



# 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. 22 No. 40

**LORD’S DAY 07 OCTOBER 2018**

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

### *Morning Service – 11am*

### *Afternoon Service – 3pm*

*Prelude*

*The Lord Is in His Holy Temple*

*Call to Worship*

Psalm 138:1-3

Psalm 95:1-3

*Opening Hymn \**

RHC 65 – “And Can It Be That I  
Should Gain?”

RHC 18 – “Come, Thou  
Almighty King”

*Opening Prayer \**

John Poh

John Poh

*Gloria Patri \**

*Glory Be to the Father*

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*Responsive Reading*

Psalm 126

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*Second Hymn \**

*Psalm 126*  
(to the tune of Beatitudo, RHC 388)

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*Announcements & Memory  
Verse*

John Poh

John Poh

*Tithes & Offerings &  
Doxology \**

RHC 399 – “I Am Thine, O  
Lord”

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*Scriptural Text*

Ephesians 1:3-14

Psalm 133

*Pastoral Prayer*

Eld (Dr) George Chew

Eld (Dr) George Chew

*Sermon Message*

*Who is a Christian*

*Oil and Dew*

*Closing Hymn \**

RHC 87 – “I Know Whom I Have  
Believed”

RHC 261 – “Best Be the Tie  
That Binds”

*Benediction/3-Fold Amen \**

Eld (Dr) George Chew

Eld (Dr) George Chew

*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.

# **WE ARE THE SALT OF THE EARTH**

**Adapted from Life BP Church Singapore Weekly, Sunday 16th September 2018**

Salt was an important commodity in Old Testament times. It was a symbol of God's covenant with Israel. According to Leviticus 2:13 every offering that was made at the Temple had to be offered with salt.

Salt has also been very useful since ancient times. The Roman historian, Pliny said, *"Nothing is more useful than salt and sunshine."* In fact, salt is just as useful as the salary that workers receive every month. How is this so? The word 'salary' comes from the Latin word '*salarium*' which means salt given to a soldier as his wages. This gave rise to the expression, *"He is worth his salt."*

Just as food is tasteless without salt, our Lord tells us that if we are not salty we lose our impact as Christians: *"Ye are the salt of the earth: but if the salt have lost his savour, wherewith shall it be salted? it is thenceforth good for nothing, but to be cast out, and to be trodden underfoot of men."*

## **Our Potential to Make an Impact**

As Christians, we have a unique potential to make a very positive impact on the world. This potential comes through our knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ and His work in and through our lives. Paul wrote in Galatians 2:20 – *"I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave Himself for me."* Thus, our savour as salt actually comes from Christ. Christ is the One who gives us all the saltiness that we need in order to make a good, positive impact on others.

The problem, however, is that while we have great potential to make such an impact, it is not being used as it should. Salt can never make food taste good as long as it remains inside the salt-shaker. It must first be sprinkled out of the salt-shaker and onto our food before we can enjoy its benefits. Similarly, if we all keep to ourselves within the four walls of our church all the time, then all the potential that we have to make an impact on the world will never be used.

## **Where the Impact is Needed Most**

The whole world is in dire need of hope. And that hope can only be found in Christ. We who have found hope in Christ must therefore bring Him out to the world. This is the unique role that we have as the salt of the earth. But how well are we fulfilling this role?

We must not think that our faith in Christ is only a private and personal matter between us and God alone. It is not good to keep our faith under wraps all the time. To be a Christian is to be a witness for Jesus Christ. That's what we are. This is implied by one particular characteristic of salt: It tends to make people feel thirsty. Similarly, our lives should create a thirst for Christ in the people we meet. Christ is the spring of Living Water, as He said, *"If any man thirst, let him come unto Me, and drink."* (John 7:37).

Another characteristic of salt is that it is an effective preservative. Until canning and refrigeration were invented, salting was the main method that was used to preserve food. It preserves food by destroying all the bacteria which cause decay. For this reason salt is also a very good antiseptic, and it was used in ancient times to keep wounds from becoming infected.

In the same way that salt counteracts decay and prevents infection, we become useful when we live in a way that counteracts the rottenness of sin in this world.

Many horrible vices of ancient times have been eradicated from society primarily because of the strong influence of Christians. E.g. In the 19th century, William Wilberforce (1759-1833) successfully campaigned for the abolition of slavery in England. Missionaries in China like Gladys Aylward made an impact on the practice of foot-binding of women. Within 40 years, this thousand-year old practice came to an end. In India, the temple prostitution of little girls was finally banned through the impact that was made by Amy Carmichael, an Irish missionary in India. What was it that enabled these Christians to do these things? They were merely fulfilling their role as the salt of the earth to counteract the awful rot and decay that sin had brought into the world.

Today, it is our turn to do the same thing. We need to make a similar impact to counteract the unholy trends of the world like materialism, gambling, pornography, licentiousness and sexual perversion. What can we do about these trends? Well, we certainly can pray against them, but there are times when we need to speak the truth in love, and take a stand for Christ in order to resist the strong tide of sin. We need to be like salt, exerting a seasoning effect upon the world for good, and being a preservative of society against sin.

