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# **Grace Bible-Presbyterian Church**

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# Grace to you and Peace from God

Our Mission: "To bring people to salvation in Jesus Christ and disciple them in their relationship with Christ" (Matt. 28: 19, 20; 2 Tim 2:2)

## **ORDER OF WORSHIP**

 Congregational Preparation
 603
 "Obedience"
 Sis Jasmine Blundell

 319
 "Just As I Am"
 & Sis Loretta Wong

Prelude

Silent Meditation

Call to Worship Dn Daniel Tan

**Opening Hymn** 40 "Praise the Lord, Sing Hallelujah"

\*Gloria Patri

Congregational Singing 77 "God Sees the Heart"

142 "The Wonder of It All"

511 "Only A Sinner"

Responsive Reading John 14:1-13

Offerings

\*\* Doxology

Scripture Reading Hosea 14

**Hymn** 295 "Wonderful Words of Life"

Corporate Prayer Eld Victor Goh

Message "RETURN TO THE LORD" PR WANG WUN LONG

Closing Hymn 307 "O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go"

Closing Prayer Eld Victor Goh

Threefold Amen

Welcome & Announcements

#### \* Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost, As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

#### \*\* Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen

# ARE WE OBEYING THE GREAT COMMISSION?

In an article in the <u>Christianity Today</u> dated February 6, 2019 entitled, "Half of Millennial Christians Say It's Wrong to Evangelize", author Kate Shellnutt reports on a survey which "finds young believers want to know about Jesus," but "they just don't want to speak up about it." She writes:

"new research from Barna Group and the creators of the Alpha course offers some disappointing news regarding the 20-somethings and 30-somethings now on deck to carry on the faith: nearly half (47%) of practicing Christian millennials—churchgoers who consider religion an important part of their lives—believe that evangelism is wrong."

The reason cited by Barna president David Kinnaman, points to the rising cultural expectation against judging personal choices. He claims that practicing Christian millennials were twice as likely as Gen X and four times as likely as Boomers and Elders to agree with the statement, "If someone disagrees with you, it means they're judging you." In short, Kinnaman noted that the "feelings-first priority" (for example, "don't criticize anyone's life choices and emotivism") that the American culture makes a way of life, will make it difficult for the cultivation of a "deep, steady, resilient Christian conviction."

In another article also published in <u>Christianity Today</u>, entitled "Can Evangelism Emerge from the Next Generation?" (dated August 11, 2016), Hannah Gronowski (founder and director of <u>Generation Distinct</u>) writes,

"Evangelism is often presented as an old school, out-of-style idea with little value or relevance in our fast-paced, urban world. The reality is that social media platforms and trendy wall plaques are inundated with quotes preaching the idea of "easy evangelism."

If we just live good enough lives, we can forgo the conversation entirely, and people around us will almost magically come to know Jesus through our good actions and selfless character. This style of evangelism is becoming more and more prevalent in a culture constantly looking for the fast track and simple fix."

The above statements highlight a serious problem that the church in America today is facing with regards to evangelism. Can this become a problem for our society and churches too?

There are many possible reasons why people are not talking about Jesus. It could be because of busy schedules and added responsibilities at home and work.

The song "Remind Me Dear Lord" reminds us that many blessings in our families and at our work places are given to "brighten our life". Have we unwittingly allowed these blessings to become excuses that hinder us from carrying out the Great Commission as stated in Matthew 28:18-20 and Mark 16:15-16?

Let us emulate how the apostle Paul pressed on in the ministry of the gospel in the

light of his personal challenges in 2 Corinthians 12:9.

Grace BP Church will be planning an outreach to share the Good News of Jesus Christ with friends and loved ones. Let us make the effort of not just merely praying for the work but bringing our friends and loved ones to our church evangelistic meetings.

May we also be actively involved in boldly sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ to them, praying that they will in God's good time, come to the saving knowledge of His truth.

Hannah Yeo

# A PARABLE OF FISHLESS FISHERMEN

Now it came to pass that there was a group of people who called themselves fishermen and lo there were many fish in the waters around. In fact the whole area was surrounded by streams and lakes filled with fish and the fish were hungry.

Week after week, month after month, year after year, those who called themselves fishermen met in meetings to talk about their call to fish, the abundance of fish and how they might go about fishing.

