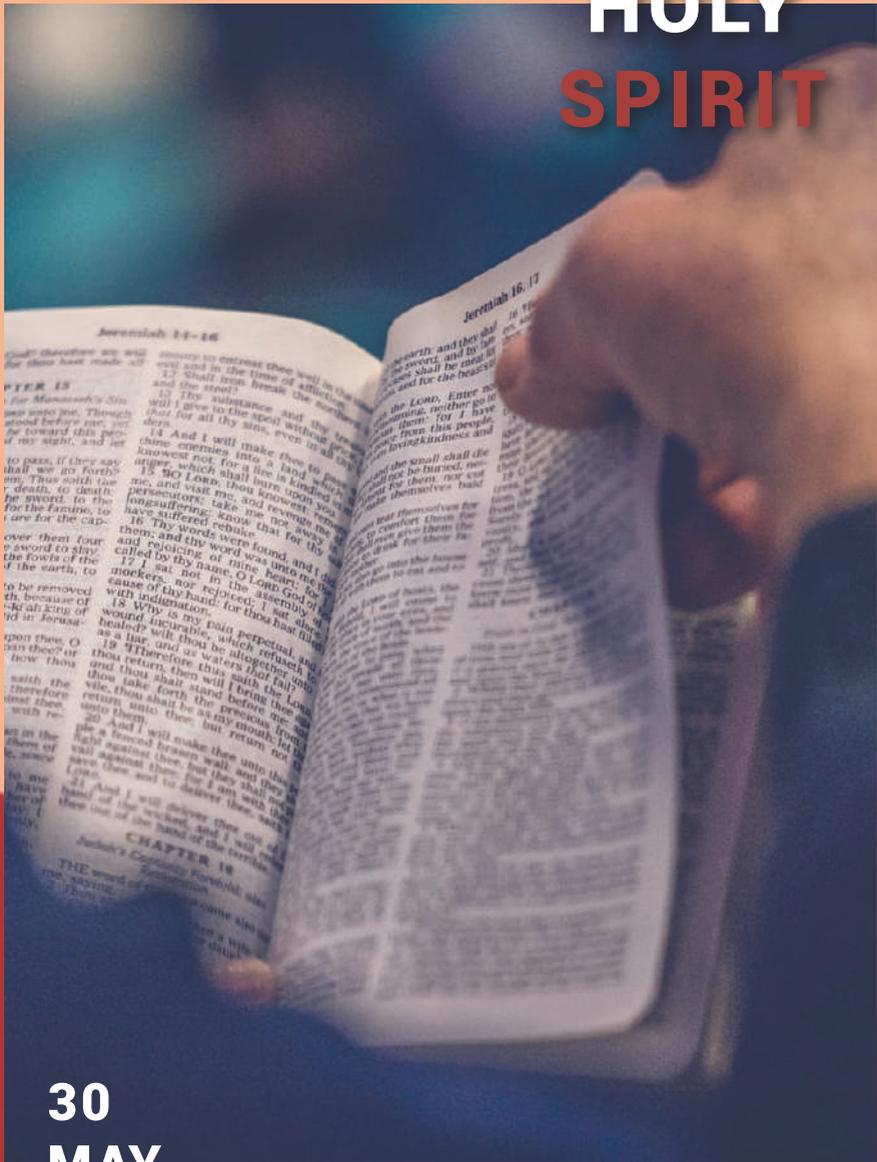


HOLY SPIRIT



30
MAY
2020

ED.LXVIII.05.2020

Bethany International Church

THE HOUSE OF PRAYER FOR ALL NATIONS



FOUNDING PASTOR

Rev Niko Njotoraharjo

SENIOR PASTOR

Ps Djohan Handoyo

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



Bethany International Church



office@bethanymelb.org.au



www.bethanymelb.org.au



[@bicmelbourne](https://www.instagram.com/bicmelbourne)



+61396999077

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



FIGHTING IN ISOLATION

STORY VILINCIA CHANDRA

Physical isolation may lead to spiritual demotivation. Temptations become more real in our solitary moment. Therefore, It is important for us to stay vigilant in this situation - where the enemies are prowling like a roaring lion. Christian life is not built on solitude, but on a covenant community of believers.

