

# EXCELLENT SOWING

**14  
JUNE  
2020**

ED. LXV.06.2020

*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

## Prophetic, Praise & Worship Pastor

Ps Hemah Demak Panjaitan  
Ps Suzana Tahir

## Next Generation Pastor

Ps Rudy Nurtanaya

## Teaching Pastor

Ps Daniel Hardjosuwito

## Pastoral Care

Ps Lily Karto

## 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	Kezia, Freddie
Ephratah	Steven, Henry
Berea - Bethesda	Romy
Bethlehem	Felix, Fransisca
Jordan	Sony, Wilfred
Horeb	Ferry, Febria
Bethany	Paulus, Erina
Bethel	Christy, Elvina
Cana	Bobby
Philadelphia - Pniel	Dwi, Vero
Moriah	Elve, Calista
Ephraim	Kevin L, Sonia
Ekklesia	Edo, Ica
Emmaus	Fabian, Priska
Galilee	Kevin Y, Corine
Gennesaret	Reinetta, Albert
Gilgal - Carmel	Erika, Mike
Hebron - Philippi	Yoseph, Rian
Zion	Monica, Raymond
Eden	Jennifer

## FAMILY

Antioch	Andy, Iwan
Tiberias	Andre, Albert
Doncaster	Michael, Rudy
Jerusalem	Edwin, Gerda
Mt Hermon	Lily, Unggul
Phillipi	Hariyanto, Ivan
Shekinah	Alice
Tabernacle	Sandi
Westal	Michael

## 180

Macedonia	Eric, Alicia
Shiloh	Daniel, Clarissa

## NEXT GEN

Judea	Valentina, Sylvio
Judah	Aldo, Kezia M.
Israel	Catherine, Jerry
Jeremiah	Sinta, Kevin W.
Heaven	Pauline



# LET HIS LOVE WIN

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STORY NATALIA WIJAYA

Nowadays “Love Wins” has become the mega-trending hashtag, and there are countless movements in this world fighting for “love” and “peace” for decades.

“Only one thing can unite us all: Love”, the world proclaims.

This evidently shows that love is considered as something significant for this world, not only to Christians.

As a human being, what is natural for us is to criticize those who are “different” than us. The larger the gap is, the harder to accept, appreciate, and value the differences.

It is very easy for us to say we love something we like (“Oh I really love your shoes!”, “Love that coffee!”), but it’d feel unreasonable for us to refer the word “love” to something we don’t (how could we say cheerfully “I really love how that annoying and rude lady treats me”).

When Jesus said we are no different than this world when we love only those who love us (those who are nice to us) and to “Love your enemies” (Matthew 5:43-48), this command really outstretches our human capacity and is against our intuitive.

I personally have been “forced” from time to time to love not only those whom I do not ‘like’, but particularly also those who have constantly hurt me by lies and deceptions. I was raised in a

family background where infidelity is apparent, and honesty is undervalued. It is a long journey to overcome bitterness at all possible levels since I was a young adult. By God’s grace alone His love continues to overcome and now I no longer see myself as a ‘victim’. Yet the hard battle is still ongoing, and forgiveness needs to be released day by day.

Needless to say, I cannot love to this extent if it depends on my own will.

We all need divine power to be able to love like Jesus loves - that deep, radical, extravagant, unconditional love. Only by the power of His Spirit in us we can love and obey like Jesus did at the cross and died for us while we were still sinners (Romans 5:8).

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The closer we get to God, the more clearly we will see ourselves as we really are (undeserving, “all human has sinned and fall short of the glory of God” - Romans 3:23). As long as we compare ourselves to others, we can always find someone who makes us feel good about how well we are doing. But when we step into God’s holiness, what once seemed clean suddenly looks tarnished. How we need God’s grace to see this truth!

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Yes, it hurts us (our flesh) when we choose to love despite not feeling like it. But lay our eyes once again at the cross, where Jesus has suffered all the pains on behalf of us.

The physical, emotional, and the most excruciating pain of all: being separated

with the presence of God the Father at the final hours ("My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" Matthew 27:46). And all of these to endure our sins, not His.

