

COVENANT<sup>EFC</sup>

# devotional journal 2014

1 january - 28 february

This is the message  
we have heard from  
Him and proclaim  
to you, that God is  
light, and in Him is  
no darkness at all.

1 JOHN 1:5

shine  
righteously

# shine

righteously

This is the message we have heard from  
Him and proclaim to you, that God is  
light, and in Him is no darkness at all.

—  
1 JOHN 1:5

COVENANT EFC

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# foreword

## by senior pastors

### There must be something more in 2014!

**There must be something more every new year!  
We long for something deeper, something satisfying,  
something radical, something life-changing, something  
that would really make a difference every new year.  
What will that "something more" be for you?**

**S**t. Augustine once said, *"to fall in love with God is the greatest of all romances; to seek Him, the greatest adventure; to find him, the greatest human achievement."* The deepest longing of the soul is for intimacy with God. It begins with God and is rooted IN HIM! *"One thing I have asked from the Lord, that I shall seek: That I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the Lord and to meditate in His temple."* (Psalm 27:4)

#### 1. Intimacy As Our PURPOSE In Life:

***"One thing I have asked from the Lord, that I shall seek..."***

The goal of every disciple of Christ is not merely doing things for God – these are significant parts of God's redemptive order as seen in the Great Commission. Enjoying the intimacy with God is part of the creative order as seen in the Great Commandment. The ONE thing that is the most important in 2014 is our relationship with God! Everything revolves around this one defining purpose.

#### 2. Intimacy As Our PURSUIT In Life:

***"One thing I have asked from the Lord, that I shall seek..."***

Someone once said, "We do not see things as they are. We see them as we are." In other words, who we are determines what we see and what we pursue, and we become what we pursue. "I shall seek" expresses a determination to pursue intimacy with God. What are you pursuing in 2014? What are you seeking?

There must be  
something more  
than this!

#### 3. Intimacy As Our PREOCCUPATION In Life:

***"That I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life..."***

"All the days of my life" is not simply stating a period of time but a preoccupation of life! David declares "to dwell in the house of the Lord" as his prevailing desire, his grand preoccupation and his magnificent obsession. True spirituality stems not from some form of activity but from God's presence as the centre of his life. The dwelling place of God is in the quiet depths of our lives. May you experience and enjoy His presence throughout the year 2014!

#### 4. Intimacy As Our PASSION In Life:

***"To behold the beauty of the Lord and to meditate in His temple."***

David made a decisive choice to not only see, but behold and be captivated by the beauty of the Lord. God is of ultimate importance in his life and God is the one who gives meaning to life. David committed himself to "meditate in His temple". A person is often defined by abilities, accomplishments, appearance, acquisitions and associations. But God defines us by our personal relationship with God. May your passion for spiritual intimacy with God attract and fuel pre-believing friends to know God in 2014.

#### There Must Be Something More Than This!

Psalm 27 was written in the context of fear and uncertainty. Fear is mentioned three times in two verses (vv. 1, 3). Yet, in spite of the anxieties and fears, David focussed on God and saw God Almighty as his revelation, redemption and refuge (vv. 1-3).

May we like David says, *"When You said, 'Seek My face,' my heart said to You, 'Your face, O Lord, I shall seek'".* (v. 8).

**In Christ,  
Ps Tony and Ps Kay Kiong**

# guide to using this journal



S.O.A.P.

## 1 Prepare your heart in God's presence

- Select a fixed time (preferably mornings before you begin the rest of your day) and a quiet place where you can be alone and undisturbed.
- Observe a moment of silence as you acknowledge God's presence.
- Worship God with a song or hymn. (*Refer to the list of worship songs provided.*)
- Offer a prayer to God as you prepare to listen to His word.

## 2 Allow God to S.O.A.P. you with His Word and Spirit

Each daily devotional entry is divided into four parts:

**Scripture** — take your time to meditate on the Scripture passage for the day. Pause and mull over words and phrases that stand out for you.

**Observation** — jot down significant insights and reflections from the passage you have read. Use the guiding questions provided.

**Application** — note down a specific and practical commitment to God's Word for you. Is there a command to obey, a sin to avoid, an example to follow, or a principle to live out? Where appropriate, share your devotional entry with someone.

**Prayer** — bring your response to God in prayer using the suggested prayer for the day.

# calendar

## january 2014

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
		1 New Year's Day	2	3	4	5
6 IDT Semester 1 Commencement	7	8	9	10	11	12 Baptism Service 1/4
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24 Prayer & Praise	25	26 IDT Graduation Batch 9
27	28	29	30	31 Chinese New Year		

Strongly Encouraged

## february 2014

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
					1 Chinese New Year	2
3	4	5 Alpha Introduction Dinner	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19 Alpha Session 1/6	20	21	22 SP Face Time (for leaders)	23 Membership Acceptance
24	25	26 Alpha Session 2/6	27	28 Prayer & Praise		

Strongly Encouraged



# Shine Righteously

## SCRIPTURE

### **Isaiah 60:1-3**

The only way to arise and shine in the new year of 2014 is to shine for Jesus! He is our light who has come! His is the glory that has risen upon us! The Lord is the One who is high and lifted up, who inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy, yet who chooses to dwell with those who are of a contrite and lowly spirit (Isa 57:15). For Christians, to shine is to live a righteous and obedient life pleasing to God and separated from the corrupt lifestyles of the world, a life where husbands love their wives, wives respect their husbands and children obey their parents. Every Christian needs to walk in the light of the gospel, and shine this light onto others by bearing witness to Jesus Christ in our homes, workplaces, schools and in every area of our lives.

## OBSERVATION

*We can shine righteously so that our family and friends may come to confess Christ as their Saviour and be saved. What has God promised in this regard?*

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## APPLICATION

In what ways do you want to shine for Jesus in this new year?

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## PRAYER

Eternal Father, Loving Lord and Faithful Spirit, shine Your holy brightness in the new year of 2014. Bless our daily labour as Christians and as a church for the nations. Let Your light in our hearts bring forth our deepest prayers for the people in darkness. May we pursue right living without self-righteousness, unity without conformity and strength without pride. May we walk in the light of Jesus' presence that others may awaken to the brightness of His glory. In Jesus' name, Amen.

### Prayer Pointers

- Give thanks:
  
  
- Pray for leaders:
  
  
- Pray for significant people:
  
  
- Pray for those in need:
  
  
- Pray for self:



# Shine for God's Glory

## SCRIPTURE

### **Matthew 5:14-16**

In the original Greek, the word "You" in "You are the light of the world" (v. 14) is both plural and emphatic. Thus, the phrase actually says, "YOU ALL are the light of the world". The Jewish Christians who heard this understood the imagery. In the Old Testament, Israel was to be a light for the nations (Isa 42:6; 49:6). But it didn't happen. They had to wait for the great light to shine in their darkness. Isaiah 60:1 says, "Arise, shine, for your light has come". In other words, God's servants are to be reflectors of Him who is the greatest light. God's purpose is for His people to reflect His light in such a way that others will see God in and through us, and glorify our Father who is in heaven.

## OBSERVATION

*Christians can actually miss out on God's purpose for them.  
How does this happen?*

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## APPLICATION

What must you be careful to do or not to do this year, so that you can fulfil God's purpose for you?

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## PRAYER

Lord, You have set Your people apart as children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night nor of the darkness (1 Th 5:5). Please help me not just to say good words, but also to do good works. Lord, cause me to conduct my life and shine in such a way that others may see Your goodness and glory.  
Amen.

### Prayer Pointers

- Give thanks:
- Pray for leaders:
- Pray for significant people:
- Pray for those in need:
- Pray for self:





# Shine in the Last Days

## SCRIPTURE

### **Daniel 6:16-28**

Daniel was King Darius' most favoured and trusted official among over 100 top officials. Daniel was persecuted when he continued to pray to his God in defiance of an evil law (Da 6:12-13). What defined Daniel was not merely his courage in the lions' den, but his courage before being thrown into the den. Daniel knew about the King's injunction, yet he chose to continue worshipping his God (Da 6:10). Daniel probably knew there was a conspiracy against him, yet he was determined to remain faithful to his God. To Daniel, who was likely to be in his 80s here in Chapter 6, the last days were not some abstract, far away idea of a coming Messiah. Rather, the last days to him were to finish well an entire life that was lived faithfully before the one true and living God (vv. 22-23). And Daniel did shine in the last days, to the glory of God (vv. 25-27)!

## OBSERVATION

*What prepared Daniel for his last days? Read Daniel 1:8 (he was a teenager at the time).*

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## APPLICATION

In the light of your own last days, how can you now, in the present, anchor your own life in God?

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## PRAYER

O Lord, how can I be righteous in an ungodly world while struggling with my own sinfulness and deceitfulness? Only You, Jesus my Saviour, can change and guide me in this pilgrimage. Lord, I desire to not succumb to worldly pressures. I decide to follow You. I determine to not defile myself with the ways of the world. Only change me, lead me and strengthen me daily, that I may constantly serve You only and follow You truly! Amen.

### Prayer Pointers

- Give thanks:
- Pray for leaders:
- Pray for significant people:
- Pray for those in need:
- Pray for self:





# review, reflect, response

**REVIEW** — Look back at your past week using the Examen (modified).

a. What was my high point?

b. What was my low point?

c. What gave me life?

d. What drained me?

e. How was the Spirit of God at work?



**REFLECT** — What is one key thing that God said to me this week in light of what has happened?

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## RESPONSE

a. What is one thing I need to do in light of what God is saying?

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b. Journal your prayer.

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# Community

## SCRIPTURE

### **Romans 12:1-13**

Christian community is founded upon the worship of God. As we spend time worshipping God and submitting to His will as revealed to us in His Word, Paul says that we will be transformed. Another word for “transformation” is “metamorphosis” (from the Greek word for “transform”). A pictorial example of metamorphosis is a caterpillar in a cocoon transforming and then emerging as a butterfly. As we increase our adoration for God, godliness and holiness will increasingly emerge in our thought patterns, speech, actions and choices. In these verses, Paul reminds us that we form a body, a community that works together to reflect Christlikeness and faith. God’s community is to be a transformed community, so that we can transform other communities in society. God chose the Church as a community that grows in faith and love, so that together, Christians can show others who Jesus is and change the world!

