

KEC ORDER OF SERVICE/SERMON OUTLINE 7th November 2021 (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 – 1 Chronicles 29:10-18

2. WORSHIP in SONG (with Emmy Baru):

SONG 1: Here is Love

SONG 2: Consider Christ

3. Time of Reflection and Confession

Heavenly Father,
You have loved us with an everlasting love,
But we have gone our own way,
And rejected your will for our lives.
We are sorry for our sins and turn away from them.
For the sake of your Son who died for us,
Forgive us, cleanse us, and change us.
By your Holy Spirit, enable us to love for you,
And to please you in every way;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

⁸ But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

⁹ Since we have now been justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved from God's wrath through him!

– Romans 5:8-9

4. Reflection Song: Thank you for the cross

5. The Lord's Supper

²³ For I received from the Lord what I also passed on to you: The Lord Jesus, on the night he was betrayed, took bread, ²⁴ and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of me." ²⁵ In the same way, after supper he took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood; do this, whenever you

drink it, in remembrance of me.”²⁶ For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord’s death until he comes.

6. Prayers

7. Bible reading: 1 Thessalonians 2:1-12

2 You know, brothers and sisters, that our visit to you was not without results. **2** We had previously suffered and been treated outrageously in Philippi, as you know, but with the help of our God we dared to tell you his gospel in the face of strong opposition. **3** For the appeal we make does not spring from error or impure motives, nor are we trying to trick you. **4** On the contrary, we speak as those approved by God to be entrusted with the gospel. We are not trying to please people but God, who tests our hearts. **5** You know we never used flattery, nor did we put on a mask to cover up greed—God is our witness. **6** We were not looking for praise from people, not from you or anyone else, even though as apostles of Christ we could have asserted our authority. **7** Instead, we were like young children^[a] among you. Just as a nursing mother cares for her children, **8** so we cared for you. Because we loved you so much, we were delighted to share with you not only the gospel of God but our lives as well. **9** Surely you remember, brothers and sisters, our toil and hardship; we worked night and day in order not to be a burden to anyone while we preached the gospel of God to you. **10** You are witnesses, and so is God, of how holy, righteous and blameless we were among you who believed. **11** For you know that we dealt with each of you as a father deals with his own children, **12** encouraging, comforting and urging you to live lives worthy of God, who calls you into his kingdom and glory.

- a. Pastor’s note: In the older NIV, it is translated as “gentle”, as some Bible manuscripts we have say that. The Greek words for “gentle” and “infants” is spelt almost the same way. However, the earliest manuscripts we have all say “infant/young children”, and so that seems to be the most exact translation.
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Sermon outline: Let love labour (1 Thessalonians 2:1-12)

Introduction

A busy but empty ministry?

How can we make sure our ministry is not empty? How can we recognise and exercise an authentic gospel ministry?

“...our visit to you was *not without results* [lit. ‘empty’]” (v.1)

- Not empty of impact (chp 1)
- Not empty of authenticity (today’s passage)

A whispering campaign

“You know” (v1-2, 5, 11; cf also. v.9)

3 signs the ministry is not empty

1. Those who labour in love will speak the gospel willingly and boldly (v.2)

Remember the bigger picture (Acts 16)

Why head to Thessalonica then?

How is it he dared to speak the gospel in Thessalonica, despite strong opposition?

A willingness

We speak the gospel not just to non-Christians

“Unbelievers”

Reminding each other about Jesus

2. Those who labour in love will have integrity (v.3-5)

Care about content

Not trying to trick or flatter

“A flatterer is a person who manipulates rather than communicates, and can use either truth or lies to achieve his unholy purpose, which is to control your decisions for his own profit.”
(Warren Wiersbe)

Character reference

Someone whose been entrusted with the gospel and now takes seriously his responsibility

How to have integrity

3. Those who labour in love will be like a mummy and a daddy (v.6-12)

Could have thrown around his weight

But what I want you to feel is the weight of my love

2 key images:

- The nursing mother

- The involved father

Nothing less than a labour of love

*Verse 8 – sharing of gospel & lives!

The challenge

The emptiness of digital connection

Not the “lonely crowd” but the “dearest place on earth”

Cannot be rushed

Why we find it so hard

What if we truly believe the gospel of grace?

Let love labour

Response: The Servant King

ANOUNCEMENTS

- **Church service (14th November)**

Our capacity remains at 100 people, the maximum allowed under the current 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.

Who should attend in-person service

- Those who have been fully vaccinated. (14 days from 2nd dose)
- Those who are above 12 years old.
- 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 12 years old and below.
- Those who are unwell or exhibiting symptoms such as fever, cough, flu.
- Those who have been in close contact with a positive case.

- **Connect cards**
- **Giving**

Webinars

- **Ministry At Home: The How and Why of Family Discipleship. Saturday, 27th November 2021, 10am-12pm.** Speaker: Rev. Tim Nicholls. Parents are the single most important influence on their children. As Christians parents, we want to bring up our children to know and love Christ, but we often don't know where to begin. This seminar will help us think practically about how we can engage in this vital "ministry at home." Register at: <https://gospelcitynetwork.com/immersion/>
- **Jesus the True Temple webinar** with Dr. Bill Salier. This is a free webinar exploring the theme of Jesus as the true temple. **Saturday, 20th November, 3.30pm.** Register at <https://new.equip.org.my/jesus-the-new-temple-webinar/>
- **Revival & Revivalism webinar with Dr. Ong Meng Chai; 8pm, Sunday 3rd December 2021.** What does the Bible say about revival? What is revivalism and how does it differ from true revival? These are just some of the questions that will be addressed, as we learn to discern between true revival and its counterfeits. Limited spaces. Register at <https://shorturl.at/ftAK8>
- **Prayer Meeting** this Wednesday – on Zoom till further notice

BENEDICTION

¹⁴ May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ,
and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- 2 Corinthians 13:14