

EXCELLENT VICTORIOUS LIFE

**18
OCTOBER
2020**

ED.LXXXVII.10.2020

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



Bethany International Church



office@bethanymelb.org.au



[@bicmelbourne](https://www.instagram.com/bicmelbourne)



www.bethanymelb.org.au



+61396999077

Foreword

Thanks be to God who gives us victory through our Lord Jesus Christ! Jesus came to the earth – sinless, to take our place under the judgement of God. In Christ, by grace through faith, we are victorious.

Why are we all subjected to eternal damnation? It is because we are all sinful. The Bible says that the wages of sin is death. We are all guilty, sinful and fall short of God's glory. Knowing this, yet Jesus came to take our place – being punished for our sins. It is the most amazing and most precious gift that one could ever get, that is being saved and receiving eternal reward in Heaven, because someone sacrificed Himself for you and me. That is Jesus! Our Saviour and King!

Jesus has won over death, won over sins, He is victorious. In Jesus, we are no longer condemned and we live a victorious life. So what does it mean and how to live a victorious life that God has given graciously to us through Jesus? We will learn about it through the sharing of our brothers and sisters in this October edition. I pray that as we understand deeper, the Holy Spirit will open our eyes to see and savour the beauty of Jesus' victorious sacrifice on the cross.

“Death is swallowed up in victory.”

“O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?” The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. (1 Corinthians 15:54–57)

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
Gethsemane	Michael, Rudy
Jerusalem	Hestu
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



Walking with God and living victoriously

BY KARTIKA GONDOBOENTORO

God gives us a victorious life

As I listened to our pastor's preaching last week from 1 John 5:1-4, the Bible clearly shows us that God has given a victorious life to everyone who is born of God. This victorious life is manifested in the born-again Christians through their love to God and His children in the following ways:

A life of obedience

1 John 5 tells us that those who love God obey His commands. God's commands are not burdensome because God has given us a new heart, put His Spirit and move them to follow His decrees (Ezekiel 36:26-27). In the same way, Paul expressed that God works in His children, both to will and to work for His good pleasure (Philippians 2:13). The believers' part is to continue living in Him, rooted, built up in Him, and strengthened in the faith just as branches attach to the vine as the source of life (Colossians 2:6-7, John 15:5).

Psalm 1:1-6 portrays the person who is deeply rooted in Him, like a tree planted by streams of water, which yield its fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither. The passage explains how the righteous

people remain in him by delighting in the law of the Lord and meditating on it. Psalmist set an example for us that meditating on the Word of God will direct our attention to focus and fix our eyes to know:

- God's ways (Psalm 119:15): His characters, priorities, desires, preferences, attitudes, and other attributes.
- God's wondrous work (Psalm 119:27): redemption story, how he saved us in Christ and opportunities he is giving us to share the good news with others.
- God's law (Psalm 1:2) to apply it in our daily life (Joshua 1:8).

Remaining in the Lord will also make us know Him intimately. It enables us to trust in Him even when we do not understand what God is doing in our life. There are many occasions in the Bible that show God's ways are different from human's ways. What encourages us is that the Bible records many stories about people trusting God even though it did not make sense.

Abraham was instructed to sacrifice his

beloved son Isaac. This was the son that God had given to Sarah and him after they were well beyond child-bearing years. But Abraham trusted God, because he knew God intimately, accounting that God was able to raise him up, even from the dead (Hebrews 11:19).

Job learned to trust God in his time of horrible personal loss. He lost his children and all his possessions. He was even plagued by illness and companions who accused him of wrongdoing which he had not committed. Even through all this, he trusted God. The book of Job is an amazing story of someone accepting God's ways even though he did not understand what God was doing.

Daniel was threatened to be thrown into the lions' den if he prayed to anyone other than the king, but as he had always done, he obeyed God by remaining in Him and prayed to God three times a day. His three friends, Sadrach, Meshach and Abednego were also threatened that they would be thrown into the blazing furnace unless they fell down and worshiped an image of gold. However, they never worshiped it and stood firm in their faith to the end.

