

The 21st Century Church

Same Message; Different Presentation



The 21st century church is identical to the original first century church in worship, teaching and practice. The Household of Faith meets on the first day of the week, partake of the Lord's supper and enjoy an agape feast.

Culturally and internationally, after more than two thousand years, the way we carry out our Lord's commands has progressed. To accompany the preaching, whenever possible, a PowerPoint is used to facilitate understanding. Church bulletins and daily Bible reading guides are published to assist in Christian growth.

During the pandemic, most churches pivoted to live streaming to conduct worship for members as we were not permitted to gather for worship. Brother Barnabas has been very proactive in helping us not only use this new technology, and also has been paying for the full cost of this for the past 3 years. We want to thank him for his invaluable assistance and generous contributions to the Household of Faith, in time, expertise and costs. We are now happy to take over the cost of the subscription to the live streaming platform.

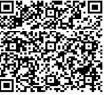
Another update in our presentation is the use of the internet. Facebook and WhatsApp are convenient tools that help us keep us in touch and allow us to connect our activities to members, visitors and supporters all over the world.

In an effort to bring the church closer to our members during the pandemic, we redesigned our website, making it more mobile-friendly and easy to use. We also secured our own public domain that is easy to remember - www.hofsg.com.

We continue to tell the old, old story but use every means (some new) available to us to do so.















2. Lust and Vows

Marriage ceremony

Important areas of daily living



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2. Lust

Matthew 5:27-32

You have heard that it was said, 'You shall not commit adultery,' but I tell you that everyone who gazes at a woman to lust after her has committed adultery with her already in his heart.

Adultery = married people

Lust = everyone

2 Timothy 2:22 Flee from youthful lusts; but pursue righteousness, faith, love, and peace with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart.



2. Lust

Matthew 5:27-32

If your right eye causes you to stumble, pluck it out and throw it away from you. For it is more profitable for you that one of your members should perish, than for your whole body to be cast into hell.

If your right hand causes you to stumble, cut it off, and throw it away from you: for it is profitable for you that one of your members should perish, and not your whole body be thrown into hell.

"It was also said, 'Whoever shall put away his wife, let him give her a writing of divorce,' but I tell you that whoever puts away his wife, except for the cause of sexual immorality, makes her an adulteress; and whoever marries her when she is put away commits adultery.



3. Vows

Matthew 5:33-37

"Again you have heard that it was said to them of old time, 'You shall not make false vows, but shall perform to the Lord your vows,'

but I tell you, don't swear at all: neither by heaven, for it is the throne of God; nor by the earth, for it is the footstool of his feet; nor by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King.

Neither shall you swear by your head, for you can't make one hair white or black.

But let your 'Yes' be 'Yes' and your 'No' be 'no.' Whatever is more than these is of the evil one.



3. Vows

Back to marriage vows - over 50% broken



Recent data from USA



3. Vows

Matthew 5:33-37

But let your 'Yes' be 'Yes' and your 'No' be 'no.' Whatever is more than these is of the evil one.

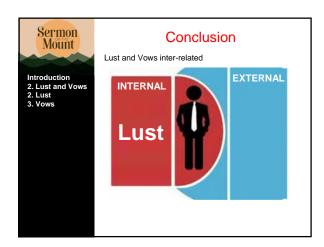
James 5:12

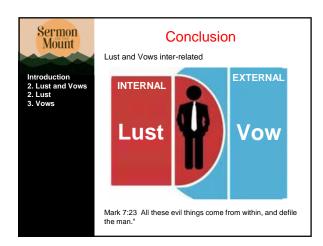
But above all, my brothers, do not swear, either by heaven or by earth or by any other oath, but let your "yes" be yes and your "no" be no, so that you may not fall under condemnation.

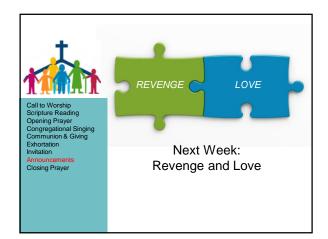
Not wrong to vow. But must we? Are we men of our word?

