

EXCELLENT SOWING

07
JUNE
2020

ED.LXIV.06.2020

Bethany International Church
THE HOUSE OF PRAYER FOR ALL NATIONS



FOUNDING PASTOR

Rev Niko Njotoraharjo

SENIOR PASTOR

Ps Djohan Handojo

PASTOR

Ps Daniel Prajogo

Associate Pastor

Ps Unggul Santika
Ps Iwan Adinugroho

Prophetic, Praise & Worship Pastor

Ps Hemah Demak Panjaitan
Ps Suzana Tahir

Next Generation Pastor

Ps Rudy Nurtanaya

Teaching Pastor

Ps Daniel Hardjosuwito

Pastoral Care

Ps Lily Karto

Mission & Evangelism Pastor

Ps Gideon Gunawan

Office Manager

Ps Suzana Tahir

CONTACT US



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JOIN THE TEAM

We are inviting more writers to our ministry. If you enjoy reading, writing, listening to other people's stories, or simply want to know more about our ministry, you are more than welcome to contact us.

A heart to serve the church and the people through writing has been our main purpose of doing this ministry.

All of the testimonies, stories, or articles are written that we may see the goodness of God, the power of God, which leads to seeing more of His glory.

We always seek for improvement in our ministry. If you have any suggestions, feedbacks, critics, or if you have stories or testimonies you want to share with us, please do let us know.

Contact details:
Sonia 0424 181 612
Kevin Jingga 0413 345 433

HELLO *new comers!*

Welcome to Bethany International Church Melbourne.
So glad that you are here with us. We want to help make your
first experience at BIC Melbourne a great one!



GET CONNECTED

Christian journey shouldn't be alone because it is a community project. Join our Community of Love (COOL) every Friday 7PM!

LET US CONTACT YOU



Lastly, please enjoy a cup of coffee on us! 



COOL LIST



MAIN

Canaan	Kezia, Freddie
Ephratah	Steven, Henry
Berea - Bethesda	Romy
Bethlehem	Felix, Fransisca
Jordan	Sony, Wilfred
Horeb	Ferry, Febria
Bethany	Paulus, Erina
Bethel	Christy, Elvina
Cana	Bobby
Philadelphia - Pniel	Dwi, Vero
Moriah	Elve, Calista
Ephraim	Kevin L, Sonia
Ekklesia	Edo, Ica
Emmaus	Fabian, Priska
Galilee	Kevin Y, Corine
Gennesaret	Reinetta, Albert
Gilgal - Carmel	Erika, Mike
Hebron - Philippi	Yoseph, Rian
Zion	Monica, Raymond
Eden	Jennifer

FAMILY

Antioch	Andy, Iwan
Tiberias	Andre, Albert
Doncaster	Michael, Rudy
Jerusalem	Edwin, Gerda
Mt Hermon	Lily, Unggul
Phillipi	Hariyanto, Ivan
Shekinah	Alice
Tabernacle	Sandi
Westal	Michael

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Macedonia	Eric, Alicia
Shiloh	Daniel, Clarissa

NEXT GEN

Judea	Valentina, Sylvio
Judah	Aldo, Kezia M.
Israel	Catherine, Jerry
Jeremiah	Sinta, Kevin W.
Heaven	Pauline



A THANKFUL HEART

STORY VINDY ANDRI PUTRI

Who would have thought that we are going to spend the first half of 2020 at home?

I believe none of us ever imagine that we're going to go through something like this. Looking back to the first month of lockdown, I remember it was so frustrating for me. Not being able to go to church and meet my friends physically, and also having to adapt to online learning were all so overwhelming at that time. But I think as time goes by, God changed my heart and helped me to see this season from another perspective.

Instead of being sad that I can't go out and socialise physically, I'm learning to be grateful and enjoy the extra free time God has given me. I'm especially grateful that I have enough sleep every day and enjoy my breakfast every morning without worrying that I'm going to be late for class, something which was so hard to have in my normal schedule. Also, lately, my friends and I are doing morning prayer through zoom and it really helps to start the day.

This is something that I learned during quarantine, so I trained myself to see that every good thing in my life as a gift from God because I know that it is only by His grace that I can enjoy His blessings. So, for example, every time I drink my morning coffee, I trained myself to remember that it's not just a cup of coffee I'm enjoying, but also a healthy body and my parents' hard work. It leads me back to God's grace and His provision in my life. Then, that

cup of coffee is not just a coffee anymore, it becomes a cup of God's love that I can enjoy. When I become more aware of His goodness in my life, I just want to thank God and as I give thanks to Him, my heart just overflows with joy. I think thanksgiving truly change the attitude of our hearts.

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I believe that in order to always have a thankful heart, not only do we have to train ourselves but more importantly, we need to ask for the Holy Spirit to work inside of us to let us see God's kindness - even in the darkest days. There were times when I just didn't know what to be grateful for because I was blinded by my problems. During those moments, I just prayed for the Holy Spirit to soften my heart and also, I shared my struggles with my close friends and let them remind me of God's goodness and love.

