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Everyone was quiet and solemn faced, waiting for the Judge to appear.

I looked at the Public Gallery. Everybody was “*prim and proper*,” respectfully attired and quietly “*waiting and watching*.” Nobody talked aloud or walked about – quite extraordinary.

The minutes ticked by, the Judge was delayed. My watch showed 10.25 am. The Judge was supposed to be arriving at 10.15 am. But no matter. Another 10 minutes went by.

Finally, at 10.38 a loud “*buzz*” sounded over the PA system’s loudspeakers. Everybody sprang to attention and bowed as the Judge – a lady! – walked in, and took her seat at the centre of the rostrum. Everybody followed suit, and sat down. Then the Court swung into action!

3. Observations with Spiritual Application

It was my first attendance at a High Court. (In bygone days I had attended the Coroner’s Court as an “*expert medical witness*.”) Thoughts passed through my mind: if only Sunday congregations would observe the same eagerness and devotion at our Worship Services! Some had got up at 5.30 am that morning to make sure of their seats at the Public Gallery. Everyone was properly dressed. No one appeared in casual or disrespectful attire. Ladies were well covered – no low-cut or “*revealing*” dresses.

Everyone was early: they were in the presence of the Judge! (Latecomers, take note!)

As the morning wore on, more thoughts passed through my mind. May God help all His people to regard the Lord’s Day Services with equal reverence and, more important, with heartfelt devotion. How can this be?

Firstly, let us confess before the Lord our low regard of His Person and Day. Surely, He is so much more to be revered than any earthly

Judge! Our Lord is Creator, King of kings, and Lord of lords, our Redeemer God. How do you regard Him?

He deigns to descend to us in our unworthy sinful state. He made Himself of no reputation, and took upon Him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men (Phil 2:7).

Yet, let us not forget Him – He was Emmanuel – God became flesh, to be a man, that we may approach unto Him, in worship, adoration and fellowship!

Five days of attendance at the Civil Court has given me a better understanding of how we should worship our Lord “*in the beauty of holiness*.”

4. But, “What about the verdict?”

This morning (Friday, 29 January) the hearing ended with both Counsels giving their final submissions to the Judge. With that the Court adjourned and everything fell silent in the Court Room.

We were advised that the judgment will be given in due time. Meanwhile life goes on as usual, and our God is still on the throne in full control of man’s affairs on earth.

As we come to the end of this week’s pastoral article, I am reminded that our Lord, the Judge of all the earth is coming back, as He promised. Earthquakes, getting more frequent and fearful, send out urgent warnings. Are you listening?

Listen to our Lord’s own words: “... *Nevertheless when the Son of man cometh, shall he find faith on the earth?*” (Lk 18:8).

May He find you and me faithful, watching and waiting, “*with our lamps all trimmed and bright*”!

God bless all readers.

*Faithfully in the Lord
Dr SH Tow, Sr Pastor*



CALVARY PANDAN BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

“*NOT TO BE MINISTERED UNTO BUT TO MINISTER*”

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Website: <http://calvarypandan.org>

THEME: “*Walking with God in Perilous Times*”
(2 Tim 3:1)

Senior Pastor: Rev Dr Tow Siang Hwa
Pastor: Rev Dr Quek Suan Yew

LORD’S DAY, 7 Feb 2010

PANDAN NEWS WEEKLY

Vol. 7 (36) No.06

SUNSET GOSPEL BIBLE FELLOWSHIP

Theme: Victorious Living In Perilous Times

7 February (6 pm)

14 February (6 pm)

Topic:

Unthankful

Unholy

Preacher:

Dr SH Tow

Rev Dr Prabhudas Koshy

Worship Leader:

Elder Chew Chong Kiat

Preacher Lek Aik Wee

New Sanctuary (3rd Floor) is open for Morning Worship w.e.f. Feb 2010. CCTV of worship service from Main Sanctuary. All are welcome.

My dear readers,

1. Lawsuit Lessons

At last the Lawsuit “*Life Bible-Presbyterian Church versus Far Eastern Bible College*” was to be heard before the Judge in the High Court of Singapore from Monday 25 January to Friday 29 January, 2010. The news traveled far and wide among B-P circles, creating intense interest. After all, such a case was unprecedented.

