21 November 2021 | ISSUE 42

ODAY UNLEASHING THE GOSPEL

First Baptist Church Subang Jaya

First Baptist Church Subang Jaya 🖸 @fbcsubangjaya 🚺 @saltofsubangyouth 🕨

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FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH SUBANG JAYA

Address : 38 Jalan SS17/1D, 47500 Subang Jaya, Selangor, Malaysia.

Telephone : +03 5621 2623

Email : fbc.subangfamily@gmail.com

Website: www.fbc.com.my

S **OUR MAJEST**

Long before Jesus even set foot on earth, God made a covenant with King David through the prophet Nathan, saying "When your days are over and you go to be with your ancestors, I will raise up your offspring to succeed you, one of your own sons, and I will establish his kingdom. He is the one who will build a house for me, and I will establish his throne forever." (1 Chronicles

17:11-12). Jesus was of course the fulfilment of that promise. In the New Testament, Matthew declares that Jesus as the Messiah and the Son of David before tracing His ancestry back through King David to the founding father, Abraham (Matthew 1). In Luke, the angel speaks to Mary concerning her unborn child, that "The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, and he will reign

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Whatsapp or Call TalkToUs at +6011 5788 4805 over Jacob's descendants forever; his kingdom will never end." (Luke 1:32). In all four gospels, we can find accounts of Jesus' Triumphal Entry where He entered Jerusalem to make public His claim as Israel's Messiah and King in fulfilment of the prophecy in Zechariah 9:9. When he was questioned by Pilate at His trial, our Lord Jesus tacitly accepted the title "King of the Jews", even though His kingdom was not of this world. As you can see, the Kingship of Jesus is clearly found within the pages of Scripture.

History is replete with examples of earthly kings who were cruel, aloof or simply incompetent. By contrast, Jesus with whom "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given" and whom God the Father has committed all things (Matthew 28:18; 11:27), is kind and humble. Jesus who, "being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage; rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness." (Phil 2:6-7) The King of Kings humbled Himself to the point of death so that we may have access to Him.

If Jesus is King, how then should we relate to Him as subjects of His Kingdom? I can think of at least three things that having Jesus as our King would have far-reaching implications.

1. Implication on How We Orientate Our Lives

There are basically two ways in which people live out their faith or religion. One way is to view God as someone who serves our needs and fulfil our desires. Many religious people in the world live like this. To them, the overriding purpose of worshipping is to invoke their god(s) to shower them with blessings or remove an impediment in their lives. It's about asking "What can God do for me?" rather than "What can I do for God?" Unfortunately, this way of thinking is also prevalent in the Christian church. People in this group will obey and submit only if it is convenient or as long as it does not interfere with their worldly ambitions or busy schedules.

The other way to live is as subjects in a Kingdom where Jesus is King, ready to orientate all we do in submission to His rule and commands. And that means planning every part of our lives according to what God wants for His kingdom. Take meeting together in a life group as an example. The bible clearly exhorts us to regularly meet to encourage one another in the faith. The first group of people will treat it as optional, turning up only if they feel like it. The second



group of people would make the Life Group meeting a priority, seeing it both as a duty and a blessing and thus planning around it. It's regrettable that many want the rewards of Kingdom citizenship without the responsibilities and its blessings without the commitment!

2. Implication on How We Worship

I remember a few years ago when I had the opportunity to attend a Chinese New Year function that was to be graced by the Agong. It took weeks to prepare for his attendance and a seemingly endless list of protocols to follow that dictated the colours we were prohibited to wear to how we were to clasp our hands in greeting to where we were to sit etc, etc. It certainly felt like a very solemn and revered affair. Yet it amazes me how casually some of us tend to approach our Spiritual King when we come into His presence for worship. I continue to see the numbers trickle in long after the first worship song has begun!

In a recent sermon, God's sacred space was exemplified by Moses' encounter with a Holy God on Mount Sinai and later by the temple worship that was meticulously spelt out to the nation of Israel. Has the essential character of our God changed in the New Testament compared to the Old? Certainly not! The key point is not that we should be burdened by a litany of worship Dos and Don'ts but that we should have an attitude of utmost awe and respect when we come before God. The tearing of the veil that used to separate the people from the Holy presence of God does not signify an abandonment of care and thoughtfulness when we approach Him. It's not a licence to be careless and flippant as if Jesus is our buddy! The thought that Jesus the Almighty King welcoming us into His presence should fill our hearts with a healthy mix of reverence and joy, holy fear and thanksgiving.

King David sums it up best when he says in Psalm 29:2, "Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name; worship the Lord in the splendor of his holiness." Today, we worship a King far greater than King David himself!

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3. Implication on How We Evangelize

The Great Commission is not just a call to be saved from the judgement of sin but a call to discipleship. To be a disciple is to submit to the Lordship and Rule of our King. In Matthew 10:38, Jesus reminded His disciples, "Whoever does not take up their cross and follow me is not worthy of me.". Luke 9:23 puts it this way:"Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me.". The cross was an instrument of shame and death. Jesus did not minced His words or sugar-coat His message. He demands that His true followers live a lifetime of humble submission and self-denial. This is not some option reserved only for more spiritually-minded Christians. The call to discipleship is a call to total commitment to King Jesus for all, with nothing knowingly or deliberately held back. Yet, today we see many who profess to be Christians content to sit on the side lines and live what we would call a "nominal" Christian life. John Stott describes them like this: "They have allowed themselves to become somewhat involved, enough to be respectable, but not enough to be uncomfortable. Their religion is a great, soft cushion"

If Jesus is our King, let us ensure that our evangelism faithfully portray that fact. Sometimes, I fear that in our desire for people to come to faith, evangelical Christians have unwittingly shared a soft gospel and a weak Christ where a saviour begs a seeker to 'accept' and invite Him to come into his or her life. That's very different from the posture of how the Gospel is delivered in the New Testament. Sinners are called to repent of their sins and follow Christ in a life of submissive obedience. It is we who must cried out to God and plead with Him to accept us, not the other way round! We receive the free gift of salvation but that gift comes bearing a yoke of surrendering our lives to Christ the King.

