



# NEW LIFE

## BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

44 Salusbury Road, London NW6 6NN

Charity No. 1060655

Tel: 020 7328 0869 (Manse)

Email: [newlifebplondon @ yahoo.co.uk](mailto:newlifebplondon@yahoo.co.uk)

Website: [www.newlifebpc.org.uk](http://www.newlifebpc.org.uk)

Resident Minister: Rev Timothy Ki

Email: [pastor @ newlifebpc.org.uk](mailto:pastor@newlifebpc.org.uk)

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

Vol. 19 No. 01

**LORD’S DAY 04 JANUARY 2015**

### ORDER OF WORSHIP

#### *Morning Service – 11am*

#### *Evening Service – 4pm*

*Prelude*

*The Lord Is in His Holy Temple*

*Call to Worship*

Psalm 37:3-5

Psalm 47:6-9

*Opening Hymn \**

Insert – “*Standing at the Portal*”

RHC 32 – “*Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise*”

*Opening Prayer \**

John Poh

John Poh

*Gloria Patri \**

*Glory Be to the Father*

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*Responsive Reading*

Psalm 101

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*Second Hymn \**

*Psalm 101 verses 1-8*  
(to the tune of Ellacombe, RHC 29)

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*Announcements & Memory Verse*

John Poh

John Poh

*Tithes & Offerings & Doxology \**

RHC 333 – “*Yesterday, Today, Forever*”

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*Scriptural Text*

Colossians 2:6-7

John 16:1-4

*Pastoral Prayer*

Dr Carl Martin

Dr Carl Martin

*Sermon Message*

***What Does It Mean to Receive Christ Jesus as Lord?***

***When Trouble Comes***

*Closing Hymn \**

RHC 107– “*I Will Sing the Wondrous Story*”

RHC 347 – “*Under the Care of My God, The Almighty*”

*Benediction/3-Fold Amen \**

Dr Carl Martin

Dr Carl Martin

*Postlude*

*The Lord Bless You*

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\* 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 2015 – “Build a God-Honouring Family” – Joshua 24:15b***

*From the pastor's heart...*

## **LOVE YOUR FAMILY**

The church has chosen “Build a God honoring family” for its theme for year 2015. Every word in this theme is familiar with us, and we all know and understand that such a theme must be practiced in our homes. However, I must say that our homes are under siege and our families are often victims of vicious attacks from various enemy forces both spiritual and physical. Families are not united, and their members are not loving and cherishing each other as they ought. It is not an uncommon story that enemies are within their families. There are family feuds and animosities against each other. Parents are troubled by their disobedient and disrespectful children. Teenage children shout at their parents and bang the room doors behind them as a sign of defiance to their parents. Children are suffering under the hands of abusive and irresponsible parents. There is no proper guidance for them at homes. Husbands and wives have failed to keep and maintain their affections for one another and have lost the passion that desperately pushed them to marry some years ago. Rivalries even amongst the siblings make them compete against each other, and there is no sense of genuine brotherhood even in times of troubles and trials. There is no person who does not want to have a happy family, unless his mind is perverted not to know what it means to have a happy family. Why do people love stories like Cinderella or Snow White? Both stories tell us about children who were mistreated and abused by their cruel stepmothers. There is either a total absence of a father or total carelessness of a father in the stories. However, there are happy endings, when those main characters found princes and married them. The stories always end by saying that they lived happily thereafter. Very unfortunately, the real stories, I mean real .... stories, are not always like that. Many families have been broken into pieces. Many families have struggled and tasted the bitterness of conflicts, feuds, mistrust, abuses, and even hatred. While I am saying all these negative stories, I also need to remind all of us that there is no perfect home and family because there is no perfect person in the world. Mums and dads are not perfect, and their children are not perfect either. Then what can we expect when all imperfect people are living under the same roof day in and day out? When we think of family issues, we must return to the origin of the family in Genesis. God made Adam and Eve. Sin came in through their disobedience, which brought the wrath and punishment upon themselves from God. Their first child, Cain, killed his brother Abel. The first murder happened in the first family. It cannot be denied that still the same principle and influence of sin works within the families. All of these thoughts teach us one thing: we need to work hard in order to build a God honoring family.

