

PENTECOST METHODIST CHURCH

LIVE-IT-OUT GUIDE

Sermon Date: 17/07/2022

Text(s): Isaiah 53:5-6, 1 Peter 2:24-25, Psalm 23

Sermon Title: Barriers to Blessings

Preacher: Rev Don Wong

(The sermon recording is available in the PMC website and MyPMC App)

READ (5 mins)

Isaiah 53:5-6 NKJV

⁵ But He *was* wounded[Ⓜ] for our transgressions,

He was [Ⓜ]bruised for our iniquities;

The chastisement for our peace *was* upon Him,

And by His stripes[Ⓜ] we are healed.

⁶ All we like sheep have gone astray;

We have turned, every one, to his own way;

And the LORD [Ⓜ]has laid on Him the iniquity of us all.

1 Peter 2:24-25 NKJV

²⁴ who Himself bore our sins in His own body on the tree, that we, having died to sins, might live for righteousness—by whose [Ⓜ]stripes you were healed. ²⁵ For you were like sheep going astray, but have now returned to the Shepherd and [Ⓜ]Overseer of your souls.

Psalm 23 NKJV

23 The LORD *is* my shepherd;

I shall not [Ⓜ]want.

² He makes me to lie down in [Ⓜ]green pastures;

He leads me beside the [Ⓜ]still waters.

³ He restores my soul;

He leads me in the paths of righteousness

For His name's sake.

⁴ Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,

I will fear no evil;

For You *are* with me;

Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.

⁵ You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;

You anoint my head with oil;

My cup runs over.

⁶ Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me

All the days of my life;

And I will [Ⓜ]dwell in the house of the LORD

[Ⓜ]Forever.

RELATE (30 mins)

(Relate to what was shared and on key themes in the sermon)

1. How are we similar to sheep in terms of our attitudes and behavior? In what way can the word of God enable us to face the trials and struggles of this world?

Psalm 23: 3-4

³He restores my soul;
He leads me in the paths of righteousness
For His name's sake.

⁴Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil;
For You *are* with me;
Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.

Galatians 2:20

I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the *life* which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.

2. The speaker touched upon three points:

- (i) Independence (depending on you) – knowing God is not enough, you need to hear the voice of God and believe in the Word of God. Discuss
- (ii) Inter dependence (depending on one another) – It is not what you have or have gone through that determines where you will end up. It is who you listen to. It is God and God alone. Not by might nor power, but by His grace and His grace alone.

Read Hebrews 10: 23-25 Let us hold fast the confession of *our* hope without wavering, for He who promised *is* faithful. ²⁴ And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, ²⁵ not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as *is* the manner of some, but exhorting *one another*, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.

Is there any amongst us who are able to come onsite for worship but prefer online worship? This scripture is a reminder for us to attend church service on site so that we can have fellowship with fellow believers to promote mutual encouragement. Food for thought: People influence people, people spur up one another. The question is who and what are you being influenced with?

- (iii) Total Dependence on God – Not by might or by power, but by His grace and His grace alone. When we invite God into our lives, He will lead us. Acts 11:28 What does total dependence on God mean to you?

REFLECT (30 mins)

(Reflect and apply God’s word to our daily lives)

1. Of the three points listed by Ps Don, which one resonates with you in terms of your own personal spiritual journey.

2. Ps Don talked about how New Charis Mission was founded by the provision of God through much prayer and trusting on His promises. Is there something in your life currently that you need to be totally reliant upon the Lord?

REST (15 mins)

(Take time to share and pray for one another)

(Pray for our church, our nation, and our world. See MyPMC > PRAY for monthly guide)

- Pray for all believers to read God’s word regularly and to be guided by it.
- Pray for those who are still worshipping online to be able to return to onsite worship for fellowship and mutual encouragement.
- Pray for our churches and leaders to continue to build up the spiritual lives of our people and for our people to practice godly lifestyles and not just on Sunday.