God's word tells us that Jesus will one day come again in all His magnificence, power and glory to judge the world (Revelation 19). In the meantime, He invites all who are weary and burdened to come to Him and promises a yoke that is easy. A yoke is a harness that's fasten to the neck of an animal that is attached to a plough that it can pull. The yoke is a symbol of subjection or servitude. Jesus' use of the yoke as a metaphor therefore assumes his rule over his disciples in His kingdom! Is Jesus the King of your life? May we all yield daily to His rule!



By Leong Yew Lum Yew Lum is the Chairman of FBC

Ministry Corner Featuring Notship Ministry

What is the vision and mission of the Worship Ministry?

We are committed to being a vibrant community of reverent worshippers that reflect God's image, making the Gospel (God's story) clear through lives that glorify Him. Our goal is to faithfully interpret and respond to God's story within our worship context in a way that is consistent with the biblical, historical, and theological revelation that God has given to us through His Spirit, to the best of our abilities.

Share something the Worship Ministry is thankful to God for in the past year.

We thank God for technology. Through various online software, we have been able to play music together as a team and facilitate worship effectively, though physically apart. We are also thankful for the faithfulness and passion of all our worship team members in serving God. They have taken up the challenge, made additional preparations, and endured long hours of recording to produce online worship services weekly.

Technology has also enabled some of our worship team members to meet online regularly. As a result, the relationships among us have grown, matured, and developed in trust and love for each other.

What is the Worship Ministry looking forward to in the coming year?

Virtual worship can never replace the physical gathering of the body of Christ. We look forward to a safer time when we can all worship and sing praises to God collectively under the same roof again. We truly miss the element of communal worship and playing together physically as a band! We also look forward to having physical fellowship with one another, to meeting up for dinner (not a virtual one), and perhaps even going for a retreat together!

How can FBC worshippers get involved with the Worship Ministry?

While we are always in need of singers and musicians, we especially need people who can serve in the area of audio and visual (AV) programming as online services may continue to be the norm. FBC worshippers can also keep us in prayer, that we may not fall into temptation - that we will aim to magnify Jesus and not ourselves.





By Michelle Mooi & Worship Ministry Michelle is the leader of FBC's Worship Ministry and a church board member.

FBC NEEDS YOU

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



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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.



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

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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.



RØDE

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

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November 21, 2021 Two Faces of Unbelief : Pride and Prejudice (Matthew 13:53-14:12)



PREACHER Dr Peter Ng

November 28, 2021 Feeding the 5000 (Matthew 14:13-21)



PREACHER Pastor Joash Chan

December 5, 2021 Joy! Because He Came (John 16:16-28)



PREACHER Pastor Massimo Gei

December 12, 2021 Walking on Water (Matthew 14:22-35)



PREACHER Lee Yee Dian

|Worship with Us



MAIN SERVICE

Sundays 8:45am & 11:15am

YOUTH SERVICE | ZOOM | Sundays 9:00am

SUNDAY SCHOOL

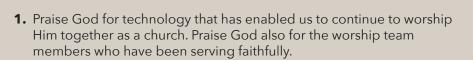
for Ages 0-12yrs | ZOOM | Sundays



Call office to know more: 03-5621 2623

PRAYER SPOTLIGHT

Worship Ministry



- **2.** Pray for the Lord to speak to and open the hearts of FBC worshippers to serve in the Worship Ministry.
- **3.** Pray that we, as worshippers, will not lose our sense of reverence for God. Pray that we will praise and honour Him during our Sunday virtual worship services.
- **4.** Pray for our worship team members- singers, musicians, AV. Pray that they will never be lacking in zeal, but keep their spiritual fervour in serving the Lord. Pray that their service and daily walk with Jesus will be pleasing unto Him.

| Upcoming Events



FBC (ROS) AGM Meeting Zoom Online 21 November 2021 (Sunday) 2.15pm

Zoom ID: 992 7605 6605 Password: FBCPJAGM

CLICK HERE to refer to the meeting agenda. Do take note that FBCPJ audited accounts will be made available for collection two weeks before meeting.



FBC (E) AGM Meeting Zoom Online 28 November 2021 (Sunday) 2.15pm Zoom ID: 998 6435 6581 Password: fbceagm CLICK HERE to refer to the meeting agenda.



VBS Registration Is Open

Our very first Online VBS Is happening on Zoom from 13 to 17 December 2021!

For children aged 4 to 12 years. <u>CLICK HERE</u> to register. For enquiries, please email vbsfbcsubang@gmail.com



Romans From Wretchedness To Righteousness Every Wednesday For more information, contact Church Office at 03-5621 2623



Is There More to Life Than This? Alpha 21 will begin on 6 January 2022. Every Thursday 8:00pm CLICK HERE to register for the next Alpha program.



Laying the Foundation of Christian Walk Every Thursday 8:00pm to 9:45pm For more information, contact Lammy Tan (012-386 8460) or John Tay (012-212 3099)



Monthly Prayer Meeting 27 November 2021 (Saturday) 2:00pm to 3:30pm Zoom ID: 869 8003 5137 Password: pray



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

More Information on Upcoming Events

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