## OBSERVATION

*What does the worship of God entail (Ro 12:1-2)? According to Romans 12:3-13, what should characterise the Christian community?*

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## APPLICATION

How can you worship God better? How should you reflect Christ better in your home, in your CG/church, and in your workplace/school/national service unit?

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## PRAYER

Merciful God, I want You to be the One whom I worship and adore. I want to offer You an obedient, disciplined and surrendered life as my worship to You, so that I continually grow to become more like Your Son, my Lord Jesus. Please transform me, so that godliness and holiness increasingly emerge in all my thoughts, speech, actions and choices. May others see more and more of Jesus in my life. Amen.

### Prayer Pointers

- Give thanks:
  
- Pray for leaders:
  
- Pray for significant people:
  
- Pray for those in need:
  
- Pray for self:

January 8,  
Wednesday  
2014

# Stewardship

## SCRIPTURE

### **Luke 12:34; Luke 6:38**

What is stewardship? "Stewardship denotes a more comprehensive view of the Christian life affecting time, work, leisure, talents, money, the state of one's soul and care for the environment."<sup>1</sup> "The primary understanding of Christian stewardship has to do with investing what God has entrusted to us."<sup>2</sup> "Stewardship gives meaning to our lives and helps us make sense of everyday life."<sup>3</sup> It is "a thermometer of our spirituality and discipleship"<sup>4</sup>. Jesus says, "For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also" (Lk 12:34). Jesus emphasises greatly the fundamental importance of the disposition of our hearts - the centre of our being and desires. The nature of our hearts is reflected in the things we value most.<sup>5</sup> True stewardship is from the inside out. The test is: Am I exercising stewardship of what I am, where I am and what I have consciously and carefully with deep conviction and real commitment?

## OBSERVATION

*What does Luke 6:38 teach us about how stewardship helps us to grow in Christ?*

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## APPLICATION

In what ways can you be a steward of what God has entrusted to you, such that you grow in Christ?

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## PRAYER

Father, the earth is Yours and the fullness thereof, the world and those who dwell therein.<sup>6</sup> We belong to You. All that we have belongs to You. Father, please help me to be a faithful steward of all that You have entrusted to me. Thank You for graciously giving me my life, family, gifting, training, calling, communities, work and resources. Lord, help me steward all these for Your glory and not for personal gain. Let my stewardship be from the inside out. Amen.

### Prayer Pointers

- Give thanks:
  
- Pray for leaders:
  
- Pray for significant people:
  
- Pray for those in need:
  
- Pray for self:

<sup>1</sup> Robert Banks & R. Paul Stevens, *The Complete Book of Everyday Christianity*, (IVP, 1997), 962

<sup>2</sup> Robert Banks & R. Paul Stevens, 966

<sup>3</sup> Robert Banks & R. Paul Stevens, 967

<sup>4</sup> Robert Banks & R. Paul Stevens, 967

<sup>5</sup> The ESV Study Bible, English Standard Version, (Crossway Bibles, 2008)

<sup>6</sup> Psalm 24:1



January 10,  
Friday  
2014

# Brokenness

## SCRIPTURE

### **Psalm 40:1-4**

King David went through a serious crisis which he described as “the pit of destruction” and “the miry bog” (v. 2). He continually prayed to the Lord for deliverance from that situation. We cannot be sure about which exact situation in David’s life is being referred to here. But it is clear from these verses that God delivered David in answer to his prayers. The focus of the passage is not anthropocentric, or man-centred (what exactly happened to King David), but theocentric, or God-centred (what God did). David was certain that God heard his cries during those times of intense trials. The difficulties of life did not destroy David’s faith in the sovereign Lord. And when the Lord alone delivered, David’s response revealed a changed life of worship. Are we willing to hold on to God during difficult times? Brokenness is a humble heart condition of trusting and waiting for the God who delivers.

## OBSERVATION

*How did God change King David through those difficult times?*

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## APPLICATION

What are the difficult events in your life currently? Will you hold on to God and keep praying to Him even when your situation does not change for the better?

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## PRAYER

O Lord, a broken spirit, you will not despise. You know the circumstances in my life and the condition of my heart. In my discouragement and fear, sometimes I feel that You don’t hear my prayers. There is no answer from You. Teach me to know that You are the God who delivers. Tutor me in brokenness to patiently wait for Your answer. Remind me of Your track record of faithfulness in my life. Through it all, change my heart to worship You with greater joy, higher praise and deeper trust.

Amen.

## Prayer Pointers

- Give thanks:
  
- Pray for leaders:
  
- Pray for significant people:
  
- Pray for those in need:
  
- Pray for self:



# Grace, Growth & Godliness

## SCRIPTURE

### **2 Corinthians 3:17-18; Hebrews 5:11-14; Colossians 2:6-8**

We cannot hope to live without the grace of God. Without God's grace, we are enslaved to the Law's requirements and we will die. This is why the Lord has graciously given us life through His Spirit when, through faith in Christ, we receive the righteousness of God. Just as we have received grace, we must release grace to others. Isn't it so inconsistent to realise our daily need for grace, plead earnestly for it from God, and yet relate to other people in ways which withhold grace from them? However, abundant grace can lead to stunted development and prolonged immaturity. To avoid this, we must bear in mind that God intends our growth. God desires that we grow in the knowledge and practice of His "word of righteousness" over time (Heb 5:11-14). For those who have received Christ as Lord, there must, over time, be a growing measure of knowing the heart and mind of Christ, and an increasing feature of godliness in our lives.

## OBSERVATION

*Our character transformation involves: 1) God's part ("are being transformed", 2 Co 3:18); 2) Our part ("so walk in him...See to it", Col 2:6, 8); and 3) A process ("from one degree of glory to another", 2 Co 3:18).*

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## APPLICATION

Is ungodliness in your thinking and behaviour disappearing and becoming something of your past? Is godliness in thinking and behaviour featuring more and more clearly in your life? What decision(s) is God leading you to make today?

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## PRAYER

God of grace, thank You for granting me a total pardon for my sins on the basis of Your Son's atoning sacrifice on the cross on my behalf. I do not deserve Your love and grace. I want to live for Christ my Redeemer, my Lord, who for my sake died and was raised. Please enable me to do so. Thank You for Your continuing work of changing me. Help me to do my part to grow in godliness. In Christ's name and for His glory,  
Amen.

### Prayer Pointers

- Give thanks:
  
- Pray for leaders:
  
- Pray for significant people:
  
- Pray for those in need:
  
- Pray for self:





# review, reflect, response

**REVIEW** — Look back at your past week using the Examen (modified).

a. What was my high point?

b. What was my low point?

c. What gave me life?

d. What drained me?

e. How was the Spirit of God at work?



**REFLECT** — What is one key thing that God said to me this week in light of what has happened?

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## RESPONSE

a. What is one thing I need to do in light of what God is saying?

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b. Journal your prayer.

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January 14,  
Tuesday  
2014

# Ministry

## SCRIPTURE

### **2 Corinthians 3:1-6; Ephesians 4:11-16**

In the world's economy, the practice of self-promotion is a norm. We are taught to sell ourselves by publicising our credentials – titles, degrees, achievements, accolades, associations, influence, writings and others. However, in God's system of interaction and exchange, self-promotion is neither necessary nor appropriate. For it is God Himself who calls His people to ministry and makes them adequate for His work of bringing the gospel to lost people and of building up the body of Christ (Eph 4:11-16). Christians often feel inadequate. We are! But the apostle Paul reminds us that we are not sufficient in ourselves, but "our sufficiency is from God" (v. 5). God empowers us by His grace for His ministry of grace to others. We are "ministers of the new covenant" (v. 6). Through our ministry, others receive life from God – sinners are reconciled to a holy and righteous God, and estranged children come home to a loving and gracious Father.

## OBSERVATION

*According to Ephesians 4:11-16, how does God build up His Church, the body of Christ? What is God's goal?*

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## APPLICATION

How will you use your God-given gifts in God-empowered ministry to (1) evangelise the lost, and (2) edify the Church in this new year?

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## PRAYER

Lord God, thank You for Your grace in my life. You chose me to be Your child, to receive the life of Christ, to carry His name and build up His Church. No earthly title can be greater than "Child of God" and "Servant of Christ". No worldly accolade can compare with "one mightily used by God" for the touching and saving of lives for eternity. Please help me to know how much You love me and desire Your glory to be seen in and through me. Amen.

### Prayer Pointers

- Give thanks:
  
- Pray for leaders:
  
- Pray for significant people:
  
- Pray for those in need:
  
- Pray for self:

January 15,  
Wednesday  
2014

# Missions

## SCRIPTURE

### **Colossians 1:3-8**

The gospel bore redemptive fruit in the lives of the Colossian believers after they had “heard” and “understood” the “word of truth” (v. 5). It was the “grace of God”(v. 6) upon them. With this knowledge, the apostle Paul had regularly prayed for the new believers in Colossae with thanksgiving to God for them. When writing to them, he highlights that the gospel, which had produced the fruit of salvation among them, had also been “bearing fruit and increasing” wherever it went throughout the “whole world” (v. 6). Today, missionaries everywhere continue to report that the gospel is still bearing fruit the world over. This should not surprise us as our Christian gospel, embodied in the finished work of the first missionary, Jesus Christ Himself, had completely triumphed over the principalities and powers at the cross (Col 2:13-15). Missions march on, and there is no stopping the gospel!

## OBSERVATION

*If the gospel continues to bear the fruit of redemption, why are the needs of global evangelisation so daunting and the task of world missions never ending?*

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## APPLICATION

In 2014, how might I get to know the missionary God who has lost humanity upon His heart? Is the Lord wanting me to step up my engagement in missions? In what way(s)?

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## PRAYER

Heavenly Father, please help me to see the lost in the way that You see them, and to feel Your heartbeat for the nations. Help me to pray regularly for the evangelisation of the nations and for our missionaries as they faithfully fulfil Your calling for their lives. Enable me to take a small step forward in missions this year, whether it is in giving or to participate in short-term missions. Lead me to reach out in compassion to the lost, pointing them to Jesus. Amen.