Let me begin with a kind of practical conclusion of the talks I am going to give in this article. Apart from our duties and obligations that we ought to build a God honoring family, I would like to say that it is an honor and privilege that we have our families and opportunities to love and cherish them. Life is not very long to be wasted by conflicts and fights. We often do not know the importance and values of our loved ones until we finally lose them and do not have any more opportunity to love them. While I am writing this article, there are floods of reports about the lost Air Asia plane somewhere in the Indonesian sea. Louise Sidharta was at Singapore's Changi Airport waiting for her fiancée to return from a family holiday. She heard the news that the plane was missing. She said, “It was supposed to be their last vacation before we got married.” She must be in love with her fiancé, but now there is no more of such opportunity to share her love with him. Hundreds of high school children were drowned when a ferry capsized in...

South Korea early this year. I have read the writings about the parents of dead or missing students. One common story from them was that they felt sorry that they had not said enough to their children about how much they loved them. I have heard children saying and crying that they have not shown their respect and love to their parents, and they just have found that their parents have terminal illnesses and do not have much time to live. Such stories are endless. Oh, my friends, God has blessed us by giving us families. We are privileged to have them. Let us cherish and love them and build a God honoring family.

I wanted to give you a few thoughts about building a God honoring family from Richard Baxter's insightful book, *The Godly Home*. It has plenty of spiritual and observational facts and truths to help us to understand the importance of our families and the applicable principles to build a God honoring family. J. I. Packer aptly summarized Baxter's thoughts of God honoring home and family from the book in his introduction as following:

"In typical Puritan style, Baxter viewed all human life, and here specifically all domestic life, through three grids: the grid of doctrine, that of duty, and that of promise. All three were sourced directly from Scripture. The doctrine grid set forth the purposes and goals of God, first in creation and then in redemption, for each person and for each department of his or her existence and activity. The duty grid spelled out the moral commands of God, his will of precept as Reformed theologians called it, as pointers to and as shaped by God's objective in each case. The promise grid deployed God's offers of help for faithful obedience, aimed at achieving his specific target in each case. In the chapters reprinted in this book, Baxter assumes that readers have a working knowledge of the relevant doctrine—namely, that the family is for God-honoring partnership and mutual service, for character-molding in and through love, and for the continuance of our race through the producing and nurturing of children; that sex is strictly for procreation, with affectionate playfulness and pleasure; and that every family should be a mini-church, with its male head as the pastor. (This is the standard Puritan view.) Baxter assumes also that we know how to plead and rely on the promises of God in relation to our hopes, fears, endeavors, and bafflements, a subject that he had already treated at length in *The Life of Faith* (1670). What he concentrates on is the duty grid, stating and clarifying standards by which we humans are called to live. His thought moves rapidly, and he crisscrosses each area of duty many times, filling in all the angles, hammering each obligation home in the conscience."

The church theme says that we ought to build a God honoring family. We are not just waiting to see if our family will become a God honoring family, but must work hard toward making it possible by the grace of God. In order to achieve this holy goal, there are a great deal of duties and works we must engage ourselves for. Richard Baxter described it as a holy governing of families. When we neglect it, we will suffer from the calamitous fruits of this neglect. At the same time, being conscious of such duties we must perform for our families' sake requires us to be awakened for our duties and to get over any level of sluggishness in our souls to do our duties. Throughout this year, we will consider such matters like marriage (or marriage involved issues), worship in our families, duties of husband/son/father, duties of wife/daughter/mother, duties of parents, and duties of children. By knowing such duties, we all will need to pray that we will maximize our opportunities to build a God honoring family, which inevitably loves one another within its own members. May the Lord bless our families till He comes again!

