



NEW LIFE

BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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"For the Word of God and for the testimony of Jesus Christ" (Rev 1:9)

Vol. 10 No. 24

LORD'S DAY 11 JUNE 2006

Dear Readers,

The Little Foxes that Spoil the Vines

Little foxes, little things. Are they important? Small things can be enormous and damaging. I read a story the other day that illustrates what small things can do. The story goes something like this: King Henry the Eighth sent a delegation led by the Earl of Wiltshire to patch things up between England and the Roman Catholic Church. The Earl went and prostrated himself before the Pope, who was sitting on his mighty throne, and he prepared to kiss the Pope's toe, which was proper at that time. The Pope thrust his toe forward to receive the kiss. However, the Earl of Wiltshire had brought along his dog. The dog misinterpreted the actions of the Pope, and as he saw the foot advancing toward its master, the dog dashed forward to defend his master. And instead of a kiss, the Pope received a dog bite to his toe.

The Papal guard was enraged and killed the dog. This enraged the Earl of Wiltshire who got up in a huff and returned to England. This led the King of England to break relations with the Roman Catholic Church and to align itself with the Protestant movement in 1534. In a further move away from the Roman Catholic Church, King James 1 had the Bible translated into the English language in 1611. Had it not been for a dog biting the Pope's toe, I wonder would there be a King James Bible today? (I say this with a little humour) Little things can make a big difference!

Dear New Lifer, do not underrate the importance of little things just because they are little. By action and reaction these little defects accumulate and bind themselves together to become like rods of steel, and you can't break them away. That is why you and I need to be careful in guarding the little things that first start before they become welded into our lives, and we will have difficulty in getting rid of them. Let us not be ignorant of that little action, that unguarded word which can become habit and habit constitutes character. Frank Outlaw rightly said:

Watch your thoughts; they become words.

Watch your words; they become habits.

Watch your habits; they become character.

Watch your character; it becomes your destiny.

Little Things can destroy our Soul

King Solomon said, *"Dead flies cause the ointment of the apothecary to send forth a stinking savour: so doth a little folly him that is in reputation for wisdom and honour"...*

Continued on Page 2...

(Ecclesiastes 10:1). Dead flies will cause even a bottle of perfume to stink. An ounce of foolishness can outweigh a pound of wisdom and honour. What the preacher was saying is this – a little bit of folly and it is all over. There are little things in our life that can cause disastrous effects upon our eternal future.

Let me share with you briefly three little things that can have tremendous disastrous ramifications on us.

Television

Is Television an evil to our children? An article published by the NY Times entitled: "TV's Toll on Young Minds and Bodies" reveals to us these scary findings. *"Studies of brain function show evidence of direct harm to the brains of young children who watch television for two or more hours a day. Watching television fosters development of brain circuits, or "habits of mind," that result in increased aggressiveness, lower tolerance levels and decreased attention span, in lieu of developing language circuits in the brain's left hemisphere."*

"One study of 2,500 children conducted at Children's Hospital in Seattle and published in April in the journal Paediatrics found that the more TV watched by toddlers aged 1 to 3, the greater their risk of attention problems at age 7. For each hour watched a day, the risk of developing attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder increased by nearly 10 percent. Children with this problem find it hard to concentrate, have difficulty organizing and exhibit impulsive behaviour."

"The average young child in this country watches about four hours of television a day and each year sees tens of thousands of commercials, often for high-fat, high-sugar or high-salt snacks and foods; thousands of episodes of violence; and countless instances of alcohol use and inappropriate sexual activity. By the time American children finish high school, they have spent nearly twice as many hours in front of the television set as in the classroom."

These findings are frightening. I am sure you agree with me that anything that is powerful and potentially dangerous needs to be handled with great caution. Electricity, for example, is beneficial and familiar, yet only a fool would treat it carelessly. Television is in the same category – devastatingly powerful. Television enters our homes when our guard is down and we feel sheltered from the temptations of the world. We do not expect Satanic assaults at our own comfy living room and are thus unprepared to resist them. Television is a medium with a strong impact, appealing to both eyes and ears at once. Those who produce programmes are usually experts in communication, skilled at making the precise impression which they wish their material to have. As we watch, we are to some extent placing ourselves in the hands of very able people.

Much of today's television falls deplorably short of what it should be and the situation seems to be deteriorating. There is considerable evidence that the violence which mars so many programmes has significantly increased aggressive behaviour in young people.

Hundreds of studies of the effects of TV violence on children and teenagers have found that children may:

- become *"immune"* to the horror of violence
- gradually accept violence as a way to solve problems
- imitate the violence they observe on television; and
- identify with certain characters, victims and/or victimizers

Extensive viewing of television violence by children causes greater aggressiveness. Sometimes, watching a single violent programme can increase aggressiveness. Children who view shows in which violence is very realistic are more likely to imitate what they see. Children with emotional, behavioural, learning or impulse control problems may be more easily influenced by TV violence. The impact of TV violence may be immediately evident in the child's behaviour or may surface years later, and young people can even be affected when the family atmosphere shows no tendency toward violence.

