



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. 24 No. 18

LORD’S DAY 03 MAY 2020

ORDER OF WORSHIP

	<i>Morning Service – 11am</i>	<i>Afternoon Service – 2pm</i>
<i>Call to Worship</i>	Psalm 47:1-7	Psalm 100
<i>Opening Prayer</i>	Jonathan Kim	Jonathan Kim
<i>Responsive Reading</i>	Psalm 58	---
<i>Scriptural Text</i>	Romans 8:18	Romans 8:26
<i>Pastoral Prayer</i>	Pr Mok Chee Cheong	Pr Mok Chee Cheong
<i>Sermon Message</i>	Dr David Allen	Dr David Allen
<i>Benediction</i>	<i>The Sufferings of this Present Time</i> Dr David Allen	<i>The Spirits Groanings</i> Dr David Allen

NEWS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please note that due to instructions from the government with regards to the ongoing Corona Virus epidemic, we will be suspending our Activities and Sunday Worship Services in the Church premises with immediate effect.

Instead we will be streaming the sermons via a video conferencing facility each Sunday. Please email admin 'at' [newlifebpc.org.uk](mailto:admin@newlifebpc.org.uk) for more information.

Tithes & Offerings – these can be by cheque made payable to: New Life Bible Presbyterian Church. For direct bank transfer to the church account, please contact the treasurer, Mr Tom Tan.

SHORTER CATECHISM QUESTION 9

Q: What is the work of creation?

A: The work of creation is God’s making all things of nothing, by the word of his power, in the space of six days, and all very good.

Comments:

The first thing that God did in relation to us was to make the world we live in. Now, when we wish to make anything, we require materials. Thus, to make a chair, we need wood. But God made all things *of nothing*, by merely speaking the word. We are here told also of the time in which he made all things – six days; and of the condition in which they were when made – very good.

Scriptural Reference:

Hebrews 11:3, Genesis 1:31

MEMORY VERSE

Last Week

“For the mountains shall depart, and the hills be removed; but my kindness shall not depart from thee, neither shall the covenant of my peace be removed, saith the Lord that hath mercy on thee.”

Isaiah 54:10

This Week

“Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for he is faithful that promised;)”

Hebrews 10:23

Next Week

“But if we hope for that we see not, then do we with patience wait for it.”

Romans 8:25

HUMILITY

Introduction

True humility is elusive because one can so easily become proud of his humility. For the Christian, humility is not optional. The Lord Jesus said, "*Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven*" (Matt. 5:3). He warned, "*Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven*" (Matt. 18:3). The Puritan Richard Baxter wrote, "Humility is not a new ornament of a Christian, but an essential part of the new creature. It is a contradiction in terms to be a Christian, and not be humble."

What is humility?

Humility, in scriptures speaks of one who knows his place before God, willingly carries out his calling toward others, and has an accurate estimate of himself.

Humility is embracing our proper place before God. In 1 Peter 5:6, we see that we must humble ourselves, before the mighty hand of God. The same truth is communicated in Mark 10:35–45, where the disciples were striving for greatness before God in Christ gives a much needed lesson in humility. At the beginning of his *Institutes of the Christian Religion*, John Calvin wrote, "Indeed, our very poverty better discloses the infinitude of benefits reposing in God. The miserable ruin, into which the rebellion of the first man cast us, especially compels us to look upward. Thus, not only will we, in fasting and hungering, seek thence what we lack; but, in being aroused by fear, we shall learn humility." Later, Calvin heartily affirms the words of Augustine: "If you ask me concerning the precepts of the Christian religion, first, second, third, and always I would answer, 'Humility.'"

Humility is also dealing faithfully with and carrying out our calling well toward others. Christ establishes this in Matthew 22:39 with his declaration of the second great commandment, "*Thou shall love die neighbour as they self*." The humble person will do what he can for the greater good of others; he will put for he put forth his best efforts to benefit those around him. Jesus displays the perfect example of humility in the act of washing the feet of His disciples in John 13. He took the form of a servant in order to humble Himself and save others (Phil. 2:7-8). When we obediently do what we are called to do with satisfaction, joy, and purpose we are displaying Christ-like humility. A.W. Tozer said, "It is doubtful whether God can bless a man greatly until he has hurt him deeply" - and we could change the word "hurt" to "humbled." C.H. Spurgeon summarised the first two aspects of humility when he wrote, "Humility make us ready to be blessed by the God of all grace, and fits us to deal efficiently with our fellow man."

Lastly, humility is accurately knowing ourselves. This is brought up in Romans 12:3, "For I say, through the grace given me, to every man that is among you, not the think of himself more highly than he thought but think." Calvin often emphasised the link between humility and self-knowledge. Without humility, self-knowledge serves pride but with humility self-knowledge is most blessed. Humility smites our hearts in the awareness of our misery and lack. It also submits to God's word of grace and salvation in his Son (Isa. 66:2). Finally, humility thrives in those disciplined by the Spirit to embark on this life of suffering and vale of tears in the anticipation of heavenly glory.

Here are some helps for the exercise of humility:

1. Hear - recover a sense of the glory and majesty of hearing God's Word preached or read. The hearing and reading of God's Word is the chief way God works humility and we manifest it.
2. Gather - humility enriches fellowship and fellowship encourages humility. Too often the company we keep fuels our pride; gathering with those who are lonely or in distress can teach us humility.
3. Suffer - submit to God's hand in sickness, afflictions, trials, and persecution. Do not seek the removal of these things until you have learned well your weakness and leaned hard on God's strength.

- PM (Adapted)