

PENTECOST METHODIST CHURCH
LIVE-IT-OUT GUIDE



Sermon Date: 29/12/2019

Text(s): Matthew 27:51a

Title: What A Friend We Have In Jesus

Preacher: Rev Jacob Lim

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

READ (5 mins)

(Read the Bible texts, quietly or aloud)

Matthew 27:51a (ESV)

And behold, the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom.

REFLECT (30 mins)

(Reflect on key themes and questions in the text)

- 1. The curtain of the Temple was a symbol of separation – separating the holy presence of God from the unholy presence of sinful man. What is the significance of this tearing of the curtain? What do you see in this tearing of the curtain, torn supernaturally by God Himself?**
- 2. The Ark of the Covenant was placed inside the Holy of Holies. It symbolized the throne of God and the presence of God. But when the curtain was torn on the day Jesus died on the cross, the Ark was not in the Holy of Holies because it was taken away or maybe even destroyed when the Babylonians destroyed Jerusalem and the Temple. Is the presence of God important to us? How would you feel if one day you suddenly realized that God has been absent but you thought He was present?**
- 3. The tablets containing the Ten Commandments reminded the Israelites of their idolatry. The rod reminded them of their self-centredness when some of their leaders rebelled against Moses and Aaron. The pot of manna reminded them of their dissatisfaction with God and the food He provided (manna). Christ overcame all the temptations of the devil to give in to idolatry, self-centeredness and dissatisfaction. Is there some degree of idolatry, rebellion and dissatisfaction (a grumbling and complaining attitude) in our hearts today? And what can we do if there is?**

RELATE (30 mins)

(Relate and apply God's word to our daily lives)



- 1. Joseph M. Scriven wrote "What A Friend We Have In Jesus". His first fiancé drowned and died just before they were about to get married. His second fiancé died of pneumonia just before they were about to get married. Ten years later he wrote a poem that provided the lyrics to the song with this title. Was there a time when you experienced a painful loss but in that loss, you drew closer to Jesus and came to know Him as a friend?**
- 2. The preacher shared the story of Jackie Pullinger, a British missionary to Hong Kong since 1966. She ministered in the infamous Kowloon Walled City, reaching out to triad members, drug addicts and prostitutes. The leaders of PMC decided to move to Pasir Ris in 1992 and the new church building was consecrated on 23 October 1994. He also shared how, after spending 6 years in prison, PMC accepted him when he came to church 10 years ago and made new friends here.**

How can we continue to be a friend to the people in Pasir Ris and Tampines, now that we have come to know Jesus as our Friend? How can we be a church without walls in this community that God has placed us in?

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 weekly guide)

- Pray for one another to know more of God as a personal Friend. Pray for each other to have more and more of God's heart in us for the lost, for those who need a friend.
- Pray for others in your family or circle of friends who need prayer support.
- Remember our church and churches in Singapore to continue as godly witnesses to Singapore and beyond.