### Prayer Pointers

- Give thanks:
- Pray for leaders:
- Pray for significant people:
- Pray for those in need:
- Pray for self:



# Discipling Men

## SCRIPTURE

### **1 Corinthians 16:13-14; John 13:34-35**

God intends for us Christian disciples to be like Christ, our second Adam. Growing as His disciples involves knowing humanity's fallen state and keeping a godly vision of true and original (authentic) manhood. In the epistle's closing words (vv. 13-14), the apostle Paul deemed it necessary to exhort the church with five military-like continuing commands. Men, like the first Adam, are prone to be unguarded and passive. However, Jesus Christ, our second Adam, is making all things new. In Christ, we keep a close watch over our hearts and stay alert against the devil's schemes. Sleeping men cannot be alert! In Christ, we stand on godly convictions, letting them uphold us. In Christ, we leave behind passivity and give our all courageously. And driving everything is our motivation to be wholehearted in loving God and His people (Jn 13:34-35).

## OBSERVATION

*What do 1 Corinthians 16:13-14 implicitly tell us about the dangers men face?*

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## APPLICATION

**For Men:** Which of these commands in 1 Corinthians 16:13-14 is the most difficult for me? What will I do about it?

**For Women:** How should you be praying for the Christian men in your family and CG?

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## PRAYER

Lord Jesus, amid the pressures of daily life, please help me/ my spiritual brothers to keep a godly vision of true and authentic manhood. Help me/ them to be vigilant over my/ their hearts and mindful of the vile schemes of the evil one.

Uphold me/ them by godly convictions and give me/ them power and strength to resist passivity. Please lead me/ them instead to arise in humble boldness to fight courageously in the present circumstances.

May all that I/ they do be done in love for You and Your church. Amen.

## Prayer Pointers

- Give thanks:
  
  
  
- Pray for leaders:
  
  
  
- Pray for significant people:
  
  
  
- Pray for those in need:
  
  
  
- Pray for self:





# Discipling The Next Generation

## SCRIPTURE

### ***Psalm 78:1-7; 2 Timothy 3:1-7***

"It depends" is a phrase commonly used by young people when asked for an opinion. Many issues and situations are relative, not absolute, depending on the context. Today's children and youth swim in an ocean of catchy, intelligent, utopic views propagated by today's philosophers, poets, playwrights and pop stars. As Dr. Tim Elmore suggests, the next generation "catch on to new ideas quickly (yet) struggle with long-term commitments ... high on tolerance, (yet) often lack absolute values"<sup>8</sup>. The next generation is on the move, socially, morally, intellectually and spiritually. There is a critical need to ground them. The challenge is to disciple them so that they get it in an environment of trust where they have permission to question, discuss and then be ready to listen. The key is to build trust. Discipling the next generation requires our time, our patience, our humour, our love, our belief in them, our insight and our godly example.

## OBSERVATION

*What does the apostle Paul say in 2 Timothy 3:1-7 that concerns you most, and that you see happening among people of the next generation?*

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## APPLICATION

What godly example(s) do you want to leave with the generation that comes after you?

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## PRAYER

Heavenly Father, thank You for the children and youth in this world. They are full of potential. They have ideas and a will that can either make or break this world. Holy Spirit, convict and transform me that I may be a shining, godly example to the generation after me. Help me and my generation to show and tell Jesus to the next generation.

May the next generation be the salt and light to pass Your truths and values down to the generation after them. Amen.

### Prayer Pointers

- Give thanks:
  
- Pray for leaders:
  
- Pray for significant people:
  
- Pray for those in need:
  
- Pray for self:

<sup>8</sup> Tim Elmore, *Life-Giving Mentors* (USA: Growing Leaders Inc.), 40





# review, reflect, response

**REVIEW** — Look back at your past week using the Examen (modified).

a. What was my high point?

b. What was my low point?

c. What gave me life?

d. What drained me?

e. How was the Spirit of God at work?



**REFLECT** — What is one key thing that God said to me this week in light of what has happened?

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## RESPONSE

a. What is one thing I need to do in light of what God is saying?

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b. Journal your prayer.

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January 20,  
Monday  
2014

# Our Inner Life

## SCRIPTURE

### **Proverbs 4:23; Psalm 51**

God commands us to guard our hearts or innermost being “with all vigilance” or “above all else” (v. 23). This is of utmost importance, because one’s heart is an enigma consisting of at least 5 dimensions – inner compulsions (that drive us), inner convictions (that hold us), inner conscience (that tells us right from wrong), inner compass (that directs us) and inner composure (that steadies us).<sup>9</sup> Our worldview, proclamation and service all flow from our hearts. When inner compulsions clash with Christian convictions, and we wrestle with our consciences, God invites us to bring our broken and contrite hearts before Him. Like King David, we cry, “Create in me a clean heart, O God” (Ps 51:10). As our consciences are cleansed by Christ’s blood, God’s Spirit builds in us an inner compass that directs us to the “true north” (what God has done for us) and shows us the “true south” (what we are to do for God).

## OBSERVATION

*What do you observe about King David’s flow of prayer in Psalm 51 from confession to petition to proclamation?*

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## APPLICATION

How will I be vigilant in keeping a close watch over my compulsions, convictions, conscience, compass and composure?

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## PRAYER

God of wondrous mercies, I thank You for Your restorative work in my life. Although I am like a bruised reed, You restored my life to victory and wholeness. In Your love, please shine Your searching light in me. Create in me a clean heart and renew a right spirit within me. Strengthen me with Your presence. Restore joy and peace in me. Then in my redemptive journey, I will proclaim Your righteousness and declare the praise of Your glory.<sup>10</sup> Amen.

### Prayer Pointers

- Give thanks:
  
- Pray for leaders:
  
- Pray for significant people:
  
- Pray for those in need:
  
- Pray for self:

<sup>9</sup> Edmund Chan, *Cultivating Your Inner Life* (Covenant Evangelical Free Church, 2011)  
<sup>10</sup> Psalm 51



# Our Christian Worldview

## SCRIPTURE

### **Romans 12:1-2; John 16:13**

All of us think about and look at life in our own way. It is the spectacles through which we see everything. We call this a worldview. Hopefully, our worldview is aligned with what the Bible says to be true. That would make it a truly biblical worldview. The bad news is that all of us did not start out as believers. And so whether we like it or not, we do need to reorder our thinking and emotions in line with the ultimate reality. The good news is that we are not alone in our journey. God has sent His Holy Spirit to dwell in us, lead us, guide us and enable us. As we know the truth (see 6 January Devotional) and live out the truth (see 3 January Devotional), God will slowly but surely help us see as He sees. That is what it means to have a Christian worldview – to see as God sees!

## OBSERVATION

*Many of us want to know what God's will is for us. What three things does Romans 12:1-2 tell us we need to do which will then enable us to know God's will?*

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## APPLICATION

As we do what we know, our worldview is also being shaped, because now it is no longer just information but actual experience. What are some things the Holy Spirit is impressing on you to act upon in your current life situation?

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## PRAYER

Dear Father, You are the true and living God, You are reality itself. Open the eyes of my heart that I may see reality as it truly is. I confess my blindness to spiritual things. My mind is mis-focused, my heart is distracted, my soul is churning from the emptiness of the world. Open my eyes, dear Father, to see You. Let me see as You see, and enable me to do as You say!  
In Jesus' name, Amen.

### Prayer Pointers

- Give thanks:
  
- Pray for leaders:
  
- Pray for significant people:
  
- Pray for those in need:
  
- Pray for self:



# Our Service to Society

## SCRIPTURE

### 2 Corinthians 5:11-21

Here, "Paul offers one of his most extensive descriptions of the motivation (vv. 11-15), content (vv. 16-19) and call of the new covenant ministry (vv. 20-21)"<sup>11</sup>, that of appealing to people to be reconciled to God through Christ. Paul's motivation for ministry was the fear of the Lord (v. 11) and the love of Christ (vv. 14-15). The content of Paul's message is the new life in Christ made possible by God's grace and reconciliation to God through Christ (vv. 17-21). The call of Paul's teaching is to recognise that God makes His appeal through Christians who are ambassadors for Christ! On behalf of Christ, we implore people: Be reconciled to God! Therefore, we must intentionally reach out in personal evangelism where we are placed in society. As a local church, Covenant EFC serves our surrounding communities through New Life Community Services (NLCS). For the universal Church, <http://christiangoodinsociety.blogspot.sg/> offers a good summary of its global Christian service over the years.

## OBSERVATION

*For our sake, Christ died and was raised. In response we are to die to ourselves and live for Christ. What does Paul describe as living no longer for ourselves but for Christ?*

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## APPLICATION

How can you be an ambassador for Christ in your workplace, school, neighbourhood and other communities?

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## PRAYER

Thank You, dear Lord Jesus, for Your love which motivated You to do what You did on the cross for me! Thank You, dear Father, for Your mercy, grace and love towards me. I desire to grow deep in You and, in growing deep in You, to grow deeper in love and obedience towards You. Please help me to be a faithful and obedient ambassador for Christ so that many people may be reconciled to You through Christ. Amen.

## Prayer Pointers

- Give thanks:
  
- Pray for family:
  
- Pray for New Life Community Services:
  
- Pray for the community:
  
- Pray for self:

<sup>11</sup> Crossway Bibles. (2008). *The ESV Study Bible* (p. 2230). Wheaton, IL: Crossway Bibles



January 24,  
Friday  
2014

# Our Gospel Proclamation

## SCRIPTURE

### 1 Thessalonians 1:2-10

This first letter by Paul to the believers at Thessalonica is filled with gratitude to God. Though young in their faith, the believers there had remained faithful and fruitful in spite of opposition (vv. 2-3, 6). Paul notes that they had “turned from idols to serve the living and true God” (v. 9), and exemplified a “work of faith, labour of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ” (v. 3). Effective proclamation of the gospel will result in changed lives. When preaching the gospel, we need to recognise that the work of salvation is God’s initiative – the Thessalonian Christians were loved and chosen by God (v. 4). God uses human instruments. Paul brought the gospel to them not just in words but accompanied by an authentic, transformed lifestyle (“you know what kind of men we proved to be among you for your sake”, v. 5).

## OBSERVATION

*What are some things you observe about the Thessalonian believers that are worthy of emulating?*

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## APPLICATION

Which of my relatives, colleagues and friends can I begin to regularly pray for to bring about salvation and changed lives?

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## PRAYER

Lord, please help me be faithful in praying for my pre-believing relatives, colleagues and friends. Enable me by Your grace to live a life that is worthy of my calling in Christ. Help me to walk closely with You day by day, and to be spiritually alert to seize the opportunities You give me week by week. Empower me by Your Spirit to be bold and winsome in my witness for Christ. Thank You for wanting to use me to draw people to Yourself. Use me, Lord. Amen.

