



Fidelity

Let's do what is good toward all men, and especially toward those who are of the household of the faith - Galatians 6:10

5th February 2023

Enter to Worship Leave to Serve



The Household of Faith is a small congregation that is welcoming and friendly. Members of the church are passionate about their faith and do their best to support it. The most important quality is the way we endeavour to follow the Bible in spirit and truth.

In doing so, the preaching each week is based on the word of God. The outline is printed in the weekly bulletin, Fidelity for members to follow and keep. The following week, Care teams come together to discuss the sermon and its application.

In accordance with the call of Jesus, we are told in Luke 9:23 that Jesus said to all, *"If anyone desires to come after me, let him deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me"*.

Members of the church are encouraged to give of their best. This is something each individual must decide for himself in the light of 2 Corinthians 9:7, *Let each man give according as he has determined in his heart; not grudgingly, or under compulsion; for God loves a cheerful giver.*

When we let each member decide, instead of setting expectations for one and all, everyone will be able to give of their best. As a result, God will enable us to do so as stated in the next verse - *And God is able to make all grace abound to you, that you, always having all sufficiency in everything, may abound to every good work.*

The task of each member is stated by Jesus in Matthew 5:16 *Even so, let your light shine before men; that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven.*

Each Sunday, we come together for worship (and fellowship) and leave to serve the Lord. We do not have many activities to distract members. Some churches have many activities. Members sometimes think that that they are doing the Lord's service when they participate in them but have no time to reach out to their family and friends with the gospel.

Here is what we all can do when we leave to serve. At the start of the year, I shared on January 1st, 7 ways that we can reach out to our family and friends in 2023:

- 1. Pray for them;
- 2. Study the Bible;
- 3. Invite them to worship;
- 4. Visit them;
- 5. Fellowship with them;
- 6. Share the gospel;
- 7. Fetch them to services.

Let us give of our best to the Master in 2023!



Fidelity is published weekly by the Household of Faith meeting every Sunday @6pm at block 67, #07-10 Ayer Rajah Crescent, Singapore 139950. Postal address: Pasir Panjang P.O. Box 27, Singapore 911121. Website: hofsg.com. Facebook group: Household of Faith, Supporters and Friends. For more queries, contact the minister, Henry Kong at henry.kong@yahoo.com. Mobile: +65 9326 0669.

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Introduction to Series

New series on Christians in the New Testament

Each sermon has a short introduction of each and 5 things we can learn from them

Some of these Christians are well-known eg Andrew

Others are not so notable eg Philemon

After an abstract series on Proverbs, some character studies are more tangible and relatable

Tonight, we kick off with Andrew



Introduction to Andrew

Andrew and his brother Peter were apostles of Jesus.

Andrew means “manly, manhood” or “valor”.

Together with his brother Peter, Andrew was a fisherman.



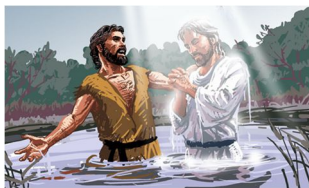


Andrew's Mentors

Disciple of John the Baptist

John 1:40-42

Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, was one of the two who heard what John had said and who had followed Jesus. The first thing Andrew did was to find his brother Simon and tell him, "We have found the Messiah" (that is, the Christ). And he brought him to Jesus.





Andrew's Mentors

Apostle of Jesus

Matthew 4:18-22

While walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. And he said to them, 'Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.' Immediately they left their nets and followed him.



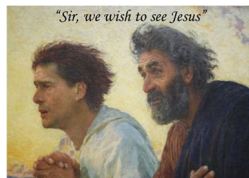


Connecting People

Bringing people to Jesus

John 12:20-22

Now there were certain Greeks among those that went up to worship at the feast. These, therefore, came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida of Galilee, and asked him, saying, "Sir, we want to see Jesus." Philip came and told Andrew, and in turn, Andrew came with Philip, and they told Jesus.