Furthermore, the portrayal of sexual immorality whether explicitly or by innuendo (e.g. *"The Desperate Housewives"*), and the increasing use of blasphemy (e.g. *"World Wrestling Entertainment"*) have desensitised consciences to the point where most people are quite undisturbed at what would have appalled a previous generation. More subtle damage is caused by the blatant materialism of the advertisers, the mind-numbing shoddiness of soap operas and perhaps most dangerous of all is the unspoken humanist conspiracy by which God is not so much denied as quietly ignored.

Dear New Lifer, let us not be ignorant of Satan's schemes (2 Corinthians 2:11). Every murder, every violent act you or a child witnesses on television is like a small, minuscule weight placed upon a balance scale, and at one point in life the scale can be tilted in the other direction. Beware of the One-Eyed Monster!

Little Spiritual Neglects

Spiritual disaster starts by a little neglect. Proverbs 24:33 and 34 says, *"Yet a little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to sleep: So shall thy poverty come as one that travelleth; and thy want as an armed man."*

Is it ok to miss my Quiet Time? Is it ok to have irregular family devotion? In my experience, the little neglect of not keeping my appointment with God or not having family devotion with my family not only causes disastrous effects upon me, but also upon my family. We need to be diligent to guard these little things. You may think this is only a drop in the bucket. But don't be deceived by Satan. Spiritual disaster starts by a little neglect and by the time you realize it you will be in danger of an entire spiritual breakdown.

Dear New Lifer, oftentimes we want people to judge us by our great actions. But the heart of the matter is that we prove who we really are by our small actions. Jesus said, *"He that is faithful in that which is least is faithful also in much"* (Luke 16:10). Our eternal reward is based on the small things that are well done (Matthew 25:21, 23). And it is the conscientious attention to what the world calls little things – little deeds of charity, little words of kindness, little acts of self-denial, a diligent cultivation of little talents – that makes the great beauty and successes of life, and more so, a great man in God's sight.

There is a saying, *"A stitch in time saves nine!"* The idiom means that if a job needs doing it is better to do it now, because it will only get worse, like a hole in clothes that requires stitching. Most of us need to do some stitching and trimming up in our lives. We may not be guilty of big public sins, but we've got little things that are working on us. It's the little foxes, the little defects, the little neglects, the little deficiencies in life, the little dishonesties, the little departures from the principles Christ has given us, that blind our soul and separate us from God. Little things become bigger and bigger and soon they get out of hand. We get overweight one teaspoon at a time. One little neglect of diet, one little neglect of jogging, and we don't diet or exercise anymore. Therefore, we need to nip them in the bud or stitch them up before they rip our lives away from Jesus.

Guard your Eyes

"*Much sin comes in by the eye,*" said a Puritan. The Scripture warns us again and again why we need to guard our eyes from evil. Job covenanted with God that he would not look at a young woman lustfully (Job 31:1). King Solomon, having learned his lesson, said, "*Lust not after her beauty in thine heart; neither let her take thee with her eyelids*" (Proverbs 6:25). In His Sermon on the Mount, Jesus said, "*The light of the body is the eye: if therefore thine eye be single, thy whole body shall be full of light. But if thine eye be evil, thy whole body shall be full of darkness. If therefore the light that is in thee be darkness, how great is that darkness!*" (Matthew 6:22, 23)

Dear New Lifer, guard your eyes on what you look at. Let me tell you this. What you look at, you will eventually become if it is left unchecked. A young husband told me how he had once allowed his eyes to view an Internet site that showed immoral images. He said, "*Once I did that, I was so attracted to it that I did it again and eventually kept doing it.*"

How tragic! It all begins with a little curiosity and it led him down a path of sin. This young man's purity of life gradually changed, causing a breakdown of his marriage and his home. "*A wanton dress is a provocation to lust,*" said another Puritan. We need to help one another to guard our eyes. We need to protect ourselves, especially our young people, from slipping into pornography or sexual harassment. One way to do away with sexual provocation is to dress appropriately and presentably.

Let me ask you people, do you think our Lord is pleased with the way some of us dress on a Sunday morning? We do not dress for people to see. We dress for the glory of God (1 Corinthians 10:31). May I plead with you, especially my dear sisters in the Lord, to dress appropriately and presentably on the Lord's Day, and everyday!

We must not let the little foxes ruin our lives. Let us make every effort to guard ourselves against the little things of life.

