

Community Announcements

Q&A Class @ 11:15am in B05B

This class is run weekly and is open to anyone (new Christians, seekers, newcomers, etc) who have any questions about Christianity. The format is a flexible Q & A style.

Prayer Meetings for Senior Pastor Calling

Date: Sat, April 14 & 21

Time: 8am-9am

Location: Mezzanine Sanctuary

Welcome Lunch Apr 8 (today) @ 12:30pm

Welcome Lunch is an opportunity for those who are new to not only connect with members of NTCBC, but to be plugged into a Small Group or Fellowship. Please see a Welcome Team member for more info! Members pay \$5 for lunch & newcomers eat free!

VBC 2018 Volunteering

VBC this year will be held on August 7th - 17th. If you're interested in helping out as a volunteer, applications are now open! Please send an email to volunteer@ntcbc.ca if you would like to apply. Both full time (2 weeks or full day) and part time (1 week or half-day) volunteers are welcome!

Jiang-Xi Gospel Exchange & English Camp (July 19-31, 2018)

Applications for this STM will be accepted **starting in April** for the whole month. Application form is available at the office. See Rev. Lau or Cindy Chan for details.

Roma STM (Romania & Macedonia)

Orientation Session:

Date: Sunday April 15 @ 2 pm

Where: Richmond Hill Christian Community Church Room B34 (9670 Bayview Ave.)

For more information please contact Loraine Chan at loraineychan@yahoo.ca

Condolence

To Jennifer Ip and her family. Her mother, Mui Chow Ip returned to be with our Lord on Apr 5.

Tax Receipts for 2017 Donations

Receipts for 2017 donations are now available in the church office. For any enquiries, please contact Jennifer Kou (Church Treasurer) at jennifer.kou@ntcbc.ca

Staff News

Vacation - Pastor Kwan Chan from Apr 03 – 14

Children Ministry

Children Morning Schedule

Children's Worship (9:45am - 11:00am)
- Drop off on 3rd floor

Sunday School (11:15am-12:30pm)

- Grade 1 - Room 302A
- Grade 2-3 Room 302B
- Grade 4-5 Room 306
- Grade 6 Room 310

Parents will pick up children in the GYM after 12:30 PM. **All who have a Red Pass** will be dismissed at 12:30pm.

Teacher Training

Bible lesson preparation and presentation : April 8 and 15
Children spiritual formation : April 22
Classroom management : April 29
Time : 1:30pm – 3:00pm
Location : Room 306

VBC 2018

Theme: Shipwrecked: Rescued by Jesus
Date: August 7-17
Grade: Completed SK - Grade 6
Registration start at March 25
For more information: www.ntcbc.org
Email to vbc@ntcbc.org for inquires



NORTH TORONTO CHINESE BAPTIST CHURCH

多倫多北區華人浸信會

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(416) 733-8088

North York, ON., M2N 2H7

2018 Theme

Living Stones of
the Spiritual House
1 Peter 2:4-8

2015-2019 Theme | Expanding the Kingdom
of God | 1 Peter 1:3-2:10

English Worship Service

April 08, 2018

9:45AM – Main Sanctuary

| | This Week | Next Week |
|----------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Praise Leader | Clement Phuong | Gordon Chiu |
| Scripture | Galatians 5:1-15 | Galatians 5:16-26 |
| Sermon Title | The Freedom of the Christian Part 1 | The Freedom of the Christian Part 2 |
| Speaker | Pastor Curtis Lai | Pastor Curtis Lai |
| Lord's Table | Rev Patrick Lau | -- |
| Benediction | Rev Patrick Lau | Rev Patrick Lau |

Sunday School

January to April 2018 | 11:15am – 12:30pm

| Age Group | Class | Location |
|----------------------|----------------------|--------------------|
| Junior High (Gr 7-8) | Pentateuch | Room 314 / 315 |
| High School | Pentateuch | Room 317 |
| Adult | Old Testament Survey | Room 102 |
| Adult (Women only) | Genesis | Basement |
| All | Baptism & Membership | B09 (Office Level) |

Welcome to NTCBC! We're glad you've decided to join us in worshipping our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. If you have any questions at all, please speak with someone from our Welcome Team (they're the friendly people in the blue shirts!). They will happily connect you with a Sunday School class, the Q&A class, or even a Fellowship or Small Group.

Sermon Guide

Series: Galatians – Freedom of the Christian

Freedom is defined as the power to act or speak as one wants without hindrance or restraint. The Bible says that Jesus' death on the cross has won Christians absolute freedom. If this is so, why do so many in the church view Christianity as a straitjacket, where God is restraining them from acting or speaking as they please?