Matthew 12:36-37

I tell you, on the day of judgment people will give account for every careless word they speak, for by your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned.











A Month of Testimonies Coming in September



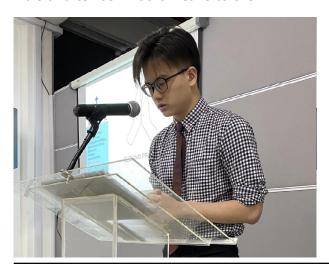
The Bible has much to say about testimony. We read of Enoch in Hebrews 11:5 "By faith, Enoch was taken away, so that he wouldn't see death, and he was not found, because God translated him. For he has had testimony given to him that before his translation he had been well pleasing to God."

In September, we will take a break from the Sermon on the Mount series for our men to share their testimony with the congregation.

Instead of the usual sermon, they will exhort the congregation for about 20 minutes, sharing:

- How they became a Christian
- Who influenced their decision
- Why they choose Christianity
- What their faith means to them.

They will share their favourite verses from the Bible and tell us what it means to them.

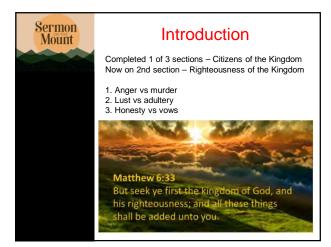


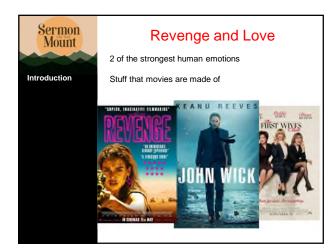
Brothers Alfred and Paul Poon will kick off the series on the first 2 Sundays of September with other men following. If you would like to share your testimony, please let our minister know by talking or texting him.



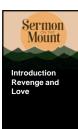








Introduction Revenge and Love Matthew 5:38-42 "You have heard that it was said, 'An eye for an eye, and a tooth for a tooth.' But I tell you, don't resist him who is evil; but whoever strikes you on your right cheek, turn to him the other also. If anyone sues you to take away your coat, let him have your cloak also. Whoever compels you to go one mile, go with him two. Give to him who asks you, and don't turn away him who desires to borrow from you.



4. Revenge

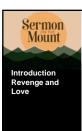
Have you ever been hurt by another?

Situations like being ill-treated, bullied, shouted at... What was the first thing that came to your mind?

Even children will say, "It's not fair!" But what did Jesus say?

"You have heard that it was said, 'An eye for an eye, and a tooth for a tooth.'

But I tell you, don't resist him who is evil; but whoever strikes you on your right cheek, turn to him the other also. If anyone sues you to take away your coat, let him have your cloak also.



4. Revenge



Whoever compels you to go one mile, go with him two.

Give to him who asks you, and don't turn away him who desires to borrow from you.



4. Revenge

| He could have called | - 132 |
|----------------------|----------|
| Ten Thousand Angels | - |
| To destroy the World | |
| And set Him Free | |
| He could have called | |
| Ten Thousand Angels | |
| But He died alone | |
| For you and me | |
| A mark | The same |

Luke 23:34 Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they don't know what they are doing."



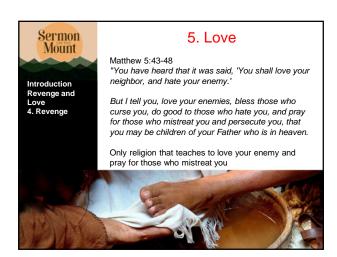
5. Love

Matthew 5:43-48

"You have heard that it was said, 'You shall love your neighbor, and hate your enemy.

But I tell you, love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who mistreat you and persecute you, that you may be children of your Father who is in heaven.

For he makes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the just and the unjust. For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Don't even the tax collectors do the same? If you only greet your friends, what more do you do than others? Don't even the tax collectors do the same? Therefore you shall be perfect, just as your Father in heaven is perfect.



