



# NEW LIFE BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

44 Salusbury Road, London NW6 6NN

Charity No. 1060655

Tel: 020 7328 0869 (Manse)

Email: [newlifebplondon@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:newlifebplondon@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. 23 No. 13

**LORD’S DAY 31 MARCH 2019**

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

### *Morning Service – 11am*

### *Afternoon Service – 3pm*

	<i>Morning Service – 11am</i>	<i>Afternoon Service – 3pm</i>
<i>Prelude</i>	<i>The Lord Is in His Holy Temple</i>	
<i>Call to Worship</i>	Psalm 89:5-7	Psalm 145:1-3
<i>Opening Hymn *</i>	RHC 40 – “ <i>God the Omnipotent</i> ”	RHC 18 – “ <i>Come, Thou Almighty King</i> ”
<i>Opening Prayer *</i>	John Poh	John Poh
<i>Gloria Patri *</i>	<i>Glory Be to the Father</i>	---
<i>Responsive Reading</i>	Psalm 1	---
<i>Second Hymn *</i>	<i>Psalm 1</i> (to the tune of No Other Plea, RHC 301)	---
<i>Announcements &amp; Memory Verse</i>	John Poh	John Poh
<i>Tithes &amp; Offerings &amp; Doxology *</i>	RHC 27 – “ <i>Now Thank We All Our God</i> ”	---
<i>Scriptural Text</i>	Luke 14	Daniel 3
<i>Pastoral Prayer</i>	Mr Charles Scott-Pearson	Mr Charles Scott-Pearson
<i>Sermon Message</i>	<i>The Conditions, Cost, and Commitment of Discipleship</i>	<i>The God who Could and the Men who Couldn’t</i>
<i>Closing Hymn *</i>	RHC 414 – “ <i>Is Your All on the Altar?</i> ”	RHC 280 – “ <i>He Is Able to Deliver Thee</i> ”
<i>Benediction/3-Fold Amen *</i>	Mr Charles Scott-Pearson	Mr Charles Scott-Pearson
<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.

# **STEWARDSHIP AS A WAY OF LIFE**

**Adapted from Maranatha Messenger, Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> March 2019**

Every Christian ought to be active in the local church. Jesus said, "*Occupy till I come*" (Luke 19:13). Paul said God has given each and every one of us at least one spiritual gift for the common good of the Christian community (1 Corinthians 12:7, 11).

What spiritual gift(s) has God given you? Have you use it for the common good of the church? If not, then you are not a good steward of the Lord.

## **Who is a Christian Steward?**

A Christian steward is one who receives God's gifts gratefully, cherishes and tends them in a responsible and accountable manner, shares them in justice and love with others, and returns them with increase to the Lord (Matthew 25:14-30). He recognizes God as the source of everything. He also knows that he will be held accountable to God for the stewardship of his time, talents and treasures.

## **Gratitude, Responsibility, Generosity and Accountability**

Every Christian is a gifted Christian. God has gifted us in a variety of ways. He gives us spiritual gifts for the common good of the church (1 Corinthians 12:11, 7). Therefore, you and I are to discover them and develop them to their full potential and use them well to serve others to build up the Body of Christ (Ephesians 4:11-16).

There are at least four measurements of good stewardship – Gratitude, Responsibility, Generosity and Accountability. With regard to gratitude, ask yourselves, "Do I give of my talent while I credit God for making me talented?" With regard to responsibility, ask yourselves, "Am I wisely responsible with my time?" With regard to generosity, ask yourselves, "Am I ungrudgingly generous with my treasure?" and with regard to accountability, ask yourselves, "Am I accountable in stewardship of the ministry that God has entrusted me?"

Each of us is responsible for how we live our lives and how we respond to the circumstances of life – good or bad. At the end of the day, we have to give an account to God for all that we say or do on earth (Matthew 12:36, 37; 1 Corinthians 3:12-15). God is just. He is no respecter of persons (Acts 10:34).

## **Time, Talent and Treasure**

Each of us has exactly the same number of hours available in each day. Therefore, making good use of our time requires keeping our priorities right. Since each day is only a 24-hour day (no more and no less), we must learn to say "yes" to one thing and "no" to another graciously. We need to decide what is important and what is not important and what is urgent and what is not urgent. In short, we need to prioritize lest we let time slip by quickly. Paul reminds us to make the best use of our time because the days are evil (Ephesians 5:16).

A simple but profound way to be a good steward of God's gift of time is to cultivate a good prayer life. Some of us may feel that we don't have the means to contribute to the advancement of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. But little do we realize that the greatest contribution to the proliferation of the eternal and glorious Gospel is by means of prayer. We can call upon God anywhere and everywhere at any time. We can pray for the world's political situations, the unsaved people in the community or the pressing needs of the Church of Jesus Christ.

Each and every one of us is gifted with at least one spiritual gift. Therefore, we do not need to excel at something to be talented. Instead, you need to ask yourselves, “How will I use my spiritual gift(s) to serve in the Body of Christ? How can I use them to build up the Kingdom of God?” We are God’s hands and feet, eyes and ears, mind and heart in the Body of Christ (1 Corinthians 12).

