



OUR CHURCH MISSION : To glorify God by being and making disciples of Christ Jesus

Reading our bibles (Part One)

When I was young, I learnt a children’s song that taught, ‘ Read your bible, pray every day and you’ll grow, grow, grow’. It has stuck with me since and what a simple secret of spiritual growth that song teaches. So simple, yet, the spiritual discipline of daily bible reading is something we struggle to sustain. I suppose it’s no different from the encouragement that 10,000 steps a day is good for our physical health. Simple, consistent effort will lead to better health both spiritually and physically.

And since daily bible reading is essential to good spiritual health, we want to also have confidence in the quality of the translation we are reading. Hermon began using the NIV85 translation when we first registered as a society in 1988 and on our 25th anniversary in 2013, due to issues we had with the NIV2011 translation, we made the decision to use the ESV officially.

May the “10 things we should know about the ESV translation”¹ give us confidence in the ESV translation and thereby encouragement to persevere in reading God’s word daily. Five facts will be shared this week, and the last five next week.

1. The translation was motivated by a belief that Scripture is sacred and that the words of the Bible are the very words of God.

“[The Bible] is the most valuable thing that this world affords. Here is Wisdom; this is the royal Law; these are the lively Oracles of God.” With these words the Moderator of the Church of Scotland hands a Bible to the new monarch in Britain’s coronation service. These words

echo the King James Bible translators, who wrote in 1611, “God’s sacred Word . . . is that inestimable treasure that excelleth all the riches of the earth.” This assessment of the Bible was the motivating force behind the publication of the English Standard Version in 2001.

2. It was created by a team of more than 100 leading evangelical scholars.

The fourteen-member Translation Oversight Committee benefited from the work of more than 50 biblical experts serving as Translation Review Scholars and from the comments of the more than 50 members of the Advisory Council, all of which was carried out under the auspices of the Crossway Board of Directors. This 100-plus-member team shared a common commitment to the truth of God’s Word and to historic Christian orthodoxy, and was international in scope, including leaders in many denominations.

3. It stands in the classic mainstream of English Bible translations over the past half-millennium.

The fountainhead of that stream was William Tyndale’s New Testament of 1526; marking its course were the King James Version of 1611 (KJV), the English Revised Version of 1885 (RV), the American Standard Version of 1901 (ASV), and the Revised Standard Version of 1952 and 1971 (RSV). In that stream, faithfulness to the text and vigorous pursuit of precision were combined with simplicity, beauty and dignity of expression. The translation committee’s goal was to carry forward this legacy for this generation and generations to come.

To this end, each word and phrase in the ESV was carefully weighed against the original Hebrew, Aramaic, and Greek, to ensure the fullest accuracy and clarity and to avoid under-translating or overlooking any nuance of the original text. The words and phrases themselves grow out of the Tyndale–King James legacy, and most recently out of the RSV, with the 1971 RSV text providing the starting point for the translation work. Archaic language was brought into line with current usage and significant corrections were made in the translation of key texts. But throughout, the goal was to retain the depth of meaning and enduring quality of language that have made their indelible mark on the English-speaking world and have defined the life and doctrine of its church over the last five centuries.

4. *It embraces a word-for-word, or “essentially literal,” translation philosophy.*

The ESV is an “essentially literal” translation that seeks, as far as possible, to reproduce the precise wording of the original text and the personal style of each Bible writer. As such, its emphasis is on “word-for-word” correspondence, at the same time taking full account of differences in grammar, syntax, and idiom between current literary English and the original languages. Thus it seeks to be transparent to the original text, letting the reader see as directly as possible the structure and exact force of the original.

Every translation is at many points a trade-off between literal precision and readability, between “formal equivalence” in expression and “functional equivalence” in communication, and the ESV is no exception. Within this framework the translation committee sought to be “as literal as possible” while maintaining clarity of expression and literary excellence.

5. *It carries forward classic translation principles in its literary style.*

The ESV retains theological terminology — words such as grace, faith, justification, sanctification, redemption, regeneration, reconciliation, propitiation — because of their central importance for Christian doctrine and also because the underlying Greek words were already becoming key words and technical terms among Christians in New Testament times.

The ESV lets the stylistic variety of the biblical writers fully express itself — from the exalted prose that opens Genesis, to the flowing narratives of the historical books, to the rich metaphors and dramatic imagery of the poetic books, to the ringing rhetoric in the prophetic books, to the smooth elegance of Luke, to the profound simplicities of John, and the closely reasoned logic of Paul.

Since every habit begins with a small step, if you do not have a bible reading plan, may I suggest you read a chapter a day from 2 Samuel through 1 and 2 Kings, starting today

Ps Daniel Tan

¹ <https://www.crossway.org/articles/>, February 18, 2021.

