

The Well

SLOW · SMALL · SIMPLE · STILL
A CONGREGATION OF CITY DISCIPLESHIP PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

LEADERS IN THE CHURCH: OFFICES

April 14th, 2024

WHAT WE DO

Welcome to The Well Church.

Some of you are probably wondering what we are doing here, so let's answer that question first:

We like to say that we are a well-digging church. Our job is to help provide water for thirsty travellers.

For us, our well is the Christian Bible, and this well is where we find the living water, Jesus Christ himself, the living Son of God.

Every week we want to "dig in" to the Bible, and let the living water we find there become a source of healing, refreshment, and community for us all. We do this by praying together, singing together, reading together, by listening to our Father's voice, and then sharing what we have heard with one another.

If this is your first time with us, we are glad to have you along for the ride! We know it can feel a little weird to walk into a new place, so don't worry: we will not be calling special attention to you. Feel free to follow along in this worship guide. Participate as much or as little as you would like.

TWO THINGS:

First: if you have a particular need you would like us to pray for, please sms/whatsapp your request to **011 7521 9450** and we will pray for it during our service. Even if you have never spoken to God before, please: don't be afraid! He is waiting to hear from you.

Second: worship will be followed by a 15 minute tea-break, and then a Q&A session. If anything you experience or hear today does not make sense, if you have any questions about the sermon or about Christianity in general, please ask! We will do our best to answer any questions you have.

Savior, Like A Shepherd Lead Us | GATHERING SONG

Words: Dorothy A. Thrupp Music: William B. Bradbury

**Savior, like a shepherd lead us
Much we need Thy tender care
In Thy pleasant pastures feed us
For our use Thy folds prepare
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus!
Thou has bought us, thine we are
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus!
Thou has bought us, thine we are**

**Early let us seek Thy favor
Early let us do Thy will
Blessed Lord and only Savior
With Thy love our beings fill
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus!
Thou hast loved us love us still
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus!
Thou hast loved us love us still**

CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 23

[1] The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.

[2] He makes me lie down in green pastures.

He leads me beside still waters.

[3] He restores my soul.

He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

[4] Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,

I will fear no evil, for you are with me;
your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

[5] You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

[6] Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,
and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ!

SLOW CHURCH? SMALL CHURCH? SIMPLE CHURCH? STILL CHURCH?

What does it even mean?

Well, in a pleasantly post-modern way, right back achya: what do these words mean to you? Is slow a good thing or a bad thing? What about small? What if "Simple Church" means "church for the simple-minded"? Are you in, or are you thinking maybe don't want to be associated with that? After all, what would people think!

To us, these words **Slow, Small, Simple** and **Still** represent our commitment to take our time, to ignore our world's definitions of success, to focus on relationships and all the basic things that really make life worth living, and to stay connected with those who have walked this road ahead of us. We don't want to leave people behind just because they can't keep up; we don't want to grow so big we lose track of each other's names; we don't want to get lost in the frantic; we don't want to reinvent the wheel.

WHAT WE BELIEVE

A creed (from the Latin word *credo*, "I believe") tells us who we are as Christians. It is a bit like a charter, or a constitution.

Creeds have traditionally been important to our faith because our faith is so diverse: Christians come from every possible nation, every possible ethnicity; we need creeds like this one to help us remember where we come from, where we are going, and who we are travelling with.

This particular creed was written in 325 A.D. by a gathering of church leaders now known as the Council of Nicaea. As we read it together, we are reminded that Jesus is the living water at the centre of our community. It is because of him that we are even able to have a real relationship with God and with one another.

