

# EXCELLENT FAMILY



12  
JULY  
2020

ED.LXXIV.07.2020

*Bethany International Church*  
THE HOUSE OF PRAYER FOR ALL NATIONS



## FOUNDING PASTOR

Rev Niko Njotoraharjo

## SENIOR PASTOR

Ps Djohan Handojo

## PASTOR

Ps Daniel Prajogo

## Associate Pastor

Ps Unggul Santika  
Ps Iwan Adinugroho

## Next Generation Pastor

Ps Rudy Nurtanaya

## Pastoral Care

Ps Lily Karto

## Prophetic, Praise & Worship Pastor

Ps Hemah Demak Panjaitan  
Ps Suzana Tahir

## Teaching Pastor

Ps Daniel Hardjosuwito

## Mission & Evangelism Pastor

Ps Gideon Gunawan

## Office Manager

Ps Suzana Tahir

## CONTACT US

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Bethany International Church



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## JOIN THE TEAM

We are inviting more writers to our ministry. If you enjoy reading, writing, listening to other people's stories, or simply want to know more about our ministry, you are more than welcome to contact us.

A heart to serve the church and the people through writing has been our main purpose of doing this ministry.

All of the testimonies, stories, or articles are written that we may see the goodness of God, the power of God, which leads to seeing more of His glory.

We always seek for improvement in our ministry. If you have any suggestions, feedbacks, critics, or if you have stories or testimonies you want to share with us, please do let us know.

Contact details:  
Sonia 0424 181 612  
Kevin Jingga 0413 345 433

# HELLO *new comers!*

Welcome to Bethany International Church Melbourne.  
So glad that you are here with us. We want to help make your  
first experience at BIC Melbourne a great one!



## GET CONNECTED

Christian journey shouldn't be alone because it is a community project. Join our Community of Love (COOL) every Friday 7PM!

## LET US CONTACT YOU



Lastly, please enjoy a cup of coffee on us! 



# COOL LIST



## MAIN

Canaan  
Ephratah  
Berea - Bethesda  
Bethlehem  
Jordan  
Horeb  
Bethany  
Bethel  
Cana  
Philadelphia - Pniel  
Moriah  
Ephraim  
Ekklesia  
Emmaus  
Galilee  
Gennesaret  
Gilgal - Carmel  
Hebron - Philippi  
Zion  
Eden

Kezia, Freddie  
Steven, Henry  
Romy  
Felix, Fransisca  
Sony, Wilfred  
Ferry, Febria  
Paulus, Erina  
Christy, Elvina  
Bobby  
Dwi, Vero  
Elve, Calista  
Kevin L, Sonia  
Edo, Ica  
Fabian, Priska  
Kevin Y, Corine  
Reinetta, Albert  
Erika, Mike  
Yoseph, Rian  
Monica, Raymond  
Jennifer

## FAMILY

Antioch  
Tiberias  
Doncaster  
Jerusalem  
Mt Hermon  
Phillipi  
Shekinah  
Tabernacle  
Westal

Andy, Iwan  
Andre, Albert  
Michael, Rudy  
Edwin, Gerda  
Lily, Unggul  
Hariyanto, Ivan  
Alice  
Sandi  
Michael

## 180

Macedonia  
Shiloh

Eric, Alicia  
Daniel, Clarissa

## NEXT GEN

Judea  
Judah  
Israel  
Jeremiah  
Heaven

Valentina, Sylvio  
Aldo, Kezia M.  
Catherine, Jerry  
Sinta, Kevin W.  
Pauline



# FOUNDATIONS OF PRODUCTIVITY

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STORY KEZIA JOCELYN

As students, we often crave for breaks in the middle of our busy semester. However, when the break has finally come, how many of us actually utilise it wisely? A lot of us including myself tend to instinctively associate our school breaks with finally having the time to chill and binge on the newest Netflix series, to go out with friends, go on road trips, etc. What's interesting about it is too much of these freedoms could also lead to the feeling of unproductivity where our inner conscience keeps telling us that there must be something more "meaningful" that we can do. Therefore, a good question to ask is how should we view and seek meaningful productivity?

A solid start to answering that question would be to acknowledge that productivity is not merely a nine-to-five pursuit. Tim Challies, through *Desiring God*, reminds us with the guidance of **1 Corinthians 10:31**, "*Whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God*", implying that God longs for us to not only strive in our classrooms but more so in what we do outside of our classrooms. He states followingly that "*productivity is effectively stewarding our gifts, talents, time, energy, and enthusiasm for the good of others and the glory of God*". Notice how the nature of biblical productivity is not selfish and constrained to the scope that is defined by this world. So much of what the world teaches is self-productivity, not that there is anything wrong with it, it's just that we know it doesn't bring inner peace nor fulfillment when it becomes our only focus. As with anything in our Christian life, we should

pursue productivity as something that flows out of the peace and fulfillment we already have in Christ. Nurturing family relationships and friendships, mentoring, discipling are among some of the good works we can also focus on as Christians, just like how Paul encourages us when he says, "*Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all, especially to those who are of the household of faith.*" in **Galatians 6:10**.

