

KEC ORDER OF SERVICE/SERMON OUTLINE 22nd August 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 attend this online service at https://www.facebook.com/bemkec/live_videos/

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

8.30am – Online service starts

1. CALL TO WORSHIP – Romans 5:12-19

2. WORSHIP in SONG (with Jeremy Ng)

SONG 1: Before the throne of God above

SONG 2: May we be a shining light to the nations

3. Theology is for doxology: Prayer and the mediation of Christ

4. Prayers

5. Bible reading: Genesis 18:16-33

¹⁶ When the men got up to leave, they looked down towards Sodom, and Abraham walked along with them to see them on their way. ¹⁷ Then the LORD said, 'Shall I hide from Abraham what I am about to do? ¹⁸ Abraham will surely become a great and powerful nation, and all nations on earth will be blessed through him.^[a] ¹⁹ For I have chosen him, so that he will direct his children and his household after him to keep the way of the LORD by doing what is right and just, so that the LORD will bring about for Abraham what he has promised him.'

²⁰ Then the LORD said, 'The outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah is so great and their sin so grievous ²¹ that I will go down and see if what they have done is as bad as the outcry that has reached me. If not, I will know.'

²² The men turned away and went towards Sodom, but Abraham remained standing before the LORD.^[b] ²³ Then Abraham approached him and said: 'Will you sweep away the righteous with the wicked? ²⁴ What if there are fifty righteous people in the city? Will you really sweep it away and not spare^[c] the place for the sake of the fifty righteous people in it? ²⁵ Far be it from you to do such a thing – to kill the righteous with the wicked, treating the righteous and the wicked alike. Far be it from you! Will not the Judge of all the earth do right?'

²⁶ The LORD said, 'If I find fifty righteous people in the city of Sodom, I will spare the whole place for their sake.'

²⁷ Then Abraham spoke up again: 'Now that I have been so bold as to speak to the Lord, though I am nothing but dust and ashes, ²⁸ what if the number of the righteous is five less than fifty? Will you destroy the whole city for lack of five people?'

‘If I find forty-five there,’ he said, ‘I will not destroy it.’

²⁹ Once again he spoke to him, ‘What if only forty are found there?’

He said, ‘For the sake of forty, I will not do it.’

³⁰ Then he said, ‘May the Lord not be angry, but let me speak. What if only thirty can be found there?’

He answered, ‘I will not do it if I find thirty there.’

³¹ Abraham said, ‘Now that I have been so bold as to speak to the Lord, what if only twenty can be found there?’

He said, ‘For the sake of twenty, I will not destroy it.’

³² Then he said, ‘May the Lord not be angry, but let me speak just once more. What if only ten can be found there?’

He answered, ‘For the sake of ten, I will not destroy it.’

³³ When the LORD had finished speaking with Abraham, he left, and Abraham returned home.

SERMON OUTLINE: Will the Judge of all the earth do right? (Genesis 18:16-33)

The one man who changed the world

God wants to change the world through one man

How exactly?

This passage is all about how God is determined to bless this unrighteous world in a way that’s true to his righteous and just character

1. A world that is unrighteous and unjust

Sodom

In the OT (eg. Isaiah 1, especially v.10; Ezekiel 16, especially v.49)

In Genesis 18

“outcry” (cf. Exod 2:23, Deut. 22:27)

The cries go on today

Only one way for God to act

The language of v.20-21

Judgement and blessing: not opposites

Conundrum: how can unrighteous nations such as Sodom receive blessing from God?

2. A world that is unrighteous and unjust...needs the family of Abraham to be righteous and just

God doesn't have to stop and chat with Abraham!

"Shall I hide from Abraham what I am about to do?" (v.17)

Why bother?

i. Reassurance (v.18)

What we do know

ii. Move to action (v.19)

choice – m_____ – promise

Teach the curriculum

Abraham's actions

v20-21 – not just information, but an invitation

Abraham's question – founded on a concern for justice

A remarkable request (v.24)

Lord, do you place a great value on righteousness? //is there hope?

God's response

Case accepted!

The righteous person can make an outsized impact on the fate of many
(compare for eg Prov. 11:11)

God is more than willing

Sodom is not saved...

Is there one righteous?

Who acts like God the Judge

Who pleads like Abraham (Rom. 5:15, 3:25)

The cross: satisfying the requirements for justice while granting forgiveness

The spiritual family of Abraham today

Hear the good news of Genesis 18 today, captured in Psalm 103:6-10, and remember

ANOUNCEMENTS

- **Connect cards**
- **Giving**
- **Care parcels are still available for those in need:** Please contact our church administrator, Julie Kong, directly.
- **Webinar: “Godly Perseverance in Sickness and health”** with Ps. Wong Fong Yang, is happening **this Fri evening, August 27th, 8-9.30pm**. Register as soon as possible at <https://bemkec.my/health/>. Registrations close Thursday evening.
- **Equip classes: Doctrine 1** with Ps Brian, starting Saturday, 4th Sept for 10 weeks (10.30am-12.30pm). Course Fee: RM160 (Normal), RM110 (concession). Please register at: <https://bit.ly/2021T3Doc1BEMKuching>
Please take note that classes for Sept 18th and 25th will not take place on Saturday morning but at a rescheduled time – Pastor Brian will communicate with the class after registrations have closed.
- **Tadika Rajawali** is now open for 2022 admissions. Those born in the years 2016, 2017, or 2018 are welcome to join.
- **Prayer Meeting** this Wednesday – on Zoom till further notice

BENEDICTION

⁹ But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. ¹⁰ Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy...Live such good lives among the pagans that, though they accuse you of doing wrong, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day he visits us.

- 1 Peter 2:9-10, 12