## Prayer Pointers

- Give thanks:
  
- Pray for leaders:
  
- Pray for significant people:
  
- Pray for those in need:
  
- Pray for self:

January 25,  
Saturday  
2014

# Our Love for Our Family

## SCRIPTURE

### ***Ecclesiastes 3:1-3; Galatians 6:9***

Our love for our family is best expressed when we spend time together. In Ecclesiastes 3:1-3, we can see two “time zones”. First, we must have *time for*. There is an appointed time for everything (v. 1). There are times when the family walks through a crisis together. We lose control of the situation. We lose sight of the big picture. We come under immense pressure. It is here that we learn the greatest lessons of walking by faith and submitting to God’s sovereignty. God has revealed his ways to us. It is our job to experience His meaning and fulfil His purpose. We don’t create the blueprint. We follow the blueprint. Second, we need to give *time to* – a time to plant and a time to uproot (v. 2). Life is hectic for everyone. We cannot leave things to chance, but must take deliberate steps to make time to holistically engage one another in the family.

## OBSERVATION

*What does Galatians 6:9 assure us of?*

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## APPLICATION

Which “time zone(s)” do you need to work on in your family life?

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## PRAYER

Lord, You call us to make the most of our time because the days are evil.<sup>12</sup> For the time will come when people will not endure sound doctrine.<sup>13</sup> Deliver us from the consumption of the temporal and lift our eyes to the eternal. Help me to build my family strong. Teach me to make time for my family members, to listen and journey with them through every season, to encourage and strengthen them with Your Word, to pray faithfully for the necessary breakthroughs. Amen.

### Prayer Pointers

- Give thanks:
  
- Pray for leaders:
  
- Pray for significant people:
  
- Pray for those in need:
  
- Pray for self:

<sup>12</sup> Ephesians 5:16  
<sup>13</sup> 2 Timothy 4:3





# review, reflect, response

**REVIEW** — Look back at your past week using the Examen (modified).

a. What was my high point?

b. What was my low point?

c. What gave me life?

d. What drained me?

e. How was the Spirit of God at work?



**REFLECT** — What is one key thing that God said to me this week in light of what has happened?

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## RESPONSE

a. What is one thing I need to do in light of what God is saying?

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b. Journal your prayer.

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January 27,  
Monday  
2014

# Afresfreshness

## SCRIPTURE

### 1 John 2:7-8; Philippians 3:1

First John is highly repetitious in nature. John “takes up a number of themes and keeps returning to them in slightly different connections”<sup>14</sup>. For example, he talks about the love of/for God and Christians’ love for each other in Chapter 2 (vv. 5, 10), Chapter 3 (vv. 1, 10-11, 14-18), most extensively in Chapter 4 (vv. 7-21), and in Chapter 5 (vv. 1-3). John tells his readers that he is not teaching them new truths but old ones “that you have had at the beginning” (v. 7); and yet these old teachings are also new (v. 8). New repetitions of old truths bring forth spiritual afresfreshness, “to continue new by our fresh apprehension of it, ‘for though doctrinal Christianity is always old, experimental Christianity is always new’”<sup>15</sup>. God’s Word is not dead letters, but Words of life of the living God. We can never overemphasise the danger that familiarity will breed contempt. What guarantees afresfreshness and guards against apathy in hearing old truths again and again, is listening with a right heart.

## OBSERVATION

What does Paul say about repeating God’s truths in Philippians 3:1?

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## APPLICATION

How will I respond to the preaching or teaching of truths that I am familiar with?

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## PRAYER

Gracious Father, keep me from failing to be attentive to the teachings of Your Word that I already know, lest I fall into pride and presumptuousness that will lead to spiritual deafness and blindness. Your living voice is always there in old truths that I am familiar with. And I am always in need of reminders for inner renewal and deeper growth. Amen.

## Prayer Pointers

- Give thanks:
- Pray for family:
- Pray for bosses:
- Pray for peers and staff:
- Pray for self:

<sup>14</sup> D. A. Carson, Douglas J. Moo & Leon Morris, *An Introduction to the New Testament* (Zondervan, 1992), 445  
<sup>15</sup> John R. W. Stott, *The Letters of John*, Tyndale New Testament Commentaries (IVP, 1964, 1988), 98



January 29,  
Wednesday  
2014

# Abiding

## SCRIPTURE

### 1 John 4:15-17

The word "abide" is a key word in First John, repeated 24 times in Greek. It means to reside (live, dwell) and to remain (stay, continue, endure). John talks about us abiding in God, which is our part (1 Jn 2:6; 3:6); God abiding in us, which forms God's part (1 Jn 3:24; 4:12); and mutual abiding where God abides in us and we in Him (1 Jn 4:13, 16) through the gift of His salvation (1 Jn 4:14-15) and of His Spirit (1 Jn 4:13). It is critical and necessary for God to remain in us and us in Him in continuous mutual abiding. On God's part, He is always ready to remain in us; the challenge lies on our part. We need to continue in fellowship with God with His Word remaining in us by assimilating and applying it in our lives (1 Jn 2:24). We need to continue following Christ, walking "in the same manner as He walked" (1 Jn 2:6). Lastly, we need to continue in faithfulness to God until His coming (1 Jn 2:28). We must abide in God to advance spiritually, otherwise, we will regress. It is impossible to be spiritually static.

## OBSERVATION

*How does John show the relationship between abiding and assurance in 1 John 4:15-17?*

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## APPLICATION

What does it mean to me to walk with God constantly?

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## PRAYER

O Lord, my God, You direct the steps of the godly; and You delight in every detail of their lives. Though the godly stumble, they will never fall, for You hold them by the hand<sup>19</sup>. Thank You for such gracious assurance. Fill me and empower me with the Holy Spirit that I may walk with You faithfully and constantly and grow in godliness. Amen.

### Prayer Pointers

- Give thanks:
  
- Pray for leaders:
  
- Pray for significant people:
  
- Pray for those in need:
  
- Pray for self:

<sup>19</sup> Psalm 37:23-24





# Missions Prayer

## FOCUS OF THE MONTH

### Covenant in Missions – Vision and Strategies

#### 1. PURPOSE:

Missions' vision is "to glorify God by maximising our God-given resources to fulfill the biblical mandate to go and make disciples of all nations by multiplying healthy disciple-making church plants (DCPs) to become self-governing, self-financing and self-propagating churches focusing on Asia".

#### 2. PROCESS:

As a disciple-making church, we desire to have a clear process of moving EVERY disciple towards greater involvement in discipling the nations. We desire to see 10% of Covenanters sent out as missionaries and the other 90% committed to prayer and short-term trips.

#### 3. PLATFORMS:

To facilitate the planting of DCPs, we have adopted five strategic missions thrusts.

##### a. Home Missions:

Reaching foreigners at our doorsteps

##### b. Urban Missions:

Urban ministry in gateway cities

##### c. Business as Missions:

Missions in the marketplace

##### d. E-Missions:

Harness cutting-edge technology for mass evangelism

##### e. The Next Generation Missions:

Winning children and youth for Christ

#### PRAYER POINTERS:

1. Pray for the Missions Office, led by Elder Lian Seng and the Missions Governing Board led by Elder Ben Mow, for wisdom and discernment in the strategic planning and execution of Covenant's missions endeavours.
2. Pray for Covenanters that missions awareness will increase and that we will be open to God's call to missions whether as goers or senders.

*"Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit"*

**MATTHEW 28:19**

February 1,  
Saturday  
2014

# Authenticity

## SCRIPTURE

### 3 John 3, 12

“Truth” and “testimony” are the two central interlinked themes in 3 John. The concept of truth is repeated seven times (vv. 1, 3, 4, 8, 12), and testimony five times (vv. 3, 6, 12). Both ideas may be summed up in one word – authenticity. Authenticity is an internal reality that flows from the inside out. Gaius has been constantly living according to the truth to the extent that he has internalised and personalised it (v. 3). “The concrete evidence of his adherence to the truth”<sup>1</sup> is that “‘truth’ is virtually personified”<sup>2</sup> in his life, and we can safely assume that Gaius is certainly also sound in doctrine<sup>3</sup>. When one’s life demonstrates truth, there is likely to be external testimony to this authenticity, as evident when the community testified to the truth in Gaius (v. 3). True authenticity does not seek to show itself so that others may see; rather it comes from within, with no interest or concern whether people see it or not. True authenticity exists to honour GOD.

## OBSERVATION

*How does John describe the authenticity of Demetrius in 3 John 12?*

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## APPLICATION

How authentic am I in my life?

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## PRAYER

God of all truth, what I think of and how I perceive myself or even how others see me to be true and real, may not be so in Your eyes. For all the ways of a man are clean and right in his own sight, but God, You weigh the motives and the attitudes.<sup>4</sup> So, help me through the Holy Spirit to humbly and honestly know my heart before You.  
Amen.

### Prayer Pointers

- Give thanks:
- Pray for leaders:
- Pray for significant people:
- Pray for those in need:
- Pray for self:

11. Howard Marshall, *The Epistles of John*, The New International Commentary on the New Testament (Eerdmans, 1978), 84

21. Howard Marshall, 93

31. Howard Marshall, 84

4 Proverbs 16:2





# review, reflect, response

**REVIEW** — Look back at your past week using the Examen (modified).

a. What was my high point?

b. What was my low point?

c. What gave me life?

d. What drained me?

e. How was the Spirit of God at work?



**REFLECT** — What is one key thing that God said to me this week in light of what has happened?

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## RESPONSE

a. What is one thing I need to do in light of what God is saying?

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b. Journal your prayer.

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February 3,  
Monday  
2014

# The Word of Life: Identity

## SCRIPTURE

### 1 John 1:1-4

The central focus of 1 John 1:1-4 is the Word of life (v. 1). What and who is the Word of life? The Word of life is verbal, a message that is proclaimed or declared (v. 3). The Word of life is also personal, a person who can be touched with our hands (v. 1). John 1:1 says "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God"; here, "the Word" refers to Jesus. Hence, the Word of life is both the person of Jesus and the message of Jesus (the gospel). Both are "ultimately identical"<sup>5</sup> and "must be held together"<sup>6</sup>. When Paul preached the gospel, he preached a person (Col 1:28). At the same time, "Life" refers to eternal life (v. 2) which is "the personification of Christ"<sup>7</sup> — life is in Christ (Jn 1:4; 1 Jn 5:11,12), and Christ is Himself the life (Jn 14:6; 1 Jn 5:20). Lastly, the Word of life is relational. "Since eternal life is to know God (Jn 17:3), He who is Eternal Life does not enjoy immortal solitude, but conscious, continuous, intimate communion as Son with the Father"<sup>8</sup> — "the Word was with God." (Jn 1:1)

## OBSERVATION

What else can you discover about the Word of life in 1 John 1:1-4?