Come Now is the Time to Worship | WORSHIP IN SONG

Words & Music: Brian Doerksen ©1998 Vineyard Songs

[Chorus]

**Come now is the time to worship
Come now is the time to give your heart
Come just as you are to worship
Come just as you are before your God
Come**

**One day every tongue will confess you are God
One day every knee will bow
Still the greatest treasure remains for those
Who gladly choose you now**

[Chorus]

Praise to the Lord the Almighty | WORSHIP IN SONG

Words: Joachim Neander (1680) Music: Lobe den Herren (1665)

**Praise to the Lord,
the Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul, praise him,
For he is your health and salvation!
Come all who hear,
Now to his temple draw near,
Join me in glad adoration!**

Pujilah Tuhan,
Sang Raja yang Mahamulia!
Segenap hati
Dan jiwaku pujilah dia!
Datang berkaum,
B'rilah musikmu bergaung,
Angkatlah puji-pujian!

**Praise to the Lord,
Above all things so wondrously reigning
Shelters you under his wings,
And so gently sustaining!
Have you not seen
All that is needful has been
Sent by his gracious ordaining?**

Pujilah Tuhan;
Segala kuasa padanya!
Sayap kasihnya
Yang aman mendukung anaknya!
Tiada terp'ri
Yang kepadamu dib'ri;
Tidakkah itu kaurasa?

**Praise to the Lord!
O let all that is in me adore Him!
All that has life and breath,
Come now with praises before Him!
Let the Amen!
Sound from his people again,
Gladly forever adore him.**

Pujilah Tuhan!
Hai jiwaku, mari bernyanyi!
Semua makhluk
Bernafas, iringilah kami!
Puji terus
Nama Yang Mahakudus!
Padukan suaramu Amin.

READING OF THE LAW

congregation reads the bold print

What is the summary of the law of God?

Christ teaches us the summary of the law in Matthew 22:37-40, "And he said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets."

How Firm A Foundation | WORSHIP IN SONG

Words: John Rippon (1787) Music: Joseph Funk (1832)

**How firm a foundation, you saints of the Lord,
Is laid for your faith in his excellent Word.
What more can he say than to you he has said
To you, who for refuge to Jesus have fled?**

**“Fear not, I am with you, O be not dismayed.
For I am your God, and will still give you aid.
I'll strengthen you, help you and cause you to stand
Upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand.”**

**“When through the deep waters I call you to go,
The rivers of sorrow shall not overflow;
For I will be with you your troubles to bless,
And sanctify to you your deepest distress.”**

**“The soul that on Jesus has leaned for repose
I will not, I will not desert to its foes;
that soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,
I will never, no, never, no never forsake!”**

Dasarnya teguh bagi yang beriman:
Yang lari padanya selalu aman!
Janjinya tetap, tak perlu kau gentar:
Berlindung padanya, sabdanya benar:

“Di waktu sedih, sakit, atau senang,
Di waktu mewah, makmur, atau kurang,
Janganlah engkau bimbang, takut sesat:
Akulah Allahmu, selalu dekat.”

“Di kala cobaan membayangimu,
Ketika bencana menindih kalbu,
Rahmatku cukup, jangan kau mengeluh:
Hidupmu teruji, imanmu teguh.”

“Karna pada Yesus tetap imanmu,
Tak akan engkau dikalahkan set'ru.
Walaupun neraka siap menelan,
Tak akan, tak akan aku tinggalkan!”

WORSHIP THROUGH CONFESSION

congregation sits down and reads the bold print aloud

Ezekiel 34:7-10

Come, let us ask the mercy of God:

[7] “Therefore, you shepherds, hear the word of the LORD:

**[8] As I live, declares the Lord GOD, surely because my sheep have become a prey,
and my sheep have become food for all the wild beasts,
since there was no shepherd, and because my shepherds have not searched for my sheep,
but the shepherds have fed themselves, and have not fed my sheep,**

[9] therefore, you shepherds, hear the word of the LORD:

[10] Thus says the Lord GOD,

**Behold, I am against the shepherds,
and I will require my sheep at their hand and put a stop to their feeding the sheep.
No longer shall the shepherds feed themselves.
I will rescue my sheep from their mouths, that they may not be food for them.”**

(Take this moment to confess your sins to God in silent prayer)

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Jesus, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

TO THE PARENTS OF SMALL CHILDREN, MAY WE SUGGEST:

RELAX! God put the wiggle in children; don't feel you have to suppress it in God's House!