After acknowledging and pondering upon that truth, we can then talk about what it means practically in our daily lives. First of all, focusing on finding our own personal goal as the result of our productivity is much more important than trying to get rid of the obstacle to productivity. A strong and firm vision rooted in our passion for Christ will give us the energy to be productive. However, it is also worth noting how crucial it is to keep the underlying requirements of being productive in check. To sustain clarity of mind through our daily devotions and prayers, to stay physically healthy through working out and eating responsibly, and to actively learn through educating oneself and being observant of our environment. If productivity is our engine, these things are the vehicle to carry it out towards our goal. Secondly, with the influence of social media, we tend to easily compare our level of productivity relative to what others are currently doing, causing us to lose track of our own path of productivity. We are all in different chapters of life with different possibilities, potential, and priorities. I believe productivity is not a contest of who has done

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*I believe productivity is not a contest of who has done the most stuff, but the right stuff that fulfils what God has called you to do. Therefore, it becomes really important to stay focused on our own seasons and to pursue life according to the demands of that chapter with all our might.*

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the most stuff, but the right stuff that fulfils what God has called you to do. Therefore, it becomes really important to stay focused on our own seasons and to pursue life according to the demands of that chapter with all our might.

Last but not least, as our flesh is weak, we need to continuously evaluate our productive measures with all honesty in reverence to God. We need to acknowledge that sometimes we might unconsciously fall into productivity that is self-serving instead of God- and others-serving. Thankfully, we know from **Psalms 145:18** that *“The LORD is near to all who call upon Him, to all who call upon Him in truth.”*

The world offers us productivity that is self-sustained and self-serving, yet God has called His people to think about productivity in its best and highest form, the others-serving type that flows and is sustained by His love. As students,

we are never limited to only be productive in our studies, but to be “zealous for good works” in every other aspect of life. Each person’s path of productivity will look different as this calling is not a formula that creates a predictable result, rather a personal journey with God that is beyond what we can hope for and imagine.

*“But by the grace of God I am what I am, and His grace toward me was not in vain; but I labored more abundantly than they all, yet not I, but the grace of God which was with me.”*

**1 Corinthians 15:10**

*“For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men, teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in the present age, looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from every lawless deed and purify for Himself His own special people, zealous for good works.” Titus 2:11-14*

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# WEEKLY DEVOTION

**12 JULY**

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1 Samuel 16-18

**Ayat Renungan:**  
1 Samuel 16:7

“Tetapi berfirmanlah Tuhan kepada Samuel: “Janganlah pandang parasnya atau perawakan yang tinggi, sebab Aku telah menolaknya. Bukan yang dilihat manusia yang dilihat Allah; manusia melihat apa yang di depan mata, tetapi Tuhan melihat hati.”

**13 JULY**

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1 Samuel 19-21

**Ayat Renungan:**  
Roma 8:37

“Tetapi dalam semuanya itu kita lebih dari pada orang-orang yang menang, oleh Dia yang telah mengasihi kita.”

**14 JULY**

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1 Samuel 22-25

**Ayat Renungan:**  
Mazmur 41:2

“Berbahagialah orang yang memperhatikan orang lemah! Tuhan akan meluputkan dia pada waktu celaka.”

**15 JULY**

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1 Samuel 26-28

**Ayat Renungan:**  
Amsal 14:31

“Siapa menindas orang yang lemah, menghina Penciptanya, tetapi siapa menaruh belas kasihan kepada orang miskin, memuliakan Dia.”





## 16 JULY

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1 Samuel 29:31

**Ayat Renungan:**  
Amsal 19:17

“Siapa menaruh belas kasihan kepada orang yang lemah, memiutangi Tuhan, yang akan membalas perbuatannya itu.”

## 17 JULY

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2 Samuel 1-4

**Ayat Renungan:**  
Amsal 3:27

“Janganlah menahan kebaikan dari pada orang-orang yang berhak menerimanya, padahal engkau mampu melakukannya.”

## 18 JULY

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2 Samuel 5-8

**Ayat Renungan:**  
Roma 15:1

“Kita, yang kuat, wajib menanggung kelemahan orang yang tidak kuat dan jangan kita mencari kesenangan kita sendiri.”

