

Our Prayer

Dear Jesus Christ:
I thank you that in You I am a New Creature.
Old things have passed away and
all things have become new.
You are the last adam.
You have cut my root in the first adam.
My past has been placed under the cover
of Your shed blood.
You know this area of my past,
(..... identify the enemy specifically.....),
that has come back to trouble me now.
Somehow the past is bringing me into bondage.
I call out to You because You are my deliverer.
You have promised that whosoever shall call
upon the name of the Lord shall be delivered.
Lord Jesus, set me free from
(..... identify the enemy.....) right now.
I thank you Lord for Your deliverance.
I renounce all memories and
associations with my past in
Your mighty name.
I receive Your healing touch
right this moment.
Amen.



Our Mission

We, Church of Sengkang,
exist to bring people to Jesus and
membership in His family,
develop them to Christ like maturity,
and equip them for their ministry in the church
and their mission in the world.
“God is able to do above and beyond all
we ask or imagine according to His power,
which is at work in us”
Ephesians 3:20.

Our Vision

To **WORSHIP, GLORIFY** and
SERVE GOD at all time.
To **PROCLAIM** the Good News of
Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord.
To **WELCOME** all with **LOVE** and **Compassion**.
To **CALL** everyone to develop and
use God's Gifts in working together for Him.
To **LIVE** and **WORK** for God's Kingdom.

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Church of Sengkang

Is called by God to be *welcoming* and
prayerful community filled with and
led by the **HOLY SPIRIT**

THE SUNDAY TIMES 19th October 2008
SUNDAY SERVICES TIME: 10.30am to 12.30pm

Message from Pastor David Kerk

We are Studying the Book of Judges Not To Judge Others But To Deliver Ourselves



Many of us have been told **Not To Judge** others. Our Lord Jesus in the Sermon on the Mount teaches us in Matthew 7:1-5 “Judge Not, that you be not judged”. But a closer look at what Jesus said shows that there are times when we must take judgments. Jesus warned us how easy it is to be blind to our faults while we pick at the faults of others. To follow our Lord's teachings, we must learn the difference between judging people (we the orientals have much to learn from the westerners) and evaluating situations. In other word, we deal the problems while we leave the dignity of the person intact. This is one area I am still learning from our Lord. To my dear brethren out there, if I have mishandled your life; please do give me another chance.

The Book of Judges is an account of God's people descending into spiritual indifference and rebellion. After the death of Joshua, the next generation “forsook the LORD God of their fathers... and they followed other gods from among the gods of the people who were all around them. Read Judges 2:12. The principal theme is **“Failure Through Compromise”: Experienced God's Greatness & Goodness - Went Away From God - Returned to other gods.** The very last verse in the book - Judges 21:25 is the key verse “In those days, Israel had no king, everyone **DID** as he saw fit.” Avoid unnecessary pains, learn it well. “Spiritual Compromise” slide is often slow, steady, subtle and finally disastrous. It is the recurring habit of the fallen nature with which we lose our “Spiritual Alertness”. Stay in the Lord and connected with God's people.

The Hebrew word / title for “Judges” is Shophetim, meaning “deliverers” or “saviors”. So, a Judge not only carries the idea of maintaining justice and settling disputes, but it is also used to mean “liberate / set free” and “deliver / rescue / save”. So, the next time when we are called to judge any dispute / quarrel / differences / opinions or conflict; please remember we are to play the role as a “deliverer” or “savior” and nothing else. For a better understanding,

Our Collections

Philippians 4:18: "I have received full payment and even more; I am amply supplied, now that I have received from Epaphroditus the gifts you sent. They are a fragrant offering, an *acceptable sacrifice, pleasing to God.*"

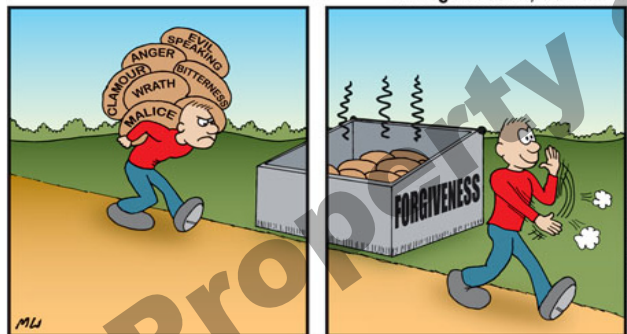
September 08' Collections : \$32,487.10
Last week's up to 12th Oct 08 : \$10,723.70
Church Building Fund : \$27,080.00

If you are making out a cheque, kindly mark "Church of Sengkang Ltd".