Everything comes from God, and that includes wealth and the ability to get more wealth. Moses warned Israel not to forget that it was God who gave them the power to get wealth (Deuteronomy 8:18). Money itself is not evil, but the love of it is (1 Timothy 6:10). Whatever wealth God has blessed us with, we are not to become haughty nor set our hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but on God, who richly provides us with everything to enjoy (1 Timothy 6:17). Proverbs reminds us that money has wings – *“Wilt thou set thine eyes upon that which is not? For riches certainly make themselves wings; they fly away as an eagle toward heaven”* (Proverbs 23:5). Do not be like the rich fool in Luke 12:16-21 who would not make God his refuge, but trusted in the abundance of his riches and sought refuge in his own destruction (Psalm 52:7). Whatever our plan is, make sure that God is part of it (James 4:13-15). Our God wants us to be good stewards of the manifold blessings which He has bestowed upon us (Luke 19:12-26).

### **Obstacles to Stewardship**

There are numerous hindrances to stewardship as a way of life. Here are some common ones Christians face when it comes to stewardship of time, money, talents and gifts:

1. Fear that if they share their time with others, they won’t have enough to do what they want to do. According to Paul’s teaching, such attitude is a selfish one. He said in Philippians 2:4, *“Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others.”*
2. Fear that if they give their money away, they won’t have enough to buy what they want for their loved ones or themselves. Jesus said, *“It is more blessed to give than to receive”* (Acts 20:35).
3. Fear that if they offer their talents, they won’t be good enough to meet the people’s expectations. Paul said in Colossians 3:23, *“And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men.”*

The problem with us today is that our consumer-driven society has made us believe that we will never have “enough.” We will always have to buy more, do more and be more. But Christian stewardship is counter-cultural. In fact, it has been called the “antidote to materialism.”

We Christians believe that God has given each of us “enough,” for our heavenly Father knows that we have need of all these things (Matthew 6:32). The testimony of King David was powerful. He said, *“I have been young, and now am old; yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread”* (Psalm 37:25). God was His faithful provider in all his life. 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). Our God wants us to know what is the right thing to do when it comes to food, clothing and shelter. He wants us to seek Him and His Kingdom first, and then *“all these things”* (i.e. material things) *“shall be added unto you.”* Do you believe this?

Dearly beloved, may I strongly encourage you to strive to be a better steward for Jesus Christ. Seek every opportunity to serve the Lord fervently in the church (Romans 12:11; Galatians 6:10). Make stewardship a way of life. Amen.

- Rev Colin Wong

# 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 6 <sup>th</sup> April <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.
Next Lord's Day	Morning Service	Evening Service	LORD'S DAY DUTIES
<b>Preacher</b>	Mr Stephen Toms	Mr Stephen Toms	<b><u>TODAY: 31/03/2019</u></b>
<b>Message</b>	Jehoshaphat's Father	Jehoshaphat's Son	<b>Chairman:</b> John
<b>Text</b>	2 Chronicles 14	2 Chronicles 21	<b>Organist:</b> Anthony
NEWS/ANNOUNCEMENTS			<b>Pianist:</b> 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>Pray for the forthcoming preachers:</b> April-June – Mr Stephen Toms, Mr Marco Reale, Mr Charles Scott-Pearson, Dr David Allen, Eld George Chew.</li> <li>• <b>Please note that the Church will be holding an ECM on Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> April after Morning Service in order to discuss the calling of Mr Mok Chee Cheong to become our resident minister.</b></li> <li>• <b>The Church would like to wish all mothers a Blessed Mother's Day.</b></li> </ul>			<b>Ushers:</b> Tom / Margaret
			<b>Lunch:</b> Tom
			<b>Washing Up:</b> Volunteers
			<b>PA Crew:</b> Scott / Jason
			<b><u>NEXT WEEK: 07/04/2019</u></b>
<b>Worship Service Collections - Last Sunday: £671.50, Lunch: £32</b>			<b>Chairman:</b> Jonathan
<b>Attendance - Morning: 24 (A) 7 (C), Afternoon: 15 (A) 6 (C)</b>			<b>Organist:</b> Anthony
<b>Church Maintenance Fund</b>			<b>Pianist:</b> Anthony
<b>Total: £4,730.50</b>			<b>Ushers:</b> Daniel / Tom
<b>SHORTER CATECHISM QUESTION 58</b>			<b>Lunch:</b> Maureen
<b>Q: Which is required in the Fourth Commandment?</b>			<b>Washing Up:</b> Volunteers
<i>A: The Fourth Commandment requireth the keeping holy to God such set times as he hath appointed in his Word; expressly <u>one whole day in seven, to be a holy Sabbath to himself.</u></i>			<b>PA Crew:</b> Scott / Jason
<b>Comments:</b>			
The Sabbath is an emblem of heaven, and a pattern and example for all days. Every day should be holy unto the Lord. Inasmuch, however, as in this world we must engage in worldly business, the Sabbath was instituted to prevent our thoughts from dwelling too much on worldly matters. It is intended for man's good, and it is our own loss if we disregard it.			
<b>Scriptural Reference:</b>			
Leviticus 19:30			
MEMORY VERSE			
<b>Last Week</b>	<b>This Week</b>	<b>Next Week</b>	
<i>"Wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath:"</i>	<i>"Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised; and his greatness is unsearchable."</i>	<i>"Except the Lord build the house, they labour in vain that build it: except the Lord keep the city, the watchman waketh but in vain."</i>	
<b>James 1:19</b>	<b>Psalms 145:3</b>	<b>Psalms 127:1</b>	