



A Word from Sunday School General Superintendent ...

“Teach me Thy way, O Lord; I will walk in Thy truth: unite my heart to fear Thy name.” (Psalm 86:11)

I called upon you to make 2020 a **Year of Prayers** in accordance to Jeremiah 33:3 “Call unto me, and I will answer thee, and shew thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not.” Little did we expect a global lockdown and COVID-19 pandemic to take such disastrous effect throughout the year! God asked Gad, King David’s seer, to tell him, “Thus saith the Lord, I offer thee three things: choose thee one of them, that I may do it unto thee.” (1 Chronicles 21:10) 1 Chronicles 21:12 tells us the three things: “Either three years’ famine; or three months to be destroyed before thy foes, while that the sword of thine enemies overtaketh thee; or else three days of the sword of the Lord, even the pestilence, in the land, and the angel of the Lord destroying throughout all the coasts of Israel.” King David chose pestilence! The Bible tells us that God mercifully stopped the punishment after seventy thousand Israelites perished during the pandemic. At this point of writing this article, globally we have 80,844,732 cases of COVID-19 with 1,766,194 deaths. By God’s grace, Singapore entered the COVID-19 circuit breaker release phase three on 28th December 2020. Our church can reopen with 250 worshippers every Sunday.

The call for 2021 is to make 2021 a Year of the Word! We need God’s Word, we need to hear His voice and still promptings constantly, we need to obey His Word!

As we prepare to enter 2021, what is God’s message for us? I had written an article for our church weekly on 15th November 2020, Sunday, entitled “Teach Me Thy Way, O Lord” based on Psalm

86:11. I had shared a devotion message at our zoom prayer meeting on 24th November 2020, Tuesday, also on “Teach Me Thy Word” based on Psalm 86:11. At our Thai Grace B-P Church worship service on 13th December 2020, Sunday, I spoke to the congregation on “Teach Me Thy Way” also based on Psalm 86:11. My heart is convicted by the Holy Spirit that God has given us His word in Psalm 86:11 that we should take heed. The call for 2021 is to make 2021 a **Year of the**

Word! We need God's Word, we need to hear His voice and still promptings constantly, we need to obey His Word! Sunday School is a Ministry of God's Word. We thank God that we have a class for all age group. However, due to COVID-19, our Sunday School classes can't meet physically in church yet. We will continue our zoom Sunday School lessons until the authority gives us the green light to resume the physical Sunday School meetings. Even our Sunday School Annual General Meeting cum Election in end November 2020 had to be postponed and the current Executive-Committee will continue to serve until we can meet physically in church in 2021.

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How do we make 2021 a **Year of the Word**? King David aptly wrote Psalm 86 as a prayer. There are three things we must continue to pray for in the new year. Firstly, we must ask God to continue to meet with us in our daily quiet time. Make Bible reading a daily joy. It is our daily spiritual feasting. Our soul without the Word of God will die. Our Lord Jesus Christ reminded us during His desert temptation: "But He answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God." (Matthew 4:4) We need every spiritual starter, entrée and desserts from God's Word. Our God is a speaking-God and He reveals Himself to us through His Word. Let us get connected with God daily and know Him more every day in 2021.

Secondly, as we listen to Him by reading His Word, we must put what we hear and learn into practice. King David says, "I will walk in Thy truth." This is a personal commitment to put what has been received from God to practice. It is a personal spiritual discipline. If we can hear what God says, we will do what

God wills! This is the secret of victorious Christian life. Our Lord Jesus Christ declares in John 14:6, "Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me." Knowing Jesus Christ is knowing the way of hope and the way to joy supernal. At Christmas, we commemorate the birth of Baby Jesus Christ in the manger. Our Lord Jesus Christ is the reason for the season. He is God's unspeakable gift to this sin-sicked world. He is the way of salvation. He came to seek that which is lost and save them from eternal condemnation. The more we read God's Word, the closer we are to Him. Rev Ho Chee Lai preached on 29th November 2020 Gospel Sunday, "Know Jesus, Know Peace" based on John 14:27. It was a timely pre-Christmas message to remind us of knowing Jesus Christ the God of all peace. The Apostle Paul wrote: "Now the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that ye may abound

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in hope, through the power of the Holy Ghost.” (Romans 15:13) Let us ask God to fill us with His Holy Spirit daily that we may be filled with all joy and peace every day. The Holy Spirit will direct us to walk in God’s will. Our Lord Jesus Christ’s desire is to find us faithful when He returns. So, He said, “Nevertheless when the Son of man cometh, shall He find faith on the earth?” (Luke 18:8b) The best way to be found faithful in our Lord Jesus Christ is to abide with Him every moment of every day. When we apply what we hear from God’s Word, we walk in His truth, and fulfil His holy will for our lives.

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Third, and finally, King David prayed that God will grant us an undivided heart to follow Him. “Unite my heart to fear Thy name”! Yes, we must stay focus on our Lord Jesus Christ Who is the Author and Finisher of faith (Hebrews

12:2). “That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.” (Philippians 2:10-11) Worship our Lord Jesus Christ in our every waking moment. Put Him first in all things, knowing that if we have Jesus Christ, we have Everything! “The light of the body is the eye: if therefore thine eye be single, thy whole body shall be full of light.” (Matthew 6:22; Luke 11:34) It is always a joy to commune with our Lord Jesus Christ during quiet time. It is always so assuring that God is there and He is not silent. What then shall we focus on? “The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge: but fools despise wisdom and instruction.” (Prov. 1:7) The reverential fear of our Lord Jesus Christ keeps us away from all evil. “The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom: and the knowledge of the holy is understanding.” (Prov. 9:10) God’s people was distracted and worship idols in the Old Testament, hence, they were punished accordingly. As New Testament Christians, we should never be distracted and turn to idols. Pastor Tan Soon Yong reminded us during the Church camp message that anything that replaces God in our heart is an idol. Let us never allow anything to replace God in our hearts in 2021. Make 2021 a **Year of the Word** – Thy way, Thy truth, Thy name!

As we march into 2021, let us enter with a sense of anticipation of His imminent return. It won’t be too long now; we are in the very last hour of the last day before our Lord Jesus Christ returns. Let us all know Him and make Him known in 2021. Amen.

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