

CONTENTS

-  **FEATURE > TRUTH, COMPASSION, OBEDIENCE.....**
-  **CHURCH NEWS > UPADTED REPORTS OF HOLY WORK IN CANADA...**
-  **CHURCH NEWS > A GRACIOUS CHURCH.....**
-  **INTERCESSION.....**
-  **ONE DOLLAR ONE SOUL.....**

Feature

Truth, Compassion, Obedience

Peter Shee

The idea of objective truth comes easily enough to Christians who are serious about following the Bible fully. We say truth is unchanging, we say as long as the Bible says it, we will follow, we say we obey God rather than man, until one day when our emotions are challenged with truth.

As a lad, the prophet Samuel heard the authoritative voice of God: “Behold, I will do something in Israel at which both ears of everyone who hears it will tingle... I will perform against Eli all that I have spoken...” (1 Sam 3:11-12). Words of truth revealed to him against his mentor all came to be fulfilled, and God continued to establish him as a prophet throughout Israel by not letting a single word of prophecy through his lips fall to the ground (1 Sam 3:19-21). Advanced in years, he heard the sobering truth of his sons’ waywardness (1 Sam 8:1-5), but the ultimate blow came from God’s rejection of Saul, the first king anointed through his hands, and we see the old prophet so grieved that he cried out all night to the LORD (1 Sam 15:10-11).

What was the issue? God’s objective commandments must be obeyed, and Saul had failed to do

so. The prophet must harden his grieving heart and announce God's judgment. He swept aside Saul's pleasantries to him: "Blessed are you of the LORD!" and proceeded to question the errant king on his misdeeds, even literally telling his royal highness, "Be quiet!" when he offered excuses (1 Sam 15:13-16).

Must we be so harsh?

Evil! Witchcraft! Idolatry! These were charges against King Saul for his stubborn disobedience (1 Sam 15:19, 22-23). Was such strong language at all necessary? Why was Samuel so condemning with his words when he in fact felt so much for Saul?

After making two clear pronouncements that God had rejected Saul as king, Samuel set himself to leave; then as his robe tore in Saul's hands, he mercilessly used the visual impact to rub in these smarting words: "The LORD has torn the kingdom of Israel from you today".

Samuel never allowed himself to see Saul after that day, even till the day of his death. (1 Sam 15:35). Must we be so harsh with people? Especially when we love them dearly?

More compassionate than God?

Samuel continued to mourn for Saul, perhaps unseen and unknown to the rest of the world. But God firmly objected to such protracted grief for the underserving king (1 Sam 16:1). It's like saying: "He's not worth your tears, move on!" God already had someone else in mind, so very soon after rejecting Saul, and He anointed David while Saul was still on his throne. God was determined to rid the disobedient king. Nothing was going to change His mind (1 Sam 15:29).

We do come across those who feel that the ways of God border on cruelty, and we sometimes share the some of the same sentiments. We wonder if Samuel would protest. He did! When he was told to anoint a new king, he argued, but it was not in defense of Saul! He knew Saul's wickedness – that he would even kill God's prophet for the sake of his throne (1 Sam 16:2). All this while, Samuel knew!

Humans are wont to succumb to emotion that interferes with rationality, like Peter who received the sharp rebuke of Jesus: "Get behind me, Satan!" Harsh words again! This time it was from our truly compassionate Saviour. Our sentimentality often gets in the way of God's plan, not just our personal ability to think. (Mt 16: 23). Peter's confession of Jesus as the special anointed Son of the living God was consistent with his earlier purported understanding of Jesus giving us his flesh and blood to eat and drink, as expounded by His words of eternal

life (Jn 6:54,63,66-69). What was inconsistent was his action - of stopping Jesus from going to the cross despite Jesus saying He would come back to life (Mt 16:21). How else would Jesus give us His flesh and blood, except through His death and resurrection? Peter couldn't see it because feelings had crowded out all the truth that he had heard.

So we see that God knew what He was doing with Saul, just as He knew what he was doing with Jesus. When it comes to executing God's plan, even by extreme measures, who are we to argue against the all-wise God? We may speak out of our compassion, but we can never be more compassionate than God.

Let go, and let God!

Samuel was established in his youth as a true prophet, but in accepting the truth of his first prophecy, he had to get go of his emotional attachment to Eli and family. In accepting God's advice to anoint the first king, he had to forego his sons who were Israel's judges. When it came to Saul, he had to acknowledge with his heart and soul that the word of the LORD which Saul rejected (1 Sam 15:23, 26) takes precedence over his love for his human king. The discomfort or unsettled feelings we have towards certain decisions the church has made, or those that we ourselves are party to, should give way to obedience to the word of the LORD, the unchanging truth that should rule our lives.

