

FBC TODAY

UNLEASHING THE GOSPEL



 First Baptist Church Subang Jaya

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 First Baptist Church Subang Jaya

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IDOLATRY

Jeremiah 44:19 says, "And the women said, 'When we made offerings to the queen of heaven and poured out drink offerings to her, was it without our husbands' approval that we made cakes for her bearing her image and poured out drink offerings to her?'"

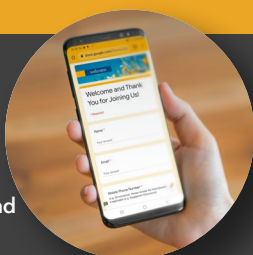
Jeremiah the prophet was prophesying to Judah at a most difficult time. His prophecies were not only rejected by the ruling elites, but his ministry was also ridiculed, and he was beaten and imprisoned.

As a prophet of God, Jeremiah denounced the practice of idolatry throughout Israel. Popular amongst the Jews then was the worship of Philistine deities, and for the women folks, the Queen of Heaven.

"Queen of Heaven" was a title given to Ishtar (in Akkadian) or Inanna (in Sumerian), the goddess of sex, war, justice, and political power. Often depicted as a winged deity, she was also identified as Venus. During festivals in honour of her, cakes in her image were baked as offerings together with libations.

NEW?

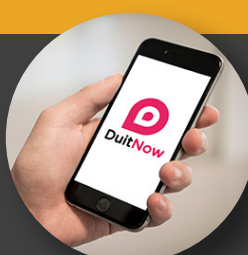
CLICK to send us your details so we can welcome and connect with you!



GIVING

Business ID:
BT76

How To Give?



Need To Talk To Someone?

Whatsapp or Call TalkToUs at

+6011 5788 4805





When Christianity became the official religion of the Roman Empire beginning from Emperor Constantine's reign, pagan influences began to creep into the church. Instead of giving up pagan deities, attempts were made to 'Christianise' them. As a result, Ishtar, the "Queen of Heaven", became the "Mother of God", and thus began the unscriptural veneration of Mary, the mother of Jesus.

This veneration became idol worship, a practice still being adopted by the Roman Catholic Church today. Mary's images and idols are everywhere within their church buildings and devotees are encouraged to pray to them. Instead of cakes made in the image of the Queen of Heaven, today they're replaced by hot cross buns at Easter.

It was therefore not surprising when one day, I saw a plaque outside a Roman Catholic Church in Bayswater, London, announcing: Church of Mary, Queen of Heaven.

It says in Exodus 20:4-5a that "You shall not make for yourself a carved image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. You shall not bow down to them or serve them, for I the LORD your God am a jealous God."

The Orthodox Church does not have carvings but attempts to circumvent the second commandment by the use of religious icons. They reason that since icons are not carved, it's okay. It's not.

Non-Christian visitors stepping for the first time into First Baptist Church, Subang Jaya, are often taken aback by the lack of statues and religious images. Most Bible-believing churches are the same: no idols. At most, what we have are some murals and the cross, a symbol of the Christian faith.

Some say they require an image to remind them of God. But God specifically placed the second commandment forbidding any idols because nothing can ever depict Him.

God is so much more beautiful than anything there is, so much so that any man-made portrayal of Him, no matter how beautifully crafted, is an insult to His glory. There can never be anything comparable to God's beauty and glory.

By design, you cannot find in the Bible any text describing what Jesus looked like- his physique, or the colour of his skin, hair, and eyes. This means that all images of him are fakes.

As for Mary, the mother of Jesus, she is not to be worshipped or venerated. We acknowledge her as a humble servant of the LORD, and recognise that she was greatly blessed to be the earthly mother of our Lord Jesus Christ. Contrary to what's being taught, she was not conceived immaculately in order to conceive Jesus.

It is pointless to pray to the Queen of Heaven for our requests. Remember that, even though Mary was the mother of Jesus, she also prayed to the resurrected Christ for her supplication.

It's a lie to believe that God is an angry Father who does not care to answer our prayers, so much so we need to pray to a softer and more compassionate mother figure to have our requests attended to.

Throughout the Gospels, we see a compassionate Jesus who looked upon His followers with eyes full of loving-kindness. He is more than enough to answer and provide for all of our needs, and He waits with open arms. 🙏



By Merrill Leong
Merrill is a member of KARIS.

Life Group Splash Featuring

SS17 LG

Tell us about SS17.

The SS17 Life Group is headed by Brother Kiang Teck Hoe and ably supported by Brother Lai Si Meng. Through the years, Kiang has been the lynchpin of the group. His caring attitude, warmth, humility, and relentless drive have been instrumental in the success of the LG. However, he always gives glory to God for giving him the strength to provide leadership to the group.

Prior to the MCO, we met in different LG members' homes on Fridays from 8:30pm to 11pm. We alternated between homes and the head of the household (host) will lead the discussion. However, since the Covid-19 pandemic which hit Malaysia in March 2020 made it impossible for all forms of gatherings, we now leverage on Zoom for our virtual meetings.

Most of our members are senior citizens, and the SS17 Life Group proves a crucial lifeline to connect, share, and pray for each other. In this time of the pandemic, one of our concerns is that physical meetings could put our more vulnerable members at risk. So, we thank God for technology which enables us to meet virtually, where we can pray, discuss the Bible and sermons, share our concerns, worries, and difficulties, and encourage one another.



Describe SS17 in one sentence.

We learn, encourage, and pray for one another.