Let us reflect on these verses:

“And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.”

(Hebrew 10:24-25 NIV)

Vilincia Chandra shares her experiences in fighting in the isolation period.

Can you tell us a little bit about yourself?

V: I have been a Christian my whole life as I was raised in a Christian family, and we attend GBI church in Indonesia. I want a community that shares the same values and beliefs as I do, which led me to join BIC Melbourne and COOL “ZION” when I moved to Melbourne. Currently, I am in my third year of university.

How has the physical isolation (and COOL online) affected your spiritual life?

V: Prior to the pandemic, I consider myself quite busy and I haven't been involved in any ministry. Thus, I don't feel obliged to join

any church meetings or events. But since the quarantine started, I got reminded to give more time to God instead of spending it all on entertainment. I am really thankful to BIC Melbourne for arranging a lot of ZOOM meetings, which allow me to join any prayer session easily from home. Some of the ZOOM meetings I often joined (aside from Sunday service) are COOL every Friday, morning prayer on weekdays, and Bible study every Saturday and Sunday.

What struggles do you experience in this season?

V: Just being at home all the time and doing nothing actually makes me feel tired! When I feel tired, of course, I'll tend to just lie on the bed or play with my phone. My sleep schedule also got messed up, as I can stay up quite late when there is no morning class the next day.

How is your devotion, prayer, or Bible reading during lockdown?

V: Due to my messy sleeping schedule, morning prayers are the hardest these days. However, I always push myself to still join the meeting no matter how sleepy I am, knowing that it is not a reason for me to skip it. In the end, I actually feel a lot fresher and I can start my day with a better mind after praying to God. For my devotion, I use the Bible app on my phone to read daily verses, which I always do every morning after breakfast. The Bible study meetings also help

me to understand the context much better, and the people there motivated me a lot to read more each day.

What do you do when you are spiritually demotivated?

V: To avoid feeling demotivated or lazy, I always set my mindset to put my relationship with God as a priority beyond anything else. I will remind myself every time that my worldly desire can be done anytime later, but time with God must always come first. I know I should set aside my time for Him first and foremost, instead of giving Him the remaining time I have left after doing other things.

To avoid feeling demotivated or lazy, I always set my mindset to put my relationship with God as a priority beyond anything else.

How do you stay connected with your COOL, and what are the challenges?

V: We stay connected using ZOOM for the weekly COOL meetings. During other days, my COOL members and I stay in contact through personal chats and by visiting each other once in a while. The challenge lies in not seeing them physically and talking through ZOOM. I find it quite hard to discuss through ZOOM with all

the tech issues and limitations. However, the good thing with ZOOM is its ability to reunite our past COOL members who are currently in Indonesia.

What is your hope during or after this pandemic?

V: During this pandemic, my heart really goes out to the elderly, whose health are heavily at risk, and also to the families who have lost their loved ones. I always pray for the government, for God to pour out wisdom to them in handling this situation, and for protection for my family and friends. Once this pandemic ends, I hope people can appreciate their time more than before. Instead of spending most of our time to fulfil our wants, I hope everyone will start spending more time with God and with our closest family and friends.

Instead of spending most of our time to fulfil our wants, I hope everyone will start spending more time with God and with our closest family and friends.



WEEKLY DEVOTION

31 MAY

Yosua 3-4

Ayat Renungan:
Roma 8:31-32

“Sebab itu apakah yang akan kita katakan tentang semuanya itu? Jika Allah di pihak kita, siapakah yang akan melawan kita? 32Ia, yang tidak menyayangkan Anak-Nya sendiri, tetapi yang menyerahkan-Nya bagi kita semua, bagaimanakah mungkin Ia tidak mengaruniakan segala sesuatu kepada kita bersama-sama dengan Dia.”

