



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. 52

LORD'S DAY 25 DECEMBER 2016

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Morning Service – 11am

Evening Service – 4pm

Prelude

The Lord Is in His Holy Temple

Call to Worship

Haggai 2:6-9

Isaiah 25:1-9

Opening Hymn *

RHC 145 – *"Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"*

RHC 161 – *"I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day"*

Opening Prayer *

Jonathan Kim

Jonathan Kim

Gloria Patri *

Glory Be to the Father

Responsive Reading

Luke 2:1-20

Second Hymn *

RHC 154 – *"It Came Upon the Midnight Clear"*

Announcements & Memory Verse

Jonathan Kim

Jonathan Kim

Tithes & Offerings & Doxology *

RHC 158 – *"What Child Is This?"*

Scriptural Text

1 Timothy 3:16

John 1:14

Pastoral Prayer

Dr Stephen Scott-Pearson

Dr Stephen Scott-Pearson

Sermon Message

God was Manifest in the Flesh

The Word Made Flesh

Closing Hymn *

RHC 152 – *"Joy to the World!"*

RHC 165 – *"Thou Didst Leave Thy Throne"*

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.

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

COMPASSION FOR THE NEEDY

Adapted from Life BP Church Singapore Weekly, Sunday 18th December 2016

Many people will be celebrating Christmas and exchanging gifts this week. As we remember God's gift of His only begotten Son to save us, let us not forget about our fellow brethren who are poor, needy and underprivileged in Singapore and overseas.

We have recently been told about the need for humanitarian assistance for poor Christians in Malawi, a country in Africa. They belong to the Evangelical Presbyterian Church of Malawi that has more than 15,000 members scattered in 90 congregations spread across Southern Malawi and Mozambique. Due to a combination of floods, unseasonal rains and drought, the nation is in the grip of a famine. According to Rev Rex Chitekwe, the moderator of the church synod, 11,000 members are greatly affected by this famine. Many, especially children and the aged are starving to death. Others are surviving on whatever they can scavenge from the land and the polluted water bodies. There is little hope of help from their government. How should we respond to this need?

Giving to the needy is motivated by compassion. Compassion brings out the very best in Christ-like character: It makes a person love not just in word or tongue, but also in deed and truth, as mentioned in 1 John 3:17-18 – *“But whoso hath this world's good, and seeth his brother have need, and shutteth up his bowels of compassion from him, how dwelleth the love of God in him? My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth.”*

Following Christ's Example

The greatest example of compassion is our Lord Jesus Christ. Jesus knows our frailties, infirmities and our spiritual struggles very well; He understands our weaknesses and what we can bear, *for in that He Himself hath suffered being tempted, He is able to succour them that are tempted* (Hebrews 2:18). We have a wonderful Saviour who can sympathize with us because He became a man and dwelt with us. He hungered, He thirsted, He was wearied, He felt pain, and He wept like us, in order that He might identify with us (Hebrews 4:15).

But our Lord's compassion does not stop at just knowing, feeling and sympathizing. It moves Him to the very depths of His being to take the most extraordinary action: It moved him to relieve the sick and suffering: For instance, Mark 1:40,41 tells us — *“And there came a leper to Him, beseeching Him, and kneeling down to Him, and saying unto Him, If Thou wilt, Thou canst make me clean. And Jesus, moved with compassion, put forth His hand, and touched him, and saith unto him, I will; be thou clean.”*

How to Be Compassionate

Demonstrating genuine Christ-like compassion requires firm commitment and courage. And the first step we can take is to be more alert to the needs of others. Paul says that we must *“look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others.”* (Philippians 2:4) As we go through life, there will always be people around us with needs – those who are weak or hurting or downtrodden. We must be ready to respond by doing something to help them, if we can.

Sometimes we forget that even our loved ones who are closest to us at home have needs that we can meet. For instance there may be times when your spouse may be sick and still have to keep up with all the household chores. Or perhaps you have a child who has a test coming up soon, and he still does not understand his lessons. Or perhaps you have parents or grandparents who are struggling to cope with loneliness and the infirmities of growing old. These are some of the simple needs at home that we can help to meet.

Then there are also people with needs in our place of work or study. God wants us to be His peculiar people, zealous of good works (Titus 2:14). We Christians should be known for being compassionate like Christ. It is an important part of our testimony toward others.