Year after year they carefully defined what fishing meant, defended fishing as an occupation, and declared that fishing was always the primary task of the fishermen. Continually they searched for new and better methods of fishing and for new and better definitions of fishing. One thing they didn't do however. They didn't fish. Large, elaborate and expensive training centres were built, whose original and primary purpose was to teach fishermen how to fish. All through the years, courses were offered on the need to fish, the nature of fish, where to find fish, classifying fish, and the psychological reactions of fish. Those who taught had doctorates of fishiology but the teachers didn't fish. They only taught fishing.

Year after year, after tedious training, many graduated and were given fishing licences. After one meeting on the necessity for fishing, one young fellow left the meeting and went fishing. The next day he reported that he caught two outstanding fish. He was honoured for his excellent catch and scheduled to visit all the main meetings possible to tell how he had caught the two big fish. So he quit his fishing in order to have time to tell about his experiences to the other fishermen and also to make a movie on the big catch. He was also placed on the fishermen's general board because of his considerable experience.

Now it's true that many of "the fishermen" were truly sincere and really sacrificed and put up with all kinds of difficulties. After all, were they not following the master who said "Follow me and I will make you fishers of men"? Imagine how hurt some of them were when one day a person stood up and suggested that those who didn't catch fish were really not fishermen no matter how much they claimed to be. Yet it did sound correct. Is a person a fisherman if year after year he never catches fish? Is one following the master if one isn't fishing?

(Author unknown)

"Why Evangelize Children?" by Sam Doherty

# CHURCH ACTIVITIES

WED Prayer Meeting 8.00 p.m.

Adult Fellowship 5.30 p.m.
(Last Saturday of every month)

Worship Service 9.30 a.m.
Junior Worship 9.30 a.m.
Bible Class 11.30 a.m.

## **Last Week's Collections**

Offerings \$ 1, 779.10
Tithes \$ 5, 531.00
Building Fund \$ 1, 278.50

### **APPOINTMENTS**

Prayer Meeting — Wednesday

Attendance on 5 June: (No Prayer Meeting) Elder Victor Goh takes devotion on 19 June.

### Worship Service Next Sunday:

Speaker: Bro Lim Chien Chong
Chairman: Pr Wang Wun Long
Pianist: Sis Joanna Hor
Organist: Dn Jeremy Hor

**Ushers** 

This Week: Bro Richard Tan/Bro James Chen

Sis Naomi Neoh

Next Week: Bro Tan Teck Shi/Bro Jonathan Sam

Sis Evonne Tee

ΑV

This Week: Sis Janice Lee/Sis Melinda Chan
Next Week: Sis Melinda Chan/Bro Chea Ruei-E

Junior Worship (7-12 years old)

This Week: No Junior Worship
Next Week: Bro Lee Chang Loong
Pre-Primary Worship (3 - 6 years old)

This Week: Sis Hannah Yeo Next Week: Sis Lynna Seah

Flowers and Refreshment

This Week: Hannah Yeo (Refreshment only)

Next Week: - Refreshment Duty

This Week: Sis Hannah Yeo
Next Week: M/M Augustine Tham

## **NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Kindly turn off your mobile phones or put them on silent mode!
"The Lord is in His holy temple: let all the earth keep silence before Him."

**Pray for Bro Chien Chong** as he prepares to speak from 2 Timothy 4:9-22. <u>Message title</u>: "*Alone and Yet Never Alone*."

Church Camp, 12-15 June (Wed-Sat). Camp theme: "True Disciple-ship in the Community." Speaker: Dr David Pardini. Let us come together for camp at I Hotel Baloi, Batam, Indonesia. Please sign up as soon as possible.

Church Camp briefing today. Please stay back immediately after worship service for a 10 minutes briefing.

Adult Fellowship will meet on Saturday, 29 June at 5:30 pm in Church. The topic will be on "Be An Active Intercessor As We Age." Speaker: Rev Peter Tan from Calvary Jurong BPC.

**Children's Holiday Program** on Thursday, 27 June. Time: 9:45 am - 11:30 am at M/M Richard Tan's home.

**Church Prayer Time** on Sunday, 30 June. Time 11:30 am - 12:15 pm.

**Floral/Refreshment** slot is available on 23 June.

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