



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. 20 No. 11

LORD'S DAY 13 MARCH 2016

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Morning Service – 11am

Evening Service – 4pm

Prelude

The Lord Is in His Holy Temple

Call to Worship

Psalm 92:1-4

Romans 5:6-11

*Opening Hymn **

RHC 47 – *"Great is Thy Faithfulness"*

RHC 52 – *"Jesus, Thou Joy of Loving Hearts"*

*Opening Prayer **

John Poh

John Poh

*Gloria Patri **

Glory Be to the Father

Responsive Reading

Psalm 4

*Second Hymn **

Psalm 4 verses 1, 6-8
(to the tune of Wiltshire, RHC 345)

Announcements & Memory Verse

John Poh

John Poh

*Tithes & Offerings & Doxology **

RHC 91 – *"The Lily of the Valley"*

Scriptural Text

Titus 2:11-12

John 18:15-18

Pastoral Prayer

Dr Carl Martin

Dr Carl Martin

Sermon Message

The Help of Christian Living

Following Jesus at a "Safe" Distance

The Lord's Supper

Dr Carl Martin

*Closing Hymn **

RHC 194 – *"Alas! and Did My Savior Bleed?"*

RHC 418 – *"O Jesus I Have Promised"*

*Benediction/3-Fold Amen **

Dr Carl Martin

Dr Carl Martin

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.

"Growing in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ" - 2 Peter 3:18

WHO IS MY NEIGHBOUR?

Adapted from Life BP Church Singapore Weekly - 6th March 2016

God's people must remember their calling to be ministers of mercy. Like missions and evangelism, nurture and worship, the ministry of mercy is fundamental in the Church of Jesus Christ. Every Christian needs to identify his or her role in order to respond appropriately to the needs of his or her brother and sister in the Lord and the surrounding community.

Visiting the poor, feeding the hungry, nursing the sick, clothing the naked, or taking care of the needy is not only the job of social workers but Christians. The ministry of mercy is more than a job; it is a God-given ministry. Jesus says, "*Go, and do thou likewise*" (Luke 10:37).

The Bible repeatedly expresses the obligation to help those who, for whatever reason, cannot help themselves. The ministry of mercy does not begin with the parable of the Good Samaritan. It has its beginning in the Garden of Eden. After the Fall, man became alienated from God (Genesis 3:10). Consequently, his relationship with fellow human beings was shattered (12, 13), and so was his relationship with nature itself (17, 18). Now, sickness, hunger, natural disaster, social injustice and death dominate.

When Adam and Eve disobeyed God, their eyes were opened and they realized that they were naked. They took fig leaves to cover themselves. But that could not cover their nakedness for long. So God clothed them with animal skins (6, 7, 21). That act was the first act of mercy ministry.

Even before the giving of the Law of Moses, God made his will known concerning this ministry. Job, who lived in an early pre-Mosaic age, knew that the righteousness God required includes meeting the needs of the needy such as food, shelter and clothing (Job 24:1-21; 31:16-23). As a matter of fact, Job did more than simple social service. He tells us, "*I was a father to the poor: and the cause which I knew not I searched out. And I brake the jaws of the wicked, and plucked the spoil out of his teeth*" (Job 29:16, 17).

Like the Old Testament, the New Testament is filled with biblical injunctions concerning treatment of the poor, widows, orphans, travelers and people in need. Mercy is not optional. It is not to be considered a secondary duty. It is not something we get to if there is time and money in the budget. Christians are called to help the poor and needy.

A young lawyer asked Jesus, "*And who is my neighbour?*" And answering him, Jesus told him a parable. The parable of the Good Samaritan in Luke 10:25-37 teaches the necessity of mercy as fundamental to being a Christian. The lesson in the parable is that Jesus commands us to provide shelter, finances, medical care and friendship to people ("*especially unto them who are of the household of faith,*" Galatians 6:10) who lack them. He sees care for the poor and needy as part of the essence of being a Christian.

Both James and John used the ministry of mercy as a test of our Christian faith. James argues that a profession of faith unaccompanied by work of mercy is not a genuine faith – “*Can that faith save him?*” (James 2:14-17). John insists that real love is expressed in works as well as in word – “*How dwelleth the love of God in him?*” (1 John 3:17, 18). Proverbs 14:31 and 19:17 remind us that to ignore the needs of a poor man is to sin against the Lord. No passage is clearer than Matthew 25:31-46 which describes Jesus’ examination of mankind on Judgment Day. On that day, Jesus himself will separate those who are truly His from those who are not by examining their fruit, namely, their concern for the poor, homeless, sick and prisoners.

There is no doubt that the early church practiced mercy ministries (Acts 2:44, 45). The believers had an intense feeling of responsibility for each other. They recognized that they were ONE in the Lord. They knew that whatever they possessed belong to the Lord. They were only stewards of what God had entrusted to them. So, whenever there was a need, the people sold what they had to meet that particular need (The verb “*sold*” is a customary imperfect which means that the believers sold from time to time to meet a particular need). As a result, no one was in need (Acts 4:32-37). A real Christian cannot bear to have too much when others have too little (Romans 12:13).