01 JUNE

Yosua 5-6

Ayat Renungan:
Yohanes 8:36

“Jadi apabila Anak itu memerdekakan kamu, kamu pun benar-benar merdeka.”

02 JUNE

Yosua 7-8

Ayat Renungan:
1 Petrus 2:16

“Hiduplah sebagai orang merdeka dan bukan seperti mereka yang menyalahgunakan kemerdekaan itu untuk menyelubungi kejahatan-kejahatan mereka, tetapi hiduplah sebagai hamba Allah.”

03 JUNE

Yosua 9-10

Ayat Renungan:
Galatia 5:1

“Supaya kita sungguh-sungguh merdeka, Kristus telah memerdekakan kita. Karena itu berdirilah teguh dan jangan mau lagi dikenakan kuk perhambaan.”

04 JUNE

Yosua 11-12

Ayat Renungan:
Yosua 23:10

“Satu orang saja dari pada kamu dapat mengejar seribu orang, sebab Tuhan Allahmu, Dialah yang berperang bagi kamu, seperti yang dijanjikan-Nya kepadamu.”

05 JUNE

Yosua 13-14

Ayat Renungan:
Yosua 23:16

“apabila kamu melangkahi perjanjian, yang telah diperintahkan kepadamu oleh Tuhan, Allahmu, dan pergi beribadah kepada allah lain dan sujud menyembah kepada mereka. Maka murka Tuhan akan bangkit terhadap kamu, sehingga kamu segera binasa dari negeri yang baik, yang telah diberikan-Nya kepadamu.”

06 JUNE

Yosua 15-16

Ayat Renungan:
Yosua 24:23

“Ia berkata:
“Maka sekarang, jauhkanlah allah asing yang ada di tengah-tengah kamu dan condongkanlah hatimu kepada Tuhan, Allah Israel.”



*your word is a lamp
for my feet, a light
on my path
— psalm 119:105 —*



GOD'S 'MARVELLOUS' GRACE: 'WHEN WE ARE FAITHLESS, GOD IS FAITHFUL'

STORY FELICIA TJANDRA

It has been almost three months since our lockdown and truly it is like riding a roller coaster. Just to give a background to my story: My name is Felicia Tjandra, a wife and mother of a super active five years old son and eight months old baby girl. It has been a hectic household and rarely can I find serene time at home.

I am fascinated by how responsive Australia's education system is with home schooling. From math class, English, art, music and even PE subjects have been turned into online learning at home. I can be directly involved with my son's study. But on the other hand, it means I need to rearrange all of my routines. It is a challenge to juggle between this new role and other additional isolation activities, especially all of my kids are in the age that requires full attention. Hardly can I find time for myself or do quiet time; it seems that everything demands to be a priority.

This situation affects my praying habit and demotivates my devotional life. Physical tiredness, emotional exhaustion and spiritual dryness become a vicious cycle without

escape. I remembered one day when I was so impatient when my son couldn't eat his lunch on time or even when my baby was crying at night. I see myself turning to be a short-tempered person with trivial stuff. I questioned myself why am I becoming someone who is easily led by emotion and fleshly desire.

However, take courage! When the Holy Spirit is in us, He will work and reprove our sin. When we are faithless, God is faithful. I realised something is wrong in me and I cried out to God for help. I learnt to prioritise like never before. When I am nursing my baby girl, I usually use that period to reply to Whatsapp messages or even scrolling my social media. But since time is very precious, I use this time to be alone with God, worship, pray and feed my spiritual being just because I truly need it. Since then, I can put things in perspective. Though it was not perfect, still up and down, but now I can talk to my inner self more and be wiser in my actions.

Spiritual demotivation can affect everybody. It doesn't matter how long you have been

a Christian or what is your ministry title in the church. If I can describe the feeling, we kind of know deep down in our heart there is a hunger for God, but it seems so hard to push ourselves obeying our spiritual desire.