Legacy

Church historian Eusebius wrote that Andrew brought the gospel to Kyiv, capital of Ukraine.

Andrew was crucified around 70 AD on a cross in an X pattern – now considered a St. Andrew's flag.

Like Peter, may have considered himself unworthy of being crucified in the same manner as Christ was.





Introduction

1. Seeking the Messiah

John 1:40-42

Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, was one of the two who heard what John had said and who had followed Jesus. The first thing Andrew did was to find his brother Simon and tell him, "We have found the Messiah" (that is, the Christ). And he brought him to Jesus.

First, a disciple of John the Baptist

Then an apostle of Jesus

Gave up his trade as a fisherman

Gave up his life for the Messiah – 60-70 AD



Introduction
1. Seeking the Messiah

2. Bringing People to Christ

John 12:20-22

Now there were certain Greeks among those that went up to worship at the feast. These, therefore, came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida of Galilee, and asked him, saying, "Sir, we want to see Jesus." Philip came and told Andrew, and in turn, Andrew came with Philip, and they told Jesus.

Most of our friends will accompany us anywhere but church

Takes effort – more, consistent faith and example



Introduction
1. Seeking the Messiah
2. Bringing people to Christ

3. Looking out for All

John 6:8-10

One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said to him, "There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish, but what are these among so many?" Jesus said, "Have the people sit down." Now there was much grass in that place. So the men sat down, in number about five thousand.

Easy to feel marginalized, especially since Peter was more prominent than him.

Everyone is important.

In the hands of Jesus, every talent is effective.



- Introduction
1. Seeking the Messiah
 2. Bringing people to Christ
 3. Looking out for All

4. Concerned about Future

Mark 13:3-4

As he sat on the Mount of Olives opposite the temple, Peter, James, John, and Andrew asked him privately, "Tell us, when will these things be? What is the sign that these things are all about to be fulfilled?"

One of the few references of Andrew in the Bible.

Felt at home with the 3 "Inner Circle".

Fulfilled his role as one of the 12.



- Introduction
1. Seeking the Messiah
 2. Bringing people to Christ
 3. Looking out for All
 4. Concerned about the Future

5. The Quiet Apostle

Acts 1:13

When they had come in, they went up into the upper room, where they were staying; that is Peter, John, James, Andrew, Philip, Thomas, Bartholomew, Matthew, James the son of Alphaeus, Simon the Zealot, and Judas the son of James.

Last and only mention of Andrew.

He preached the teachings of Jesus around the globe before being crucified in Greece around 60-70 AD.



- Introduction
1. Seeking the Messiah
 2. Bringing people to Christ
 3. Looking out for All
 4. Concerned about the Future
 5. The quiet Apostle

Conclusion

He was Jesus Christ's first disciple.

Always reaching out and bringing people to Christ.

Preached the gospel throughout the world.

Crucified humbly for Jesus.



BACK PAGE NEWS



February BIRTHDAYS

Goh Phai 7th
Quek Paul 16th
Poon Peter 19th
Goh Jerald 20th
Poon Elaine 25th



Chinese New Year Song
Give your life to Jesus
He's the One who frees us
Then you'll know his joy and peace
And his full release
Give your life to Jesus now,
now
He is better than any power



Many thanks to sister June for sponsoring the delicious spread





Fidelity

Let's do what is good toward all men, and especially toward those who are of the household of the faith - Galatians 6:10

12th February 2023

Magnify Your Christian Life

Passion, Progress, Purpose, Prayer



This morning, the sun rose over 8 billion people. By the time the sun sets, another 385,000 babies will have been added to that number. Jesus wants us to be the light and salt of this world. Here are the 4 Ps to magnify our discipleship in these urgent times.

Passion

When we heed our Lord's calling, our hearts are full of passion as we commit our lives to Him in discipleship. Matthew 16:24 *Then Jesus said to his disciples, "If anyone desires to come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me."*

For all of us, it is a life-changing experience where our faith becomes the guiding light and deciding factor in all that we do.

