



CELL GUIDE

TOPIC Why Now? (Part 1)

SPEAKER Ps Daniel Foo

THEME #CanIPrayForYou

DATE 17 & 18 Feb 2024

MESSAGE SUMMARY

INTRODUCTION

In the first of a two-part series, Ps Daniel Foo highlights the urgency in sharing the good news about Christ and how we can live out BBTC's mission in sharing Christ as we mature in Him

WHY NOW?

Four reasons why we need to do so:

1) The **WILL** of God is for us to obey

In Ephesians 5:17, the Apostle Paul highlighted the need for us to understand the **will** of the Lord.

There are two aspects regarding the will of God – (i) *Thelema* refers to God's desire and His will, which, to be fully appropriated, **requires cooperation on our part** (e.g. our salvation, discipleship, obedience etc.), while (ii) *Boulema* is the immutable, irrevocable will of God. It will be accomplished **whether or not we cooperate** (e.g. Calvary, Pentecost, Rapture etc.).

The *Thelema* will of God is further illustrated:

- a) In 2 Peter 3:9 and Ezekiel 18:23, both the New and Old Testament stated that the will of God is to **save us all**, hence the need to focus on evangelism and missions (Mark 16:15).
- b) The will of God is for us to **grow in Christlikeness** – the fruit of the Spirit does not develop automatically in our lives. As we continue to will ourselves and grow as disciples, we will experience the fruits of the spirit. In Matthew 28:18-20, Jesus calls us to go and make disciples of all nations, baptising them and teaching them to observe all the things that He commanded.
- c) The will of God is for us to be a **blessing to others** (Ephesians 2:10, 2 Corinthians 9:8). The good works which we are called to do are already embedded in our roles and responsibilities. God will not ask us to do something that is beyond our abilities.

2) The **WORD** of God which will be fulfilled

Every prophesy regarding Jesus' first coming was fulfilled (Matthew 2:15, 17-18,23). Similarly, the word regarding the rapture and Jesus' second coming will also be fulfilled. We will eventually reap the seeds that we have sown today where pre-believing friends and family members will eventually be enlightened by the Holy Spirit and come to know the Lord.

3) The **WISDOM** of God for us to thrive in the end-times

God wants all of us to be overcomers in this world and over the evil one. What does it mean to walk in the wisdom of God to thrive in the end-times? In Ephesians 5:15-18, to walk wisely is to:

- a) Walk circumspectly.
- b) Live a life worthy of our calling (Ephesians 4:1). We all have a basic calling (our roles and responsibilities in our lives) which is how God has wired us to be and it is important that we continue growing and developing it. The missional calling, such as a prompting to share a testimony, is a divine appointment which comes from time to time.
- c) Walk in love just as Christ has loved us. We need to first receive God's love through the Holy Spirit before we can love anyone.
- d) Walk in the light (Ephesians 5:8-9).
- e) Be filled with the Spirit.
- f) Redeem the time (Ephesians 5:16, Psalm 32:1). We should use our free time to reflect on the goodness of God at the significant moments of our lives.
- g) Submit to one another in the fear of God (Ephesians 5:21, Isaiah 11:2. Proverbs 9:10).

4) The **WAY** of God for us to watch and pray

God dwells in eternity, but we live in the time and space that God has created. Thus, we need to remember that the time that we have is not forever.

Hence, it is important that we stay alert so that we do not fall (Matthew 26:41) and be alert to the dangers of the end-times (Luke 21:36). We need to continue walking in the light so that we will not be caught by surprise when the rapture happens.

CONCLUSION

In living out BBTC's mission, sharing of Christ can take many expressions and platforms. The #CanIPrayForYou movement is one avenue we can share Christ. Nothing happens by chance in our lives. As we continue to mature in the Lord, God has called us to identity, interact, intercede and inspire others to know Him.

QUESTIONS

1. From the sermon, what do you understand about God's will? How are you living out God's will in your life?

2. Ps Daniel Foo shared 7 ways in which we can walk in the wisdom of God to thrive in the end-times. Which of those ways have you been practising and which ones do you struggle with? How has living God's wisdom impacted your life and/or the lives around you?

3. Our time on earth is limited and the urgency in sharing the gospel is now. Who is one person or group of people that God is prompting you to identify, interact with, intercede for and inspire this week?