

"Practical Christian Living"

Whoever wants to be FIRST among you MUST be the SLAVE of Everyone else

NO one with you. Instead whoever wants to be great among you MUST be your servant, and whoever wants to be FIRST MUST be SLAVE of all. Read Mark 10:44.

People always Project on the outside how they feel on the inside. Have you ever interacted with someone for the first time and suspected that their attitude was poor, yet you were unable to put your finger on exactly what was wrong. Here are four common attitudes that ruin a relational community.

1. An Inability to Admit Wrongdoing

When we are wronged we must realize that the real injury is NOT the wrong itself but the attitude it invokes. Seldom does being wronged cripple us. BUT we can cripple ourselves by our attitude toward those who have wronged us. Psychologically, we blame others to excuse our wrongdoings. Theologically, someone would label such wrongdoings as "Adam's Blaming Eve!". Beloved, the next time when wrong and blame someone, pause to take a good look at your ownself. Before you point your index finger at someone, take another good look at your remaining four fingers.

2. Failure to Forgive

Some people find it exceedingly difficult to forgive themselves, not withstanding forgiving others, for their own sins. They continually punish themselves for their past mistakes. To make matter worse, they refuse to forgive others when our Loving God has already their serious mistakes and grievous sins. To refuse forgiveness is to be guilty of painful self-destruction as time goes by. To forgive does not mean that one condones or permits something that is wrong. To forgive means that one renounces the right to retaliate and so restore warm feelings.

3. Petty Jealousy

Envy and jealousy are identical twins. They walk hand in hand through our lives. Like the sins of pride and anger, envy and jealousy are all-too-common sins. Few of us escape its clutches. It creeps into our relationships and destroys our confidence in ourselves and in others. Look at the jealousy of King Saul over David's popularity. Read 1 Samuel 18:28-29. The Joseph with many colors was also a victim of jealousy from his own blood brothers Read Genesis 37:11. Beloved, are you jealous over your brother's popularity in serving our Lord?

4. Critical Spirit

Jesus gave us 2 reasons why we should avoid a critical and belittling attitude. First, it leads to our own judgment. Second, it is inconsistent and hypocritical. The judgment Jesus refers to may well be twofold - human and divine. We cannot allow criticism to dwell in our thoughts long enough for it to become a problem. We cannot allow someone to hold the key to our own happiness.

Beloved, get rid of the following attitudes if you to be a Christlike Servant that honors our Lord:

1. An independent spirit is the basis of disloyalty. Our Lord is loyal to His Father
2. A condemning spirit is the basis of self-righteousness. Don't be a Pharisee!
3. An ungrateful spirit is the basis of pride. When a brethren has helped you! Don't forget

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4. A lazy spirit is the basis of dishonesty and poverty. Don't volunteer! BUT With JOY serve HIM
5. A bitter spirit is the basis of selfishness. A SELFISH person is always bitter against another person.
6. An impure spirit is the basis of self-indulgence. A Spirit Filled Brethren serves others

Finally, most of the bad attitudes are the result of SELFISHNESS. How do you know if you are SELFISH brethren in Church Of Sengkang? By no means comprehensive, but if you are always out to put others down, sabotage the church & leadership, or make yourself self-righteousness and always complaining about everybody else except yourself, then you can be sure that you are close to be renamed as a SELFISH Christian!. Beloved, may our good Lord transform us into His Image for the Glory of God the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

You COME FIRST
OTHERS Before Self!
Bro Johnny Tay

- Watz Up!**
1. Review, Evaluation & Feedback for 2009
All Co-Workers Must Attend this afternoon's meeting
Venue; COSK venue.
Time: 2pm to 6pm
 2. PurposeDrivenLife Lessons
Resume Next Sunday : 10-01-2010
Time: 2.00pm to 4.30pm.
 3. Water Baptism January 2010
Date: 31-01-2010
Venue: Punggol Beach
Please submit your application to your LG leader
Submit to office latest: 14-01-2010

OUR COLLECTIONS

Proverbs 3:9-10:

"Honor the Lord with your wealth, with the firstfruits of all your crops; then your barns will be filled to overflowing, and your vats will brim over with new wine."

