

Last Sunday Message.....

THE FIERY FURNACE (Daniel 3.)

(I) The Pressures of Life: Nebuchadnezzar had captured 4600 Jews to Babylon (6 BC) with the purpose of assimilating them into Babylonian culture and wiping out the Jewish faith. Hence, the pressure was doubly hard on the Jews. But Nebuchadnezzar learned that when someone fears only God, that person is unconquerable and fireproof.

(a) The Pressures of pluralism. In direct confrontation with Jewish monotheism Babylon required its citizens to worship many gods. **(b) The pressure to privatise** faith and limit it to a “quiet time”, or Sunday worship. Daniel and his friend took their faith everywhere they went. **(c) The pressure to make the State absolute.** **“Do not absolutize the relative and relativise the absolute”** -John Lennox.

Daniel and his friends had sworn loyalty to Babylon and had great responsibilities within that civilisation. So what’s wrong a quick bow? CH Spurgeon says, *“If an act of sin would increase my usefulness 10 times, I have no right to do it! And if an act of righteousness would take away all my effectiveness, I should do it!”* The kingdom of God cannot progress by trickery or deception. It has to progress, very slowly if necessary, through the slow learner or the late bloomer. Honesty and integrity are not swift and profitable in this world. But a centimetre gained on earth is a 1000 km covered in heaven.

(II) The Power of True Faith.

When Nebuchadnezzar learns that Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego are not bowing to the statue, he summons them in fury. And they reply: **“Our God who we serve is able to deliver us, but if He does not, we will not worship your false gods”.** They were not extra brave, but they were simply smart enough to know the difference between the dangers of denying their faith and the promise of eternity.

(1) Faith begins small. Their faith began small by refusing the royal food. We may not be able to picture ourselves doing radical things for God. But if we are faithful in small things, God can bring the big things. When Jesus said a mustard seed-sized-faith can move mountains, he did not mean that small faith is fine. Faith can grow into a force to move mountains. **(2) Faith brings clear focus.** The Trio did not have the time to defend themselves, just enough time to state their faith clearly: *“This is what we believe and this is why cannot do what we cannot do”.* **(3) Faith is assurance** of the things hoped for, and confident of the things not seen. They were confident of the hope of heaven. **(4) God always vindicates** such kind of faith. God can deliver from death, but His greatest act of deliverance is through death. Death is God’s ultimate means of delivering us into His ultimate kingdom. If God does not deliver from death, he will definitely bring a greater deliverance *through* death.

(III) The Pain of Suffering.

(a) Pain and suffering are inevitable (Acts 14:22). **(b)** Suffering is a growth formula for the spiritual life and character. God is not committed to our comfort; He is committed to our salvation and spiritual growth. **(c)** In suffering God becomes personal. “God whispers to us in our pleasures, and shouts at us in our pain” -CS Lewis. Suffering is at the centre of God’s framework of history. **(d)** Finally, when we go through pain, it is time to believe in the promises. Are you in pain and suffering? Are you in a season where God is calling you to take a step of faith, but you feel the pressure from all corners weighing you down, and yet God has said, “Go. Believe me. Explore!” *It’s time to let go and believe in the promises of God!*
- Pastor Kedo Peseyie



CHRIST THE POWER OF GOD
AND THE WISDOM OF GOD

June 3, 2018; Vol. XII, Issue 21

City Church

SUNDAY SERVICE

Leader	: Kevizayienuo Myingthungo
Speaker	: Pastor Kedo Peseyie
Ushers	: Thepfuzhalie Phira & Myingthungo Ngullie
Keyboard	: Vizolenuo Solo
Flower	: Yanglirola Noel

Assisting in Lord’s Supper

Dr. Keditsu. M. Odyuo, Dr. Vinito Chishi
& Dr. Ahakhe Shikhu

Call to Worship

Praise & Worship

Reading: Psalm 100

Mass Prayer

Announcement	
Offertory	
Hymn No.105	: There is Power in the Blood
Scripture Reading	: Dr. Alona Shikhu
Message	
Lord’s Supper	
Hymn No.294	: Heaven Came Down
Benediction	



VISION statement of the City Church:

City Church seeks to honor and worship Jesus Christ as Lord and the only God; and to build the Body of Christ (The Church) with all who love Him as disciples, proclaiming Him as the Savior to all nations.

AIMS of the City Church:

Worship: *To Worship God and exalt His name together as a Church.*

Fellowship: *To build the body of Christ with all who love Him through mutual sharing, help and growth.*

Evangelism: *To witness for Christ both by proclamation and by lifestyle so as to cause others to experience God’s great salvation.*

Discipleship: *To establish members as disciples of Jesus Christ through systematic Bible Studies and teaching and equip them for effective service.*

Mission: *To send out people in obedience to God’s call and command to reach the un-reached for Christ.*

PSALM 100

Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth.

Worship the LORD with gladness;

come before Him with joyful songs.

Know that the LORD is God.

It is He who made us, and we are His;

we are His people, the sheep of His pasture.

Enter His gates with thanksgiving

and His courts with praise;

give thanks to Him and praise His name.

For the LORD is good and His love endures forever;

His faithfulness continues through all generations.

INFORMATION

- Thursday Women Fellowship at 5pm: **Leader**– Mrs. Bano Chishi, **Scripture Reading**– Mrs. Abano Viketou & **Bible Study**– Ms. Juree.
- Enroute today at 3pm.
- Wednesday Evening service at 5pm.
- Executive meeting today after the devotion service in EGF Hall.

Sunday, May 27th, 2018

Tithes: ₹ 47,900 Offering: ₹ 12,640 Building Fund: ₹ 1,00,000
Mission: ₹ 500 Nagamese: ₹ 550 Total: ₹ 1,61,590

City Church **Jumble Sales Day** has been postponed (Date to be announced). **Collection of items is going on. Worshippers may either submit the items for sale to the women department or the church office.**

For more details kindly contact the Women Department. or the church office.

City Church First Men's Fellowship on 14th June (Thursday) in the main Church Hall @ 5pm.

CHILDREN'S BIBLE CAMP

CITY CHURCH KOHIMA



"Live in Obedience to God's Word"
Jeremiah 7:23

25th – 27th June 2018

ST. PAUL SCHOOL PHESSAMA

REGISTRATION FEE: ₹100/-

PRAYER:

- Bring your personal and family needs before God in prayer.
- Pray for City Church, members and leaders that we will continue to grow in knowledge and wisdom, and in unity & effectiveness for the Kingdom of God.
- Pray for God's providence and protection over our new church building construction. Pray for those in charge for good health and wisdom, and for the labourers that they may encounter God personally.
- Continue to uphold our church worshippers in prayer for God's complete healing and grace upon those who are sick and undergoing medical treatment.

NOTES:

citychurchkoh@gmail.com, Facebook: "City Church Kohima".

Contact: 0370-2242687/ 8131862333