

Christian Message

KLANG CHURCH OF CHRIST

Volume No. XXI Issue No. 52

December 26, 2010

The Season of Giving & Receiving

By Steven Chan



As the world celebrates the season of giving and receiving, it may be appropriate for us to consider what the bible has to say about giving and receiving.

The Bible declares in John 3:16 that God gave us the greatest gift of all: "For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." 2 Cor 8:9: "For ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that ye through his poverty might be rich." God's gift of His only begotten Son was to enable us to have the Gift of Everlasting Life. No greater gift does a man need than that! This is the

Greatest Gift that we need to share with our friends and loved ones not only during this season of giving and receiving but throughout our lives here on earth.

It is important for us to have a generous spirit of giving as we can never out-give what we receive (can we out-give what God has given to us, what our teachers, friends and families have given to us; what our community has given to us, what our country has given to us, etc...?): In Luke 6:38, Jesus taught thus: "Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again." This is similar to the Golden Rule as stated in Mat 7:12 "Therefore all things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them: for this is the law and the prophets." We need to treat others as we want ourselves to be treated by others. If we refuse to give when it is in our power to do so, then when we are in need who can we expect to help us? Prov 3:27: "Do not withhold good from those to whom it is due, when it is in your power to do it."(ESV)

Sermons in January

- ALL THINGS ARE BECOME NEW - ONG ENG BOON
- NEW HEART & NEW SPIRIT - KOAY CHUAN LEK
- NEW DOCTRINE? - RICK KIRK
- NEW COVENANT - RICHARD LIM
- NEW EVERY MORNING - LIM CHONG TECK

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It is more blessed to give than to receive. (Acts 20:35)

“ ... GIVE
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”

Giving & Receiving

By giving, we store up treasures for our future so that we may take hold of eternal life: In Acts 20:35, the apostle Paul reminded the elders of the church at Ephesus “to remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he said, It is more blessed to give than to receive.” According to 1 Tim 6:18-19 those who “do good, and are rich in good works, generous and ready to share, store up treasure for themselves as a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of that which is truly life.” (ESV)

We need to give according to our ability: Acts 11:29: “Then the disciples, every man according to his ability, determined to send relief unto the brethren which dwelt in Judaea.” 1 Cor 16:2: “On the first day of the week, each of you should set aside and save some of your money in proportion to what you have, so that no collections will have to be made when I come.” (ISV)

We are encouraged to give even beyond our ability as provided by the great example of the poor churches in Macedonia as recorded in 2 Cor 8:1-5: “We want you to know, brothers, about the grace of God that has been given among the churches of Macedonia, for in a severe test of affliction, their abundance of joy and their extreme poverty have overflowed in a wealth of generosity on their part. For they gave according to their means, as I can testify, and beyond their means, of their own accord, begging us earnestly for the favor of

taking part in the relief of the saints-- and this, not as we expected, but they gave themselves first to the Lord and then by the will of God to us.” (ESV). Our Lord Jesus tells us in Luke 21:1-4 about the importance of giving regardless of how poor we may be or how little we can give: “Jesus looked up and saw the rich putting their gifts into the offering box, and he saw a poor widow put in two small copper coins. And he said, “Truly, I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all of them. For they all contributed out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty put in all she had to live on.” We may question whether it was wise of the woman to give “all that she had to live on” into the treasury of the temple to be used for the work of the Lord, but the Lord commended her for her generosity – she demonstrated her implicit faith in God’s ability to continue to provide for her needs. The Bible exhorts us in Heb 13:5 -6 to trust our Lord as our provider and helper: Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have, for he has said, “I will never leave you nor forsake you.” So we can confidently say, “The Lord is my helper; I will not fear; what can man do to me?” (ESV) The Bible tells us about the faith of Abraham who was prepared to give his only son to God, Isaac, as requested by God because he believed that God would be able to raise him up from the dead: Heb 11:17-19: “By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he

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who had received the promises was in the act of offering up his only son, of whom it was said, “Through Isaac shall your offspring be named.” He considered that God was able even to raise him from the dead, from which, figuratively speaking, he did receive him back.

