WHO WE ARE

Welcome to The Well Church. We are a "centred set" church, and we are very glad you have chosen to worship with us today.

What is a "centred set" church? In the Australian Outback, farmers do not use fences to keep track of their animals - they dig wells, trusting that their herds will not stray too far from the source of life. In the same way, we are a community centered around the well of living water: Jesus Christ himself.

In a "bounded set" community, you are either inside the fence or outside; you either fit, or you don't.

But in a centered set community, the important thing is that you are being drawn toward the well, drawn toward Jesus, the source of life.

We all come to the well at different speeds - and that is okay. So if you are a visitor with us today, no pressure! Follow along with us in this worship guide. Participate as much or as little as you would like. But we do hope you will get a taste of the water from the well at our center, and that ultimately you will find it as life-giving as we do.

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.

10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord) | GATHERING SONG

Words & Music: Jonas Myrin & Matt Redman ©2012 sixsteps Music, Thankyou Music

[Chorus]
Bless the Lord, O my soul
O my soul
Worship his holy name
Sing like never before, O my soul
I'll worship your holy name

The sun comes up, it's a new day dawning
It's time to sing your song again
Whatever may pass and whatever lies before me
Let me be singing when the evening comes

[Chorus]

You're rich in love, and you're slow to anger Your name is great, and your heart is kind For all your goodness, I will keep on singing Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find

[Chorus]

And on that day when my strength is failing The end draws near, and my time has come Still my soul will sing your praise unending Ten thousand years and then forevermore

[Chorus]

CALL TO WORSHIP

Based on Psalm 36:5-9

Leader: Your steadfast love, O Lord, extends to the heavens, your faithfulness to the clouds. Your righteousness is like the mountains of God; your judgments are like the great deep; man and beast you save, O Lord.

People: How precious is your steadfast love, O God!
The children of mankind take refuge in the shadow of your wings.
They feast on the abundance of your house,
and you give them drink from the river of your delights.

All: For with you is the fountain of life; in your light do we see light.

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.

Here I Am to Worship | WORSHIP IN SONG

Words & Music: Tim Hughes ©2000 Thankyou Music

Light of the world You stepped down into darkness
Opened my eyes, let me see
Beauty that made this heart adore You
Hope of a life spent with You

[Chorus]

So here I am to worship, here I am to bow down Here i am to say that You're my God You're altogether lovely, altogether worthy Altogether wonderful to me

King of all days oh so highly exalted
Glorious in heaven above
Humbly You came to the earth You created
All for love's sake became poor

[Chorus]

[Bridge]
I'll never know how much it cost
To see my sin upon that cross

[Chorus]

A Mighty Fortress is Our God | WORSHIP IN SONG

Words & Music: Martin Luther (1529)

A mighty fortress is our God, Allahmu benteng yang teguh, A bulwark never failing; Perisai dan senjata; Our helper he amidst the flood Betapa pun sengsaramu, Of mortal ills prevailing: PertolonganNya nyata! For still our ancient foe Si jahat yang geram Doth seek to work us woe; Berniat 'kan menang; His craft and pow'r are great, Ngeri kuasanya And armed with cruel hate, Dan tipu dayanya On earth is not his equal. Di bumi tak bertara.

Did we in our own strength confide, Dengan tenaga yang fana Our striving would be losing; Niscaya kita kalah. Were not the right man on our side, Pahlawan kita Dialah The man of God's own choosing: Yang diurapi Allah. Do you ask who that may be? Siapa namaNya? Christ Jesus, it is he; Sang Kristus mulia, The Lord of Hosts his name, Tuhan Yang Esa, From age to age the same, Panglima semesta. And he must win the battle. Niscaya la jaya!

And though this world with devils filled,
Should threaten to undo us;
We will not fear, for God hath willed
His truth to triumph through us:
The prince of darkness grim,
We tremble not for him;
His rage we can endure

We tremble not for him;
His rage we can endure,
For lo, his doom is sure,
One little word shall fell him.

Penuhpun setan dunia Yang mau menumpas kita, Jangan gentar melihatnya; Iman tak sia-sia!

Penghulu kuasa g'lap, Meskipun menyergap, Mustahil 'kan menang; Kuasanya ditebang Dengan sepatah kata. That word above all earthly pow'rs, FirmanNya pertahankan No thanks to them abideth; T'rus dan puji hanya Dia! The Spirit and the gifts are ours Dengan kuasa Roh Kudus Through him who with us sideth: la di pihak kita. Let goods and kindred go, Kendati hidupmu This mortal life also: Diambil seteru. The body they may kill; Pun harta dan benda, God's truth abideth still, Akhirnya kitalah His Kingdom is forever. Yang punya Kerajaan!