Sit toward the front, where it is easier for your little ones to see and hear what is going on. They get bored looking at the backs of other peoples' heads. Wouldn't you?

Quietly explain the different parts of the service. Sing the songs, voice the prayers, read the responses. Children learn to worship by copying you.

If your child becomes noisy or disruptive and you feel you need to take them outside, that is okay! Just remember to come back. As Jesus once said, “let the little children come to me!”

TO EVERYONE ELSE, MAY WE SUGGEST:

RELAX! The presence of children is a gift to our church, and they are a reminder that we all need to grow in various ways!

Please welcome our children, and give their parents a smile of encouragement, *especially* when it looks like someone under their care is having a tough time sitting still. The bible says that Jesus loved us and died for us even while we were still being deliberately, rebelliously naughty (Colossians 1:21-22). The least we can do is show a little kindness to those children who are having the same struggle.

Remember that the way we welcome children directly affects the way they respond to worship, to God, and to one another. Please let them know that they are welcome (wiggles and all) in this house of worship!

WHY CONFESSION?

If all our sins — past, present, and future — have already been forgiven through Jesus' blood, shed on the Cross 2000 years ago, why do we still confess our sins in worship?

For one thing, we are not God. While for him our sins have been removed from us “as far as the east is from the west” (Psalm 103:12), we often have trouble remembering that. Without this regular rite of confession and the reminder that our sins are really, truly gone, many of us could fall into despair under the burden of sins we no longer actually have to carry.

On the other hand, without this regular opportunity to contemplate where we have recently gone wrong, many of us could be tempted to forget about our sins and start thinking we are pretty good people all by ourselves!

Come Boldly to the Throne of Grace | SONG OF CONFESSION

Words: Daniel Herbert Music: Clint Wells, Brian T. Murphy

**Come boldly to the throne of grace, ye wretched sinners come;
And lay your load at Jesus' feet, and plead what he has done.**

**"How can I come?" Some soul may say, "I'm lame and cannot walk;
My guilt and sin have stopped my mouth; I sigh, but dare not talk."**

**Come boldly to the throne of grace, though lost, and blind, and lame;
Jehovah is the sinner's Friend, and ever was the same.**

**He makes the dead to hear his voice; he makes the blind to see;
The sinner lost he came to save, and set the prisoner free.**

**Come boldly to the throne of grace, for Jesus fills the throne;
And those he kills he makes alive; he hears the sigh or groan.**

**Poor bankrupt souls, who feel and know the hell of sin within,
Come boldly to the throne of grace; the Lord will take you in.**

REASSURANCE

Only those who are perfect can walk into God's presence and survive. Really we ought to be terrified to enter into worship like this!

The only way we dare do this is through faith in the fact that Jesus' sacrificed blood protects us from instant incineration. Through Jesus, we are no longer orphans or refugee street-kids, living in fear of being smacked around or sold into slavery; now we are God's adopted children, perfectly loved!

And as the bible says, "there is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment" (1 John 4:18). There is no punishment left for we who have believed in Jesus' forgiveness!

PROMISE OF FORGIVENESS

congregation listens while the minister reads

Ezekiel 34:11-12; 14-15

[11] "For thus says the Lord GOD:

Behold, I, I myself will search for my sheep and will seek them out.

[12] As a shepherd seeks out his flock when he is among his sheep that have been scattered, so will I seek out my sheep, and I will rescue them from all places where they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness.

[14] I will feed them with good pasture, and on the mountain heights of Israel shall be their grazing land. There they shall lie down in good grazing land, and on rich pasture they shall feed on the mountains of Israel.

[15] I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I myself will make them lie down, declares the Lord GOD."

