

ANNOUNCEMENTS For more information, please approach Gladys or Priscilla.

1. Sawang DaenDin Mission Team

Date: 16 - 20 October
 Camp Venue @ Sung Dao.
 Targeted number of people to attend the camp: 50 adults & 20 youth

If you are Interested, please approach Hui Ling/Janice for more information.

2. Confirmation Service

Please pray for your brothers/sisters who will be confirmed next Sunday, 05 July 2009.

Confirmation candidates, please meet immediately after service TODAY for a briefing.

3. RBC Women's Bible Seminar: Jesus Speaks To You Today

Date: 09 & 10 July, 7.30pm - 10pm
 Venue: Cathedral New Sanctuary, SAC
 Speaker: Dr Alice Matthews
 No registration required. Admission is on first-come-first-served basis.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

June	28	(Sun)	Council Meeting Confirmation Rehearsal
July	05	(Sun)	Confirmation Service
	26	(Sun)	Church Council Meeting
	31	(Fri)	Corporate Prayer Meeting

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

SHUTTLE BUS SERVICE
 9.10AM BOON LAY WAY - BOON LAY MRT (BUS STOP)
 9.15AM JURONG WEST ST 51 BLK 511 CARPARK
 9.30AM CLEMENTI MRT - BUS STOP TOWARDS CITY



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

28 June 2009

A FEW THOUGHTS ABOUT GOD'S PURPOSE, & DIFFICULT CIRCUMSTANCE - PART 1

We all have to go through trials and difficult circumstances, at various times in our lives. Sometimes these problems are nothing more than a temporary distraction, but at other times, they seem to go on with no end in sight.

I have experienced many kinds of trials, and have had many opportunities to reflect on various things the Scriptures say about them. I will mention some of these things below, focusing mostly on verses which I found helpful in dealing with long-term difficulties - since these are the types of problems tend to be the most painful.

Romans 8:28 And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them.

I start with this verse, because it summarizes the ultimate goal of everything that happens in our lives, if we belong to God. God uses all things, both good and bad, to accomplish good. Some of this good may be experienced in this present life; some of it will not become evident until later. This verse does not guarantee that everything in life will be pleasant, but it does guarantee that the ultimate outcome will be good. God's ultimate goal is to make us like Christ (verse 29).

1 Peter 1:6-7 So be truly glad! There is wonderful joy ahead, even though it is necessary for you to endure many trials for a while. These trials are only to test your faith, to show that it is strong and pure. It is being tested as fire tests and purifies gold - and your faith is far more precious to God than mere gold. So if your faith remains strong after being tried by fiery trials, it will bring you much praise and glory and honor on the day when Jesus Christ is revealed to the whole world.

We can be confident that there is meaning and purpose in the trials and disappointments we have. There is a hope, something we can confidently look forward to. As we go through these trials, we can remain confident that God will use them for our good. This means they cannot have a permanent negative effect on us! People who do not love God will also have trials, but they do not have this hope. Even though they may confidently claim to have hope, and may even claim to be "saved," their hope will fail them. They will be like a person reaching out for a spider's web, when trying to keep from falling off a cliff.

West Coast Recreation Centre
No. 12 West Coast Walk

Sunday Services

10am - 12pm
 English Service @ Auditorium
 10am - 12pm
 Mandarin Service @ Thanksgiving
 10am - 12pm
 Children In Action @ Honor

Saturday

3.30pm - 6.30pm
 Destiny Impact (Youth) @ Honor

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EVERY MEMBER A FRUIT BEARING DISCIPLE

Psalm 73:26 My health may fail, and my spirit may grow weak, but God remains the strength of my heart; he is mine forever. I came across this verse many years ago, at a time I was being tested more severely than any other time in my life. This verse tells me that no matter what happens to us, we will still have God, and we will have him forever. The rest of Psalm 73 is a look at the contrast between the ungodly (who were prospering and enjoying life) and the psalmist (who was suffering and needy). The writer of this psalm had almost reached the foolish conclusion that there was no value in trusting God - until he focused on the final outcome. No matter how bad things might be at the present, his problems would eventually come to an end. In contrast, even if the ungodly prosper right now, their final destiny will be forever horrible.

Here is another passage, in which the apostle Paul focuses on his own attitude: **Philippians 4:12-13** I know how to live on almost nothing or with everything. I have learned the secret of living in every situation, whether it is with a full stomach or empty, with plenty or little. For I can do everything with the help of Christ who gives me the strength I need.

Many people quote verse 13, and ignore verse 12. They try to use verse 13 (which says, "I can do everything") to demand that God give them prosperity and happiness, and anything else they may want. They ignore the fact that, though verse 12 says that Paul sometimes did have plenty, it also says there were other times he had almost nothing. Paul did not use verse 13, to try to "force" God into gratifying all his self-centered desires. Rather, he was willing to live under any circumstances he may find himself in. Some translations say he was content to live in both types of circumstances. In contrast, many people who use verse 13 (and ignore verse 12) are definitely not content when they are in need!

How could Paul be content when he was in needy circumstances? This verse tells us that it was God who gave him strength to be so. We, too, can learn to live under any circumstances, when we are empowered by God's strength.

Paul's life demonstrated that he meant what he said. When he spoke, it wasn't mere "pep talk" or empty words. Paul probably suffered more than any of us will ever suffer.



DUTY SCHEDULE

	Today <u>28th June (H.C.)</u>	Next Week <u>05th July (H.C.)</u>
Chairperson	Wong Seng Choon	TBC
Speaker	Dean Kuan	Abp John Chew
Worship Leader	Zhong Fa	TBC
Music Team	Rebecca, Eunice, Carolyn, Adrian, Matthew	TBC
Projectionist	Violet Joy Leong	TBC
Soundworks	Eric Matthew Sng	TBC
H.C. Server	Raymond, Tony	Raymond, Tony
Intercessory Prayer	Koh Bock Yin	TBC
Scripture Reader	Yvonne Lim	TBC

WISDOMSHIP TRAINING

DATE	PROGRAM
03 July	WDT
10 July	WDT
17 July	WDT
24 July	Evangelism

Cell groups are suspended till further notice due to WDT. For further enquiries, you may contact the Office at 63376104 ext 188/189 or email wacoffice@livingstreams.org.sg

MISSIONS

MISSIONS FUNDS NEEDED IN 2009	:	S\$20,000
AMOUNT PLEDGED TO DATE	:	S\$11,030.50
AMOUNT COLLECTED TO DATE	:	S\$9,348.50

PRAY FOR CHRIST CHURCH SAWANG DAENDIN:

Date: 16 - 20 October

Camp speaker and also the team going to Sawang Daendin.