



CELL GUIDE

TOPIC Together as One

SPEAKER

Pastor Lok Kok Guan

THEME #CanIPrayForYou

DATE

27 & 28 January 2024

MESSAGE SUMMARY

INTRODUCTION

As we continue with the theme of #CanIPrayForYou, Ps Kok Guan shared the wonderful testimonies of BBTCians who obeyed the call and had approached various individuals to pray for them. As an encouragement for the rest of the church, Ps Kok Guan shared that even Jesus came to seek and save the lost (Luke 19:10) and as his followers, we should do the same.

In addition to the example of Jesus sending the seventy people out to preach the good news in Luke 10: 1-3, Ps Kok Guan also shared three key principles that will prepare us to participate in this prayer movement.

Principle 1: Perspective from God

In Matt 9:37 Jesus stated that the harvest is plentiful but the labourers are few. It demonstrates a sense of urgency that time is running out. For us to appreciate Jesus' perspective, it is helpful to consider what an actual farmer has to contend with when it comes to the harvest:

1. If there is no rain, there will not be a harvest as the crops would have withered and died.
2. There is a harvest but the locusts may come and eat it up.
3. There is a harvest but not enough workers to tend to the harvest. Then, the crops would be wasted.

Similarly, the time is right for us to reach out to pre-believers so that they can be saved and enjoy eternal life with God. God's perspective is urgent and as God's followers, we need to shift our mindset to align with God's perspective. We are meant to obey the great commission in Matt 28:19-20 to participate and not merely be spectators.

Principle 2: Prayer to God

In Luke 10:2 Jesus asked us to pray to God earnestly to send out labourers into the harvest. God is our Provider and He will always provide. When we offer our prayers to God, we should also consider our part as the labourers that God can send. The #CanIPrayForYou movement is one way for us to be co-labourers in the harvest. To help us get started, Ps Kok Guan walked us through the following process:

1. Think about a person whom you can pray for. It can be a family member, friend, ex-colleague etc.
2. Ask for divine appointments i.e. an opportunity to share with that person.

3. Summon the courage to take the step to ask “Can I Pray For You?” and be prepared to share the gospel subsequently.

In short, “Prayer is not the preparation for great work; Prayer is the greater work.”

Principle 3: Presence of God

While there may be opposition as we embark on this prayer movement, we are reminded in Matt 28-19-20 that God will always be with us.

To illustrate this fact, Ps Kok Guan took us through the use of the word I AM in Greek. He shared that in the Greek language, the order of the words is flexible. For example, the words, “I AM with You in Matt 28:20 looks like this:

In Greek:	ego	meth	hymon	eimi
When ordered in English:	I	with	you	<u>AM</u>

Visually when we look at the English words, it is a beautiful depiction of God going ahead of us and is also behind us. Just as He had promised the Israelites in Exodus 14:19 where He was present with the Israelites in the desert as a pillar of cloud before them and a pillar of fire behind them.

Thus with God’s promise to be with us always, it should give us the confidence to participate fully not just in this prayer movement, but always reaching out to the unsaved.

CONCLUSION

We are privileged to be invited to participate in the harvest. To do so, we need to keep these three principles in mind: To understand God’s perspective and the urgency of the harvest; to take action by leveraging our prayer movement and be assured of the presence of God as we walk by faith in anticipation for the divine appointment to ask “Can I Pray For You?” and then to share the good news.

SPECIAL: #CANIPRAYFORYOU

Watch these videos about the #CanIPrayForYou movement that we have launched in BBTC this year.

- SP Chua Seng Lee: <https://youtu.be/SsTWrb4EsXM>
- DSP Edric Sng: https://youtu.be/ag_zUZai2d4
- Ps Low Kok Guan: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VFqnycWzcVU>

QUESTIONS

1. Share about a recent time when you felt the presence of God in your life. How did that look like? How did He come through for you?

2. What is God's perspective about the harvest? How is it similar and/or different from yours? How can you align with God's perspective?

3. Which of the 3 steps in Principle #2 that Ps Kok Guan shared has been the easiest and the most difficult? For those who have managed to ask or pray for others, how have the responses been? Share your experiences in the #CanIPrayForYou movement so far.