Progress

Jesus told the parable of the sower in Luke 8:4. He went on in verse 11 to explain that He was talking about the growth of individuals who received the word of God.

How is your Christian growth compared to the 4 different types of ground that the seed fell on? Are you productive or have you been choked by the cares of this world?

2022 is now history and one month of 2023 has passed us by. If we are to make progress, we have to decide what our purpose for our Christian life will be this year.

Purpose

What was your purpose in 2022? Did you factor in your dedication to Christ and live up to your calling?

While there is little we can do about the past year, we have a good part of 2023 before us. Will 2023 be a productive year for us or will it reflect the woeful sentiments of Jeremiah 8:20 - *The harvest is past, the summer is ended, and we are not saved.*

Prayers

To help us get started, keep a prayer list of our family and friends. Each day, mention them by name and ask the Lord to help you find ways to touch their lives.

This is a small step, but it can rekindle your passion as you renew relationship with your family and friends.

Soon, you will progress in your walk with God as you reach out to answer Jesus' last great commission to share your faith.

Magnify your Christian life - purpose to let your light shine!



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Welcome to the
Household of Faith
12th February 2023



Bible Christians



Introduction

Tonight look at Philemon

Mentioned once in the Bible, in the epistle to Philemon

The epistle is actually not about Philemon
– nothing much about him in the 1-chapter epistle

The focus of the book of Philemon is Onesimus,
whose story we will explore next week

Let's start by gathering all the information that we
have on Philemon



Introduction to Philemon

The one and only time that we come across the name of Philemon in the Bible is in the first verse of Paul's epistle to Philemon.

It is a personal letter from a personal friend and fellow labourer in the gospel whom he calls a "dear friend and fellow worker" - Philemon 1:1

The name means "affectionate" in Greek – from the little we know about Philemon, this is a fitting name.

He was a slave owner, living in Colossae.

A convert of Paul, had hosted Paul.

The church met at his home.



Introduction to Epistle

The short book of Philemon tells about a runaway slave, Onesimus.

Paul appealed to Philemon on Onesimus' behalf.

When Paul was imprisoned in Rome, he came in contact with Onesimus and converted him. Then he sent him back to his owner, Philemon with this letter.

From this letter, we learn that Philemon was

- a slave master
- the church met at his house
- he used to host Paul

It is reasonable to conclude that Philemon would respond positively to Paul's request.



1. Warm Relationships

Christians should keep relationships warm like Paul and Philemon

God has loved us unconditionally and forgiven us freely

No reason to hold grudges and leave the church because of disagreements

Paul and Philemon's good relationship was the reason the runaway slave returned home

Philemon 1:12-15 *I am sending him back. Therefore receive him, that is, my own heart, whom I desired to keep with me, that on your behalf he might serve me in my chains for the Gospel... For perhaps he was therefore separated from you for a while, that you would have him forever,*



Introduction

1. Warm Relationships

The way Paul and Barnabas resolved their dispute is a good example for us -

Acts 15:37-41 Barnabas planned to take John, who was called Mark, with them also. But Paul didn't think that it was a good idea to take with them someone who had withdrawn from them in Pamphylia, and didn't go with them to do the work.

Then the contention grew so sharp that they separated from each other.

Barnabas took Mark with him, and sailed away to Cyprus, but Paul chose Silas, and went out, being commended by the brothers to the grace of God. He went through Syria and Cilicia, strengthening the assemblies.



Introduction
1. Warm Relationships

2. Respect for Another

Paul led Philemon to Christ.

In Paul's mind - Philemon 1:19 I, Paul, write this with my own hand: I will repay it (not to mention to you that you owe to me even your own self besides).

We owe our lives to people who shared with us the gospel - Philipians 2:22 But you know the proof of him, that, as a child serves a father, so he served with me in furtherance of the Gospel.

