

Noteworthy Feedbacks From Last Sunday's Evaluation Meeting

Members present brought up numerous constructive feedbacks for the improvement of the various church ministries:

Holy Communion Service

1. Proper standing posture of those Leading the Holy Communion Service
2. Sensitivity to the Holy Spirit as to the manner of partaking the Communion
3. Ample time for personal reflection in partaking Bread & Wine
4. As the Spirit, Leader to explain this sacrament

Luncheon Ministry

1. Appropriate first serving. Second serving depending on that day's attendance
2. Comply to Safety measures with cooking.
3. Standardised dishes. Not possible to different taste buds

Music Ministry

1. Worship Leaders to furnish songlist by latest Wednesday to facilitate powerpoint preparation.
2. Pre-Service Prayer: By 10.15am , all gather to participate in unison prayers. One usher on duty.
3. Better co-ordination on timing for Praise & Worship, Holy Communion & Pulpit Preaching.
4. Praise & Worship Rehearsal has been fixed on every Saturday from 12noon to 2.00pm.

Transport Ministry

1. Transport arrangement for musicians, praise singers & those involved in rehearsal
2. Transport arrangement for those coming for Saturday's Prayer Meeting starting 2.30pm sharp

Others:

1. Be Responsible for assigned duty. To inform Person In Charge of absence from duty
2. To follow the official duty roster. Change due to unforeseen emergency, please inform Person In Charge or Pastor

Financial Status:

A copy of the unaudited financial statements together with an evaluation report were distributed to those who attended that Evaluation Meeting. You may get a copy from Sis Sandy Tan.

Bro Johnny shared the matter on Commitment as the Board is consciously preparing for leadership succession as part of the church's leadership renewal. Read bro Johnny tay's full text under "Practical Christian Living" The meeting concluded with another challenge to stay faithful in fulfilling the work of Church of Sengkang. May we echo the words of bro Johnny Tay " I am here to stay in Church of Sengkang till rapture!"

Lunar New Year Reunion Steamboat Dinner on 07/02/10, **Sunday**. All LG members inform your LG Leader. All are welcome. Please give your name to bro Roy Tan at 97553335 or Pastor David Kerk if your coming for the Reunion Dinner. Dinner will start at 6.00pm



The Presence Filled Disciple

Many times we work hard, study hard and fight hard for a good life. What is your definition of a good life? Having more money? Having good health? Or is it being in a state of happiness? It is difficult to justify that because having a lot of money does not necessarily make you a happy person and being a happy person without money is just not practical especially when you are living in Singapore. Some people would say, "I would like to have everything! Wealth, health and happiness!" Sure, that is an ideal wish – but does everyone really get that?

Men, most of the time would try to find worldly means to fill that void in their spirits and hearts, it is rare to hear someone saying that they would rather want the presence of God more than anything else. The bible says Give God your life and it will be given to you: good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over will be put into your bosom. For with the same measure that you use, it will be measured back to you (Luke 6:38). When you offer yourself to the Father as a living sacrifice on the altar, He will make sure that your needs will be met, when you seek first the kingdom of God, the Creator said that "all these things will be added to you" (Matthew 6:33).

Being a disciple requires you to do all the above. It requires a firm decision to say, "I want to wholly follow you Lord". Jesus reminded us to remember Lot's life - Genesis 19:26 "But his wife looked back behind him, and she became a pillar of salt." When we are tasked to move forward in the Kingdom of God, looking back is never an option.

Philippians 4:13 say that you can do all things through Christ who strengthens you! Life as a believer is never like a bed of roses, many times we have to go through hardship in exchange for successful results, people let you down even though you were there for them, sometimes, they even persecute you. Similarly, if you'd like to be close to the Lord, lay down your life for Him as a disciple, you'll have to go through the hardship of discipleship. But my friends, I tell you, the result of that is glorious! You'll be constantly experiencing the presence of God! Someone once said, "Security is not the absence of danger, but the presence of God, no matter what the danger."

I take it as an honour that when I pray everyday during my quiet time, the creator of the Heavens and Earth would visit me in a tangible way; you'll feel the indescribable peace of Jesus Christ with you. As the church leadership moves towards that direction of discipleship, come and be apart of this journey!

With love,
Bro. Roy Tan

OUR COLLECTIONS

Acts 20:35 In everything I did, I showed you that by this kind of had work we must help the weak, remembering the words the Lord Jesus himself said: "It is more blessed to give than to receive."

