

PENTECOST METHODIST CHURCH

LIVE-IT-OUT GUIDE

Sermon Date: 12/12/2021

Text(s): Luke 3:15–23

Sermon Title: The Most Peculiar And Paradoxical Gift

Preacher: Ps Isaac Tan

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

READ (5 mins)

Luke 3:15–23 (ESV)

15 As the people were in expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Christ,

16 John answered them all, saying, “I baptize you with water, but he who is mightier than I is coming, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.

17 His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

18 So with many other exhortations he preached good news to the people.

19 But Herod the tetrarch, who had been reproved by him for Herodias, his brother’s wife, and for all the evil things that Herod had done,

20 added this to them all, that he locked up John in prison.

21 Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heavens were opened,

22 and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily form, like a dove; and a voice came from heaven, “You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased.”

23 Jesus, when he began his ministry, was about thirty years of age, being the son (as was supposed) of Joseph, the son of Heli,

RELATE (30 mins)

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

- 1. The sermon title points to gifts that are peculiar. Things that are peculiar are strange or weird. As we look forward to Christmas, think back if you have ever received a strange or weird Christmas gift. If you have, did you receive the gift with appreciation still?**
- 2. The sermon says that Jesus Christ was a peculiar and paradoxical gift from Father God. In what ways was Jesus a peculiar and paradoxical gift to the world?**

3. **The preacher said that the good news of Christmas is not just in the mercy that can be found in Christ, but also in the proximity of Christ Himself. On Christmas Day, Christ came to be near us and to identify with us. What does this mean to you as a Christian?**

REFLECT (30 mins)

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

1. **More than just to offer us moral and emotional support, the Son of God came to be the perfect mediator between humankind and God. It was highlighted that a perfect mediator needs to be accessible, competent, and impartial. What do these 3 qualities mean to you? What can you expect from Jesus, knowing that He is accessible, competent and impartial?**

2. **John recognized Jesus as the Messiah because he also recognized himself as a sinner in need of salvation. Now that we are a redeemed people of God, is there a need for us to continue to recognize that we are sinners even as the Scripture calls us saints?**

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 one another to be courageous to confront and confess our sins because Jesus came to be our Saviour and to forgive us.
- Pray for our church to be a people who would always respond to the proximity and presence of the Lord Jesus with humility so that the life and power of the Holy Spirit might flow freely through us.
- Pray for the MCS to continue to be strong and stable, able to meet needs in Singapore, and to stand out as a true witness of Christ Jesus.