



# NEW LIFE

## BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

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**LORD'S DAY 08 OCTOBER 2017**

### ORDER OF WORSHIP

	<i>Morning Service – 11am</i>	<i>Evening Service – 4pm</i>
<i>Prelude</i>	<i>The Lord Is in His Holy Temple</i>	
<i>Call to Worship</i>	Psalm 30:10-12	Psalm 113:1-3
<i>Opening Hymn *</i>	RHC 27 – “Now Thank We All Our God”	RHC 60 – “Ye Servants of God, Your Master Proclaim”
<i>Opening Prayer *</i>	Jonathan Kim	Jonathan Kim
<i>Gloria Patri *</i>	<i>Glory Be to the Father</i>	---
<i>Responsive Reading</i>	Psalm 84	---
<i>Second Hymn *</i>	<i>Psalm 84 verses 1-3, 8-12</i> (to the tune of Vox Dilecti, RHC 298)	---
<i>Announcements &amp; Memory Verse</i>	Jonathan Kim	Jonathan Kim
<i>Tithes &amp; Offerings &amp; Doxology *</i>	RHC 100 – “He Lifted Me”	---
<i>Scriptural Text</i>	Mark 12:28-34	Luke 19:11-27
<i>Pastoral Prayer</i>	Rev Lim Chee Boon	Rev Lim Chee Boon
<i>Sermon Message</i>	<i>The Greatest Commandment</i>	<i>Occupy Till I Come</i>
<i>The Lord's Supper</i>	Rev Lim Chee Boon	---
<i>Closing Hymn *</i>	RHC 201 – “According to Thy Gracious Word”	RHC – “Pressing On!”
<i>Benediction/3-Fold Amen *</i>	Rev Lim Chee Boon	Rev Lim Chee Boon
<i>Postlude</i>	<i>The Lord Bless You</i>	---

\* 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.

***"Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life." - Proverbs 4:23***

# **HOW FIRM IS OUR CHURCH FOUNDATION? - PART 2**

Adapted from Hope BPC Weekly, Sunday 13th August 2017

## **Do All Things with the Right Motive (Matthew 6:1-8, 16-18)**

As in one of Pastor Ki's recent sermons, take care with what motives we are serving the Lord. Are we seeking the glory of men or do we serve because we follow the example Christ has set before us (John 13:13-17, Matthew 20:25-28)? If we want to do what is pleasing in God's sight, then serve God faithfully in quietness, not for our own gain, but for the benefit of the Church of God. Remember, we are building God's Kingdom, not our own empires; remember that those who serve for men's glory already receive their reward here on earth (Matthew 6:2), and Jesus' judgement upon them on that Great Day will be, "... *I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity*" (Matthew 7:23).

## **Be Forgiving (Matthew 6:12, 14-15)**

Forgiveness is one of the hardest things to do because it strikes at our pride and our perceived rights. It is not just saying, "I forgive you", but it needs to go to the depths of our very being - our thoughts, feelings and emotions. In forgiving, we must think no ill against those who have wronged us and even love them again in spite of the pain and hurt we received. This is not to say that we allow others to take advantage of us, but we can be forgiving even as we are mindful of the person. Even as God does not hold our sins against us when we repent of them in Christ, so we should not continue holding that wrong over the person's head once it has been forgiven. Verses 14-15 tells us that if we do not forgive others, we ourselves will not be forgiven. But apart from scriptural passages telling us that it is God's will for us to forgive one another, it is also God's wisdom that when we truly forgive, we allow ourselves to be set free to be like Christ, to love as God would love, and not be under the bondage of bitterness and vengeance that only eats into our souls. And if forgiving once is hard enough, we know all too well that Jesus calls us to forgive and keep forgiving (Matthew 18:22); let us learn to be a forgiving Church.

## **Seek God First Above All Things (Matthew 6:33)**

Let not the things of this world occupy our thoughts. This is not to say that we have no need for what is necessary for living, or that these things are not important, but as verse 21 says, "... *where your treasure is, there will your heart be also*", and in verse 24, "... *Ye cannot serve God and mammon.*" Let us have the right perspective. As Christians, we know that the one who provides all our needs is not the world, but God. If we are occupied by the things of this world in order to provide our needs and wants, then we are essentially saying that we doubt God's promise to care for us. Here God is saying that if we seek after Him and His righteousness, trust Him to provide all our needs. Our wants will be a blessing to us as it becomes aligned to God's will - we will want to serve him, we will want to build His Church, we will want to seek the good of others above ourselves, we will want to be more Christ-like.

Even so in Church matters, let us seek God first whether things are going well or not, whether things are going according to plan or going awry, when things are happening too fast or not fast enough for our liking, when we are getting along with people or having relationship issues, when we agree or disagree with decisions made, whatever we are doing, let us seek God first. This must be so especially for all those in positions of leadership or responsibility within the Church, but it is equally required of each one of us. Since God is in control of all things, trust Him in whatever situation we face that all is working according to His plan and timing, and not ours. Commit all things to Him in prayer with thanksgiving (Philippians 4:6-7) and He will add what things are needful unto us. In so doing, we not only build up the Church, but ourselves as well, by learning how to trust God more.

## **Avoid Being Judgmental & Hypocritical (Matthew 7:1-5)**

Let us be clear here that this is not talking about the rational faculty of judgement that God has given to us to judge things in the proper manner, but rather the groundless, rash, harsh, and uncharitable judgement stemming from our evil and ill nature against any person. Let us not set ourselves up to judge others, for has God called us to be a judge of others, or has He called us to esteem others better than ourselves (Philippians 2:3)? Neither let us "judge the hearts of others, nor their intentions, for it is God's prerogative to try the heart, and we must not step into his throne; nor must we judge of their eternal state, nor call them hypocrites, reprobates, and castaways; that is stretching beyond our line" (Matthew Henry).