READING OF THE LAW

congregation reads the bold print

Exodus 20:1-17

- [1] And God spoke all these words:
- [2] "I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery.
- [3] "You shall have no other gods before me.
- [4] "You shall not make for yourself an idol in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below.
- [5] You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God, punishing the children for the sin of the fathers to the third and fourth generation of those who hate me,
- [6] but showing love to a thousand generations of those who love me and keep my commandments.
- [7] "You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God, for the Lord will not hold anyone guiltless who misuses his name.
- [8] "Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy.
- [9] Six days you shall labor and do all your work,
- [10] but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the Lord your God. On it you shall not do any work, neither you, nor your son or daughter, nor your manservant or maidservant, nor your animals, nor the alien within your gates.
- [11] For in six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but he rested on the seventh day. Therefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy.
- [12] "Honor your father and your mother, so that you may live long in the land the Lord your God is giving you.
- [13] "You shall not murder.
- [14] "You shall not commit adultery.
- [15] "You shall not steal.
- [16] "You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor.
- [17] "You shall not covet your neighbor's house. You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his manservant or maidservant, his ox or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor."

O the Deep Deep Love of Jesus | WORSHIP IN SONG

Words: S. Trevor Francis (1875) Music: John Zundel (1870)

O the deep, deep love of Jesus,
Vast, unmeasured, boundless, free!
Rolling as a mighty ocean
In its fullness over me!
Underneath me, all around me,
Is the current of thy love
Leading onward, leading homeward
To thy glorious rest above!

Kasih Yesus, O, dalam nya,
Tak terhingga dan bebas,
Bagai g'lombang lautan besar,
Meliputi diriku.
Kau curahkan, kau limpahkan,
Diriku dengan kasih-mu.
Pimpin daku, s'panjang hidup,
Sampai sorga yang teduh.

O the deep, deep love of Jesus,
Spread his praise from shore to shore!
How he loveth, ever loveth,
Changeth never, nevermore!
How he watches o'er his loved ones,
Died to call them all his own;
How for them he intercedeth,
Watcheth o'er them from the throne!

Kasih Yesus, O, dalam nya, Ku masyhurkan s'nantiasa, Kasih Yesus ajaib indah, Tak berubah s'lamanya, Ia menilik, dan datanglah, 'Tuk s'lamatkan diriku. Ia berdoa, untuk aku, Dari takhta yang mulia.

WHY READ THE 10 COMMANDMENTS?

A long time ago, God rescued his people from real, physical slavery in a real, physical country, and made them a free nation.

As part of the process, God gave his people this short list of commandments. These laws were designed to keep his people centred around a shared set of values, designed to keep them from abusing, enslaving, and tyrannizing one another.

They still work the same way, even all these thousands of years later. When we read these commandments together in worship, we are reminded of the values we share. Just think: if our nations were actually able to follow these simple commandments, we would be living in a world without workaholism, without physical or sexual abuse, without cheating and unfaithfulness, without stealing or lying or gossip or even jealousy.

What a great hope to centre a community upon?

WHY CONFESS SINS?

During this part of our conversation with our Father, we have this opportunity to face this painful truth:

The line between good and evil does not run through "us" vs. "them", but through each person. No one is simply a victim: we are also all victimizers. Even though we long for a world without abuse, slavery or tyranny, each one of us also actively participates in abuse, in slavery, in the tyrannies of this world. We have all failed to live up to the hope offered to mankind in the 10 Commandments.

We realize that this is a strange, counter-cultural idea in our modern world. If this is your first time to think about this, take this time to pray and ask God to reveal to you how you may have hurt those around you. Ask him to give you a spirit of regret and repentance for those things.

O the deep, deep love of Jesus, Love of every love the best!
'Tis an ocean vast of blessing, 'Tis a haven sweet of rest!
O the deep, deep love of Jesus, 'Tis a heaven of heavens to me; And it lifts me up to glory, For it lifts me up to thee! Kasih Yesus,O, dalam nya, Tak terhingga dan besar, Melebihi, lautan besar, 'Ku berteduh amanlah. Lebih dalam, lebih tinggi, Lebih luas dari s'mua. Dia angkatku dari dosa, 'Ku 'kan puji slamanya.