But Paul did not make any demands. Instead, he pleaded sincerely in Philemon 1:8-9 Therefore, though I have all boldness in Christ to command you that which is appropriate, yet for love's sake I rather beg, being such a one as Paul, the aged, but also a prisoner of Jesus Christ.



Introduction
1. Warm Relationships

2. Respect for Another

Romans 13:1-6 Let every soul be in subjection to the higher authorities, for there is no authority except from God, and those who exist are ordained by God. Therefore he who resists the authority, withstands the ordinance of God; and those who withstand will receive to themselves judgment.

For rulers are not a terror to the good work, but to the evil. Do you desire to have no fear of the authority? Do that which is good, and you will have praise from the same, for he is a servant of God to you for good...

But if you do that which is evil, be afraid, for he doesn't bear the sword in vain; for he is a minister of God, an avenger for wrath to him who does evil. Therefore you need to be in subjection, not only because of the wrath, but also for conscience' sake.



Introduction
1. Warm Relationships
2. Respect for Another

3. Do the Right Thing

Paul could have kept Onesimus from Philemon

Philemon 1:10-14 *I beg you for my child, whom I have become the father of in my chains, Onesimus, who once was useless to you, but now is useful to you and to me. I am sending him back.*

Therefore receive him, that is, my own heart, whom I desired to keep with me, that on your behalf he might serve me in my chains for the Gospel.

But I was willing to do nothing without your consent, that your goodness would not be as of necessity, but of free will.

Not only Paul, but Philemon would do the right thing also.



Introduction
1. Warm Relationships
2. Respect for Another

3. Do the Right Thing

1 Peter 3:14 *But even if you should suffer for righteousness' sake, you are blessed. "Don't fear what they fear, neither be troubled."*

James 4:17 *To him therefore who knows to do good, and doesn't do it, to him it is sin.*

Galatians 6:9 *Let us not be weary in doing good, for we will reap in due season, if we don't give up.*





Introduction
1. Warm Relationships
2. Respect for Another
3. Do the Right Thing

4. Words of Persuasion

Paul's age and condition - Philemon 1:9 *yet for love's sake I rather beg, being such a one as Paul, the aged, but also a prisoner of Jesus Christ.*

Paul's need - Philemon 1:12-13 *I am sending him back. Therefore receive him, that is, my own heart, whom I desired to keep with me, that on your behalf he might serve me in my chains for the Gospel.*

Paul's partnership - Philemon 1:17 *If then you count me a partner, receive him as you would receive me.*

Paul's payment - Philemon 1:18 *But if he has wronged you at all, or owes you anything, put that to my account.*



- Introduction
1. Warm Relationships
2. Respect for Another
3. Do the Right Thing

4. Words of Persuasion

Joshua 24:15

But if serving the LORD seems undesirable to you, then choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve,

whether the gods your ancestors served beyond the Euphrates, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you are living.

But as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD."





- Introduction
1. Warm Relationships
2. Respect for Another
3. Do the Right Thing
4. Words of Persuasion

5. The New Difference

Now useful - Philemon 1:10-11 *I beg you for my child, whom I have become the father of in my chains, Onesimus, who once was useless to you, but now is useful to you and to me.*

No longer a slave - Philemon 1:16 *no longer as a slave, but more than a slave, a beloved brother, especially to me, but how much rather to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord.*

Philemon's anticipated response - Philemon 1:21 *Having confidence in your obedience, I write to you, knowing that you will do even beyond what I say.*




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1. Warm Relationships
2. Respect for Another
3. Do the Right Thing
4. Words of Persuasion

5. The New Difference



Tradition states Onesimus was stoned for his faith during the reign of Domitian AD 81-96



Introduction

1. Warm Relationships
2. Respect for Another
3. Do the Right Thing
4. Words of Persuasion
5. The New Difference

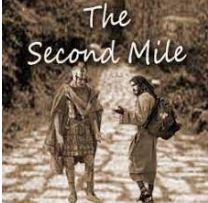
Conclusion


Is slavery wrong?

