



COVENANT

Bible-Presbyterian Church

Preaching Christ for His Glory and His Kingdom

Order of Worship – 3 February 2019

Theme for the Year: "Strength in Weakness" (2 Corinthians 12:9)

Prelude	<i>The Lord Is in His Holy Temple</i>
Call to Worship	
*Opening Hymn	43 - O Savior, Precious Savior
*Invocation & † <i>Gloria Patri</i>	
Scripture Reading	Psalm 23
The Lord's Supper	
Hymn	Psalm 23b
Hymn	619 - <i>A Shelter in Time of Storm</i>
Tithes & Offering	
*†† <i>Doxology</i> & Offertory Prayer	
Scripture Reading	Joel 2:12-27
Hymn	214 - <i>Standing on the Promises</i>
Confession of Faith & Pastoral Prayer	
Sermon	"Return to God"
*Closing Hymn	685 - <i>O Breath of Life</i>
*Benediction & <i>Threefold Amen</i>	
Silent Prayer & Postlude	
Announcements	<i>*Congregation standing</i>

†Glory be to the Father, and to the Son:
And to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning,
Is now and ever shall be:
World without end. Amen.

††Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Amen.

Covenant Bible-Presbyterian Church meets every Sunday at 10:00 am
at 47 Davis Road, Attadale, Western Australia

Website: www.covenantbpc.org.au

Contact: pastor@covenantbpc.org.au

Your Calling as a Christian Student

Our young people and children will be returning to school soon. Being a Christian student is a calling from God.

Studying Is a Calling

Calling does not only refer to jobs or careers. The word "vocation" or calling refers to the work that God has called us to do.

And for students, their calling is to study. Learning and studying are honorable callings that God has for us.

Learning is not a temporary necessity that stops the time you get a job and "get on in life." Learning continues to be something that we do in life. But it is important that our young people see their schooling as their calling.

Each of us have a spiritual calling - we are called by God to have a relationship to him - we are called to eternal life (1 Tim 6:12), to be holy (1 Cor 1:2), and to be part of God's kingdom to have fellowship with Christ (1 Thess 2:12, 1 Cor 1:2).

But we also have a calling to be fruitful in the earth. God has called us to have dominion and to subdue the earth for him. This includes our careers, studies, investments, etc.

If our careers are part of God's call for us, then so are our studies. If you are a student, you have been called by God to study now - so that you may use your talents to have that dominion and subdue the world for his glory.

The Christian is to be salt and light - that by our good works, we would glorify our Father. Being a faithful Christian student means as much to

God as being a faithful parent, teacher, sportsperson, etc. But how can we be faithful Christian students to fulfill our calling?

Study Hard and Be Faithful

As Christian students, we are to study hard. We are to explore and understand knowledge. The word "science" comes from the Latin "scio" which means "knowledge."

The Bible tells us that all knowledge and wisdom come from God (Col 2:2, Prov 2:6). Man has always been trying to find out that knowledge. Man studies nature, literature, thought, etc.

Proverbs 3:19-20 says, "*The LORD by wisdom hath founded the earth; by understanding hath he established the heavens. By his knowledge the depths are broken up, and the clouds drop down the dew.*"

But man does not always obtain the fullness of God's knowledge - and sometimes the knowledge he gains may be flawed. But all man tries. The knowledge that we gain gives us greater insight into the world that God has created.

But the Christian student, who has a love and reverence for God, is one who can truly benefit from his studies because it leads him to a greater knowledge of God. Proverbs 9:10 tells us that the fear of God is the beginning of wisdom and when a person has a knowledge of God, it gives him understanding.

When a student studies history, he can see God's providence directing things. When a student studies literature, he

can see how God has created man with great imagination and poetry. When a student studies science, he can see the order and power of great God. When a student studies social sciences, he can see how only through the gospel can order be brought to the world.

Grow in Your Talents

There are some students who are just good in everything. They score good grades in all their subjects, are disciplined, and a star athletes as well.

But not all students are like that. A belief in Jesus does not give you academic prowess.

However, Christian students all have God-given talents and gifts; as with everyone.