A life that overcomes the world

Those who love God, do not love the

world or anything in the world. As James 4:4 says, friendship with the world means enmity against God. Those who overcome the world, live a triumphant life over the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes and the pride of life (1 John 2:15-16). As a reflection, we should not measure our love to God by what we have done for Him, but by asking this question: do we still love the world?

Throughout the Bible, there are also many records of the people of faith who overcame the temptation to love the world and everything that is in it. Remember Moses, who chose to be mistreated along with the people of God rather than to enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sin and the treasures of Egypt (Hebrews 11:24-26). Joseph was envied by his brothers and was sold as a slave to Egypt, where he underwent a great test. Potiphar's wife tempted him day after day (Gen 39:7-10), however by thinking only of God, Joseph was able to overcome and not fall into temptation.

I hope that we do not strive to produce a victorious life by ourselves, but by relying on God and being humble to allow Him to work in us. Apart from God, we cannot have a true victorious life, but with God this is possible.

WEEKLY DEVOTION

18 OCTOBER

Yesaya 52 - 54

Ayat Renungan:
Yesaya 53 : 5

“Tetapi dia tertikam oleh karena pemberontakan kita, dia diremukkan oleh karena kejahatan kita; ganjaran yang mendatangkan keselamatan bagi kita ditimpakan kepadanya, dan oleh bilur-bilurnya kita menjadi sembuh.”

19 OCTOBER

Yesaya 55-57

Ayat Renungan:
Yesaya 55 : 6

“Carilah TUHAN selama Ia berkenan ditemui; berserulah kepada-Nya selama Ia dekat!”

20 OCTOBER

Yesaya 58 - 60

Ayat Renungan:
Yesaya 59 : 2

“tetapi yang merupakan pemisah antara kamu dan Allahmu ialah segala kejahatanmu, dan yang membuat Dia menyembunyikan diri terhadap kamu, sehingga Ia tidak mendengar, ialah segala dosamu.”

21 OCTOBER

Yesaya 61 - 63

Ayat Renungan:
Yesaya 61 : 6

“Tetapi kamu akan disebut imam TUHAN dan akan dinamai pelayan Allah kita. Kamu akan menikmati kekayaan bangsa-bangsa dan akan memegahkan diri dengan segala harta benda mereka.”

22 OCTOBER

Yesaya 64 - 66

Ayat Renungan:
Yesaya 64 : 8

"Tetapi sekarang,
ya TUHAN,
Engkaulah Bapa
kami! Kamilah
tanah liat dan
Engkaulah yang
membentuk kami,
dan kami sekalian
adalah buatan
tangan-Mu."

23 OCTOBER

1 Petrus 1 - 5

Ayat Renungan:
1 Petrus 5 : 8

"Sadarlah dan
berjaga-jagalah!
Lawanmu, si
Iblis, berjalan
keliling sama
seperti singa
yang mengaum-
aum dan mencari
orang yang dapat
ditelannya."

24 OCTOBER

2 Petrus 1 - 3

Ayat Renungan:
2 Petrus 3 : 9

"Tuhan tidak lalai
menepati janji-
Nya, sekalipun
ada orang yang
menganggapnya
sebagai
kelalaian, tetapi
la sabar terhadap
kamu, karena
la menghendaki
supaya jangan
ada yang binasa,
melainkan
supaya semua
orang berbalik
dan bertobat."

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

psalm 119:105

Overcoming sin and temptation

BY KEVIN YONATAN

It is unarguably a struggle for every true Christian. Experiencing a spiritual struggle, from one perspective, is a good sign. If one does not struggle, it is most likely that there is no resistance towards sin and temptation – just like a dead leaf blown by the wind. A living tree, on the other hand, will not be blown away by the wind without resistance. It could be broken down by a strong wind, but there will be resistance since there is life. However, after all, seeing a good sign is never good enough, not when it comes to sin and temptation.