(Editorial Writers: 24 Oct – Ps Daniel Tan/31 Oct – Eld Sim Chow Meng)

PRAYER ITEMS

“For the Lord saw that the affliction of Israel was very bitter, for there was none left, bond or free, and there was none to help Israel. But the Lord had not said that he would blot out the name of Israel from under heaven, so he saved them by the hand of Jeroboam the son of Joash.” 2 Kings 14:26-27

CHURCH

Hermon Children and Youth Ministry – Pray for the Children Fellowship on 31 Oct via Zoom as the committee works on the detailed preparation of the programme. Ask the Lord to grant them added strength and wisdom to complete all the necessary preparation. Pray for a smooth running of the programme online and a fun time of bonding between the children and teachers. Pray for God’s provision of Bible class teachers for the ministry next year. Ask the Lord to guide and direct those whom He has called that they may obey with faith and gladness of heart.

Men and Ladies Fellowship – Pray that God will grant wisdom and creativity to the committees to plan for 2022 when Hermon moves to Henderson. Pray also for younger men and ladies to come forward to serve in these two fellowship ministries. May the Lord guide the team to think about leadership renewal to head the Men and Ladies Fellowship.

Project Ebenezer – Pray for discernment in the selection of resources to bring to Henderson and for good coordination in our transport arrangements in mid-Nov.

Sunday Services – Pray for wisdom to prepare the necessary Covid-19 safety measures for the Henderson facilities.

Christmas Eve Service (Fri) – May we begin to ask God for loved ones whom we can invite to participate with us at our Christmas Eve service.

WORLD

Heavy rains and floods in Shanxi, China – Torrential rains have triggered landslides and flooding in the region as well as closed the coal mines in the region. This has also exacerbated the energy crisis that China is currently facing. Pray for wisdom upon the local and federal government as they provide relief for residents from the effects of the floods and landslides and work to develop long-term strategies to deal with the energy shortage and decrease China’s reliance on coal.

PASTORAL CARE

Birthdays (17-23 Oct'21) – We rejoice with our members whose birthdays fall this week: Karen Sim-Chia, Dilys Ting-Hoon, Sandor Wang, Pauline Liow-Wong, Ng Zhe Hui and Sharon Ong-Ho.

17 Oct – Deborah Engelsen / 24 Oct – Angela Choo

ANNOUNCEMENT

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES @ CCKBC

In-person worship service is open for 100 **fully* vaccinated worshippers at 11am. **Fully vaccinated is defined as 14 days after the second dose of the vaccine.* Holy Communion will be conducted every first and third Sunday. Please register at www.hermon.org.sg by Thursday preceding the respective service. Live-streaming of the service will continue on YouTube.



WHATSAPP +65 8938 8903 – Have you subscribe to Hermon Whatsapp broadcast service? Send <your name> space <Hermon News> to subscribe now!

HERMON CHILDREN & YOUTH MINISTRY

The children & youth will have their bible classes via zoom till 31 Oct

COVENANT GROUP MEETINGS @ zoom

CG	Leader	Day
Agape	Lester Cheng	Wednesday
CCK Open Care	Michael Koh	Friday
de Vine	Jennifer Seah	Friday
El Shaddai	Gillian Lim	Saturday
Immanuel	Karen Sim	Saturday
Jehovah Jireh	Dns Malar Thomas	Friday
Klema	Dn Richard Yew	Friday
Koinonia (Clementi)	Dn Mike Fong	Friday
Koinonia (W'lands)	Simon Toh	Friday
Lakers	Dawn Tan	Sunday
Living Water	Yeo Howe Chien	Sunday
Morning Glory	Jeanette Ler-Lee	Friday
New Life	Dn Lee Pang Wee	Saturday
Paideia	Gene Tan	Sunday
Young Adults Ministry	Dn Tan Jiayi	Friday

For further information on our CG Ministry, please contact Ps Luwin at luwinwong@hermon.org.sg or 9230-5363. Thanks.

ANNOUNCEMENT



SYNCHRONISED PRAYER MEETING - Wed (27 Oct), 8pm

Let's zoom in to pray together in unity to our Father in heaven

Prayer leader: Eld Elgin Chan **Focus:** Reformation Sunday

OFFERTORY – We would like to encourage you to tithe and give your offerings electronically via **PayNow**, **Internet Banking** or **Quick Cheque Deposit**. For internet banking and quick cheques, please pay to our bank accounts. Email at church@hermon.org.sg or visit www.hermon.org.sg for our bank details.

OFFERING TO GENERAL FUND

- Issue cheque to **Mount Hermon BP Church**
- PayNow to **UEN S88SS0035HGF1** or use **QR Code** on the right



OFFERING TO DEVELOPMENT FUND

- Issue cheque to **Mount Hermon BP Church – Development Fund**
- PayNow to **UEN S88SS0035HDF1** or use **QR Code** on the left

Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. For the ministry of this service is not only supplying the needs of the saints but is also overflowing in many thanksgivings to God.