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## APPLICATION

What does it mean to me to relate with Jesus as the Word of life?

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## PRAYER

Long ago, God, You spoke many times and in many ways through the prophets. Now in these final days, You have spoken to us through Your Son<sup>9</sup>. You are a God who desires to speak to us the Word of life that we may know You, for eternal life is to know You and Your Son. I want to lay hold of and cling to the Word of life. Amen.

### Prayer Pointers

- Give thanks:
  
- Pray for leaders:
  
- Pray for significant people:
  
- Pray for those in need:
  
- Pray for self:

<sup>5</sup> David Jackman, *The Message of John*, The Bible Speaks Today (IVP, 1988), 21

<sup>6</sup> David Jackman, 22

<sup>7</sup> John R. W. Stott, *The Letters of John*, Tyndale New Testament Commentaries (IVP, 1964, 1988), 73

<sup>8</sup> John Stott, 64

<sup>9</sup> Hebrews 1:1-2



February 5,  
Wednesday  
2014

# Condescension to Contact

## SCRIPTURE

### 1 John 1:1-4

In the divine redemption of humans, the way up is down. God came down to us in order that we may go up to Him and for Him to be in contact with us. God condescends from eternity to history to intimacy. God moved from eternity ("What was from the beginning", v. 1) to become history ("the Life was manifested", v. 2, "The Word became human and made His home among us", Jn 1:14). Therefore, the eternal exists, moves and lives in the historical. Then in history, God in human form seeks to have intimacy with us ("He was manifested to us", v. 2). John describes that intimacy as "what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we gazed upon and touched with our hands" (v. 1), and "our fellowship...with the Father and with His Son" (v. 3). This intimacy with God is possible only because Jesus is "the atoning sacrifice for our sins" (1 Jn 2:2).

## OBSERVATION

*What are your thoughts of this God who condescends to have contact with you as revealed in 1 John 1:1-4?*

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## APPLICATION

What is my response to this God who condescends to have contact with me?

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## PRAYER

I praise You, Lord Jesus, for the huge risk You took in becoming human in order to bring out the best in me.

I praise You for the huge risk You took in entrusting Yourself to me and sharing my vulnerability. I praise You for the incalculable risk You took in emptying Yourself and allowing Yourself to be abused and killed to free me from the power of evil.<sup>10</sup> Amen.

## Prayer Pointers

- Give thanks:
- Pray for leaders:
- Pray for significant people:
- Pray for those in need:
- Pray for self:

<sup>10</sup> Angela Ashwin, *The Book of a Thousand Prayers* (Zondervan, 1996, 2002), 311

February 6,  
Thursday  
2014

# Character of Condescension

## SCRIPTURE

### 1 John 1:1-4; John 1:1, 9-14

"The life was manifested...and was manifested to us" (v. 2) refers to "the historical incarnation of the eternal Son"<sup>11</sup>, whose nature is as follows: "He who is from the beginning is He whom the apostles heard, saw and touched. It is impossible to distinguish between Jesus and the Christ, the historical and the eternal. They are the same person who is both God and man."<sup>12</sup> God in Immanuel, meaning "with us is God" (Mt 1:23), shares our humanity. He feels tired (Jn 4:6), suffers with us in our pain, weeps with us (Jn 11:35) and understands our weaknesses (Heb 4:15). As sinners, we need the condescension of God. "We could not have seen the one who was eternally with the Father unless He had taken the initiative deliberately to manifest Himself. Human beings can apprehend only what God is pleased to make known."<sup>13</sup> This shows how much God wants to draw near to us, dwell with us and dine with us (Rev 3:20).

## OBSERVATION

*What does John 1:1, 9-14 tell us about God's condescension to humanity in Jesus Christ?*

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## APPLICATION

What touched me as I reflect on God's condescension to humanity in Jesus Christ?

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## PRAYER

Lord Jesus, thank you for Your willingness to be touched and be intimate with people in need, which shows that You share Your complete person, Your body and Your spirit, with those who crave contact with wholeness. I reach out to You, hardly knowing what I need much of the time, but I know I need You to touch me and make me whole.<sup>14</sup> Amen.

## Prayer Pointers

- Give thanks:
- Pray for leaders:
- Pray for significant people:
- Pray for those in need:
- Pray for self:

<sup>11</sup> John Stott, 66

<sup>12</sup> John Stott, 66

<sup>13</sup> John Stott, 66

<sup>14</sup> Adapted from Eugene Peterson, *A Year with Jesus: Daily Reading and Meditations* (Harper San Francisco, 2006), 141









# review, reflect, response

**REVIEW** — Look back at your past week using the Examen (modified).

a. What was my high point?

b. What was my low point?

c. What gave me life?

d. What drained me?

e. How was the Spirit of God at work?



**REFLECT** — What is one key thing that God said to me this week in light of what has happened?

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## RESPONSE

a. What is one thing I need to do in light of what God is saying?

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b. Journal your prayer.

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February 10,  
Monday  
2014

# God is Light

## SCRIPTURE

### 1 John 1:5-7; James 1:16-17

The Word of life (1 Jn 1:1) is synonymous with "God is light" (v. 5); for the Word is "life, and the life is the light of men. The light shines in the darkness" (Jn 1:4-5a). "Of the statements about the essential being of God, none is more comprehensive than God is 'light'. It is His nature to reveal Himself, as it is the property of light to shine, and the revelation is of perfect purity and unutterable majesty. We are to think of God as a personal being, infinite of all His perfections, transcendent, 'the high and lofty One...He who lives forever, whose name is holy' (Isa 57:15), yet desires to be known and has revealed Himself"<sup>20</sup>. And in God "there is no darkness at all", "no secrecy, no hiding in the shadows," but "possessing an absolute moral perfection".<sup>21</sup> "God is light" means God is always perfectly right. He makes no mistakes, even when things in our lives go wrong and we don't understand the reasons why. Is "God is light" your light (Ps 27:1)?

## OBSERVATION

*What does James 1:16-17 tell us about the Father of lights?*

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## APPLICATION

How does "God is light" and "the Father of lights" affect my life?

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## PRAYER

Father of lights, I bless Your holy name for with You there is no variation or shifting shadow.<sup>22</sup> Your work is perfect for all Your ways are just. A God of faithfulness and without injustice, righteous and upright are You.<sup>23</sup> I take refuge in You. You are my Rock; in You I stand strong, stable and steadfast. Amen.

### Prayer Pointers

- Give thanks:
  
- Pray for leaders:
  
- Pray for significant people:
  
- Pray for those in need:
  
- Pray for self:

<sup>20</sup> John Stott, 75

<sup>21</sup> John Stott, 76

<sup>22</sup> James 1:17

<sup>23</sup> Deuteronomy 32:4



# Light and Darkness: When We Walk in the Light

## SCRIPTURE

### 1 John 1:5-7; Romans 13:11-14

Because God is light (v. 5), we His children must walk in the light. To walk in the light means having fellowship with God (v. 6) and with one another (v. 7), and practising the truth (v. 6). When we walk in the light there should be the absence of darkness in us, otherwise incongruence, self-deception, self-contradiction, hypocrisy and defilement will mark our lives. That said, there still are times where we sin. Such moments are part of walking in the light as implied by “the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin” (v. 7). Walking in the light is a three-steps-forward, two-steps-back reality. We still fall into sin, but the light exposes our sins, enabling us to be sensitive to them so that we can immediately bring them to God for His forgiveness and cleansing. Walking in the light is redemptive in nature. This aspect of discipleship is so crucial that it is one of the first things John writes about and he does so at length (1 Jn 1:7-2:2).

## OBSERVATION

*How does Paul describe the urgency of putting on the armour of light in Romans 13:11-14?*

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## APPLICATION

What is the greatest challenge for me to walk in the light?

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## PRAYER

Your Word is a lamp to my feet, and a light to my path.<sup>24</sup>

Strengthen my heart to obey

Your commands and not neglect Your truths. Help me to keep Your Word always in my heart so that when I walk, the counsel of Your Word will guide me; when I sleep, Your Word will watch over me; and when I wake up, Your Word will talk to me,<sup>25</sup> to keep me from darkness. Amen.

## Prayer Pointers

- Give thanks:
  
- Pray for leaders:
  
- Pray for significant people:
  
- Pray for those in need:
  
- Pray for self:

<sup>24</sup> Psalm 119:105  
<sup>25</sup> Proverbs 6:20-23



# Darkness and Light: When We Walk in Darkness

## SCRIPTURE

### **Psalm 139:7-12; Psalm 23:1-4**

When we walk in the light, we can sometimes find ourselves walking in the darkness of adversity. The psalmist in Psalm 139 describes times when darkness overwhelms him and the light around him becomes night (v. 11), and reflects on God who is with him in his darkness. God's presence is ever-present. We will meet Him whether we ascend to the highest point or descend to the lowest pit (v. 7-8), or go eastward where the sun rises or westward to the farthest end of the Mediterranean Sea (v. 9-10). God's personal presence is His hand holding and guiding us (v. 10). God's prevailing presence is a light that shines in our darkness (v. 11-12) in such a way that the darkness becomes bright ("the brightness of even the darkest night"<sup>26</sup>), for to God "the night is as bright as the day" (v. 12b). When our theology is that "even the darkness is not dark to You" (v. 12a), we can say to our discipleship darkness, "The darkness around me is not dark to me".

## OBSERVATION

*How does God want us to "walk through the darkest valley"<sup>27</sup> in Psalm 23:1-4?*

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## APPLICATION

What should I do when I "walk through the darkest valley"?

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## PRAYER

Your word is a lamp to my feet; where I am standing now and the step just before me that I need not hesitate over. Your word is a light to my path, shining a little way ahead, giving me glimpses of direction to reassure me and give me purpose. You shine faithfully upon my life,<sup>28</sup> with Your presence of the pillar of cloud by day and of fire by night.<sup>29</sup> Amen.

