

Why does he say we need to be born again?  
Can I believe Him without seeing him?  
**Who is Jesus?**  
What is the life that He offers?



FOR GOD SO LOVED THE WORLD, THAT HE GAVE HIS ONLY SON, THAT WHOEVER BELIEVES IN HIM SHOULD NOT PERISH BUT HAVE ETERNAL LIFE. - JOHN 3:16

**English Services & Livestream**

*VOL 12 NO 50*  
**12 December 2021**

***Order of Service***

Call to Worship

Gloria Patri

Opening Hymn: Come Behold the Wondrous Mystery

Scripture Reading: John 9:1-11; 35-41 ESV

Message: Jesus, the Light of the World

Response Hymn: Amazing Grace

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

### **In-Person Sunday Services**

*(Registration required):*

[www.zionbishan.org.sg/services](http://www.zionbishan.org.sg/services)

**8.30am** Mandarin/Cantonese service

**9.00am** Hokkien service

**9.30am** Tamil Service

**10.30am/1.00pm/3.00pm/5.00pm**

English service

**11.00am** Mandarin-English service

### **Join us for our livestream**

[www.youtube.com/zionbishan](http://www.youtube.com/zionbishan)

**8.30am** Mandarin & Cantonese service

**10.30am/1.00pm/3.00pm/5.00pm**

English service

### **Join DHF Bible Study Groups**

*(Registration required):*

[www.zionbishan.org.sg/dhf](http://www.zionbishan.org.sg/dhf)

**8.45am** Domestic Helpers Fellowship 1  
(English, Tagalog & Myanmar groups)

**2.30pm** Domestic Helpers Fellowship 2  
(Indonesian group)

**9.15pm** Domestic Helpers Fellowship 3  
(in English)

### **Join Children/Youth Discipleship Classes**

*(Registration required):*

[www.zionbishan.org.sg/cd-yd](http://www.zionbishan.org.sg/cd-yd)

### **Songs for personal worship and reflection:**

[www.zionbishan.org.sg/songs](http://www.zionbishan.org.sg/songs)

## Serving You Today

### **Speakers:**

Ps Ebi Mohan (10.30am & 1 pm)

Mr Danny Chua (3 pm & 5 pm)

### **10.30am**

*Service Coordinator:* Dn Sunil Peter

*Worship Leader:* Eld Foo Say Chiang

*AV:* Goh Han Teck, Gary Lee, Steven Tan

*Musicians:* Morning Team 3

*Song Leader:* Kwek Khee Leng

### **1.00pm**

*Service Coordinator:* Dn Joseph Chan

*Worship Leader:* Dn Tay Beng Hwee

*AV:* Sean Yang, Cassandra Chng, Matthew Neo

*Musicians:* Morning Team 3

*Song Leader:* Kwek Khee Leng

### **3.00pm**

*Service Coordinator:* Jacqueline Lie

*Worship Leader:* Eld Michael Gan

*AV:* Melissa Leong, Tay Choon Yee, Jared Koh

*Musicians:* Afternoon Team 4

*Song Leader:* Moses Thia

### **5.00pm**

*Service Coordinator:* Danny Chua

*Worship Leader:* Dn Chan Kin Yip

*AV:* Abraham Lee, Jonathan Teo

*Musicians:* Afternoon Team 4

*Song Leader:* Soon Da Yong

## Pastors and Ministry Staff

E-mail: *user ID* followed by [@zionbishan.org.sg](mailto:@zionbishan.org.sg)

