TODAY

UNLEASHING THE GOSPEL









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Listening to Our Good Shepherd

Jesus said in John 10:27, "My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me."

The word 'listen' appears five times in John 10:1-18. 'Listen' is defined as "to give attention to someone or something in order to hear him" (Cambridge Dictionary).

We are grateful that God listens to us when we pour out our praise, thanksgiving, worries, and needs

in our prayers. But do we stop to listen to our Shepherd? Do we listen in our time of prayer when we are alone or together with the family of Christ?

We listen attentively to the CEO at work and to the Prime Minister when he speaks. We are always

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ready to act upon their instructions. How well do we listen to our God? It is almost impossible to listen if we have a dim view of our Shepherd.

I used to fear that God will require me to give up my pleasures and take on hardships. Therefore, I almost never listened to Him. Until one day, I realised that He is the Good Shepherd who loves me far more than anyone else.

Will you follow the Good Shepherd even if He should take you through the darkest valleys before you arrived at green pastures?

Listening is difficult when we are full of our anxieties, our plans, our hopes, and our desires. Whilst it is our wonderful honour that we are able to speak to God without an intermediary or appointment, too often we talk almost non-stop in our prayers. We fail to stop and ask our Shepherd what He has to say. Is it possible that we cannot hear God's gentle voice in our rush and bustle?

We are coming upon Easter. It is a time to focus on the hope of Jesus Christ through His death on the cross and His resurrection. Let us take the time to slow down and listen to our Good Shepherd with obedient hearts.

Listening to God requires the discipline to be still and wait on Him. Take the time to read His Word slowly and repeatedly. Ponder and chew on His words in your time of prayer. Learn to enjoy sitting at His feet in stillness and silence.

It may feel awkward at first, so start slow. Start with 2 minutes and as it becomes more natural, gradually increase the time of quietness. In the quietness, you may learn to submit, receive comfort, and be filled with hope and grace.

Our Good Shepherd knows us by name and no one can snatch us out of His hands. He will lead us to His great banqueting table and make our cups overflow with goodness and mercy. All we need to do is to listen to His voice and follow Him, even through the darkest valleys.





Salvation Stories

Dickson Kam is an adventurous person who loves sporting and outdoor activities. He currently works with FBC's Covenant Christian Center and is also a table tennis coach.



Having grown up in a Christian family, I have been attending church services and have been exposed to the Christian faith ever since I was a kid. Sunday services were a weekly family event, and having cell groups, prayers before meals and bedtime, and reading Bible stories were part of my daily life. As a child, I did most of the things a "typical Christian kid" would do. I never really knew what was it like not to have Christ in my life.

But as I became a teenager and experienced the different parts of life, I started to journey further and further away from God. I backslid. The frequency of attending church services and events started to reduce as I wanted to see and experience what the outside world had to offer. What the outside world provided looked appealing! There was so much "freedom" compared to the "rules" that you had to abide by in following Christ.

What the life outside of Christ had to offer was too tempting to resist. Slowly but surely, I "left" church due to different situations and circumstances during my high school days. I started to enjoy life outside of a Christian community and it was honestly very fulfilling. However, as much as I enjoyed life back then, more and more issues started to arise.

Initially, I related those issues as simply part of growing up. But when things got worse, I started to have

questions. I had all the typical Sunday school answers, but all that was just head knowledge which were never felt in my heart. So, when tough times came, I struggled to understand why there was so much negativity in life. Feeling lost and struggling to come to terms with human suffering, I searched for answers in worldly things, but I was never satisfied.

After a long struggle, I finally turned back to God and it was and will always be the best decision I've ever made. When tough times came and when life hit me from every direction, I was still at peace because God says "Be still and know I am God" (Psalm 46:10). Turning back to God did not mean that all my issues stopped appearing. Rather, with God's peace and assurance, I was and still am able to carry on with a peace of mind, knowing that He will never leave me. He is always with me.

Coming from a Christian family, I do not have an extraordinary conversion story. However, I believe that everyone has their own personal story and experience with Christ that is beautiful. My life started with God and after some searching away from Him, I still ended up back in God's protection, love, and care.

God has sustained me thus far, and I am sure He will continue to sustain me with each passing day. Psalm 73:36 says, "My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever."



Toh Kai Xian is currently pursuing a Master of Christian Studies and is working for FBC. She prays that God will use her skills and experience to bring people to Christ.

Growing up, I had an altar at home right in front of the entrance that we called 拜拜爷爷 ("bai bai ye ye"). I believe it was a justice god from the Taoist belief and not an ancestor god because there was a male statue, but I have no idea because no one explained it to me before.

The only time I interacted with it was when I did something wrong as a primary school kid. I would need to kneel in front of the altar and cross my hands to pull my ears. It normally only lasted a few minutes because my mom couldn't bear to see me in that state for long.