WORSHIP THROUGH CONFESSION

congregation sits down and reads the bold print aloud

Come, let us ask the mercy of God:

Heavenly Father, we confess that we have not loved you with our full heart, mind, soul and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have been angry with others wishing ill for them. We have held grudges seeking to control relationships. We have been unwilling to apply your gospel to our sin. In your great mercy, forgive us. Change our hearts, that we might live every day unto you. Open our eyes to your majesty, that we might be in awe of you. Unclench our hands, that we might serve others with gladness. This we pray in Jesus' Name, Amen.

(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.

Before the Throne of God Above | SONG OF CONFESSION

Words: Charitie Lees Bancroft (1863) Music: Vikki Cook @1997 PDI Worship

Before the throne of God above,
I have a strong, a perfect plea,
A great High Priest whose name is "Love,"
Who ever lives and pleads for me.
My name is graven on his hands,
My name is written on his heart;
I know that while in heav'n he stands
no tongue can bid me thence depart.
No tongue can bid me thence depart.

When Satan tempts me to despair, and tells me of the guilt within, upward I look and see him there Who made an end to all my sin. Because the sinless Savior died, my sinful soul is counted free; For God, the Just, is satisfied to look on him and pardon me. to look on him and pardon me.

Behold him there! the risen Lamb, my perfect, spotless Righteousness, the great unchangeable I AM, the King of glory and of grace!
One with himself I cannot die,
My soul is purchased by his blood;
My life is hid with Christ on high, with Christ, my Savior and my God with Christ, my Savior and my God

1 John 1:7-9

congregation listens while the minister reads

[7] But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin.

- [8] If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
 - [9] If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

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

Be A Lamp | SONG OF PRAISE

Words & Music: Kha Do ©2018 Broadman Press

Be a lamp for all my days, Lord,
Bear a torch that I might see
Through the fog of bitter pain and
Know your purpose lies beneath
Oh to taste and see the gospel
As I never have before
Be a lamp for all my days and
I shall walk in endless joy

As I sojourn cross this desert
Through the plains of doubtful nights
Speak the words that guide my footsteps
Let them shine as stars so bright
Point me northward to that country
Where my soul will find its home
Be a lamp for all my days and
I shall walk in endless joy

You're the lamp, the light of heaven
Dawn of mercy for all men
Through your death and resurrection
Sons of night are born again
What a gift so free and moving
Sets ablaze my fainting soul
Be a lamp for all my days and
I shall walk in endless joy

Oh to taste and see the gospel
As I never have before
Be a lamp for all my days and
I shall walk in endless joy

Be Thou My Vision | SONG OF PREPARATION

Words: Dallán Forgaill (d.597 AD), adapted by Eleanor Hull (1912)

Music: 'Slane" (traditional Irish folk song)

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart; Naught be all else to me save that thou art. Thou my best thought by day or by night, Waking or sleeping thy presence my light. Kaulah, ya Tuhan, surya hidupku; Asal kau ada, yang lain tak perlu. Siang dan malam enkau kukenang; Di hadiratmu jiwaku tenang!

Be thou my Wisdom and thou my true Word; I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord; Thou my great Father, I thy true son; Thou in me dwelling, and I with thee one. Kaulah Hikmatku, Firman hidupku; Kau bersertaku dan 'ku sertamu. Engkau Bapaku, aku anakmu; Denganmu, Tuhan, 'ku satu penuh.

WHAT DOES TRUE FORGIVENESS MEAN?

Forgiveness does not mean that God simply waves his hand and pretends nothing happened. That would be a terrible injustice, leaving abused and abusers alike without resolution!

Forgiveness means that God has taken what we did wrong and made it right. Everything that we owe to those we have hurt will be repaid; everything that has been stolen from us will be restored.

How does this happen? We don't know exactly how it works, but somehow when Jesus, the God-Man, died on a Roman cross two thousand years ago, he atoned (payed the debt) for all our sins, and rescued us from slavery to the powers of fear and death.

For Christians, accepting our Father's forgiveness is an act of faith. This is because we do not always see clearly in this life how everything we have lost or stolen is being restored. We have only the words of his promise that it is true even now, and that one day we will see it clearly.

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!

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.

Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise, Thou mine inheritance, now and always: Thou and thou only, first in my heart, High King of heaven my treasure thou art.

