

...The day of the Lord will come...

1 Thessalonians 5:2



VOL 11 NO 21
24 May 2020

10.30 am Live Streaming

Order of Service

Call to Worship

Meditative Hymn: Be Still for the Presence of the Lord

Scripture Reading: Acts 1:1-11 ESV

Message: "Ascension: Jesus Absent, Spirit Present"

Response Hymn: Holy Spirit, living breath of God

Corporate Life & Prayer

Offering

Benediction

Announcements

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Welcome

We are pleased to welcome you to worship with us! If you are new to Zion Bishan, do drop us a note on our contact form and our hospitality team will get in touch with you in the coming week. <http://www.zionbishan.org.sg/rf>

Our Sunday services at a glance

All physical services are cancelled until further notice.

Join us for our livestream

8.30am Mandarin & Cantonese service

10.30am English service

www.youtube.com/zionbishan

Join us for Zoom Services

(Registration required):

www.zionbishan.org.sg/services

8.45am/2.30pm

Domestic Helpers Fellowship

10.30am Tamil service

10.30am Mandarin-English service

Church Family News

1. Condolences to Keven Ang and Ng Weiling for the passing of Weiling's brother, Mr Ng Wei Cong on 9 May 2020.
2. Condolences to David Tock and Mabel Ong for the passing of David's mother, Mdm Choo Siew Hong on 16 May 2020.
3. Condolences to Eld Roland Low and Carol Tham for the passing of Carol's mother, Mdm Choy Wah Yin on 16 May 2020.
4. Congratulations to our Ministry Staff Dn Paul Yeo on his graduation with a Graduate Diploma in Christian Studies (with Hons.) from BGST on 23 May 2020. He was awarded with the Principal's Prize, and the History and Theology Prize.

Serving You Today

Speaker: Pastor David Wong

AV: Mr Vernon Quek

Songs for personal worship and reflection:

www.zionbishan.org.sg/songs-for-reflection

Looking Ahead

Friday, 29 May

8 pm: Zoom Prayer Meeting (Registration required):

www.zionbishan.org.sg/friday-prayer-meeting

Sunday, 31 May

Morning Service Livestream

“Whatever It Takes”

by Rev Dr Tan Soo Inn

Pastors and Ministry Staff

Rev Dr Alby Yip, <i>Senior Pastor</i>	9844 9536
Rev Dr Dev Menon, <i>Pastor</i>	9829 6051
Rev Zheng Haoren, <i>Pastor (Comm Dev't)</i>	6353 8081
Rev Ebinezar Mohan, <i>Pastor (Tamil)</i>	8198 9696
Rev Kew See Seong, <i>Pastor (Mand)</i>	9489 4967
Rev Lim Jit Thye, <i>Pastor (Cant-Mand)</i>	9182 6957
Rev Daniel Nge, <i>Pastor (Mand-Eng)</i>	8428 0525
Mrs Emily Quek, <i>Special Projects</i>	9001 2926
Mrs June Tan, <i>Children's Ministry</i>	8388 1883
Mrs Ruth Quek, <i>Children/Y. Adults</i>	9728 7145
Mrs Sharon Quek, <i>Trg/Mobilisation</i>	9788 0195
Mr Vernon Quek, <i>Y. Adults/Evang.</i>	9796 0196
Mr Linus Koe, <i>Family/Media</i>	9728 9343
Deacon Paul Yeo, <i>Hokkien Ministry</i>	9751 1897
Mr Quek Tze-Ming, <i>Assoc Min Staff</i>	9060 8340
Rev Dr David Wong, <i>Advisory Pastor</i>	
Rev Dr Quek Swee Hwa, <i>Pastor Emeritus</i>	

Confidential Care & Counselling e-mail:
care@zionbishan.org.sg

Ascension: Jesus Absent, Spirit Present

Acts 1:1-11

24 May 2020

Pastor David Wong

Crucifixion: the end?