What does it mean to be part of a Life Group like SS17?

As a Life Group, we pray for and support one another. It is only through prayer and open discussions that we can lay bare our shortcomings and worries. We are imperfect people; we are sinners who fall short of God's glory. We need each other for support during good times and difficult times.

Our members will always go out of their way to help and watch out for each other. For example, we deliver food or groceries when one of us is ill or recovering from surgery. Most importantly, we are always there for one another during difficult times, especially when loved ones return to the Lord.

We also share our experiences on how to bring family members to Christ. The vast experience which brothers Kiang and Lai have through their involvement in evangelical explosion and Alpha programs provide us with the confidence. Together, we are able to remain committed and unwavering in our trust in the Lord.



How has Life Group impacted SS17 members?

"I'm the standing proof of how our Life Group kept me growing in faith, and I am still growing, through my trials and tribulations. Following the death of my husband, Robert, I needed funds for food, cancer treatment, and eye treatment. All my brothers and sisters from SS17 Life Group have helped me stay strong with Christ and there has been so much love extended to me. Amen." - Jane Lam

Jane sums up what joining the Life Group has been for her. She gives glory to God for the SS17 Life Group during her difficult times, and now she is indeed a great encourager for the rest of us at SS17.

What would SS17 say to someone who is on the fence about joining a Life Group?

Despite the Covid-19 pandemic, let us never tire of meeting to encourage and pray for each other, for encouragement gives us hope.

"And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works: not forsaking our own assembling together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another; and all the more as you see the day drawing near."

- Hebrews 10:24-25 🙏

[Join A Life Group Today](#)



FBC NEEDS YOU

Are You Wondering How
You Can Serve God In Church?
Find Your Opportunity Here:



SUNDAY SCHOOL

We are looking for teachers. (Men, especially!) You will be involved in facilitating Sunday School classes and building relationships with the children of FBC.



ALPHA

We are looking for facilitators and befrienders. You will be involved in creating a safe space where people from all walks of life can discuss faith, life, and God.



ZOOM

Host & Co-Host

We are looking for volunteers to host our ZOOM Sunday worship services. You will be involved in posting announcements in the chat and ensuring that the worship services run smoothly.



FBC COMMUNITY CONNECTION

We are looking for coordinators, copywriters, graphic designers and social media managers. You will be part of a team that reaches out to the community through live webinars relating to current issues and concerns.



CLICK to register or call
the church office to sign up today!
03-5621 2623

| Pulpit Program

July 25, 2021

Two Ways To Live

(Matthew 7:15-29)



PREACHER
Alex Tan

August 1, 2021

The Church As The Priesthood of Believers

(1 Peter 2:9-10)



PREACHER
Arnold Lim

August 8, 2021

To Be Announced

August 15, 2021

To Be Announced

| Worship with Us



MAIN SERVICE

| ZOOM |

Sundays 8:45am & 11:15am



YOUTH SERVICE

| ZOOM |

Sundays 9:00am



SUNDAY SCHOOL

for Ages 0-12yrs

| ZOOM |

Sundays



Call office to know more:

03-5621 2623

PRAYER SPOTLIGHT

Malaysia



1. Pray for God's hand to be upon all those holding the reins of power so that justice, righteousness, peace, and stability will prevail in our country. Pray that God will use this situation for His glory, and the good of all in our land.
2. Pray that our political leaders, both in government and opposition, will act with wisdom and responsibility to enable the nation to sail safely through this crisis. Pray against all forms of evil and deceit, and that wickedness and corruption be exposed and uprooted in our government and country.
3. Pray for our Christians MPs, leaders, and others in positions of influence, that they will have the wisdom and courage stand up for truth and morality. Pray that they will find grace to act for the common good of all peoples and so shape the political scenario in the nation in a manner that glorifies God.
4. Pray that as the Church sees tragedies hitting our nation, we will be awakened to pray and seek God's face.
5. Pray for Christian communities to be a distinctive presence as light and salt in our neighbourhoods, suburbs, towns, and cities. Pray for the Church to rise up in times like this, discerning the times and having the wisdom to act.

| Upcoming Events



VBS Volunteer Recruitment

VBS is upon us this 13 to 17 December!

We need all the help we can get to bring children to build their foundation in Jesus!

[CLICK HERE](#) to register as a volunteer for our very first online VBS. For enquiries, please email vbsfbcsbang@gmail.com



Ladies Praise & Thanksgiving Gathering

14 August 2021

Saturday
10.00am - 12.00pm

Zoom ID: 924 53626068
Password: fbc



The Pastoral Epistles

Study on the Books of 1 Timothy, 2 Timothy & Titus

Every Wednesday
8:30pm

Zoom ID: 830 3462 5458
Password: fbc

[CLICK HERE](#) to view video lessons.
(Password: fbcgamma)



Sermon on The Mount

Explore the Teachings of Jesus on the Beatitudes

10-Week Program

Beginning on 3 August 2021
Every Tuesday

To register/ for more information, contact Lammy Tan at 012-386 8460.



Is There More to Life Than This?

22 July to 7 October 2021

Every Thursday
8:00pm

[CLICK HERE](#) to register



Daily Prayer Meeting

Every Saturday to Thursday

9:00pm
Zoom ID: 929 735 694

Password: pray



Monthly Prayer Meeting

28 August 2021 (Saturday)

2:00pm to 3:30pm

Zoom ID: 869 8003 5137
Password: pray

More Information on Upcoming Events