I BELIEVE... In God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth... Reading: Genesis 1:1-5, John 14:1-14. (by Bro. Roger Williams)

First of all. "I believe ... "

To believe basically means to accept the truth, or truthfulness, of something or someone.

Unfortunately, in today's English, "I believe" has come to mean rather less than being sure of the truth of something. "Has anyone seen John today?" you ask. "I believe he's gone to London," someone replies. The second speaker thinks John *may* have gone to London, but he is far from certain. If he was sure of his facts, he wouldn't say "I believe" anything - he would just say "He's gone to London." But this uncertainty is not an essential part of believing - far from it! If we say to someone, "Believe me...!" we are not asking them to have any doubt about what we are telling them. And if we say "I don't believe you!" we are making it very clear that we have no doubt that what we have heard is untrue. And this same level of certainty is there - or should be - when we repeat the Creed.

And here we say "I believe *in...*" And to believe in someone or something normally means to be convinced of their existence - whether we claim to believe in God, or fairies or flying saucers. And at the basic level, of course, this is exactly what we do mean when we say "I believe in God." As it says in Hebrews 11:6, "without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists..." But it is clear that this level of belief is not enough: the Scriptural significance of "believing in" goes much further than that. In James 2:19 we read, "You believe that there is one God. Good! Even the demons believe that - and shudder." So clearly just believing that God exists is not enough to make you a Christian or get you to heaven.

You see, the words used in the New Testament to talk about "believing" are the same words that are also translated as "have faith in" and "trust." Here in John 14 we have "trust" in verse 1, "believe" in verses 10 and 11, "have faith" in verse 12 - all translating the same Greek word. Believing in God is more than just believing that He exists - it also involves coming to trust Him and rely on Him. This is very clear in John 14:1, where Jesus says "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me." (NRSV). Here, clearly, Jesus was not saying to His disciples, "You believe that God exists, believe that I exist also" - after all, He was standing there in front of them as He spoke. Rather, we should read with the NIV, "Trust in God; trust also in me." "Don't worry about the future," says Jesus - "Put your trust in God, and trust Me too..."

So when the Christian says "I believe..." he is expressing not only the acceptance of truth, but also an attitude of trust and an act of commitment. And it is "I believe..." Graham Kendrick has made it "We believe..." in his song "We believe in God the Father," but we can only believe as a group if we each believe as individuals. It is something that we must each do for ourselves - I cannot believe for you, and you cannot do it for me. So the Apostles' Creed is worded in the first person singular throughout - "I believe..."

(to be Cont'd)

Sunday Service 主日崇拜

Sunbridge Road Mission Gaynor Street, Bradford, BD1 2LF

Church House 教會屋

8 Ashgrove, Great Horton Road Bradford, BD7 1BN



Bradford Chinese Christian Church 百福華人基督教會

Church Pastor	Rev Irene Chan	Pastoral Worker	Mr Andrew Moss
教會牧師	陳月明牧師	教牧同工	
Tel 電話	07930 241 998	Tel 電話	07824 510 318

Programme Today 程序表

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Sunday Service	主日崇拜	03/06/2012
Chairman	主席	Mandarin Sunday Group
Worship	敬拜	Mandarin Sunday Group
C/W Interpreter	翻譯	Cindy
Pianist	司琴	Bee *1
Guitarist	結他	Derek/Joshua
Speaker/Interpreter	講道/翻譯	
Projectionist	投影	Mandarin Sunday Group
Communion	聖餐	
Steward	司事	Mandarin Sunday Group

Sunday School	主日學	
Creche	育嬰班	Margot/Esther/Summer's parent
Infant	幼兒班	Christina
Intermediate	中班	Fun
Bible Class	聖經班	

Tea Fellowship	茶點	
Chair	主持	Johnny/Victor
Preparation	茶點預備	Pauline's Group

Bible Study (Mandarin)	國語聖經班	Please contact Christina Xu
Prayer Meeting	祈禱會	Please contact Stella Liang

