



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. 04

LORD'S DAY 25 JANUARY 2015

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Morning Service – 11am

Evening Service – 4pm

Prelude

The Lord Is in His Holy Temple

Call to Worship

Isaiah 45:20-25

Psalm 37:3-6

*Opening Hymn **

RHC 44 – *"We Praise Thee, O God, Our Redeemer"*

RHC 131 – *"No One Ever Cared for Me Like Jesus!"*

*Opening Prayer **

Jonathan Kim

Jonathan Kim

*Gloria Patri **

Glory Be to the Father

Responsive Reading

Psalm 104

*Second Hymn **

Psalm 104 verses 31-35
(to the tune of St Agnes, RHC 231)

Announcements & Memory Verse

Jonathan Kim

Jonathan Kim

*Tithes & Offerings & Doxology **

RHC 307 – *"Amazing Grace"*

Scriptural Text

Judges 6:11-27 and 7:1-21

1 Kings 17

Pastoral Prayer

Dr Stephen Scott-Pearson

Dr Stephen Scott-Pearson

Sermon Message

The Victory of God's Remnant

Proving God!

*Closing Hymn **

RHC 441 – *"Faith is the Victory"*

RHC 327 – *"All Things Work Out for Good"*

*Benediction/3-Fold Amen **

Dr Stephen Scott-Pearson

Dr Stephen Scott-Pearson

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

From the pastor's heart...

WAITING ON GOD – PART 10

Adapted from Weekly Lively Hope Newsletter, Sunday 21st September 2014

Psalm 37:34, *“Wait on the LORD, and keep his way, and he shall exalt thee to inherit the land: when the wicked are cut off, thou shalt see it.”*

While we are waiting for the Lord to meet us, we need to know how to prepare ourselves, or where should we go to meet Him. The psalmist tells us that we ought to keep the way of the Lord. Isaiah says the same thing in Isaiah 64:5, *“Thou meetest him that rejoiceth and worketh righteousness, those that remember thee in thy ways: behold, thou art wroth; for we have sinned: in those is continuance, and we shall be saved.”* We need to know and understand that the Lord must be found only in His ways. Thus, He will meet those who keep His ways. There must be a few considerations for us to keep His way.

First, keeping the Lord's way is a matter of our heart. (1) External conformity to His way is important, but we must be aware of the danger that such conformity is possible even without internal agreement, conformity, and affection, which displeases the Lord. The Lord has never commanded His people to do what He has commanded only for the sake of external display. It is a common understanding even amongst us that as a man's heart is, so is he before God. Unless our heart is moved, touched and is ready to obey His commandments, we cannot go any further into deeper fellowship with God and the holy place of His presence. We cannot truly wait for Him in such state of heart. (2) Our heart is the centre of all our obedience to and trust in the Lord. Proverbs 3:5 says, *“Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding.”* We find an interesting contrast here between heart and understanding. Our mind needs to be enlightened and we ought to improve our mind so that we must have understanding. Our knowledge must grow, and we should not be ignorant people. Charles Bridges says in his commentary on *Proverbs* that “ignorance is the fruit of sloth, dissipation, or misguided delusion.” However, we do not depend on our own understanding in times of needs and trials. Charles Bridges quotes from John Owen, saying, “Whenever in our trials we consult our own understandings, hearken to our preservation; yet the principle of living by faith is stifled, and we shall in the issue be cast down by our own counsels.” Our heart must lean on God and desire to keep His way not our ways. (3) Our sanctified heart may go against our own understanding. We are inclined to think that we must be in the Lord's way, as long as we are occupied with the truth. Thus, we think that our spiritual life is good, and our apprehension of God must be the solution of all problems. However, we cannot but admit that there are times when these thoughts are in collision courses against the real life experiences. For example, Job could not understand when tragedies came upon his own family in such a way that even the evil ones did not have to suffer with. Prophet Habakkuk could not understand why God who had pure eyes did not see the evil ones but punished His own people, though not perfect but still better people than their enemies. Understanding and knowledge did not produce right opinions of God in such times. It is more than possible that our sanctified heart may have to be against our own understanding. (4) Our heart can be also a source of our unseen problems. The reason that keeping the Lord's way is a matter of heart is because the heart has to play a very significant role in our perspectives and active obedience to God's commandments. However, it may fail to encourage us to do His way but discourage us from doing His way. Our heart may refuse to give its consent to the Lord's way, which causes internal frictions and conflicts, which will result in not following the way of the Lord. Our heart needs our constant management by cultivating it for good and things of the Lord. Psalm 31:24, *“Be of good courage, and he shall strengthen your heart, all ye that hope in the LORD.”*

Second, keeping the Lord's way implies that He cares about His way and requires His people to keep it. (1) His eyes are upon such people who keep His way. Psalm 33:18-22, "*Behold, the eye of the LORD is upon them that fear him, upon them that hope in his mercy;*¹⁹ *To deliver their soul from death, and to keep them alive in famine.*²⁰ *Our soul waiteth for the LORD: he is our help and our shield.*²¹ *For our heart shall rejoice in him, because we have trusted in his holy name.*²² *Let thy mercy, O LORD, be upon us, according as we hope in thee.*" Because we fear Him and find hope only in Him, we look upon Him. (2) Keeping His way comes from such a heart that fears the Lord. His ways are higher than ours, and His thoughts are different from ours. The people who fear the Lord have the highest view of God in deep reverence and humble self-abasement. Until we enter into the deeper fellowship and relationship with the Lord, we will not understand His greatness. When we stand before the holiness and glory of His presence, we shall tremble. The ones who do not understand the glory, majesty, and holiness of God will not fear the Lord and cannot even desire to keep His way.

