

PRAYER BULLETIN #62, 02Dec2020

GOD KNOWS - CHOOSE WISELY

*The lot is cast into the lap,
but its every decision is from the Lord.
Prov.16:33*

REFLECTION

2020 has been a year that had us all making some of the most difficult choices or major decisions. Some may be due to coping with the effects of the COVID pandemic while others may be circumstantial events such as leadership elections. We make choices and decisions based on gathered information, personal concerns, community needs, desired goals, etc. We won't really know how our choices and decisions would turn out but can only hope for the best. The outcomes can be varied also. Some meet our expectations and we celebrate with thanksgiving; other outcomes are less undesirable and they leave us either bewildered, disappointed, regretful or angry. Prov.16:33 tells us that men can choose or decide but it is God who has the final say of what the outcomes would be. He alone knows and is sovereign over how things would turn out. Nothing catches Him by surprise.

If God already knows the final outcomes of everything, does this mean that we can just be frivolous with our choices and decisions? This should not be so. We still need to seek God in prayer, to apply biblical principles with regards to our concerns and to give due diligence in understanding what the Lord's will is. But that's not all, what happens if an outcome is not of our choice or what we had decided? Do we complain, whine, blame others, rebel, or reject it as from God? Or would we submit and trust that God knows better and nothing is beyond His control? Here again, we have to decide how we are going to respond. So submission to God's will in humility and trust perhaps is the most appropriate posture one can take. Having made our choices and decisions, an appropriate and humble prayer would be, "Lord, Thy will be done."

PRAYER

Heavenly Father, we are hard pressed on every side during this pandemic, having to make the most appropriate choices and decisions that can affect ourselves, our loved ones and those around us in either ways. Therefore, grant us Your grace and wisdom to understand Your will and ways with respect to the times that we are in, that we may do what is pleasing in Your sight. Put in us the Fear of the Lord that we may choose rightly. Amen.

SUPPLICATION

- Pray for the leaders in this nation, communities, and religious organizations that they may have wisdom and integrity in making right decisions that would promote the welfare of the people under their care. May God grant them understanding to the real issues, needs and concerns of the people and foresight regarding potential challenges and dangers ahead. May God also grant them holistic and wise counsel in their decision-making.
- Pray for the various families that are affected by the pandemic financially, emotionally, mentally, spiritually, etc. Pray that they would make decisions that are realistic, practical and sustainable in weathering through this crisis. Pray for awareness and patience to explore viable options before making any hasty decisions. Pray for families, with children who have received their PSLE results, to make wise choice of schools to attend next year.
- Pray for individuals who are affected in their jobs, livelihood, social relationships, etc. May they choose the appropriate and wise means to bring stability to their personal needs. May they not choose harmful and destructive ways to resolve their problems and issues. At such times, pray for God's prevenient grace to work in them and lead them to Himself.
- Pray for the churches in Singapore as they cope with the safety measures, worship services and ministry needs of the people. Many decisions are made during the various phases of the Circuit Breaker. Pray for the leaders to make wise decisions even as the nation enters into the New Year with appropriate safety measures. Pray for church members to be humble and adaptive to the changes that would take place so that God's work would continue unhindered.

*"Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be Your name,
Your kingdom come,
Your will be done
on earth as it is in heaven."
Matt.6:9,10*

***If you need any prayer or pastoral care support,
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