- 5 赞美神,Kevin 的父亲康复的进展到现在都很好。但仍然是还要很長的时间去恢复。请繼續為他的康復祈禱,特別是在这六個月的时间。Praise God for Kevin's father has made good progress from the strokes so far. Still a long way to go. Continue to pray for his rehabilitation particularly during the first six months.
- ² 请继续为薛斌,丽珠和 Abigail 祈祷, 因为他们快将在收到判决。请继续为他们祈祷,愿神的旨意彰显。 Continue to pray for Xue Bin & Li Zhu & Abigail as they wait for the verdict of their hearing which will be announced very soon. May God's will prevail.
- ³ 请为 Christal 祈祷让她能尽快适应在 London 的生活,也让她快点找到一家新的教会。Pray for Christal as she adjusts to life in London and a new job. Pray that she can settle in a church soon.
- ⁴ 请继续为我们教会的財政祷告,求主在我们的侍奉和牧职中来彰显他的计划和旨意。Continue to pray for the provision of finance for the work of our church. May God show us His plan and direct us to fulfil His missions.
- ⁵ 请为何太太祷告让她能顺利地卖出她的外卖店。Pray for Mrs Ho to have a quick and smooth sale of her shop.
- 7 请为英国政府和政治家祷告,让他们有智慧地带领这个国家,和坚持公议和公平的律法。Pray for wisdom upon the government and the politicians in UK to govern this country well and uphold justice & fairness.
- 請為英國的基督徒禱告能夠信仰堅定成為主的見證,儘管在這個國家基督徒正逐漸地被邊緣化。 Pray for the Christians in UK to stand firm and be witnesses for the Lord despite being increasingly marginalised in this country.

報告 Announcements

- 1 上周主日崇拜出席人数 Last Sunday Service Attendance: TBC;
 - 上周奉献总额 Last Week's Total Offering: £TBC
- 9 明天 6 月 4 日去 Grassington 的郊游,请在上午 10 点在教会屋集合。请把自备盒饭或带足够的金钱还有防水外套和运动鞋。那个目的地的邮政区号是 BD23 6BQ。Church Outing to Grassington on 4 June, please meet at 10am at Church House. Please bring a packed lunch or money to buy lunch there, a waterproof jacket & walking shoes. Destination postcode is BD23 6BQ.
- 3 亲子班(第 4 部分)将于下周日 6 月 10 日下午 3:30 至下午五时继续。Parenting Class (Part 4) will be held from 3:30pm till 5pm on next Sunday 10 June.
- 4 教会屋的装修需要大家帮忙,请联络 Barry 或 Andrew。Any help will be appreciated for painting the Church House. Please contact Barry or Andrew.

主日事奉輪值表 Sunday Service Duty Rota

Sunday Service	主日崇拜	10/06/2012	17/06/2012
Chairman	主席	Mon/Thurs Group	Roger Williams
Worship	敬拜	Mon/Thurs Group	Kevin Zhang
C/W Interpreter	翻譯	Esther	Karen
Pianist	司琴	Bee *1	Bee *1
Guitarist	結他	Derek/Joshua	Derek/Joshua
Speaker/Interpreter	講道/翻譯		
Projectionist	投影	Grace Law	lvy
Communion	聖餐		Mr Li, Johnny
Steward	司事	Mon/Thurs Group	Grace Law / Jody

Sunday School	主日學		
Creche	育嬰班	Li Zhu/Kevin	Ah Zhi/Nan Ai's auntie
Infant	幼兒班	lvy	Hui Hui
Intermediate	中班	Stella	Communion
Bible Class	聖經班	Roger / Andrew	

Tea Fellowship	茶點		
Chair	主持	Kevin C/Fung	Kevin Z/Ken
Preparation	茶點預備	Victor & Christina's group	Mr & Mrs Li's group

聚會時間表 Weekly Meetings

星期	時間	聚會	地點	聯絡人	
Date	Time	Event	Venue	Contact	
Mon	11:00	國語查鋞班 Mandarin Bible Study	22 Rooley Lane, BD5 8LX	Sis. Pauline	
二 Tue	10:30	祈禱會(隔周) Prayer Meeting (Bi-weekly)	教會屋 Church House	羅李元帶姊妹 Yuen Tai Law	
四 Tue	10:30	粵語查鋞班 Cantonese Bible Study	教會屋 Church House	羅李元帶姊妹 Yuen Tai Law	
四 Thu	19:00	粵語查鋞班 Cantonese Bible Study	教會屋 Church House	蔡汉民弟兄 Ken Choi	
五. Fri	19:30	英語查鋞班 English Bible Study	教會屋 Church House	Bro. Andrew Moss	
∃ Sun	13:30	主日崇拜 Sunday Service	Sunbridge Road Mission	房新民弟兄 Kenneth Fong	
日 Sun	14:10	主日學 Sunday School	Sunbridge Road Mission	Sis. Margot Williams	
日 Sun	15:45	國語查鋞班 Mandarin Bible Study	Sunbridge Road Mission	Sis Christina Xu	
∃ Sun	16:00	祈禱會 Prayer Meeting	Sunbridge Road Mission	Sis. Stella Liang	
∃ Sun	17:30	開放教會屋 Open House	教會屋 Church House	Sis. Vivien Moss	