Our lawyers, the Friday before, gave us a final briefing. I asked them about the Public Gallery. Yes, members of the public were welcome to observe the proceedings from the Public Gallery, but there were places for only about 25 persons. On Sunday 24 January I told the morning and evening congregations: “*Thank you for your interest and support, but places are strictly limited. So, please do not*

trouble to attend, but be in much prayer at home.”

2. Unprecedented Interest, Packed Gallery

Despite my advice and urging, interest in the Lawsuit rose unabated. Long before the scheduled commencement of the hearing at 10 am, the Gallery was packed to overflowing by an estimated crowd of sixty-plus, everyone quietly seated and waiting for the Judge to appear.

I arrived at 10.10 am (having been advised that the Judge had to attend to some business before our case). The Court Room was filled with Counsels for both sides, legal assistants, Court Staff, Witnesses and Representatives of contestants.

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ADVANCE NOTICE FOR CHURCH CAMP - 7 - 12 JUNE 2010

Please pray and plan to have a blessed time with the Lord and with one another!

A very warm welcome to visitors and friends in the name of
our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ

PANDAN FACTS & FIGURES

Ring Pastor Quek 6566 5716; Mobile - 9671 9310 any time; Email - suanyew@gmail.com

10.00 am	Pre-Service Prayer Meeting: JW Sanctuary Today: Dn Ko Swee Chay; N/W: Elder Jeffrey Cheong
10.15 am	Pre-Service Singing: Today: Elder Chew Chong Kiat; N/W: Ko Lingwei
10.30 am	Lord's Day
Today	Worship Leaders : Preacher Ko Linggang / Dr SH Tow Speaker : Rev Dr Quek Suan Yew Message : "Knowing this First" (2 Peter 1:20-21)
Next Week	Worship Leaders : Dn Ko Swee Chay / Elder Chew Chong Kiat Speaker : Dr SH Tow Message : "Marks of a False Prophet" (2 Pet 2:1-3)

Last Week's (31.01.10) Attendances and Offerings

English Worship	10.30 am	1098	\$92,986.40
Junior Worship		150	
Mandarin Worship	8.00 am	192	\$ 4,538.70
Mandarin JW		45	
SGBF	6.00 pm	389	\$ 5,823.35
Prayer Meeting (Tuesday)	8.15 pm	116	

Lord's Day Activities

Basic Bible Knowledge	12.15 pm - 1.15 pm, Cryroom
	<i>Today:</i> Lesson 6: Jesus Christ: His Resurrection i/c Pr Lek
	N/W: No lesson in view of CNY
ABC	12.15 pm - 1.15 pm, Rooms #02-05-07
DHW	12.15 pm - 1.15 pm, Sanctuary, 2nd level
Teens' Meeting	12.15 pm - 1.15 pm, JW Sanctuary, #02-03
Young People Discn Gp (17-20)	12.15 pm - 1.15 pm, Room #03-06
Library	12.15 pm - 1.30 pm, Room #03-04
AV Library	12.15 pm - 1.15 pm, Room #02-02
Choir	1.30 pm - 3.30 pm, Rooms #02-05-07
Myanmar Fellowship	4.00 pm - 6.00 pm, Room #04-05
Tracting	1.45 pm, Lobby outside Sanctuary (2nd & 4th Week)

Lord's Day Duties

	<i>7 February</i>	<i>14 February</i>
Musicians Morning	Adrian Ho / Sharon Lim	Michelle Chiang / Lois Teo
<i>SGBF (6 pm)</i>	Lois Teo / Rachel Han	Samuel Eio / Lee Yu Jie
Greeters	James & Jessica Lim	Leonard & Frances Hazra
Welcomers	Amy Ang & Catherine Song	Rayson & Suk Ling Hazra
Lunch Coupon Sale	Ron & Trudy Sim	CNY
Kitchen Duty	YAF	CNY
Ushers	Choir	Steven Lee, Nam Moon, Kwok Weng, Heng Wee, Samuel Chiang, Joe Chan, Edgar Teo,

Introduction and background — Losing money is not a forgettable experience. More than 35 years ago I lost a \$5 dollar note at the bus stop in front of Coronation Plaza. It was like a king's ransom to a young boy who received a fixed amount of weekly allowance from parents. Foolishly but hopefully I looked at the ground where I thought the money had fallen each time I waited at that particular bus stop. Of course it was a futile exercise. The money was long gone but the loss was very difficult to forget. Have you lost something that means a lot to you? Then you would empathize with the shepherd in this Parable.