Paul did not condemn Philemon


Together they established a new norm

Christians can be the salt to change our society





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



Next Sunday:
Onesimus
– the runaway slave



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



Rice & Dishes

*All are invited to bring a dish
(fruit, dessert also welcome)!*

BACK PAGE NEWS





Fidelity

Let's do what is good toward all men, and especially toward those who are of the household of the faith - Galatians 6:10

19th February 2023

Update your data/photo For the 2023 HoF Directory



Since the publication of the first Household of Faith directory, there are many data fields to update. These include 3 baptisms, 2 transfers and a few changes of addresses. Also, some members may want to use a more recent photograph. We will release the hardcopy of the 2023 directory some time next month.

Baptisms

Brother Paul Poon was the first baptism at the Household of Faith. He was baptised after the first worship service. Since then, there have been more baptisms - brothers Eric, Goh Ah Moey, Philemon, Peter and sisters Kang Hwei, Wai Yuen and Catherine.

Deceased

The church also conducted 2 funerals during this period. The first for sister Wai Yuen, followed by brother Goh Ah Moey.

Transfers

Brother Richard Chia who played a significant role since the start of the Household of Faith has transferred out. He was our children's Bible class teacher, photographer and songleader.

Brother Tng Huat has been with us for more than a year. He is active in worship and has led songs, prayers, scriptures and presides over communion.

Changes of Address

Changes of addresses have affected the David Gohs, Henry Kongs, Eric Yeos and Lilian Yeo.

All members will receive a screenshot of their listing. Reply to update the data or photo by the end of February.



The Household of Faith warmly welcomes **sister Catherine See** into our fellowship. She was baptised on Saturday, 11th February 2023. Photo on the left shows our minister presenting her with the baptism certificate.



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Bible Christians



Introduction

Last Sunday we examined the character, Philemon

Mentioned once in the Bible, in the epistle to Philemon 1:1

The epistle is actually not about Philemon – nothing much about him in the 1-chapter epistle

The focus of Philemon is Onesimus, which we will explore tonight

Onesimus is mentioned 2 times in the Bible – once in Philemon and also in Colossians 4 which we will refer to later



Introduction

Onesimus is best known as a runaway slave

Slavery existed in various forms – is a part of Christianity's history, spanning well over eighteen centuries to the middle ages.

It was established by the Roman Empire. Some estimate that the slave population in the 1st century constituted approximately one third of the total population.

An estimated one million slaves were owned by the richest five per cent of Roman citizens.

Most slaves were employed in domestic service in households. Part of society like domestic helpers in Singapore. The Bible accepts it as a norm.



Introduction

Slavery was very cruel in the Roman Empire. Revolts were severely punished.

There were also professional slave-catchers, bounty hunters hired to catch runaways.

Early Christians who were slave masters exhibited signs of kindness towards slaves. Freeing slaves was regarded as an act of charity.

1 Corinthians 7:21-22 *Were you called being a bondservant? Don't let that bother you, but if you get an opportunity to become free, use it. For he who was called in the Lord being a bondservant is the Lord's free man. Likewise he who was called being free is Christ's bondservant.*



Introduction

1. Useless to Useful

Philemon 1:10-11 *I beg you for my child, whom I have become the father of in my chains, Onesimus, who once was useless to you, but now is useful to you and to me.*

Paul converted Onesimus while awaiting trial under Emperor Caesar.