Because Jesus has paid a greater debt of mine at the cross with His own life - willingly and freely, I now have the power to release the much lesser amount of debt from others (please read the beautiful parable of the unforgiving debtor in Matthew 18:21-35).

May the power of the Gospel not only save, but also transform our life. Pray that His Spirit enables us to love when it is difficult to do so. Let His love win over our self-centred and shallow kind of love - and lead us to a deeper, extravagant act in loving others.



# WEEKLY DEVOTION

14 JUNE

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Roma 7-8

**Ayat Renungan:**  
Roma 8:35

“Siapakah yang akan memisahkan kita dari kasih Kristus? Penindasan atau kesesakan atau penganiayaan, atau kelaparan atau ketelanjangan, atau bahaya, atau pedang?”

15 JUNE

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Roma 9-10

**Ayat Renungan:**  
Roma 9:28

“Sebab apa yang telah difirmankan-Nya, akan dilakukan Tuhan di atas bumi, sempurna dan segera.”

16 JUNE

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Roma 11-12

**Ayat Renungan:**  
Roma 12:2

“Janganlah kamu menjadi serupa dengan dunia ini, tetapi berubahlah oleh pembaharuan budimu, sehingga kamu dapat membedakan manakah kehendak Allah: apa yang baik, yang berkenan kepada Allah dan yang sempurna.”

17 JUNE

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Roma 13-14

**Ayat Renungan:**  
Roma 14:8

“Sebab jika kita hidup, kita hidup untuk Tuhan, dan jika kita mati, kita mati untuk Tuhan. Jadi baik hidup atau mati, kita adalah milik Tuhan.”



18 JUNE

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Roma 15-16

**Ayat Renungan:**  
Roma 15:13

“Semoga Allah, sumber pengharapan, memenuhi kamu dengan segala sukacita dan damai sejahtera dalam iman kamu, supaya oleh kekuatan Roh Kudus kamu berlimpah-limpah dalam pengharapan.”

19 JUNE

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Hakim 1-3

**Ayat Renungan:**  
Galatia 6:7

“Jangan sesat! Allah tidak membiarkan diri-Nya dipertainkan. Karena apa yang ditabur orang, itu juga yang akan dituainya.”

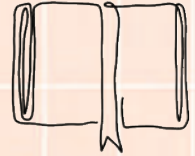
20 JUNE

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Hakim 4-6

**Ayat Renungan:**  
Hakim-hakim 5:31

“Demikianlah akan binasa segala musuh-Mu, ya Tuhan! Tetapi orang yang mengasihi-Nya bagaikan matahari terbit dalam kemegahannya. Lalu amanlah negeri itu empat puluh tahun lamanya.”



*your word is a lamp  
for my feet, a light  
on my path*

*-psalm 119:105-*

# PRAY.

STORY MONICA HARYANTO

## Purpose of prayer

I pray because I know I need God in my life. I thank God for His grace that has opened up my eyes to see how poor I am and how I need a saviour. After I met Jesus, I know why I should pray. I don't have any reason because I believe when you meet Jesus, you will be compelled by His love, and the Holy Spirit will lead you to pray. We pray because God wants us to pray. To pray for the sick, to pray for the poor, to pray for His people but more importantly to know what is the desire of His heart. God wants us to pray to know Him more, to have a relationship with Him.

We pray on our good day and also on our bad day. When my heart grows weary, I pray. When my heart is in trouble, I pray. When my heart is full of condemnation, I pray. More importantly in my quiet time, I pray. In the morning, evening, or at night, we can pray to God. We pray because God wants us to have a relationship with Him. Again, prayer is about communicating with God. The purpose of creation is for us to be more like Him as we are created in His image. We are created for His purpose and until we truly understand that, we will never accept the idea of prayer, worship, and His words. When we know that we live for Him, we will gladly receive His words and obey His commandments to pray.

When we pray with all our might, God will reveal Himself. We need to pray so that we can know the desire of His heart so that we are attached to Him and always in communion with Him. Our prayer life determines our spiritual life. The more we pray, the more we know His heart. The more we know His heart, the more we can set apart. As a result, our life is transformed with the Holy Spirit and His words that we are no longer live our life the same anymore but we live our life according to His will. Prayer will draw us near to God. This will only happen if we know prayer is our expression of worship and submission to God.