*Little drops of water, Little grains of sand,
Make the mighty ocean and the pleasant land.
So the little moments, Humble though they be,
Make the mighty ages of eternity.*

~Julie Carney

Pastor
Life Bible-Presbyterian Church

Read the Bible in A Year

Calendar of Daily readings for June 2006:

<u>Day</u>	<u>Family</u>		<u>Private</u>	
1	Deut 5	Psa 88	Isa 33	Rev 3
2	Deut 6	Psa 89	Isa 34	Rev 4
3	Deut 7	Psa 90	Isa 35	Rev 5
4	Deut 8	Psa 91	Isa 36	Rev 6
5	Deut 9	Psa 92,93	Isa 37	Rev 7
6	Deut 10	Psa 94	Isa 38	Rev 8
7	Deut 11	Psa 95,96	Isa 39	Rev 9
8	Deut 12	Psa 97,98	Isa 40	Rev 10
9	Deut 13,14	Psa 99-101	Isa 41	Rev 11
10	Deut 15	Psa 102	Isa 42	Rev 12
11	Deut 16	Psa 103	Isa 43	Rev 13
12	Deut 17	Psa 104	Isa 44	Rev 14
13	Deut 18	Psa 105	Isa 45	Rev 15
14	Deut 19	Psa 106	Isa 46	Rev 16
15	Deut 20	Psa 107	Isa 47	Rev 17
16	Deut 21	Psa 108,109	Isa 48	Rev 18
17	Deut 22	Psa 110,111	Isa 49	Rev 19
18	Deut 23	Psa 112,113	Isa 50	Rev 20
19	Deut 24	Psa 114,115	Isa 51	Rev 21
20	Deut 25	Psa 116	Isa 52	Rev 22
21	Deut 26	Psa 117,118	Isa 53	Matt 1
22	Deut 27	Psa 119 (v24)	Isa 54	Matt 2
23	Deut 28	Psa 119 (v25-48)	Isa 55	Matt 3
24	Deut 29	Psa 119 (v49-72)	Isa 56	Matt 4
25	Deut 30	Psa 119 (vs73-96)	Isa 57	Matt 5
26	Deut 31	Psa 119 (vs97-120)	Isa 58	Matt 6
27	Deut 32	Psa 119 (vs121-144)	Isa 59	Matt 7
28	Deut 33,34	Psa 119 (vs145-176)	Isa 60	Matt 8
29	Josh 1	Psa 120-122	Isa 61	Matt 9
30	Josh 2	Psa 123-125	Isa 62	Matt 10

The Christian's Daily Remembrancer

by Ps. James Smith

11 June 2006

“This is my portion” Lamentations

3:24

“THEREFORE WILL I HOPE IN HIM.” It is good that I should both hope and quietly wait for the salvation of the Lord, because my goodness extends not to Him. How poor is the worldling’s possession, compared with the Christian’s portion; it is but for a few days; it cannot satisfy, it cannot bless. But, beloved, Jehovah has given us Himself; He says, “I am your inheritance.” We are ever with Him, and all He has is ours. His power is ours to support us, His wisdom to guide us, His love to comfort us, His mercy to relieve us, His goodness to supply us, His justice to defend us, His covenant to secure us, and His heaven to receive us. He is a sufficient, everlasting and immutable portion. We are to live upon Him, draw from Him, rejoice in Him, and look to Him for all we need. For Him we renounce all other; to His glory all our efforts must be directed, and with Him we must walk daily. Men cannot deprive us of our portion, fire cannot consume it, nor rust corrupt it; let us not therefore be much affected by anything that occurs below: if the streams are dried, the fountain remains; if creatures fail or deceive us, our God is the portion of our inheritance forever; He maintains our lot, He is our strength, and our everlasting portion.

Begone, ye gilded vanities,
I seek the only good;
To rest bliss my wishes rise,
The favour of my God:
My love, my God, my portion be,
And let me find my all in Thee.



When mournful thoughts within me rise,
And press upon my troubled breast,
The comforts of Thy word suffice,
To keep my heart and mind at rest.

**In Green Pastures
Devotional Readings for Every Day of the
Year**

By J.R. Miller, D.D.

11 June 2006

MORNING

ACTS 17:16 “Now while Paul waited for them at Athens, his spirit was stirred in him, when he saw the city wholly given to idolatry.”

A BELIEVER in God cannot look upon the world’s treatment of holy things without sore pain. Athens was a city of idols. There were more gods there than men—it was said. It was not easy to confess Christ in Athens, amid such exhibitions of idolatry as were seen everywhere. Yet that was just the place the true God should be proclaimed, and Paul was the only witness God had there.

It is not enough for us to speak for God only where His name is honoured, where all the people are, in a way, His friends. If we do this and then shrink from mentioning His name where all are hostile, we have failed in loyalty.