Resurrection: no, only the beginning

Ascension: then, beginning of the end

1. Jesus Absent

John 16.7 Jesus goes, the Spirit comes

Earthly ministry comes to a close (mission accomplished, Luke 24.45-46)

Physical presence comes to an end

(preparation completed, Acts 1.3)

2. Spirit Present

“...you will be baptised with the Holy Spirit” (Acts 1.5)

Symbol becomes Reality

“...you will receive power” (Acts 1.8)

Words become Deeds

Wait, Witness, Watch

Questions for Reflection & Discussion

1. What is one thing you took away from the sermon about Jesus, about the Holy Spirit?
2. How did Jesus prepare His disciples for His absence?
3. How does the Spirit “come alongside” us in our lives? The “Helper” (ESV) or “Counsellor” (NIV) in John 14-16 means “Someone who comes alongside”

Prayer Points

Our Church

Ascension – Before our Lord Jesus was carried up to heaven He said to His disciples “Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, and that repentance for the forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations... You are witnesses of these things.” (Luke 24:46-48) Pray we will be faithful witnesses of Christ.

ZB COVID-19 Mission Relief Fund — In the light of the recent announcements on extended measures post-Circuit Breaker, Session has approved the continuation of meal deliveries to our community and the housing of the five S3P guests from 2 June to 31 July. We thank God that the number of people we are able to engage with through the meals has gone up to almost 160. Do pray for God's love to touch them and the guests in our church.

Also, please pray for God's continued enabling to be upon our ministry partners in Lebanon, India, Indonesia, and Nepal as they persevere in food relief projects which are growing in demand because of extended lockdowns.

Our People

Paul Yeo – Praise God for seeing him through his Graduate Diploma in Christian Studies at BGST! He graduates with honours and two other awards. Thank God for his faithful service and

diligent studies. Pray for Paul as he continues to the next level of theological education. Pray that he will be further equipped for his work in ministry.

Bereavement – Pray for our families who have lost loved ones this past week. Especially in this time of the Circuit Breaker, it is difficult to be physically present to share in their time of sorrow. May the church surround those bereaving by praying for our God to bring peace and love into their hearts.

Our World

West Asia – Our ministry partner reports that the pandemic has allowed Christians in his country to demonstrate the love of Christ through the distribution of food. The very few Christians there face great discrimination from the majority religious group. Pray for more Christians from the global Church to come, live and work in this country. Pray that citizens of this country will encounter the love of Christ and understand how Jesus is the living water to their thirsty souls.

Ipoh Tamil Fellowship – Thank God for Ps Ebi and Priya who have been nurturing the faith of this group for the past few years. Pray for continued growth in faith of the 25 Tamil-speaking Christians and seekers. Due to travel restrictions, Ps Ebi has been unable to meet with them since March. A Zoom Bible study has been started for those who can attend. Praise God for the help also of Ps Zadok, a local Tamil Pastor in Ipoh.

Last Week

Service	Attendance	Offering (\$)
English 10.30 Livestream	*523	7,370.00
Chinese 8.30 Livestream	*97	80.00
Tamil Zoom	23	
ME Zoom	53	
DHF Zoom	32	
TOTAL	728	

*Peak concurrent viewers on livestream

Electronic Transfer	\$52,657.75
WEEKLY TOTAL	\$60,107.75

Weekly offering to meet budget for 2019/20: \$62,189

ZB COVID-19 Mission Relief Fund

Total Received to-date	\$122,191.00
Giving Received from 4 May to 10 May	\$8,534.00
Amount Disbursed	\$16,080.60

Land Lease Renewal Fund

Gift No. 1541	125.00
Electronic Transfer	\$11,423.25
Weekly Total	\$11,548.25

(Weekly Target: \$113,854)

Total To Date	\$4,241,186.25
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Info for Giving

For tithes and offering:

General & Missions Fund

DBS Current A/C: 070-901056-3

PayNow: T10SS0029GGMF

ZION BISHAN BP CHURCH



To donate towards the

ZB COVID-19 Mission Relief Fund:

General & Missions Fund

(Use information above)

Indicate "CV19 MRF" in remarks

To give towards the

Land Lease Renewal Fund:

General Project Fund

DBS Current A/C: 070-901055-5

PayNow: T10SS0029GGPF

ZION BISHAN BP CHURCH – GPF

(please indicate Land Lease

Renewal Fund on back of cheque)

Please provide your CONTACT NUMBER on each cheque



Your Response

24 May 2020

Thank you for joining us today!
If there's anything you would like the church to know, do reach out to us online or via email.

Get in touch with us:

- If you are joining us for the first time
- to find out more
- to request prayer
- to provide feedback
- to send a word of encouragement

You may find our response form www.zionbishan.org.sg/rf

Or email us at office@zionbishan.org.sg

Confidential care & counselling matters, please email care@zionbishan.org.sg

Please note that the church will retain and use your submitted data as needed to process your indicated response.

