

KEC ORDER OF SERVICE/SERMON OUTLINE 28th March 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 – Genesis 2:18-25; Song of Songs 8:6-7

2. WORSHIP in SONG (with Joshua Baru)

SONG 1: Forever

SONG 2: What a beautiful name

3. Teaching video: What should I look for in a spouse?

4. Prayers

- World
- Nation
- Church

5. Bible reading: 1 Corinthians 7:10-16

¹⁰ To the married I give this command (not I, but the Lord): A wife must not separate from her husband. ¹¹ But if she does, she must remain unmarried or else be reconciled to her husband. And a husband must not divorce his wife.

¹² To the rest I say this (I, not the Lord): If any brother has a wife who is not a believer and she is willing to live with him, he must not divorce her. ¹³ And if a woman has a husband who is not a believer and he is willing to live with her, she must not divorce him. ¹⁴ For the unbelieving husband has been sanctified through his wife, and the unbelieving wife has been sanctified through her believing husband. Otherwise your children would be unclean, but as it is, they are holy.

¹⁵ But if the unbeliever leaves, let it be so. The brother or the sister is not bound in such circumstances; God has called us to live in peace. ¹⁶ How do you know, wife, whether you will save your husband? Or, how do you know, husband, whether you will save your wife?

SERMON OUTLINE: For better or worse (1 Cor. 7:10-16)

Marriage vows

Marriage as a joke

Marriage as just too hard

The Corinthian Christians – similar challenges

Should I call it quits?

Paul's answer – pastoral sensitivity and judgment

1. The divine blueprint... (v.10a)

Applying what Jesus taught – Matthew 19:3-4 (cf. Gen. 1:27, 2:24)

The fundamental oneness

...means that as much as possible, stick together (v.10b)

Marriage is good. Marriage is hard.

So what you should get in place:

i. Know the divine blueprint

ii. Let the cross control your marriage

“When the shadow of the cross hangs over our marriage, we live and relate differently. We are no longer afraid to look at ourselves. We are no longer surprised by our sin. We no

longer have to work to present ourselves as righteous. We say good-bye to finger-pointing and self-excusing. We abandon our record of wrongs. We settle issues quickly. And we do all these things because we know that everything we need to confess has already been forgiven, and what is needed for every new step we will take has already been supplied. We can live in the liberating light of humility and honesty, a needy and tender sinner living with a needy and tender sinner, no longer defensive and no longer afraid, together growing nearer to one another as we grow to be more like him.” – Paul Tripp, *What did you expect?*

...means that even in a mixed marriage, you should stick together. (v.12-14)

Not a license to start marrying non-Christians

Additional reason: v.14

2. The reality of sin...

The existence of hard-heartedness means regulation is required (Matt 19:8, Deut. 24:1-4)

...means people do divorce, even when they shouldn't (v.11)

2 options – remain unmarried // reconcile

....means that occasionally, divorce and remarriage might be appropriate (Matt 19:9,1 Cor 7.15-16)

2 categories:

- Adultery / Sexual immorality

- Abandonment

The hard case: spousal abuse?

A final word to:

- Divorcees / children of divorcees
- The marrieds
- The singles
- To all of us

Response: O Great God

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Connect cards
- Giving
- Questions about sermon? Submit them at <https://bemkec.my/1CorQnA>
- Good Friday & Easter: EMPTY. 8.30am start for both services.
 - April 2nd: The Empty Cup (Mark 10:32-45) Preaching: Pastor Brian
 - April 4th: The Empty Tomb (Matthew 28) Preaching: Yap Don Kiang
- *Putting Parenting to bed*: This video-based parenting course continues **today**, 10.30-11.30am, Zoom. Facilitators: Ong Chin Yin and Lynn Ngui. It will be **on break next week**.
- Prayer Meeting – on Zoom until further notice. Special prayer meeting (April 7th), with Pastor Wong Kuong Sii

BENEDICTION

²⁰ Now may the God of peace, who through the blood of the eternal covenant brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep, ²¹ equip you with everything good for doing his will, and may he work in us what is pleasing to him, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

- Hebrews 13:20-21