

ANNOUNCEMENTS

For more information & registration for following, please approach Gladys/Priscilla.

1. Wise Discipleship Training (WDT)

Date: 16 Jan 2009 (Fri)

Time: 8pm

Venue: Honor Room

Cost: \$40/person

For those who wish to sign up, please submit registration form to the Admin Counter.

Deadline: **TODAY!**

2. Volunteers needed for Elder-Care Services in Clementi Area!

Date: 1 Feb 2009 (Sun)

Targeted homes: 300

Training sessions will be conducted by NTU professor. Sign up at the Admin Counter.

For more info, please refer to brochure in bulletin.

3. Baptism & Confirmation Class

Date: 1 Feb – 31 May 2009 (every Sun)

Time: 2.30pm

Venue: St. Andrew's Cathedral

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

January	16 (Fri)	Wise Discipleship Training – 01
	23 (Fri)	Wise Discipleship Training – 02
	26 – 27 (Mon – Tue)	Chinese New Year
	30 (Fri)	Corporate Prayer Meeting

*See reverse page for more details.

Any announcements, articles or testimonies to share? Email Priscilla @ wacoffice@livingstreams.org.sg

ON MISSIONS: LOCALLY AND GLOBALLY

Amount Pledged: \$29,350

Amount Collected To Date: \$22,030

Prayer Items for Christ Church Sawang Daendin

1. Uphold Pastor Kittikhun and the staff team
2. RCDC Teachers (especially those who do not yet know God)
3. Pray for Jackie, Jay & Mam who will be leading the Youth Ministry
4. Pray for Youth Outreaches, God will bless their evangelistic efforts
5. Pray for the Cell Ministry even as they reach out to their neighbors
6. Pray for the Church, members will go to Church despite busy season
7. Pray for plans to have at least 2 cell groups meeting established in town
8. Pray for stable financial support



Westside Anglican Church

strengthening families, impacting community

BISHOP : The Most Revd Dr John Chew

ASSOCIATE VICAR : The Revd Canon Dr Louis Tay

DEAN & VICAR : The Very Revd Kuan Kim Seng

PRIEST-IN-CHARGE : Revd Timothy Chow

11 January 2009

Office: St. Andrew's Cathedral, 11 St. Andrew's Road S(178959) tel: 6337 6104 fax: 6339 1197 email: wacoffice@livingstreams.org.sg website: www.livingstreams.org.sg/wac

Take Christ Yoke Upon You!

By Pastor Timothy Chow

²⁸Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. ²⁹Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. (Matthew 11:28-29).

Last Sunday we shared how God chose for Himself, David, a king after His own heart. He defined this as a man who would do all his will. We shared that God is desperately looking for a people after His own heart who will do His will. May this be the pursuit of our lives in 2009. Let us endeavour to know the will of God with the motive of doing His will.

How does a disciple know God's will. Well, Paul tells us plainly in Romans 12:1-2.

¹I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. ²Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect."(English Standard Version).

The Amplified version puts it this way, ¹I APPEAL to you therefore, brethren, and beg of you in view of [all] the mercies of God, to make a decisive dedication of your bodies [presenting all your members and faculties] as a living sacrifice, holy (devoted, consecrated) and well pleasing to God, which is your reasonable (rational, intelligent) service and spiritual worship. ²Do not be conformed to this world (this age), [fashioned after and adapted to its external, superficial customs], but be transformed (changed) by the [entire] renewal of your mind [by its new ideals and its new attitude], so that you may prove [for yourselves] what is the good and acceptable and perfect will of God, even the thing which is good and acceptable and perfect [in His sight for you]."

Simply summarized, we know God's will when:

1. We surrender our all to follow and obey Him and live as He would show us to live.
2. We experience the transformation and renewal of our thinking, aligning our thoughts to God's Word as revealed to us through the help of the Holy Spirit.

However, my concern this Sunday is now with the way we serve the will of God. We need to be yoked to Christ so that we are not serving Him in our own strength. What is the "yoke" of Christ?

WAC Service: West Coast Recreation Centre No. 12 West Coast Walk	Sunday Services	English Service @ Auditorium	Saturday
	10am - 12pm	Mandarin Service @ Thanksgiving Room	3.30pm - 6.30pm
	10am - 12pm	Children In Action @ Honor Room	Destiny Impact @ Honor Room

GROUNDED IN THE WORD MOVING IN THE SPIRIT

How are we “yoked” to Him? These are crucial questions and are the keys to fruitful and effective ministry and service.

