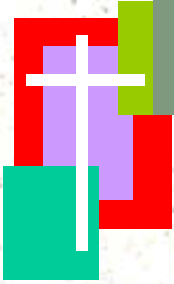


# Christian Message



KLANG CHURCH OF CHRIST

Volume No. XXI Issue No. 31

August 1, 2010

## Giving Glory to God

By Steven Chan



**J**ust before Jesus concluded His life mission on earth, He prayed to His Father: "I have glorified You on the earth. I have finished the work which You have given Me to do." (John 17:4). Jesus declared that it was His intention to glorify the Father and that he had done that by finishing the work that God had given Him. Interestingly, in 2 Tim 4:6-8 the apostle Paul expressed a similar sentiment: "For I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give to me on that Day, and not to me only but also to all who have loved His appearing." They had finished the race and finished the work that God had given them – in so doing they have glorified God.

God is to be glorified in all that we do: 1 Cor 10:31-33: "Therefore, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory

of God. Give no offense, either to the Jews or to the Greeks or to the church of God, just as I also please all men in all things, not seeking my own profit, but the profit of many, that they may be saved."

There are two aspects to this. The first aspect is to live in such a way that people will embrace God and praise God. A bible commentator observed thus: "We live to the glory of God when we honor him in all the relations which he sustains to us; when we keep his laws; when we partake of his favors with thankfulness, and with a deep sense of our dependence; when we pray unto him; and when we so live as to lead those around us to cherish elevated conceptions of his goodness, and mercy, and holiness. Whatever plan or purpose will tend to advance His kingdom, and to make him better known and loved, will be to His glory." (Albert Barnes)

Giving thanks to God for His blessings is giving glory to God. In Luke 17:17-18, "Jesus answered and said, "Were there not ten cleansed? But where are the nine? Were there not any found who returned to give glory to God except this foreigner?" We are sometimes asked why we need to pray before we eat our meals. It is because we want to express our thankfulness to God for His providential care and thereby give Him glory, acknowledging that He is our benefactor. Jesus expressed the same gratitude when He taught in the model prayer in Matt 6:11, that He taught us to pray "Give us this day our daily bread". In Matt

### Sermons in August : "How to be a Growing & God-Glorifying Christian"

- BY BEING A CHRISTIAN WHO DOES GOOD WORKS - KOAY CHUAN LEK
- BY BEING A CHRISTIAN WHO GROWS UNTO MATURITY - RICK KIRK
- BY BEING A CHRISTIAN WHO GLORIFIES GOD- RICHARD LIM
- BY SETTING HIS AFFECTION ON THE THINGS ABOVE - NG YEOW KONG
- BY BEING A SOUL-WINNER- STEVEN CHAN

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## Give Glory to God

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**“MANY STILL  
LIVE AS IF SELF-  
FULFILMENT OR  
SELF-  
GRATIFICATION  
IS THE SOLE  
OBJECTIVE OF  
THEIR LIVES”**

15:36, “He took the seven loaves and the fish and gave thanks, broke them and gave them to His disciples”. In Acts 27:35, the apostle Paul “took bread and gave thanks to God in the presence of them all; and when he had broken it he began to eat.” Giving thanks for our food in the presence of all, is giving glory to God. Yet, some brethren question why we need to pray before eating our meals. Should we not give glory to God for His provision?

Failing to give honour to God is deemed an action that is subject to serve punishment. An example of this is recorded for us in Acts 12:21-23: “So on a set day Herod, arrayed in royal apparel, sat on his throne and gave an oration to them. And the people kept shouting, “The voice of a god and not of a man!” Then immediately an angel of the Lord struck him, because he did not give glory to God. And he was eaten by worms and died.” Accepting honour for ourselves when it ought to be given to God meant that we do not honour God.