The answer is that although Jesus has defeated the power of sin, many still choose to stay enslaved to sin's power, and thus refuse the transformative power of the Gospel. This sermon series explores God's promise of freedom and how we can vanquish sin's power in our lives and live as free men and women who freely and joyously worship, love, and obey our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

Last sermon: Choose to be Free

The Bible calls Christians to live in obedience to God as an expression of their love for and faith in Him. The Apostle Paul girds this commandment with two encouragements. First, all of God's commands are rooted in His love for us, and therefore, doing His will leads to an increase in our experience of love and life. Second, obedience to His commandment is done out of a heart of love that the Holy Spirit works in you, not out of coercion or slavery.

This week: The Freedom of the Christian

In our passage this week, Paul urges the church in Galatia to exercise the freedom that they have through Christ and to no longer submit to a yoke of slavery. Through several exhortations, he ultimately encourages them to live out their freedom through loving service to one another. As Christians become increasingly more aware of the absolute freedom they have in Christ, they are naturally led to fulfill the two greatest commandments - to love God and love others.

Study Questions for Small Groups & Fellowships

Icebreaker: What is a discipline/habit/action/practice/etc. that you hate but wish you loved? Why do you wish that you loved this? How would it affect your life if you loved this instead of hating it?

1. In verse 2 and verse 4 of this week's passage, Paul warns his readers that they will be severed from Christ and that He will be of no advantage to them if they accept circumcision. Why is the idea of justification by the law incompatible with the gospel? Are there any beliefs or actions that you currently hold to that are also incompatible with the gospel?

2. What are some symptoms or warning signs of legalism or licentiousness in our lives? Are there any symptoms of legalism, licentiousness, or both, in your life? Which are you more prone towards? How does the gospel message help you combat these forms of slavery?

3. What does Paul mean when he refers to the 'offense of the cross' and who is it offensive towards?

4. In verse 14 of this week's passage, why does Paul say that loving your neighbour is a fulfilment of the whole law? Why does Christian freedom express itself in the loving service of our brothers and sisters in Christ? What differentiates being a slave to the law, and fulfilling the heart of the law?

5. How does Christian freedom relate 'what we ought to do' with 'what we want to do' in our lives? What is the gospel promise that we receive in scripture (c.f. Ezekiel 36:26, Jeremiah 31:33) regarding these two thoughts?

How will you respond to God's Word this week?

Church Life

Sun Sunday School
11:15am-12:30pm (various classrooms)

Adult Fellowship
11:15am-12:30pm (Basement)

Q&A Class
11:15am-12:30pm (B05B – Office Level)

Welcome Lunch
12:30pm-1:30pm (Basement)

Mon Volleyball Skills Clinic
7:30pm-9:30pm (Gym)

Tues Men's Basketball
7:00pm-10:00pm (Gym)

Wed Prayer Meeting
8:00pm-9:00pm (3rd Floor)

Children's Prayer Meeting
8:00pm-9:00pm (Library)

Thur Career Small Groups
7:30pm-9:45pm (3rd Floor)

Fri Malachi High School Fellowship
7:30pm-9:45pm (Rm 302)

Junior High School Fellowship
7:30pm-9:45pm (Rm 306)

Immanuel Career Small Group
8:00pm-10:00pm (Rm 311)

Church Staff

Acting Senior Pastor: Rev Patrick Lau
patrick.lau@ntcbc.org

English Ministry: Pastor Kwan Chan
kwan.chan@ntcbc.org

Cantonese Ministry: Pastor Joanna Ip
joanna.ip@ntcbc.org

Mandarin Ministry: Pastor Cathy Chen
cathy.chen@ntcbc.org
Pastor Rose Wang
rose.wang@ntcbc.org

Youth Ministry: Pastor Curtis Lai
curtis.lai@ntcbc.org

Children Ministry: Pastor Cat Chan
catherine.chan@ntcbc.org

Office Manager: Kenneth Li
officemanager@ntcbc.org

Administrator Wilman Lai
admin@ntcbc.org

For all general questions regarding English Ministries, please send an email to Pastor Kwan or to our English Ministry Vice Chair, Derek Ma, at derek.ma@ntcbc.ca. If you have a general question about our church, please email Wilman Lai at admin@ntcbc.org.

Last Week's Attendance

| | |
|---------------------|-----|
| Cantonese - 8:15am | 113 |
| Cantonese - 11:15am | 162 |
| English – 9:45am | 205 |
| Mandarin - 8:15am | 21 |
| Mandarin - 11:15am | 68 |
| Mandarin - 3:15pm | 15 |

Last Week's Offering

| | |
|---------------|----------|
| General: | \$25,721 |
| Mission Fund: | \$5,297 |
| Maintenance: | \$850 |
| Building: | \$420 |
| Other: | \$1,130 |