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Church Camp 2022 – Testimonies

The church camp was held from 16-18 Jun after a 2-year hiatus due to Covid-19. We are thankful to God for the 44 participants of which 26 were stay-in campers. From senior folks to young students, we are grateful to enjoy each other's fellowship and learn of God's messages of Ambition, Communication and Relationship by Pastor Jack Sin. It was indeed a time of learning, sharing, and experiencing the wonderful Word of our Lord in a communal environment. Praise the Lord! Praise God also for the morning devotion led by Elder Jeffrey Cheong and Elder Sim Siang Kok.



Camp Committee: Pastor, Paul Kong, Joseph, Paul Tan, Dn Yue Kay

The Lord has been gracious too in granting us a day of fine weather in our outing to Pulau Ubin. 20 of us visited a part of Singapore that has been left rather untouched to enjoy its foliage and fauna. Some walked while others cycled. We were glad to have this opportunity for Christian bonding. Lastly, we thank God for providing a wonderful premise in Changi Cove for our camp. It was God's providence to secure the last available dates with the hotel. The busy school holiday month of Jun saw many churches taking up each weekend.

As one who was tasked to liaise all hotel matters, I was pleasantly surprised that the hotel had provided coffee and tea for all our tea breaks which they mentioned previously only hot water is available. Thank God for this wonderful gesture from the hotel.

The camp ended with a sumptuous farewell lunch at a nearby restaurant. We are glad to hear participants especially those from other churches looking forward to join our church camp next year.

Praise God for His blessings on each participant and may the lessons we learnt, and His Precious Word continue to strengthen and guide us in our daily lives.

Paul Tan,
Camp Committee

Han Kin Kheng: A Blessed Time with The Family of God

Church Camp 2022 is back in action @ Sovereign Hope BPC! It seemed so "strange" to me after a lapse of 3 years due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

But, by the grace of God, my eldest sister Kin Hoong & I, together with both of our Myanmar helpers, Say Poe & Phaw, were amongst the 44 participants @ Changi Cove from June 16th to 18th for our 3rd Church Camp with 'Biblical Precepts for a Vibrant Christian Walk' as its theme and Colossians 1v10 'That ye may walk worthy of The Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God' as its theme verse.

The Camp Committee's dedicated labour of love enabled us to be spiritually, physically & mentally re-charged. Personally, it was a Refreshing, Reflecting & Rewarding time spent there with brethren from Sovereign Hope & other BP churches as well.

Memories are short & failing us, especially for seniors like myself! I need constant reminders to rely on God & to submit in totality unto Him as I continue to sojourn on in this earthly life.



As a primary school teacher of 34 years, my motto was, '**Walk My Talk**'. These 3 words are simple words. But, it is a tall order to execute & achieve unless one is walking intimately with God. Now that I am into my 9th year of retirement, I am even more susceptible to moving away from God. I am very much aware of it for at many a time, I do succumb to temptations to 'take a break' from my fellowship with God! However, I am also reminded, prompted by the Holy Spirit of my retirement tag line: 'I retire to re-fire my life for God.'



Thank God for His sustaining grace & mercy and patience over me, awaiting for my repentance as I had shifted my focus on Him. Sin has set in to hinder me from reflecting the loving kindness of God and receiving His blessings. However, God is faithful and in His perfect timing, He brought to my remembrance the following verses to put me back on track with Him.

Ecclesiastes 12v13: “Fear God, and keep his commandments, for this is the whole duty of man.” . . . and from Acts 20v24: “. . . to testify the gospel of the grace of God.” . . . as well as Genesis 1v27: ‘So God created man in his own image. . . ‘ and Colossians 1v10 (Camp Theme Verse).



Creativity is not needed in our reverential worship and communion with God, but, a humble, receptive and repentant heart. Together with Praying Earnestly & Fervently and Serving the Lord Sincerely & in God’s will, I pray that I will be enabled to continue A Vibrant Christian Walk with Him.

ALL GLORY and PRAISE to GOD. Amen

Han Kin Hoong: With a Grateful Heart

After a period of a 2-year absence of the annual church camp, due to Covid 19, our church finally organised one this year, from 16th - 18th June 2022.

I am profoundly grateful to Almighty God for this privilege to be able to attend this church camp with my family, comprising my sister Kin Kheng and our Myanmar domestic helpers, Say Poe and Phaw.

I thank God for preserving me all this time with good health and strength that enabled me to attend this spiritual retreat that had as its theme, “Biblical Precepts for A Vibrant Christian Walk”.



I also wish to thank the Camp Commandant & his Camp Committee, our Pastor Jack & Sister Angie, all the guest speakers, the Evening Room Facilitators, participants from other churches and everyone who had helped behind the scenes, in one way or another, to make this church retreat a resounding success.

I had benefitted tremendously from this edifying church retreat, whereby through the timely and relevant camp messages delivered by prolific, eloquent speakers as well as the practical and lively follow- up discussions on each message, I had been duly reminded of:

- i) seeking God, His Word and His Will for my life,
- ii) loving, worshipping and glorifying God,
- iii) living a prayerful life, reflective of His teachings and commandments, “that we might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God”. (Col. 1:10)

Besides that, we had time to socialize and get to acquaint ourselves with new Christian friends as well as to bond with old friends after the sharing sessions in the evening reflections activities.



