

## REFLECTIVE QUESTIONS – WEEK OF 11 APRIL 2021

### Context:

On Sunday 11 April 2021, we received a message from Dr Tan Gee Paw at the 8.30am and 10.30am Services and Pastor Edward Keith Pousson at the 2.30pm and 5pm Services. We are grateful to both Dr Tan and Pastor Ed for the reflective questions drawn from their message. The reflective questions are set out below in separate parts: Part 1 – Simon, Son of John Do You Love Me? Part 2 – Eternity in Our Hearts.

Small groups may choose either Part 1 or Part 2 as an aid for their reflections on either message and to facilitate their small group discussions.

### PART 1

#### SIMON, SON OF JOHN DO YOU LOVE ME?

DR TAN GEE PAW

Scripture passage: John 21:15-19

#### Reflective Questions for Discussion

1. In asking Simon the question, “Do you love me”, why did Jesus address him as Simon son of John and not Simon Peter?
2. If Jesus were to ask you the question, “Do you love me” today during this pause period of the pandemic, what would your answer be?
3. How would you be sure you have given Him an honest answer? (Hint: did your answer arise from a response to the unrepayable debt of gratitude for His forgiveness of your sins, and nothing else?)

4. Pray a prayer to recommit yourself to love and obey our Lord afresh. You might use the Covenant Prayer usually offered at Watchnight Service responsively.

I am no longer my own, but yours.  
Put me to what you will, rank me with whom you will;  
put me to doing, put me to suffering;  
let me be employed for you, or laid aside for you,  
exalted for you, or brought low for you;  
let me be full,  
let me be empty,  
let me have all things,  
let me have nothing:  
I freely and wholeheartedly yield all things  
to your pleasure and disposal.  
And now, glorious and blessed God,  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit,  
you are mine and I am yours. So be it.  
And the covenant now made on earth, let it be ratified in heaven.  
Amen.

(as used in the Methodist Worship Book, 1999)

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## PART 2

### ETERNITY IN OUR HEARTS

PASTOR EDWARD KEITH POUSSON

Scripture passage: Ecclesiastes 3:1-11

#### Reflective Questions for Discussion

1. How do you resolve the paradox between freedom and fatalism? If God has fixed the props on the stage of history, what's the point of trying to influence the events of our time?
2. Browse Hebrews 11 for examples of how the heroes of faith made history by living in orientation to the eternal and the invisible instead of the temporal and material. In your group, share one or two examples that speak to you personally and explain why.

3. What does it mean, practically, for you to have Eternity in your heart? How have you experienced it personally? Please share what difference this has made in your life.
  
4. Pray the Serenity Prayer together if you are in a group. What follows is Reinhold Niebuhr's version of the prayer as he wrote it in 1934.

God, give us grace to accept with serenity the things that cannot be changed,  
courage to change the things which should be changed,  
and the wisdom to distinguish the one from the other.