Paul spoke words at Athens which the people had never heard before. He told of the one God in a place where hundreds of gods were worshipped. He declared God as spiritual and unseen, where all the people worshipped statues they could see.

EVENING

INDIVIDUALITY OF CHARACTER

CHARACTER is personal. It is not a possession we can share with another. We can give a hungry man part of our loaf of bread; we can divide our money with one who needs; but character is something that we cannot give away or communicate. The brave soldier cannot share his courage with the pale, trembling recruit who fights by his side in the battle. The pure, gentle woman cannot give part of her purity and gentleness to the defiled and hardened sister-woman whom she meets. Character is our own, a part of our very being. It grows in us along the years. Acts repeated become habits, and character is made up in the end of the habits which have been repeated so often as to become a permanent part of the life.

WELCOME TO NEW LIFE B-P CHURCH LONDON
CHURCH THEME: STRIVING TO LIVE ABOVE OUR SPIRITUAL BLESSINGS
IN CHRIST (Ephesians 1:3)

Our worship services begin promptly at **11.00 am and 4.00 pm.**

Please stay back for Bible Study and fellowship lunch after the morning worship and for tea after the evening service. Invite your friends to come to Church.

Worship Services			WELCOME
Morning	Today: 11/06/2006	Next Week: 18/06/2006	<p style="text-align: center;">NEWS/ANNOUNCEMENTS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evening Service: Westminster Larger Catechism (WLC) <p>This week:</p> <p>Q100. What special things are we to consider in the ten commandments?</p> <p>Q101. What is the preface to the ten commandments?</p> <p><i>Next week:</i></p> <p>Q102. What is the sum of the four commandments which contain our duty to God?</p> <p>Q103. Which is the first commandment?</p> <p>Q104. What are the duties required in the first commandment?</p> <p>Q105. What are the sins forbidden in the first commandment?</p> <p>Q106. What are we specially taught by these words before me in the first commandment?</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Do stay back and find out the answers from the Word of God.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10th Anniversary preparations: This will take place on Jun 25. Church sanctuary cleaning has been planned for Sat, 17 June. • Book Sales: All books displayed on the book table are ½ price off. • Pray for: Students who will be having their examinations in the coming month. • Metropolitan Tabernacle School of Theology 2006: The conference theme is “Promoting Spiritual Life and Service” and will take place from Tues 4th to Thurs 6th July. For those interested, please see Mok for the application form and costing details.
<i>Chairman:</i>	Jonathan Kim	Seetoh Yoong Chiang	
<i>Speaker:</i>	Mok Chee Cheong	Mok Chee Cheong	
<i>Message:</i>	Blessed Assurance	Christ Raises Lazarus	
<i>Text:</i>	John 10:22-42	John 11:1-57	
<i>Organist:</i>	Amanda	Anthony	
Evening			
<i>Chairman:</i>	John Poh	Jeff Pun	
<i>Speaker:</i>	Mok Chee Cheong	Mok Chee Cheong	
<i>Message:</i>	The Ten Commandments WLC Questions 100-101	The 1 st Commandment WLC Questions 102-106	
<i>Pianist:</i>	Anthony	Yanning	
Other Duties			
	Today	Next Week	
<i>Ushers</i>	John/Yoong Chiang	Jeff/Wah Soon	
<i>Sunday Sch:</i>	Yanning	Carol	
<i>Singspirat 'n:</i>	Esmeralda/Ming Yann	Jonathan/Anthony	
<i>Lunch:</i>	Magdelene	Constance	
<i>Washing-up:</i>	YAF Group 1	YAF Group 2	
<i>Bible Study:</i>	DHW – Genesis 24	DHW – Genesis 25	
Appointments of the Week			
Wed 14 June	7:30 pm	Mid Week Prayer Meeting: C'man: Mok	
Fri 16 June	7.00 pm	Young Adults Fellowship: Led by Sharon	
Sat 17 June	4.00 pm	Prayer Meeting & Bible Study: Spkr/C'man: Ming Yann	
Last Week's Worship Service Collections			
Offering:	£464.75	Lunch: £25.50	
<u>The Shorter Catechism</u>			
Q103. What do we pray for in the Third Petition?			
<p>Ans: In the Third Petition (which is, THY WILL BE DONE IN EARTH, AS IT IS IN HEAVEN) we pray, That God, by His grace, would make us able and willing to know, obey, and submit to His will in all things, as the angels do in heaven.</p> <p><i>Comments: God's will means what He wishes to be done. This will is obeyed perfectly in heaven, and in this petition we pray that it may be obeyed as perfectly on earth. This can never be done of our own strength and therefore we ask that God would help us to know perfectly what His will is, and having learned it, to do and suffer it.</i></p>			