## When we don't feel like praying

What the world offers me often hinders me from praying. My comfort, leisure time, hobby, possession, pride, flesh desire, or basically what I love outside God can hinder me from praying.

#1 Ask someone to pray for me because I know I am in danger.

#2 Follow a social media account, hear some podcasts, and listen to music to encourage me once again to pray and come back to God.

#3 Don't skip any church meeting and small gathering.

#4 Read devotion articles.

#5 Play a musical instrument if you can and sing a song.

## Building a healthy prayer life

God is still faithful and He is still good even if our prayer is not answered (the way we wanted). Prayer is not about God giving us what we want but prayer is about our communication with Him. It's like a relationship between Father and his son that Father still loves him even though the Father does not always grant what His son wants.

### Psalm 107:1

*Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his love endures forever.*



**“Prayer is a medicine for me. Prayer helps me to let go of my desire and shifts my focus back to God”**

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### **Matthew 7:11**

*If you, then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give good gifts to those who ask him!*

A healthy prayer life is when you invite the Holy Spirit, His presence in your daily life. How? By reading His words and asking the Holy Spirit to help you to pray and open up your eyes to see God. Start by giving 5-15 minutes of your day and remember prayer is about communicating with God. It can be expressed through any forms (e.g. painting, drawing, journaling, etc.).

Your prayer life can be your devotion time,  
Your prayer life can be your cooking time,  
Your prayer life can be your 'me' time,  
Your prayer life can also be your study/work time,

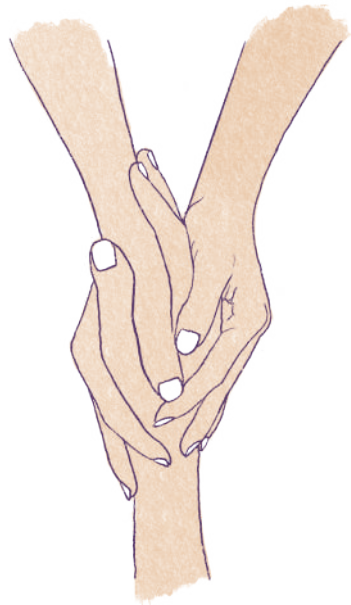
You need to come to Him first and let He directs your prayer life. Why?

Because if we don't go to Him, we can't have a healthy prayer life. A healthy prayer life for me is about doing everything for God and with God. So, we need to involve Him in everything we do.

### **My favourite verse about prayer**

*Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, and faithful in prayer – Romans 12:12.*

Romans 12:12 is my favourite verse of prayer. I love this verse because it reminds me of His love and faithfulness in my life. This verse came up to me in 2016. At that time, I pray to God that I want to be faithful, humble, and strong enough to give my all to Him. The Holy Spirit answered my prayer and led me to His truth, made this verse known to me, and since then this verse always reminds me to be joyful, patient, and faithful in prayer in any circumstances. I thank God for His unfailing words that sustain me until now.



# MINISTRY LIST

## VOCAL



Jessica Sutiono

## MUSICIAN



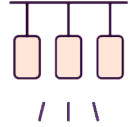
Raynaldo Ali

## MULTIMEDIA



Budi Sendjaja

## LIGHTING



Budi Sendjaja

## SOUND



Steven Santika

## USHER



Elbert Pranoto

## TRANSLATOR



Elbert Pranoto

## CARING



Felix Hariyadi

## DANCER



Priska Sunaryo

## DRAMA



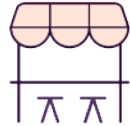
Jennifer Chandra

## 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**

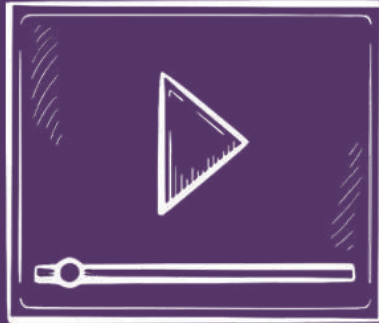
**8.30 am**

**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!**