Sermon Mount

Introduction Revenge and

5. Love

What

- bless those who curse you,
- do good to those who hate you, and
- pray for those who mistreat you and persecute you,

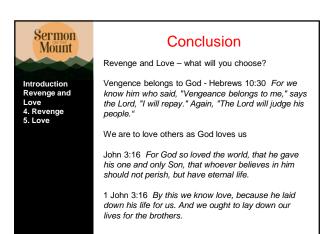
Why - children of your Father who is in heaven.

For he makes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the just and the unjust.
- For if you love those who love you, what reward

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- Therefore you shall be perfect, just as your Father in heaven is perfect.











The Whole Duty of The Church:

To Speak the Truth in Love



The more I read the word of God, the more I am led to see that my task as a minister, as well as the task of each and every member of the church is to speak the truth of God's word in love as commanded in Ephesians 4:15.

1. It is so important for the church to proclaim the truth as preserved and inspired by the Holy Spirit through the ages. We need to stay close to the Bible, telling it like it is without adding or subtracting from its divine revelations.

The core of this truth is the gospel of Christ. This must not only be told, but obeyed and lived in the lives of all. In doing so, sin must be denounced and all wrongdoing must be called out and dealt with.

2. Just as important, this truth must be spoken in love as our passage clearly instructs. Indeed, Paul reminds us in 1 Corinthians 13:2, that it does not matter the extent to which we go in our effort to practice the word of God; if we do not do it out of love, for then there is no profit at all.

In the years of my ministry, I have seen people in the church - from members to ministers and missionaries 'throw the book' at one and all, without being kind, charitable or patient. As a result, the faith of many are shipwrecked and many churches divided.

It is vital that we handle the word of God with love. Just as true giving must be done cheerfully, proper preaching must be done lovingly. Every Christian must present the gospel

in the way our Lord Jesus did, with loving compassion, so that no soul will miss heaven.

We all agree that what the world needs is the gospel of Christ. The way to proclaim the gospel is more than putting Bibles in hotel rooms or stuffing gospel tracts in mail boxes. I believe that every person in this world needs the opportunity to hear the gospel proclaimed in love, so that they can make a proper and heartfelt response to it.

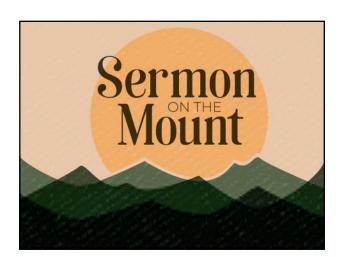
An example of this is in Acts 17 where Paul shared the gospel to the Jews in Thessalonica and Berea. Since God has created us as free moral agents, we observe the various responses to the word of God. Given the opportunity to hear the gospel, our friends, relatives and neighbours will respond in accordance to their comprehension and motives, and will have to answer for their decision in the final day.

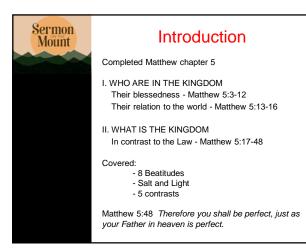
In the same way, our leaders need to speak the truth in love as they lead the church and confront sin. They have to answer for each soul that has gone astray, and deal with sin in the lives of members. Patiently and lovingly, they must minister so that none misses heaven. Let us all make it our duty to speak the truth lovingly.













Outline

I. WHO ARE IN THE KINGDOM

Their blessedness - Matthew 5:3-12 Their relation to the world - Matthew 5:13-16

II. WHAT IS THE KINGDOM

In contrast to the Law - Matthew 5:17-48
In relation to God - Matthew 6:1-33

- Alms
- Prayer
- Fast
- Treasure
- Vision
- Service - Worry

| Sermon | |
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Introduction

1. Alms Giving

Matthew 6:1-4

"Be careful that you don't do your charitable giving before men, to be seen by them, or else you have no reward from your Father who is in heaven.