Third, keeping the Lord's way while we are waiting for Him is a clear sign that our outer life is not different from our inner life. (1) It shows that there are both inner and external submissions to the will of God. While we are waiting for the Lord, we ought to surrender ourselves to His way and His will. (2) It shows the maturity in such a person waiting for the Lord while keeping His way. Psalm 37 challenges us by allowing us to consider the most conflicting situations in our spiritual life. The wicked are prosperous, while the righteous suffer. The evil doers thrive, but there is no punishment against them in sight. There is no God's retributive justice seen. The psalmist does not deny a possibility that the righteous person may fall. However, he refuses to follow the steps of the wicked. Instead, he exhorts fellow-believers in verse 27, "*Depart from evil, and do good; and dwell for evermore.*" He proclaims in verse 31, "*The law of his God is in his heart; none of his steps shall slide.*" Disappointments in life and lack of understanding of his surroundings did not bring him down to doubts and cause spiritual bankruptcy. He refused to bow down to any pressure. Instead he constantly looked up and committed all matters to the Lord only by faith. Those who are waiting for the Lord are also keeping His way which requires them to be spiritually mature.

Fourth, keeping the Lord's way while waiting for the Lord cautions us that keeping His way and waiting for the Lord and subsequent events which are the works of God in our lives are all inter-related. (1) If we do not keep His way but claim to wait for Him, we are irreligious and ungodly. The spiritual condition to wait for the Lord must be demonstrated in our conduct by keeping His way. If waiting for the Lord is an inner characteristic of our spiritual life, keeping His way is its external manifestation. (2) We must see that both acts (waiting for the Lord and keeping His way) are consciously done. There is no sense of involuntariness in waiting for the Lord and keeping His way.

Fifth, keeping the Lord's way and waiting for the Lord teach us that we must depend on God faithfully and constantly. It is because we cannot wait for the Lord with our strength alone in times of spiritual torments and trials. There is nothing to believe within us for ourselves. Every strength even to believe must be supplied by the Spirit of God. How can we be content in times of trials? How can we keep the way of the Lord still faithfully when circumstances are all doubtful and challenge our faith? We must come to God, bow down before Him and receive His power. Wait upon the Lord!

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 29 Jan 7:00pm Bible Study - Study on the book of Mark	We extend a warm welcome to all worshippers this Lord's Day. We like to welcome Darren to our worship services last Lord's Day.
Fri 30 Jan No Young Adults Fellowship	
Sat 31 Jan 4:00pm Bible Study & Prayer Meeting	

Next Lord's Day	Morning Service	Evening Service	LORD'S DAY DUTIES
Preacher	Dr Carl Martin	Dr Carl Martin	<u>TODAY: 25/01/2015</u> Chairman: Jonathan Organist: Anthony Pianist: Matthew Ushers: Tom / Daniel Sunday School: Hannah / Rachael Lunch: Maureen Washing Up: Volunteers PA Crew: Scott <u>NEXT WEEK: 01/02/2015</u> Chairman: John Organist: Sarah Pianist: Anthony Ushers: Daniel / Evelyn Sunday School: Hannah / Rachael Lunch: Sarah Washing Up: Volunteers PA Crew: Jonathan
Message	Baptism, an Affirmation of Faith	Step-stones for Spiritual Growth	
Text	Colossians 2:11-15	John 16:12-14	

NEWS/ANNOUNCEMENTS	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No Pre-lunch Bible Study today. • Pray for those who are sick: Douglas, Barbara, Prema, Margaret, May Chew, Constance, Deborah, Pastor & 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, Sharon. • Pray for those seeking employment: Yetta, Magdalene, Nana. • Pray for those on travel: Margaret, Dr Martin. • Pulpit Ministry: Pray for Pr Mok's visa application. • Ladies Fellowship will be held after lunch today. 	
Worship Service Collections – Last Sunday: £459.20, Lunch: £40.50 Attendance - Morning: 24 (A) 4 (C), Evening: 19 (A) 4 (C)	

SHORTER CATECHISM QUESTION 52

Q: What are the reasons annexed to the Second Commandment?

A: *The reasons annexed to the Second Commandment are, God's sovereignty over us, his propriety in us, and the zeal he hath to his own worship.*

Comments:

The special reasons added why we should observe this commandment are: 1. God is our Sovereign (I, the Lord); 2. God is our owner (thy God); 3. God is zealous for his own worship (am a jealous God).

Scriptural Reference:

Psalm 95:3, Exodus 34:14

MEMORY VERSE

Last Week	This Week	Next Week
<i>“And if it seem evil unto you to serve the Lord, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.”</i> Joshua 24:15	<i>“But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.”</i> Matthew 6:33	<i>“Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven.”</i> Matthew 7:21