Nov 2009 Collection:	\$14,145.10
Dec 2009 Collection up to 27 Dec 2009:	\$14,166.90
Church Building Fund:	\$30,080.00

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

ADDRESS

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Singapore 829734
Tel: 6387 6612 / 9646 0704
Website: www.cosk.sg

THE SUNDAY TIMES

SUNDAY SERVICES TIME:

3rd January 2010

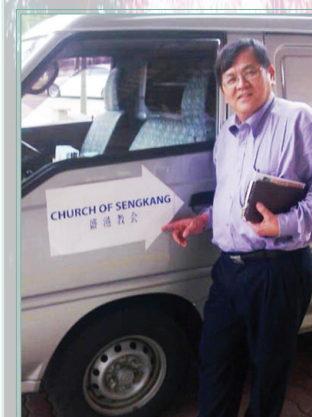
10.30am to 12.30pm

Jehovah Jireh is OUR PROVIDER

No Ribbon-Cutting But Full of Thanksgiving As We Witness GOD Providing us with an 'Church of Sengkang' Van

SOME months ago, the Board met to review the transportation problems in ferrying our brethren from Compasspoint for the Sunday Service. Several options were considered to resolve this problem. It is a known fact that the church is facing a PROBLEM in fetching the brethren into ulu Punggol road. For an immediate solution is to reimburse brethren for the transportation cost while the purchase of an additional van is a better solution. Further deliberation points those of us who possess personal vehicle to "car-pool" our brethren thus lighten bro Peter Tan's responsibility to ensure every brethren attends the Sunday Service.

Beloved, our Lord turns up each time we cry to HIM with our voices. I recall one morning in my solitary time with my Lord, there was a strong urge within me to intercede for bro Daniel Ng. Read bro Daniel Ng's testimony on the next page of this Sunday Times. At that moment, I asked of our Lord to watch his footsteps. Subsequent



efforts were made to reach bro Daniel through his last contact number as none of us have his latest contact number. Surprised by GOD, bro Daniel msged me (has been a long while) with a greeting message. I jumped with joy. Certainly, our Lord works when we respond to His leading.

Beloved, God works in ways we do not understand. But the beauty is He chooses His ways to pour His blessings upon when we submit to His leading. Hallelujah to our Lord. In his own words, bro Daniel Ng says "We Don't Volunteer to His Service But We Joyfully Serve Him!".

All We Have For Christmas Were Only Two Turkeys

SURPRISE, Surprise and again Surprised by our Lord. A month before Christmas, we were still indecisive as to the menu for our Christmas Lunch. When the announcement was made for our Christmas Service, two sisters informed Pastor that they each would like to bless one roast turkey for Christmas lunch. On 8/12/09, another sister phoned Pastor saying she would like to bless the brethren with

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a log cake. That was all we have till 20/12/09. God works when His people pray. Certainly, Indeed Jehovah Jireh is our Provider, as Christmas Day approaches it was becoming clearer more brethren were touched to share their blessings with the brethren.

On December 25, we were just overwhelmed to receive roast ham, chicken sausages, pig trotters, potato salad, one more log cake, sweet jelly, coke, fried bee hoon. Those who came for the Christmas Service far exceeds our normal sunday service. We heard of what Jehovah Jireh can provide if we want to experience His provisions. Beloved, God's Promise came alive to many of us. We dare our beloved brethren to trust Him for ALL your needs so you can be a blessing to those around you.

Thankfulness—A Disciple's Attitude

Welcome my dear brothers and sisters to a new beginning! I pray that in this new 2010, God almighty will bring you and your family bountiful blessings of prosperity, love, strength, anointing and joy. No eye has seen, no ear has heard, no mind can know what God has stored for His people! I believe with all my heart that this year, Church of Sengkang will experience a mighty growth that has never been experienced before. We shall, in Jesus name grow in terms of spirituality, congregational numbers and finances - all for the glory of our Father!

The bible says in Psalms 100:4 "Enter into His gates with **thanksgiving**, And into His courts with praise. Be **thankful** to Him, and bless His name." Also in *Colossians 3:15* it says "And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to which also you were called in one body; and be **thankful**." These verses talk about how we should be thankful to God for His goodness. Many times when we pray, we ask the Lord for countless needs to be granted - *our physical well being, our bank account's health, our business growth, et cetera*. So much so, Jesus, instead of being the risen One, He became the Vending Machine or the Wishing Well. Don't get me wrong, I believe our heavenly Father takes great joy in giving whatever you ask of Him but if you keep on taking without an attitude of gratitude, you will be taking Him for granted.

Many people have this misconception that thankfulness is not expressive. Just like being in love, you will naturally express your feelings and do things for your love ones - due to the exceeding love you have for someone, you would always want that person safe, satisfied and happy. See, God is not here to practice having a transactional relationship with you but if you are naturally thankful to the Lord you would want to step up and do something that will please Him. So this year, what are your plans for the Lord?

What if God wants you to go on a mission trip? What if God wants you to start serving Him in a particular ministry? What if God wants you to lay down your life for discipleship? Will you be willing to do that for Him? This is a very personal issue between you and the Father. Take time to think about it, pray about it and be thankful about things.

God gave you a gift of 86,400 seconds today. Have you used one to say "thank you?" -- William A. Ward

A Disciple for Christ,
Bro. Roy Tan

CHRIST My LifeLine!