Our gracious God forgives you your sin, strengthens you by the Spirit, and will keep you in life eternal, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

My Worth is Not in What I Own | SONG OF PRAISE

Words & Music: Keith & Kristyn Getty ©2014 Getty Music Publishing, Makeway Music

**My worth is not in what I own
Not in the strength of flesh and bone
But in the costly wounds of love
At the cross**

**My worth is not in skill or name
In win or lose, in pride or shame
But in the blood of Christ that flowed
At the cross**

[Chorus]

**I rejoice in my Redeemer
Greatest treasure, wellspring of my soul
I will trust in Him, no other
My soul is satisfied in Him alone**

As summer flowers we fade and die
Fame, youth and beauty hurry by
But life eternal calls to us
At the cross

I will not boast in wealth or might
Or human wisdom's fleeting light
But I will boast in knowing Christ
At the cross

[Chorus]

I rejoice in my Redeemer
Greatest treasure, wellspring of my soul
I will trust in Him, no other
My soul is satisfied in Him alone

Savior, Like A Shepherd Lead Us | SONG OF PREPARATION

Words: Dorothy A. Thrupp Music: William B. Bradbury

Savior, like a shepherd lead us
Much we need Thy tender care
In Thy pleasant pastures feed us
For our use Thy folds prepare
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus!
Thou has bought us, thine we are
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus!
Thou has bought us, thine we are

We are thine do thou befriend us
Be the guardian of our way
Keep Thy flock from sin defend us
Seek us when we go astray
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus!
Hear O hear us when we pray
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus!
Hear O hear us when we pray

Thou hast promised to receive us
Poor and sinful though we be
Thou hast mercy to relieve us
Grace to cleanse and pow'r to free
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus!
Early let us turn to Thee
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus!
Early let us turn to Thee

Early let us seek Thy favor
Early let us do Thy will
Blessed Lord and only Savior
With Thy love our beings fill
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus!
Thou hast loved us love us still
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus!
Thou hast loved us love us still

GIVING

Generosity is one of the marks of being in true community. At one point, the bible asks, "if anyone has material possessions and sees his brother in need but has no pity on him, how can the love of God be in him?" (1John3:17)

The tithe is an act of worship commanded by God. Traditionally, Christians give at least 1/10th of their income to their home church for the support of their pastors, for those within the congregation who are in need, and for the care of orphans, widows, and refugees.

This part of our worship is especially for those who call The Well Church their church home. Visitors, please, keep your cash! Spend it on dinner with your family.

PASTORAL PRAYER

As a church centred on the throne of Jesus Christ, every week we approach that throne boldly to ask our God for help with the daily cares of life. We speak up like children, and we go away having drunk our fill. As one of our shepherds prays for our requests, for our church, for our city and for the rulers of our nation, join with him. Add to this prayer your own cares and troubles - and your joys as well.

GIVING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

ONLINE GIVING

make your tithes & offering online

Name: City Discipleship
Presbyterian Church
Bank: Hong Leong Bank
Account No: 045-000-47806
Remarks: Please indicate "KL Tithe"
or "KL Offering"

PASTORAL PRAYER

congregation reads the bold print

Minister: And now, as our Saviour has taught us,
let us pray together:

**Our Father who is in heaven, holy is your name. May your kingdom come,
may your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

**And forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.**

**For yours is the kingdom, and the power,
and the glory forever and ever.**

Amen

[7] The end of all things is at hand; therefore be self-controlled and sober-minded for the sake of your prayers. [8] Above all, keep loving one another earnestly, since love covers a multitude of sins. [9] Show hospitality to one another without grumbling. [10] As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace: [11] whoever speaks, as one who speaks oracles of God; whoever serves, as one who serves by the strength that God supplies—in order that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ. To him belong glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!



WHY SUCH ANCIENT LITERATURE?

We may be a Slow Church, a Small Church, a Simple Church — but we are **Still a church**. We aren't trying to do anything new. Actually, we're trying to avoid doing something new! We are wanting to tap into ideas deeper, greater, wiser than ourselves, the same ideas that have shaped the People of God for over a thousand generations.

