



# NEW LIFE BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

44 Salusbury Road, London NW6 6NN

Charity No. 1060655

Tel: 020 7328 0869 (Manse)

Email: [newlifeplondon@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:newlifeplondon@yahoo.co.uk)

Website: [www.newlifebpc.org.uk](http://www.newlifebpc.org.uk)

Supervisory Pastor: Rev Lim Chee Boon

Email: [pastor@newlifebpc.org.uk](mailto:pastor@newlifebpc.org.uk)

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

Vol. 21 No. 51

**LORD'S DAY 17 DECEMBER 2017**

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

### *Morning Service – 11am*

### *Evening Service – 4pm*

*Prelude*

*The Lord Is in His Holy Temple*

*Call to Worship*

Psalm 9:1-2

Psalm 95:1-3

*Opening Hymn \**

RHC 163 – *"Angels, from the Realms of Glory"*

RHC 164 – *"O Come, All Ye Faithful"*

*Opening Prayer \**

John Poh

John Poh

*Gloria Patri \**

*Glory Be to the Father*

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*Responsive Reading*

Psalm 94

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*Second Hymn \**

*Psalm 94 verses 1-10*  
(to the tune of Bethlehem, RHC 15)

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*Announcements & Memory Verse*

John Poh

John Poh

*Tithes & Offerings & Doxology \**

RHC 161 – *"There's A Song in the Air!"*

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*Scriptural Text*

Job 1 & 2

Ezekiel 16:5-6

*Pastoral Prayer*

Mr Fred Raynsford

Mr Fred Raynsford

*Sermon Message*

*Afflictions of the Righteous*

*Gospel Application*

*Closing Hymn \**

RHC 319 – *"It Is Well with My Soul"*

RHC 168 – *"Who is He in Yonder Stall?"*

*Benediction/3-Fold Amen \**

Mr Fred Raynsford

Mr Fred Raynsford

*Postlude*

*The Lord Bless You*

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\* 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***

# WHY WORRY?

Adapted from Life BP Church Singapore Weekly, Sunday 19th November 2017

Worrying is one of the worst habits that has afflicted mankind. It causes people to lose sleep, lose their appetite and lose their effectiveness. Medical research has proven that worry breaks down our body's resistance to disease, and causes stomach ulcers, headaches and heart problems. When carried to an extreme, worrying brings about severe depression, irrational behaviour and even suicide. How should you deal with worry? Here are some scriptural principles that can help.

## **Life is more than mere existence.**

Have you become so concerned about mundane things that they become all that you care about? For many people, meeting their physical needs is their primary concern in life. Worrying about these needs is translated into worrying about getting and holding on to a well-paid job to pay for them. And that in turn is translated into worrying about getting the right educational qualifications and therefore getting good grades for exams. But our Lord Jesus said, "*Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink; nor yet for your body, what ye shall put on.*" (Matthew 6:25)

One reason why many Christians have no time to attend church and prayer meetings regularly or to keep their daily devotions is that they are too busy taking thought of their physical needs. When important exams are around the corner, they cease all spiritual activity. When they are offered a well-paid job that requires them to be absent from church on Sundays, they take it thinking that livelihood overrides all other considerations. And when their income is reduced they stop giving to the Lord.

If we do this, we are denying one very important principle which is found in the words of Jesus – "*Is not the life more than meat, and the body than raiment?*" Isn't there more to life than just making a living and keeping ourselves alive? Yes! Life is meant for us to know God and to glorify Him. Without Him we would have no life at all. But how can we glorify God if we don't survive? And how can we survive if we don't worry about our physical needs? The answer is that God Himself will ensure that our physical needs are met. He who gave us life is surely concerned about our survival.

## **God cares for His creation.**

Jesus illustrates this in Matthew 6:26 – "*Behold the fowls of the air: for they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feedeth them. Are ye not much better than they?*" This addresses the need for food and daily sustenance. The other illustration addresses a different need – the need for clothing: "*And why take ye thought for raiment? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin: And yet I say unto you, That even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these.*" (Matthew 6:28-29)

The thrust of these illustrations is the same: If God cares for the animals and plants, how much more will He care for us, who are created in His own image and likeness? As our heavenly Father He will certainly provide for our needs. Worrying about our daily provisions insults God's fatherhood. It portrays Him as a father who is so irresponsible that we have to make up for His shortcomings by depending on ourselves and others.

Worrying also insults God's knowledge. When we keep on worrying about our daily provisions people will think that God does not know our needs well enough. What a bad testimony about God we give to the world whenever we worry. So let us quit worrying and start believing!

## **Material concerns should not usurp spiritual priorities.**

Jesus said, *“But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and His righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.”* (Matthew 6:33) The key word here is ‘first.’ How can you give your best efforts to God’s kingdom if you are preoccupied with accumulating wealth? How do you think He feels to be placed on a lower priority than your physical needs? What will you do when you face a crisis that endangers your livelihood and affects your physical well-being? Will you forget God or will you trust Him to help you?

Instead of seeking to meet all your physical needs, you should seek the Kingdom of God. A truly fulfilled life is possible only by setting your heart on loving the things of God. Building up your relationship with God and promoting His kingdom are worth your time and energy. Divert your energies to glorifying God in every possible way and in every area of life. Then your heart will be excited about spiritual things, and your mind will see everything from His perspective. God will become the reference point in all your thoughts, and your pursuits will not include anything that may hinder the advancement of His Kingdom.

