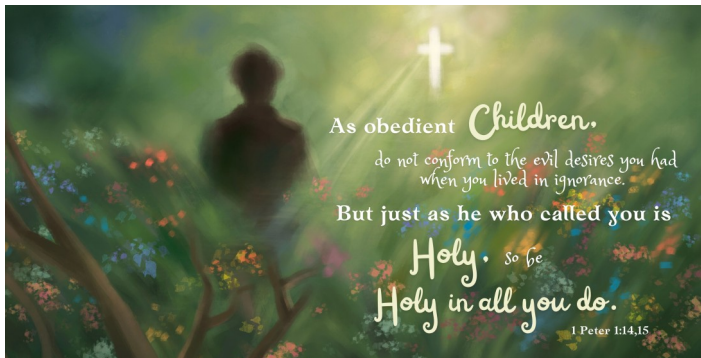




09 Nov 2025

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BETHESDA (KATONG) CHURCH

SENIOR CITIZENS' MINISTRY: Thursday, 13 Nov, 10am @ Main Hall

Exercise: 9am before meeting in Church @ 160CR

Activity: CHRISTmas Card (DIY)

LADIES' PRAYER FELLOWSHIP: Sunday, 16 Nov, 10:15am @ Annexe, L3

Topic: Mary—Blessed Among Women

Speaker: Ms Stephanie Tan

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP: Sunday, 16 Nov, 10:30am over Zoom / in Church @ Annexe L203-204

Topic: "Spiritual Renewal for the Outer Man" from 'Dangers Men Face'

CHRISTMAS CAROLLING PARTY: Saturday, 13 Dec, 4pm - 6:30pm @ Bethesda (Katong) Church

Invite your friends and relatives who have yet to know Jesus to this outreach event. Please pray about who you can invite and obey boldly.

For catering and logistics, please register:

<https://forms.gle/8DmRtwTamxp61EAq9>



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 Leong Che Yeong and Richard Tio will be present to spend time with you in private prayers.

WORSHIP

through giving

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

VIA PAYNOW

Transfer to UEN: 195000088K or scan the QR code.



BANK TRANSFER | ATM

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);
- Disaster Relief Fund (DRF)

THANK YOU

...for God loves a cheerful giver.
(2 Corinthians 9:7b)

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Christian Counter-Culture

Peter wrote his first epistle in Rome sometime in AD 62–63, just before Emperor Nero’s widespread persecution of Christians in AD 64. His epistle was a timely exhortation to Christians living in various parts of the Roman provinces in Asia Minor. As if anticipating what is to come, Peter told the believers to submit to the governing authorities: *“Submit yourselves for the Lord’s sake to every human authority: whether to the emperor, as the supreme authority or to governors...”* (1 Peter 2:13-14a).

It was all fair and good when the government was just and kind. But when the governing authorities, such as Emperor Nero, started to persecute Christians, should they still continue to submit? Christians were mistreated, abused and being slandered. They were falsely accused of insurrection against Rome, accused of atheism because they do not worship Caesar, or other gods.

Last Sunday’s speaker, Mr Sim Kay Tee, referred to Polycarp, Bishop of Smyrna. He was the first recorded martyr in the post-New Testament church history. When asked to deny his faith and renounce Jesus to the Roman authorities, he refused. To submit, however, does not mean to do so blindly. When the demands of authorities are in conflict with what God says in his word, obedience to God takes precedence over obedience to earthly authorities. Peter himself said, in Acts 5:29b, to the Sanhedrin *“We must obey God rather than human beings!”*

The persecution of Christians still continues to this day. While the global churches have designed a particular day as the International Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church, we should constantly pray for the brothers and sisters suffering in various parts of the world.

Besides physical persecution, believers are also exposed to varying degrees of oppression because of their faith. In John 15:20 the Lord Jesus had warned that persecution is inevitable. *“Remember what I told you: ‘A servant is not greater than his master.’ If they persecuted me, they will persecute you also...”* Peter wrote that the way to live in these difficult times is to do good. *“For it is God’s will that by doing good you should silence the ignorant talk of foolish people. Live as free people, but do not use your freedom as a cover-up for evil; live as God’s slaves. Show proper*

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1. TODAY'S SPEAKER

Pray for our Pastor Elder Leong Che Yeong who gives us today's ministry message **"Our Christian Witness to the World" (1 Peter 2:11-3:7)**. Pray that we will have attentive hearts to this message given to us.

2. HOLY LIVING AMONG OTHERS

Dear Lord,

Help us to live as strangers in this world, abstaining from sinful desires and showing your goodness through our conduct. Teach us humility, submission, and love in every relationship, that others may see our deeds and glorify you through Christ, our perfect example. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

3. KINDERGARTEN SUNDAY SCHOOL

Pray the following for our Kindergarten Sunday School:

- * Praise the Lord and thank God for:
 - ♦ Each child to experience God's loving care as they learn from his word each week, and
 - ♦ His continual guidance, creativity and support for teachers and assistants for each Bible lesson.
- * Pray for the upcoming Vacation Bible School that the young children will be attentive and not experience any separation anxiety. Pray especially for the new children who come from unbelieving families to hear and understand the gospel.
- * Pray for the graduating students that they will settle well in Junior Sunday School.
- * Pray for the planning for 2026. May God provide more teachers and assistants to come on board.

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respect to everyone, love the family of believers, fear God, honor the emperor."
(1 Peter 2:15-17)

With this instruction, Peter goes on to in 1 Peter 2:18-3:7 to touch on how goodness can be seen and shown in various relationships by slaves, wives and husbands. By demonstrating God's love and grace to those around us, we reveal to them this living hope we have in God, even in the face of persecution. Is there a specific situation this coming week where you can make this a reality?

THEME: GROWING IN THE KINGDOM

Our Christian Witness to the World (1 Peter 2:11-3:7)

Pastor Elder Leong Che Yeong

Sermon Notes

VERSE FOR THE WEEK:

1 Peter 2:12 (NIV)

Live such good lives
among the pagans that,
though they accuse you of
doing wrong, they may
see your good deeds and
glorify God on the day he
visits us.

Next Week's Sermon

**Sojourner's Suffering—Is
It Worth It?
(1 Peter 3:8-4:11)**

Elder Dr Douglas Chan