There are certain aspects of our worship we have to update, things like language, music, location, everything we need to understand and connect with what is going on. But as Marshall McLuhan warned us, "the medium is the message": every time we make even a small change in how we express these ideas, we run the risk of changing the deeper message — the message that makes us who we are.

The best way to make sure we aren't changing the subject is to go back to the source: these ancient texts; and to read them much as they have been read for millenia.

Of course, many things have changed since these documents were first written and compiled! That is why we have a sermon: so a man called by God to study the cultures, conditions, and theologies of those times can help us connect more deeply with what has been written.

Sounds pretty hard, right? But actually, making that connection is not as difficult as you might think. That's because human nature really hasn't changed all that much in the last four thousand years. So if you have experienced adultery, betrayal, theft, envy, joy, generosity, passion, love, and a sense that there just has to be more to life than this! — then we think you'll find this ancient literature just as relevant to you as it was to its original readers.

WHY A BULLETIN?

Because Christian worship is primarily a conversation between God and his people, some parts of the conversation may not make much sense to a visitor. And while our worship is not necessarily designed for non-family members, at the same time the bible tells us that we shouldn't look crazy to visitors either!

The purpose of well-organized and directed worship is so that family and visitors alike will be convinced that we are sinners, and that God is really among us (1 Corinthians 14:22-25). We have provided this worship guide so that we can all know what is going on and why.

OK. BUT...WHY PAPER?

Why not power-point or some other media? What about saving trees?

Well, using paper is a part of our commitment to keeping things small and personal in our Small Church.

Obviously we value doing things together! but we also value individuality. The problem with power-point and most other mass-media is that we are all forced to interact with exactly the same material at the same time, all at the same speed. And the truth is: some of us are faster, some slower.

So it's not that we're against technology. We just think technology ought to serve us, and not the other way around. In this case, we believe that paper gives us all a little more freedom to be ourselves.

Last, we want you to know we would love to use recycled paper — but we have not yet found a local source. If you know of one, please hook us up! In the meantime, we are hoping that what we spend in trees is being saved in unused electricity and lithium-ion batteries.

Church Leadership: Serving in Word and Material

1. Where are we going?

2. Who is leading us there?

3. How will we get there?



[23] For I received from the Lord what I also passed on to you: The Lord Jesus, on the night he was betrayed, took bread, [24] and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of me." [25] In the same way, after supper he took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood; do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me." [26] For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

[27] Therefore, whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of sinning against the body and blood of the Lord. [28] A man ought to examine himself before he eats of the bread and drinks of the cup. [29] For anyone who eats and drinks without recognizing the body of the Lord eats and drinks judgment on himself.

OUR FATHER'S TABLE

One of the great privileges of baptism is getting to join our brothers and sisters at our Father's dinner table. With this symbolic meal of bread and wine, we remember that it was through the sacrifice of our older brother Jesus that we get to be part of God's family at all!

BENEDICTION

Hebrews 13:20-21

[20] Now may the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant,
 [21] equip you with everything good that you may do his will,
 working in us that which is pleasing in his sight,
 through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever.

And all God's people said: **Amen!**



BLESSING

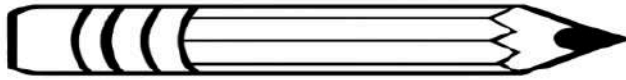
The benediction (meaning "Words of Blessing") is the close of our corporate conversation with God.

It is not actually a prayer **to** God, but actually a blessing **from** God.

Traditionally, people will turn their faces toward heaven, and will often extend open hands, palms up, in a posture of receiving.

Sermon Notes FOR KIDS

Date: _____



As you attend church services with your family, use this sheet to help you pay attention and learn. We want you to worship with us by singing to God and listening to the message.



who is speaking?



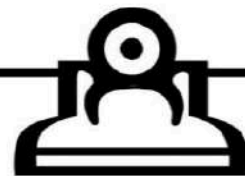
words you heard but don't know...

what is the main passage we are reading today?