### **Our Present Concern**

Marriage and family life are in danger of being compromised in Singapore. With the recent renewed call by prominent figures to challenge and repeal the penal code section 377A in the light of the recent landmark ruling by the Supreme Court of India on the same issue, the debate on legalising same-sex marriages has been revived. A minister commented, "Laws will have to keep pace with changes in societal views, and it is up to Singapore's society to decide which direction it wants to take when it comes to legislation on gay sex."

Even though we live in a secular society, we who are Christians must ultimately use the Word of God as our authoritative source of all moral values and instructions on marriage and family life. Human philosophy, psychology and sociology cannot define for us what marriage and family life should be and what constitutes sound morality.

Marriage is defined biblically as the uniting of one man and one woman in a lifelong relationship (Genesis 1:27,28; 2:20-24). Human sexuality is a gift of God, designed for monogamous heterosexual marriage relationships (Matthew 19:3-9, Hebrews 13:4). This gift has been abused since the Fall of man, resulting in a proliferation of sexual sins (Genesis 6:5; Leviticus 18:6-24). God will judge all forms of sin, including fornication, adultery and homosexual acts (1 Corinthians 6:9,10; Jude 7; Genesis 19:4-25). Same-sex relationships are unnatural and are the result of man's sinful nature interacting with a sinful environment (Romans 1:21-27; Psalm 51:5). God's power to change is freely available to all who repent of their homosexual lifestyle and who desire to live in conformity to God's will (Philippians 4:13; Romans 12:1,2; 8:37. To learn more about this, please read the article, "*Is Sexual Orientation Inborn?*" that was published in the Life Church Weekly on 29 July 2018.)

Perhaps it is time for us to speak the truth in love on this matter, using every legitimate means to make our views known, in order to give a strong signal to the authorities to maintain the conservative position of our nation despite the increasing pressure to conform to the world.

A survey of countries where same-sex marriage has been allowed will reveal that wherever gay rights are upheld, a rigid enforcement of political correctness will follow. For instance, broadcasts by *Focus on the Family* in Canada have to be censored to remove any statements that are deemed to be offensive to the gay community.

If we do nothing to uphold moral values, we may end up being just like the salt that has lost its saltiness. Jesus said that this is "*good for nothing, but to be cast out and to be trodden under foot of men.*" May the Lord help us to be faithful in maintaining our usefulness for Him and in fulfilling the role that He has given to us as the salt of the earth.

- Rev Charles Seet

# WELCOME TO NEW LIFE B-P CHURCH LONDON

Our worship services begin promptly at **11.00 am** and **3.00 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
Sat 13 <sup>th</sup> Oct	<b>No Bible Study &amp; Prayer Meeting</b>	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.
<i>Next Lord's Day</i>	<i>Morning Service</i> <i>Evening Service</i>	<b>LORD'S DAY DUTIES</b>
<i>Preacher</i>	Mr Charles Scott-Pearson      Mr Charles Scott-Pearson	<b><u>TODAY: 07/10/2018</u></b>
<i>Message</i>	TBC      TBC	<i>Chairman:</i> John
<i>Text</i>	TBC      TBC	<i>Organist:</i> Anthony
<b>NEWS/ANNOUNCEMENTS</b>		<i>Pianist:</i> Matthew
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Sunday School:</b> Sunday School for young children and toddlers will be held at 1:45pm. Please invite friends and family to attend.</li> <li>• <b>Church Pulpit Ministry:</b> Pray for the Pulpit Ministry and for the calling of a new minister.</li> <li>• <b>Sovereign Grace Advent Testimony centenary meeting:</b> Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> November 2018, 2:30pm at Westminster Baptist Church. Speaker: Dr John Douglas.</li> </ul>		<i>Ushers:</i> Daniel / Tom
		<i>Lunch:</i> Maureen
		<i>Washing Up:</i> Volunteers
		<i>PA Crew:</i> Jonathan / Venise
		<b><u>NEXT WEEK: 14/10/2018</u></b>
<p><b>Worship Service Collections</b> - Last Sunday: £1107.90, Lunch: £41.00, Love Gift: £200</p> <p><b>Attendance</b> - Morning: 31 (A) 6 (C), Afternoon: 10 (A) 5 (C)</p>		<b>Church Maintenance Fund</b> <b>Total: £4,330.50</b>

## SHORTER CATECHISM QUESTION 32

**Q: What benefits do they that are effectually called partake of in this life?**

*A: They that are effectually called do in this life partake of JUSTIFICATION, ADOPTION, and SANCTIFICATION, and the several benefits which, in this life, do either accompany or flow from them.*

Comments:

Faith in Christ insures certain blessings, some of which are enjoyed in this life, others in the world to come. Of these enjoyed in this life, justification, adoption, and sanctification are the chief, and are of such a nature as to hold within them, or bring along with them, every other blessing.

Scriptural Reference:

1 Corinthians 1:30, Romans 8:30

## MEMORY VERSE

Last Week	This Week	Next Week
<p><i>"Be not wise in thine own eyes: fear the Lord, and depart from evil.</i></p> <p><i>It shall be health to thy navel, and marrow to thy bones."</i></p> <p><b>Proverbs 3:7-8</b></p>	<p><i>"Blessed are ye, when men shall hate you, and when they shall separate you from their company, and shall reproach you, and cast out your name as evil, for the Son of man's sake."</i></p> <p><b>Luke 6:22</b></p>	<p><i>"Therefore by the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified in his sight: for by the law is the knowledge of sin."</i></p> <p><b>Romans 3:20</b></p>