Jesus asked a rhetorical question to all assembled there but in particular to the Pharisees and Scribes. The reason is that they murmured saying, "This man receiveth sinners, and eateth with them." These were highly religious individuals who were viewed by the ordinary Israelites as spiritual elitists. If anyone was to enter the Kingdom of Heaven it would be the Pharisees and the Scribes. **The Pharisees** were the separatists. In the inter-Testamental period they were the zealots who refused to compromise their faith by imbibing Grecian culture and later Roman culture. Other Israelites did so to gain economic wealth and societal acceptability. But these zealots refused to be contaminated by these gentile practices. They began to look down on their fellow Israelites who had compromised their faith. In time to come when the Sanhedrin [literally it means "sitting together or an assembly"] Council was convened to manage the affairs of Israel under Roman rule, the Pharisees were the obvious choice as one of the groups to sit in this council. They became filled with pride believing that whatever they did and believe in and practised were of God. Anyone who taught or lived differently, according to them, could not be of God and would be charged with opposing God and the Truth of God as taught in Holy Scriptures i.e. the OT. They saw in Jesus of Nazareth a threat because all that Jesus stood for and did were in direct contradiction to

what they did and taught! **The scribes** were also known as the lawyers. They were the copiers of OT Scriptures. Therefore they would have been very well versed in God's Word. Since they spent practically every waking minute copying the Scriptures, the Scribes were known for their knowledge of God's Holy Word. For anyone with any question about God's Word, the Scribes would be the ones to ask. The people did not have easy access to God's written word as they were very expensive to purchase before the invention of the printing press in the 15th Century AD. As doctors of the law they were also part of the Sanhedrin Council (see Mark 15:1). Both these groups found in Jesus an opponent and a threat, for He stood for all that they condemned.

The Elements in the Parable – The man who has 100 sheep (probably a shepherd) is God; lost sheep refers to the publicans and sinners; Ninety and nine refers to the Scribes and Pharisees; lost state refers to sinful state; friends and neighbours refer to the angels in heaven.

The Explanation of the Parable — Jesus gave this parable to educate them as well as all the sinners and publicans (tax collectors who were the most hated in Israel because they were seen as traitors who collected taxes for their Roman masters!) assembled before Him. If a shepherd owned 100 sheep and then lost one, would he not leave the ninety-nine to seek out that one lost sheep? Anyone of us who is in that shepherd's shoes would have done the same! The lost sheep was foremost in his mind. He would not return until the lost sheep was found. He was not thinking of the danger to himself. He was consumed by one single thought and that was "I must find my lost sheep." He knows that if he does not find the sheep soon the sheep would die. Sheep are dumb animals. They cannot fend for themselves. They are extremely timid so much so that they dare not even drink from a flowing stream. They will drink only from quiet waters.

		Peck Thian Guan, Joseph Lok, Andrew Chiang, SKY, Chee Weng, Kim Hai Dn Chia Chung Seng Steven Lee, Nam Moon, David Wong, Wai Mun, Wai Ho, Mark Woo
SGBF Singspiration	Elder Chew Chong Kiat	Truth BPC
SGBF Ushers	Choir	CNY
SGBF Greeters	Chang Wan Kok & family	CNY
SGBF Welcomers /	Heng Khuan & Christine	
Dinner Coupon Sales		
SGBF Kitchen Duty	Choir	CNY

Activities for the week (8 - 13 Feb)