Acts 28:19 *But when the Jews spoke against it, I was constrained to appeal to Caesar, not that I had anything about which to accuse my nation.*

Acts 22:27-28 *The commanding officer came and asked him, "Tell me, are you a Roman?" He said, "Yes." The commanding officer answered, "I bought my citizenship for a great price." Paul said, "But I was born a Roman."*



Introduction

1. Useless to Useful

Acts 28:30-31 *Paul stayed two whole years in his own rented house, and received all who were coming to him, preaching the Kingdom of God, and teaching the things concerning the Lord Jesus Christ with all boldness, without hindrance*

Onesimus became acquainted with Paul during his visits to Philemon

Ran away to Rome to look for Paul who converted him

Paul then wrote the epistle to Philemon, explaining the situation and mediating for Onesimus



Introduction
1. Useless to Useful

2. Faithful & Beloved

Colossians 4:7-9 *All my affairs will be made known to you by Tychicus, the beloved brother, faithful servant, and fellow bondservant in the Lord. I am sending him to you for this very purpose, that he may know your circumstances and comfort your hearts, together with Onesimus, the faithful and beloved brother, who is one of you. They will make known to you everything that is going on here.*

Philemon not only pardoned Onesimus but freed him to serve in Paul's ministry.

Philemon lived in Colossae – so Onesimus was “one of you” when Paul was writing the epistle to the Colossians.



Introduction
1. Useless to Useful
2. Faithful and Beloved

3. Not of this World

Slavery was common in the New Testament

Doulos = Greek word in the Bible for slave, to be owned by someone for a lifetime.

Translated in English as servant in 119 verses in the New Testament

Luke 7:2 *A certain centurion's servant, who was dear to him, was sick and at the point of death.*

Luke 22:50-51 *And one of them struck the high priest's servant and cut off his right ear.*

Christianity does not focus on the injustices of this world.



Introduction
1. Useless to Useful
2. Faithful and Beloved

3. Not of this World

Christianity works within the injustice and makes it humane – the second mile

John 18:36 *Jesus answered, "My Kingdom is not of this world. If my Kingdom were of this world, then my servants would fight, that I wouldn't be delivered to the Jews. But now my Kingdom is not from here."*

Ephesians 6:5-7 *Servants, be obedient to those who according to the flesh are your masters, with fear and trembling, in singleness of your heart, as to Christ; not in the way of service only when eyes are on you, as men-pleasers; but as servants of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart; with good will doing service, as to the Lord, and not to men;*



Introduction
1. Useless to Useful
2. Faithful and Beloved
3. Not of this World

4. Live within the System

Today, many systems separate people
Indian Caste system
Educational levels
Wealth

Ephesians 6:8-9 *Knowing that whatever good thing each one does, he will receive the same again from the Lord, whether he is **bound or free**. You masters, do the same things to them, and give up threatening, knowing that he who is both their Master and yours is in heaven, and there is no partiality with him.*

Galatians 3:28 *There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free man, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus.*



Introduction
1. Useless to Useful
2. Faithful and Beloved
3. Not of this World
4. Live within the System

5. Divine Slavery

John 8:34 *Jesus answered them, Most assuredly I tell you, everyone who commits sin is the bondservant of sin.*

1 Corinthians 7:21 *Were you called being a bondservant? Don't let that bother you, but if you get an opportunity to become free, use it.*

Matthew 20:25-27 *But Jesus summoned them, and said, "You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them. It shall not be so among you, but whoever desires to become great among you shall be your servant. Whoever desires to be first among you shall be your bondservant"*



Introduction
1. Useless to Useful
2. Faithful and Beloved
3. Not of this World
4. Live within the System
5. Divine Slavery

Conclusion

The Christian Perspective:

- Even slaves can become brothers
- Everyone can be faithful and beloved
- We are not to be of this World
- Even though we live within the system
- There is a higher system: Divine

BACK PAGE NEWS





Fidelity

Let's do what is good toward all men, and especially toward those who are of the household of the faith - Galatians 6:10

26th February 2023

Should Household of Faith Meet in the Morning?



Since the Household of Faith now has a place of our own, some have asked me if we should move our services to the morning. I am happy to know of your preferences and constraints. Here are some of my thoughts, not in any order of importance.

1. We have been meeting in the evenings for over 5 years. For some of us, it has now become a habit. Like they say, "if it ain't broke, don't fix it".

