



# Café VEF Worship Service

(February 21<sup>st</sup>, 2021)

\*Address: #2 Jiangong 1<sup>st</sup> Road, Hsinchu.

\*Website: [www.vefellowship.com](http://www.vefellowship.com)



<b>Opening Prayer</b>	<b>Pastor Tom</b>
<b>Call to Worship</b>	<b>Psalm 25:1, 4-5</b>
<b>Worship in Song</b>	<b>How Great Thou Art Great is Thy Faithfulness Above All</b>
<b>Announcements</b>	<b>Jims</b>
<b>Offertory Prayer</b>	<b>Pastor Tom</b>
<b>Scripture Reading</b>	<b>Psalm 25:1-10 James 1:12-18</b>
<b>Message</b> <i>"With You I am Well Pleased"</i>	<b>Pastor John</b> <b>Mark 1:9-15</b>
<b>Response Song</b>	<b>At the Cross (Alas and Did My Savior Bleed)</b>
<b>Benediction</b>	<b>Pastor John</b>

## Questions for Group Discussion

1. What is something that you are thankful for this past week?
2. Do you have any questions about the message today?
3. What did God teach you?
4. Do you have any prayer requests?

## ARE YOU IN NEED OF PRAYER?

During our time of fellowship after every service is also a good time for special prayer, whether it be a health crisis, career decision, family situation, or prayer to place your faith in Christ as Lord and Savior of your life. Please don't hesitate to contact any one of our staff to pray with you.

Tom

**VEF PASTORS** seek to be available for spiritual direction or to discuss life issues. Most days, they are at the church during the mornings from 8:30 to 12 and then in the afternoons and evenings are working from their home offices or are available to visit cell group meetings, in homes, or meet for tea/coffee at a restaurant.

## VEF Contact Information

Pastor Tom Curry – 0974-163-951 / 03-571-6803 x2224 / [tcurry777@gmail.com](mailto:tcurry777@gmail.com)

Pastor John Olson – 03-571-6803 x2221 / [vefpastor@gmail.com](mailto:vefpastor@gmail.com)

Minister Jims Jeong – 03-571-6803 x2226 / [jims.vef@gmail.com](mailto:jims.vef@gmail.com)

Peter Park – [koo26@naver.com](mailto:koo26@naver.com)

## Question: "Why was Jesus baptized? Why was Jesus' baptism important?"

(for the full article go to - <https://www.gotquestions.org/Jesus-baptized.html>)

There are several reasons why it was fitting for John to baptize Jesus at the beginning of Jesus' public ministry. Jesus was about to embark on His great work, and it was appropriate that He be recognized publicly by His forerunner. John was the "voice crying in the wilderness" prophesied by Isaiah, calling people to repentance in preparation for their Messiah ([Isaiah 40:3](#)). By baptizing Him, John was declaring to all that here was the One they had been waiting for, the Son of God, the One he had predicted would baptize "with the Holy Spirit and fire" ([Matthew 3:11](#)).

Jesus' baptism by John takes on an added dimension when we consider that John was of the tribe of Levi and a direct descendant of Aaron. Luke specifies that both of John's parents were of the Aaronic priestly line ([Luke 1:5](#)). One of the duties of the priests in the Old Testament was to present the sacrifices before the Lord. John the Baptist's baptism of Jesus could be seen as a priestly presentation of the Ultimate Sacrifice. John's words the day after the baptism have a decidedly priestly air: "Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!" ([John 1:29](#)).

Jesus' baptism also showed that He identified with sinners. His baptism symbolized the sinners' baptism into the righteousness of Christ, dying with Him and rising free from sin and able to walk in the newness of life. His perfect righteousness would fulfill all the requirements of the Law for sinners who could never hope to do so on their own. When John hesitated to baptize the sinless Son of God, Jesus replied that it was proper to "fulfill all righteousness" ([Matthew 3:15](#)). By this He alluded to the righteousness that He provides to all who come to Him to exchange their sin for His righteousness ([2 Corinthians 5:21](#)).

In addition, Jesus' coming to John showed His approval of John's baptism, bearing witness to it, that it was from heaven and approved by God. This would be important in the future when others would begin to doubt John's authority, particularly after his arrest by Herod ([Matthew 14:3-11](#)).

Perhaps most importantly, the occasion of the public baptism recorded for all future generations the perfect embodiment of the triune God revealed in glory from heaven. The testimony directly from heaven of the Father's pleasure with the Son and the descending of the Holy Spirit upon Jesus ([Matthew 3:16-17](#)) is a beautiful picture of the trinitarian nature of God. It also depicts the work of the Father, Son, and Spirit in the salvation of those Jesus came to save. The Father loves the elect from before the foundation of the world ([Ephesians 1:4](#)); He sends His Son to seek and save the lost ([Luke 19:10](#)); and the Spirit convicts of sin ([John 16:8](#)) and draws the believer to the Father through the Son. All the glorious truth of the mercy of God through Jesus Christ is on display at His baptism.

## Announcements

Today there will be Mission Corner held at 3PM in L101. Peter Park will be sharing about his experience in working with Muslims in northwest China.

The Matana CG will be having a fellowship day on Saturday, February 27<sup>th</sup>. Anyone college-age is invited to attend. Please contact Jims for more information.

VEF will be having a Run & Bike day on Saturday, March 13<sup>th</sup>. We'll be at the Baoshan 2<sup>nd</sup> Reservoir ending with a BBQ about noon. To register go to <https://forms.gle/3qafqAbu1JjPRxgh8> or use the QR code.



## Last Sunday's (2/14)

- Morning worship attendance – 113
- Afternoon worship attendance – NA
- Children's Sunday school attendance – NA

How to pay tithes by Wire Transfer You can transfer your offerings to Victory's Postal account, the bank code is 700, follow by the account number - 0061021 0478485. Contact Pastor John at [vefpastor@gmail.com](mailto:vefpastor@gmail.com) or Yu-Hwa at [yhwang217@yahoo.com.tw](mailto:yhwang217@yahoo.com.tw). Please make sure to contact one of them to make sure the money goes into the VEF account and transfer was properly made.

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