Tuesday 8.15 pm **PRAYER MEETING, Sanctuary** i/c Elder Goh Kee Tai

HOME News & Announcements

1. Last Week's LOVE GIFTS TO DESIGNATED FUNDS: S\$23,596.40

Ann Clements & Family 10, 500, 50, 60 = \$620; **Ajin Thu - Pontianak** 30, 50 = \$80; **Baraka BP Church** 25, 50, 50 = \$125; **Bethel DC - Chiang Rai** 50, 50, 50, 20, 50, 50 = \$270; **CMC** 50 = \$50; **Chee KW, Rev** 100, 500 = \$600; **Chew Chong Beng** 200 = \$200; **Das Koshy, Rev** 2500 = \$2,500; **Damien Choong - FEBC Std** 45 = \$45; **Dignadice Rev (Police & Army Ministry)** 10, 7, 0.10, 50, 0.10 = \$67.20; **Eric Lim** 100 = \$100; **FEBC** 20, 50, 25, 2000, 100, 200, 200, 50, 400, 100, 50, 50, 350, 270, 50, 50, 50, 150, 20, 50, 10, 0.20 = \$4,295.20; **Golden Years** 50 = \$50; **Harrison & Charlene** 500 = \$500; **Hilltop** 10, 50 = \$60; **Hilltop Student** 50, 202, 50 = \$302; **John & Eunice Tan** 100, 200, 100, 100, 70 = \$570; **Jordan** 50, 20, 120, 12, 50 = \$252; **Lek Aik Wee, Pr** 2500 = \$2,500; **Leoncio Dignadice, Rev (Van)** 100 = \$100; **Rev Pang Kok Hiong** 100, 12, 200, 500 = \$812; **Paul Ferguson** 500, 500 = \$1,000; **Peter Yoksan, Pr** 1100, 500, 50, 50 = \$1,700; **Pontianak Kalimantan** 50, 10, 100, 10, 50, 50 = \$270; **Quek Suan Yew, Rev (Dr)** 150, 2500, 50 = \$2,700; **RPG - English/Chinese** 50, 1, 2, 50 = \$103; **Saipan/China** 200, 25 = \$225; **Arthur Aung** 150 = \$150; **Tow SH, Dr** 2500, 100, 50, 50 = \$2,700; **Ling Soon Ing Pr - Sibiu** 100, 500 = \$600; **Jose Lagapa** 50 = \$50

Building Extension (Cost \$2.1 Million) - Collection todate: \$1,791,619.73

Last week: 50, 50, 50, 350, 100, 100, 15, 30, 22, 100, 172, 20, 50, 600, 10, 250, 50, 50, 62, 600, 10, 50, 50, 25, 50, 6, 1, 50, 1000, 50, 1 = **Total: \$4,024.00**

2. **PREACHER LEK AIK WEE** is preaching at Calvary Tengah BPC this afternoon. Please uphold him in prayer.
3. **CMC** - There will be **NO** meetings on 13 & 20 Feb due to CNY.
4. **CHINESE TEACHER FOR CPK** -Minimum qualifications: Certificate in Teaching (Early Childhood) and with at least 5 'O' level subjects, with at least a B4 for Chinese. Interested please call Eld Chew 97719440.
5. **HELPMEET CG MEETS ON 19 FEB**, Friday, 8pm, in the home of Whie Kwang and Rachel. Topic: "Godliness with Contentment" (1 Tim 6:6-12). Speaker: Rev Quek Suan Yew. Add: 136 Hillview Ave #08-03 Merawoods. Tel: 68931550.
6. **CHILDREN IN ADULTS' TOILETS** - A gentle advice to parents, in particular, fathers with daughters 2 years and above: please do not take them into the adults' toilets but to the "handicapped toilets" (one on the ground floor level next to the office and one on level 3 next to the Sanctuary) and the children's toilets. Thank you kindly for your co-operation.
7. **CPK REGISTRATION FOR INTAKE 2011** - Registration for the 2011 Intake is now open to Church members' children born in 2008. Please call 65603884 to make an appointment. A copy of the child's birth certificate and \$30 will be required for the registration.
8. **WORSHIPPER'S DIRECTORY 2010** - Members, please collect your name lists for verification and update. **You are requested to check all entries and to indicate if there are no changes or not.** Please put the verified list into the box on the counter outside the Main Sanctuary. Friends of the church are welcome to submit their information for inclusion in our Worshipper's Directory. Please fill out your data on the forms available on the counter outside the Main Sanctuary. Please submit your photo, together with your form, to calvarypandanphotos@gmail.com by 28 Feb. Thank you very much for your co-operation.
9. **HELPER'S APPRECIATION LUNCH ON 28 MAY (VESAK DAY)** - All who are currently involved in any ministry/fellowship group/contact group of the church are invited. Registration will commence from 21 Feb. Registration forms are now available outside the Sanctuary.
10. **GREETERS/WELCOMERS/KITCHEN DUTY/SALES OF COUPONS DUTY ROSTER** - Slight amendments have been made to the 2010 duty roster (on the notice board just outside the Main Sanctuary).

