



## DEVOTIONAL MESSAGE

*Enduring the Promise of God ... by Fred*

### READ LUKE 5: 1-5

- God ministered to us through pastor Garrett about the benefit of obedience to the saints of old who hearken to the commandment of God. “nevertheless at thy Command” they did as they were commanded and they were blessed.
- Peter gave His boat to Jesus to use as a pulpit to teach the multitude and afterwards, he returned to meet the need of Peter even beyond Peter’s imagination “from now on thou shalt catch men”. God knows the longing of every heart; even those concerns yet unmentioned to him.
- There is a snare that we all tend to fall into from this account i.e. rationalizing things with our own knowledge and reasoning. Peter said, “Master we have toiled all the night, and have taken nothing” but quickly, he must got a hint from his spirit to obey and he immediately changed his attitude to that which is necessary to receive the blessing from the Lord. No wonder he later fell on his knee having seen himself in a new light upon reflection on what followed after complete obedience to Christ’s Command.

*Psalm 27:13 :What, what would have become of me] had I not believed that I would see the Lord's goodness in the land of the living! 14: Wait and hope for and expect the Lord; be brave and of good courage and let your heart be stout and enduring. Yes, wait for and hope for and expect the Lord.*

- What would have become of Simon if he had not obeyed and wait?
  - Has God given you a word?
  - Has God given you a promise?
  - Has God given you a Vision?
  - Has God given you a mission?
  - Has God given you a leading?
- There is an admonition for us in *Psalm 27:13-14*
- *Proverb 13:12: “hope deferred maketh the heart sick”* especially when the vision tarries but the principle of obedience and waiting still applies.
- Caleb and Joshua in the midst of other spies who brought negative report could have despaired had they not believed to see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living. *Number 13:30-33: Moses at the crossing of the red sea could have despaired had he not believed to see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living - Exo 14:15.*
- Joshua at the battle of Jericho could have despaired had he not believed to see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living - *Heb 11:30*
- The ruler of the synagogue whose daughter was ill and told not to bother the master because she was dead. *Luke 8:49-56* could have despaired had he not believed to see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living.
- Simon Peter actually had it very easy in *Luke 5* where we read because the word was fulfilled straight away but when the vision tarries, that old human nature haunts us the more as was the case with:

*(Continued next page)*

## WEEKLY EVENTS/NOTICES

Issue 18

- Sarai who wanted to help God fulfill His promise to Abram and in that process created an everlasting mess till today - *Gen. 16:1-4; Gal 4:21-25*. Saul instead of waiting for the commandment of God hastened to do what ended his kingdom - *1 Sam. 13:8-14*.
- Moses under pressure and anger smote the rock as against the command to speak and we know the consequence...*Number 20:11-12*. May God have mercy on us!
- Despite the threat from His bothers, the dream/vision God gave Joseph came to pass.
- "And it shall come to pass" is the expression we have to adopt as we learn to obey and could have despaired had they not believed to see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living wait for His will to be done in our lives. Amen!

### Events /Notices

- ▶ Bible study will take place on Friday the 3rd at 7pm

### Extra Services

*If you have children with you, these are the facilities provided:*

#### ▶ Crèche and Pre-school Praise

Our crèche is based on the floor above the Meeting Room with baby changing facilities and toys to keep your young child occupied if they do not settle during the meeting. Parents are to attend to their children at all times. There is a short and simple pre-school Bible lesson during the sermon for 3-7 years old in the Crèche (as arranged).

#### ▶ Sunday School

Our Sunday School is open to children of school going age and operates during the sermon in the Sunday School room on the top floor. Our teachers have a Bible story and songs prepared for your child(ren), teaching them the need for Salvation and Christian living.

*Come, my children, listen to me; I will teach you the fear of the LORD (Psalm 34:11)*

#### ▶ Tea and Coffee

After the Sunday morning service, tea, coffee and light refreshments are available on the top floor in the Hospitality Room. Do not forget to show hospitality to strangers, for by so doing some people have shown hospitality to angels without knowing it. (*Hebrews 13:2*).