Lovingly,  
Your pastor

# 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
Thurs 08 Jan	7:00pm	<b>Bible Study</b> - <i>Study on the book of Mark</i>	We extend a warm welcome to all worshippers this Lord's Day. We like to welcome Gavin Fernandes & family to our worship services last Lord's Day.
Fri 09 Jan		<b>No Young Adults Fellowship</b>	
Sat 10 Jan	4:00pm	<b>Bible Study &amp; Prayer Meeting</b>	
Next Lord's Day	Morning Service	Evening Service	LORD'S DAY DUTIES
<b>Preacher</b>	Dr Carl Martin	Dr Carl Martin	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>TODAY: 04/01/2015</u></b></p> <p><b>Chairman:</b> John</p> <p><b>Organist:</b> Sarah</p> <p><b>Pianist:</b> Keene</p> <p><b>Ushers:</b> Daniel / Evelyn</p> <p><b>Sunday School:</b> Hannah / Rachael</p> <p><b>Lunch:</b> Maureen</p> <p><b>Washing Up:</b> Volunteers</p> <p><b>PA Crew:</b> Jonathan</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>NEXT WEEK: 11/01/2015</u></b></p> <p><b>Chairman:</b> Jonathan</p> <p><b>Organist:</b> Anthony</p> <p><b>Pianist:</b> Sarah</p> <p><b>Ushers:</b> Tom / Daniel</p> <p><b>Sunday School:</b> Hannah / Rachael</p> <p><b>Lunch:</b> Volunteers</p> <p><b>Washing Up:</b> Volunteers</p> <p><b>PA Crew:</b> Scott</p>
<b>Message</b>	A Mind for Truth	Learning to Live in the Reality of Now	
<b>Text</b>	Colossians 2:8-10	John 16:4-7	
NEWS/ANNOUNCEMENTS			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Pre-lunch Bible Study:</b> Dr Martin will lead this week's study.</li> <li>• <b>Pray for those who are sick:</b> Douglas, Barbara, Prema, Margaret, May Chew, Constance, Deborah, Pastor &amp; Mrs Ki, Susan, Dr Carl Martin, Dr Scott-Pearson, Nina, Helen, Eld Chew's mother, Rev Colin Wong, Patricia, Hannah, Shirley, Daniel, Dr Brian Green, Dr Tow, Elizabeth, Magdalene, Jonathan's father, Toby, Elliora.</li> <li>• <b>Pray for those seeking employment:</b> Yetta, Magdalene, Nana.</li> <li>• <b>Pray for those on travel:</b> Josias, Margaret, Shirley, Matthew, Anthony &amp; Helen, Mrs Martin.</li> <li>• <b>Pulpit Ministry:</b> Pray for Pr Mok's visa application.</li> <li>• <b>Lord's Supper, 11<sup>th</sup> Jan:</b> Please come with hearts prepared.</li> </ul>			
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Worship Service Collections</b> – Christmas Service: £638.00, Last Sunday: £288.00, Lunch: £27.00</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Attendance</b> - Morning: 20 (A) 3 (C), Evening: 13 (A) 1 (C)</p>			

## SHORTER CATECHISM QUESTION 49

**Q: Which is the Second Commandment?**

*A: The Second Commandment is, THOU SHALT NOT MAKE UNTO THEE ANY GRAVEN IMAGE, or any likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth, THOU SHALT NOT BOW DOWN THYSELF TO THEM, NOR SERVE THEM: for I the Lord thy God, am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children, unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me; and showing mercy unto thousands of them that love me, and keep my commandments.*

Comments:

The First Commandment tells us whom we are to worship. The Second tells us how we are to worship him. It tells us we must not think to represent God to our minds by any image visible or even conceivable, or that he will accept such worship at our hands. We must worship God, who is a Spirit, in spirit and in truth. We are here likewise told that God visits the iniquity of the fathers upon the children; but this does not mean that the children have to bear the *guilt* of the fathers. It means only that bad fathers are punished by seeing the evils of their misconduct entailed upon their children, while good fathers are cheered and rewarded by the opposite.

## MEMORY VERSE

Last Week	This Week	Next Week
<p><i>“And therefore will the Lord wait, that he may be gracious unto you, and therefore will he be exalted, that he may have mercy upon you: for the Lord is a God of judgment: blessed are all they that wait for him.”</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Isaiah 30:18</b></p>	<p><i>“Seek ye the Lord while he may be found, call ye upon him while he is near:”</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Isaiah 55:6</b></p>	<p><i>“Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the Lord, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.”</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Isaiah 55:7</b></p>