

WEEK 07

LENT 1

18 FEBRUARY 2018



THE CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

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Welcome to a gathering of God's people.

COLLECT FOR TODAY:

Lord Jesus Christ, for our sake you fasted forty days and forty nights, give us grace to use such abstinence that, our flesh being subdued to the spirit, we may always obey your will in righteousness and true holiness, to your honour and glory; for you live and reign with the Father and Holy Spirit, one God, for evermore. Amen.

DAINGEROUS SHORTCUTS

Read: Matthew 4:1-10

[Jesus said,] "Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God." — Matthew 4:4

During recent elections in my country, one struggling mom I know exchanged her vote for a bag of diapers. We had discussed the benefits of each candidate, so her choice disappointed me. "But what about your convictions?" I asked. She remained silent. Six months after her candidate won, taxes went even higher. Everything is now more expensive than before . . . even diapers!

In countries around the world, political corruption is not new. Spiritual corruption is not new either. Satan tried to lure Jesus into "selling" His convictions (Matt. 4:1-10). The tempter came to Him when He was tired and hungry. He offered Him immediate satisfaction, fresh bread in seconds, a miraculous delivery, the kingdoms of the world and their glory. But Jesus knew better. He knew that shortcuts were dangerous enemies. They may offer a road free from suffering, but in the end the pain they carry is much worse than anything we can imagine. "It is written," Jesus said three times during His temptations (vv.4,7,10). He held firm to what He knew was true from God and His Word.

When we are tempted, God can help us too. We can depend on Him and the truth of His Word to help us avoid dangerous shortcuts.

God's road is not easy, but it leads to eternal satisfaction.

(Our Daily Bread)

FAMILY MATTERS

Welcome to a gathering of God's people. We gather to worship Jesus. To sing praises to Him, to confess our sins to Him, to listen to His word, to pray to Him, to remember His death and to encourage one another to obey Him in our daily lives.

- We wish you all a blessed Chinese New Year. May the Lord prosper you spiritually and guide you in your commitment to our church ministries.
- **Provincial Sunday Envelopes** are still available if needed, from the sidesmen's desk. We strongly encourage you to give generously.
- **18 Feb (Today) -**
 - ★ **2:30 pm — No afternoon service.**
- **18 & 25 Feb - Chinese & English Sunday Schools** in recess, but
 - ★ BM Sunday School continues.

- **24 Feb (Sat); 8 am - 4:30 pm.** Shofar training at IAC. Registration fee @ RM10 / pax. Shofars will be on sale. Contact Revd Timothy for details.
- **24 Feb (Sat) - Ch Youth ministry including M.A.D. Youth in recess.**
- **25 Feb (Sun) - Baptism** will be conducted. Please fill in a form and hand it in to the church office or any one of the pastors or priests.
- **26 Feb (Mon) - COGS Alpha Leaders' training** at Grace Hall. Time: 7:30 pm. This is a preparation for the Alpha Course which will commence on 16/03/18, at 7:00 pm.
- **28 Feb (Wed) - Venue / time: COGS / 7:30 pm.** Prayer meeting combined with St Michael's for prayer and briefing for the following event:
 - ★ **8—10 Mar : Diocesan Chinese Prayer Conference.** Venue / time: COGS – Church / 7:30 pm. Persons-in-charge: COGS - Ps Hyen Tze; St Michael's Church - Vennie Chang and IAC— Regina Chin.

WHEN THE DEVIL SPEAKS . . . (Matt. 4:1-11)

1. Turn the stones to become bread (if you are the Son of God...)

Matthew 4:3-4 ³ The tempter came to him and said, "If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to become bread." ⁴ Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Man does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.'"

2. Throw yourself down (if you are the Son of God...)

Matthew 4:5-7 ⁵ Then the devil took him to the holy city and had him stand on the highest point of the temple. ⁶ "If you are the Son of God," he said, "throw yourself down. For it is written: " 'He will command his angels concerning you, and they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.' " ⁷ Jesus answered him, "It is also written: 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.' "

3. The kingdoms of the world and their splendor

Matthew 4:8-10 ⁸ Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor. ⁹ "All this I will give you," he said, "if you will bow down and worship me." ¹⁰ Jesus said to him, "Away from me, Satan! For it is written: 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only.'"

Questions for Discussion

Read Matthew 4:1-11. Briefly describe how the devil tempted Jesus in the wilderness.

1. If you were to face the 3 temptations, which one would be the most difficult to overcome? Why?
2. What do you learn from the ways Jesus overcame temptations? How can we apply this in our situation? Share your experience.
3. Plan to spend more time to read your Bible and pray for one another during this season of Lent.

FAMILY MATTERS

- **12/03/18— Chinese Cell Group Leaders & Assistant Leaders meeting.** Venue / Time - Grace Hall / 7:30 pm.

- **Pre-marital courses** for those of you who are prepared or intend to get married this year, please register at the church office.

We need to prepare you for the pre-marriage courses. Forms are available from the church office.

- **2017 Education Awards** for UPSR, PT3, SPM & STPM candidates. Please fill in a form and hand it in to the church office or to Ps Hyen Tze.

