



Covenant

DNA of Christ's Disciple



20 Sep 2020

Times

FOR THE WORD OF GOD IS LIVING AND ACTIVE

Hebrews 4:12 *“For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart.”*

That forms the foundations of our belief for it is about knowing God intimately and entering into conversation with Him which He started with Man since the world began. Prov 5:1-5...My son, give attention to my wisdom, incline your ear to my understanding, that you may observe discretion and your lips may reserve knowledge. The Word is a spiritual seed, quickened by the Holy Spirit and it gives life (John 6:63).

There are boundless inspirational books available, promising a “better you”, counselling sessions that are to change you and medical remedies and pills to transform or improve your being. The theories and expositions fade with new development or discoveries. But God’s Word never change and God does not change like shifting shadows even as our jobs, status, or lifestyle changes. He chose to give us birth through the Word of truth, that we might be a kind of first fruits of all he created. (James 1:17 & 18).

The Bible is Alive

The Bible is the inspired Word of God, very much alive and is at work in our lives. He continues to speak to us today especially over our health and lifestyle management. God’s Word is not antiquated or irrelevant for it is through the work of His Spirit that enables us to hear and understand what He has to say. God speaks of himself as a living God in 2Cor. 6:16, Jesus Christ is called the Prince of Life in Acts 3:15, the Holy Spirit is called the Spirit of life. In fact, the Word of God is more alive than you and I. 1 Pet 1:24 says flesh is like grass, it withers and dies, but the Word of God abides forever. Everything else around

During this unusual time when we cannot come together for worship, we can still be part of a worshipping community. We invite you to join us at our pre-recorded worship service at this website <https://www.cplink.org.sg/>. We hope you can also connect with our Life Groups. Please contact one of our Pastoral Staff if you like to join a Life Group. We are still meeting and connecting through various digital platforms.

Welcome!

We want to grow in Christlikeness through devotion and delight in God, nurturing devotion and delight in God, nurturing relationships and intentionally multiplying disciplinarians.

us is either dead or dying and as people talk of living it up, don't realize that they are dying. But there is one thing in this world that is alive with an inexhaustible, inextinguishable light, and it is the Bible that continues to have lasting freshness. Books come and go but in every generation, in every age, in every person that dwells on the Bible, that person is alive, living and fresh. In 1 Peter 2:2...we should be *"Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation"*. It sustains and nourishes our life. That is why there are so many emaciated Christians who suffer from malnutrition and are easily influenced by wrong teachings as they have no time to study the Bible. Hence they can't tell right from wrong and often justify their wrongdoings with charismatic arguments. 1 Tim 4:6 says, be a good servant of Christ Jesus, constantly nourished on the Word.

It is active

It produces growth and the test of a living thing is basically that. God mysteriously moves through the Bible; no other literature have that; it shakes, heals, forms, creates and inspires us to draw near to Him. God meets our needs (physical and spiritual) whenever we search for direction or comfort through His Word. The Parable of the Sower links the seed to the Word because both the Word and the seed are growing things. In 1 Peter 1:23... *"For you have been born again not of seed which is perishable, but imperishable"*. The mystery of this living Word is its power to reproduce and the difference between truth and living truth...the ability to give life. This is further affirmed in Psa 19:7-11 telling us what the Word can do to our lives...reviving the soul, making wise the simple, giving joy to the heart, light to the eyes, righteousness and in keeping them, there is great reward!

It is a sharp 2-edged sword

The Word of God has 2 sharp edges, it can cut in both directions, as if wielded by an accomplished swordsman. The Bible has indeed proven itself to be sharp, separating the truth from the lie and can be used with thrusts and swipes in any direction with equal effectiveness. The Bible is the only object that corruption cannot touch, whose validity cannot be removed, whose reality cannot deteriorate, whose truth cannot decay. It is painful to be on the wrong side of the Bible and fruitless to argue against it. The compromises, adulteration by human wisdom, the adaptations to suit one's agenda, false teachings have disastrous effects on the church and the society. Moral standards have decayed, issues become grey, sins become tolerable and acceptable, compassion overrides punishment, live and let live sentiment is gaining traction in Christian churches. Stay on the Word for the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous and His ears, attentive to their prayers. (Psa 34:12-16). A blessing to be in His presence, standing on the truth with Him on our side.