(2 Corinthians 9:7, 12)

OFFERING AND PLEDGES

Funds	Last week	Month Total	Jan to Date
General Fund	\$7,173.00	\$21,034.00	\$435,246.62
Development Fund	\$200.00	\$2,320.00	\$206,891.58

ANNOUNCEMENT

VISIT TO HENDERSON #09-03 – With the renovations at its tail end, the Session is planning for members and friends of Hermon and Mt Gerizim to visit Henderson on Saturday 30 Oct'21. Please choose one of the 3 sessions – 9.30am, 11.30am or 2pm.

Each session is open for 50 fully vaccinated persons and the duration is 1 hour. Registration is required.

Register at this link <https://qrgo.page.link/1sUii> or this QR code for the Henderson Tour.



Directional details will be given to those who register.

Registration closes on 27 Oct.

CONGRATULATIONS – We rejoice with Nelson, Alice & Natalie Chong on the holy matrimony of their 2nd daughter/sister Amelia and David Ng yesterday 16 Oct at Living Hope Methodist Church. May God guide this newly wedded couple as they journey a God-centered life together.

CHURCH OFFICE - We have some used books, stationery, files, electrical appliances and furniture to give away. There will be an open house on 23 Oct Sat, 9am – 12 noon and 25 – 27 Oct (Mon – Wed), 3 – 6pm for you to view and collect the items on a first-come-first-served basis.

CHANGE OF CONTACT – If you have any change in residential address, email, HP or home number, please notify the church office at church@hermon.org.sg. Thank you.

BEREAVEMENT – May God's peace and comfort be with our sister Valerie Koh-Er & her family (husband Bok Chain, 3 children, Aaron, Nathan & Hannah) who are presently in the States. Valerie's father, the late Mr Er Kuan Chin, was called home to the Lord on 12 Oct'21.

GOD'S MESSAGE

Date: 17 October 2021
Speaker: Ps Luwin Wong
Sermon Title: The Faint Refrain of Hope
Sermon Text: 2 Kings 14-15

A king that self-destructed.

A kingdom that self-destructed.

A kingly line that God-preserved.

Reflection Questions:

- In times of darkness brought about by human wickedness, do you turn to God's word for hope?
- How does knowing that God is still sovereign over the chaotic reigns of Israel's final decades help us face the uncertainties of our own day?
- God keeps to His promises, which all find their fulfilment in Christ. How can you encourage one another to remember this?

Pastoral / Ministry Staff

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Board of Elders

Eld Peter Seah (Moderator)
Rev Daniel Tan
Rev Luwin Wong
Eld Elgin Chan
Eld Sim Chow Meng

Advisory Pastor

Rev (Dr) David Wong

Session

Dn Mike Fong
Dn Lee Pak Choon
Dn Lee Pang Wee
Dns Justina Ng
Dn David Oh
Dn James Quek
Dn Tan Jiayi
Dns Tang Lai Kin
Dns Malar G. Thomas
Dn Richard Yew

Administrator

Ms See Siew Kee
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Sunday Service

11.00am- 12.30pm

Children & Youth

Bible Class

11.30am-12.30pm

Prayer Meeting

Every 2nd & 4th Wed
8.00pm-9.30pm

10 Choa Chu Kang St 52
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Order of Worship

17 October 2021, 11.00am

COMMUNION SERVICE

Church Theme 2021: "Discipling into our 4th lap"

Welcome

Call to Worship

Hebrews 12:1-3

Opening Hymn

All the Way My Savior Leads Me

Opening Prayer

Scripture Reading 1

2 Kings 14

Worship in Songs

By Faith
Be Thou My Vision

Offertory/Doxology

Holy Communion

Pastoral Prayer

Scripture Reading 2

2 Kings 15

Message

The Faint Refrain of Hope

Closing Hymn

This Kingdom

Benediction

Three-Fold Amen

Speaker & Communion: Ps Luwin Wong **Worship Leader:** Eld Elgin Chan **Music/Vocal Team:** Rebecca Li, Lenard Cheng, Joy Cheng, Lydia Li **Scripture Reader:** Ramona Perera **Pastoral Prayer/Benediction/Safety Officer 1:** Eld Peter Seah **PA:** Joseph Ho & Ken Lee **Projectionists:** Ernest Tay & Ervin Tay **Communion Elements:** Fong May Yee & Mary Wang **Media:** Ng Hong Liang & Elsa Tan **Safety Officer 2:** Dn Lee Pang Wee **Stewards:** Dn Mike Fong & team

NEXT SUNDAY'S SERVICE (24 OCT)

Sermon text: 2 Kings 16-17 **Speaker:** Ps Daniel Tan **Worship Leader/Pastoral Prayer/Benediction/Safety Officer 1:** Ps Luwin Wong **Music/Vocal Team:** Lenith Cheng, Josie Oh, Inez Tan, Bernice Oh **Scripture Reader:** Yeo Soon Yii **PA:** Samuel Chan & Edward Lim **Projectionists:** Samuel Chua & Chew Kian Chong **Media:** Dion Ow & Elaine Chan **Safety Officer 2:** Dns Tang Lai Kin **Stewards:** Nelson Chong & team