the privacy and decency for young women and young girls all throughout the state of California,' the attorney tells *OneNewsNow*. ... All under the guise of providing special rights and protections for children with a gender-identity disorder, and, if a boy wants to molest a girl, he can follow her into a restroom and violate her. Dacus vows that his legal group intends to defend individuals--particularly young girls and young women--who now face the real possibility of having their privacy rights trampled. 'No young person should be expected to have to shower with the opposite sex, much less change in front of the opposite sex,' he exclaims. 'This is an outrageous piece of legislation and an outrageous violation of the right to privacy.' But Dacus will have to wait until someone is harmed to file suit because a person must prove that they have been damaged."

### THE BABY WHO DOESN'T GROW UP

Brooke Greenberg is 20 years old but she looks and thinks like a toddler. She has a rare anti-aging disease, so rare that she is the only known person in the world with the condition. Doctors call it Syndrome X and are hoping that genetic research into the condition will find the secret of non-aging or the fountain of youth ("8-year-old Never Ages," Could Reveal 'Biological Immortality,'" *ABC News*, Aug. 16, 2013). In fact, this sad case reminds us that babies are cute but they should grow up and when they don't, something is wrong. The spiritual lesson is huge. There are multitudes of believers who have not matured beyond the spiritual toddler stage. Their Christian lives remain self-centered and they often have to be coddled. They throw spiritual temper tantrums when things don't go as they like. They demand attention, but they don't serve. Brooke can't help her condition, but the child of God has no excuse for not maturing in Christ. "Wherefore laying aside all malice, and all guile, and hypocrisies, and envies, and all evil speakings, As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby" (1 Pet. 2:1-2).



## DO RIGHT THOUGH THE HEAVENS FALL

The following is by the late Charles Haddon Spurgeon: "There are many that ... remain where their conscience tells them they ought not to be, because, they say, they are more useful than they would be if they went 'without the camp.' This doing evil that good may come, can never be tolerated by an enlightened conscience. If an act of sin would increase my usefulness tenfold, I have no right to do it; and if an act of righteousness would appear likely to destroy all my apparent usefulness, I am yet to do it. It is yours and mine to do the right though the heavens fall, and follow the command of Christ whatever the consequences may be."

## JAMES SIMPSON'S GREATEST DISCOVERY



The following is from John Phillips' commentary on Psalm 117: "A section in the Museum of Science and Industry in Chicago is devoted to discoveries that have revolutionized modern medical science. Among those honored by a greater-than-life portrait is Sir James Simpson (1811-70), the man who discovered chloroform. Before this discovery even the simplest operation was a nightmare. Simpson not only let people sleep through the worst horrors of an operation, but he opened the door to medical operations before impossible. Sir James Simpson was a Christian. Once he was interviewed by a newspaper man who asked, 'Sir, what do you consider your greatest discovery?' Sir James replied, 'My greatest discovery was when I discovered I was a sinner in the sight of God.' The newspaper man tried again: 'Thank you, Sir James. And now would you please tell me your second greatest discovery.' 'By all means,' he replied. 'My second greatest discovery was when I discovered that Jesus died for a sinner like me.'"

### 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).



Genuine freedom comes from \_\_\_\_\_ the law.

personal reflection and application



HIGHLIGHTS • COMING UP

## Prayer Retreat 2013



*Prayer Retreats have been traditional events held annually at Ambassador. This image was taken in September 2010, the sixth Retreat.*

Prayer was integral to the formation and progress of the early church. It was also critical in the history of Ambassador.

Ambassador will be holding its annual Prayer Retreat in September. More details may be found on a sign-up sheet the notice board at the rear of the sanctuary.

Sign up today and put your name down on the sign-up sheet! You won't regret this important and spiritually enhancing time of fellowship with the brethren and communion with God!

See you there!

### 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

**26 AUGUST - 1 SEPTEMBER 2013**

ambassador**baptist**church



"Be reconciled to God"  
1 Corinthians 5:20

monday	tuesday	wednesday	thursday	friday	saturday	sunday
Faith Bible Institute	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:**  
[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
- 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 26** Deuteronomy 19-21

**AUG 27** Deuteronomy 22-24

**AUG 28** Deuteronomy 25-27

**AUG 29** Deuteronomy 28

**AUG 30** Deuteronomy 29-31

**AUG 31** Deuteronomy 32-34

**SEP 1** Joshua 1-3