Clean Hands, Pure Hearts, and Beautiful Feet

The Circuit Breaker has had a terrible effect on human relationships: silence and distance (“keep your droplets to yourself”). But at the same time, we’ve seen new opportunities open up for discipleship and mission.

We’ve gone door and door to distribute care packages to the vulnerable elderly at Golden Jasmine. We’ve been delivering food to needy families in Bishan and in Shun Fu; We are providing hospitality to a few guest stayers on our church premises. The Living Room continues to serve guests (takeaway only), and regularly contributes food for the programs described above.

All this is possible because of the many volunteers who have stepped forward, and the generous contribution of members to the Mission Relief Fund. Imagine the thanksgiving that this is generating to the Lord! (2 Cor. 9:12)

What about our Home Missions ministries pre-Covid19? They are actively exploring ways and means to continue. For example, our soccer ministry has been having online training sessions; our Domestic Helper Fellowship zoom meetings have also been registering a good turnout! Thanks be to God!

I’d like us to consider how all these activities are more than just mission taskings to fulfil. They are an exercise in discipleship. If we have been discipled rightly, convicted by the Word, we would (as much as we are able) be on the look out for opportunities to serve. The ministry of service and hospitality will be “in our DNA”. Then at various points in our lives, many of us would have heard the Spirit’s prompting in our lives – “You see that person over there? Go speak to him. Go offer your help.” Everything depends on whether or not we will obey. Each decision makes us either more responsive to the Spirit, or more hardened. Then down the rabbit hole we go.

And as we step forward to serve, be open to all that God will teach you. Here are some ‘lessons’:

We may learn how blessed we are.

We may realize how impatient and selfish we are.

We may grasp more of the depth of sin – personal and systemic sin.

We may discover how human our neighbour is. And that it will not do to see them as ‘projects’, or to help them in a ‘one off’ manner. Because they are human too.

We may grow in compassion for the last, the lost and the least.

Our prayer life may be deepened, as we persevere for the ones we are reaching.

God may open our eyes to see how loving He is (and patient with us!).

God may give us insight into the heart of God... as we practice being His hands and His feet, the word made flesh.

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Announcements

Notice of Postponement of Annual Congregational Meeting

The Session has sent out the notice of postponement for the annual ACM to all members on 15 May. If any member has any queries or clarifications, please email office@zionbishan.org.sg by 30 May.

Rest Day for Pastoral Staff (A Request from HR Committee)

We thank God for our team of dedicated pastoral staff who are readily accessible to members for pastoral care and counselling matters throughout the week. Most of our pastors have their off-day on Mondays except for one on Wednesday so that at least a pastor is available on Monday. The arrangement is to allow the pastors to have their proper rest and time with their own families during their day off. Please be mindful to allow our Pastors to rest on their off-day, except for very urgent matters.

Quarantine and Lockdown: What on Earth is God Doing? ADC by Ps David Wong 8.00pm – 9.15pm, Thursdays

This ADC has 2 sessions remaining, held on Thursdays 28 May & 4 June.

Zoom invite will be provided via email

Sign up here:

www.zionbishan.org.sg/adc-QnL

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All of this is discipleship, the God-appointed journey of life where His abiding interest is to shape us to become more like Him, reflecting the beauty of Jesus. Perhaps we should not be surprised at how God can do glorious things even in the midst of a pandemic. Even in us.

Quarterly Prayer and Praise 29 May, Friday, 8.00-9.00pm

The bi-weekly Overseas Ministry Partner (OMP) Prayer meeting and Friday Prayer Fellowship will be combined this week at our quarterly prayer and praise.

Featuring OMPs from Lebanon and India, we will be hearing and praying for them.

Do sign up at this link to receive the Zoom invite:

www.zionbishan.org.sg/pray-omp

Under the Wings of God: Lessons from Ruth for Troubled Times 6 Free BGST Videos

BGST has produced specially for this season a video study on the book of Ruth: How it was then, and how we can apply the lessons to our local context in our times.

The videos can be accessed here:

<https://www.bgst.edu.sg/the-ruth-series>

Zion Bishan Kindergarten Reopens 2 June

ZBK will be commencing on their 3rd term in June. Students may return by cohorts as follows:

K1 and K2 children from 2 June

N1 and N2 children from 8 June

Do pray for a smooth process for the reopening.