Dec 2009 Collection:	\$14,166.90
Jan 2010 Collection up to 03 Jan 2010:	\$ 7,674.00
Church Building Fund:	\$30,080.00

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

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THE SUNDAY TIMES

SUNDAY SERVICE TIME:

10th January 2010

10.30am to 12.30pm

WHAT a way to Dawn A Brand New Year in the Lord with Year-End Thanksgiving Dinner on 31-12-2009.....

(see next page for more on the celebration moods)

OFF To A BLESSED 2010 with testimonies from -

A family still attending cosk since the start of the ministry:

"Dear Pastor, happy new year. Just to let you know that my family thoroughly enjoyed last night's Thanksgiving Dinner/WatchNight Service. For quite a long time in 2009, the mood even during various celebrations, were less than enthusiastic and our spirits seemed to be in hiding. Last night, we saw faces of REAL Joy, happiness, LOVE & Care amongst brethren. Some who couldn't attend the dinner, came at the 11th hour JUST TO BE With the family of Christ. We found ourselves drowned in a sea of happy faces through out the evening. Although I am glad from the lessons learned and know that our walk in the wilderness is now behind us. A New Chapter has already began at 12.01am this morning and our dear Lord Jesus is leading the way. He has resurrected our hurt spirits and now filled it with His Love. Our mission from HIM need to continue and we join hands with you to walk this long journey to bring to His Holy Name. Amen



A brother who just returned to Church of Sengkang:

" I want to thank God for your love and care even when I left COSK for a while. I am thankful to you for patiently waiting for me to return to church. The Lord has shown me your genuine care and I will stand by you to support this ministry. I love you. Have a blessed 2010 and may our Lord bless Church of Sengkang"



The words of bro Johnny Tay:

" I'm here to stay in Church of Sengkang till rapture. On a mutual understanding with the Board and Pastor David Kerk, bro Johnny Tay has relinquished his position as a director of the Church of Sengkang Limited. But he has agreed to stay as the person in charge of the Holy Communion Ministry and member of the church"

A sister who has joined us since 2009:

" I love what the Lord is doing in this church. Thank you Pastor David for giving me a chance to serve our Lord. My prayer is asking HIM to extend His kingdom in Sengkang/Punggol"

Saying that the New Years Eve dinner and the Watch night service were good is an understatement. It was simply magnificent! All of us was having a great time with yummy delicious food and praising and worshipping God together, accompanied by the songs presentation by our Brethren from Philippines and Bro Frankie brought much laughter and joy throughout the night. It was a night filled with the joy of the Lord.



Perfect coordination and cooperation from everyone made it possible but we all know that without God, all this would not happen. In particular, the Watch night service holds a special place in my heart in more ways than one because I was close to backing out from doing the event due to personal commitments but I'm glad I did it because I saw God's love for me, for His people and vice versa.

2009 had been a tough year for me bearing the brunt of the worse economic crisis in history. I was jobless for close to 6 months and on the brink of hopelessness. God answered my cries for help and brought me out from the abyss of emotional despair. One thing I know, whenever I am going through any spiritual wilderness, I can always look to God for help.

We are not seeing the end of a year but a brand new start to a brand new year when we will see more of God's goodness and greatness in our lives.



Have a blessed 2010 trusting and obeying God.
Trust and Obey
Bro Aloysius Chan

**People May Doubt What You Say,
BUT We Have Seen Your Acts of LOVE**

My family came to Church of Sengkang less than 2 months. It really surprises me that this church is really different from the church I have attended. I am very blessed by your mission-mindedness and I commend the leadership's commitment to the Great Mission.

Last Sunday, we have attended the church's Evaluation & Feedback Meeting and were impressed by the freedom of expressions by the members. The frankness of the Leadership impacted me. Pastor David, I want to say Thank You for your Acts of Love & Care whom you have extended to my family. Pastor, you have done a great job in this church ministry and have done it wholeheartedly. Press on with this good work. Don't lose heart. Every little seed you have planted will never go to waste and it will bear much fruit in due time. I believe every little thing you have done in the Name of Christ will be rewarded by Him.

I hope Church of Sengkang will continue to be God-Centered & Mission-Minded. May our good Lord bless the ministry of Church of Sengkang under your leadership.

Recipient of God's Love
Bro Steven Wong

"Practical Christian Living"

What is a True Commitment?

A truly committed Christian Leader is one who must first be committed to Christ, then to one another in Christ, then and only then can that Christian Leader be committed to the Work of Christ in His Church. In short, it means a Leader who is Not able to commit to the Church of Christ is a result of his/her commitment to the Lord Jesus. The scriptural reference is taken from the gospel of Luke 5:27-28 "after this, Jesus went out and saw a tax collector by the name of Levi sitting at his tax booth. Follow me, Jesus said to him, and the Levi got up, left everything and followed HIM."