The Word Reveals and Discerns

"Piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart" can be scary. I can hide my

thoughts and intentions, my shortcomings and my sins, my wounds but that verse makes me vulnerable and makes me want to get far from God. It is a discernor of hearts. It has a living insight into me. The Bible is able to rip a man wide open and reveal who I truly am. It even has the power to detect my motives, discerns my needs and it uncovers my repression. That sentence offers an intense description of God's Word. Indeed, His Word reveals what's inside of me so that He can heal, redeem, and restore. It also offers eternal hope and freedom from my sins and reveals the heart of our Father who would go to great lengths to draw us into a deeper relationship with Him. It is never obsolete. Not one thing in this book has ever been proven to be scientifically incorrect or historically inaccurate. It is indestructible. Attempts to kill, to destroy, to burn the Word have failed to dim out its light. Remember Jesus' words in John 10:10...*"The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly."*

Our world has been shaken badly this year by Covid-19, but the one who made the world and held it securely in His capable, faithful, sovereign hands is not shaken — and we don't have to be either. In the beginning God was there, He is here now, and He already holds each tomorrow. We can be certain of this: in the midst of uncertain times, He is certain and His Word stands tall for *"Your Word is a lamp for my feet and a light on my path"*. (Psa 119:105). What a blessing indeed!

~ ~ Elder Richard Tean ~ ~

What is Reformed Theology?

Rev Keith Lai

Galatians 1:6-10

GIVING

Kindly take note of the separate bank accounts for Tithing and Offering.

TITHING



Please key in your tithing number at the reference section. If you are unsure of or do not a tithing number, you may drop us an email at the church website. under “Request” tab and we will get back to you.

INTERNET TRANSFER

DBS Current Account: 025-905375-8

Account name: Covenant Presbyterian Church - Tith

UEN no. **T12SS0164DTTH**

OFFERING



Please key in only the alphabet at the reference section as follows :

*“E” for English Service
“C” for Chinese Service
“SL” for Sri Lankan Service*

INTERNET TRANSFER

DBS Current Account: 033-016873-0

Account name: Covenant Presbyterian Church

UEN no. **T12SS0164D**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

✝ **Adult & Child Baptism, Confirmation and Transfer-in on 25 Dec.** Schedule of membership class will be announced closer to date. Please register at the church office or email to Hope@cplink.org.sg or Hazel@cplink.org.sg

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A DAY ALONE WITH THE LORD RETREAT

Join us for the next
A Day Alone with the Lord
Retreat on **26th Sep**. Please scan
this QR code to register here for
one or more retreats on Sep 26,
Oct 31, Nov 28, Dec 26.



Your Retreat Facilitators: Rev Keith & Mui Fong Lai



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Pr Chin Yoke Fen
Pr Lionel Neo
Ps Susantha

Sri Lankan Service

Rev Christina Ong / Ps Susantha

Chinese Service

Rev Abel Lee / Pr Chin Yoke Fen

CareWorks Community Services

Rev Dr Henry Wong

Gladiolus Place

Michelle Tan

Ministry Team Leaders

Creche

Kong Soh Lian

Children

Pr Lionel Neo

Youth and Young Adult (YaYA)

Rev Abel Lee (ad interim)

Aruneeporn Ng

Audrey Wong

Young Working Adult & Young Married

Rev Dr Henry Wong

Adults & Seniors

Rev Keith Lai/ Ps Lai Mui Fong

Hospitality

Jenny Ho

Worship

Ryan Kong

Missions

Ho Chung Tat

Prayer

Rev Dr Henry Wong

Freedom & Wholeness

Alfred & Jenny Koay

GB / BB

Pr Lionel Neo

Chinese Seniors Alpha Course

Pr Chin Yoke Fen

Day Alone with the Lord

Ps Lai Mui Fong