



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. 19 No. 38

LORD’S DAY 20 SEPTEMBER 2015

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Morning Service – 11am

Evening Service – 4pm

Prelude

The Lord Is in His Holy Temple

Call to Worship

Isaiah 58:13-14

Isaiah 12

*Opening Hymn **

RHC 85 – “O Day of Rest and Gladness”

RHC 74– “For the Beauty of the Earth”

*Opening Prayer **

Jonathan Kim

Jonathan Kim

*Gloria Patri **

Glory Be to the Father

Responsive Reading

Psalm 129

*Second Hymn **

Psalm 129

(to the tune of Martydom, RHC 38)

Announcements & Memory Verse

Jonathan Kim

Jonathan Kim

*Tithes & Offerings & Doxology **

RHC 303 – “Saved, Saved!”

Scriptural Text

2 Corinthians 7, Matthew 5:4

Psalm 107

Pastoral Prayer

Rev John Dyck

Rev John Dyck

Sermon Message

Blessed Mourning

The Lord’s Patient Deliverances

*Closing Hymn **

RHC 561 – “Come with Contrite Hearts”

RHC 35 – “Through All the Changing Scenes of Life”

*Benediction/3-Fold Amen **

Rev John Dyck

Rev John Dyck

Postlude

The Lord Bless You

* 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

THE GRAVE NEED FOR CONTINUING CHRISTIAN EDUCATION TODAY

Adapted from Maranatha Messenger - 23rd August 2015

Introduction

The Great Commission given by Christ requires us to go beyond just the sharing of the gospel (Matthew 28:18-20). After a person comes to faith in Christ by His grace and election, he / she is to be baptised in due time and join a local church and to begin the lifelong journey of following the Lord in searching and studying the Scriptures and in constant communion with the Lord as he / she grows each day. Solomon advises in Proverbs 1:2-3, that we should know wisdom and instruction; to perceive the words of understanding; *[and]... receive the instruction of wisdom, justice, and judgment, and equity.*

Roy Zuck defines Christian education as the **Christ-centred, Bible-based, pupil related process of communicating God's written Word** through the power of the Holy Spirit for the purpose of leading others to Christ and building them up in the knowledge of God.

The Basis for Effective Christian Education

In the Old Testament, the patriarchs, Moses and Joshua, kings, priests, prophets constantly rehearsed the words of the law into the ears of the Israelites (Joshua 1:8-9). We shared this at a training session for 45 Pastors and preachers in country X recently. Before the conquest of Canaan, Joshua was told specifically of the strategy for success, in Joshua 1:8, *'This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success.'*

Ezra the scribe and Nehemiah the governor wasted no time in the post-exilic era to restore the law and worship into the religious life of the people, and a great revival came about because the law of God was read and examined distinctly to the people. Nehemiah 8:8 says, *"So they read in the book in the law of God distinctly, and gave the sense, and caused them to understand the reading."* That brought about a great transformation in the people's lives and behaviour and an awakening of souls.

The place of Christian education must continue in the home, the church and the Christian schools, colleges / seminaries. **Fathers have a grave responsibility to nurture and inculcate biblical truths to their children** and to intercede for them (Job 1:5), and there is no better way than the time-tested catechetical method used in the time of reformation. Moses said, in Deuteronomy 6:6-7, to the Israelites, *'And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart: And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up.'* Regular and relevant family worship is of utmost importance for all covenant families.

In the local church, the Christian education comes in the form of expository doctrinal preaching on the Sabbath from the pulpit, the regular Sabbath school classes for all ages, fellowship meetings, Bible study and the weekly church prayer meetings. Each one of these occasions offers a golden opportunity to educate and exhort and ground believers in the basic tenets of the Christian faith. If you are not in one of these, pray about joining one. Start with the basics of faith and repentance, and go on to the doctrines of grace, including the deeper understanding of the doctrines of God, Christ, sin, man, Holy Spirit, church, salvation, and the end times. There is to be a steady progression in the knowledge of the biblical truths and a gradual spiritual growth in the systematic understanding and application of the Word of God (use the Westminster Confession of Faith and the Shorter Catechism as a sound reformed good guide). **Sunday School Teachers must not be slothful in the preparation and instruction of the Word** and there must be great effort put in to instruct believers in the knowledge of biblical truths (James 3:1).

In Christian schools and Bible colleges, the inspired Word must be upheld and dutifully taught and explained to students, and potential ministers and missionaries, against a hostile and humanistic philosophy. Secular Psychology, pantheism, evolution and other pseudo-sciences have invaded the Christian schools and Bible seminaries in the East and West and undermined the faith of the believers.

New Age concepts like meditation, yoga, witchcraft, astrology and even homosexually are commonly passed around as if they are religious acceptable practices. **Christian education must include an apologetic and polemic stance to warn and guide believers in the correct understanding of certain doctrines and practices** (2 Timothy 2:15). The influence of the world is strong, and proper and systematic Christian education must continue to check against such influences. Let every responsible master of the home, minister/elder and teacher continue steadfast in this awesome task of equipping, instructing, fortifying, exhorting, admonishing and warning believers in the most holy faith.

