

Christian Message

KLANG CHURCH OF CHRIST

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October 3, 2010



Men ought always to pray, and not to faint

By Steven Chan

Have you become wearied and ceased praying? Why do some believers stop praying? Could it be because we live in a world where we have come to expect almost immediate satisfaction of our needs and when God does not immediately grant us what we asked we grow weary and ceased to pray? Could it also be because we have prayed but we did not receive what we had asked? Whatever may be the reason, have we stopped praying?

In Luke 18:1, the Bible tells us that Jesus "spoke a parable unto them to this end, that men ought always to pray, and not to faint."

The key point that Jesus emphasizes in this verse is that we ought always to pray.

There is no reason why we should cease praying. We ought always to pray – means that we should continue to "pray without ceasing" (1 Thess. 5:17); "continuing instant in prayer" (Rom 12:12); "praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints" (Eph 6:18).

Jesus underlines the importance of being constant in prayer by telling His disciples a parable regarding a widow's incessant and persistent plea to an unrighteous judge for justice against her adversary. His point was that even the unrighteous judge would eventually accede to the persistent plea of the widow – what more with God who loves and cares for us? "And shall not God avenge his elect that cry to him day and night and yet he is longsuffering over them?" (Luke 18:7). The rhetorical question clearly affirms that God will answer and give deliverance.

Earlier in Luke 11:5-13, Jesus related the account of a man seeking the urgent assistance of his friend for three loaves to be loaned to him so that he could provide

Sermons in October: "LOOKING UNTO JESUS"

- WHEN FACED WITH TRIALS & TEMPTATIONS - KOAY CHUAN LEK
- WHEN FACED WITH THE NEED TO SUFFER WRONGFULLY - RICK KIRK
- WHEN FACED WITH THOSE SEEK TO FIND FAULT WITH YOU - RICHARD LIM
- WHEN FACED WITH A SORROWFUL SITUATION - ALLEN TAN
- WHEN FACED WITH CHALLENGING SITUATIONS - STEVEN CHAN

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Pray Always



Behold, Jehovah's hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; neither his ear heavy that it cannot hear (Isaiah 59:1)

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for his guests, and how the friend would eventually loan him all the loaves that he needs just because of the persistence of the man. Jesus concludes with this teaching: “Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you: for every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened. Or what man is there of you, who, if his son shall ask him for a loaf, will give him a stone; or if he shall ask for a fish, will give him a serpent? If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children, how much more shall your Father who is in heaven give good things to them that ask him?” (Matt 7:7-11)

In at least two occasions, Jesus taught His disciples that they ought always to pray – and not give up or quit praying just because there is no apparent answer from God. In Luke 18:1, He said that men ought always to pray and not faint. To faint is to become tired, wearied and lacking in energy – implying the likelihood of giving up – perhaps our faith in God or our hope in God. In response to the possibility of His follow-

ers becoming tired, weak and likely to faint in their faith and hope, Jesus taught them to be persistent and constant in prayer – and never to give up this practice of prayer. Why? Because “He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not also with him freely give us all things?” (Rom 8:32) God has already given us the greatest gift – “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth on him should not perish, but have eternal life.” (John 3:16). Why would He not freely give us all things that we need? O ye of little faith.

As Isaiah declared in Isa 59:1: “Behold, Jehovah's hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; neither his ear heavy that it cannot hear”. Why then does not God grant us immediate deliverance even though He said that God will avenge them speedily? His explanation: “Nevertheless, when the Son of man cometh, shall he find faith on the earth?” Perhaps better understood in the light of 2 Pet 3:9: “The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some count slackness; but is longsuffering to you-ward, not wish-

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ing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.” The point that Jesus makes is that God will do His part in due course but when he avenges, will man remain faithful and in constant prayer – or will man have become wearied and fainted?

We have many struggles in life – some small and with temporal consequences; others may be significant and with permanent consequences. God's promise is that He will deliver us as we remain constant and persistent in prayer. In many instances, God's deliverance may be immediate (2 Tim 3:11; 4:17) whilst in other instances God's deliverance may be of a permanent nature – as in His coming to destroy Jerusalem or in the day of Judgment when all will be judged (2 Thess 1:7-10). God's ultimate deliverance is such that He is not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance. We need therefore to submit ourselves to His will – as Jesus Himself was submissive to His Father's will in Matt 26:39 - and be patient while remain constant in prayer.