I have two verses that help me to have a grateful heart. The first one is James 1:17, it reminds me that every good thing is a gift from God. And also Romans 8:28, it reminds me that for every struggle in my life, God is working for my good and I can always be thankful for His faithfulness and love in my life.



WEEKLY DEVOTION

07 JUNE

Yosua 17-18

Ayat Renungan:
Yosua 24:24

“Lalu jawab bangsa itu kepada Yosua: “Kepada Tuhan, Allah kita, kami akan beribadah, dan firman-Nya akan kami dengarkan.”

08 JUNE

Yosua 19-20

Ayat Renungan:
Yosua 23:11

“Maka demi nyawamu, bertekunlah mengasihi Tuhan, Allahu. ”

09 JUNE

Yosua 21-22

Ayat Renungan:
Yosua 21:45

“Dari segala yang baik yang dijanjikan Tuhan kepada kaum Israel, tidak ada yang tidak dipenuhi; semuanya terpenuhi.”

10 JUNE

Yosua 23-24

Ayat Renungan:
Yosua 24:15

“Tetapi jika kamu anggap tidak baik untuk beribadah kepada Tuhan, pilihlah pada hari ini kepada siapa kamu akan beribadah; allah yang kepadanya nenek moyangmu beribadah di seberang sungai Efrat, atau allah orang Amori yang negerinya kamu diami ini. Tetapi aku dan seisi rumahku, kami akan beribadah kepada Tuhan!”

11 JUNE

Roma 1-2

**Ayat Renungan:
Roma 2:4**

“Maukah engkau menganggap sepi kekayaan kemurahan-Nya, kesabaran-Nya dan kelapangan hati-Nya? Tidakkah engkau tahu, bahwa maksud kemurahan Allah ialah menuntun engkau kepada pertobatan?”

12 JUNE

Roma 3-4

**Ayat Renungan:
Roma 4:7-8**

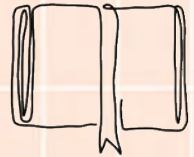
“Berbahagialah orang yang diampuni pelanggaran-pelanggarannya, dan yang ditutupi dosa-dosanya; 8berbahagialah manusia yang kesalahannya tidak diperhitungkan Tuhan kepadanya.”

13 JUNE

Roma 5-6

**Ayat Renungan:
Roma 6:13**

“Dan janganlah kamu menyerahkan anggota-anggota tubuhmu kepada dosa untuk dipakai sebagai senjata kelaliman, tetapi serahkanlah dirimu kepada Allah sebagai orang-orang, yang dahulu mati, tetapi yang sekarang hidup. Dan serahkanlah anggota-anggota tubuhmu kepada Allah untuk menjadi senjata-senjata kebenaran.”



*your word is a lamp
for my feet, a light
on my path*

-psalm 119:105 -

LOVING GOD

STORY DAX GIFANO OENARDI

Knowing God is a great privilege for every believer in Christ. God promised that when we seek Him with all our hearts, He will let Himself be found by us. However, our Christian journey does not stop when we found God, it is the starting point where we build a relationship with our Creator. Love is the foundation for our journey walking together with God on earth and as we experience His grace, love, and mercy towards us, our hearts will be filled by His presence to spread love among others.

We, as believers, must examine ourselves from time to time regarding our faith in love for Him. I praise God that He sustains my faith, grounded and rooted in love, and I grow more in love with Him from time to time. I do believe when we sincerely seek God and find a way to appreciate His presence, read His word, meditate upon it, sacrifice our time for communion, and truly live apart of the flesh, God will open a new portal of doors for us to experience and love Him more.

Growing in the love of God

It is important for us to also examine ourselves grounded in His word. It is very easy for us

being manipulated by the emotions of our mind thinking that we are in love while we live our lives in the other direction of His commands. This is why the foundational truth of our belief, which is His word, is important. Although there are many scriptural references, one of the indicators to tell if we truly love God is from this verse: Jesus said in John 14:15 "If you love Me, keep My commandments". This can be expressed through serving Him with a sincere heart no matter what the duty is. It can also be expressed from loving one and another, because how can we love God who is unseen if we can't love the people that we see? In addition, our sacrifice for time or possession to people surroundings and living in holiness and righteously for God could be a sign of our life being transformed - grounded in His love.

Generally speaking, as believers, we must understand the meaning of the cross rooted in our spirit, not just theoretical knowledge for us to be able to grow in love, because the cross is the proof of God's love for us - by paying the death penalty for us. As it is written in **Ephesians 3:18** "*may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the width and the length and the depth and height to know the*

love of Christ which passes knowledge". Although there is no formula to grow in love for God, however, from my experience there are certain things that we can do which are: reflecting His love for us and remember who we are before knowing Him and simply think how is it possible for God to die and love a person like me. For me personally, that is how I can slowly grow and comprehend His love in my life which helps me to love others in their weakness and flaws too.

