



It is our desire to equip each generation to:
Celebrate the King, Become like Christ, and Connect the Lost

CHINESE BAPTIST CHURCH

900 BROGDEN RD. HOUSTON, TX 77024
CBCHOUSTON.ORG
713.461.0963

Feb 16, 2025

A background image showing a person with arms raised in a bright, cloudy sky. The person is centered and appears to be glowing, with rays of light emanating from behind them. The sky transitions from blue at the top to orange and yellow at the bottom, suggesting a sunrise or sunset.

Godly Decision Making

Colossians 2:2-4, 11-17, 18-23

Feb 16, 2025

Welcome to CBC

We are excited for you to join us in worship today. Our prayer is that through the singing of gospel truths, hearing the scriptures proclaimed, and being around the saints, you will leave edified and equipped to live on mission with God for His glory.

Preparation	Isaiah 25:1 (CSB)
Welcome	Roberta Leo
Adoration	Your Grace Is Enough Blessed Be Your Name Holy Forever
Prayer	Gary Sham
Scripture Reading	Colossians 2:2-4, 11-17, 18-23 (CSB) William Gaw
Proclamation	Godly Decision Making Pastor Donald Gardner
Response Music	'Tis So Sweet To Trust In Jesus
Offertory Prayer	William Gaw
Announcements	Mo Wong
Benediction	Pastor Oleg Xu



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Colossian 2:2-4, 11-17, 18-23 (CSB)

2 I want their hearts to be encouraged and joined together in love, so that they may have all the riches of complete understanding and have the knowledge of God's mystery—Christ. **3** In him are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge. **4** I am saying this so that no one will deceive you with arguments that sound reasonable. **5** For I may be absent in body, but I am with you in spirit, rejoicing to see how well ordered you are and the strength of your faith in Christ.

11 You were also circumcised in him with a circumcision not done with hands, by putting off the body of flesh, in the circumcision of Christ, **12** when you were buried with him in baptism, in which you were also raised with him through faith in the working of God, who raised him from the dead. **13** And when you were dead in trespasses and in the uncircumcision of your flesh, he made you alive with him and forgave us all our trespasses. **14** He erased the certificate of debt, with its obligations, that was against us and opposed to us, and has taken it away by nailing it to the cross. **15** He disarmed the rulers and authorities and disgraced them publicly; he triumphed over them in him. **16** Therefore, don't let anyone judge you in regard to food and drink or in the matter of a festival or a new moon or a Sabbath day. **17** These are a shadow of what was to come; the substance is Christ.

18 Let no one condemn you by delighting in ascetic practices and the worship of angels, claiming access to a visionary realm. Such people are inflated by empty notions of their unspiritual mind. **19** They don't hold on to the head, from whom the whole body, nourished and held together by its ligaments and tendons, grows with growth from God. **20** If you died with Christ to the elements of this world, why do you live as if you still belonged to the world? Why do you submit to regulations: **21** "Don't handle, don't taste, don't touch"? **22** All these regulations refer to what is destined to perish by being used up; they are human commands and doctrines. **23** Although these have a reputation for wisdom by promoting self-made religion, false humility, and severe treatment of the body, they are not of any value in curbing self-indulgence.

Notes:

- I. Paul calls for Faith over Law for the Christian Walk: Colossians 2:1-7
- II. Paul Cautions against Secular Philosophy, Jewish Traditions, Worthless Rites: Colossians 2:8-17
- III. Opposition Toward Worshiping Angels & Against Legalistic Ordinances: Colossians 2:18-23

Monthly Preaching Schedule

Date	English (9:45 am)	Mandarin (9:45 am)	Cantonese (11:15 am)
2/16/2025	Pastor Don	Rev Andrew	Rev Andrew
2/23/2025	Pastor Don	Pastor Kai Yuen	Pastor Kai Yuen

Pastor's Word by Pastor Donald Gardner

Is Preaching "Agenda" Appropriate?

The Episcopal Priest named Mariann Budde, recently presented her message of political concerns at the annual Prayer Breakfast in Washington D.C. Mariann's emphasis on syncretism and the importance of religion revealed her understanding of the Christian faith as not being related to a personal relationship with Christ, but more as a knowledge of humanitarian concerns shared with all religious groups. While this approach may be attractive to many, it is not Christian. As a clear reminder of our discipleship and evangelistic responsibilities, Matthew 28: 19-20 clarifies our role in life.

Jesus adopted the city of Capernaum as his home location after the religious leaders of Nazareth (Luke 4:16, 28-30) rejected Him. With numerous friends and disciples of Christ from that area, Jesus found comfort with the people of that city. Ultimately, it was also a city that rejected His miracles and teachings to the point that found His words of condemnation directed toward them. Christ had given his best to guide the society with truth but found hardened hearts there when many thought they knew more than He (Luke 10:13-15).

Like Houston in 2025, Capernaum had access to the gospel of Christ. Jesus walked among the people there, and yet, the people seemed to feel that their religious formality and understanding was an adequate personal choice for their spiritual lives. The behaviour of the people who walked and listened to the words of Jesus is sad. To them, just being in the building or attending religious activity was what they saw as adequate faith! In Matthew 7:21-23, Jesus simply called those people *"evildoers, I never knew you!"* For us, seeing the church and its people will not bring people into a relationship with Christ without a person taking action. Action by all of us is required if we truly want to know that we are Christian. Repentance and Confession reveal something that the people of Capernaum seemed to struggle with doing. For Houston, we too struggle, for many people find it almost impossible to humbly lean on the love of Jesus as we recognize that we are imperfect and in need of a Saviour! May we be more courageous than the people of Capernaum. May we all look in our hearts and ask if Jesus is there!

Announcements

- **CBC Office will be closed on Monday, Feb 17, 2025 in observance of President's day and will re-open during normal hours on Tuesday, Feb 18, 2025.**
- **Senior Rainbow Fellowship will be on Thursday, Feb 20, 2025 at 10 am to noon in the FLC.** The guest speaker is Eddie Orum and the topic is about "Healthy Living for Your Brain & Body" (translation will be available). The lunch cost is \$7/person. There will be a celebration for those born in the month of February. Please RSVP to Dorothy Chow at 281-222-9180 or Josephine Jue at 713-774-4321.
- Please be aware that **Kids Ministry** will have a **lockdown drill** next **Sunday, Feb 23, 2025** during the 1st hour.
- **Men's movie night featuring "The Forge"** will be on Monday, Feb 24, 2025 at 6:30 pm in room 163. We invited all the CBC Men group and their sons. They can start coming at 5 pm to play pickleball first. If you are interested, please RSVP asap to Sherman Yeang at sdyeang@gmail.com.
- **Valley Lodge Trail Ride is on Friday, Feb 28, 2025.** They will stop-off and park in our main CBC parking lot from 12 pm to 1:00 pm for lunch. Our family members are welcome to come out and see the cowboys, wagons and horses and take a few pictures if they like. Please be aware, they will only be here for about an hour.
- **Men's breakfast will be held on Saturday, Mar 1, 2025 at 8:30 am to 9:30 am in room 163.** Please contact Pastor Oleg at pastoroleg@cbchouston.org for RSVP.
- **Mission Trips for 2025:** Galveston Spring break Youth Mission Trip (Mar 12-16, 2025), Summer Mission trip to Dallas (June 7-8, 2025) with the North American Missions Board (SBC), Cambodia (June 29 - July 6, 2025), and Taiwan (July 5-11, 2025). Everyone interested is welcome to join and please contact Pastor Oleg for details at pastoroleg@cbchouston.org.

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