# A WEAK PERSON'S LIFETIME JOURNEY

STORY DONNY ROEBIYANTO

## Background

My name is Donny Roebiyanto, married to a beautiful wife, Silvia, and blessed with two wonderful children, Ashley Samantha and Aaron Raphael.

I was born in a small town, Pati, central Java, Indonesia. I came from a small family, dad, mom, and an elder sister. When we were young, my parents were Buddhist. However, we were pretty much raised in a practical understanding of "do good, gets good." My dad was always busy building his business, which resulted in having limited time with me. He always told us that he needed to work hard, so that my sister and I could get the best education. Hence, at 12 years old, I was sent out of town for junior high school. At 15 years old, I was in Sydney, Australia for senior high school, and finally, at 18 years old, I was in the States for my bachelor degree.

Right after graduation, half of my age growing

up, I was mostly alone. My relationship with my parents, especially my dad, was only a father and son relationship. I wasn't close to him as a friend. He demanded me to be a good son, by giving me a good example. Though I knew that he loved me, we never had a friendship thing. Oftentimes, I felt anything I did was always wrong to him.

In 2008, Silvia and I got married. The following year, Ashley was born. This was probably the start when I realised why my parents did all the things they did to me. Somehow, I could reflect on my parents' teachings and examples of what I had to do for my kids.

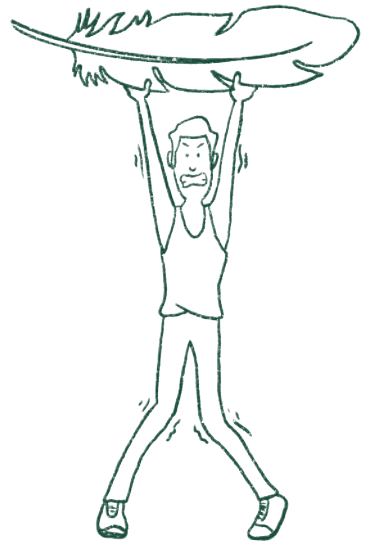
I was baptized in 1998 at Bethany Sydney. While studying in the US, I mostly stopped going to church, and only in 2006, I started going back to church, at GKY Kebayoran Baru, Jakarta. Slowly I joined several ministries, from ushers to elders. In 2017, I stopped my ministry while I was busy in preparation to migrate to Melbourne. Finally in January 2019, we all migrated to Melbourne.

Though I was baptized in 1998, my relationship with God was dull. I was not closed to Him, I did not have a will to seek Him more, and I did not even let Him guide my life. In 2017, during my transition to Melbourne, I was invited by a friend to join him going to BIC. Somehow, I was moved. I longed to seek Him more. My life perspective was totally changed. Though I might have been baptized for 20 years, I am not ashamed to say that I really got to know Him for three years.

### **What's Important in my family**

Focusing on family topics in my life, though there are several verses I had heard, including **Colossians 3:18-21** *“Wives, submit yourselves to your husbands, as is fitting in the Lord. Husbands, love your wives and do not be harsh with them. Children, obey your parents in everything, for this pleases the Lord. Fathers, do not embitter your children, or they will become discouraged”*, I am very conscious that I am very weak as a person. Oftentimes, I do not know what is best for the family. I am used to being, and probably still an optimist person, always having a goal to achieve. However, in terms of family matters and plans, I lately realise that I really dare not think or plan too far. Though still having a long term plan for the family, what's most important for me is to seek and ask God, every morning, every moment, and yes, every moment I remember throughout the day, seeking His and the Holy Spirit's guidance.

“**The more I depend on my own strength, the weaker I am.**”



In leading my family, repetitive questions to myself:

1. To my wife;
  - Have I been a loving and caring husband?
  - Have I hurt her?

2. To my kids;
  - Am I a great and loving dad to them?
  - Will they see me as both dad and a friend?

Setting priorities is key, and I, both explicitly and implicitly, mentioned this to my family, which is: first is God, and second is family. For me, these two have been in that order, and other priorities. It all comes back to individuals, including my kids' view on priorities, theirs might differ from mine when they grow up.

## Leading my family

Leading isn't just simply directing, it is about that, and most importantly showing a good example. To lead my family in a godly way, actually enforces myself to set a daily routine in getting to know Him. Personal morning prayer and evening Bible reading are very important, not only for self reminder and my relationship to God, but again, children mostly copy what the parents do.

As a family, just before bed, we read daily devotional, and pray. Prayer starts with either Ashley or Aaron, then Silvia and I close the prayer. Daily prayer, as a family, is really important. This makes each of us surrender to whatever frictions or arguments we might

have during the day. This is also the time when Silvia and I could teach or show our kids on how and what to pray.