The yoke of Christ signifies complete dependence, unqualified obedience, unreserved submission unto Him. The believer owes this to Christ both as his rightful Lord and as his gracious Redeemer. Christ has a double claim upon him. First, he is the creature of His hands: He gave him being, with all his capacities and facilities. But more—He has redeemed him, and thereby acquired an additional claim upon him. The saints are the purchased property of Another, and therefore does the Holy Spirit say to them, “Ye are not your own, for ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your bodies and in your spirits, which are God’s” (1 Cor. 6:19, 20). “Take My yoke upon you,” by which Christ connoted: surrender yourself to My Lordship, submit to My rule, let My will become yours.

Taking of His “yoke” upon us presupposes our throwing off the yoke we had worn formerly, namely, the yoke of sin and Satan, the yoke of self-will and self-pleasing. “O LORD our God, other lords besides Thee have had dominion over us”; confessed Israel of old: then they added, “but by Thee only will we make mention of Thy name” (Isa. 26:13). Thus the taking of Christ’s yoke upon us denotes a change of Masters, a conscious and cheerful change on our part: “Neither yield ye your members as instruments of unrighteousness unto sin: but yield yourselves unto God as those that are alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness unto God...Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death or of obedience unto righteousness” (Rom. 6:13, 16).

By means of the yoke two oxen were united together in the plow. The “yoke,” then, is a figure of practical union. This is clear from, “Be ye not uncleanly yoked together with unbelievers, for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? And what communion hath light with darkness?” (2 Cor. 6:14). Here the Lord’s people are forbidden to enter into any intimate relations or associations with unbelievers, prohibited from marrying, forming business partnerships, or having any religious union with them. As 2 Corinthians 6:14 intimates, the “yoke” speaks of a union which issues in a close communion. And this is also what is in view in the text we are now considering. Christ invites those who come to Him for rest to enter into a practical union with Him so that they may enjoy holy fellowship together. Thus it was with one of old concerning whom we read, “and Enoch walked with God” (Gen. 5:24). But “can two walk together except they be agreed” (Amos 3:3)? No, they cannot: they must be joined together in sameness of aim and unity of purpose—that of glorifying God.

We are to serve the Lord yet it is never us working for God but with God. As we learn to cultivate an unbroken and uninterrupted union with Him, we will discover “restedness” in our soul. Then and only then will we find doing the will of God such a joy even though it may be physically and mentally tiring at times. It is a paradox that when we are most yielded and surrendered to God that we are most liberated and victorious. May we experience this more and more in 2009!

VISION STATEMENT

A home and family focused church committed to building godly families that are the centers of worship, faith formation, discipleship ministry, fellowship and witness for Jesus Christ

WISE

Wise Discipleship Training (WDT) will commence:

Date: 16 Jan 2009 (Fri)

Time: 8pm

Venue: Honor Room

DATE	PROGRAM
16 Jan	WDT 01
23 Jan	WDT 02
30 Jan	Corporate Prayer Meeting 01
06 Feb	WDT 03
13-14 Feb	Spirit Empowered Living by Fred David (SAC)
20 Feb	Fellowship 01
27 Feb	Corporate Prayer Meeting 02

CELL GROUPS

We gather in smaller groups (known as “cell groups”) for encouragement through bible studies, prayer and other activities. All are welcome to join in any of the groups. If you need help, you may contact any of the cell leaders or the office at 6337 6104 ext 188/189.

Cell groups will be suspended till further notice due to **WDT (Wise Discipleship Training)** in 2009. WDT will commence on 16 Jan 2009, every Friday at 8pm in Honor Room.

For further enquiries, you may wish to contact office at tel: 6337 6104 ext 188/189 or email: wacoffice@livingstreams.org.sg

DUTY SCHEDULE

	Today 11th January (H.C)	Next Week 18th January
Chairperson	Raymond Ang	Ng Siew Choo
Speaker	Rev Timothy Chow	Rev Timothy Chow
Worship Leader	Kah Mun	Zhong Fa
	Tony, Paul, Melissa,	Janice, Vincent, Tina,
Music Team	Denny, Kevin,	Eunice, Carolyn,
	Jethro, Jonathan Kee	Adrian, Matthew
Projectionist	Violet, Scarlet	Priscilla, Michelle
Sound Works	Carol Elizabeth	Denny Lin
H.C. Server	Raymond, Tony, Kevin	-
Intercessory Prayer	Pang Kwee Hoon	Eddy John Sng
Scripture Reading	Pamela Pung	Boo Hui Ling