



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. 17 No. 28

LORD’S DAY 14 JULY 2013

ORDER OF WORSHIP

	<i>Morning Service – 11am</i>	<i>Evening Service – 4pm</i>
	<i>The Lord Is in His Holy Temple</i>	
<i>Prelude</i>		
<i>Call to Worship</i>	Psalm 89:1-5	1 Peter 1:13-16
<i>Opening Hymn *</i>	RHC 47 – “Great is Thy Faithfulness”	RHC 385 – “May the Mind of Christ, My Savior”
<i>Opening Prayer *</i>	Jonathan Kim	Jonathan Kim
<i>Gloria Patri *</i>	<i>Glory Be to the Father</i>	---
<i>Responsive Reading</i>	Psalm 26	---
<i>Second Hymn *</i>	<i>Psalm 26 verses 1-3, 6-7</i> (to the tune of Ortonville, RHC 556)	---
<i>Announcements & Memory Verse</i>	Jonathan Kim	Jonathan Kim
<i>Tithes & Offerings & Doxology *</i>	RHC 209 – “Because He Lives” verses 1&2	---
<i>Scriptural Text</i>	Romans 15:7	Psalm 119:4-8
<i>Pastoral Prayer</i>	Rev Colin Wong	Rev Colin Wong
<i>Sermon Message</i>	<i>Accept One Another</i>	<i>Essentials to Living a Victorious Christian Life</i>
<i>Lord's Supper</i>	Rev Colin Wong	---
<i>Closing Hymn *</i>	RHC 555 – “According to Thy Gracious Word”	Insert – “O That the Lord Would Guide My Ways”
<i>Benediction/3-Fold Amen *</i>	Rev Colin Wong	Rev Colin Wong
<i>Postlude</i>	<i>The Lord Bless You</i>	---
* Congregation Stands		

THE LORD IS IN HIS HOLY TEMPLE

The Lord is in His holy temple,
The Lord is in His holy temple:
Let all the earth keep silence,
Let all the earth keep silence before Him -
Keep silence, keep silence before Him. Amen.

DOXOLOGY

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost,
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, Amen.

THE LORD BLESS YOU

The Lord bless you and keep you;
The Lord lift His countenance upon you,
and give you peace, and give you peace;
The Lord make His face to shine upon you,
And be gracious unto you, be gracious,
The Lord be gracious, gracious unto you. Amen.

Church Theme 2013 – “Understand and know God” – Jeremiah 9:24

My Dear Reader,

WHAT WAS JESUS' VIEW ON SOCIAL OUTCASTS?

What is a social outcast? A social outcast is a person who has been rejected by a particular group or by society as a whole. The fear of rejection and the pain that accompanies social rejection is universal.

Who gets socially rejected? Social rejection has plenty to do with the degree of similarity or “fit” between the person and the group. If a person “fits in” well, there is no problem but when a person does not “fit in,” when there is little similarity between an individual and the members of the group, then he or she is at risk of becoming an outcast. And once a person has become a social outcast, he or she is caught in a vicious cycle of loneliness that is very hard to break (“*Who is the Social Outcast?*” by Gerda Wever-Rabehl).

So, a social outcast is not necessarily a former convict, rapist or addict. He can be any one of us who does not “fit in” well with an individual or a group of people.

Are there social outcasts in the church today? I believe so. As a matter of fact, all of us were social outcasts before salvation in Jesus Christ. The church is made up of former social outcasts. Robert B. Munger aptly said, “*The Church is the only fellowship in the world where the one requirement for membership is the unworthiness of the candidate.*” If it was not for the love, grace and mercy of God, do you think you and I would qualify to be members of His family? Praise God for saving a social outcast like me!

When Jesus was on earth, He befriended people from all walks of life. He met them, sat and ate and talked with them and led some of them to salvation.