When the days seem dark

Life is full of unexpected things. It could be workload, distractions, issues with relationships, personal family matter and other problems that can shift our focus from God to our circumstances. I build a discipline around my life every morning and before I go to sleep to enter into His presence, giving praise and thanking Him for the life and grace, asking for help and direction, and communicating to Him regarding my hardships. I build every single place in my apartment to be my altar, where I cry before the God of heavens. When I feel weak spiritually, empty, no love and desire for God, I come to Him with a genuine and crushed spirit, and I know that He will not despise (**Psalms 51:17**).

When our cup of love is empty, we cannot force to fill it in by our strength; but we need the power and the grace of God that we may have love inside our heart. Be open and honest with God. He will fill our heart with His love when we humble our heart before Him. Another thing is, I waited for the Lord in my prayer room. That is the place where I sing and praise and I asked



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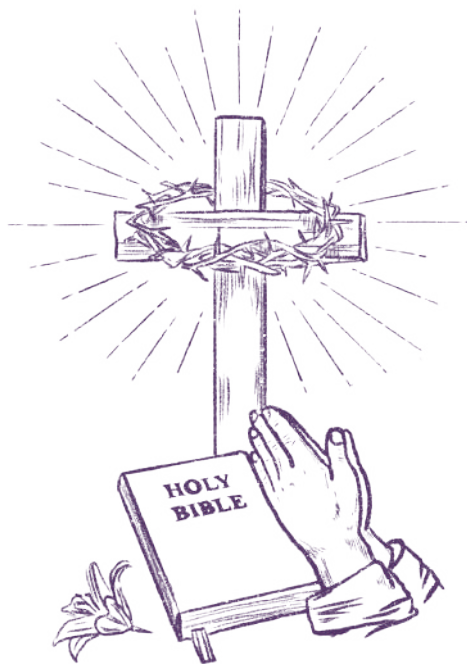
for His presence to strengthen me: **Isaiah 40:31** *“But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary, and they shall walk, and not faint.”*

To me personally, sin, the lust of the eye, is my biggest problem in loving God. It is frustrating that when we love God but we do things that hurt His heart. I began to discover that there is a mystery within our seeing and hearing, that what we see and hear affects our spirit through the mind. This is what happened in Sodom and Gomorrah, in **2 Peter 2:8** *“for that righteous man, dwelling among them, tormented his righteous soul from day to day by seeing and hearing their lawless deeds”*. I know how dangerous the media and movies are nowadays, I have equipped my spirit to be sensitive towards the tools and weapons of the satanic kingdom upon a believer’s life and to close down and reject any entertainment in my life.

I know how shallow my love for God is, but to show Him that I genuinely love Him with all my heart, soul, and mind; I decided to delete any toxic media applications, avoid movies that have sexual content or scene and stay away from worldly music. If you have this struggle too, trust me from my experience how clean your mind could become. This practical revelation was one of the most effective tools I found to suppress my desire. Your love for God will be proven by the actions you will take to have a deeper communion with Him, no matter what the cost you have to pay.

Gospel as the foundation

The Gospel is the centre of my foundation of faith. Everything revolves around the gospel because it is the power of God to save souls. The Gospel has brought me to understand His grace, mercy, love, kindness, patience, understanding and acceptance. The Gospel shows the heart of the Father by sacrificing His son for the sins of the world. To me, that is extremely risky and a great sacrifice. I worship and adore His heart for the humankind, I love my God, I love you, Lord.



MINISTRY LIST

VOCAL



Jessica Sutiono

MUSICIAN



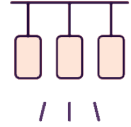
Raynaldo Ali

MULTIMEDIA



Budi Sendjaja

LIGHTING



Budi Sendjaja

SOUND



Steven Santika

USHER



Elbert Pranoto

TRANSLATOR



Elbert Pranoto

CARING



Felix Hariyadi

DANCER



Priska Sunaryo

DRAMA



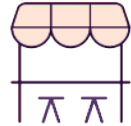
Jennifer Chandra

SUNDAY SCHOOL



Reinetta Tanujaya

HOSPITALITY



Tasmin Ifah

INTERCESSOR



Monica Haryanto

MISSION



Felix Chietra

MEDIA ART



Sonia Pranatha

COMMUNITY KITCHEN



Yolanda Tjong

PODCAST



Ravello Satria

YOUTH



Rio Susanto

"Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms"

**We invite you to join our
online service every Sunday**

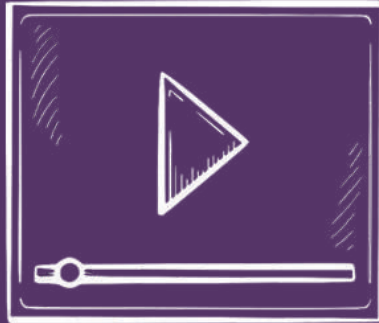
8.30 am

11.00 am

5.00 pm

You can go to the link below:

bicmelb.online.church



**Let's celebrate the Lord's Day
together!**