

KEC ORDER OF SERVICE/SERMON OUTLINE 13th February 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 – Romans 12:9-21

2. Worship in SONG (with Jeremy Ng):

SONG 1: Endless Light

SONG 2: Consider Christ

SONG 3: The Power of the Cross

SONG 4: We are One

3. Mission Partner Update with Genevieve Wong

4. Prayers

5. Bible reading: 1 Corinthians 8:1-13

8 Now about food sacrificed to idols: We know that “We all possess knowledge.” But knowledge puffs up while love builds up. **2** Those who think they know something do not yet know as they ought to know. **3** But whoever loves God is known by God.^[a]

4 So then, about eating food sacrificed to idols: We know that “An idol is nothing at all in the world” and that “There is no God but one.” **5** For even if there are so-called gods, whether in heaven or on earth (as indeed there are many “gods” and many “lords”), **6** yet for us there is but one God, the Father, from whom all things came and for whom we live; and there is but one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom all things came and through whom we live.

7 But not everyone possesses this knowledge. Some people are still so accustomed to idols that when they eat sacrificial food they think of it as having been sacrificed to a god, and since their conscience is weak, it is defiled. **8** But food does not bring us near to God; we are no worse if we do not eat, and no better if we do.

9 Be careful, however, that the exercise of your rights does not become a stumbling block to the weak. **10** For if someone with a weak conscience sees you, with all your knowledge, eating in an idol's temple, won't that person be emboldened to eat what is sacrificed to idols? **11** So this weak brother or sister, for whom Christ died, is destroyed by your knowledge. **12** When you sin against them in this way and wound their weak conscience, you sin against Christ. **13** Therefore, if what I eat causes my brother or sister to fall into sin, I will never eat meat again, so that I will not cause them to fall.

SERMON OUTLINE: The right use of rights (1 Cor. 8)

It's nice to be right!

How can it ever be wrong to be right?

A rather surprising perspective from God's Word

Recap of 1 Corinthians 1-7

The cultural and religious context of Corinth

The (fundamental) issue at hand

1. The paradox of knowledge

"We all possess knowledge"

But what do they know? v.4

Anything wrong with their theology?

Isaiah 44:6-20; Deuteronomy 6:4

Agreement

One step further: idol food is nothing

But "not everyone possesses this knowledge" (v.7)

Who Paul has in mind

Food in itself is not the issue (v.8)

So what does Paul do?

2. The priority of love

When knowledge exists without love...

How so? v.10

That's a problem! (v.11)

Love is the priority (v.9, 13)

Why Paul starts with v1-3

“Knowledge puffs up while love builds up”

A knowledge divorced from love...

...is actually a fake kind of knowledge in the end

Why is love such a priority?

What do we actually know? (v.6)

When we know Jesus, we know what love looks like

Application

The wrong application

The right application

When our goal is not “I told you so”, but “I love you so”

Response: The Servant King

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Connect cards**
- **Giving**
- Our **Home Fellowship Groups** will begin running again from **this Friday, February 18th**. Your individual leaders should be in touch with you. If you would like to register your interest in joining a Home Fellowship Group, please do so at <https://bemkec.my/home-fellowship-groups/>
- 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://bit.ly/BOBEMKuching2022>.

- **Gospel fluency: speaking the gospel with precision and ease. Speaker: Kevin Murphy. Saturday, 26th Feb, 10am-12pm, on Zoom.** How can we talk to others about Jesus? How can we learn to speak the truth in love, into the everyday stuff of life? Come and learn, by registering for this free webinar at <https://gospelcitynetwork.com/gospel-bungkus/>.
- Our **membership briefing** for all who have recently returned their registration forms is scheduled for next **Sunday, Feb 20th, 2-4pm**, in the church hall. Please confirm your attendance with our administrator, Julie Kong.
- **Ushers.** Are you looking for an opportunity to serve the church family? We are looking for more volunteers to serve as ushers on a Sunday. Please do contact our deacon Benjamin Baru if you can help.
- Our **church library** is open today. Feel free to have a browse after service this morning. You might be interested in some of the following, which touch on themes we've covered in our recent sermon series:
 - Corporate Worship by Matt Merker
 - The Gift of Church by Jim Samra
 - Sing! By Keith and Kristyn Getty
 - Prayer by John Onwuchekwa
 - Stay Salt by Rebecca Manley-Pippert
- **Preaching next week: Paul Ling (1 Corinthians 9)**
- Our **Prayer Meeting** is on this week, on **Wednesday, Feb 16th, 8-9ish pm**. It is on Zoom until further notice.

CHURCH SERVICE, 20th 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.

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 in the past week with a positive case.

BENEDICTION

¹² May the Lord make your love increase and overflow for each other and for everyone else, just as ours does for you. ¹³ May he strengthen your hearts so that you will be blameless and holy in the presence of our God and Father when our Lord Jesus comes with all his holy ones.

- 1 Thessalonians 3:12-13