

KEC ORDER OF SERVICE/SERMON OUTLINE 23rd May 2021 (KEC SERVICE Online)

Please take note that this Sunday's service begins at **8.30am**, not 9am.

We will not be showing any new Kids' Church Videos for the moment. Please do join one of our Sunday School groups instead! Contact Abang Trang for more info.

You can access the livestream at https://www.facebook.com/bemkec/live_videos/

Or on Youtube here: <https://youtube.com/bemkec/live>

8.30am – Livestream starts

Livestream link should be available by 8.25am latest.

1. CALL TO WORSHIP – Romans 8:18-25

2. WORSHIP in SONG (with Emmy Baru)

SONG 1: Come behold the wondrous mystery

SONG 2: You are beautiful beyond description (I stand in awe)

3. Christianity Explored: Counting the cost?

(CE takes place every Thursday, 8pm, on Zoom)

4. Prayers

5. Bible reading: Psalm 139:1-16; 1 Cor. 6:19-20, 15:42-49

¹ You have searched me, LORD,
and you know me.

² You know when I sit and when I rise;
you perceive my thoughts from afar.

³ You discern my going out and my lying down;
you are familiar with all my ways.

⁴ Before a word is on my tongue
you, LORD, know it completely.

⁵ You hem me in behind and before,
and you lay your hand upon me.

⁶ Such knowledge is too wonderful for me,
too lofty for me to attain.

⁷ Where can I go from your Spirit?
Where can I flee from your presence?

⁸ If I go up to the heavens, you are there;
if I make my bed in the depths, you are there.

⁹ If I rise on the wings of the dawn,

if I settle on the far side of the sea,
¹⁰ even there your hand will guide me,
your right hand will hold me fast.
¹¹ If I say, "Surely the darkness will hide me
and the light become night around me,"
¹² even the darkness will not be dark to you;
the night will shine like the day,
for darkness is as light to you.
¹³ For you created my inmost being;
you knit me together in my mother's womb.
¹⁴ I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made;
your works are wonderful,
I know that full well.
¹⁵ My frame was not hidden from you
when I was made in the secret place,
when I was woven together in the depths of the earth.
¹⁶ Your eyes saw my unformed body;
all the days ordained for me were written in your book
before one of them came to be.

¹⁹ Do you not know that your bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; ²⁰ you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your bodies.

⁴² So will it be with the resurrection of the dead. The body that is sown is perishable, it is raised imperishable; ⁴³ it is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory; it is sown in weakness, it is raised in power; ⁴⁴ it is sown a natural body, it is raised a spiritual body.

If there is a natural body, there is also a spiritual body. ⁴⁵ So it is written: "The first man Adam became a living being"^[a]; the last Adam, a life-giving spirit. ⁴⁶ The spiritual did not come first, but the natural, and after that the spiritual. ⁴⁷ The first man was of the dust of the earth; the second man is of heaven. ⁴⁸ As was the earthly man, so are those who are of the earth; and as is the heavenly man, so also are those who are of heaven. ⁴⁹ And just as we have borne the image of the earthly man, so shall we^[b] bear the image of the heavenly man.

SERMON OUTLINE: BODY

“there is no good in trying to be more spiritual than God. God never meant man to be a purely spiritual creature.” (C.S Lewis, *Mere Christianity*)

Mixed messages about our bodies

- Insignificant, raw material
- Objects of worship

What story does God tell about our bodies?

ACT 1: THE BODY AS GOD’S CREATION

Genesis 1:31 “God saw all that he had made, and it was very good.”

Made from physical stuff (Gen. 2:7)

1. Your body is not accidental

Fearfully and wonderfully made (Psalm 139:14, Isaiah 64:8)

Intentional. Has a design! (Psalm 104:24)

Made with a purpose (Gen. 1:26-28)

In one sense, we are our bodies

2. Your body is not unlimited

Created beings with limited bodies (eg. Eccl. 1:8b, 2:11; Job 40:8, 41:1)

“You can’t be in two places at once!”