▲ [TOP](#)

Church News

Update Reports of Holy Work in Canada

Vancouver Holy Work Update

Members gradually increased in the last few years in Vancouver Church due to increasing in immigration and baptism. There are often around three hundred members during service. The chapel is crowded, dining area is congested, and parking is often an issue. Thus, the church needs to add a new location for service.

There is a chapel currently rented in the city of Surrey for Friday night and Saturday services. There are approximately fifty to sixty people attending Sabbath services.

Baptism of truth-seeker friends edifies the church greatly, as a living fountain adds into a

mundane interaction in a group environment. There was a seventy year old Catholic who met our brother in a Sauna beside a community pool. He was invited to our church and received the Holy Spirit. He also studied the Bible diligently and transformed his life after baptism. His life was a living testimony and moved his wife to seek the truth, receive the Holy Spirit, and finally baptized in May. The entire church was very happy for them.

Toronto Holy Work Update

Thank the grace of the Lord, the members of True Jesus Church in Toronto has exceeded three hundred. Spring Spiritual Convocation was held in May. 215 members partook the Holy Communion and eight people were baptized.

The church building was dedicated in 1996. Due to the insufficient space, the church is looking to branch out to different locations. Currently the church has already purchased a land in Markham for the possibility of building a chapel. On the other hand, Sabbath services are held at West End (Kitchener and Cambridge region) twice a month. These regions are about two hours away from Toronto. Through the grace of God, Toronto Church will eventually establish churches in those regions.

Also, Montreal Prayer House is also looking for a chapel.



Spring Spiritual Convocation in Toronto Church

Alberta Holy Work Update

There are two churches in the Alberta province, Calgary Church and Edmonton Church. Thank the Lord, members in Calgary gradually increased after being established in 2013. It currently has about 60 members.

Thank the grace of the Lord, Alberta Youth Camp was held in April. Total of 46 came from Edmonton, Calgary, and Vancouver. The main topic is “Worship God with Holy Adornments”. This is to remind the youths to live a holy life according to the use of the Lord. Even though it’s only three days, the work team diligently arranged for the youths to receive spiritual edification through prayer, hymnal, classes, and fellowship activities. They were also able to build a deeper friendship.



Alberta Spring Youth Camp

▲ [TOP](#)

Church News

A Gracious Church

-- Rhineland Church Dedication Service

Jonathan Chou

Thank God for His grace, Rhineland Church held a special gathering for its church dedication on the morning of May 24th, 2015. In addition to the brethren of Rhineland Church, there were also brethren from Germany, Holland, France, United Kingdom, United States, Taiwan,

Malaysia, etc., approximately 80 people gathered at the chapel here. Everyone was in high spirits and had a heart full of thanksgiving. As they gathered here for dedication, they have witnessed the guidance and blessings of the Lord.

Pr. Hong-Hsiung Ko was the leader in this special gathering event. Bro. Joseph Yue was the host, and the interpreter was Bro. Nathanael Ko, the organist was Sis. WT Lin. After hymnal worship and prayer, IA representative Pr. Jonathan Chou, Bro. Stefan, the coordinator of Europe Coordination Center, and Sis. ML Dong, the representative of Rhineland Church, gave us encouragement. Then, Bro. Ronald recited the Bible, Pr. Ko illustrated history and current situation of the church, and Sis. ML Dong reported the financial status of church construction project. Pr. Chou, assigned by IA, conducted the sermon, dedication ceremony, blessing, and Holy Communion. Afterwards, the choirs of Europe Youth and Rhineland Church respectively presented hymns. The special service, which was filled with thanksgiving, was completed with a dedication hymn and prayer offered by the entire congregation.

According to the promises in the Bible, the Lord's latter rain Holy Spirit will descend in the end time and re-establish the true church of the apostolic time. The true church surely is the saving ark of the end time, preaching the complete saving gospel to the ends of the earth and welcoming the coming of Lord Jesus. Today the commission is slowly being fulfilled; the true church has now reached the 6 major continents, with churches and service locations in nearly seventy countries.

