



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. 23

LORD’S DAY 10 JUNE 2018

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Morning Service – 11am

Afternoon Service – 3pm

Prelude

The Lord Is in His Holy Temple

Call to Worship

Psalm 24:1-5

Ezekiel 34:20-26

*Opening Hymn **

RHC 5 – “*Command Thy Blessing From Above*”

RHC 26 – “*Come, Thou Fount*”

*Opening Prayer **

Jonathan Kim

Jonathan Kim

*Gloria Patri **

Glory Be to the Father

Responsive Reading

Psalm 119:9-24

*Second Hymn **

RHC 255 – “*Thy Word Have I Hid in My Heart*”

Announcements & Memory Verse

Jonathan Kim

Jonathan Kim

*Tithes & Offerings & Doxology **

RHC 339 – “*When I Fear My Faith Will Fail*”

Scriptural Text

John 1:35-51

James 1:26; 3:2-3

Pastoral Prayer

Rev Mark Lehman

Rev Mark Lehman

Sermon Message

Follow Jesus

Christian Communication

The Lord's Supper

Rev Mark Lehman

*Closing Hymn **

RHC 440 – “*Lead On, O King Eternal*”

RHC 376 – “*O to Be Like Thee!*”

*Benediction/3-Fold Amen **

Rev Mark Lehman

Rev Mark Lehman

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.

THE DANGER OF GOSSIP

Adapted from New Life BPC Singapore Newline, Sunday 20th May 2018

The Lord loves a straight shooter. How do I know this? Because this is the embodiment of the wisdom imparted in Proverbs, including this helpful little gem: “*Put away from you crooked speech, and put devious talk far from you*” (4:24).

Crooked speech is talk that isn’t straight. It is bowed, off-kilter, circuitous, meandering. There are a few examples we could name, including outright lying and even hypocritical living, but one of the most glaring examples of crooked speech that is practically epidemic in the church is the sin of gossip. But what is gossip?

One reason gossip can be so difficult to define is that it so often masquerades as something more mundane, perhaps even beneficent. I’m sure you have witnessed plenty of prayer requests shared on someone’s behalf that seemed to include unnecessary details or salacious information. You’ve probably heard your share of “words of concern” that bordered on insinuation or improper speculation. Maybe you’ve offered such words yourself. I know I have.

If we had to boil down gossip to a straightforward definition, we might say that gossip is saying anything about someone that you wouldn’t say to them. That at least captures the way gossip violates Proverbs 4:24.

So how do you know if you’re hearing (or sharing) gossip? Here are some clues as to the various motives that fuel gossip.

MALICE

When we are voicing criticism or accusation of another person to a third party, we must take great care first of all that we have the other person’s actual best interest in mind. If we really do suspect a sin issue, the responsible thing to do is to lovingly, gently confront the subject of our concern.

In Romans 1, Paul actually connects gossip as a character trait — “*they are gossips*” (v. 29), not simply that they commit gossip — to deceit and maliciousness. Gossip is a sin no matter where you find it, whether it’s in the aisles at church or in the aisles of the grocery store. But it is especially egregious in a church setting, where gossip works the satanic ploy of undermining the unity of the Spirit and Christ’s call to love one another as He has loved us. Gossip is anti-gospel, and therefore it is representative of the Antichrist.

SELF-ORIENTED CURIOSITY

This kind of gossip is the particular domain of the church’s “Nosy Nellies” and the Internet’s self-authorized “watchbloggers.” You will notice that the sharing of actual sins, assumptive accusations, and out-and-out speculation has really nothing at all to do with edifying the person in question. This gossip is clearly malicious, but it’s also something else—it is served up as entertainment, as a delectable morsel to delight, intrigue, or otherwise stir up other critical spirits against the person in question.

Some people, frankly, just like entertaining themselves with “juicy” details at the expense of other people. Paul warns about these types of gossips when he instructs his young protégé to beware of *“idlers, going about from house to house, and not only idlers, but also gossips and busybodies, saying what they should not”* (1 Tim. 5:13). The connection of idleness with gossip is significant, as the kind of gossip Paul has in mind here doesn’t even pretend to be helpful to anyone. It only serves as self-oriented curiosity. This is the kind you see on tabloid magazine covers and, unfortunately, hear in many church hallways.

