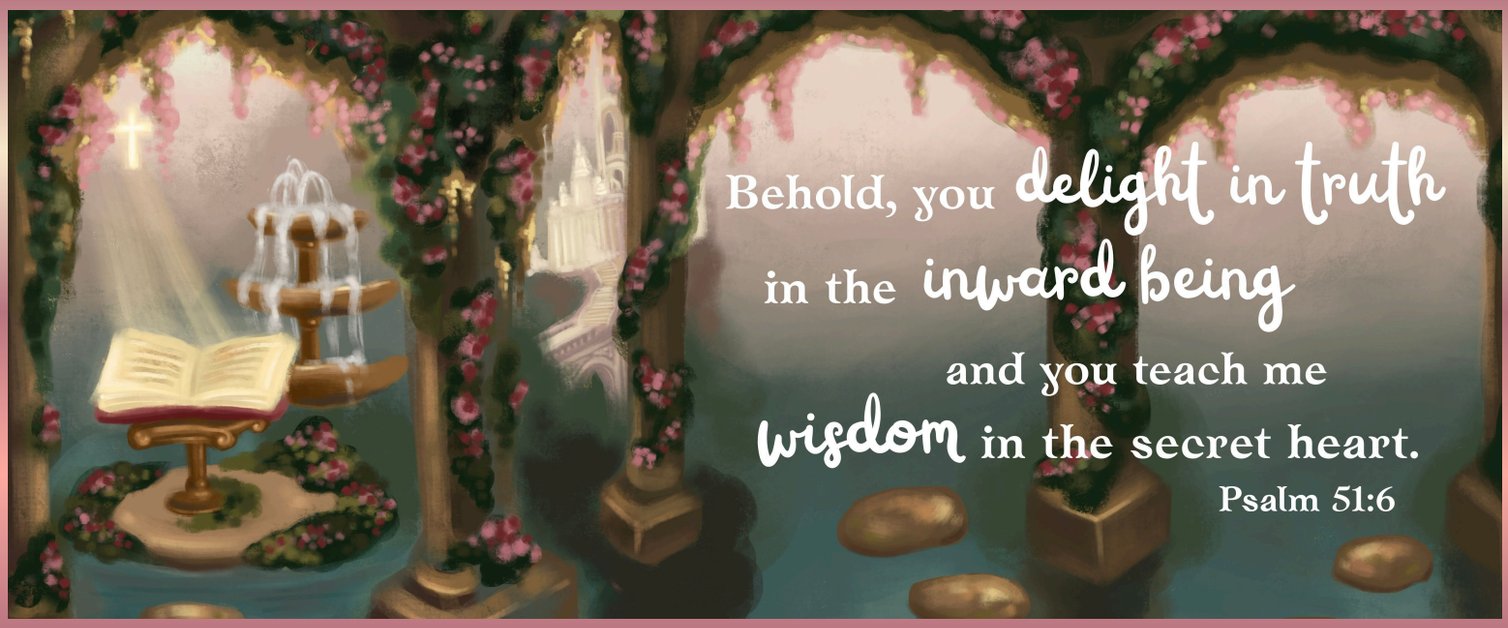
BETHESDA (KATONG) CHURCH

8 NOV 2026

SUNDAY BULLETIN

FOR INTERNAL CIRCULATION ONLY | CO. REG/UEN 195000088K

BETHESDA (KATONG) CHURCH 90 1936 - 2026 ANNIVERSARY
GROWING Together IN CHRIST



WORSHIP

THROUGH GIVING

Honour the Lord with your wealth, with the first fruits of all your crops. Proverbs 3:9

VIA PAYNOW TRANSFER

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UOB A/C NO : 388-314-965-1

CHEQUE

Crossed cheque payable to: Bethesda (Katong) Church

PURPOSE

For all giving, please specify purpose as follows:
- General Fund (GF)
- Missionary Fund (MF)

THANK YOU

For God loves a cheerful giver.

LADIES' MEETING

Sunday, 15 Nov, 10:15am @ Annexe, L3
Topic: Courage & Strength
Speaker: Mrs Chan Li Leng

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Sunday, 15 Nov, 10:35am @ Annexe, L203 & over Zoom
Topic: A Man & Counsel

SENIOR CITIZENS' MINISTRY

Thursday, 12 Nov, 10am @ Main Hall
Exercise: 9am @ 160CR (before the meeting)
Activity Day: Handicraft

VBS VOLUNTEER BRIEFING

Sunday, 22 Nov, 10:30-10:50am @ Annexe, L3
Thank you for stepping into the wild with us! Crew Leader discussion continues after the general briefing till 11:30am. T-shirts are available for collection today & 15 Nov @ Annexe, L1. See you at Rainforest Falls!