2. Our evening services allow members time to prepare for our weekly agape feast. It may be a rush and even a bother to prepare food in the morning and still be punctual for services.

3. There is a possibility that HoF will provide an option for church hoppers if we meet in the morning. The reason we started with evening services and stayed this way was so we would not be seen to be poaching members from other congregations. We wanted to start a new congregation with committed members, not filled with transfers from other congregations.

4. Having said the above (1-3), **the Household of Faith is open to receiving Christians who are not attending any church and need restoration.** We have observed that there are some families who are no longer attending any congregation

who need to return to regular worship.

5. Churches of Christ need a congregation with an evening worship. When Jacqueline and Benjamin were in medical school, they were often scheduled to work on Sunday mornings. Because we are the only congregation with evening worship, this faithful couple were able to worship God and partake communion.

As the church grows in numbers with larger premises, I would like to see the Household of Faith not only meeting in the morning and evening but multiple services for Chinese-speaking, hearing impaired and foreigners, like in my former congregation.

At present, we are a small congregation with a small facility that suits us well. Everyone is taking their faith seriously and giving of their best. It is prudent for us to continue this way, like we did the first 5 years.

There will be different challenges facing us when we continue to grow. We will make adjustments as they come. What do you think? I welcome your feedback.



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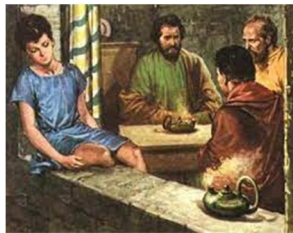
Bible Christians -Eutychus



Introduction

So far looked into Bible Christians: Andrew, Philemon and Onesimus.

Light-hearted look at Eutychus, who fell asleep during a sermon.





Introduction

Acts 20:7-12 *On the first day of the week, when the disciples were gathered together to break bread, Paul talked with them, intending to depart on the next day, and continued his speech until midnight. There were many lights in the upper chamber where we were gathered together.*

A certain young man named Eutychus sat in the window, weighed down with deep sleep. As Paul spoke still longer, being weighed down by his sleep, he fell down from the third story, and was taken up dead.

Paul went down, and fell upon him, and embracing him said, "Don't be troubled, for his life is in him."

When he had gone up, and had broken bread, and eaten, and had talked with them a long while, even until break of day, he departed. They brought the boy in alive, and were greatly comforted.



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1. Urgent Session
2. Overflowing
Attendance

3. Fell Asleep

Acts 20:7-12 *A certain young man named Eutychus sat in the window, weighed down with deep sleep.*

Have you ever slept during a sermon? Sometimes the sermon can be boring, but Paul? Usually, we are not prepared for the occasion.

Mark 14:37-40 *He came and found them sleeping, and said to Peter, "Simon, are you sleeping? Couldn't you watch one hour? Watch and pray, that you may not enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak."*

Again he went away, and prayed, saying the same words. Again he returned, and found them sleeping, for their eyes were very heavy, and they didn't know what to answer him.



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Paul went down, and fell upon him, and embracing him said, "Don't be troubled, for his life is in him." ...They brought the boy in alive, and were greatly comforted.

Like the apostles of Jesus, Eutychus was weighed down by his sleep

The name Eutychus, means fortunate

All things in God's hands – all's well that ends well!



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Sometimes we need an incident to catch the speaker's attention!

The Agape Feast was a common practice of the early church

Acts 2:46 *Day by day, continuing steadfastly with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread at home, they took their food with gladness and singleness of heart*



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Conclusion

God did not punish Eutychus for falling asleep

Blessed him and comforted the congregation

Since we can no longer raise the dead, we can prepare ourselves to be in the right frame of mind for routine worship:

- Take a break (at least the afternoon)
- Take a shower
- Arrive 10 minutes early



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

Next Week:
Roman
Centurion:
Cornelius





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Laksa

*All are welcome to bring a dish or dessert!
See June*

BACK PAGE NEWS



*Happy Birthday,
Peter!*

