



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. 11 No. 21

LORD'S DAY 20 MAY 2007

My dear readers,

PRACTICAL HINTS FOR EFFECTIVE BIBLE READING

2 Timothy 3:15 - *"And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus."*

1. Be motivated and committed to studying God's Word.

Remind yourself of the important and practical value of reading God's infallible and inerrant Word for it converts the soul and take seriously what the Bible teaches in the practical use of the Bible (2 Timothy 3:16-17).

2. Create and set aside time.

Read the Bible at regular times every day. Be awake early in the morning (i.e. before work or studies), as taught in Mark 1:35 in the example of our Lord Jesus Christ. These may be better than late nights reading (Psalm 119:148) although it is also possible.

3. Develop a workable plan.

Bible study is most effective when you employ a proper method of Bible study and follow a scheme. Study the Bible chronologically (i.e. book by book in OT or NT) topically or by chapters (i.e. use the RPG). Decide what topic (Holy Spirit, Stewardship, Worship, Prayer, etc.) you will study or chapters you will read, and organize a systematic approach to your Bible reading (i.e. character like Paul, Elijah or Samuel, book by book, thematic or topical) and keep at it until it is done.

4. Persevere and not give up.

Be patient and stick to your plan and press on until it is completed. Do not stop if you miss a day. Be disciplined and press on and do not give up easily.

5. Be realistic and push yourself a little.

Set reasonable goals for yourself that you can achieve. Do not expect to master the whole Bible in a day or a month and an in-depth meditation is better than a superficial reading. Expect often to be challenged and impacted by it (2 Peter 3:16, Hebrews 4:12, Jeremiah 15:16).

6. Pray daily for wisdom from above.

Fervently ask God to help you understand His Word through the illumination of the Holy Spirit. Pray before and after reading (Psalm 119:18).

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7. Do not just read, but study, meditate and memorize.

This may mean re-reading verses. Keep asking yourself: "Why? What does this verse mean in the content? What does it mean for me today? Is that all it means and how can I use it?" (Psalm 119:15).

8. Focus on Christ.

Remember that Christ is the centre of all Scripture, and that all of Scripture points to Him our Redeemer and our duty towards Him. He is our all in all (Luke 24:27). Be Christocentric or Christ-centred.

9. Focus your mind on God with prayer and be disciplined.

Ask "What is God revealing about Himself to me today or His will for my life?" Is today's reading relevant to what I am going through? Honour God and seek him prayerfully always.

10. Apply and strive to do it.

Meditate on the Word (Joshua 1:8), and apply it to your life. Do not put your Bible away without having asked yourself what you can do with what you have learned from what you have read (Romans 15:4).

11. Take short notes and refer to it later.

Some people find it helpful to record what they have learned in a notebook. Mark or underline key verses and thoughts in your Bible and jot it down on a booklet and keep it well. This will help you to refer back to them later when you need them. Remember that short notes are better than long memories.

12. Remember them and rehearse it again and sing it (if possible).

Try to carry the thought you have learned with you throughout your day. Take time and memorize key verses (Psalm 119:11) and review them again and let it saturate your heart and mind. Sing it out if you can for Moses taught the Israelites songs to remember God as well (Deuteronomy 32:44).

Hints for Applying the Bible

Hebrews 5:12 says, *"For when for the time ye ought to be teachers, ye have need that one teach you again which be the first principles of the oracles of God; and are become such as have need of milk, and not of strong meat."*

Be a doer of the Word not a hearer only (James 1:22). As you study and meditate on a passage of Scripture, prayerfully ask yourself: Is there...

- any example for me to follow or emulate?
- any command for me to obey?
- any error for me to avoid?
- any sin for me to forsake or repent of?
- any promise for me to claim?
- any blessing I can enjoy or give thanks for?

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- any failure from which I can learn?
- any deeper thought about God Himself?
- any truth that has greatly affected me practically?

Jeremiah 15:16 says *"Thy words were found, and I did eat them; and thy word was unto me the joy and rejoicing of mine heart: for I am called by thy name, O LORD God of hosts."* and, Paul in 2 Timothy 2:15 challenges us to *"Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth."*

We read news, websites articles, magazines and journals daily and it is a greater joy to read study and meditate and apply God's holy word in our lives. Let your lives be transformed by the Word for the better. Live out the precepts that are practical and relevant. Let us get started today and read and study and apply the lessons from the Word of God with the help of the RPG or other devotional guide as well. And DIN (Do It Now!) and DELAY IT NOT!

