



When we operate our lives within the precise category of "pleasing God," our lives may seem rather simplistic and restrictive. Not so. It actually simplifies matters for us as we don't have to deal with all the justifications, rationalisations, excuses and pretences that accompany our desire to give in to temptations. Pleasing God actually brings freedom and opens new vistas and opportunities for service in God's kingdom.

If that's the case, why then do we sometimes deliberately plunge into the boundless category of "displeasing God"? There are a few obvious reasons:

1. We've a warped understanding and cheap view of grace. Romans 6:1-2 denounces any form of scurrilous assumptions: "What shall we say, then? Shall we go on sinning so that grace may increase? By no means! We died to sin; how can we live in it any longer?" (Romans 6:1-2).
2. We don't love Jesus enough. His rationale is straightforward: "If anyone loves me, he will obey my teaching. My Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him. He who does not love me will not obey my teaching" (John 14:23-24a).

Temptations come in many forms and guises. They can be straightforward as they can be deceptively subtle. We need to be alert to its appeals and its nature:

1. It appeals to our impatience so that we take short-cuts and look for the easiest way out.
2. It suggests an alternative method or way, substituting a different way for God's way.
3. It appeals to our fragile and needy egos. The disciples quarrelled amongst themselves as to who was the greatest on the night of Jesus' greatest trials. Peter fell because he thought he was the strongest and most faithful. Likewise Samson. But their obvious strengths were their hidden weaknesses.

When we're enticed by temptation, we must immediately re-examine our spiritual foundation and assumptions - who is my Lord, and who am I truly living for? The answer is obvious. We must love Jesus above all else. Only then can we have the resolve to wait for God's time rather than resorting to short-cuts, to stick on to God's tested ways rather than opting for cheap substitutes and to put Him first above that of our own. Jesus knew what it's like to be tempted. "Because he himself suffered when he was tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted" (Hebrews 2:18). Rest in Him.

Pastor Song Cheng Hock

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**WE WELCOME YOU** and are glad that you have come to worship with us this morning. If this is your first visit, please fill in the Visitor Card so that we may keep in touch with you.

## REMINDERS

Please remember to park your car at **Bedok South Secondary School** so that we do not inconvenience our neighbours who have been very understanding.

### **PLEASE BE REMINDED TOO THAT NEXT SUNDAY IS COMBINED SUNDAY**

"An event that very much blessed me this month was our Easter Service. The preacher, Rev. Neville Tan, observed that **almost all the baptism candidates who shared their testimonies that day had mentioned how the Lord had used members of the Evangel family in some ways in their spiritual growth.**

Indeed, the testimony of each of those who were baptized was not merely an individual's story of God's grace, but really the story of all of us at Evangel helping one another to grow in the Lord. That's why we could all rejoice together as a whole church that day."

*Pastor John Yuen (Evangel Baptist Church)*  
<http://www.evangelbc.org.sg/pastorgreetings/Mar08.htm>

### **PLEASE REMEMBER TO SWITCH OFF YOUR HANDPHONES!**

## PRAYER PAGE

1. Please pray for **Pastor Song** as he brings God's Word to us this morning.



2. Pray for the **worship teams**, the **audio/visual support group**, as well as the **ushers**. Pray that God will continually refresh them

as they experience deeper worship themselves, leading others to worship God in spirit and in truth.

3. Please continue to uphold our Pastors and their family in prayer. **Pray for their health** that they will enjoy the Lord's rich blessings of good health, peace and joy as they serve Him.

4. Please pray for **Pastor Neville and Auntie Anne** who are now in Vietnam conducting a baptism service there. Pray for God's anointing and protection.

5. **Pray for the Cell Groups**, that God will provide the strength, inspiration and anoint the Cell Leaders and bless them as they serve. Pray that the cells will play their God-given role and are able to minister to the needs of every member.

6. **Live Ministries** who were here encouraging us a couple of years ago is inviting us to send a representative for their coming trip to Cairo. Check our church website <http://churchofgodsg.com>, for the **latest updates**, news and other prayer needs.

7. Pray that we will walk closely with our Lord Jesus Christ, having been firmly rooted and now being built up in Him and established in the faith. As we ponder and wait on God, let us seek Him in the areas He is leading us to be more committed disciples of Christ. Pray and commit ourselves to them.

8. Thank the Lord for **Sister Roselind Ho** who successfully underwent a surgical procedure to relieve her heart palpitation at Mt. E. Hospital on Monday. Thank you for praying for her.

9. Thank God for the jobs we have and pray that the Lord will protect and preserve us during this time of economic downturn. Pray too that at this time our strength will truly be in the Lord.



## Adapted

Unless the Word of God is the bedrock of our life, we are bound to be swayed by our feelings as our moral bearings. To live by feelings means you decide what is best for you on the basis of your shifting human understanding instead of making decisions based on the firm foundation of God's Word.

**Last week's Memory Verse:** Blessed is the man who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked or stand in the way of sinners or sit in the seat of mockers. - **Psalm 1:1**

**This week:** But his delight is in the law of the LORD, and on his law he meditates day and night. - **Psalm 1:2**

## Worship Attendance

<b>Last Sunday</b> , (08 Feb. 09)	(09.00 am)	<b>40</b>
	(11.00 am)	<b>74</b>
<b>Visitors/Guests:</b>		<b>6</b>