

We Can Have FUN With our Brethren While We Co-work In the Lord!

The leadership would like to thank all the co-workers and their support for the ministry. 2008 has truly been an exciting year of ministry for COSk. To further foster a close co-working, we were treated to a wonderful dinner on 31/12/08. Highlight for that night was each LG's presentation on the theme "Shepherd's Heart" through skit & song. It was clear that all the performances were crafted and executed with much passion and skill. And indeed in each drama the message of reaching out and asking for help was central and moving.

We have discovered our own version of Mama Mia in Sis. Judy and Jim Carey in Bro. Johnny not forgetting our Miss Helpful Counsellor in Sis. Cynthia. There are many gifted brethren we can thank God. Are we seeing the birth of the Drama Ministry in COSk?

The night came to a poignant climax with Bro. Daniel Ng's testimony... another powerful reminder of the work of God in the church and the life of God's people.

Bro. James Browning writes...



Our "All Senior Brothers" worship team

Pastor Dick calling for "HELP!"



Possible Drama Ministry of COSk!

What is this New Year Eve's WatchNight Service?

As the clock strikes 12:00:01 ushering 2009, we inquire of our God to crown this coming year, 2009 with His goodness.. The month of January got its name after the Roman god Jaus, who was pictured as a man with two faces, one looking backward and the other forward.

New Year's Day provides a valuable time to ponder the past while anticipating the future. At midnight on New Year Eve, the church sings high praises with the old favourite hymn "To God Be the Glory while Auld Lang Syne is sung over all the world. The world counts down New Year Eve with parties and champagne, the church counts God's Blessings with musical worship, prayers, thanksgiving and praise.



This year's watchnight service ends with a life testimony from Bro. Daniel Ng. He shared his 40 painful years of pains & sufferings of fears, sorrows, frustrations, confusion, anxieties, sicknesses, condemnations and rejections. Resulting from all these problems, Daniel found life meaningless and had contemplated suicide many times. God has been gracious to him, his 40 years' disappointments are now Auld Lang Syne - old long time as Daniel is now a NEW, Precious child of God. He is thankful to the love, care and support from the brethren since he came to COSk four months ago. The congregation prayed and rejoice with Bro. Daniel in a prayer of renouncing the curse of suicide over his soul. Hallelujah, all who are weary can come to rest in the Lord! Amen.



600 Punggol Seventeenth Avenue, Marina Country Club,
Marina View 2nd Level, Singapore 829734
Tel: 6387 6612 / 9646 0704 / 9771 0250
Website: www.cosk.sg



Church of Sengkang

Is called by God to be *welcoming* and *prayerful* community filled with and led by the *HOLY SPIRIT*

THE SUNDAY TIMES 4th January 2009
SUNDAY SERVICES TIME: 10.30am to 12.30pm

Our Gracious Lord, Gracious People of Church of Sengkang

Beloved brethren, we are God's chosen people, created in His image and representative of Him on earth. Let us remind ourselves to be gracious people - children of God and members of Church of Sengkang who want to bring Glory to our Lord and who want to contribute to the goodness of Church of Sengkang, well-liked and respected by each other.

Beloved brethren, therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe ourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Bear each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. And over all these virtues, put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity - Colossians 3:12-14.

Our Gracious Lord, Hear our Prayers
We, thank you Lord for bringing us to the beginning of this new year, 2009.
We, thank you Lord for blessing us with another chance to love and be loved.
We, thank you Lord for another opportunity to bring a bit warmth and love into the lives of our brothers & sisters.
So, Gracious Lord grant us the ability to:
Help each other face whatever 2009 brings
Assist each other in the ministry unto our Lord
Support each other in our trials
Comfort each other in our disappointments
Rejoice with each other in our pleasures
And grant us the strength and energy we need to do our very best in what we are meant to accomplish for your Glory.
And the love and care for each other grow stronger and more beautiful with each passing day of 2009.
Gracious Lord help us to be a blessing to one another in this coming year that 2009 will be a year of progress, praise, proving Your Presence is in our midst in Church of Sengkang.
In Jesus' Name
Amen

Bro Joe's Sharing on "Shepherd's Heart"

Bro. Joe shared a timely exhortation relating to the theme "Shepherd's Heart". He affirms the fellow co-workers that the church can't do much without their support in the ministry. And may our Lord continue to mightily use the fellow co-workers. He went on to quote Psalm 139:23 which reads "Search me, O God and know my heart" - the question for us is "how many of us mean what we pray?"

Bro. Joe then compares and contrasts the characteristics of King Saul & King David with the former being a timid and humble man of God while the latter was a lowly shepherd boy entrusted with a difficult job to care for the lowly cast "sheep".

He further highlighted that King Saul was disloyal to the Covenant when he spared Agag and the best of the sheep, the oxen, the fatlings, the lambs and all that was good, and will unwilling to utterly destroy them- refer to 1 Samuel 15:9. In so doing, he disobeyed the LORD's instruction to "utterly destroy ALL that they have and DO NOT spare them..." 1 Samuel 15:3. Saul did what he likes - is an evidence of his lack of faith in God.

On the other hand, King David was submissive and seek God implying his respect for authority in his refusal to "TOUCH" God's anointed in 1 Samuel 24:6: "The LORD forbid that I should do this thing to my master, the LORD's anointed, to stretch out my hand against him, seeing he is the anointed of the LORD". While Saul broke the Covenant, David was obedience to the Covenant.