The second aspect of doing all to the glory of God is that we are not to do anything that would dishonour God and “put Him to an open shame” (Heb 6:6) or cause God or His Word to be “evil spoken” of. Hence, in our working relationships, we must behave in such a manner that “the name of God and His doctrine may not be blasphemed” (1 Tim 6:1). In Titus 2:3-5, “the older women likewise, (are exhorted to) be reverent in behavior, not slanderers, not given to much wine, teachers of good things-- that they admonish the young women to love their husbands, to love their children, to be discreet, chaste, homemakers, good, obedient to their own husbands, that the word of God may not be blasphemed.” False teachers would also cause the way of the truth to be evil spoken of: 2 Peter 2:1-2: “But there were also false prophets among the people, even as there will be false teachers among you, who will secretly bring in destructive heresies, even denying the Lord who bought them, and bring on themselves swift destruction. And many will follow their destructive ways, because of whom the way of truth will be blasphemed.” Notice that it warns of false teachers among the brethren who secretly bring in destructive heresies – they infiltrate secretly – not openly! Have we not seen that in so many instances? Unbeknownst to us, in the past we have discovered that some of our brightest young brethren had been secretly led into believing the cultic discipleship methodology

of Kip McKean and others of the then known Crossroads-Boston movement (now known as the International Churches of Christ); the trend continues today when the plain and simple teachings of the Bible are being denied and secretly replaced with complex and confusing teachings that even deny the fact that Jesus will come again at which time the dead will be raised (1 Thess 4:13-18), judgement will be carried out (Rev 20:11-15), coinciding with the end of the world (2 Pet 3:1-13) – and the unrighteous “will go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.” (Matt 25:34, 46). Indeed the Bible observes that “many will follow their destructive ways, because of whom the way of truth will be blasphemed.” So, don’t be surprised that “many will follow these false teachings”; the Bible has already forewarned us of that possibility. During the time of Jesus on earth, He also experienced the occasion when “many of His disciples went back and walked with Him no more” (John 6:66).

In 1 Cor 6:19-20, the Bible says: “you are not your own? For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's.” Christians, having been redeemed with the precious blood of Jesus Christ, are reminded that we belong to God and not to ourselves anymore. Hence, we are to make it our life purpose to glorify God in all things that we do in our lives. Many still live as if self-fulfilment or self-gratification is the sole objective of their lives. So, they are always seeking to do things that bring the greatest satisfaction and pleasure to themselves. The glorification of God is a mere incidental and not the primary focus of their lives! That was not the case with Paul as stated in Gal 2:20: “I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.” In 2 Cor 5:15, the Bible says: “He died for all, that those who live should live no longer for themselves, but for Him who died for them and rose again.”

In John 15:8, Jesus said: By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit; so you will be My disciples.” We need to conduct our lives in such a way that we bear much fruit and thereby bring great glory to our Father in heaven. Are we focused on doing that? Or, are we focused on the things of this world (Col 3:2)? May we give glory to God in all that we do.

## Our Visitors and Visiting Brethren



### VISITORS

July 23, 2010

- Ong Jae Wen (Guest of Tan Ern Shern)

July 25, 2010

- Ong Jae Wen (Tan Ern Shern)
- Chan Siew Meng (Richard Lim)
- Serene Ng (Leow Yew Chong)

### VISITING BRETHREN

July 23, 2010

- Sean Lim (Jurong)

July 25, 2010

- Sean Lim (Jurong)



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## Services This Week (August 1, 2010)

### Adult Bible Class

Lesson: Parables of Jesus - The Wise & Foolish Virgins (Mt 25:1-13)  
Teacher: Ng Yeow Kong

### Youth Bible Class

Lesson: Building Blocks of Faith  
Teacher: Steven Chan

### Worship

Lesson: By Being a Christian who does Good Works  
Preacher: Koay Chuan Lek

### Helpers

Communion: Ashley Quek & Suzie Rathgeber  
Floral Display: Karen Lum

### Statistics for week July 23 - 25, 2010

Friday Bible Class Attendance	-	68
Sunday Bible Class	-	76
Sunday English Worship	-	102
Children in attendance	-	24
Mandarin Worship	-	21
TOTAL SUNDAY ATTENDANCE	-	145

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## Services Next Week (August 8, 2010)

### Adult Bible Class

Lesson: Parables of Jesus - The Talents (Mt 25:14-30)  
Teacher: Richard Lim

### Youth Bible Class

Lesson: Building Blocks of Faith  
Teacher: Steven Chan

### Worship

Lesson: By Being a Christian Who Grows Unto Maturity  
Preacher: Rick Kirk

### Helpers

Communion: Neela & Julia  
Floral Display: So Lee Choo

Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth. (2 Tim 2:15)

# SPECKS & PLANKS

By Lydia Teh

“TO REMOVE THE PLANKS, WE NEED TO DO SOME CARPENTRY WORK USING THE BIBLE AS A TOOL AND A HUMBLE HEART AS THE WORKSHOP”

“ There was once a poor man who had only one little lamb. This little lamb grew up with him and his family and it was so close to him that it was like a daughter. In the same city lived a rich man who owned many livestock. When a traveler came to the rich man, he killed the poor man’s pet to provide hospitality instead of taking a lamb from his own flock.”