In 2 Cor 9:6-12, the Bible teaches us the importance of being liberal and cheerful in our giving (some are cheerful in giving little but the Bible tells us to be both liberal and cheerful in our giving): “The point is this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work. As it is written, “He has distributed freely, he has given to the poor; his righteousness endures forever.” He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness. You will be enriched in every way, which through us will produce thanksgiving to God. For the ministry of this service is not only supplying the needs of the saints but is also overflowing in many thanksgivings to God.” (ESV) Apart from the relief for those in need, our giving also brings thanksgivings to



And when you offer the blind as a sacrifice, Is it not evil? And when you offer the lame and sick, Is it not evil? Offer it then to your governor! Would he be pleased with you? Would he accept you favorably?" Says the LORD of hosts. (Mal 1:8)

“ GIVING SHOULD COST US SOMETHING ”

Giving & Receiving

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God – and that’s how God’s name is glorified (Matt 5:16).

Giving should cost us something:

King David provided us a great example of sacrificial giving in 2 Sam 24:22-25: "Then Araunah said to David, "Let my lord the king take and offer up what seems good to him. Here are the oxen for the burnt offering and the threshing sledges and the yokes of the oxen for the wood. All this, O king, Araunah gives to the king." And Araunah said to the king, "May the LORD your God accept you. But the king said to Araunah, "No, but I will buy it from you for a price. I will not offer burnt offerings to the LORD my God that cost me nothing." So David bought the threshing floor and the oxen for fifty shekels of silver. And David built there an altar to the LORD and offered burnt offerings and peace offerings." God was not pleased when the worshippers in the Old Testament gave Him the lame and sick animals as their sacrifices: Malachi 1:8: "When you offer blind animals in sacrifice, is that not evil? And when you offer those that are lame or sick, is that not evil? Present that to your governor; will he accept you or show you favor? says the LORD of hosts."(ESV). What kind of gifts do we give to God and to our friends and loved ones? Do we give anything to God at all? In Malachi 3:10, God challenged the worshippers’ lack of faith and said thus: "Bring the full tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. And thereby put me to the test, says the LORD of hosts, if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour

down for you a blessing until there is no more need." (ESV)

Our God is the greatest Giver – He is Giver of our lives and all that we need. Let us therefore manifest our faith by being ever willing to give for His Glory – like Abraham, David, the poor widow and the early church. Our giving would become much easier when we realize the following truths:-

1. that all that we have has been given to us (1 Cor 4:7: "What do you have that you did not receive? If then you received it, why do you boast as if you did not receive it?") and that we are merely stewards of all that God has blessed us with (1 Pet 4:10) 1 Chronicles 29:11-14: "Yours, O LORD, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the victory and the majesty, for all that is in the heavens and in the earth is yours. Yours is the kingdom, O LORD, and you are exalted as head above all. Both riches and honor come from you, and you rule over all. In your hand are power and might, and in your hand it is to make great and to give strength to all. And now we thank you, our God, and praise your glorious name. "But who am I, and what is my people, that we should be able thus to offer willingly? For all things come from you, and of your own have we given you."

2. that we are merely stewards of all that God has given to us: 1 Peter 4:10: "As every man hath received the gift, even so minister the same one to another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God." "For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out. And having food and raiment let us be therewith content."(1Tim 6:7-8)

TAMIL CONGREGATION

The Tamil Section will begin worship services with effect from January 2011.

Schedule on Sunday:
Bible Class - 9.15 am
Worship - 10.30 am

Please pray for the spiritual and fruitful growth of this work.

BIRTHDAYS IN JANUARY

- 02 Valen Muthu
- 05 Lily Tan
- 10 Ronnie Lee & Tee Chee Khiong
- 24 Ho Chien Chern
- 28 Helena Tan
- 30 Tan Sze Yin



Our Visitors and Visiting Brethren



VISITORS

December 17, 2010

- Ong Jae Wen (Friend of Tan Ern Shern)
- Mandy Singh

December 19, 2010

- Ong Jae Wen (Friend of Tan Ern Shern)
- Chan Siew Meng (Richard Lim)
- Emily Yap
- Esther Yap
- Parameswary (Samson Samnas)

VISITING BRETHREN

December 17, 2010

- Tim Ing

- Sean Lim (Jurong)

December 19, 2010

- Oh Boon Chin (KK)
- Jonathan Chan (Ipoh)
- Calvin Soo (Ipoh)
- Yee Kai Wen (Ipoh)
- Tan Hui Yi (Ipoh)
- Janice Chan (Ipoh)
- Tan Jo Yin (Ipoh)
- Eunice Soo (Ipoh)
- Joshua Chan (Ipoh)
- Sean Lin (Jurong)
- Raymond Tan (Australia)

Services This Week (December 26, 2010)