Temptation comes from the outside, but sin is what is on the inside. Let us see how David reflects when he fell into adultery with Bathsheba:

“Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, and in sin did my mother conceive me.” (Psalm 51:5)

He did not mention one word about how the circumstances that enticed him do what he did. He could’ve tried to justify why he did what he did, but to David, it’s irrelevant. What he did ultimately came from his heart. He pleaded for mercy from God, but he

asked for another very important thing in his prayer:

“Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me... Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with a willing spirit” (Psalm 51:10, 12)

He asked his heart to be changed. He asked God to restore the joy in his heart for the salvation that God gives! He did not stop at asking for forgiveness, he asked God to deal with the root cause: his heart. The good news is that God knows that we cannot genuinely obey without Him changing our hearts first, and that He has promised to do this very thing for us.

“And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my rules.” (Ezekiel 36:26-27, emphasis added)

Notice how many “I will” mentioned there? Changing our hearts, and eventually making us walk according to His statutes is God’s

business. Yes, we do need a strategy to overcome temptation, develop spiritual discipline, drag our feet, and so on. Surely, God in His divine wisdom may allow us to do all that as means to finally change our hearts. But without the change of heart, all this hard work of beating up your body will never be fruitful. Our body may finally be disciplined enough to abstain from things, but our heart's desires may not change one bit. Jesus calls this hypocrisy.

What David asked of God, is to restore the joy in his heart. He didn't worry about his actions first (what people see), but he prayed that his heart may be changed first and foremost (what God sees), because whatever we do is just an overflow of what's in our heart. That's why Solomon said,

"Above all else, guard your heart, for everything you do flows from it." (Proverbs 4:23)

Therefore, the only way to overcome sin and temptation is to ultimately guard our hearts. But, the bigger question now, is that how do we guard our hearts? How do we not do what we loved to do? Temptation obviously offers us some pleasure, and it promises to satisfy what our heart longs for. But it truly is just like a really skillful marketer trying to



**This is
why we
really
need the
Word of
God close
in our
hearts.
That is
the only
way to
expose
the lies.”**

convince us to drink sewer water, bottled in a really nice-looking glass. Lies after lies, yet we still somehow believe them. Our appetite for pleasure is too shallow, and the devil likes to keep it that way. This is why we really need the Word of God close in our hearts. That is the only way to expose the lies.

The psalmist gave us a clue how we should counter our pleasures that are too shallow:

“Delight yourself in the Lord, and He will give you the desires of your heart.” (Psalm 37:4)

He will satisfy our hearts’ desires when we delight in Him. And when we delight in Him, then He will really be what we want. Our hearts are made to be satisfied by God, to know how good He is, to experience His abundant grace and ever-new mercies, and to be finally satisfied with the love of Christ. Experiencing this will set our appetite too high for the fleeting pleasures for this world,

that (as John Piper said, paraphrased) sin and temptation may taste like cardboard.

Finally, overcoming sin and temptation is to realise that our heart is the root problem. Since He’s the only one that could change our hearts, may our efforts be focused on setting our eyes and hopes unto Him, believing Him completely that He will surely do a heart surgery within us just as He promised. At the same time, let us always be vigilant to guard our hearts by delighting in Him and joyfully obey Him when He said, “deny yourself, take up the cross, and follow me”, and let us be reminded of this great promise when we fail:

“But this I call to mind, and therefore I have hope:

The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases;
His mercies never come to an end;
They are new every morning;
Great is your faithfulness”
(Lamentations 3:22-23)



MINISTRY LIST

VOCAL



Jessica Sutiono

MUSICIAN



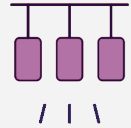
Raynaldo Ali

MULTIMEDIA



Budi Sendjaja

LIGHTING



Budi Sendjaja

SOUND



Steven Santika

USHER



Elbert Pranoto

TRANSLATOR



Elbert Pranoto

CARING



Felix Hariyadi

DANCER



Priska Sunaryo

DRAMA



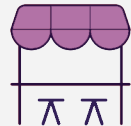
Jennifer Chandra

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
from 8.30 am onwards**

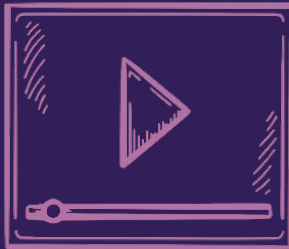
You can access it through:

Website:

<https://www.bethanymelb.org.au>

Youtube:

Bethany International Church Melbourne



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