



## CELL GUIDE

TOPIC	The New Norm	SPEAKER	SP Chua Seng Lee
THEME	Redigging the Well of the Brethren Church	DATE	6 & 7 May 2023

# MESSAGE SUMMARY

## INTRODUCTION

It is not enough to just know what our calling is in life. More importantly, we need to have the strategy to help us achieve the vision that God has for us. In the final sermon of this series, SP shares the seven Anointed Pillars, which can be found in Acts 2:40-47. These seven Anointed Pillars encapsulates the “New Norm” which is the distinctiveness of a Brethren church. These Pillars were also the hallmark of the early church described in the Book of Acts.

## THE SEVEN ANOINTED PILLARS

### 1) Anointed Worship

God is seeking true worshippers (John 4:23-24) to worship Him in Spirit and in Truth. True worship must be firstly, led by the Holy Spirit, with Whom the deepest part of our spirit must connect, and secondly, grounded on the Word of God. The Holy Spirit is the One who pours out the love of Father God and reveals Jesus to us. We can know and experience more of the Holy Spirit in our lives by talking to Him as a person and reading the Word.

### 2) Anointed Word

2 Tim 3:16-17 tells us the four main functions of the Word of God are to:

- Teach – The Word of God is a wealth of wisdom and can teach us all things.
- Rebuke – Discipleship requires us to rebuke when someone is living in sin. In order to do that at the appropriate time, we must first build a relationship with the person. As mature Christians, we ourselves must be open to receiving rebuke from our mentors or leaders.
- Correct – Correction is necessary to right ungodly beliefs or wrong patterns of thinking.
- Train – We need to be trained in righteousness (right standing, right thinking, right living). While having right standing with God is a gift to all believers, right living requires practice. One practical way is to discuss the Word of God in our cell groups and homes.

The end goal is to make us complete - matured in Christ - and to equip us to bear fruit. To be matured in Christ is to be able to discern good and evil, while bearing fruit is to do good works for Christ.

### 3) Anointed Altar

Anointed Altar is about our obedience to God. Heb 3:7, 15, and Heb 4:7 tells us not to “harden (our) hearts”. The opposite to having a rebellious heart (ie. hardened heart) is to have a contrite

heart. We need to have a contrite heart in order to approach the altar of God and allow the Holy Spirit to minister to us. Four areas we may need to surrender to God are:

- a) Busyness – Are we too busy? Busyness can crowd God out and harden our hearts.
- b) Offenses – Are we easily offended? Unresolved offenses can harden our hearts.
- c) Materialism – Do we idolise the things of the world? Pursuing worldly things can harden our hearts.
- d) Disappointments – Have we experienced discouragement? Unanswered prayers cause discouragement and may harden our hearts.

#### 4) Anointed Leaders

Appointment of leaders is by God alone (1Cor 12:27-28). In BBTC, there is a Relational Covering Structure which starts with Cell Leaders -> Cell Supervisor -> Cell Overseer -> Cell Pastor -> Senior Pastor's Office -> Council of Elders. Each leadership position is a sacred calling. The role of leaders is to build up the body of Christ to do good works (Eph 4:11-12).

#### 5) Anointed Body Life

Christ is the Head of the Church (Col 1:18), and we (the church) are His people. As His people, we are the Body of Christ. Rom 12:4-5 tells us that though we are many, we are one in the body of Christ. Hence, we must learn to accept and love one another. Just as we take care of our own physical body, so too, must we care for and protect the body of Christ. We are to avoid hurting the body of Christ by murmuring, complaining and judging. Instead, we are to “put on tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering, bearing with one another, and forgiving one another” (Col 3:12-14).

#### 6) Anointed Ministries

Though we are not saved by good works, we are saved to do good works (Eph 2:8-9, 1Pet 4:10, Heb 10:24). In BBTC, we have many passionate brothers and sisters who share a common burden and band together to do good works.

#### 7) Anointed Works Of Faith

We are called to “Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature” (Mark 16:15). This is the call to reach out to the lost, to be salt and light, to bring the good news to wherever God has placed us. Each one of us has been placed in a unique situation to reach out to the people that only we can impact. We need to be obedient to the prompting of the Holy Spirit and exercise faith to reach out and minister to those around us.

### CONCLUSION

As we grow individually in these seven Anointed Pillars, together as a church, BBTC will grow to be the Spirit-filled, Word-empowered church that God has designed for us to be. By doing so, the Lord will add souls to the Kingdom of God (Eph 2:40-47).

# QUESTIONS

1. The 7 Anointed Pillars are the strategies distinctive to a Brethren church to help us achieve the vision that God has for our lives. Share about an Anointed Pillar which has impacted you.

2. Building our Anointed Altar requires a contrite heart, our obedience and our attitude of surrender. Is there an area in your life that God is asking you to come to the Anointed Altar to make a personal transaction with Him? How have you responded?

3. The end goal of living out the 7 Anointed Pillars together as a church is the harvest of souls for God's kingdom. Share and pray for one another about the people that God has brought into your path to love, serve, pray for and preach the gospel of Christ to.