



# **NEW LIFE**

## **BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

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

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**LORD'S DAY 28 SEPTEMBER 2008**

## **COULD YOUR WILL BE IN CONFLICT WITH GOD'S WILL?**

God's will for all believers is unmistakable: 'For this is the will of God, your sanctification' (1 Thessalonians 4:3). This is priority number two in God's eternal agenda (his first priority being his own glory). Again and again in the New Testament this great priority is impressed on God's people. It is the omega point of our election: 'he chose us in him (Christ)... that we should be holy and blameless before him' (Ephesians 1:4). It is the agreed and resolved purpose of God the Trinity. Peter writes, 'To those who are elect exiles...according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, in the sanctification of the Spirit, for obedience to Jesus Christ and for the sprinkling of his blood' (1 Peter 1:1-2). The Triune God covenanted in eternity not only to save a world of lost sinners but to sanctify them to himself. If, then, this is God's will for all his children, is it your will? Each Person of the Trinity has cast his vote in favour of your sanctification. Is your sanctification the great priority of your life, under the supreme priority of glorifying God (and the two are not unrelated!).

To sanctify means to set apart. In biblical terms it means to set apart from common and ordinary use to sacred use. In the Old Testament, utensils and clothes, as well as people, were sanctified, set apart for God's exclusive use. This idea is at the heart of the Bible's call for God's people to be holy: 'You shall be holy, for I am holy' (1 Peter 1:16, quoting Leviticus 11:44). In making us holy, or like himself, God first separates us from our sin, washing us clean and delivering us from its ruling power, through the saving work of our Lord Jesus. But this is not the end of our sanctification. It is, of course, the radical moment of our sanctification, the foundation and source of our sanctification. But throughout the whole of our lives the Lord pursues our moral conformity to himself. His predestined purpose is to conform us to the image of his Son 'that he might be the firstborn among many brothers' (Romans 8:29).

This progressive sanctification does not happen all at once, nor are we passive bystanders. In Romans 8:13, Paul calls us to 'put to death, by the Spirit, the deeds of the body'. Peter summons us to 'make every effort to supplement (our) faith with virtue...and knowledge...and self control...and steadfastness...and godliness...and brotherly affection...and love.' He also calls us to 'grow in the grace and...

*Continued on Page 2...*

knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ' (2 Peter 1:5-8; 3:18). 'For this is the will of God, your sanctification.'

So, let me ask you again: Is your will in conformity with God's will? What priority do you give to your sanctification? Perhaps a check-list of questions will help you answer:

- What priority do you give to the Lord's worship on his Sabbath day?
- What is the measure of your commitment to the fellowship of the saints?
- Are prayer and Scripture reading woven into the fabric of your daily life?
- Does your sin trouble you, first because it grieves and dishonours the Lord?
- Is the aim of your life 'to please him?' (cf. 2 Cor. 5:9)
- Are you in public before men what you are in private before God?
- Do you go about 'doing good?' (cf. Acts 10:38)

This is no infallible check-list, but it may help you (and me) to be honest about the priority we give to our sanctification. It is an awful thing to be at cross purposes with God. His will is good, acceptable and perfect. If your sanctification is his will, and it is, then you can be sure that your happiness is intimately bound up with your holiness.

'For this is the will of God, your sanctification.'

*Ian Hamilton*

*(adapted from Grace B-P Church bulletin dated 7 September 2008)*

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## ***My All for Him***

1. My eyes fixed on Christ (Heb. 12:2).
2. My ears hearing and heeding Him (Ps. 40:5–8).
3. My hands busily working for others (Eph. 4:28).
4. My feet running His appointed race (Heb. 12:1).
5. My mind stayed on Him for peace (Isa. 26:3).
6. My heart kept for His occupancy (I Pet. 3:15).
7. My body a holy, living sacrifice (Rom. 12:1).

“Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.” — Prov. 3:5, 6.

That is what God expects that we shall do — go all out for Him.

# Testimonies

We will conclude our testimony section with Yetta Leibowitz, Nicholas Dieu and Tan Soon Hui:

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Yetta is employed as a librarian and is currently pursuing her Master degree:

*"I am thankful that God granted me the strength and ability to pass my first year of study. I was nervous at the beginning of the year as it was my first time back in a classroom in 10 years. Added to that was the fact that I was also working full time. Instead of stressing myself out, I placed this situation in God's hand and trusted that He would see me through, which He has.*

*He was with me always, as I wrote my papers, sat my exams and also did my job. He gave me the ability to write my papers and get them finished on time and handed in, and also in strengthening me to cope with working a full 6 days a week, 5 days of work after which I had to find time to write my papers and study and one full day of classes.*

*As I now face my 2nd year of study, I pray that God will grant me the strength and ability for the coming year and that He will see me through this next year."*