Listening to all the 3 thematic messages expounded during this church, I had been duly prompted to examine my life on this earthly sojourn, during which the Lord had been graciously and abundantly blessing me with peace, joy, long-suffering, patience, love, guidance, good health, strength and fortune as well as protection from evil. I had always thanked God and affirmed God's mercies and blessings, in good times and also in challenging times, throughout my life.

As a result of this affirmation of God's loving kindness to me, I became mindful of my own actions, that I would caution myself if that action was unedifying or sacrilegious, and thus restrain myself from doing it. This is not a claim that I am a perfect person. Far from it!! I am just a sinner saved by grace. Many a time I had succumbed to the daily vicissitudes of life and fallen short of God's expectations, especially in daily devotion and prayer.

I realised that I needed to walk my talk fervently, to continually seek Him and His will for my life by studying His Word so that I could apply His biblical precepts to achieve that end and to be more fervent in my prayers, to be not only hearers but actual do-ers of His will, to lead a life based on His statute that "we love one another as God has loved us".

Finally, I reaffirm to honour God and His faithfulness by fearing God and having a humble, repentant and receptive spirit and testifying His Gospel of Grace, so that I may continue to serve Him via a vibrant Christian walk. Amen.

TO GOD BE THE GLORY.

Naw Phaw: Thank God for the Camp!

I am Naw Phaw Thu Zar, a Myanmese Catholic helper. I am known as PHAW to my employer, Grandma Kin Hoong. I thank God for providing me with the chance to join Sovereign Hope BPC in her Church Camp at Changi Cove recently through Grandma & Ahjuma (Aunty Kin Kheng).

It was my first experience. A blessed one. Everyone at Camp treated me very well. I am in a big family of God. I learned about God in the bible, sang hymns, listened to the messages & group discussions (but I could not understand 100% of it) & got to know more brethren. I also thank God for protecting me especially when I was feeling faint during the cycling trip on Pulau Ubin. I was well taken care of by the brethren. I think I will join again if I have the chance to do so. Thank you, God. Amen.



Anya Ng: From the Thankful Heart of a 15-year-old

When I decided to attend Sovereign Hope's church camp this year, I did not expect to be so deeply enriched and to feel so blessed by God's people and word. I expected that I would learn a thing or two, maybe apply it in my life



and probably forget about it in a few months. For the last few years, I have been feeling distant from God. When I was ten, I was very eager to learn more about God and fellowship with others. I fervently took notes and made sure I prayed every night before going to sleep. I don't know how or why, but shortly after that period of time, I began lacking the motivation to read the Bible and pray. I even considered not attending church so that I could progress faster with my swimming classes. The audacity I had to express my disinterest in attending church was so much that I told my parents doing so would be a waste of time as I would not absorb anything during the service anyway. Of course, they never agreed to let me miss church service and I continued attending out of obligation as a child raised in a Christian family. It wasn't until I had matured slightly in my teenage years that I began to listen to God's word again, although it didn't move me the way I'd hoped for.

For a while now, I have been wondering when my aha moment, as many pastors and elders put it, will come. I know I am passive in my Christian walk, yet I do not do anything about it. I like learning more about God, but I forget about the application aspect and continue living in sin. When I heard that Pastor Jack was having a church camp, I wanted to attend it because I have not attended one in many years and I missed having church camp, my own church did not organise one this holiday, and I've always liked listening to Pastor Jack's messages. I didn't attend because I thought I could come out



of the programme a stronger Christian. However, I was encouraged in a way I haven't before experienced. It was, to say the least, thoroughly refreshing to be among Christians who are so strong in their faith. I found myself wanting to stay with them longer, even though I originally planned to head home once all the messages were over for the day.

The people who were around me were so full of energy and enthusiasm that I felt as though I had been brought back to life, even if it was just temporarily. I learned a lot more than I thought I would and I have been inspired by the discussions we had. I feel that this was a great push in my journey to seek God, and I am truly grateful that my family was invited to attend the church camp. Although I am still in the midst of searching for God before developing a personal relationship with Him, I believe now, more than ever, that someday I will find Him, and then I will be able to walk a 'vibrant Christian life', as the church camp was centred around.

Pit Yuen & Aunty Chwee Lian: God is Good!

We thank God for all His mercy and grace and blessing my mom and I with health and strength, safety and protection throughout the 3 - day church camp at Changi Cove.

God is good. We welcomed the light showers to cool down the heat and good weather when the campers were at Pulau Ubin outing.

The time spent at the camp was good for the soul as we are people of the Book of Life. We were fed with the word as well as strengthened spiritually by the fellowship.