Therefore when you do merciful deeds, don't sound a trumpet before yourself, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may get glory from men.

Most assuredly I tell you, they have received their reward.

But when you do merciful deeds, don't let your left hand know what your right hand does, so that your merciful deeds may be in secret, then your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly.



Introduction 1. Alms Giving

God Rewards our Deeds

Romans 2:4-6 Or do you despise the riches of his goodness, forbearance, and patience, not knowing that the goodness of God leads you to repentance? the righteous judgment of God; who "will pay back to everyone according to their works:"

Matthew 10:42 And whoever in the name of a disciple gives to one of these little ones even a cup of cold water to drink, truly I say to you, he shall not lose his reward."

Hebrews 11:26

Considering the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures of Egypt; for he was looking to the reward.

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Rewards from God or men?

"Be careful that you don't do your charitable giving before men, to be seen by them, or else you have no reward from your Father who is in heaven.

When our motive is to receive the praises of men, we will get our reward

| Sermon Mount | |
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| Introduction 1. Alms Giving God rewards our | |
| deeds Rewards from God or men? | |

Rewards from God

Therefore when you do merciful deeds, don't sound a trumpet before yourself, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may get glory from men.

Most assuredly I tell you, they have received their reward.

But when you do merciful deeds, don't let your left hand know what your right hand does, so that your merciful deeds may be in secret, then your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly.



Introduction
1. Alms Giving
God rewards our
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Rewards from God

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Conclusion

In relation to God - Matthew 6:1-33

- Alms
- Prayer
- Fast
- Treasure
- Vision
- Service
- Worry





Call to Worship Scripture Reading Opening Prayer Congregational Singing Communion & Giving Exhortation Invitation Announcements Closing Prayer



Next Week:

Prayer



Call to Worship
Scripture Reading
Opening Prayer
Congregational Singing
Communion & Giving
Exhortation
Invitation
Announcements
Closing Prayer



Stay behind and join us for our Agape fellowship meal

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3 Keys to Making our Lives a Living Sacrifice Daily



We live in a complex world. If we are not focused, it is so easy to be distracted, occupied and stressed by many unimportant things.

Are you distracted? The Bible tells us in 1 Kings 20:39-40 how a soldier was busy here and there. As a result, the prisioner he was entrusted to watch over escaped. HAs a result, he had to pay the full penalty of his carelessness.

Are you too busy? There are many things that demand our time and attention. In Luke 10:40-42, Jesus compares the busyness of Martha with the focus of her sister, Mary.

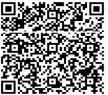
Are you burdened? It is so easy in modernday Singapore to be stressed out by our studies, careers and commitments in the home. Hebrews 12:1 urges us to lay aside every weight and sin that so easily ensnares us.

It is high time to adjust our priorities! Top on this list is to live our lives as a living sacrifice to God on a daily basis.

1. To Live is Christ: Paul's testimony in Philippians 1:21 is that the reason for his existence is Christ. Like Paul, Jesus Christ must be key in our lives. In everything we do, we must ask what would Jesus do if He was in our place? Each morning we need to ask what would Jesus have us do? Let Jesus be the deciding factor in all we do – not politics, our opinions or preferences. We must be willing to deny ourselves so that His will is accomplished.

- **2. People Matters:** In Matthew 25:40, the Bible reveals "And the King will answer them, 'I assure you: Whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of Mine, you did for Me." Everyone counts because each one is created in the image of God. The good that we do for one another, is regarded by Jesus as a favour done for Him personally. Jesus said in John 13:34, "As I have loved you, so you must love one another". In everything we do, we are called to value people, not count numbers and measure the success of our projects. We are to treat one another with respect as friends, the way we want to be treated. People are not a bother, but priority for every Christian.
- 3. Heaven is our Goal: Hebrews 11:16 tells us that the men of God in the past "But they now desire a better place -- a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for He has prepared a city for them." I find this very encouraging and reassuring because I want heaven to be my home too. Above all, souls are what we treasure and worth giving our lives for. Mark 8:36, 37 tells us, "For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? Or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?" God desires faithfulness and fruitfulness from each one of us. He does not demand success; everyone should do what he can. God will be pleased when we put Him first.