Judging others is not a thing to be taken lightly, for by the measure we judge others, we will be judged as well of Christ. Remember that there is not one of us that is righteous for we are all sinners, and when we judge others we become hypocrites for there is sin (and possibly greater sin) in us as well (Romans 2:1). This is why the passage talks about the mote in my brother's eye and the beam in my own eye. So, in the Church, forbear and let us not judge one another, but rather see how we can learn to accept one another with love in Christ, checking ourselves that we too refrain from doing the things that are not right before God.

## **Do Unto Others (Matthew 7:12)**

This echoes the second greatest commandment, "*...Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself*" (Matthew 22:39), which is why it is the "... sum or substance of the Old Testament ... a summary expression of all that the law [requires]" (Albert Barnes). Many of the things that have been written above in this article will undoubtedly be addressed if we but adopt this attitude in our lives, and the Church will grow in Christ for the motivation for this is God's love manifested in us. In love, it is not burdensome, but if we try to keep this commandment legalistically, it becomes a millstone about our necks.

Even as we like to be greeted, respected, served or ministered to, listened to, remembered, invited, visited, and so on, let us first do the same to others in love. If we continue in this good work without fainting, in due season we shall reap the joy of seeing our Church excelling in love and care for one another, which pleases and glorifies God. Where we find it difficult to love others in this way, let us come to God and ask Him to enable us by His grace, for "*... how much more shall your Father which is in heaven give good things to them that ask him?*" (Matthew 7:11).

## **Follow Rightly (Matthew 7:15-23)**

Lastly, to build our Church on the Solid Rock, we must all be grounded in the right doctrines. The Word of God is not to be read frivolously, but we must make sure that we know His Word so that we are not led astray by false prophets or corrupt doctrine. To follow rightly is to study the Bible so that we know its Truths, so that we are not led astray. It is right for the Church leadership to correct errors in the Church, but it is equally right that the Church ensures that its leaders faithfully teach and apply the Word of God, for no man is perfect in all his ways. In all this, it must be done with love and compassion that we might admonish one another to good works

## **Conclusion**

After reading this article, please forgive me if you find that I have not lived up to all that I have written; I am still a sinner like yourself. But by God's grace, may He place in our hearts the desire to help continue building the foundation of Hope Church on the Solid Rock. Will we put our shoulder to the wheel with fellow servants of God for His glory? No one is able to do all things, but "*[God] is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in [all of] us*" (Ephesians 3:20). May His grace be upon us all in this matter.

Thank you & God bless.

- Elder Colin Gan

# 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 11th October	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 14th October	4pm	Bible Study & Prayer Meeting	
Next Lord's Day	Morning Service	Evening Service	LORD'S DAY DUTIES
<b>Preacher</b>	Rev Lim Chee Boon	Rev Lim Chee Boon	<b><u>TODAY: 08/10/2017</u></b>
<b>Message</b>	TBC	TBC	<b>Chairman:</b> Jonathan
<b>Text</b>	TBC	TBC	<b>Organist:</b> Anthony
NEWS/ANNOUNCEMENTS			<b>Pianist:</b> Matthew
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Pre-lunch Bible Study:</b> Rev Lim will be leading the bible study today.</li> <li>• <b>Sunday School:</b> This afternoon at 2:45pm the church will be holding Sunday School for young children and toddlers, led by Elizabeth, Nina and Barbara. Please invite friends and family to attend.</li> <li>• <b>Church Pulpit Ministry:</b> We thank God for the provision of Dr Carl Martin to serve as our Interim Minister. His tenure concluded on 30<sup>th</sup> September, please pray for God's leading and guidance as he progresses with his PhD study at Greenwich School of Theology. Also, pray for the Pulpit Ministry and for Rev Lim Chee Boon who will be ministering to us from 8<sup>th</sup> October.</li> </ul>			<b>Ushers:</b> Tom / John
			<b>Lunch:</b> Maureen
			<b>Washing Up:</b> Volunteers
			<b>PA Crew:</b> Scott / John
			<b><u>NEXT WEEK: 15/10/2017</u></b>
			<b>Chairman:</b> John
<b>Worship Service Collections</b> - Last Sunday: £1210.20; Lunch: £43.00; Maintenance Fund: £100 <b>Attendance</b> - Morning: 32 (A) 7 (C), Evening: 14 (A) 6 (C)			<b>Church Maintenance Fund</b> <b>Total: £3,820.50</b>
SHORTER CATECHISM QUESTION 87			
<b>Q: What is Repentance unto Life?</b> <i>A: Repentance unto Life is a <u>saving grace</u>, whereby a sinner – out of a <u>true sense of his sin</u>, and apprehension of the <u>mercy of God in Christ</u> – doth, with grief and hatred of his sin, <b>TURN FROM IT UNTO GOD</b>, with full purpose of, and endeavour after, <u>new obedience</u>.</i>			
<b>Comments:</b> 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 <i>unto life</i> , because it leads to eternal life.			
<b>Scriptural Reference:</b> Luke 13:3, Luke 18:13, Isaiah 1:16-17			
MEMORY VERSE			
<b>Last Week</b> <i>“For the commandment is a lamp; and the law is light; and reproofs of instruction are the way of life.”</i> <b>Proverbs 6:23</b>	<b>This Week</b> <i>“The Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptations, and to reserve the unjust unto the day of judgment to be punished:”</i> <b>2 Peter 2:9</b>	<b>Next Week</b> <i>“Have not I commanded thee? Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the Lord thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest.”</i> <b>Joshua 1:9</b>	