Bro Joseph reminded us the battle on 'Creation vs Evolution' is still raging on and we

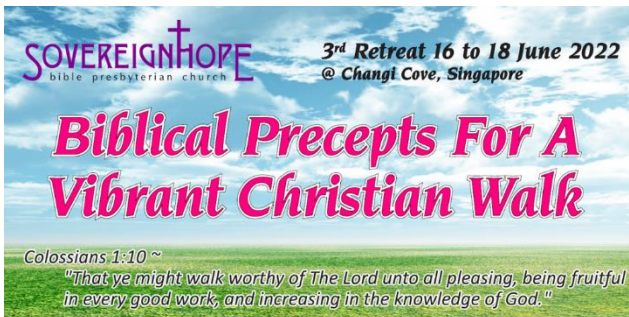


need to be equipped with true knowledge. Elder Sim shared on Genesis 22, father and son's faith in action. Isaac displayed faith that cooperated with his father Abraham's obedient faith. Elder Jeffrey dwelled on Malachi 3. Key takeaway on this text is faith that persevered on serving God, Jehovah Jireh will see to it all – God spared not His only begotten son Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God in order to redeem us, His peculiar people and spares us on that dreadful day to come.

Pastor Jack encouraged us to have a vibrant Christian walk with his 3 messages.

- 1) As Christians, our ambition must be guided by true theology, Ecclesiastes 12v13 is the whole duty of man.
- 2) As Christians, we must be discreet and prudent with our tongue and other means of communication. For example: social media.
- 3) As Christians, our relationship, be it in married life or singlehood, must be lived to the glory of God.

Thanks to bro Joseph, Dn Yue Kay, bro Paul Kong, bro Paul Tan for their labour of love, for their time and effort in planning this church camp. Thanks, Pastor Jack, for the 3 messages, bro Joseph, Elder Sim and Elder Jeffrey for the morning devotions.



GODLY COUNSEL FOR PILGRIMS & STRANGERS (STUDIES IN 1 PETER)

LORD'S DAY PROGRAMME FOR JUL-SEP 2022

JULY

- 3 Our Salvation & Eternal Hope (1 Pet 1:1-12)
- 10* Sojourning in the Fear of God (1 Pet 1:13-25)
- 17 Of Lively Stones & Royal Priesthood (1 Pet 2:1-10)
- 24 Of Pilgrims & Strangers (1 Pet 2:11-25)
- 31 Guide for The Believers Domestic Life (1 Pet 3:1-9)

AUGUST

- 7 Christian Apologetics in Practice (1 Pet 3:10-15)
- 14* Keeping a Good Conscience (1 Pet 3:16-22)
- 21 Godly Demeanour in Afflictions (1 Pet 4:1-8)
- 28 How to be Faithful Stewards of God (1 Pet 4:9-11)

SEPTEMBER

- 4 When We Suffer for Christ (1 Pet 4:12-19)
- 11* Models in Meek Service (1 Pet 5:1-7)
- 18 Sober and Vigilant Stand Against Evil (1 Pet 5:8-14)
- 25 Seeking Reconciliation with God (2 Cor 5:11-21)



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Reformed Presbyterian Church

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Memory Verse

1 Pet 1:9 Receiving the end of your faith, even the salvation of your souls.

Announcements

1. Welcome to our Gospel Sunday Worship Service! For our visitors, do leave us your contact numbers in our guest book before you leave.
2. Rev Koh Hock Heng speaks this morning on “***Our Salvation and Eternal Hope (1 Pet 1:1-12)***”, the start of a new quarterly series on ***Godly Counsel for Pilgrims and Strangers (studies in 1Peter)***.
3. Pastor will be away on a mission trip to Cambodia together with Angie, Amber and Esther from **Jul 18 to 28**. Pray for the team as they minister to 3 churches and a Christian University in Phnom Penh and Sihanoukville.
4. Rev Nathan of New Life BPC has kindly agreed to provide pastoral support while Pastor is away. Kindly contact the Session if any help is needed during this period.
5. Pastor speaks next Sunday on “***Sojourning in the Fear of God (1 Pet 1:13-25)***”.
6. Sunday School classes continues after worship service:
 - WCF Shorter Catechism Class – Joseph
 - Studies in Deuteronomy – Dn Kwong Leen
7. Chinese Fellowship meets on Sunday night at 7pm via Zoom with both local and overseas brethren. Included in the programme is a study on Church History in China on alternate Sundays. Join us for a time of profitable learning.
8. Do send your prayer items to Pastor and join us for Church Prayer Meeting on Wed at 8pm via Zoom. The prayer list is available in church.
9. Monthly Neighbourhood Bible Class will next meet on **Fri 5 Aug 2022, 7.30pm in church** on the study of 2 Samuel. Come and join us!
10. Do kindly observe the safety measures of the church and assist with the weekly cleaning of the premises.
11. Love gifts, Offering and Tithes to the Lord can be given in the following ways:
 - **Cheque** payable to **Sovereign Hope Bible Presbyterian Church** and mail to church address. (Kindly write the full name of the church as indicated.)
 - **Fund transfer** to Church **UOB** Account **392-308-825-1**
 - **PayNow** to Church UEN: **T19SS0116FSOV**