**THURSDAY LADIES FELLOWSHIP MEETING
THEME: KNOWING MORE OF OUR FAITH**

Date: 18 Feb, Thurs, 1.30-4.00 pm

Place: #02-14, Lounge (left of Tabernacle Bookroom)

Subject: Differing Views of the Gospel (1 Cor 1:18)

Speaker: Rev Quek Suan Yew

"But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin." 1 Jn 1:7

All ladies are welcome to come and join us in fellowship

CAUTION - All members and visitors to the church are hereby reminded to keep their belongings with them at all times.

NO SOCCER GAMES OR FRISBEES IN THE CENTRAL COURTYARD. Please note that as glass panels have been installed along the Fellowship Hall, no soccer games or frisbees is allowed in the courtyard. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation to avoid any accident. God bless.

Dr Paul Ferguson's New Appointment at Tengah BPC — The BOE of Tengah BPC has offered Dr Paul Ferguson the position of being their future pastor. Dr Ferguson has kindly accepted after much prayer as the Lord's will for him. His undercare with CPBPC will end in April 2010. We bid him God's speed and the Lord's richest blessing to him and Cheryl, Sarah Anne and Samuel Gordon. May his service and that of his family in Calvary Tengah BPC bring glory and honour to the Name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ

Elder's Page - Continued from Page 7

If they find puddles of unclean water they will drink from it and if the water was poisonous they would die. They cannot tell the difference. Knowing full well the disposition of the sheep, the urgency was in the heart and mind of the shepherd as he looked for his one lost sheep. He would not say "never mind, I have 99 more"! That was unthinkable. That one lost sheep must be found with no time to lose!

From the perspective of the sheep, it would not know that it was lost. The sheep would wander away merrily thinking that all was well and that it was safe. Totally oblivious of its dire predicament the sheep demonstrates no urgency. Carelessly it would roam like a little child in the midst of ferocious predators waiting to make it its supper. The lost sheep's absolute ignorance of the shepherd's concern does not at all dampen the shepherd's love and care for his lost sheep! The care and love for the lost sheep was one sided but it matters not to the shepherd. This was the strength of his unconditional love and care for the sheep. It was not dependent upon the sheep's knowledge or rather lack of knowledge of his love.

When the shepherd found the sheep he carried it on his shoulders. This is normally the method used when the sheep is injured. It is reported that when a sheep is wild and uncontrollable and would soon injure or kill itself by its wandering, the shepherd would break one of its legs to keep it from wandering. Then the shepherd would lovingly carry the sheep on his shoulders and bring it home to tend to its wounds. The shepherd would carry this sheep rejoicing. He was so relieved to have found his lost sheep alive. All his anxiety for the well being of his lost sheep dissipated immediately.

He did not keep his joy to himself for he called his friends and neighbours and he celebrated with them. He told them the good news of his lost sheep being found! He could not keep the joy in his heart only. The feeling of finding something precious that was lost was too good to be kept a secret and within his own heart.

If we, like the shepherd would do so much for one lost sheep, how much more when there are multitudes of lost souls waiting to be saved from their sin! Like the lost sheep they do not know that they are lost. But the Good Shepherd knows and he would not rest till He finds them all. He would carry them on His shoulders to bring them back to the fold. When they are brought into the fold our LORD would not keep the joy in His heart but would share His joy with all. Hence the verse in **Luke 15:7**, "*I say unto you, that likewise joy shall be in heaven over one sinner that repenteth, more than over ninety and nine just persons, which need no repentance.*"

The ones who think that they are not lost are the Pharisees and the Scribes. They are the self righteous sinners who will remain in their state of sin not realizing that they are in fact very lost. They will not repent and cannot repent as long as this self-righteous disposition remains. And when the lost sheep is brought back they will not rejoice but will in self righteousness turn up their noses at the lost sheep and probably utter "I am not and will not be like that lost sheep!"

Even as the LORD Jesus Christ reassured the publicans and sinners of His love for them, he also reached out to the Pharisees and Scribes with this mild rebuke, that they might see the sins in their lives and also repent!

*N/W: Elder Jeffrey Cheong
F/W: Rev Dr Quek Suan Yew*