The Woman at the Well

Jesus came to a town of Samaria called Sychar, near the field that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. There, he met a woman at the well who came alone in the heat of the day to draw water. Jesus’ conversation with her revealed that she was a sinful woman who had had five husbands, and the man with whom she was then living was not her husband. One possible reason why she, a social outcast, came to the well alone in the heat of the day is that respectable women usually drew water in the morning or evening.

Knowing her background, Jesus spoke to her tenderly. She was surprised that a Jew would talk with her (John 4:9). Likewise, Jesus’ disciples were also taken aback (John 4:27). The heart of the matter is that Jesus won her heart. She came to know the Messiah (John 4:29, 42). And through her testimony, many of the Samaritans from that town believed in Jesus (John 4:39).

A Maniac of Gadara

Jesus met a maniac of Gadara. Doubtless to say, he was a social outcast. He was wild, naked, mad, demon-possessed, and lived in the cemetery. Jesus spoke to him. He cast out the demons and sent them away. This socially outcast man became sane and well. He wanted to follow Jesus wherever he went but was told to go home to tell his loved ones and friends what great things God had done for him (Mark 5:19, 20).

Matthew

Matthew (Levi) was a despised publican because he worked for the Romans as a tax collector. But Jesus reached out to him, a social outcast. And he responded immediately. The Bible says, “*And he left all, rose up, and followed him*” (Luke 5:28).

Having followed Jesus, Matthew invited Jesus, His disciples and many of his social outcast friends for dinner in his house. The scribes and Pharisees were there. They murmured against Jesus’ disciples, saying, “*Why do ye eat and drink with publicans and sinners?*” (Luke 5:30) Jesus’ response to them was excellent. He said, “*They that are whole need not a physician: but they that are sick. I came not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance*” (Luke 5:31, 32).

Zacchaeus

Zacchaeus was of the same class of social outcast as Matthew – a publican. He was a wealthy man. But his wealth was gotten by defrauding the people. He sought to see Jesus when he heard that he was passing through Jericho. Because of the crowd and due to his small stature, he climbed up a sycamore tree to see Jesus who was going to pass that way. When Jesus came to that place, he looked up and said to him, *“Zacchaeus, make haste, and come down; for today I must abide at thy house”* (Luke 19:5). He hurried down and welcomed Jesus to his house with great joy.

The people murmured and said, *“That he [Jesus] was gone to be guest with a man that is a sinner”* (Luke 19:7). Zacchaeus was repentant. He promised to make adequate restitution for all that was taken by false accusation. That change of life caused Jesus to say to him, *“This day is salvation come to this house forso much as he also is a son of Abraham”* (Luke 19:9). By a simple social contact, Jesus won Zacchaeus, a social outcast to Himself.

The Woman Caught in Adultery

While Jesus was teaching in the temple early in the morning, the scribes and Pharisees brought a woman caught in the act of adultery to him. They said to Him that according to the Law of Moses, she should be stoned to death. They said this to test Jesus but Jesus did not answer them. He stooped down and wrote something on the ground with His finger. When they insisted on an answer, He said to them, *“He that is without sin among you, let him first cast a stone at her”* (John 8:7). Then he bent over again and wrote on the ground.

When the scribes and Pharisees heard this, they all left, one by one, the older ones first. Jesus was left alone, with the woman still standing there. He stood up and said to her, *“Woman, where are those thine accusers? hath no man condemned thee?”* And she said, *“No man, Lord.”* Then Jesus said to her, *“Neither do I condemn thee: go, and sin no more”* (John 8:10, 11).

Who would forgive such a woman? She was a social outcast in the Jewish community. And yet Jesus reached out to her and restored her dignity – *“I do not condemn you either. Go, but do not sin again.”*

The Local Church

How often, even in the church compound, the spiritually outcast are passed by and no help is offered. Don't be like the priest and the Levite who passed by on the other side and left the stricken man half dead (Luke 10:31, 32). My dear brethren, it would be wonderful when we see a spiritually outcast person – even on our way to the sanctuary – to stop and say a word of comfort and encouragement to him or her. I hope none of us has that attitude expressed in the words of Isaiah 65:5, *“Stand by thyself, come not near to me; for I am holier than thou.”*

The people of God need to learn to meet socially and spiritually outcast people, to sit where they sit, to eat where they eat, if God's people are to lead them to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ. God's people must go out of the way to be friendly. Friendliness breaks barriers, removes prejudices, softens resistance, and opens people's hearts for salvation.