There is a difference between ambition & commitment. When you are interested in doing something, you do it only when it is convenient. When you are committed to something, you accept no excuses. Don't equip people who are merely interested. Equip those who are committed.

Commitment is the one quality above all others that enables a potential leader to become a successful leader. Without commitment there can be no success. The kamikaze pilot who was able to fly 50 missions was involved but never committed.

To determine whether your people are committed, first you must make sure they know what it would cost them to become a leader. That means you must be sure not to undersell the job. Let them know what it's going to take to do it. Only then they will know what they are committing to. If they won't commit, don't go any further in the equipping process. Above all, spiritual success in ministry does not just happen. A Poster in a Christian book shop has the word Success shown as.....

**S_ CCESS - what's missing?
Even God can't spell
S_ CCESS without U**

The point the poster was making is that success is a combination of God and you. You need God and He needs you. It's a team effort. You can't do without Him and He won't do it without you. He will give Himself fully to us provided we commit ourselves fully to Him by depending on His Spirit and Obeying His Word. Beloved, the only way you can have success in the Christian Ministry or for that matter any Church Ministry, in this instance Church of Sengkang is when you Commit to Our Lord Jesus, then to our brethren, only then can you commit to Church of Sengkang. Beloved, now you know why I said "I am here to stay in Church of Sengkang till I am raptured to be with my Lord!" You Can be a Committed Leader and Member of Church of Sengkang! Amen

Committed To Christ
Bro Johnny Tay

Today's Sermon

Speaker: Bro Peter Lim

Title of Message: *Trials, Wisdom & Riches*

Scripture Text: James 1:1-12

Key verse 12: Blessed is the man who perseveres under trial, because when he has stood the test, he will receive the crown of life that God has promised to those who love him.

Background: In this letter James was writing to believers. The problem was, many of these believers weren't living like believers. Sound familiar? Over and over James drove home the point with words that went something like this: "IF your FAITH is Genuine, then your WALK will be Authentic" or to put it another way, IF you say you Believe like you should, then why do you Behave like you shouldn't. That's really James's question, "IF you keep telling me you have the Right Theory, and you have Placed your FAITH in the right message, why is it You're Living a WRONG Life?"

The theme in this letter is Spiritual Maturity. We do not want to remain immature with marks of carnality and spiritual infancy. In this pathway to maturity, we struggle with trials, temptations & difficulties where we need to ask God's wisdom in coping with those trials, temptations & difficulties while we need God's Word to help in rejoicing with wealth & poverty.

Main Points:

- Our RESPONSE to Trials, Temptations & Difficulties
 - We Must Expect Trials & Welcome Them
 - Trials Often Come Suddenly
 - Trials Come To Test Our Faith In HIM
 - There is Purpose Behind Every Trial

1:1 Be Joyful, Be Thankful (v2)
1:2 Faith Develops Thru Trials (3-4) : Perseverance, Faith, Maturity.
Complete Not Lacking Anything
1:3 God Rewards Our Faithfulness
- ASK For Heavenly WISDOM From On High
 - We ARE to Ask God for Wisdom For Coping with Our Trials
 - We Do NOT Ask For Deliverance To Escape from them
 - Wisdom Means the Spiritual Capacity to See & Evaluate Life & Conduct From God's point of view.
 - Wisdom Involves Doing RIGHT : Truth Nothing but Truth. No Lies

2:1 ASK From God (v5)
2:2 Don't DOUBT (v6-8) : 1 Corinthians 1:25
- Take PRIDE In Your God-Ordained State
 - Jews in Jesus' day View Wealth was a sign of God's Special Favor
 - Jews in Jesus' day View Poverty was a sign of God's Displeasure
 - Selfish Material Possession : No Longer Find Fulfillment in God
 - True Riches Consist in Faith & Love Express In Self-Denial & Follow Him All the Way

3:1 Lowly In this World, Honored In Heaven (v9)
3:2 Rich & Wealthy : Be Humble (v10-11)

Reflection on this Message:

James urges Believers In Christ to endure trials joyfully and benefit from them with heavenly wisdom to cope with trials & temptations. Beloved, do not allow a little "complaints, discomfort, unkind words" cause you to "escape" these difficulties in this pathway to Maturity in our Lord. Escaping from this assembly does NOT guarantee that the next assembly is "difficulties FREE" A Genuine Faith in our Lord is a TESTED Faith. After all, life is a journey full with all sorts of TESTS since the day you were borned. You name it, you have it - ECG test, blood test, class tests, driving test, final exam test..... Faith TEST in our LORD.