Bro. Joe's salient points are "What types of People is God Looking for to Serve HIM?" He said God is looking for a servant with the following 3 characteristics:-

1. Accountability

Like shepherd boy David who protects his sheep from the bears & lions. David stands out as a responsible shepherd of his fathers' sheep. Thus God Chose David. Secondly, a shepherd must be prepared to risk his life for the sheep.

2. Integrity/Uprighteousness

Bro. Joe stressed God upholds highly someone who is impartial even though often times it is difficult to be impartial. In the course of exercising fairness, one party is going to be unhappy.

3. Obedience

Refers to submission to God and authority. Many of us will like to challenge the rights of the leader in those instances when the leader is unreasonable. In this circumstances, many of us would have "KILL" our leaders but not David, he refused to even "Touch" King Saul. Bro. Joe went on to say that the LG & the church cannot prosper if we go against the leadership. However, he commented that the leadership is ultimately answerable to God for their actions.

He wrap-up the exhortation that God's anointing departed the moment one walks in disobedience before our Lord. Saul lost his anointing subsequent to his disloyalty to God. Read 1 Samuel 16:13-14.

Today's Sermon

Speaker: **Pastor David Kerk**

Title of Message: **God Is Not Finished With Me Yet, I Am on My Way To Be Like Him**

Scripture Text : **Philippians 1:6 (Living Bible)**

I am sure that God who Began the Good Work within you will keep right on Helping you Grow in His Grace until His task within you is Finally Finished on that day when Jesus Christ Returns:

Opening Thot:

Stanley Jones was once asked how Christianity could be more be acceptable in India. The late Mahatma Gandhi said "I would suggest, first, that all of you Christians..... begin to Live More Like Jesus Christ."

A sculptor once fashioned a magnificent lion out of solid stone. When asked how he had accomplished such a wonderful masterpiece, he replied, "It was easy. All I did was to chip away everything that didn't look like a lion." All God does is chip away everything in our lives that Doesn't Look Like Christ.

Main Points:

1. Our Lord is Looking For Relationship!: John 3:3

- 1:1 God Is Spirit - We are In A Spiritual Relationship with Him
- 1:2 Once Dead In Trespasses - Now Alive Together With Christ
Ephesians 2:5

Ministered In His Presence

Dr. Billy Graham commented You can be a member of every church in town and that doesn't mean you Know God. Going through a Garage Doesn't Make you a car!

2. Our Lord is Looking For Disciples: Luke 9:23-25

- 2:1 What is Discipline? - To Do What I Don't Want To Do To Become What I should Become!
- 2:2 Who is a Disciple of Christ?
- A Disciple is a follower of Christ who learns to Live a life his Teacher lives and gradually he teaches others to live the life he lives.
- 2:3 Gospels & Acts - Disciples Revolutionized the church life.
- 2:4 Our Lord Was Concerned - Building Disciple Formation Not Spiritual Information.

Unknown Peter Boehler Discipled John Wesley

Behind John Wesley was Peter Boehler who counseled John into a personal relationship & trust in God which led John Wesley who eventually found his heart "strangely warmed" at a midweek meeting on Aldergate Street - Mid-week "Holy Club" Meeting (present day LG).

Dawson Trotman, founder of the Navigators:- Disciplining is the passion of his life.

← Cont'd from previous page...

3. The Lord is Looking For Intimate Fellowship: John 15:9-15

- 3:1 He Loves Us To Abide/Stay/Remain in Him: v9-10
- 3:2 Full of Joy: Stay Close to Him: v11
- 3:3 Obey His Command To Love One Another: v12
- 3:4 Willing to Sacrifice: v13
- 3:5 Friend of our Lord: Trust, Love & Hospitable to Others.

The Porcupine Syndrome

Chuck Swindoll suggest that many Christian groups are like a pack of porcupines on a winter night. The cold drives us closer together to keep us warm. As we begin to snuggle really close, our sharp quills cause us to jab and prick each other - a condition which forces us apart. But before long we start getting cold, so we move back to warm again, only to stab and puncture each other once more.

To live Above with the saints we love, that will be Grace & Glory. To Live Below with the saints we know that's another story. Think About it! Shifting to another fellowship is Not the solution. Accept me a Por Cu Pine Christian.

Reflection on this message:

Norman Vincent Peale, in his book Power of Positive Thinking lists 10 rules for becoming the kind of person whom others enjoy being around. Let me list some of them:

- be a comfortable person so there is no strain in being with you.
- don't be egotistical. Guard against giving the impression that you know it all.
- study to get the "scratchy" elements out of your personality.
- practice liking people.
- never miss an opportunity to say "Thanks" when someone serve you, or express "Please" if you need assistance.
- help the weak to be strong and they will give affection to you.
- we are PBPGINFWMY, so be understanding.

*The percentage is a generalization of what we retain.
Understanding and Remembering are better when we make notes.*

OUR COLLECTIONS

Philippians 4:18: "I have received full payment and even more; I am amply supplied, now that I have received from Epaphroditus the gifts you sent. They are a fragrant offering, an *acceptable sacrifice, pleasing to God.*"

November 08' Collections	: \$32,050.40
Last month up to 31st Dec 08	: \$19,125.65
Church Building Fund	: \$27,080.00

*If you are making out a cheque, kindly mark
"Church of Sengkang Ltd".*

Cont'd next page... >