- **2018 AGM—25 Mar (Sun).**

It will be very much appreciated if the ministry leaders will get your reports done, the earlier the better. Report forms are available on the sidesmen's desk. Thank you. Details to follow.

Lord, teach us how to pray ...

- ✧ **For Our World - NAMIBIA—** on the western coast of south Africa. Population 2.5 million.

- Economy — rich in mining of diamonds, uranium, cattle farming and fishing.
- Religion — 91% Christians. Pray for churches to have faithful and regular worship.
- Churches - new mission activities to unreached people.

- ✧ **For Malaysia - The deaf and dumb.**

- the government to provide special aids for this group of people.
- welfare for the special school.
- The community to provide jobs for these people.

- ✧ **For Our Diocese - Misi Daerah Roh Kudus, Minusoh.**

- Revd Fredoline bin Babia, Ev Tingkason Pinandai, Ev Armin Muidin, Ev Tontodon Kasih, Ev Rozali Damai.
- Regular Sunday Worship and mid-week meetings.
- Regular visitation to all outlying kampongs.

- ✧ **For Our Parish - COGS Working Adults.**

- Grace Fung and her committee.
- Regular meetings to support and encourage one another in prayers.
- Unity and harmony among the members.

- ✧ For the sick: **Mr Francis Lam, Mrs Helen Lam (both in KK for medical check-up), Mr Yim Tin Yau, Mr Chin Tshun Leong, Mdm Teo Joo Lian, Ps N F Soo, Mdm Lee Soi Chin, Mr Eng Fook Kit, Mdm Chang Suk Heng, Mdm Emily Lau, Miss Vivian Chin, Mdm Lai Nyuk Jin, Mdm Chia Soon Yin, Mr Leong Kam Lun, Mdm Tay Phui Teen and Mr Chong Hyun Vui.**

04/02 Services/Attendance/Communicants

Hakka I [Sat] - 7:30 p.m.	203	169
Hakka II [Sun] - 7:00 am	231	206
English [Sun] - 9:30 am	177	156
BM [Sun] - 9:30 am	262	226
Hakka III [Sun] - 2:30 pm	59	54
Mawar Children	-	
Labuk Children (Ch)	140	
Labuk Children (En)		
BM Children	82	
Total	1154	811

Order of Service	This Sunday	Next Sunday (25/02/18)
<i>Introit Hymn</i>	Only Trust Him (HOP 197)	Jesus is all the world to me (HOP 355)
<i>Greetings</i>	Stephanie Chin	Dr T M Thian
<i>Praise & Worship</i>	Claudia Lopez	Evelyn Poon
<i>Collect for Today</i>		
<i>Bible Reading</i>	1 Peter 3: 18—22 Desmond Chong	Isaiah 6: 1—4 Ng Kong Hin
<i>Nicene Creed</i>		
<i>Gospel Reading</i>	Mark 1: 9—15 Stephanie Chin	Mark 8: 31—end Dr T M Thian
<i>Message</i>	"When the Devil Speaks" Ad Yong Thiam Choy	Ps Margaret Chong
<i>Response Hymn</i>		
<i>Intercession</i>	Ang Pian Ming	Stephanie Chin
<i>Confession</i>		
<i>Offertory Hymn</i>	Hear the Saviour Say HOP 145	And can it be that I should gain ? (HFTC 452)
<i>Holy Communion, Lord's Prayer, Thanksgiving, Blessing & Dismissal</i>		
<i>Thanksgiving Hymn</i>	Our Great Saviour (HOP 46)	Standing on the Promises (HOP 135)
Serving One Another :		
Cell Group Leader	YOUNG ADULTS & M.A.D. YOUTH (Timothy Wong)	LOGOS 1 (Dr Arthur Chung)
Welcome Team / Visitors Centre	Clement Chee, Danny Tang Esther Choo, Richard Lam	Mr & Mrs Eddie Wong Dr & Mrs Arthur Chung
Sidesmen	Richard Lam, Reg Sin Edwin Ngo, Danny Tang	Angela Ho, Hee Pui Lee Henley Liew, Ngo Su Hian
Server	Foo Chee Hiong	Charles Chong
Prayer Ministry	Peter Soo, Evelyn Poon Edwin Lam	Ho Sui Loon Annie Liu
Offertory Count	Alice Y M Chang (C) Mr & Mrs Loh Leong Len Hee Pui Lee, Ho Sui Loon Francis Voo	Nguyen Ngok Yoon (C) Dorothy Yong, Margaret Ho Eng Li Fah, Wong Siu Fong
Washing up	—	Mr & Mrs Anton Ngui

WEEKLY SERVICES

Saturday

7:30 p.m.
Chinese

Sunday

7:00 a.m.
Chinese

9:30 a.m.
English

9:30 a.m.
Bahasa M'sia

2:30 p.m.
Chinese

CHAPEL PRAYERS

Wed - 7:00 a.m.

Thur - 6:30 a.m.

Sat - 4:30 a.m.

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