Rev Dr Alby Yip, *Senior Pastor* *alby*

Rev Dr Dev Menon, *Pastor* *dev*

Rev Zheng Haoren, *Pastor* *zhenghr*

Rev Ebinezar Mohan, *Pastor (Tamil)* *ebi*

Rev Kew See Seong, *Pastor (Mand)* *sskew*

Rev Lim Jit Thye, *Pastor (Cant-Mand)* *jtlim*

Rev Daniel Nge, *Pastor (Mand-Eng)* *daniel*

Rev Vernon Quek, *Pastor* *vernon*

Mrs Emily Quek, *Special Projects* *emily*

Mrs June Tan, *Children's Ministry* *june*

Mrs Ruth Quek, *Children/Y. Adults* *ruth*

Mrs Sharon Quek, *Trg/Mobilisation* *sharon*

Mr Linus Koe, *Family Ministry/Media* *linus*

Mr Danny Chua, *AG/Safeguarding* *danny*

Mr Paul Yeo, *Hokkien Ministry* *paul*

Mr Quek Tze-Ming, *Assoc Min Staff* *tzeming*

Mr Ng Zhiwen, *Community Engagement* *zhiwen*

Rev Dr David Wong, *Advisory Pastor*

Rev Dr Quek Swee Hwa, *Pastor Emeritus*

### **Confidential Care & Counselling e-mail:**

[care@zionbishan.org.sg](mailto:care@zionbishan.org.sg)

# **Jesus, the Light of the World**

John 9:1-11; 35-41

## **Introduction**

### **1. Light sees the blind (1-5)**

### **2. Blind sees the world (6-11)**

### **3. Blind sees the Light (35-41)**

## **Conclusion:**

“Can see or not?”

## **Questions for Reflection and Discussion:**

1. What’s your first impression on seeing someone blind?
2. What’s your understanding of ‘spiritual eyes’?
3. “Can see or not?” What’ll be your answer?

## *Prayer Points*

### **Our Church**

**Christmas Services (25 Dec)** – Thank God for Jesus! As we celebrate and remember Christ’s birth, pray for many to invite friends and family to our Christmas Services. Pray for receptive ears and hearts to receive the invitations and gospel message. Pray also for the team organising the services, having to manage the registration, safe management and livestreaming.

**Land Lease Renewal** – Pray for the team that will be meeting with SLA on 14 Dec. Pray for a favourable response from the government for our land lease renewal process as God continues to lead us to serve Him in this community.

**Church Staff** – The Pastors, Ministry and Admin staff will be gathering for their annual appreciation lunch, on 14 Dec, in groups of five. Thank God for seeing the team through another year, pray for His grace and strength for the year ahead.

### **Our People**

**Senior Pastor Alby Yip** – has been appointed the Advisory Pastor of Emmanuel BP Church in the interim period until the church appoints her own pastor. Keep in prayer EBPC's continued well-being and also for Ps Quek's transition into a fresh season of ministry as the Pastor-at-Large.

### **Our World**

**Brother S Thulung** – helps our partners in India. Pray for his father, aged 79, who

was diagnosed with cancer in the upper gastrointestinal tract. Pray that his father would have a smooth procedure this week to insert an oesophageal stent to keep the food pipe open and to enable the intake of essential nutrients. He was finding it increasingly hard to swallow or drink. We thank God that he was able to get an earlier appointment for this procedure in a UK hospital. Pray also for God’s wisdom for the family as they decide on care arrangements.

**India** – Pray for our partners who are travelling and visiting the fields during this month, doing outreaches and Christmas celebrations. Pray for the attendees of these events to be open to the Gospel. One partner has also requested prayers for field workers who are not well.

**Myanmar** – There has been a growing culture of celebrating “Sweet December” in Myanmar, which ushers in a festive holiday mood. It has spread from local Christians and has been embraced by the general population. Pray for Myanmar Christians to share the “sweetness” of Christ with their friends and neighbours during this time of the year.

**Nepal** – Last month, we thanked God for answered prayer for a suitable venue for a Children’s Home in village D. This week, we are thankful to God for the very speedy approval of the local permit required to run this Children’s Home. Pray for the smooth renovation of this building that will need to carry on throughout winter to be ready by early 2022 to house 15 orphans.