Besides the main altar, there were also some small altars on the wall for joss sticks. The house would always smell of incense and that's a smell that fills me with nostalgia and reminds me of my grandparent's village house in Perak.

During a period of time when my dad went through severe insomnia, his brother brought him to try a lot of things, including attending the Subang Jaya Buddhist Association. I remember eating the vegetarian food provided, drinking free soy milk, giving offerings, and observing a group of people sitting and meditating according to the "lyrics" in a small book. I was about 10 or 11 then, and that went on for a few months before we were recommended by my uncle to attend a church called Damansara Utama Methodist Church (DUMC) in SeaPark.

I went for the children's church and also attended the main service, but I rarely paid any attention. The next thing I know, I joined the pre-youth group called the Mighty Army, and spent the rest of my youth in cell groups learning about God. It wasn't that drastic a change for me as I had occasionally been brought to Sunday school as a kid whenever my aunt, who is a Christian, brought me to her church. I suppose the early exposure helped, but I was also a kid and didn't question what the adults

taught. I got baptised as a teen in DUMC.

It was when I left DUMC to pursue higher education overseas that independent thinking was cultivated, and I started to wonder if God actually really sent his Son as a human (in the form of a vulnerable baby!) to live among us. A lot of questions piled up about every fact that the Bible presented. It was through patient friends and exposure to proper theology that helped me understand God's truth in simple terms, not hidden by Christian jargons, and I had a renewed faith and conviction.

I finally understood what Christianity was about when I really started to question its validity. In hind-sight, God had already started the seeding way back when I was a Taoist kid who got dragged along by an aunt to Sunday school.



FT3C O ZOOM ONLINE WORSHIP

SUNDAY WORSHIP on OZOOM

Every Sunday From

14 March Onwards
8:45am & 11:15am

Zoom ID: 997 9121 6144 Password: fbc

Zoom Meeting opens 30 minutes before service begins.
Please login early.

Zoom Worship Service Order

- Pre-Service Meditation
- Song of Preparation
- Call to Worship + Greeting
- Song of Praise / Adoration
- Responsorial Psalm
- Song of Confession / Lament / Assurance
- Song of Thanksgiving
- Prayer of Illumination
- Scripture Reading
- Sermon
- Response Song / Communion
- FBC Together
 - Offering
 - Prayers of the People
 - Announcements
 - + Special Segments
- Benediction + Sending
- Breakout Groups

Over the past year, the way churches worship has been affected drastically by a new norm. The current environment has changed our worship patterns, practices, and even paradigms. Some for good, some for the worse. However, the Word of God remains the same, and God's terms for our community worship and gathering is essential to our Christian life.

It is important that we remind ourselves of the PURPOSE of our worship. So, we have made available a series of articles to help us reflect on the 4-fold pattern of worship: GATHERING – WORD – TABLE – SENDING. CLICK HERE to check them out!

| Pulpit Program

March 14, 2021

The Presence of God in Church

(Isaiah 6:1-6)

PREACHER Arnold Lim

March 21, 2021

The Norms of the Kingdom: Jesus and The Law

(Matthew 5:17-20)



PREACHER Dr. Peter Na

March 28, 2021

Palm Sunday (Matthew 21:1-9, Luke 19:37-44)



PREACHER David & Suzanne Adams

April 2, 2021 (Good Friday)

Christ Crucified: The Centrality of the Cross

(1 Peter 2:23-25, Matthew 10:37-39)



PREACHER Lee Yee Dian

| Worship with Us





Sundays 9:00am

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- 1. O LORD, do not forsake or forget us, we who have been so wonderfully made by Your hands. Fulfil Your purpose in us today.
- 2. Renew a right spirit within us, and help us mourn our brokenness and the brokenness of our world. Refresh us with Your comfort and help us to share it with others.
- 3. Reveal to us where we have been proud or harsh instead of humble and gentle, and help us follow our Shepherd who is meek, lowly, and gentle of heart.
- 4. Create in us a hunger for righteousness in our lives and our communities, and help us reflect the mercy that You have shown us.
- 5. Reveal to us the idols in our hearts so that we may seek Your cleansing and be given clean hands and pure hearts.
- **6.** Guide us to be peacemakers and ambassadors of reconciliation, and give us the strength to stand strong when we are opposed for our faith in

| Upcoming Events



What is the Gospel? With Dr. Kyle Essary

11 April (Sunday) 2:00pm to 3:30pm Zoom ID: 953 4151 3914

Password : FBCMission



Is There More to Life Than This?

Every Wednesday 8:00pm to 9:30pm

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Insights For The Persevering Disciple Study on The Book of Revelation

Link: https://fbc.com.my/gamma Password: fbcgamma



Daily Prayer Meeting **Every Saturday** to Thursday 9:00pm Zoom ID: 929 735 694 Password: pray



Monthly Prayer Meeting 27 March (Saturday) 2:00pm to 3:30pm

Zoom ID: 875 6527 9132 Password: pray

More Information on Upcoming Events