My dear brethren, you and I were social outcasts. Having been saved by the power of the Gospel, how then should we live? Before salvation we did not know why we were here, but now we know why we are here. If we are here to partake of the sin and worldliness of others, then that social contact is altogether wrong. However, if we are here trying to witness for Christ and His kingdom, then we are following Jesus' example in being social to save (Luke 19:10). Social outcasts must first be won to us before they are won to Christ.

May God help us! Amen.

Lovingly in Christ,
Pastor Colin.

WELCOME TO NEW LIFE B-P CHURCH LONDON

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.

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK			WELCOME
Wed 17 July		No Ladies Mid-Week Bible Study	We extend a warm welcome to all worshippers this Lord's Day. We like to welcome Stanley, Kwame, Joost, Francois, Jamila & Michele to our worship services last Lord's Day.
Fri 19 July	7:00pm	Young Adults Fellowship	
Sat 20 July	4:00pm	Bible Study & Prayer Meeting	

Next Lord's Day	Morning Service	Evening Service	LORD'S DAY DUTIES
Preacher	Dr Stephen Scott-Pearson	Dr Stephen Scott-Pearson	<u>TODAY: 14/07/2013</u> Chairman: Jonathan Organist: Anthony Pianist: Joy Ushers: Tom / Constance Sunday School: Hannah / Joy Lunch: Hannah Washing Up: Volunteers PA Crew: Scott
Message	Safe under the Blood	Garden of Gethsemene	
Text	Exodus 12:1-14	Matthew 26:36-50	

NEWS/ANNOUNCEMENTS	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-Lunch Bible Study: Rev. Wong will lead a discussion on this mornings' sermon "Accept One Another". • Pray for those who are sick: Douglas, Barbara, Prema, Margaret, May Chew, Constance, Deborah, Mrs Ki, Susan, Dr Carl Martin, Dr Scott-Pearson, Nina, Helen, Pastor Ki, Hannah, Eld Chew's mother, Sharon & Elliora, Rev Colin Wong. • Pray for those seeking employment: Yetta. • Pray for those on travel: Pastor & Mrs Ki, Sarah, Yangfan, Scott, Constance. 	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>NEXT WEEK: 21/07/2013</u></p> <p>Chairman: John Organist: Joy Pianist: Anthony Ushers: Daniel / Yetta Sunday School: Hannah / Joy Lunch: Maureen Washing Up: Volunteers PA Crew: Jonathan</p>
<p>Worship Service Collections - Last Sunday: £939.11, Lunch: £41.50</p> <p>Attendance - Morning: 32 (A) 5 (C), Evening: 24 (A) 4 (C)</p>	

SHORTER CATECHISM QUESTION 79

Q: Which is the Tenth Commandment?

A: The Tenth Commandment is, THOU SHALT NOT COVET thy neighbour's house, thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's wife, nor his man-servant, nor his maid-servant, nor his ox, nor his ass, nor any thing that is thy neighbour's.

Scriptural Reference:

Exodus 20:17

MEMORY VERSE

Last Week	This Week	Next Week
<p><i>"Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee."</i></p> <p>Hebrews 13:5</p>	<p><i>"But let him that glorieth glory in this, that he understandeth and knoweth me, that I am the Lord which exercise lovingkindness, judgment, and righteousness, in the earth: for in these things I delight, saith the Lord."</i></p> <p>Jeremiah 9:24</p>	<p><i>"If we believe not, yet he abideth faithful: he cannot deny himself."</i></p> <p>2 Timothy 2:13</p>