

## **KEC ORDER OF SERVICE/SERMON OUTLINE 11<sup>th</sup> July 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/](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 – 1 Peter 1:3-9**

### **2. WORSHIP in SONG (with Emmy Baru)**

SONG 1: Blessed be your name

SONG 2: Yet not I but through Christ in me

### **3. Core Convictions Review: #2 Driven by God's Word**

#### **4. Prayers**

- World
- Nation
- Church

### **5. Bible reading: Genesis 13:1-18**

**13** So Abram went up from Egypt to the Negev, with his wife and everything he had, and Lot went with him. <sup>2</sup> Abram had become very wealthy in livestock and in silver and gold.

<sup>3</sup> From the Negev he went from place to place until he came to Bethel, to the place between Bethel and Ai where his tent had been earlier <sup>4</sup> and where he had first built an altar. There Abram called on the name of the LORD.

<sup>5</sup> Now Lot, who was moving about with Abram, also had flocks and herds and tents. <sup>6</sup> But the land could not support them while they stayed together, for their possessions were so great that they were not able to stay together. <sup>7</sup> And quarreling arose between Abram's herders and Lot's. The Canaanites and Perizzites were also living in the land at that time.

<sup>8</sup> So Abram said to Lot, "Let's not have any quarreling between you and me, or between your herders and mine, for we are close relatives. <sup>9</sup> Is not the whole land before you? Let's part company. If you go to the left, I'll go to the right; if you go to the right, I'll go to the left."

<sup>10</sup> Lot looked around and saw that the whole plain of the Jordan toward Zoar was well watered, like the garden of the LORD, like the land of Egypt. (This was before the LORD destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah.) <sup>11</sup> So Lot chose for himself the whole plain of the Jordan and set out toward the east. The two men parted company: <sup>12</sup> Abram lived in the land of Canaan, while Lot lived among the cities of the plain and pitched his tents near Sodom. <sup>13</sup> Now the people of Sodom were wicked and were sinning greatly against the LORD.

<sup>14</sup> The LORD said to Abram after Lot had parted from him, “Look around from where you are, to the north and south, to the east and west. <sup>15</sup> All the land that you see I will give to you and your offspring forever. <sup>16</sup> I will make your offspring like the dust of the earth, so that if anyone could count the dust, then your offspring could be counted. <sup>17</sup> Go, walk through the length and breadth of the land, for I am giving it to you.”

<sup>18</sup> So Abram went to live near the great trees of Mamre at Hebron, where he pitched his tents. There he built an altar to the LORD.

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### **SERMON OUTLINE: The choices of faith (Gen 13)**

Recap

A question that arises: *How do I know if I'm currently living a life of faith? How can I tell if I'm trusting Jesus?*

#### **1. The confusion over faith**

Faith

- believing regardless of the facts?
  
- a kind of creative power, functioning through human speech, to bring about a particular kind of reality?

Hence the language of “declaring”?

Genesis 13 = a more biblical picture of the life of faith

- receiving and resting on God/Christ alone. About *trusting* God / *entrusting* ourselves to him

The two characters = Abram and Lot (13:1)

## **2. The context of faith (v.5-7)**

What sort of things test our faith?

“Famine” (Difficulties/Trials) – 12:10-20

“Feast” (earthly blessing) – v. 2, 5

The problem = success leads to strife (v.6)

A theological problem, not just a logistical one

A couple of implications

- i. A common misconception corrected: the link between “feast” and faith
  
- ii. A general observation about the life of faith: active, not passive

Philippians 2:12-13

## **3. The choices of faith**

Abraham’s proposal (v.8-9)

### **a) The choice of Lot (v.10-13)**

Lot looks around and sees...

Lot sees...but he didn't really see

Egypt

East

Wrong criteria: economic not spiritual

His new neighbour

Why does Lot not actually see?

"Lot chose *for himself*..." (v.11)

What is a life of faith?

### **b) The choice of Abraham (v.3-4, 8-9, 14-18)**

The road of repentance (v.3-4)

A humble trust in God's providence (v.8-9)

A humble trust in God's very Word (v.14-18)

Faith = trusting God, in Christ, by trusting Him to give what he has promised.

= NOT looking to Him to give you something He's never promised you

*\*A life of faith is a life when we make the choice to trust God to do what He says, even when the outcome doesn't seem secure to us/when the ungodly alternative looks more attractive*

The One who truly exhibited a life of faith (Matthew 4)

The word we hang onto: 1 Peter 1:8-9, 13

## Response: We belong to the day

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### ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Connect cards**
- **Giving.** Missions pledge cards available online at <https://bemkec.my/missions-pledge-2021>
- **KVBC Main Conference**, July 12-14 2021, 8.15pm every evening. Speaker: Stuart Coulton. *"Heaven, Hope & Holiness"*. FREE!! For more info and to register, go to <https://bit.ly/KVBC2021>

*Talk 1 (Tues July 12):* The sure foundation of our Christian hope (1 Cor. 15:1-23)

*Talk 2 (Wed July 13):* Christian hope and serving Christ today (2. Cor 4:1-18)

*Talk 3 (Thurs July 14):* Living today with the certain hope of heaven (Col. 3:1-17)

- **\*Care parcels for those in need:** Our Social Concerns Ministry have prepared some food packages which can be distributed to anyone in need. If you know of any relative, friend, neighbour or acquaintance who are in need, please feel free to contact our church administrator (Julie Kong) or assistant administrator (Lee Siang) at our church office (082-550251). You may then arrange to pick up these packages and deliver to those you know in need.
- **Advance Notice:** AGM (Sun, August 1<sup>st</sup>, 10.30am-12.15pm)
- **Ministry Reports:** Please submit your ministry reports for July 2020 – June 2021 as soon as possible.
- **Prayer Meeting** this Wednesday – on Zoom till further notice

### BENEDICTION

Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, <sup>2</sup> fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

- Hebrews 12:1-2