Introduction

Completed Matthew chapter 5

I. WHO ARE IN THE KINGDOM

Their blessedness - Matthew 5:3-12 Their relation to the world - Matthew 5:13-16

II. WHAT IS THE KINGDOM

In contrast to the Law - Matthew 5:17-48

Covered:

- 8 Beatitudes
- Salt and Light
- 5 contrasts

Matthew 5:48 Therefore you shall be perfect, just as your Father in heaven is perfect.



Introduction

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In relation to God - Matthew 6:1-33

In relation to man - Matthew 7:1-12

III. HOW TO ENTER THE KINGDOM

The beginning of the way - Matthew 7:13-14
The progress along the way - Matthew 7:15-20
The end of the way - Matthew 7:21-27

(modified from Executable Outlines)



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Introduction Outline

2. Prayer

Quite a lengthy passage, including the Lord's prayer

Matthew 6:5-15 "When you pray, you shall not be as the hypocrites, for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and in the corners of the streets, that they may be seen by men. Most assuredly, I tell you, they have received their reward.

But you, when you pray, enter into your inner chamber, and having shut your door, pray to your Father who is in secret, and your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly.

In praying, don't use vain repetitions, as the Gentiles do; for they think that they will be heard for their much speaking. Therefore don't be like them, for your Father knows what things you need, before you ask him.

The Lord's Prayer



Introduction Outline 2. Prayer

How to Pray

- 1. Not to be seen of men Matthew 6:5-15 "When you pray, you shall not be as the hypocrites, for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and in the corners of the streets, that they may be seen by men. Most assuredly, I tell you, they have received their reward."
- 2. To be seen by God "But you, when you pray, enter into your inner chamber, and having shut your door, pray to your Father who is in secret, and your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly."
- 3. Don't use vain repetitions "In praying, don't use vain repetitions, as the Gentiles do; for they think that they will be heard for their much speaking. Therefore don't be like them, for your Father knows what things you need, before you ask him."



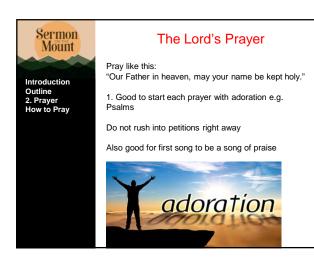
Introduction Outline 2. Prayer How to Pray

The Lord's Prayer

A model prayer

Just after Jesus warns about vain repetitions, many simply repeat this prayer

Pray like this: 'Our Father in heaven, may your name be kept holy. Let your Kingdom come. Let your will be done, as in heaven, so on earth. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our debts, as we also forgive our debtors. Bring us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one. For yours is the Kingdom, the power, and the glory forever. Amen.' "For if you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you don't forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses."





The Lord's Prayer

"Let your Kingdom come. Let your will be done, as in heaven, so on earth. Give us today our daily bread."

2. Petition - God's first, then ours

Request for necessities, bread not cake





The Lord's Prayer

"Forgive us our debts, as we also forgive our debtors. Bring us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one."

- 3. Confession
 - Conditional
 - Resolution





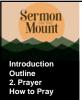
The Lord's Prayer

"For yours is the Kingdom, the power, and the glory forever. Amen."

4. Thanksgiving

So often we do not take time to thank God





Conclusion

"For if you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you don't forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses."

A reminder to effective prayer

Matthew 5:23-24 "If therefore you are offering your gift at the altar, and there remember that your brother has anything against you, leave your gift there before the altar, and go your way. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift."



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Outline
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How to Pray
The Lord's
Prayer

Conclusion

The ACTS of Prayer:

- A doration
- C onfession - T hanksgiving
- S upplication

Romans 8:26

"Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words."

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