SUNDAY PRAYER WITH ELDERS

Two elders will be available after the morning service to pray with anyone who seeks personal prayer support. This morning, Elders Richard Tio and Dr Douglas Chan will be present to spend time with you in private prayer.

WHEN NOTHING SEEMS GOOD ENOUGH



Have you ever noticed how easy it is to find fault with something when we have already decided that we do not like it? We will find reasons to criticise or dismiss it, even when there is much good to appreciate. Sadly, this attitude can also affect the way we respond to God and his Word.

In Luke 7:18-35, Jesus exposes this attitude among the people of his day. Their responses to John the Baptist and Jesus reveal the danger of hearts unwilling to receive God's message.

When John the Baptist heard about Jesus' ministry, he sent two disciples to ask whether Jesus was the coming Messiah (v18-20). Jesus answered by pointing to the works he was doing: the blind received sight, the lame walked, the deaf heard, the dead were raised, and the good news was proclaimed to the poor (v21-22). These were signs that God's promised salvation had arrived. But Jesus also added, "Blessed is anyone who does not stumble on account of me" (v23).

Jesus' words carried an important warning. God's salvation was unfolding, but not necessarily in the way people expected. They needed to recognise Jesus for who he truly was rather than reject him for not meeting their expectations.

Jesus then affirmed John's faithfulness as God's messenger (v24-28). John was not a reed swayed by the wind, nor was he someone who sought the comforts and approval of the powerful. He was a prophet who faithfully prepared the way for the Lord. Yet, despite John's important ministry, many refused to respond to his message. The ordinary people and tax collectors acknowledged God's justice by accepting John's baptism, while the Pharisees and experts in the law rejected God's purpose for themselves (v29-30).

The problem becomes even clearer in Jesus' illustration of children in the marketplace (v31-34). Whatever was played, whether a wedding song or a funeral dirge, they refused to respond. John came neither eating bread nor drinking wine, and they accused him of having a demon. Jesus came eating and drinking, and they called him a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners. In other words, nothing was good enough for them! Their objections revealed more than mere dissatisfaction with John or Jesus —their hearts were unwilling to repent and receive God's message.

Are we sometimes like these people? Do we readily accept God's Word when it agrees with our preferences, but resist it when it challenges our attitudes,

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FOCUS ON PRAYER



TODAY'S SPEAKER

Pray for our Elder Chia Eng Chuan who gives us today's ministry message, **"Jesus and John the Baptist "** (Luke 7:18-35). Pray that we will have attentive hearts to this message given to us.

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WISDOM

Heavenly Father,
Please forgive us when our expectations blind us to your work. Teach us not to judge your wisdom by our preferences, but to recognise your truth in Christ. Give us humble hearts to respond rightly to your Word and the faith to follow Jesus. In his name we pray. Amen.

JUNIOR SUNDAY SCHOOL

Pray for our Junior Sunday School:

- Thank God for the 69 campers and 89 volunteers who have registered for Vacation Bible School (VBS)—Rainforest Falls. The response and support have been greatly encouraging. Pray for wisdom and strength as the team finalises plans for each station and the overall programme.
- Pray that each child and volunteer will be personally touched by the Holy Spirit through the lessons and activities. May the children come to know God, our loving Creator, who knows all things.
- Pray for the Lord's protection throughout VBS and for the good health of everyone involved. May meaningful connections be formed and this time of fellowship be truly enjoyed by everyone.

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exposes our sins or calls us to change? Do we sometimes find fault with the preacher, the preaching style or the circumstances rather than consider honestly what God is saying to us?

We must guard against allowing familiarity with Christian practices to make us resistant to God's Word. We can be regular churchgoers, knowledgeable about Scripture and actively involved in ministry yet still have hearts that refuse God's correction. Jesus concludes, "But wisdom is proved right by all her children" (v35). True wisdom is demonstrated by those who recognise God's work and respond in faith and obedience.

Let us not look for reasons to resist God's Word. Instead, let us cultivate humble and teachable hearts that are willing to repent when confronted with our sins, obey God's commands when they challenge us, and rejoice when we see his grace at work. After all, the question is not whether God's Word meets our expectations, but whether we are willing to submit to it.

THEME: TEACH ME THY WAYS

Verse of the Week: Luke 7:22 (NIV)

So he replied to the messengers, “Go back and report to John what you have seen and heard: The blind receive sight, the lame walk, those who have leprosy are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the good news is proclaimed to the poor.”



SERMON NOTES

TODAY

Jesus and John the Baptist
(Luke 7:18-35)

Elder Chia Eng Chuan

NEXT SUNDAY

Then Lord Shall We Fully Know,
Not Till Then How Much We Owe
(Luke 7:36-50)

Elder Dr Douglas Chan