High King of heaven, my victory won, May I reach heaven's joys, O bright heav'ns son! Heart of my own heart, whatever befall, Still be my vision, O ruler of all. Tak kuhiraukan pujian fana; Hanya engkaulah pusaka baka! Raja de sorga, engkau bagiku Harta abadi, bahagia penuh!

Bila saatnya kelak 'ku menang, T'rimalah daku di sorga cerlang! Apa pun kini hendak kutemu, Kaulah, ya Tuhan, surya hidupku!

GIVING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS



PASTORAL PRAYER

congregation reads the bold print



[12] gain Jesus spoke to them, saying, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." [13] So the Pharisees said to him, "You are bearing witness about yourself; your testimony is not true." [14] Jesus answered, "Even if I do bear witness about myself, my testimony is true, for I know where I came from and where I am going, but you do not know where I come from or where I am going. [15] You judge according to the flesh; I judge no one. [16] Yet even if I do judge, my judgment is true, for it is not I alone who judge, but I and the Father who sent me. [17] In your Law it is written that the testimony of two people is true. [18] I am the one who bears witness about myself, and the Father who sent me bears witness about me." [19] They said to him therefore, "Where is your Father?" Jesus answered, "You know neither me nor my Father. If you knew me, you would know my Father also." [20] These words he spoke in the treasury, as he taught in the temple; but no one arrested him, because his hour had not yet come.

[21] So he said to them again, "I am going away, and you will seek me, and you will die in your sin. Where I am going, you cannot come." [22] So the Jews said, "Will he kill himself, since he says, 'Where I am going, you cannot come'?" [23] He said to them, "You are from below; I am from above. You are of this world; I am not of this world. [24] I told you that you would die in your sins, for unless you believe that I am he you will die in your sins." [25] So they said to him, "Who are you?" Jesus said to them, "Just what I have been telling you from the beginning. [26] I have much to say about you and much to judge, but he who sent me is true, and I declare to the world what I have heard from him." [27] They did not understand that he had been speaking to them about the Father. [28] So Jesus said to them, "When you have lifted up the Son of Man, then you will know that I am he, and that I do nothing on my own authority, but speak just as the Father taught me. [29] And he who sent me is with me. He has not left me alone, for I always do the things that are pleasing to him." [30] As he was saying these things, many believed in him.

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 <u>Still</u> 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? THE SERMON Bro. Sir Neng

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 massmedia 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 un-used electricity and lithium-ion batteries.

THE LORD SUPPER 1 Corinthians 11:23-29



[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.

Doxology

BENEDICTION

Words: Thomas Ken (1674) Music: Old Hundredth

Praise God from whom all blessings flow Praise Him all creatures here below Praise Him above ye heav'nly host Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost

And all God's people said: Amen!

[14] The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God

and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.



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!

BLESSING

2 Corinthians 13:14

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

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.

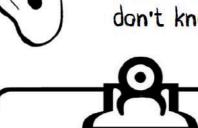
who is speaking?



(C)

Date:

Words you heard but don't know...



What are we learning about God from this passage?

what is the main passage we are reading today?

Book:

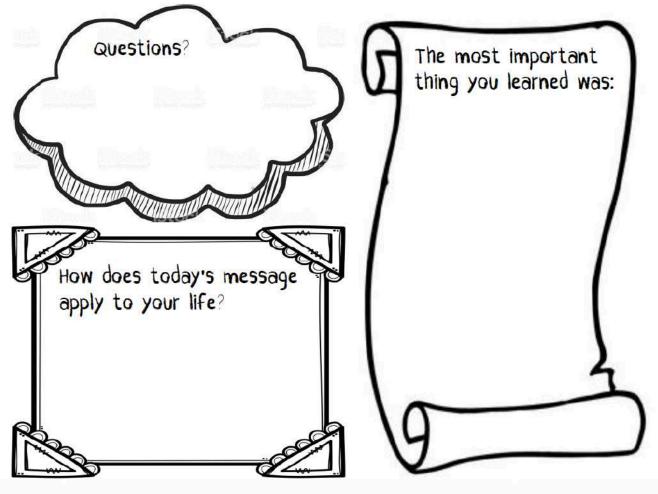
chapter:

Verse:



Favorite song today was:

Write or draw something you heard in the sermon





BIBLE STUDY RESUMES

Our weekly Bible Study will resume this coming Tuesday, April 30th @ 8pm.



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

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