Book:

Chapter:

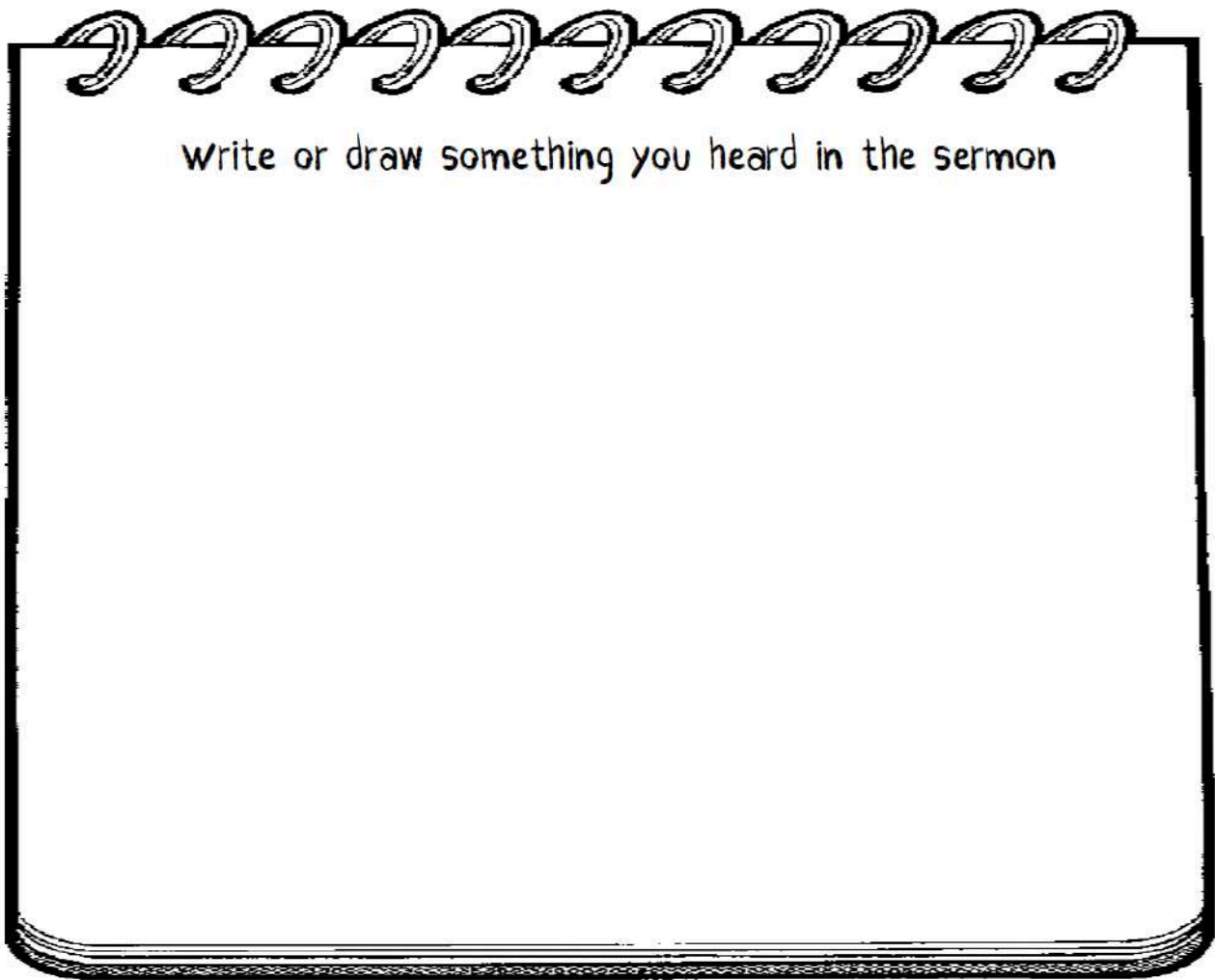
Verse:



what are we learning about God from this passage?