## Last Week

Sunday Service	Attendance	Offering (\$)
English Service Livestreams#	226	
English Service 10.30am	214	1,000.00
English Service 1pm	101	
English Service 3pm	121	
English Service 5pm	110	
Mand/Cant Livestream#	47	
Mand/Cant 8.30#	114	6,665.00
ME Service & Zoom	55	
Hokkien Service	29	31.00
Tamil Service	15	
DHF	20	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1052</b>	<b>7,696.00</b>

All in-person attendance includes serving personnel

#Livestreaming peak concurrent viewers

Electronic Transfer	\$59,634.48
<b>WEEKLY TOTAL</b>	<b>\$67,330.48</b>

Weekly offering to meet budget for 2021/22: \$65,298

### ZB COVID-19 Mission Relief Fund

Total Received to-date	\$338,494.33
Giving Received from 22 Nov – 28 Nov	\$1,200.60
Amount Disbursed to-date	\$265,926.38

### Land Lease Renewal Fund

Gift No: 1783-84	\$915.00
Electronic Transfer	\$24,617.87
<b>Weekly Total</b>	<b>\$25,532.87</b>
<i>(Weekly Target: \$118,238)</i>	
<b>Total Gift Received To-Date</b>	<b>\$8,263,430.98</b>
<b>Total Interest-free loan collected To-Date</b>	<b>\$3,908,000.00</b>

## Church Family News

1. Congratulations to Jun Wei and Melinda on the birth of their son, Jayden Ong Kai Xuan on 2 Dec 2021.
2. Congratulations to Goh Sze Lyn on her marriage to Joseph Lee on 11 Dec 2021.
3. There will not be any Prayer Meeting on Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve.
4. Pastor Alby is preaching at Emmanuel BP Church this morning.
5. Our Admin Manager David Tock will be leaving his position, for family reasons, to take up a job in the industry he used to work in. His last day of service with us will be 5 Jan 2022. Do pray for God's continued provision and grace for him and his family and for his assimilation in his new job.

## 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:

(Use GMF 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

Indicate "Land Lease Renewal Fund" on back of cheque

(Please provide your CONTACT NUMBER on each cheque)

## Looking Ahead

**Friday, 17 Dec**

**8.00pm:** Zoom Prayer Meeting

(Register at [www.zionbishan.org.sg/fpm](http://www.zionbishan.org.sg/fpm))

**Saturday, 18 Dec**

**4.00pm:** Youth Fellowship

(Register at [www.zionbishan.org.sg/yf](http://www.zionbishan.org.sg/yf))

**Sunday, 19 Dec (Reception of Members)**

English Worship Services

(Register at [www.zionbishan.org.sg/english-services](http://www.zionbishan.org.sg/english-services))

**10.30am**

*Shepherding Team:* Ps Alby Yip, Eld Foo Say Chiang & Eld Chuah Chin Yew

**1.00pm**

*Shepherding Team:* Ps Zheng Haoren, Ng Zhiwen, Eld Sonny Tan & Eld David Leong

**3.00pm**

*Shepherding Team:* Ps Alby Yip, Ps Vernon Quek, Eld Roland Low & Eld Michael Gan

**5.00pm**

*Shepherding Team:* Ps Dev Menon, Eld Jeffery Lim & Eld Reginald Tan

## Christmas Evangelistic Series

**19 Dec** John 10

*Mr Quek Tze-Ming / Mr Ng Zhiwen*

**25 Dec** Christmas

*Ps Dev*

**26 Dec** John 20

*Mr Ng Zhiwen / Mr Quek Tze-Ming*

## Your Response

12 December 2021

*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](http://www.zionbishan.org.sg/rf)*

*Or email us at [office@zionbishan.org.sg](mailto:office@zionbishan.org.sg)*

*Confidential care & counselling matters, please email [care@zionbishan.org.sg](mailto:care@zionbishan.org.sg)*

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

THANKS FOR YOUR RESPONSE!

## Wilderness

*"...my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water."*

*Psalm 63:1b*

Psalm 63 is linked to King David's days as a refugee. It could refer to his fleeing from King Saul (1 Samuel 23:14-15) or from his son Absalom (2 Samuel 15:23, 28). Regardless, it was in the wilderness that King David missed God the most and desired deeply to be in His presence.