There will be something that they will excel in. And they are to nurture those gifts and talents so that they might serve God and their neighbor.

Human learning, as with everything else, can be used for God or for an idol. Eric Liddell, the Olympic gold medalist, ran for the glory of God and honored God first - only then, did he run for country and himself.

Why do you study? You study for the glory of God - to do what he wants you to do.

Some people choose areas of study - especially those in university - based on the careers that they can get. This is not necessarily wrong. But choosing courses of study based on material and financial returns alone is not spiritual.

Students should look at their strengths and see how they may serve God through them. This is especially a lesson for parents. God is at work to redeem mankind - through the gospel. And Christians are at work to use those gifts and abilities to redeem the world around them.

Conclusion

Therefore, this requires Christian students to be faithful. Studying in any field can honor God. It can also be dishonoring to God.

As learners, seek out what is true, honest, just, pure, lovely, of good report, virtuous, and praiseworthy (Phil 4:8).

All truth is God's truth. So Christians need not fear finding truth in secular teaching. But we are to be careful and discerning.

And therefore, to be fruitful in their studies, Christian students should seek to honor God in all things - especially to worship him and to honor him.

~ *Pastor*



Westminster Shorter Catechism

Q. 82. Is any man able perfectly to keep the commandments of God?

A. No mere man, since the fall, is able, in this life, perfectly to keep the commandments of God; but doth daily break them, in thought, word, and deed.

Worship Service Roster

<i>Service</i>	<i>This Week (3.2.19)</i>	<i>Next Week (10.2.19)</i>
Speaker	Mark Chen	Mark Chen
Worship Leader	Mark Chen	Johnson Lim
Pianist	Ian Tay	Nancy Lim
Welcomers	Yen Fye & Angela Yap	Kim & Jesslyn Leow
Offering Stewards	Johnny Orchard, Micah Chiang Yen Fye Yap, Ken Hong	Paul Butler, Kim Leow Eugene Lim, Jacob Woo
Ushers	August Ng, Rebecca Lee	Putri Harapan, Josephine Austin
Kitchen Duties	Carmel Sriharan*, Vincent Chiu Lydia Orchard, Angela Yap	Adeline Ng*, Lisa Lim August Ng
PA Duty	Ken Hong	Jacob Woo
<i>Prayer Meeting</i>	<i>8 February 2019</i>	<i>15 February 2019</i>
Chairman	Johnson Lim	Jimmy Orchard
Pianist	Jerome Ng	Nancy Lim

Announcements

1. A warm welcome to all worshippers. May God richly bless you. Please stay behind after the service for fellowship and tea.
2. We are celebrating the Lord's Supper today. First time visitors wishing to partake the Lord's Supper should see an elder before the service.
3. Next week's message: "The Power of God's Spirit to Revive" (Joel 2:28-32).
4. Next week's Junior Worship message - "Listening and Obeying" (Acts 15.22-35). Speaker: Jerome Ng.
5. Lunar New Year Pot Luck Dinner Fellowship, Saturday 9 February 2019, 6 pm.
6. Church Prayer and Planning Day, Sunday 17 February 2019, after the service.
7. Bible Conference 2019. Dates: 22-25 April 2019. Venue: Hotel Lord Forrest, Bunbury. Theme: Strength in Weakness. Speaker: Pastor Josh Williamson. Registration forms available at foyer. Payment by cash, cheque or direct deposit to CBPC General Fund: BSB: 036-031, Acct: 316942, Ref: BC(Surname)(Initial). Any enquiries, please contact Micah Chiang or Vincent Chiu.

Appointments for the Week

WED 10:00 am Craft Group
 FRI 7:45 pm CBI & Prayer Meeting
 SUN 9:00 am Sunday School
 10:00 am Worship Service

Last Lord's Day Tithes & Offering, & Attendance

General Fund - \$3,300.00 (*DD - \$1,500.00, #846 - \$20.00). Missions Fund - \$100.00. Building Fund - \$400.00 (*DD - \$300.00, #638 - \$100.00). Total Tithes & Offering - \$3,800.00.
 Attendance - 102.

*DD: direct deposit