Upcoming Events

1. Every Tuesday & Saturdays is our Tracting Day to Sengkang/Punggol. All are welcome. Contact Sis Ching Ching at 97710250 for more information.
2. Dr. Paul Tan will continue with the book of Judges this afternoon from 3pm to 6pm.
3. Kindly return to the ushers the Questionnaire Form on Children & Youth Camp. Please collect the Form if you haven't received one yet.
4. Water Baptism Class commences on 30/10/08, 1.30pm - 3.30pm. Mandarin Class: Bro Ricky Tan / English Class: Bro Roland Seah
5. Christmas Eve Evangelistic Outreach
6. Christmas Day Morning Service
7. Special Christmas Day Water Baptism Service

DUMPSTER



Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you. **Ephesians 4:31-32**

◀ *Cont'd from previous page...*

refer to last sunday's sermon by Dr. Paul Tan on the "Judge Othniel Called to deliver the children of Israel from the oppression of Cushan-Rishathaim, king of Mesopotamia."

Beloved, we are thankful to our Lord for Dr. Paul Tan in bringing us a better understanding of the role of Judges Othniel, Ehud, Shamgar, Deborah, Barak, Samson & Jephthah. However, in ordinary church's life, we are bound to encounter moments of "judging". Often, our judging conveys a censorious attitude towards others without first possessing the facts. That is not to suggest that we should avoid the practice of carefully looking for the evidence of godliness in professing believers including leaders. Our Lord told us in the Sermon on the Mount that "by their fruit you will recognize them" - Read Matthew 7:15-20. Having learned this teaching, I can only think of 2 reasons why some of us are still judgmental:

1. We Tend to Be Blindly Self-Righteous

John 8:1-11 An adulteress Faces the Light of the World (Our Lord Jesus). Our Lord in verse 7 told the Scribes & Pharisees who brought a woman caught in adultery that "He who is without sin among you, let him throw a stone at her first" Our Lord told this adulteress in v11 "Neither do I condemn you; go and sin no more."

Beloved, may we learn "NOT to Judge" any of our brethren/leaders. If we do judge, let us deal with the "acts of sin" but continue to love them (brethren or sinners). Even our Lord Jesus (the Righteous ONE) could pardon the adulteress, how much more we should pardon one another for Christ's sake.

2. We Tend to Be Harder on Others than Than They are on Themselves

Matthew 7:3 Christ warned us, "Why do you look at the speck of sawdust in your brother's eye and pay no attention to the plank in your own eye?" Don't take yourself so seriously. No one else does. Make peace with your past, so it won't mess up the present. Life is too short to waste time hating anyone. No one is in charge of your happiness except you. Forgive everyone for everything. Just take a good look at the mirror and say to yourself **"I am Beautiful & Have a Future in my Lord!"**

Personally, I am very drawn to our Lord's treatment on that "big-mouth" Peter. Our Lord, knowing full-well of Peter's future instability, gave him a name that conveyed strength & solidity. Read John 1:42b.

Sinner Saved By God's Grace,
Pastor David Kerk

Last Sunday's Sermon

Speaker : **Dr Paul Tan**

Title of Message: **God Can Deliver Us From Our Past - Failure, Idolatrous Relationship & Sins**

Scripture Text : **Judges 3:7-11**

Key Verse : v9 *When the children of Israel cried out to the LORD, the LORD raised up a deliverer for the children of Israel.*

Background : *Joshua was dead. A new generation arose who had not witnessed the miraculous actions of God. In those days, Israel had no king; everyone did as he saw fit.*

Main Points:

1. Israel DID EVIL in the sight of God - v7

- 1:1 They Forgot the LORD their God
- 1:2 They Served other gods - Baals & Asherahs
- 1:3 They Became Miserable

Pause & Reflect: Many of us have experienced God's Salvation & Goodness. We Must NOT leave our LORD - King of our life.

2. God's ANGER was Hot against them - v8

- 2:1 God Sent Enemies over them
- 2:2 God Permitted & Sold them to the Evil One - Cushan Rishathaim
- 2:3 God Approved tough times of Pains & Misery - 8 years

Pause & Reflect: Because we are His Children, He'll chastise us. No chastisement seems to be joyful for the present, but painful; nevertheless afterwards it yields peaceful fruit of righteousness - Hebrews 12:11

3. They CRIED unto the LORD - v9

- 3:1 God Raised Up a Deliverer - Othniel
- 3:2 God's Spirit Was Upon the Deliverer - v10a
- 3:3 God Delivered the enemies into the Deliverer's Hand - v10b

Pause & Reflect: God is Gracious to all who call on the Name of the Lord - Joel 2:32a. He is our present help in times of troubles.

Reflection on the Message:

Some of us are stuck in the middle of a muddle and longing for God to deliver us so we can praise Him. Do not be discouraged. No one can "talk you down" over your past failures or "talk you up/don't have to brag" over your past successes. For those of us who have been successful in our career or business, we thank God. As for the rest of us who are less successful, we have much more to thank our Lord. What's wonderful is this:- NO ONE has the right to remind us of our past (especially our failures!). In 2 Cor 5:17, apostle Paul said "Anyone in Christ is new.", he is a new creation; old things have passed away, behold all things have become new."

The percentage is a generalization of what we retain. Understanding and Remembering are better when we make notes.