In the parable of the Good Samaritan, a priest and a Levite soon came along in turn, and each passed by on the far side of the road, not wishing to become involved in the man’s needs. Whatever excuses they might give, they had violated the clear teaching of Scripture – to have mercy on even strangers in need (Leviticus 19:34). They had neglected the principle that to obey is better than sacrifice (1 Samuel 15:22).

Though the young lawyer did not deny the need to take care of the needy, he still asked, “*Who is my neighbour?*” There is the question of the scope and dimension of the ministry of mercy. This is also our concern.

How far should I get involved in mercy ministries? Here are some excuses people give: “*O Lord, let’s be reasonable. We know we are to help out the unfortunate, but just how far do we have to go?*” or “*O Lord, you don’t mean every Christian must get deeply involved with hurting and needy people. I am not very good in that kind of work; it’s not my gift.*” or “*I have a busy schedule and I am extremely active in my evangelical church. Isn’t this sort of thing the government’s job, anyway?*” or “*I barely have enough money for myself!*” or “*If I give to him, I am encouraging him to be lazy and to depend on others.*” or “*If I start to give to him, he will take advantage of me.*”

Whatever excuses we may give, Jesus says in Matthew 5:42, “*Give to him that asketh thee, and from him that would borrow of thee turn not thou away*” (Proverbs 19:17). We should not withhold ourselves from giving to people (especially those who are in the family of God) who are genuinely in need. Hebrews 13:16 reminds us not to forget to do good and share with others who are in need, for in doing so, God is well pleased.

Dearly beloved in Christ, a young lawyer asked Jesus, “*And who is my neighbour?*” “Which of these three do you think was a neighbour to the man who fell into the hands of robbers?” If your answer is, “*The one who showed mercy,*” then Jesus’ immediate reply is, “*Go and do likewise!*” May God help us. Amen.

“*It is more blessed to give than to receive*” (Acts 20:35).

Pastor Colin Wong

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
Weds 16th Mar	7pm	Mid-Week Outreach Bible Study	We extend a warm welcome to all worshippers this Lord's Day. We do hope that you have a blessed time of worship on this day.
Fri 18th Mar	7pm	Sovereign Grace Advent Testimony <i>Foreshadowings of the Antichrist - Sennacherib</i>	
Sat 19th Mar	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 Carl Martin	Dr Carl Martin	<u>TODAY: 13/03/2016</u>
Message	When Jesus Entered Jerusalem	You; A Disciple of Jesus?	
Text	John 12:12-19	John 18:25-27	

NEWS/ANNOUNCEMENTS		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-lunch Bible Study: This week, Dr Martin will continue with the study on "Building Firm Foundations". • Pray for those who are sick: Douglas, Barbara, Prema, Margaret, May Chew, Constance, Deborah, Pastor & Mrs Ki, Dr Carl Martin, Dr Scott-Pearson, Dr David Allen, Nina, Helen, Eld Chew's mother, Shirley, Daniel, Dr Tow, Matthew, Jonathan's father, Ellie, Anthony, Bethany, Jonathan, Magdalene, Meredith, Kristen. • Pray for those seeking employment: Yetta, Nana, Keene. • Pray for those on travels this week: Margaret, Prema, Jiak Eng, Constance. • Pulpit Ministry: Pray for Dr Martin as he serves as the minister and as he continues his PhD studies. • Saturday Bible Study: Dr Martin will be starting a series on Calvin's Institute. Books can be purchased from John or Jonathan for £7. • Psalter: Hannah is organising the purchase of a Psalter with music scores, please speak to her if you wish to purchase one - they are £15 each. • Monday 14th March, 7:15pm: The Protestant Alliance City Lecture - "The Life of Charles Spurgeon", Westminster Baptist Church. 	<p>Chairman: John Organist: Anthony Pianist: Matthew Ushers: Joel / Yetta Sunday School: Rachael / Keene / Hannah Lunch: Nina Washing Up: Volunteers PA Crew: Josias</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>NEXT WEEK: 20/03/2016</u></p> <p>Chairman: Jonathan Organist: Anthony Pianist: Keene Ushers: Keene / Yetta Sunday School: Rachael / Keene / Hannah Lunch: Maureen Washing Up: Volunteers PA Crew: Joel</p>	
Worship Service Collections – Last Sunday: £1,336.40, Lunch: £69.70 2011 Gift Aid Rebate - £3,266.51 Attendance - Morning: 33 (A) 12 (C), Evening: 18 (A) (C)		

SHORTER CATECHISM QUESTION 5

Q: Are there more Gods than one?

A: There is but one only, the living and true God.

Comments:

We are here taught that there is only one God; and this one God is the source of all life, and the only true object of worship.

Scriptural Reference:

Isaiah 45:5

MEMORY VERSE

Last Week	This Week	Next Week
<p>"Salvation belongeth unto the Lord: thy blessing is upon thy people." Psalm 3:8</p>	<p>"All that the Father giveth me shall come to me; and him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out." John 6:37</p>	<p>"For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by his life." Roman 5:10</p>