Reminds us to be humble (Psalm 103:14)

3. Your body is not definitive

Not the sum total of who you are (1 Samuel 16:7; Psalm 42:11)

We don't have to be defined exclusively by our bodies

We don't have to be obsessed with our bodies (cf. Prov. 31:30)

ACT 2: OUR BODIES AS BROKEN AND FALLEN

How are you currently experiencing your body? Identify with Psalm 6:2-3?

1. Our bodies can be places of brokenness

Romans 8:20

The thorn in the flesh and our groanings (2 Cor. 12:7; Romans 8:23)

The brokenness often goes beyond our bodies

2. Our bodies are also instruments of sin

Sin usually mediated through body parts/bodily actions (Romans 6:12-13; James 3:5-6)

Shame

“What a wretched man I am! Who will rescue me from this body that is subject to death?”
(Romans 7:24)

3. ACT 3: OUR BODIES AS REDEEMED AND SET APART

Christianity's solution = not *rejection* of the body, but *redemption* of the body

1. We see Jesus becoming one with us, by becoming one of us

Jesus took on a human body (1 John 1:1-2)

Jesus did not merely wear a spacesuit

Jesus did not have a hot body (Isaiah 52:14, 53:2)

2. We see Jesus giving his broken body to atone for us

Hebrews 2:14

A great exchange

And so our bodies are no longer our own (1 Cor. 6:19-20)

How are we to honour God with our bodies?

i. We worship with our bodies

No longer do certain things (eg. 1 Cor. 6:18, Matt. 5:28, Eph. 5:18, Titus 1:12)

Pursue certain things (eg. 1 Cor. 7:2-5, 2 Thess. 3:12, 1 Tim. 5:8, Romans 12:1-2)

ii. We discipline our bodies (1 Cor. 9:27, 1 Tim. 4:8)

iii. We relate with our bodies (Rom. 1:11-12, 1 Thess. 2:17, 2 John 12)

iv. We suffer in our bodies (2 Cor. 4:8-10, 14-16)

ACT 4: OUR BODIES AS RAISED & GLORIFIED

“Multitudes who sleep in the dust of the earth will awake” (Daniel 12:2) ⇒ 1 Cor. 15:42-44

The story of our bodies in Christ

“Therefore, I urge you...to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice...”! (Romans 12:1-2)

Response: Where, O grave, is your victory?

Further reading

- Embodied by Gregg Allison
- What God has to say about our bodies by Sam Allberry (forthcoming)

ANOUNCEMENTS

- Connect cards
- Giving
- Missions Weekend (18-20 June)

Missions Sunday, 20th June

Speaker: Josh Reeve

Friday evening, 18th June, on Zoom

“From Llamas to Christ: stories from Lorenzo and Liliana”

Come meet Lorenzo & Liliana (not their real names) as they share with us their experiences of how God used their medical training to be his instruments and support local believers in a South American country for over 15 years!

We will also hear from two young adults as they share how God is calling them in different ways to participate in his kingdom beyond Malaysia.

Saturday (TBC)

We will spend some time receiving updates from our mission partners and praying for them.

- *KEC Church Administrator vacancy:*
Any interested parties are encouraged to apply and submit their CV as soon as possible, addressed to the Church Secretary (email: brian.bemkec@gmail.com or edwards@cmsb.my). Preferred qualifications are diploma/degree in business admin/management/HR, but other fields/level are also acceptable. Please see the advertisement for the position in full at <https://bemkec.my>
- Psalms Bible studies – available for individual use on our website, or contact Pastor Brian/a HFG leader for a soft copy.
- Webinar – “*Understanding Faith: Learning to find our identity in Jesus*”, with Pr Anand Mahadevan, Saturday 29 May 2021 (11am-1pm). Register at <http://www.gospelcitynetwork.com/immersion>
- KVBC NextGen Conference, 10-13 August 2021 (deadline: 13 June). For more info, check out: <https://nextgen.kvbctrust.org>
- Prayer Meeting – on Zoom until further notice.

BENEDICTION

Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship.

- Romans 12:1