Favorite song today was:



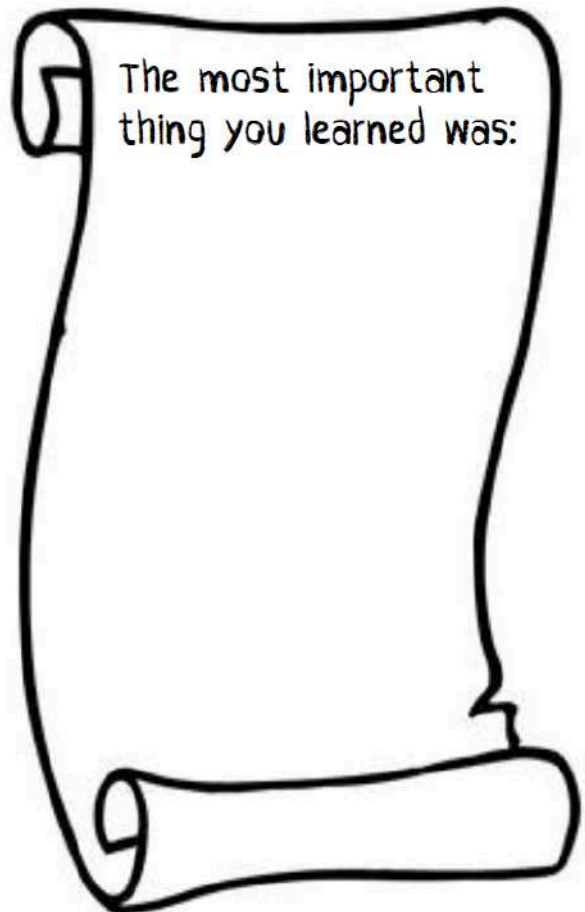
Write or draw something you heard in the sermon



Questions?

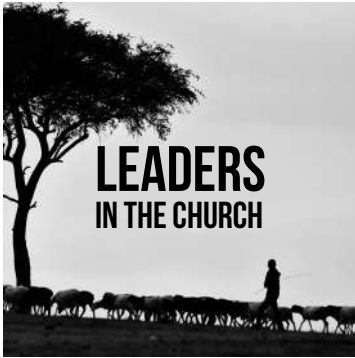


How does today's message apply to your life?



The most important thing you learned was:

UPCOMING EVENTS



NEW SERIES

14th & 21st April, 3pm

Essential to every healthy church is a biblical model of leadership. Church leadership is built around a team of elders and deacons working together under the Lord Jesus, in Word and deed, seeking to serve the church and the city. This two-part series aims to equip us in our understanding of church leadership and prepare us for the future ahead.



CDPC Corporate AGM

Saturday, 20th April @ 3pm | CDPC Subang

It is our privilege and responsibility as a CDPC member to attend and vote in our Corporate AGM. Members are encouraged to be part of the meeting while regular worshippers are welcome to observe the meeting.

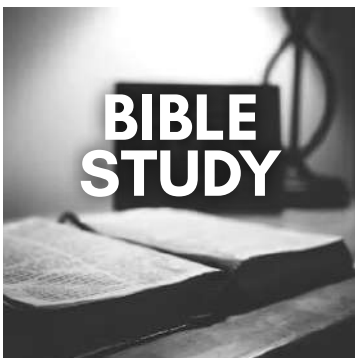
RSVP: <https://subangjaya.cdpc.org.my/agm2024>



BAPTISM & MEMBERSHIP CLASS

21st, 27th, 28th April

Interested to know who we are or becoming a member of The Well Church? Contact Ps. Brian @ 011 7521 9450 for more information.



BIBLE STUDY TAKING A BREAK

Our weekly Bible Study is taking a 2 week break and will resume on April 30th, 2024



CHURCH RETREAT: A STORY OF FRIENDSHIP

5th - 7th July, 2024 | Forest Lodge @ Radiant Retreats, Janda Baik

RM300 per person (Price covers room, meals and activities)

* Financial assistance is available (if needed)

Guest Speaker: Ian Chris Brubaker

Scan the QR Code to Register



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