Statistics for week September 24 – 26, 2010

Mandarin Gospel Meeting (Saturday)	-	73
Mandarin Gospel Meeting (Sunday)	-	45
Mandarin Bible Class	-	26
Sunday Bible Class	-	71
Sunday School		
Teachers	- 10	
Students	- 21	
Combined Worship	-	131
Children in attendance	- 30	
TOTAL SUNDAY ATTENDANCE	-	161

Our Visitors and Visiting Brethren



VISITORS

September 24, 2010

- Ong Jae Wen (Friend of Ern Shern)
- Goh Bee Eng (Mother of Allen Tan)
- Serene Ng,
- Ng Kim Lian (Sister of Serene)
- Ms Lee (Friend of Serene)
- (Chong Foo)

September 25, 2010

- Ong Jae Wen (Friend of Ern Shern)
- Goh Bee Eng (Mother of Allen Tan)

September 26, 2010

- Chan Siew Meng (Friend of Richard Lim)
- Ong Jae Wen (Friend of Ern Shern)
- Goh Bee Eng (Mother of Allen Tan)
- Joseph Choy, Daphne, Melissa, Nicolas & Garion
- Michael Ng
- Kim (Friend of Alix Tay)

VISITING BRETHREN

September 24, 2010

- Kwan Tai Choom & Sew Hua (LAP)

- Sean Lim (Jurong)
- Lawrence Chong, Peng Lee Lee & Wan Zen (Kota Kemuning)
- Robert & Irene Ong (Malacca)
- Kwan Tai Choom & Sew Hua (LAP)

September 25, 2010

- Kwan Tai Choom & Sew Hua (LAP)
- Oh Boon Chin (Kota Kemuning)
- Kwan Sik Hwa, Sing How & Jason (SJ)
- Yeow Chin Kiong & Amy (SJ)
- Leong Kam Wah (PJ 17)

September 26, 2010

- Kwan Tai Choom & Sew Hua (LAP)
- Wong Suah Lan (SJ)
- Sis Lim, Tina & Christine (Kota Kemuning)
- Alvin Lee (Kota Kemuning)
- Andrew & Kelly Koay (Kota Kemuning)
- Richard Lee (Cheras, KL)
- Easuraj & Stella Mary (KL)
- Sean Lim (Jurong, Singapore)
- Lim Yee Ann (Australia)
- Daniel Ooi (England)



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)

Services This Week (October 3, 2010)

Bible Class

Lesson: The Lost Coin
Teacher: Ng Yeow Kong

Youth Bible Class

Lesson: Believing in the God of Hope
Teacher: Randall Chirng

Worship

Lesson: When Faced with Trials & Temptations
Preacher: Koay Chuan Lek

Floral Display

Sherlyn Ho

Communion

Jacine Yee & Shirley Lee

Services Next Week (October 8 & 10, 2010)

Friday Bible Class

Lesson: The Prayer of Solomon in Dedicating the Temple
Teacher: Panir Santiago

Sunday Bible Class

Lesson: The Rich Man & Lazarus
Teacher: Richard Lim

Youth Bible Class

Lesson: Joy in Believing (Rom 15:3)
Teacher: Joel Kirk

Worship

Lesson: When Faced with the Need to Suffer Wrongfully (1Pet 2:18-25)
Preacher: Rick Kirk

Floral Display

Shirley Lee

Communion

Jacqueline Tan & Annie Yu



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
October 4, 2010, 8.00 pm
Annex Room A

CONDOLENCES

We extend our condolences to



Bro Raymond Chirng for the loss of his elder brother last Wednesday morning in a car accident in Kota Kemuning. Please remember Raymond and family during this time of bereavement.

PRAYER REQUESTS



- **Sis So Lee Choo** who is being treated for slipped disc.
- **Sis Michelle Bang** of the PJ Section 17 congregation who is recuperating from her recent operation
- **Sis Josephine's** 2 sisters:-
 1. Kathy Rajiah - breast cancer
 2. Lily Rajiah - bone grafting
- **Bro Guss Eoff** - undergoing surgery
- Our young family members who will be sitting for their upcoming exams.
 - PMR** - Daryl Kirk, Heng Jiao Faye, Kavita, Leow Huey Jean, Erica & Lim Jia Chin
 - SPM** - Bithiah, Leow Huey Shien, Ong Ee Ren, Isaac, Tan Ern Shern & Ong Jae Wen
 - STPM** - Lee Tiong Lay