The Purpose for this testimony is to tell the world how the Lord has been there for me during my daily struggles and his constant Grace and Mercy even after I have Rejected HIM.

I joined this Church in Sept 2008 and left COSK after Chinese New Year 2009 due to personal problems and an unbearable feeling of depression, which has dogged my life for many years. Usually when I come to Church I try to hide or put these feelings away but earlier this year I decided that I needed to leave. So I left without informing anyone. At the same time I resigned from my employment due to pressure from my fellow colleagues. I left the job while my boss was away and didn't inform anyone.

I just had to escape from my problems. But I realise I was not running from my problems but from God and realities of life. After that running away, my life went downhill. I went back to my own ways and life was even tougher without my Lord.

November this year I had no work and life was aimless. I realized I had lost touch completely with God and could feel my life sucking away from me. During that time, I was trying hard to find an answer or solution to my problems. But there was sign of getting out of my problems. To compound my problems, the devil was tempting me into bad company of gangsterism. But in my despair and hopelessness, I looked back to God and knelt and prayed "God, You've Got To HELP me!"

Some times later, I met my former boss Mr Lau at a wedding function. He invited me to come back to work for him. I rejected him. But God is Great. Even when God wanted to bless me I rejected the offer. Still my boss persisted to contact me more than 10 times. Despite my turning him down, my boss contacted and brought me to his office. After a long 2 hours discussion, I realized my boss appreciated my past contributions and even offered me the company van. He fixed up the role of chairs and electric fan in the van. He gave me permission to fetch our church members for sunday services. This was my final life-line. I accepted his offer with a strong feeling of Peace & Gratitude in my heart. Sometimes it even takes a pre-believer to shake us into reality of God's GRACE in our lives.

Finally, I have tasted God's unfailing Love and Mercy. I know despite my problems the Lord is here to bless me. Beloved, we should stand and applaud the wonderful miraculous blessings the Lord has given to all who stay faithful to HIM.

GOD HELP me!
Bro Daniel Ng's Testimony



Today's Sermon

Speaker: Pastor David Kerk

Title of Message : Five Defining Spiritual Disciplines of A Growing Disciple of Christ

Scripture Text: *John 6:61; 66-71*

Aware that His disciples were grumbling ... "Believe in Jesus shall have Eternal Life", Jesus said to them "Does this offend you?" (v61). From this time many of His disciples Turned Back and No Longer FOLLOWED HIM . Jesus asked His 12 "You Do NOT Want to Leave too, do you?" Then Simon Peter answered Him, Lord to whom Shall we Go? You Have the words of eternal life? We Believe and Know that YOU are the Holy One of God. Then, Jesus replied, "Have I NOT chosen you, the Twelve? Yet one of you is a devil" (HE meant Judas, the son of Judas Isacriot, who, thought one of the Twelve, was later to betray HIM (v66-71)

Background:

Apostle John highlighted the deity of Jesus as the Son of God sent to earth to do the Work of the Father. Jesus is the Son of God; He is not only true humanity, He is God and performed many miracles so we will realize that Jesus is God. Miracles serve at least 3 purposes: (1) To Witness the Identity of Jesus as Son of God (2) To Express Christ's Compassionate Love and (3) To Magnify His Power over satan & demons.

Even experiencing the greatest miracle of Salvation cannot assure us of staying faithful to our Lord as a Disciple that Honor HIM. A Growing & Faithful Disciple of Christ will be:

Main Points:

1. Maintaining A Consistent Personal PrayerTime
Matthew 14:23 ...He went up on a mountainside by Himself to Pray
2. Maintaining A Systematic Personal Study of His Word
2 Timothy 2:15-16...correctly handles the word of truth. Avoid godless chatter, because those who indulge in it will become more and more ungodly.
3. Maintaining An Accountability to Responsible People
James 5:16 Confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective
4. Maintaining An Active Servant To The Body of Christ
Hebrews 10:24-25.... Let us NOT give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another - and all the more as you see the Day approaching
5. Maintaining A Close Relationship With Christ
2 Timothy 2:2 You have heard me teach many things have been confirmed by many reliable witnesses "Teach these great truths to trustworthy people who are able to pass them to others"

Reflection on this message:

Someone once asked Billy Graham, "IF you were a pastor, what would be your plan of action?" To which Graham responded, "One of the first things I would do would be to get a small group of 8 or 10 or 12 around me that would meet a few hours a week and pay the price! It would cost them something in time and effort. I would share with them everything I have learned, over a period of years. Then I would actually have 12 ministers... who in turn could take 8 or 10 or 12 and teach them" (I wonder where he got that idea?) In my years of discipling I have never know a man whose life has been significantly changed apart from practicing those 5 spiritual disciplines above. Beloved, that's what we are going to do in 2010. May our Lord help us in becoming a Disciple that honors HIM.

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