### Prayer Pointers

- Give thanks:
  
- Pray for leaders:
  
- Pray for significant people:
  
- Pray for those in need:
  
- Pray for self:

<sup>26</sup> Stanley L. Jaki, *Praying the Psalms: A Commentary* (Eerdmans, 2001), 226

<sup>27</sup> NRSV, NLT; margin of ESV, NIV

<sup>28</sup> *Celtic Daily Prayer* (Collins, 2005), 535

<sup>29</sup> Exodus 13:21



February 14,  
Friday  
2014

# What is "fellowship with one another"?

## SCRIPTURE

### 1 John 1:7

It is quite common to hear this expression among Christians: "Gather together just for fellowship". It implies that fellowship is a trivial, insignificant thing, just a time of casual chit-chatting and social small talk without God in the picture. Consciously or unconsciously, we have misunderstood and misrepresented fellowship. We need to correct our faulty thinking and return to its biblical roots. Biblically, our fellowship with one another is "our fellowship...with the Father and with His Son" (1 Jn 1:3). 1 John 1:7 presents a dynamic portrait of fellowshiping with one another. In this verse, John highlights three vital spiritual realities in relation to fellowship: "walk in the light," "as He Himself is in the light," and "the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin". Fellowship must be constructed and characterised by these spiritual realities.

## OBSERVATION

*What does "fellowship with one another" have to do with "walk in the light as He Himself is in the light" and "the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin"?*

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## APPLICATION

How should I view fellowship with one another in the context of 1 John 1:7?

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## PRAYER

Redeemer God, sin brought about a breakdown and barrier in man's relationship with You and with fellow humans. But You seek to restore the two kinds of relationships by reconciling humans as one new man and in one body to Yourself through the death of Your Son, putting to death the enmity.<sup>33</sup> Such is Your delight in relationships! May this also be my delight! Amen.

### Prayer Pointers

- Give thanks:
- Pray for leaders:
- Pray for significant people:
- Pray for those in need:
- Pray for self:

<sup>33</sup> Ephesians 2:15-16

February 15,  
Saturday  
2014

# Fellowship as God Intended

## SCRIPTURE

### 1 John 1:7; Hebrews 10:19-25

"Our fellowship with one another is our fellowship with God" (1 Jn 1:3). In our small group communities and meetings, we gather together for consecration as "we walk in the light" (v. 7). We learn God's Word together, share our life journeys and our ups and downs, encouraging and praying for one another as we help each other to continue to walk in the light. We also receive cleansing ("the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin", v. 7). When someone shares how he or she has strayed into darkness, we don't judge that person. Instead we appropriate God's forgiveness and cleansing of all sin. When we hurt one another, as God-forgiven people, we forgive each other (Eph 4:31-32). Such consecration and cleansing happens when the centre of our gathering is "God is light". This is the fellowship with one another as God intended.

## OBSERVATION

*What do you understand about Christian fellowship from Hebrews 10:19-25?*

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## APPLICATION

What changes do I need to make in my understanding of and attitude towards fellowshiping with one another?

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## PRAYER

Lord, the culture of today's fast-paced and busy world can lead us to lack time and energy for what is most important: relationships. At the same time, increasingly advancing technology make us less personal and relational. So help us to be vigilant and diligent to guard and grow our relationship with You and with one another, in the family and in the church. Amen.

### Prayer Pointers

- Give thanks:
  
- Pray for leaders:
  
- Pray for significant people:
  
- Pray for those in need:
  
- Pray for self:





# review, reflect, response

**REVIEW** — Look back at your past week using the Examen (modified).

a. What was my high point?

b. What was my low point?

c. What gave me life?

d. What drained me?

e. How was the Spirit of God at work?



**REFLECT** — What is one key thing that God said to me this week in light of what has happened?

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## RESPONSE

a. What is one thing I need to do in light of what God is saying?

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b. Journal your prayer.

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February 18,  
Tuesday  
2014

# Assurance of God's Forgiveness

## SCRIPTURE

### 1 John 1:9; Hosea 14:1-7

In 1 John 1:9, what follows immediately after "if we confess our sins" is "He is faithful and righteous". Because God's character is faithful and righteous<sup>36</sup>, He will forgive and cleanse us of our confessed sins. God is faithful to forgive because He has promised to do so in His new covenant with us, "I will forgive their iniquity, and their sin I will remember no more" (Jer 31:31, 34). God is righteous in forgiving us because His Son, as an atoning sacrifice, died for our sins (1 Jn 2:2). It means "God would be wrong to withhold forgiveness"<sup>37</sup>. When God has forgiven and cleansed our sins, "its defiling effects no longer condemn us in the sight of God. Although as Christians who walk in the light we can still sin, yet this does not prevent our fellowship with God, for God Himself removes our sin"<sup>38</sup>.

## OBSERVATION

*What does Hosea 14:1-7 tell us about God, His forgiveness and His people?*

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## APPLICATION

How do I look at God and His forgiveness?

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## PRAYER

Who is a God like You, who pardons iniquity and passes over the rebellious act of the remnant of His possession? You do not retain Your anger forever, because You delight in unchanging covenant love. You will again have compassion on me; You will tread my iniquities under foot. Yes, You will cast all my sins into the depths of the sea.<sup>39</sup> Amen.

### Prayer Pointers

- Give thanks:
  
- Pray for leaders:
  
- Pray for significant people:
  
- Pray for those in need:
  
- Pray for self:

<sup>36</sup> I. Howard Marshall, 113-14

<sup>37</sup> I. Howard Marshall, 114

<sup>38</sup> I. Howard Marshall, 112

<sup>39</sup> Micah 7:18-19



February 20,  
Thursday  
2014

# God Pursues to Forgive

## SCRIPTURE

### **Psalm 32:1-5; Psalm 107:10-16**

When the psalmist sinned against God, he kept silent about his sin and refused to confess it to God (v. 3). But God did not leave him alone to continue living in sin. God rested His hand of discipline heavily upon the psalmist (“For day and night”, v. 4). We do not know for how long the psalmist continued to hide his sin, but from the way he described the severe effects of the divine discipline, it appears to be quite a while (“my body wasted away, and I groaned all day long... My strength evaporated like water in the summer”, vv. 3, 4). God did not let him go until he finally stopped trying to hide his guilt and confessed to God all his sins and rebellion (v. 5a). Then God forgave him and “all my guilt is gone” (v. 5b, NLT). God pursues us to forgive our sins, and His divine forgiveness is divine blessedness (vv. 1, 2).

## OBSERVATION

*What does Psalm 107:10-16 reveal concerning God's heart toward those who rebel against Him?*

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## APPLICATION

What sins am I hiding from God, and what will I do about it?

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## PRAYER

O how can it be, O God, that You count me blessed when You have forgiven my transgressions and covered my sins?<sup>44</sup> How can it be, O God, that when sin increases, grace abounds all the more?<sup>45</sup>

But such is the glory and riches of Your incredible grace that You lavish on me in Christ!<sup>46</sup> Keep me from taking sin lightly and Your grace for granted. Amen.

### Prayer Pointers

- Give thanks:
  
- Pray for leaders:
  
- Pray for significant people:
  
- Pray for those in need:
  
- Pray for self:

<sup>44</sup> Psalm 32:1-2  
<sup>45</sup> Romans 5:20  
<sup>46</sup> Ephesians 1:6-8



February 22,  
Saturday  
2014

# What God Delights In

## SCRIPTURE

### **Psalm 51:6, 16-17, 19**

The words "delight" and "desire" (in Hebrew) are repeated three times in Psalm 51, which reveals the three ABCs that God delights in when we confess our sins to Him – authenticity, brokenness and consecration. God delights in authenticity ("Behold, You desire truth in the innermost being", v. 6). Authenticity is found in the heart, where no one but God alone can see it. God delights in brokenness ("You do not delight in sacrifice ... The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and a contrite heart", v. 16-17). When we honestly and consciously see our inner sinfulness, it will lead to humble brokenness, and this prayer of brokenness will become our frequent prayer: "God, be merciful to me, the sinner!" (Lk 18:13). God delights in consecration ("Then You will delight in righteous sacrifices", v. 19). Righteous sacrifices, or the sacrifices of God, are a broken spirit and a broken and a contrite heart (v. 17). Essentially, authenticity with brokenness is consecration to God.

## OBSERVATION

*What does the psalmist say about God forgiving his sins and his worship to God in Psalm 51:14-19?*

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## APPLICATION

Worship the gracious forgiving God using Psalm 51 as a guide.

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## PRAYER

As per the  
application.

### Prayer Pointers

- Give thanks:
  
- Pray for leaders:
  
- Pray for significant people:
  
- Pray for those in need:
  
- Pray for self:





# review, reflect, response

**REVIEW** — Look back at your past week using the Examen (modified).

a. What was my high point?

b. What was my low point?

c. What gave me life?

d. What drained me?

e. How was the Spirit of God at work?



**REFLECT** — What is one key thing that God said to me this week in light of what has happened?

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## RESPONSE

a. What is one thing I need to do in light of what God is saying?

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b. Journal your prayer.

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February 24,  
Monday  
2014

# Attitude Toward Sin (1)

## SCRIPTURE

### 1 John 2:1-2; 1 Corinthians 5:1-2

When John writes “these things” (v. 1) he is referring to the things mentioned in 1 John 1:5-10. The reason John gives for highlighting these areas, especially those in 1 John 1:8-10, is to prevent us from sinning (v. 1). John is concerned that the promise of full forgiveness of our sins when we confess them may cause us to think lightly of sin. The forgiveness of sins must be supported by the right attitude toward sin. In verse 1, the negative “you may not sin” is balanced by the positive “and if anyone sins”. “It is important to hold these two statements in balance. It is possible to be either too lenient or too severe toward sin. Too great a lenience almost encourages sin in the Christian by stressing God’s provision for the sinner. An exaggerated severity, on the other hand, either denies the possibility of a Christian sinning or refuses him forgiveness and restoration if he falls. Both extreme positions are contradicted by John.”<sup>49</sup>

## OBSERVATION

What do you observe about the Corinthian church’s attitude toward sin in 1 Corinthians 5:1-2?

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## APPLICATION

What is my attitude toward sin like?