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Nicholas is currently back home in Belgium. He will be back in UK to begin her 2<sup>nd</sup> year of university:

*"How can we not feel God's hand when we have to accomplish challenging tasks? For my first exam session in the UK, God helped me in various ways. He has given me the strength and the determination to keep focused on my study, however tired I was. He also allowed me to pray for the other students from the YAF. Praying for brothers and sisters and knowing that they pray for you gives you confidence. We know that we are all lead by the Lord. I also want to give thanks for the times of Christian fellowship: sharing my experiences and finding renewed strength by hearing the faith of others. Finally, I want to thank God for the results he gave me. These results have helped me to spend my summer in peace and are the foundation for the remaining years of my study."*

Nicolas Dieu

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Soon Hui completed his studies in the UK and is now returned to Singapore. This year, he assisted with the organization of the Student's Meeting in Singapore:

*Here is my testimony:*

*"Thank God for helping me in my transition back to life in Singapore for the past year. Indeed He has blessed me much: from settling down in Life Church to the opportunity to get baptised earlier this year, and from the gift of fellowship with family and friends here to serving my country in National Service. There have been times when I fell but God has always been faithful and picked me up each time. I pray that I may continue to grow in the most holy faith and to run the race that is set before me with joy."*

In Christ

Soon Hui

# WELCOME TO NEW LIFE B-P CHURCH LONDON

## CHURCH THEME: WORK OUT YOUR OWN SALVATION WITH FEAR AND TREMBLING. (Philippians 2:12)

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
<b>Morning</b>	<i>Today: 28/09/2008</i>	<i>Next Week: 05/10/2008</i>	We extend a warm welcome to all worshippers this Lord's Day. We like to welcome Elaine Tan, Tan Shi Ping and Elder Chia Ah Lak & family to our morning worship service last Lord's Day.
<i>Chairman:</i>	John Poh	Mark Chen	
<i>Preacher:</i>	Mark Chen	Rev Stephen Scott-Pearson	
<i>Message:</i>	Sit Still	Tbd	
<i>Text:</i>	Ruth 3:13-18	Tbd	
<i>Organist:</i>	Hubert	Anthony	
<b>Evening</b>			<b>NEWS/ANNOUNCEMENTS</b>
<i>Chairman:</i>	Jonathan Kim	Jonathan Kim	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Lord's Supper:</b> Next week, we will be observing the Lord's Supper. Please come with your hearts prepared.</li> <li>• <b>Quarterly Rota Oct to Dec '08:</b> The rota for the next 3 months can be found on the notice board in the Fellowship Hall.</li> <li>• <b>Pray for Journey Mercies:</b> Douglas (Ghana), Barbara (Jamaica), New &amp; current students who are travelling to the UK.</li> <li>• <b>Pray for those who are seeking employment:</b> John, Hubert, Constance</li> <li>• <b>Parking Restrictions:</b> For those who are driving, please take note of the parking restrictions implemented at zone "KQ" between 2 Sep and 2 Oct (inclusive of Saturdays and Sundays).</li> <li>• <b>Those serving on the Lord's Day:</b> Please gather behind the pulpit area at 10.30am for prayer.</li> </ul>
<i>Preacher:</i>	Mark Chen	Rev Stephen Scott-Pearson	
<i>Message:</i>	Jesus, the Healer of Souls	Tbd	
<i>Text:</i>	Matthew 8:14-17; 9:1-13	Tbd	
<i>Pianist:</i>	Joy	Joy	
<b>Other Duties</b>			
	<i>Today: 28/09/2008</i>	<i>Next Week: 05/10/2008</i>	
<i>Ushers</i>	Daniel / Evelyn	John / Yetta	
<i>Sunday Sch:</i>	Hui Min	Hui Min	
<i>Lunch:</i>	Constance	Maureen	
<i>Washing-up:</i>	Volunteers	Volunteers	
<i>Bible Study:</i>	No Bible Study	No Bible Study	
<b>Appointments of the Week</b>			
Fri 3 Oct	7:00pm	<b>Young Adults Fellowship:</b> Led by Mark	
Sat 4 Oct	4.00pm	<b>Prayer Meeting &amp; Bible Study:</b> Led by Jonathan	
<b>Last Week's Worship Service Collections</b>			
<b>Offering:</b> £540.30		<b>Lunch:</b> £33.77	
<b>YAF:</b> £7.76			
<b><u>Memory Verse</u></b>			
<i>Last Week (September 08 Wk 4): Psalm 139:21</i>			
Do not I hate them, O LORD, that hate thee? and am not I grieved with those that rise up against thee?			
<i>This Week (September 08 Wk 5): Psalm 139:22</i>			
I hate them with perfect hatred: I count them mine enemies.			
<b><u>Look at This!</u></b>			
Look back and thank God.			
Look forward and trust God.			
Look around and serve God.			
Look up and find God.			
Look within and believe God.			