Perhaps you may have a subordinate at work who is not performing up to your expectations. It may be easy for you to just tell him off. But do you bother to give him a listening ear? Perhaps he is going through a difficult time at home because of problems with his marriage or with his children.

Or perhaps you may have a classmate who keeps very much to herself. She does badly in all her tests and exams and does not seem to have any friends to talk to. Then you hear that she comes from a broken home. How can you help to meet her needs? There are obviously some needs that are just too great for you to meet, but even a small little gesture or expression of care and concern can go a long way to help them.

And when there is really nothing that you can do to help, then why not offer to pray for them? Praying is actually a very good way to meet their needs because the effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much (James 5:16). This is an important ministry that brings God's help to meet man's needs. And if old age, sickness or tiredness are preventing you from meeting the needs of others, then turn your compassion for them into prayer. And who knows what great help, relief and comfort God will give them through your prayers?

The Best Help We Can Give

In order to have Christ-like compassion, we need to see people the same way that Christ sees them – as people who need a Shepherd who can lead them in the paths of righteousness. They need a Shepherd who can teach them everything they really need to know. They need a Good Shepherd who will lay down His own life for His sheep, to deliver them from sin.

We therefore need to change the way we look at people around us. Outwardly they may seem to be happy – partying, feasting and enjoying life – but deep inside them there is a big aching void that nothing can fill except Jesus Christ. Therefore they need someone to bring them to the Good Shepherd. Will you be compassionate enough to see this need, and be moved to meet it?

- *Rev Charles Seet*

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 28th Dec	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.
Sat 31st Dec	6pm 11pm	Bible Study & Prayer Meeting Watchnight Service	
Next Lord's Day	Morning Service	Evening Service	LORD'S DAY DUTIES
Preacher	Dr Carl Martin	Dr Carl Martin	<u>TODAY: 25/12/2016</u>
Message	Unlikely Women in the Line of Christ – Part 3	Unlikely Women in the Line of Christ – Part 4	Chairman: Jonathan
Text	Matthew 1:1-17	Matthew 1:1-17	Organist: Anthony
NEWS/ANNOUNCEMENTS			Pianist: Keene
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No Pre-lunch Bible Study. • Pulpit Ministry: Pray for Dr Martin as he serves as the minister and for the continuation of his PhD studies. • Church Maintenance Fund: The Church needs to undergo some significant repairs in the coming months; a Maintenance Fund has been set up for anyone wishing to offer a love gift to assist with the costs. • New Years Eve & Watchnight Service: All are welcome to attend Prayer Meeting and Bible Study at 6pm. This will be followed by a time of fellowship and a potluck supper in the manse. At 11pm there will be a Watchnight Service in the Sanctuary. • Study of the Book of Psalms: Beginning 8th January 2017, at 3pm each Sunday, Dr Martin will lead a Bible Study on the book of Psalms, using the book "<i>The Flow of the Psalms</i>" by Palmer Robertson. 			Ushers: John / Yetta
			Sunday School: No Sunday School
			Lunch: Carry-In
			Washing Up: Volunteers
			PA Crew: John
			<u>NEXT WEEK: 01/01/2017</u>
			Chairman: John
			Organist: Anthony
			Pianist: Joel
			Ushers: Daniel / Evelyn
			Sunday School: Hannah / Rachael
			Lunch: Hannah
			Washing Up: Volunteers
			PA Crew: Jonathan
Worship Service Collections – Last Sunday: £985.10 Church Maintenance Fund: £40 Attendance - Morning: 36 (A) 9 (C), Evening: 16 (A) 4 (C)			Church Maintenance Fund Total: £1,320

SHORTER CATECHISM QUESTION 46

Q: What is required in the First Commandment?

A: *The First Commandment requireth us to know and acknowledge God to be the only true God, and our God; and to worship and glorify him accordingly.*

Comments:

The First Commandments bids us – 1. Know the true God, and him only for *our* God; 2. As such confess him openly before men; 3. Worship him; 4. Honour him.

Scriptural Reference:

1 Chronicles 28:9, Proverbs 3:6

MEMORY VERSE

Last Week <i>"Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life."</i> Proverbs 4:23	This Week <i>"Every word of God is pure: he is a shield unto them that put their trust in him."</i> Proverbs 30:5	Next Week <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