## Conflict of desires

I am naturally a very dominant person. Fortunately, Silvia is probably opposite to me. Yes, most times, my desire or goal comes first. But again, as I got older, and probably more mature, I also felt that there were times I feel selfish.

Now, I am letting the Holy Spirit to set my goals. Certainly as a human being, I have goals. But the way I fight for it is different from before. Each goal I bring it to a prayer, and whatever the result is, I know for sure that it is the best from Him.

Silvia and I come from different family backgrounds. Definitely there were times we had conflict of desires or goals. During these times, we always sat down and talked until we came into an agreement. We always tried to resolve any conflict before the next day. Once I heard a saying "I am the head of the family, but, my wife is the neck of the family." After every discussion, Silvia and I bring it to a prayer, again just to rest our lives to Him, not on our ego.

## Challenges in leading my family to God

I am weak and still learning. Often time:

1. I fail in showing good examples to Silvia and kids

2. I lost my temper in front of and to them
3. I do the opposite to what I teach them
4. I hurt Silvia's feeling by saying wrong words
5. I got angry to Aaron
6. And many other little mistakes.

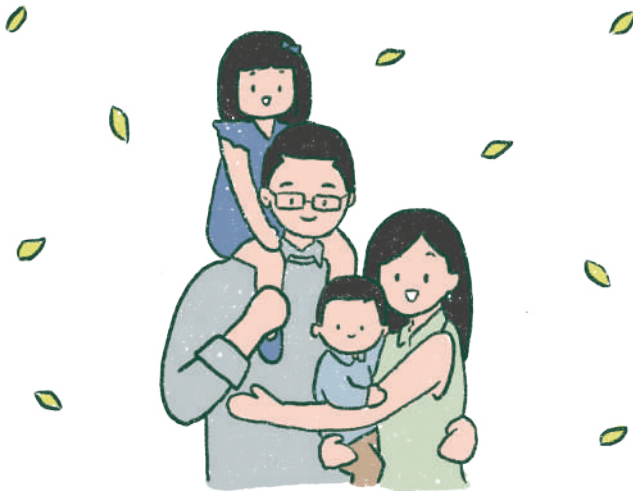
Although there are lots of things outside home that could be challenges, I truly believe that those challenges are not in my control. I believe that we have to start from the inside. Inside means myself. The more I depend on my own strength, the weaker I feel I am.

Challenges of being a good husband, raising my kids, managing my business and also being a good son to my parents, are a never-ending learning journey. Most times, in taking decisions, I have conflicts between what the world thinks and what the Bible

says. Now, though I like to plan far ahead, I just come to God every day, every morning, seeking His guidance in leading my family.

At last, I am just a weak man. The more I think I've known a lot, the more I find myself knowing nothing yet. I am now living day by day, trying and seeking His guidance - no matter whether it's a small or big problem. I am blessed that God has given me a chance to lead my family, yet I do not know how many years left I have in this world. Knowing that my time isn't long, I once said to my wife, "Should my time has come, these are three things I want you, Ashley and Aaron to have:

1. Accept God, Jesus Christ, as your savior
2. Have a good character, according to Jesus' teachings, and the world
3. Are you all happy to have me as your husband and dad?"



# MINISTRY LIST

## VOCAL



Jessica Sutiono

## MUSICIAN



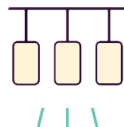
Raynaldo Ali

## MULTIMEDIA



Budi Sendjaja

## LIGHTING



Budi Sendjaja

## SOUND



Steven Santika

## USHER



Elbert Pranoto

## TRANSLATOR



Elbert Pranoto

## CARING



Felix Hariyadi

## DANCER



Priska Sunaryo

## DRAMA



Jennifer Chandra

## SUNDAY SCHOOL



Reinetta Tanujaya

## HOSPITALITY



Tasmin Ifah

## INTERCESSOR



Monica Haryanto

## MISSION



Felix Chietra

## MEDIA ART



Sonia Pranatha

## COMMUNITY KITCHEN



Yolanda Tjong

## PODCAST



Ravello Satria

## YOUTH



Rio Susanto

*"Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms"*

**We invite you to join our  
online service every Sunday**

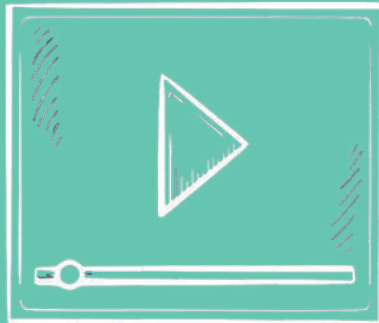
**8.30 am**

**11.00 am**

**5.00 pm**

**You can go to the link below:**

**[bicmelb.online.church](https://bicmelb.online.church)**



**Let's celebrate the Lord's Day  
together!**