In 1985 (30 years ago), the Rhineland region began rotating family services and services in rented locations in Cologne. With the sense of fulfilling the commission, the church held special services and Holy Communion since the beginning, all working hard toward establishing a church. In the years of active evangelical work, nearly fifty people have been baptized. However, due to the frequency in member's movements, today there are about thirty members remaining. This is a church full of grace, with the experiences of God's power and miraculous work. Even though the church has faced many hardships and hindrances during its chapel building and growth process, by relying on our loving Lord, the church overcame one by one under His guidance and protection. The church grew as one in joy. We firmly believe that Lord of the end time will raise His gospel in Europe, and Rhineland Church will become an important location to the development of future holy work. May God bless Rhineland Church, so the future glory will surpass the former, and peace be to God's people. May God also guide the work in Europe and globally!

The chapel is our place of worship. The ancient saints loved the temple of God and hoped to dwell in it, seeking after God, gazing upon His glory all their lives. The chapel is also the best

place for prayer, thus called the prayer temple of all nations. We must always long to come to church and draw closer to God, to give thanks, praise and pray for God's blessing and guidance. The chapel is also the best place for teaching, learning the truth, and evangelizing. It should be utilized more for holding evangelical services so all people may come to become the Lord's disciples and all may keep His teachings until the end of the world.

Rhineland Church is a four-story building that was originally a restaurant. The first floor is very spacious which includes a kitchen, restaurant (serves as the side chapel), chapel (about 60 seats), male and female restrooms, storage room and a garage. The second floor serves as offices and classrooms. The third and fourth floor both have two bedrooms for males and females. Each floor contains restrooms and shower facilities. It is an ideal facility for small scale trainings. The entire building was purchased at €470,000. Thanks to the concern, prayers, support and offerings of the entire church; God will surely bless you. Currently the church has borrowed one hundred and thirty thousand Euro from the nearby churches at no interest and is awaiting to pay back. Please continue to pray for them.

May all the thanksgiving, praise, honor be onto the almighty God. Amen!



Wahre Jesus Gemeinde im Rheinland Einweihung
萊茵教會獻堂禮

24.05.2015

 *Intercession*

1. Please pray for IA work assignment as below:

Date	Location	Program	Personnel
7/23-7/26	Hong Kong CB	Sacred Music Camp/ Hymnal Leading & Conducting Training	Grace Hsu
6/29-7/27	India CB	Residential Pastoral / Pioneering Work in North East India	Joshua Phoong Caleb Chang
7/6-7/12	New Zealand	New Zealand Student Spiritual Meeting(East Auckland)	Fu-An Shi JG Tsai
7/12-7/19		Religious Education Training	JG Tsai
July	Japan CB	Pastoral Work	SE Shaw
7/1-9/2	US	TTP Students Internship	I-Ju Fang Yi-Yun Liu
7/4-7/11	Canada	SSC(Vancouver)	Jason Hu
7/7-7/29	Argentina	Church Council Workshop	FM Tse
		Evangelical Convocation (7/18-7/28)	
		Student Spiritual Convocation (7/20-24)	
7/9-7/12	Chile	Evangelical Service & Spiritual Convocation	FM Tse
7/11-7/18	Dominican Rep.	Pastoral Visitation & Street/Park Evangelical Team	Samuel Kuo
6/22-7/22	UK	Evangelical Spiritual Convocation(Sunderland/Newcastle/Elgin)	MY Chao
7/2-7/20	South Africa	Pastoral Ministry /Johannesburg Church Board Cultivation Lesotho Outreach/ Johannesburg Spiritual Convocation	Steve Hwang
7/14-8/16		Pastoral Ministry /Training	Luke Chan

 *You Could Help the Worldwide Evangelism Mission Simply by Contribution
a dollar a day...*



How You Can Help

You are called to take action for the sake of worldwide evangelism and the spreading of the gospel...with **a dollar a day**. If everyone could daily extend one dollar towards the International Assembly World Evangelism Fund, we could, together, accomplish the commission that our Lord Jesus Christ left behind. Your financial commitment will open up possibilities and resources that will lead us to save many souls.

Please take time to fill out the offering sheet available at your local church, to pass this message on to loved ones and family, and to pray for God's ministry. May the Lord be gracious to you!

To find out more about the dollar-a-day program and donation options, ***please contact*** ia@tjc.org or tjciatwn@ms25.hinet.net.

✧ *May our Lord remember your contribution and bless you abundantly!*

▲ [TOP](#)

International Assembly of True Jesus Church © 2007
Tel: 886-4-2243-6960 Fax: 886-4-2243-7046
Address: No. 180 Songjhu Road, Taichung City 40673, Taiwan
E-mail: tjciatwn@ms25.hinet.net
Web: www.tjc.org
Members.tjc.org