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## PRAYER

Forgive me my sins, O Lord; the sins of my present and of my past, the sins of my soul and of my body, the sins which I have done to please myself and the sins which I have done to please others. Forgive me my casual sins and my deliberate sins, and those which I have laboured to hide that I have hidden even from myself. O Lord, forgive all my sins.<sup>50</sup>  
Amen.

## Prayer Pointers

- Give thanks:
- Pray for leaders:
- Pray for significant people:
- Pray for those in need:
- Pray for self:

<sup>49</sup> John Stott, 84

<sup>50</sup> Thomas Wilson (1663-1775), Angela Ashwin, 137

February 25,  
Tuesday  
2014

# Attitude Toward Sin (2)

## SCRIPTURE

### 1 John 2:1-2; 1 Corinthians 5:6-8

"Horror, hatred, fear, repudiation of sin pervade the whole Epistle (1 John)."<sup>51</sup> Thus for John, the right attitude toward sin is imperative for a Christian which is shaped by three perspectives – the command against sin, the character of a saint and the conflict in a sinner-saint. The command against sin is simply that we must not sin ("that you may not sin", v. 1). As disciples of Jesus, we cannot escape this specific command: "Do not sin anymore" (Jn 5:14); "From now on sin no more" (Jn 8:11). The character of a saint is one where we should not be sinning ("no one who abides in Him sins", 1 Jn 3:6; "no one who is born of God practices sin", 3:9; "no one who is born of God sins", 5:18). "Sin, indeed, is so thoroughly uncharacteristic of the Christian life that a life which is marked by sin cannot be called Christian."<sup>52</sup> However, in reality, there is the conflict in a sinner-saint because we do sin. The clause "if anyone sins" (v. 1) indicates that "acts of sin, as opposed to the continuous sinful habit, are possible in the Christian"<sup>53</sup>.

## OBSERVATION

*How should we view sin in our lives according to 1 Corinthians 5:6-8?*

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## APPLICATION

What are the "little leaven" in my life, and what will I do with them?

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## PRAYER

Lord and Master of my life,  
take from me the spirit of  
laziness, half-heartedness,  
selfish ambition and idle talk.

Give me rather the spirit  
of integrity, purity of heart,  
faithfulness and love. Lord  
and King, help me to see my  
own errors and not judge my  
neighbours for Your mercy's  
sake.<sup>54</sup> Amen.

## Prayer Pointers

- Give thanks:
  
- Pray for leaders:
  
- Pray for significant people:
  
- Pray for those in need:
  
- Pray for self:

<sup>51</sup> John Stott, 84 - citing Robert Law

<sup>52</sup> F. F. Bruce, *The Epistles of John* (Pickering, 1970), 48

<sup>53</sup> John Stott, 85

<sup>54</sup> Adapted from *Orthodox Liturgy for Lent*, Angela Ashwin, 140

February 26,  
Wednesday  
2014

# Advocate for Sinners

## SCRIPTURE

### 1 John 2:1-2; Luke 22:28-34

"If anyone sins, we have an Advocate" - "one who speaks to the Father in our defence" (v. 1, NIV). Christ pleads our cause against the accuser, the devil, who accuses God's children before God day and night (Rev 12:11), and to the Father, who loves and forgives His children. A believer in Christ already "has eternal life and will not be condemned; he has crossed over from death to life" (Jn 5:24) and is made right with God (Ro 3:24). And in Christ we have this confidence: No one can accuse us whom God has chosen for His own (Ro 8:33). No one can condemn us because Christ has died and risen on our behalf, and He is now interceding for us as our Advocate (Ro 8:34). "Our advocate does not plead that we are innocent, or adduce extenuating circumstances. He acknowledges our guilt and presents His vicarious work as the ground for our acquittal."<sup>55</sup>

## OBSERVATION

*What do you observe about following Jesus and Jesus' intercession for His disciples in Luke 22:28-34?*

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## APPLICATION

How does the knowledge and assurance of Jesus' intercession for me in heaven now (Heb 7:25) help me to follow the Lord?

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## PRAYER

Lord Jesus, I thank you that when I sin against God, I do not stand alone with the guilt of my sin, but You stand with me as my Advocate saying to God, "Yes, Father, Your child, indeed, is guilty of his/her sin. But I have died for his/her sins so that You will forgive and cleanse all his/her sins, and restore Your child to Yourself in fellowship."  
Thank you, Lord. Amen.

### Prayer Pointers

- Give thanks:
  
  
- Pray for leaders:
  
  
- Pray for significant people:
  
  
- Pray for those in need:
  
  
- Pray for self:

<sup>55</sup> John Stott, 87 - citing David Smith



February 28,  
Friday  
2014

# The Righteous One

## SCRIPTURE

### 1 John 2:1-2; 1 Peter 2:21-25

As our Advocate and the atoning sacrifice for our sins, Jesus Christ has to be righteous. "As to His eternal deity, He is righteous by definition, because He is God. As to His earthly life, He is also righteous, in contrast to sinful man. His life was sinless, though He endured temptations far beyond anything we are called to face: He simply never yielded to them (Heb 4:15)."<sup>58</sup> And it is "because His sinless life was laid down for us as a means by which our forgiveness was obtained that He can righteously plead His sacrifice before the righteous Father, on behalf of us, the unrighteous"<sup>59</sup>. But the righteous Jesus had to first become unrighteous; He became sin on behalf of the unrighteous (2 Co 5:21). On the cross, Jesus was our sin, sacrifice, salvation and saviour so that "we may become the righteousness of God in Him" (2 Co 5:21) and stand right in the presence of the holy God, who became our Father and adopted us as His children.

## OBSERVATION

*How does Jesus demonstrate being our Righteous Saviour in 1 Peter 2:21-25?*

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## APPLICATION

What does it mean to me to follow my Righteous Saviour?

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## PRAYER

"My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?"<sup>60</sup> O, the cry of Your most painful moment on the cross, Lord Jesus, when You became sin and curse for me, and faced Your Father's holy wrath and righteous judgment in my stead! On the cross God was forsaken of God! How unfathomable! Amazing love! How can it be that You my God should die for me? Amen.

### Prayer Pointers

- Give thanks:
- Pray for leaders:
- Pray for significant people:
- Pray for those in need:
- Pray for self:

<sup>58</sup> David Jackman, 44  
<sup>59</sup> David Jackman, 45  
<sup>60</sup> Matthew 27:46

# Missions Prayer

## FOCUS OF THE MONTH

### Home Missions: Indonesian and Filipino Fellowships

#### 1. PURPOSE:

28% of the Singapore population are foreigners and 14% of these are domestic workers. That adds up to more than 200,000 foreign domestic workers in Singapore. God has brought them here for His purpose. He calls us to bless and love the foreigners among us. Home Missions is dedicated to reaching out to them through our Indonesian and Filipino fellowships.

#### 2. PROCESS:

Covenant's vision is to set up disciple-making church plants (DCP) among the internationals and send some of them as disciple-makers back to their home countries. The Indonesian and Filipino Fellowships meet weekly in both the Woodlands and Pasir Panjang centres. These provide a home away from home where they can find commonality in their culture, language and passion to study the Word. Other programmes include outreach events, Christian education, skills training and outings.

#### 3. PLATFORMS:

Many domestic helpers have since come to know Jesus personally through our Sunday services and in their interactions with the leaders of the international fellowships. We rejoice for these salvations! We also recognise the wider impact of foreigners coming to Christ. As they return to their home countries, God may use them to impact many of their countrymen for Christ.

#### PRAYER POINTERS:

1. Pray for the core leaders as they shepherd their flock. The Indonesian Fellowship is led by two couples Indra and Esther, and Eka and Feni. The Filipino Fellowship is guided by Ramon and his assistant, Leizel, as well as Rubel and Mylette.
2. Pray for Pastor Andy and our home missionary, Corrie, as they mentor the core leaders.
3. Pray for more lay leaders to volunteer and that Home Missions awareness will increase in Covenant.

*"When a stranger sojourns with you in your land, you shall not do him wrong. You shall treat the stranger who sojourns with you as the native among you, and you shall love him as yourself."*

**LEVITICUS 19:33-34**

# worship songs

## GOD IS ABLE

God is Able  
He will never fail  
He is almighty God

Greater than all we seek  
Greater than all we ask  
He as done great things

Lifted up  
He defeated the grave  
Raised to life  
Our God is Able

In His name we overcome  
For the Lord  
Our God is Able

God is with us  
God is on our side  
He will make a way  
Far above all we know  
Far above all we hope  
He has done great things

Lifted up  
He defeated the grave  
Raised to life  
Our God is Able

God is with us  
He will go before  
He will never leave us  
He will never leave us

God is for us  
He has open arms  
He will never fail us  
He will never fail us

Lifted up  
He defeated the grave  
Raised to life  
Our God is Able

Words & Music: Ben Fielding | Reuben Morgan  
Year & Publisher: © 2010 Hillsong Music Publishing  
CCLI Song # 5894275

## AMAZING GRACE/MY CHAINS ARE GONE

### Verse 1

Amazing grace how sweet the sound  
That saved a wretch like me!  
I once was lost, but now am found  
Was blind but now I see

### Verse 2

T'was grace that taught my heart to fear  
And grace my fears relieved;  
How precious did that grace appear  
The hour I first believed

### Chorus

My chains are gone, I've been set free  
My God my Saviour has ransomed me  
And like a flood His mercy rains  
Unending love Amazing Grace

### Verse 3

The Lord has promised good to me  
His word my hope secures  
He will my shield and portion be  
As long as life endures

### Verse 4

The earth shall soon dissolve like snow  
The sun forbear to shine  
But God, who call'd me here below  
Will be forever mine

Words & Music: Chris Tomlin | John Newton | Louie Giglio  
Year & Publisher: © 2006 sixsteps Music (Admin. by EMI Christian Music Publishing);  
Vamos Publishing (Admin. by EMI Christian Music Publishing); worshiptogether.com  
songs (Admin. by EMI Christian Music Publishing)  
CCLI Song # 4768151

## HOW GREAT THOU ART

### Verse 1

O Lord my God when I in awesome wonder  
 Consider all the works Thy hand hath made  
 I see the stars I hear the mighty thunder  
 Thy pow'r throughout the universe displayed

### Chorus

Then sings my soul my Saviour God to Thee  
 How great Thou art how great Thou art  
 Then sings my soul my Saviour God to Thee  
 How great Thou art how great Thou art

