

KEC ORDER OF SERVICE/SERMON OUTLINE 30th January 2022 (KEC Hybrid Service)

The livestream can be accessed at

https://www.facebook.com/bemkec/live_videos/ or <https://youtube.com/bemkec/live>

Welcome to church! Here at BEM KEC, these are our core convictions:

- To be centred on the gospel
 - To be driven by God's Word
 - To be focused on growing disciples
 - To be a community of truth and love
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1. CALL TO WORSHIP – Jonah 2:2-9

2. Worship in SONG (with Joshua Baru):

SONG 1: All the Earth

SONG 2: Let your kingdom come

SONG 3: Before the throne of God above

3. Bible reading: Acts 4:23-31, 1 Timothy 2:1-8

ACTS 4:23-31

²³ On their release, Peter and John went back to their own people and reported all that the chief priests and the elders had said to them. ²⁴ When they heard this, they raised their voices together in prayer to God. "Sovereign Lord," they said, "you made the heavens and the earth and the sea, and everything in them. ²⁵ You spoke by the Holy Spirit through the mouth of your servant, our father David:

"Why do the nations rage
and the peoples plot in vain?

²⁶ The kings of the earth rise up
and the rulers band together
against the Lord

and against his anointed one." ^[quoting Psalm 2:1-2]

²⁷ Indeed Herod and Pontius Pilate met together with the Gentiles and the people of Israel in this city to conspire against your holy servant Jesus, whom you anointed. ²⁸ They did what your power and will had decided beforehand should happen. ²⁹ Now, Lord, consider their threats and enable your servants to speak your word with great boldness. ³⁰ Stretch out your hand to heal and perform signs and wonders through the name of your holy servant Jesus."

³¹ After they prayed, the place where they were meeting was shaken. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God boldly.

1 TIMOTHY 2:1-8

2 I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people— ² for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness. ³ This is good, and pleases God our Savior, ⁴ who wants all people to

be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth. ⁵ For there is one God and one mediator between God and mankind, the man Christ Jesus, ⁶ who gave himself as a ransom for all people. This has now been witnessed to at the proper time. ⁷ And for this purpose I was appointed a herald and an apostle—I am telling the truth, I am not lying—and a true and faithful teacher of the Gentiles.

⁸ Therefore I want the men everywhere to pray, lifting up holy hands without anger or disputing.

CHURCH: RESET – PRAYING

Recap of series so far

What is the place of prayer in the life of the church?

Consider context of Acts 4:23-31 and 1 Timothy 2:1-8

Under pressure, what do they do?

The *priority* of prayer

How can we devote ourselves to praying? Some encouragements:

1. The privilege of prayer (1 Tim 2:5-6; Acts 4:24-28)

What is prayer?

“Talking to God”?

Not a relationship of equals

We can relate to God only on His terms

Our situation with God

The ultimate middleman

Who's actually in charge here?

We know exactly who to speak to!

Implications:

- Frees us from trusting in exactly formulas
- Makes us humbly bold

2. The purpose of praying together (1 Tim. 2:1-4; Acts 4:29-30)

The headline: 1 Tim 2:3-4

The gospel is what it's all about

Praying for "all people"

...and "for kings and all those in authority"

"that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness."

Our purpose: not our own agenda, but to call on God to fulfil *his* promises

The benefit of praying together

3. The practice of praying together (1 Tim. 2:1, 8)

Petitions, intercessions, thanksgiving

Because we know how big God is!

“...because the pastor was on holiday. So [the prayer leader] prayed that the pastor might have a good holiday. Well, that’s fine. Pastors should have good holidays. Second, he prayed for a lady member of the church who was about to give birth to a child that she might have a safe delivery, which is fine. Third, he prayed for another lady who was sick, and then it was over. That’s all there was. It took twenty seconds. I said to myself, it’s a village church with a village God. They have no interest in the world outside. There was no thinking about the poor, the oppressed, the refugees, the places of violence, and world evangelization.” – John Stott

Confession

The practice of the early church: Acts 1:12-26, 2:42-47, 6:1-6, 8:14-15, 12:1-5, 13:1-3, 16:16, 20:24, 21:1-14, 27:29.

Men to take the lead (1 Tim. 2:8)

Back to the privilege of prayer – Acts 4:31

“Our Father”

4. The Lord’s Prayer

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory
are yours now and for ever.
Amen.

5. Prayers of intercession

- World
- Nation
- Church

6. Response: Facing a Task Unfinished

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Connect cards**
- **Giving**
- **Teh C Talk: “Why Can’t God just love everyone?”, with Pastor Brian & Paul Ling. 7.30pm, Saturday February 12th, at Re:Grub Kuching/Noir Bar.** Teh C Talks is an open event for anyone who are interested in exploring spiritual matters and what the Christian faith has to say about these matters. This event starts with a 15 minute presentation, followed by Q&A. Perhaps there is a non-Christian you know whom you could invite along? Come enjoy a night with free food and fun conversation! Sign up at <https://www.tinyurl.com/TCTFEB22>
- The next **Christianity Explored** is scheduled to begin on **Thursday, 17th Feb, on Zoom**. Is there someone you can prayerfully invite to come along? Look for the latest updates and registration info at <https://bemkec.my/christianity-explored/>.
- We will be running the **Bible Overview class** (part of the Equip Certificate in Theology), every Thursday evening, 8-10pm, for 10 weeks, starting on **3rd March, on Zoom**. This is a great opportunity to understand how the Bible fits together as one big story, and how it all points to Jesus! Course Fees: RM160 (Normal), RM110 (Concession). Register at <https://register.equip.org.my/civicrm/event/info?reset=1&id=1221>.
- Our **membership briefing** for all who have recently returned their registration forms is tentatively scheduled for **Sunday afternoon, Feb 20th**.
- Our church **Library** is open today, after service. It will be open every 2 weeks.
- Our **Prayer Meeting** is on break this week, due to Chinese New Year.

CHURCH SERVICE, 6th February: Our capacity **has increased to 160 people**, the maximum allowed under the latest SOP. Do be reassured that we have worked hard to maintain as safe an environment as possible!

Please do book early at <https://bemkec.my/booking/> to confirm your attendance. Bookings close on Saturday afternoon, 3pm.

Please take note that next week is a **COMMUNION SERVICE**. Do come with mineral water and a piece of bread/cracker.

Who should attend in-person service

- Those who have been fully vaccinated. (14 days from 2nd dose)
- Those who show no signs of being ill.

Who should attend online service

- Those who are still waiting to be fully vaccinated.
- Those who are unwell or exhibiting symptoms such as fever, cough, flu.
- Those who have been in close contact with a positive case.

BENEDICTION

²⁰ Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, ²¹ to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.

- Ephesians 3:20-21