To many of us, the Covid-19 pandemic is like a long wandering in the wilderness. It began with some degree of fear and trepidation. When the national lockdown came, novelty gave way to grave concerns. Daily life and economic activities slowed down significantly. The church immediately stepped up on the pastoral care of its members.

The following months were a roller coaster ride. There was no silver lining in the horizon. By the end of 2020, the boundaries of this wilderness remained elusive, out of sight.

The global rollout of vaccines against the Covid-19 virus in early 2021 brought cheer to many and reservation to others. Social and economic activities began to pick up, only to regress due to the resurgence of Delta variant infections.

The cost to the spiritual well-being of churchgoers arising from this recent setback seems to take a different form this time round. More are taking to the convenience of online church services. And now we have another potential threat from the Omicron variant. We are coming to the end of the second year in the wilderness. What are your reflections for 2021?

I would like to offer two brief thoughts, both optimistic. Firstly, I see that **this wilderness experience strengthens our confidence in God**. The social restrictions arising from this pandemic have led many to revisit the meaning of a personal relationship with God and the worship of Him.

When King David cried out desperately in *Psalm 63:1a*, "*O God, you are my God; earnestly I seek you; my soul thirst for you;*" he meant that when he sought God, God will be there and He will meet his need at that hour! In other words, King David had complete confidence in God even though he was wandering in the wilderness of Judah, not knowing what the future held. In this pandemic, do our hearts cry out to God like King David did when he became a refugee?

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## Announcements

### Christmas Day Services

**25 Dec, 10.30am & 5.00pm, Saturday**

Come, invite your family and friends, to celebrate Jesus' birthday. Through carols, Bible readings, and a message, hear the story anew and tell those you have invited why Christmas is

**"Good News of Great Joy!"**

There will be **two** worship services on Christmas Day. Each maximum 280pax (Vaccinated). Only the 10.30am service will be live-streamed.

Please register here:

[www.zionbishan.org.sg/christmas](http://www.zionbishan.org.sg/christmas)

**Registration closes on Dec 13, Monday.**

Please register early to aid planning for the services.

### Doorstep Distribution on 20-21 Dec & Friendship Meal on 23 Dec

40 volunteers and befrienders are needed for both events. A simple training for friendship meal befrienders will be held via Zoom (TBC).

Sign up by 13 Dec on [bit.ly/friendshipdec21](http://bit.ly/friendshipdec21).

### Home Missions Opportunities 2022

God has given us many opportunities in Zion Bishan to reach different groups of people locally for Christ. Prayerfully consider serving in one of these areas next year or indicate your responses to find out more at [tinyurl.com/ZBHM2022](http://tinyurl.com/ZBHM2022) by the end of the year.

### WOZ: The Beautiful Women – Seeing Yourself as God Sees You.

**8 Jan, 10.00-11.00am, Saturday, Zoom**

Speaker: Shi Lim.

Contact Lydia @8338 3982 for the Link.

### Faith at Home Series

**Continues 18 Dec, 2.00pm, on Zoom**

Inviting all parents with children 0-6 years old to join the Family Ministry's (FaM) Faith at Home series!

Series dates and sessions:

18 Dec – Family Devotions

8 Jan – Blessing Our Children

15 Jan – Sitting in Big Church

Register at [www.zionbishan.org.sg/fah](http://www.zionbishan.org.sg/fah)

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Secondly, I see that **this wilderness experience declutters our hearts**. When King David expressed in Psalm 63:3 "Because your steadfast love is better than life, my lips will praise you." he meant that he wanted God more than he wanted life. He wanted God more than all the joys of this life – in our context it would be food, job-satisfaction, achievements, books, cars, electronic devices, music, sports, travel, etc.

King David saw through the subtle idolatry of the things in life and exemplified for us the yearning for the greater beauty of the Giver rather than the beauty of the gifts. God is pleased with decluttered hearts. Is your heart too cluttered?