### Verse 2

When through the woods and forest glades I wander  
 And hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees  
 When I look down from lofty mountain grandeur  
 And hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze

### Verse 3

And when I think that God His Son not sparing  
 Sent Him to die I scarce can take it in  
 That on the Cross my burden gladly bearing  
 He bled and died to take away my sin

### Verse 4

When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation  
 And take me home what joy shall fill my heart  
 Then shall I bow in humble adoration  
 And there proclaim my God how great Thou art

Words & Music: Stuart Wesley Keene Hine

Year & Publisher: © 1949 and 1953 Stuart K. Hine Trust - Admin. by CopyCare Asia Ltd  
 (Singapore Branch)  
 CCLI Song # 14181

## VICTOR'S CROWN

### Verse 1

You are always fighting for us  
 Heaven's angels all around  
 My delight is found in knowing  
 That You wear the Victor's crown

You're my help and my defender  
 You're my Saviour and my friend  
 By Your grace I live and breathe  
 To worship You

### Verse 2

At the mention of Your greatness  
 In Your Name I will bow down  
 In Your presence fear is silent  
 For You wear the Victor's crown

Let Your glory fill this temple  
 Let Your power overflow  
 By Your grace I live and breathe  
 To worship You

### Chorus

Hallelujah  
 You have overcome  
 You have overcome  
 Hallelujah  
 Jesus You have overcome the world

### Verse 3

You are ever interceding  
 As the lost become the found  
 You can never be defeated  
 For You wear the Victor's crown

## VICTOR'S CROWN (CONT'D)

You are Jesus the Messiah  
 You're the Hope of all the world  
 By Your grace I live and breathe  
 To worship You

### Chorus

Hallelujah  
 You have overcome  
 You have overcome  
 Hallelujah  
 Jesus You have overcome the world

### Verse 4

Every high thing must come down  
 Every stronghold shall be broken  
 You wear the Victor's crown  
 You overcome, you overcome

At the cross the work was finished  
 You were buried in the ground  
 But the grave could not contain You  
 For You wear the Victor's crown

### Bridge

Every high thing must come down  
 Every stronghold shall be broken  
 You wear the Victor's crown  
 You overcome, you overcome

Words & Music: Darlene Zschech | Israel Houghton | Kari Jobe  
 Year & Publisher: © EWI (Admin. by EMI Christian Music Publishing); Integrity Worship  
 Music (Admin. by EMI Christian Music Publishing); Integrity's Praise! Music (Admin. by  
 EMI Christian Music Publishing); Sound Of The New Breed (Admin. by EMI Christian  
 Music Publishing); Worship Together Music (Admin. by EMI Christian Music Publishing)  
 CCLI Song # 6454621

## FOR WHO YOU ARE

### Verse

Standing here, in Your presence  
 Thinking of the good things You have done  
 Waiting here, patiently  
 Just to hear Your small still small voice again

### Pre-Chorus

Holy righteous faithful to the end  
 Saviour Healer Redeemer and friend

### Chorus

I will worship You for who You are  
 I will worship You for who You are  
 I will worship You for who You are Jesus

### Bridge

My soul secure, Your promise sure  
 Your love endures always

Words & Music: Marty Sampson  
 Year & Publisher: © 2006 Hillsong Music Publishing  
 CCLI Song # 4591799

## GOD OF AGES

God of ages bringing glory here  
 You are good  
 You are good  
 Son of righteousness  
 You are all I seek  
 With all my heart

### Pre-chorus

Giver of life,  
 Hope for the lost is in You  
 All of the earth shines with Your light  
 Your glory

### Chorus

You are the God who lives  
 You are the God who heals  
 You are my hope, my everything  
 You brought salvation to us  
 Offered Your peace to the world  
 You are my Lord my everything

### Verse 2

In Your promise and Your faithfulness  
 I will trust all my days  
 King forever, reign in majesty  
 Be glorified

Words & Music: Ben Fielding  
 Year & Publisher: © 2007 Hillsong Music Publishing  
 CCLI Song # 4869933

## OUR GOD

### Verse 1

Water You turned into wine  
 Opened the eyes of the blind  
 There's no one like You  
 None like You

### Verse 2

Into the darkness You shine  
 Out of the ashes we rise  
 There's no one like You  
 None like You

### Chorus

Our God is greater  
 Our God is stronger  
 God You are higher than any other  
 Our God is Healer

Awesome in power,  
 Our God  
 Our God

### Bridge

And if our God is for us  
 Then who could ever stop us  
 And if our God is with us  
 Then what could stand against

Words & Music: Chris Tomlin | Jesse Reeves | Jonas Myrin | Matt Redman  
 Year & Publisher: © 2010 Said And Done Music (Admin. by EMI Christian Music Publishing); sixsteps Music (Admin. by EMI Christian Music Publishing); Thankyou Music (Admin. by EMI Christian Music Publishing); Vamos Publishing (Admin. by EMI Christian Music Publishing); worshiptogether.com songs (Admin. by EMI Christian Music Publishing); SHOUT! Music Publishing  
 CCLI Song # 5677416

## 10,000 REASONS

### Chorus

Bless the Lord O my soul O my soul  
Worship His holy name  
Sing like never before O my soul  
I'll worship Your holy name

### Verse 1

The sun comes up it's a new day dawning  
It's time to sing Your song again  
Whatever may pass and  
Whatever lies before me  
Let me be singing when the evening comes

### Verse 2

You're rich in love and You're slow to anger  
Your name is great and Your heart is kind  
For all Your goodness I will keep on singing  
Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find

### Verse 3

And on that day when my strength is failing  
The end draws near and my time has come  
Still my soul will sing Your praise unending  
Ten thousand years and then forever more

Worship Your holy name  
Lord I'll worship Your holy name  
Sing like never before O my soul  
I'll worship Your holy name  
Worship Your holy name  
Worship Your holy name

Words & Music by: Jonas Myrin | Matt Redman  
Year & Publisher by: © 2011 Said And Done Music (Admin. by EMI Christian Music Publishing),  
Sixsteps Music (Admin. by EMI Christian Music Publishing), Thankyou Music (Admin. by EMI  
Christian Music Publishing), Worshiptogether.com songs (Admin. by EMI Christian Music  
Publishing), SHOUT! Music Publishing  
Song Number: # 6016351

## CORNERSTONE

### Verse 1

My hope is built on nothing less  
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness  
I dare not trust the sweetest frame  
But wholly trust in Jesus' name

### Chorus

Christ alone, Cornerstone  
Weak made strong,  
In the Savior's love  
Through the storm  
He is Lord, Lord of all

### Verse 2

When darkness seems to hide His face  
I rest on His unchanging grace  
In every high and stormy gale  
My anchor holds within the veil

### Verse 3

Then He shall come with trumpets sound  
Oh, may I then in Him be found  
Dressed in His righteousness alone  
Faultless, stand before the throne

Words & Music: Edward Mote | Eric Liljero | Jonas Myrin | Reuben Morgan |  
William Batchelder Bradbury  
Year & Publisher: © 2011 Hillsong Music Publishing  
CCLI Song # 6158927

## HOPE OF ALL HEARTS

The world may fade  
 You will remain  
 In the midst of the trial  
 You will always be the same  
 Our God never fails  
 Our God never fails

With hope and light  
 You reign over all  
 Though my heart may fail  
 You will always be the same  
 Our God never fails  
 Our God never fails

Praise in the morning  
 Praise in the evening  
 Praise when I'm laughing  
 Praise when I'm grieving  
 There will be dancing  
 There will be singing  
 Upon injustice we will tell  
 Of our God

The hope of all hearts  
 The hope of all hearts is You  
 Your love never fails  
 Your love never fails

With hope and light, You reign over all  
 Though my heart may fail  
 You will always be the same  
 Our God never fails  
 Our God never fails

Praise in the morning  
 Praise in the evening  
 Praise when I'm laughing  
 Praise when I'm grieving  
 There will be dancing  
 There will be singing  
 Upon injustice we will tell  
 Of our God

The hope of all hearts  
 The hope of all hearts is You  
 Your love never fails  
 Your love never fails

In the darkness, in triumph,  
 My soul shall sing  
 Of His mercy, and kindness,  
 Our offering of praise  
 Our God never fails  
 Our God never fails

Words & Music: BJ Pridham  
 Year & Publisher: © 2010 Planetshakers  
 Ministries Int. Inc. (Admin. by Crossroad  
 Distributors Pty. Ltd.)  
 CCLI Song # 5604829

## THY WORD

### Chorus

Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet  
 And a light unto my path  
 Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet  
 And a light unto my path

### Verse 1

When I feel afraid  
 And I think I've lost my way  
 Still You're there right beside me  
 Nothing will I fear  
 As long as You are near  
 Please be near me to the end

### Verse 2

I will not forget  
 Your love for me and yet  
 My heart forever is wandering  
 Jesus be my guide  
 And hold me to Your side  
 I will love You to the end

Words & Music: Amy Grant | Michael W. Smith  
 Year & Publisher: © 1984 Word Music, LLC (Admin. by CopyCare Asia Ltd  
 (Singapore Branch)); Meadowgreen Music Company  
 (Admin. by EMI Christian Music Publishing)  
 CCLI Song # 14301

## BE STILL

### Verse 1

Be still for the presence of the Lord  
 The Holy One is here  
 Come bow before Him now  
 With reverence and fear  
 In Him no sin is found  
 We stand on holy ground  
 Be still for the presence of the Lord  
 The Holy One is here

### Verse 2

Be still for the glory of the Lord  
 Is shining all around  
 He burns with holy fire  
 With splendor He is crowned  
 How awesome is the sight  
 Our radiant King of light  
 Be still for the glory of the Lord  
 Is shining all around

### Verse 3

Be still for the power of the Lord  
 Is moving in this place  
 He comes to cleanse and heal  
 To minister His grace  
 No work too hard for Him  
 In faith receive from Him  
 Be still for the power of the Lord  
 Is moving in this place

Words & Music: David J. Evans

Year & Publisher: © 1986 Thankyou Music (Admin. by EMI Christian Music Publishing)

CCLI Song # 120824

# notes

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# notes

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A large yellow rectangular area with horizontal dashed lines, intended for writing notes. The area is bounded by a solid black line on the left and a solid black line on the top. The dashed lines are evenly spaced and run horizontally across the yellow area.

**COVENANT** EFC

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