## **Respond to life’s challenges as they come.**

One important way to stop worrying is to take life one day at a time. As Jesus said in Matthew 6:34 – *“Take therefore no thought for the morrow: for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself. Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof.”*

Oftentimes the things that we fear about tomorrow never happen. When Jacob was traveling back to Hebron with his family and flocks, he received news that Esau was coming to meet him with 400 men (Genesis 32:6). He imagined the worst that could possibly happen. He worried so much about what Esau would do to him because of his past misdeeds, that he tried every means to prevent the inevitable revenge from coming. He sent gifts to pacify his brother’s anger. And when he could not sleep that night he divided his family and flocks into two camps separated by a river so that at least half of what he had could survive an attack.

When the next day arrived so did Esau and his 400 men. But instead of the expected massacre, the two brothers had a blessed reunion! If only Jacob had trusted God, he could have spared himself from a day and a night of heart-wrenching worry!

Let us trust God about tomorrow and not be overly concerned about the future. It is good to be prepared to face any future contingencies, but we should not allow these uncertainties to rule our lives and make us worry unnecessarily. Why waste so much time and energy on things that may never happen at all?

Instead of worrying, we should get into the habit of praying. Come regularly for our Tuesday night prayer meeting and you will soon develop this habit to counteract your habitual worrying. Each time you feel like worrying, remember to pray. And as you pray, your worrying will gradually give way to a wonderful sense of serene calmness. This is the inward peace that comes from God, a peace that passes all understanding. As the hymnwriter Joseph Scriven wrote: *“Oh, what peace we often forfeit, oh what needless pain we bear. All because we do not carry everything to God in prayer.”*

– 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 20th December	No 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 23rd December	No Bible Study & Prayer Meeting				
Next Lord's Day	Morning Service	Evening Service	LORD'S DAY DUTIES		
<b>Preacher</b>	Mr Fred Raynsford	Mr Fred Raynsford	<b><u>TODAY: 17/12/2017</u></b>		
<b>Message</b>	TBC	TBC	<b>Chairman:</b> John		
<b>Text</b>	TBC	TBC	<b>Organist:</b> Matthew		
<b>NEWS/ANNOUNCEMENTS</b>			<b>Pianist:</b> Matthew		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Pre-lunch Bible Study:</b> There will be a video by RC Sproul on "Pleasing God".</li> <li>• <b>Christmas Eve Service:</b> We will be holding our Christmas service on the 24<sup>th</sup> December, please invite friends and family to come worship. Lunch will be a carry-in, please see Maureen Poh for further information.</li> <li>• <b>Christmas Eve Offering:</b> The collection this year will be used for Missions.</li> <li>• <b>Church Pulpit Ministry:</b> Pray for the Pulpit Ministry and for the calling of a new minister.</li> <li>• <b>Changes to Church Activities from January 2018:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <i>Evening worship will be brought forward to 3pm.</i></li> <li>➤ <i>No Pre-lunch Bible Study.</i></li> </ul> </li> </ul>			<b>Ushers:</b> Tom / Daniel		
			<b>Lunch:</b> Volunteers		
			<b>Washing Up:</b> Volunteers		
			<b>PA Crew:</b> Scott / Venise		
			<b><u>NEXT WEEK: 24/12/2017</u></b>		
			<b>Chairman:</b> John		
<b>Worship Service Collections - Last Sunday: £429.60 &amp; €5, Lunch £26.00</b>			<b>Organist:</b> Lydia		
<b>Attendance - Morning: 16 (A) 4 (C), Evening: 12 (A) 3 (C)</b>			<b>Pianist:</b> Venise		
			<b>Ushers:</b> Tom / Daniel		
			<b>Lunch:</b> Carry In		
			<b>Washing Up:</b> Volunteers		
			<b>PA Crew:</b> Scott		
			<b>Church Maintenance Fund</b>		
			<b>Total: £3,960.50</b>		

## SHORTER CATECHISM QUESTION 97

**Q: What is required to the worthy receiving of the Lord's Supper?**

*A: It is required of them that would worthily partake of the Lord's Supper, that they examine themselves of their knowledge to discern the Lord's body, of their faith to feed upon him, of their repentance, love, and new obedience; lest, coming unworthily, they eat and drink judgement to themselves.*

Comments:

We are here taught the proper qualifications for receiving the Lord's Supper. They are: 1. *Knowledge* sufficient to understand what is represented by it; 2. *Faith* sufficient to believe that as the bread which we eat sustains our bodies, so the Bread of Life which it represents will sustain our souls; 3. *Repentance* from all known sin; 4. *Love* to God and man; 5. A resolution henceforth to act up to every known *duty*.

Scriptural Reference:

1 Corinthians 11:28, 29, 2 Corinthians 13:5, 1 Corinthians 5:8

## MEMORY VERSE

Last Week	This Week	Next Week
<p><i>"Let love be without dissimulation. Abhor that which is evil; cleave to that which is good."</i></p> <p><b>Romans 12:9</b></p>	<p><i>"Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honour preferring one another;"</i></p> <p><b>Romans 12:10</b></p>	<p><i>"Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil."</i></p> <p><b>Ephesians 6:11</b></p>