PRIDE OR ENVY

This is the kind of gossip, driven by malice, that is aimed squarely at making oneself look better by comparison. Paul has this kind of gossip in mind in 2 Corinthians 12:20 when he names this sin in conjunction with jealousy, slander, and conceit. This kind of gossip is usually prompted when we hear something good said about a person whom we dislike or distrust. When a friend tells you about the excellent work of a coworker with whom you think of yourself in competition, and you reply, “Maybe. But he always comes into work late, and I heard he got fired from his last job,” that’s the gossip of envy. All of these varieties of crooked speech can catch fire in a church community and create the kind of quarrelling, suspicion, and division that Satan loves.

So, how do we avoid gossip and confront it? Here are three tactical steps to do battle against this pernicious sin:

1. Don’t say anything negative about someone that you wouldn’t say to them.

Simply put, if it’s a matter of enough concern to share with another, it’s a matter of concern to share with the person in question. If it’s not, it shouldn’t be shared.

2. Redirect others’ gossip with a gentle query about the intent.

“Have you spoken to them about this concern you have?” is a great way to nip gossip in the bud. “I don’t think you should share this with me if you’re not prepared to share it with them.”

3. Rebuke repeated gossip and discipline unrepentant gossips.

Name the sin directly to the person involved. Not angrily or in a spirit of judgmentalism, but as a loving confrontation of something no one should make a regular practice of. Paul is pretty clear on this sin. It is not to be tolerated because it can be so destructive to Christ’s body. And when direct confrontation doesn’t work, it is likely that unrepentant gossips must be handled according to the biblical instructions on church discipline.

If we care not just about the reputations and well-being of our neighbors, but also the reputation of Christ’s body and the well-being of its members, we won’t give crooked speech an inch, because it will always take a mile. Shoot straight with all so that the line between Christ’s grace and our brothers and sisters will not be interrupted.

- Adapted from *TableTalk Magazine* by Jared C. Wilson

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
Weds 13th June	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 16th June	No Bible Study & Prayer Meeting		
Next Lord's Day	Morning Service	Evening Service	LORD'S DAY DUTIES
<i>Preacher</i>	Eld George Chew	--	<u>TODAY: 10/06/2018</u> <i>Chairman:</i> Jonathan <i>Organist:</i> Anthony <i>Pianist:</i> Matthew <i>Ushers:</i> John / Tom <i>Lunch:</i> Venise <i>Washing Up:</i> Volunteers <i>PA Crew:</i> Scott / Anthony <u>NEXT WEEK: 17/06/2018</u> <i>Chairman:</i> John <i>Organist:</i> Anthony <i>Pianist:</i> Michael <i>Ushers:</i> Tom / Yetta <i>Lunch:</i> Maureen <i>Washing Up:</i> Volunteers <i>PA Crew:</i> Scott / Venise
<i>Message</i>	TBC	--	
<i>Text</i>	TBC	--	
NEWS/ANNOUNCEMENTS			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sunday School: This afternoon at 1:45pm the church will be holding Sunday School for young children and toddlers, led by Sisters Elizabeth, Nina and Barbara. Please invite friends and family to attend. • Church Pulpit Ministry: Pray for the Pulpit Ministry and for the calling of a new minister. • Metropolitan Tabernacle School of Theology 2018: 3rd - 5th July 2018. Theme: "<i>Depth and Scope of God's Truth</i>". • Rev Lehman will be leaving this coming Monday, 11th June. The Task Force and Congregation would like to thank Rev Lehman for his ministry over the past 2 months. • Please note that there will not be an Evening Service next Lord's Day. 			
Worship Service Collections - Last Sunday: £1198.30 Attendance - Morning: 33 (A) 7 (C), Evening: 17 (A) 6 (C)			Church Maintenance Fund Total: £4,230.50

SHORTER CATECHISM QUESTION 15

Q: What was the sin whereby our first parents fell from the estate wherein they were created?

A: The sin whereby our first parents fell from the estate wherein they were created, was their eating the forbidden fruit.

Comments:

The particular sin which Adam and Eve committed, and which constituted their fall, consisted in their eating of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, of which God had said they should not eat.

Scriptural Reference:

Genesis 3:6

MEMORY VERSE

Last Week	This Week	Next Week
<i>"But thou, O Lord, art a God full of compassion, and gracious, long suffering, and plenteous in mercy and truth."</i> Psalm 86:15	<i>"Moreover whom he did predestinate, them he also called: and whom he called, them he also justified: and whom he justified, them he also glorified."</i> Romans 8:30	<i>"Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth."</i> Colossians 3:2