*Rev Jack Sin
Maranatha B-P Church, S'pore
(Adapted from Maranatha Messenger dated 6 May 2007)*

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Sabbath Day Programme from May to July 2007

Theme for Morning Worship Service: "Serving in the Kingdom of Christ"

Date		Message	Scripture Text
MAY	20	Why Serve in the Kingdom of Christ?	Romans 12:1-8
	27	The Awesome Privilege of Serving in Christ's Kingdom	Hebrews 12:28, 29
JUN	03	The Requirements for Serving in Christ's Kingdom	Luke 9:57-62
	10	Do You Have the Heart of a Servant?	Matthew 20:20-28
	17	The Christian's Two Citizenships	Eph 2:19; Rom 13:7
	24	Motivations for Serving in Christ's Kingdom	2 Corinthians 4:16-5:10
JUL	01	Seek Ye First the Kingdom of God	Matthew 6:33
	08	Lord, What Wilt Thou Have Me to Do?	Acts 9:6
	15	Are You Equipped for Service in Christ's Kingdom?	1 Corinthians 12:4-11
	22	Fervent in Spirit, Serving the Lord	Romans 12:11
	29	The Challenges of Serving in Christ's Kingdom	Luke 10:1-9

Theme for Evening Worship Service: "Dynamics of Spiritual Gifts"

Date		Message	Scripture Text
MAY	20	They That Win Souls Are Wise	Ephesians 4:11
	27	I See What He Means	Romans 12:7
JUN	03	Faith That Moves Mountains	1 Corinthians 12:9
	10	Lover Of Strangers	Romans 12:13
	17	Identifying Truth From Error	1 Corinthians 12:10
	24	He Fires Me To Action	Romans 12:8
JUL	01	The Blessing Of Giving	Romans 12:8
	08	Can I Offer My Service?	1 Corinthians 12:28
	15	Who Is In-Charge?	1 Corinthians 12:28
	22	Know The State Of Your Flock	Ephesians 4:11
	29	A Church in Service	Philippians 2:14-18

WELCOME TO NEW LIFE B-P CHURCH LONDON

CHURCH THEME: WALK IN THE NEWNESS OF LIFE (Romans 6:4)

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. Do invite your friends to come to Church.

Worship Services			WELCOME
Morning	<i>Today: 20/05/2007</i>	<i>Next Week: 27/05/2007</i>	We extend a warm welcome to all worshippers this Lord's Day. We would also like to welcome Ko Ling Kang, M. Ferraz and Mike Eastwood who came to our morning worship last week.
<i>Chairman:</i>	Pr Mok Chee Cheong	Pr Mok Chee Cheong	
<i>Speaker:</i>	Pr Mok Chee Cheong	Rev Chris Richards	
<i>Message:</i>	Why Serve in the Kingdom of Christ?	TBA	
<i>Text:</i>	Romans 12:1-8	TBA	
<i>Organist:</i>	Anthony	Yanning	
Evening			NEWS/ANNOUNCEMENTS
<i>Chairman:</i>	John Poh	Jonathan Kim	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Family Worship: Those who would like to open their homes for the month of June, please see Pr Mok. • Prayer Requests: (1) Pray for the students that God will grant them health and wisdom as they prepare for their coming examinations. (2) Pray for Elder Ford who is experiencing knee pain and could not join us for worship. • Tracting on the Lord's Day: Those who are interested, please gather at the main entrance at 10.30am. • School of Theology at Metropolitan Tabernacle: The theme for this year programme is "The Glory of Christ in the Working Church". It will be held from 3rd – 5th Jul 2007. For further details, please help yourself to the application form available at the Book Table. • Memory Verse 1st Review Exercise: The closing date is extended to 27 May 2007. • Gentle Reminder: Please switch off your mobile phone or put it in silent mode during worship services. To keep the sanctity of worship, please do not bring food and beverages into the sanctuary. • Sabbath Day Programme: Please note that the schedule is subject to changes.
<i>Speaker:</i>	Pr Mok Chee Cheong	Rev Chris Richards	
<i>Message:</i>	They That Win Souls Are Wise	TBA	
<i>Text:</i>	Ephesians 4:11	TBA	
<i>Pianist:</i>	Feng Qian	Grace Lim	
Other Duties			
	<i>Today: 20/05/2007</i>	<i>Next Week: 27/05/2007</i>	
<i>Ushers</i>	Wah Soon/Evelyn	Jee/Sharon	
<i>Sunday Sch:</i>	Yanning	Joyce	
<i>Lunch:</i>	Volunteers	Volunteers	
<i>Washing-up:</i>	Volunteers	Volunteers	
<i>Bible Study:</i>	BBK	BBK	
Appointments of the Week			
Fri 25 May	7:30 pm	Young Adults Fellowship: Led by: Pr Mok	
Sat 26 May	4.00 pm	Prayer Meeting & Bible Study: Spkr: Jonathan	
<u>Last Week's Worship Service Collections</u>			
Offering:	£212.48	Hospitality: £100.00 Lunch: £29.50	
<u>Memory Verse</u>			
<i>Previous Week (May 07 Wk 2): Ephesians 5:5</i>			
For this ye know, that no whoremonger, nor unclean person, nor covetous man, who is an idolater, hath any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God.			
<i>This Week (May 07 Wk 3): Romans 12:1-2</i>			
I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable Service.			
And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.			