Through this article, I would like to encourage and remind everybody to commit to your spiritual gathering. Do not skip online service and always attend your online COOL. Be on time, do not skip worship sessions or even little chit chat at the beginning of COOL. Put yourself in a situation where you can be fed spiritually (even if it is in a passive position). Listen to Christian podcasts or reach out to a friend so you can talk to someone. It requires humility to admit that we have a problem. Do not hesitate to ask to be prayed for. Do not isolate yourself because the lockdown is supposed to be physical distancing, not social distancing. Anti-social can lead to self-pity and depression. Reduce binge-watching or play online games but start to go out. Walk around and soak up the sun, especially when the quarantine has been eased.

With COOL online, I discovered that church is not a building with four walls or my church is limited with the church name. Cell group community is not an exclusive club for its members. But the church is a body of Christ and what God wants His church to be is beyond our limited space and thought. For example, for these past weeks, BIC alumnus and those who are in Indonesia can join our online COOL. It just opens up a whole new avenue of what church or cell group is supposed to be. We need to get on to the mission that God has prepared for the church, which is for all of us.



Spiritual demotivation can affect everybody. It doesn't matter how long you have been a Christian or what is your ministry title in the church.

Through this isolation, I grasped a little bit more about faith and humility, my faith was tested so I can be purified like gold. Can I believe what the Bible says about all things God works for the good of those who love Him? Can I believe that God is sovereign over all of my plans? This quarantine time is like an assessment towards my faith, and I would like to emphasise that this is more than just positive thinking. It is about being hopeful despite the gloomy seasons. "The peace that surpasses all understanding which comes not from the world". Oh how we need the power of the Holy Spirit to convict our heart with this truth.

I also learnt that we could not lean on our spiritual activities to be a Christian. I am so humbled to understand when I do not have enough time just to read the Bible or keep up with all my devotional commitment, God is still faithful. I testify who I am at the moment is because of God's marvellous grace. It is not because of my performance in praying nor speaking in tongue nor my ministry that makes me His child. At this point in my Christian journey, I just want to acknowledge Jesus' amazing love and grace. All things are from Him and through Him and for Him. To Him be the glory forever.

"I am so humbled to understand when I do not have enough time just to read the Bible or keep up with all my devotional commitment, God is still faithful. I testify who I am at the moment is because of God's marvellous grace. It is not because of my performance in praying nor speaking in tongue nor my ministry that makes me His child".



MINISTRY LIST

VOCAL



Jessica Sutiono

MUSICIAN



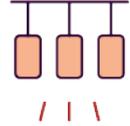
Raynaldo Ali

MULTIMEDIA



Budi Sendjaja

LIGHTING



Budi Sendjaja

SOUND



Steven Santika

USHER



Elbert Pranoto

TRANSLATOR



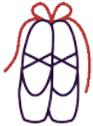
Elbert Pranoto

CARING



Felix Hariyadi

DANCER



Priska Sunaryo

DRAMA



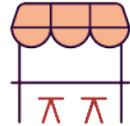
Jennifer Chandra

SUNDAY SCHOOL



Reinetta Tanujaya

HOSPITALITY



Tasmin Ifah

INTERCESSOR



Monica Haryanto

MISSION



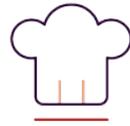
Felix Chietra

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**

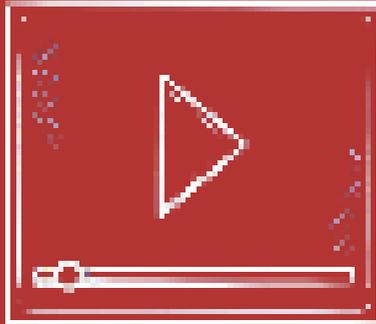
8.30 am

11.00 am

5.00 pm

You can go to the link below:

bicmelb.online.church



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