Education in Biblical Times and Now

The Bible is our infallible guide and the following is noted in the Old Testament and New Testament teaching of the word of God effectively:

1. Sound biblical theology is essential to the soundness of Christian education.
2. The Bible is the chief text book for any Christian education programme / curriculum to the family, in the temple and to the nation of Israel.
3. Education for the early Hebrews focused on learning about God and their sacred duty and responsibility to Him.
4. The covenant community teaches their children from the Law of Moses (i.e. first 5 books of the Bible) dutifully. Fathers have a sober duty here to fulfil to our children to ground them in the Word of God.
5. The Hebrew word for teach (*lamed*) is translated in the Septuagint by the word *didaskos* which occurs 100 times and it is needful that we make a conscious effort to learn first before we can teach others the word of God faithfully.
6. The spirit of the scribes in the Old Testament is in the disciplined learning and effective teaching the Word exemplified by Ezra in Ezra 7:10 (which is my life verse), "*Ezra had prepared his heart to seek the law of the LORD, and to do it, and to teach in Israel statutes and judgments.*" Note the three verbs used : seek, do and teach. This is to be done by a prepared heart and the order is important too.

Paul said to Timothy in 2 Timothy 2:15,

*"Study to shew thyself approved unto God,
a workman that needeth not to be ashamed,
rightly dividing the word of truth."*

We need to do the same today and be diligent to study the word with our families and in our churches.

Conclusion

Finally, we must recognise the absolute sovereignty and providence of God in His word and the total depravity of man and be vigilant against the secular influences of human society and worldly scholarship that can influence the philosophy of Christian education. Nothing short of a Bible-based and God-centred mindset and curriculum can preserve us from a corrupted or compromised system of syncretistic education today. There is to be no spiritual compromise with unedifying integration of the Word of God with the system of the depraved and fallen world (i.e. like theistic evolution or psychological counselling) in a God honouring Christian educational system.

Rev Jack Sin

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 24th Sept	No Mid-Week Bible Study	We extend a warm welcome to all worshippers this Lord's Day. We welcome Andrew, Christine, Cheryl & Children, Sunny & Emily, Marie & Sammy to our worship services last Lord's Day.
Fri 25th Sept	4pm & Sovereign Grace Advent Testimony 7pm Study on the book of Daniel	
Sat 19th Sept	4pm Bible Study & Prayer Meeting Galatians - A Study of Freedom and Liberty	

Next Lord's Day	Morning Service	Evening Service	LORD'S DAY DUTIES
Preacher	Dr Stephen Scott-Pearson	Dr Stephen Scott-Pearson	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>TODAY: 20/09/2015</u></p> <p>Chairman: Jonathan Organist: Keene Pianist: Keene Ushers: Tom / Yetta Sunday School: Keene / Rachael / Hannah Lunch: Tan Family Washing Up: Volunteers PA Crew: Scott</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>NEXT WEEK: 27/09/2015</u></p> <p>Chairman: John Organist: Keene Pianist: Matthew Ushers: Tom / Margaret Sunday School: Keene / Rachael / Hannah Lunch: Maureen Washing Up: Volunteers PA Crew: Scott</p>
Message	The Death of the Cross	The 7 "No-mores" of Heaven	
Text	Philippians 2:8	Revelation 21:1a	

NEWS/ANNOUNCEMENTS	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-lunch: Rev Dyck will be giving a short sharing on the ministry work in Canada. • Pray for those who are sick: Douglas, Barbara, Prema, Margaret, May Chew, Constance, Deborah, Pastor & Mrs Ki, Dr Carl Martin, Dr Scott-Pearson, Nina, Helen, Eld Chew's mother, Hannah, Shirley, Daniel, Dr Tow, Matthew, Jonathan's father, Magdalene, Meredith, Ellie. • Pray for expecting mothers: Helen. • Pray for those seeking employment: Yetta, Nana. • Pray for those on travels this week: Matthew, Yangfan, Josias, Dr Martin. • Pulpit Ministry: Pray for Dr Martin as he serves as the interim minister. Also, pray for his visa application. 	
<p>Worship Service Collections – Last Sunday: £1478.50 Attendance - Morning: 39 (A) 12 (C), Evening: 18 (A) 10 (C)</p>	

SHORTER CATECHISM QUESTION 87

Q: What is Repentance unto Life?

*A: Repentance unto Life is a saving grace, whereby a sinner – out of a true sense of his sin, and apprehension of the mercy of God in Christ – doth, with grief and hatred of his sin, **TURN FROM IT UNTO GOD**, with full purpose of, and endeavour after, new obedience.*

Comments:

Repentance has been called “the tear of faith”. It springs from a true view of sin, and a clear view of God's mercy in forgiving sin. It consists of two parts: turning from sinful ways with sorrow; and turning to God with an anxious desire to love and serve him. It is called repentance *unto life*, because it leads to eternal life.

Scriptural Reference:

Luke 13:3, Luke 18:13, Isaiah 1:16-17

MEMORY VERSE

Last Week	This Week	Next Week
<p><i>“For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures;”</i></p> <p>1 Corinthians 15:3</p>	<p><i>“Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new”</i></p> <p>2 Corinthians 5:17</p>	<p><i>“All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:”</i></p> <p>2 Timothy 3:16</p>