

SUNDAY BRIEFING



Peace to His Creation via Christ

BY PASTOR DON GARDNER

"Glory to God in highest heaven, and peace on earth to those with whom God is pleased" - **Luke 2:14**

"Through the saving work of Christ, we can have peace with God, and we can experience the peace "which exceeds anything we can understand"
- **Philippians 4:7**

So, what is this "peace" that we are considering during the Advent Season moving toward the day that we celebrate the birth of Christ?

Obviously, Christ came to bring a type of peace that, at that time, was not what the world would normally seek or understand. He brought a spiritual and internal peace for those who struggled with their life situation and their relationship with God.

Brothers and sisters, I'm convinced that many of us have been looking in the wrong place for our "peaceful lives." We are, all too often, looking to the world's definitions of success, meaning, security, peace, etc. Yet, on Sundays, we are reminded that long-lasting definitions seem to be tied to our spiritual lives more than what our world offers. We are truly in a spiritual battle for our minds and values. Our peace, like those expressed by the angels singing in Luke 2, must be directed for our relationship with our eternal Lord. Our peace comes in long-term futures with our forgiving savior. May the peace given us by Jesus in his birth and life confirm a strong witness to our lost world.

UPCOMING

Lottie Moon Christmas Offering

December 12th |
Children's Christmas Program & Joint Service

December 19th |
Joint Christmas Service

December 24th |
Christmas Eve
Candlelight Service

FCBC Order of Worship

Sunday, December 12th, 2021

Welcome & Prayer | Faith Ong

Music | Praise Team

Lottie Moon Video | Pastor Dillon Le

Advent Candle & Prayer | Loren & Kimberly Chea

Pre-School Presentation | Bonnie Wong

Children's Presentation | Grace Lee

Devotional | Pastor Dillon Le

Closing Song

Prayer | Pastor Don Gardner

"The Peace of Salvation"

John 16:33

Pastor Dillon Le

Notes:

Announcements

Dec. 12th @ 9:30AM

Children's Christmas Program & Combined Service*

Dec. 19th @ 9:30AM

Christmas Combined Service*

Deacon Larry and Lesa Yap will be working with us to have some special music for the 19th and 24th of December. Joy & Qiu Lan will also be assisting the Chinese Congregation in music preparation for these services. Please know you are encouraged to join for these fun times of service to our Lord.

Dec. 24th @ 6:00PM

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

We are still looking for some "Family Singing" or "Sharing of Drama" for the December 24th evening service....could that be you? Let us know!

***Sunday Bible study classes will meet following service**

I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world."

JOHN 16:33



Announcements (cont.)

Lottie Moon Christmas Offering

The Lottie Moon Christmas Offering (LMCO) is an annual offering collected among more than 47,000 congregations that make up the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) during Christmas to fund our international mission efforts of more than 3,600 missionaries serving in 247 People Groups and Urban Centers, preaching the Gospel, planting churches, building and empowering believers to be partners in the Gospel through the International Mission Board (IMB). The Offering is named after Lottie Moon in honor of her work and sacrifice in China and urged churches to raise support to keep IMB missionaries in the field.

Your giving to the LMCO does have an impact on lives in the mission field through the preaching of the Gospel. For myself, I graduated from Southwestern Baptist Seminary with my first Master's Degree in 1975 and immediately took off to serve on a two year (Journeyman Program) commitment at Hong Kong Baptist University under the IMB! It was my dream to open my eyes to the world outside of Texas and then return to live forever in "God's Country!" I never dreamed that God would change my total life direction and burden for living as I experienced His daily molding and redirecting of my goals and vision! Since those early years of watching God lead me into teaching, church planting, pastoral roles, and various administrative responsibilities within multiple countries, the International Mission Board has been used by God to introduce me to new and old brothers and sisters around the globe. Missionaries, and their ministries, exist because of the sacrificial giving of American SBC churches through the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering that comes each year in December. Although I am now retired from the IMB, I represent the many missionaries still serving overseas in saying, please know that your financial support and daily prayers are vital to thousands of people around our world coming to find eternal life in a new relationship with Jesus! Thank you for giving through our church to support the LMCO (Lottie Moon Christmas Offering) during the month of December. Please note LMCO in your memo line when giving through FCBC in addition to your regular tithe. Our church goal is to donate \$12,000 towards the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering.

Thank you!