Bible Class

Lesson: Blessings & Responsibilities of being a Christian
Teacher: Adrian Koay

Youth Bible Class

Lesson: Being Sober Minded
Teacher: Joel Kirk

Worship

Lesson: Shining Though Fear of God
Preacher: Rick Kirk

Floral Display

Mah Yit Mui

Helpers

Communion: Koay Chai Bee & Koay Ching Li

Statistics for week December 17-19, 2010

Friday Bible Class Attendance	-	54
Sunday Bible Class	-	79
Sunday School		
Teachers	-	9
Students	-	23
Sunday English Worship	-	107
Children in attendance	-	25
Mandarin Worship	-	19
TOTAL SUNDAY ATTENDANCE	-	151

Services Next Week (January 2, 2010)

Bible Class

Lesson: Our Public Assemblies
Teacher: Leow Yew Chong

Youth Bible Class

Lesson: In Doctrine Shewing Uncorruptness, Gravity, Sincerity
Teacher: Khoo TzeWei

Worship

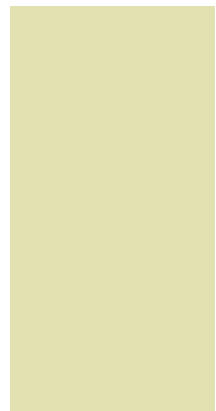
Lesson: All Things Are Become New
Preacher: Ong Eng Boon

Helpers

Communion: Heng Hui Teng & Claire Lee



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)



Church Program in January

01	Home Fellowship at Bukit Kuda	Koay Chuan Lek
02	Building Renovation Fund	
03	Monthly Review Meeting	Steven Chan
04	Home Fellowship Meeting at Kota Kemuning	Ong Eng Boon
07	Offering Praise of Our Lips/Prayers	Richard Lim/John Quek
14	Home Fellowship at Klang Jaya	Khoo Kay Yeow
18	Home Fellowship Meeting at Kota Kemuning	Ong Eng Boon

Sunday Sermons in January

02	All Things Are Become New	Ong Eng Boon
09	New Heart & New Spirit	Koay Chuan Lek
16	New Doctrine?	Rick Kirk
23	New Covenant	Richard Lim
30	New Every Morning	Lim Chong Teck

Sunday Bible Class in January

02	Our Public Assemblies	Leow Yew Chong
09	Principles of Prayer	Ng Yeow Kong
16	The Practice of Prayers	Richard Lim
23	Studying The Bible	Ronnie Lee
30	The Joy of Singing	Rick Kirk

Youth Bible Class in January

02	In Doctrine Shewing Uncorruptness, Gravity, Sincerity	Khoo Tze Wei
09	Sound Speech, that Cannot Be Condemned	Sean Lim
16	Living Soberly, Righteously and Godly in this Present World	Cheah Hao Qi
23	Looking For That Blessed Hope	Randall Chirng
30	Purify Unto Himself a Peculiar People, Zealous of Good Works	Lee Tiong Soon

PRAYER REQUESTS

- **Bro Charles Bishop**, former missionary in Klang, who is scheduled to have surgery on his back in January to have several vertebrae fused together.
- **Bro Guss Eoff** - for good health.
- **Bro Ong Eng Boon** - as he completes his preaching tour in Taiwan. He is expected home on December 28.
- **Bro Yeow Chin Kiong** - to recover completely from his recent surgery.

PRAISE OF OUR LIPS

Friday, January 7, 2011

Refreshment:

Quay Yam Suan
Quay Yam Kem
Mah Yit Mui
Chong Sui Hua
Low Poh Sim
Susila

Clean Up:

Khoo Kay Yeow
Stuart Lee
Bryant Lee
Ronnie Lee
Tan Chin Han
Richard Lim
Alfred Edwin
Joan Lee



The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge, (Prov 1:7)



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



Monthly Review Meeting
January 3, 2011, 8.00 pm
Annex Room A

Yearend Gathering

December 31, 2010, 8.00 pm

Join us to welcome 2011 with thanksgiving for the past year and God's blessings and strength to face the new year. Come and enjoy the food and fellowship.



BAPTISMS

1. Nixon Ng, a 62 year old retired army officer, was baptized late night of December 22, 2010. He has been studying with bro Richard Lee in TTDI.
2. Bro Robert Ong & sis Irene reported this week that the evangelism effort in Ezhou, China has been very fruitful when 11 souls were baptized on December 19, 2010 following the preaching of bro Goh Leong Chuan of Jurong, Singapore.

We rejoice with the brethren laboring in the vineyards in TTDI and China.