This was the parable told by the prophet Nathan to King David. The king was furious with the greedy rich man. “He should die and pay back fourfold to the poor man!” David pronounced immediate judgment not knowing that he was thus sentencing himself.

David was the rich man in the parable. He had slept with another man’s wife and made her pregnant. To cover up his tracks, he sent her husband to the front of the hottest battle to be killed. Then he took his widow as his wife. Though David did not recognize the magnitude of his sinful actions for what they were, he was quick to

see the sin of the rich man in Nathan’s story. (1 Sam 11 and 12).

Do we have a little bit of David in us? Other people’s faults are glaringly obvious to us but we are blind to the flaws in ourselves. When looking at other people, we use a magnifying glass. When we look at ourselves, we don’t bother to correct our short-sighted eyes.

The bible puts it better:

<sup>41</sup> And why do you look at the speck in your brother’s eye, but do not perceive the plank in your own eye? <sup>42</sup> Or how can you say to your brother, ‘Brother, let me remove the speck that *is* in your eye,’ when you yourself do not see the plank that *is* in your own eye? Hypocrite! First remove the plank from your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck that is in your brother’s eye. Luke 6:41-42

Are we walking around with planks in our own eyes? To remove the planks, we need to do some carpentry work using the bible as a tool and a humble heart as the workshop.



*Singspiration*  
*Workshop*  
with Bro Paul Goh  
September 4, 2010  
Register with Richard Lee  
at 012-3307763



**Friday, August 6, 2010**

**Refreshment:**

Cheng See  
Catherine Chirng  
Jacine Yee  
Jacqueline Tan  
Gan Leh Wah  
Olivia Daniel

**Clean Up:**

John Quek  
Raymond Chirng  
Ashley Quek  
Simon Yee  
Peter Tan  
Randall Chirng



**Monthly Review Meeting**

August 9, 2010

8.00 pm

**Annex Room A**



**Speak where the Bible speaks. Be silent where the Bible is silent.**

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*The Klang Church of Christ seeks to glorify its Founder and Head, Jesus Christ (Matt 16:18; Col 1:18), by proclaiming salvation on the same terms stated by Jesus in Mark 16:16: "He who believes and is baptized will be saved".*

*Having been born again (John 3:3-5) through baptism in water (Titus 3:5; Eph 5:26; 1 Pet 3:21; Rom 6:3-5), we acknowledge the Lordship of Jesus, that "Christ lives in me and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God" (Gal 2:20). Thus, like the apostle Paul we can say, "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me" (Phil 4:13).*

*We appeal to all believers to be united in love as desired by the Lord (John 17:20-23; 13:34,35) and that all may "speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among us, but that we be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment." (1 Cor 1:10).*

*Denominationalism does not feature in God's plan. We urge all to leave denominationalism and to be united in One Body (Eph 2:15-17) on the basis of what the Bible says (and to leave aside the teachings and traditions that are man-made as these are the cause of division among believers). "The churches of Christ greet you". (Rom 16:16)*

**We're on the web. Visit us at <http://www.klangchurchofchrist.org>**

Visit the Youth Blogsite at  
<http://youths-kcoc.blogspot.com>

Visit the Sunday School Blogsite at  
[www.ahadschool.blogspot.com](http://www.ahadschool.blogspot.com)

Subang Jaya Church of Christ  
21st Restoration Seminar



**Restoring The Bible Practice of  
Contending For  
the Faith** (Jude 5)

9.00am-1.00pm

Tuesday August 31, 2010

**11th Restoration Roundtable  
Benchmarking  
Best Practices of Meeting  
Doctrinal Differences**

2.30-4.00pm  
Tuesday August 31, 2010

**PRAYER REQUESTS**



- **Bro Han Seng** (Ipoh), who has been diagnosed with brain tumour, and urgently needed treatment as operation is impossible. His vision has been affected, and is undergoing treatment at the Nilai Cancer Center
- **Sis Rose Zaccheus** who has a cracked pelvic and needs 6 weeks to recover.
- **Sis Hooi Ling & Bro Kay Yeow**, whose father passed away this morning.
- Joanne, a friend of **Bro Loh Sze Liang**, who would be undergoing a heart operation