



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. 27

LORD'S DAY 05 JULY 2020

ORDER OF WORSHIP

| | <i>Morning Service – 11am</i> | <i>Afternoon Service – 2pm</i> |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------|---|
| <i>Call to Worship</i> | Psalm 26:1-3 | Joshua 1:8 |
| <i>Opening Prayer</i> | John Poh | John Poh |
| <i>Responsive Reading</i> | Psalm 67 | --- |
| <i>Scriptural Text</i> | James 4:13-17 | 1 John 1:1-4 |
| <i>Pastoral Prayer</i> | Pr Mok Chee Cheong | Pr Mok Chee Cheong |
| <i>Sermon Message</i> | <i>God's Will for Believers</i> | <i>The Fullness of Life and Joy in Christ</i> |
| <i>Benediction</i> | Pr Mok Chee Cheong | Pr Mok Chee Cheong |

NEWS / ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please note that the Church premises **will still be closed** whilst the Task Force awaits further details on Government guidelines for reopening. Until the changes are in place to protect the congregation we will continue to hold online services via a video conferencing facility each Sunday.

Please email *admin 'at' 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.

Bi-Weekly Bible Study will next be held online on Friday 10th July, 7pm. Please speak with Pr Mok for more information.

SHORTER CATECHISM QUESTION 18

Q: Wherein consists the sinfulness of that estate whereinto man fell?

A: The sinfulness of that estate whereinto man fell consists in the guilt of Adam's first sin, the want of original righteousness, and the corruption of his whole nature, which is commonly called original sin; together with all actual transgression which proceed from it.

Comments:

This answer tells us of the *extent of the sinfulness* which has been brought upon us through Adam's fall. It tells us that this sinfulness consists of two parts – the sin of our natures, and the sin of our lives. The former is called original sin. The latter includes all the actual sins we commit. Original sin springs directly from our connexion with Adam. Actual sin springs directly from our own evil hearts.

Scriptural Reference:

Romans 7:23, Matthew 15:19, Psalm 51:5

MEMORY VERSE

Last Week

“But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be intreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy.”

James 3:17

This Week

“But unto you that fear my name shall the Sun of righteousness arise with healing in his wings; and ye shall go forth, and grow up as calves of the stall.”

Malachi. 4:2

Next Week

“But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble.”

James 4:6

BEING A GODLY WIFE

Introduction

God's perfect plan for families includes the creation of men and women as well as how they are to relate to one another. We were created perfect; sadly, sin changed that. But God, in His mercy, gave us marriage, a jewel out of Paradise (Gen. 2:18-25). The husband's call to love, nourish, and give himself for his bride, as Christ does for the church, is complemented by the wife's call to respect and submit to him. Together, they are a team. He is the head of the home, providing and protecting (Eph. 5:23). She is at his side, the hub of the wheel in the home. The details vary, but God's plan is timeless. We discard it at our own peril, but when we follow it, we will be blessed.

The Roles of woman in God's plan

Zeroing in on the role of a godly wife, the first blessing comes when we submit with contentment to this plan, trusting God's wisdom (Prov. 3:5-6), standing strong against the feminists' drumbeat which says this is degrading, choosing rather to be in God's will, and expecting more blessings.

The godly wife is blessed when she loves God the most of all, and His Word is written on her heart and manifested in her life. She fights the sin that still lives in her by spending time alone with God in prayer and reading (Eph. 6:17-18). Her walk and her talk are light on a hill and salt of the earth. Walking with Him enables her to walk in harmony with her husband.

The godly wife is blessed when she is faithful to her husband. She wholeheartedly gives him her love, affection, commitment, and attention (Titus 2:4). Giving in to temptation is not an option, in spite of his diminishing muscles, increasing girth, grey hair, and their humdrum life. She doesn't look for a new recipe, but spices up the ingredients she has by pouring her energy into her relationship with her husband.

To the single woman who wishes to be a godly wife: pray and choose wisely. Marry a man you are able to respect, not one who is foolish, selfish, angry, or immature. Marry a godly man who loves you for your whole person. Spurgeon advised us to keep our eyes wide open before marriage, and half closed after. So, the married woman should focus on her husband's positive characteristics and minimise his irritating idiosyncrasies (Prov. 10:12; 1 Peter 4:8). Isn't that how we wish to be thought of?

Respect your husband (Eph. 5:33). Your respect for your husband begins in your heart and flows out in your tone of voice, facial expressions, affection (or lack of it), and words. He craves your appreciation for his work and acknowledgement of his gifts. Just as he naturally flexes his biceps when you tuck your arm above his elbow, so he naturally flexes the characteristics you praise.

Enter his world by asking about his day. Keep connected. Discuss the inner thoughts and feelings of your hearts, of natural and spiritual things. Keep romance and intimacy alive. Continue to date. Keep yourself as healthy and attractive as possible. And always be affectionate. Nurture your marriage; it is precious.

The godly wife is also blessed when she submits to her husband (Eph. 5:22, 24). The husband and wife team could be compared to the president and vice-president of a corporation that specialises in servant leadership. They are persons of equal value, as are children and employees, but someone has to be in charge. Husband and wife ought to be best friends who make decisions together for the good of the family. When they can't agree, the husband has the final word (Eph. 5:23).

Conclusion

Some men are difficult to respect and submit to; their wives have the challenging task of rising above their behaviour and taking the high road of obeying God (1 Peter 3:1-2). Such a wife is not a doormat, she may not enable or approve sin, but she exercises tough love. She will need to pray for fortitude. She hopes and prays he will be sanctified by her godly example (1 Cor. 7:10-17).

Blessings will follow the godly wife when she follows God's plan for marriage, and those around her will be blessed as well.

- PM (adapted)

CHURCH NOTICE

1st July 2020

Dear fellow worshippers and friends,

The Government announced on 23rd June that church buildings will be able to reopen for public worship from 4th July, providing social distancing remains in place. At the moment, we are awaiting the publication of the Government guidelines.

We do not expect to be returning to normality and will be required to introduce changes as it is vital for the necessary hygiene and social distancing precautions to be maintained in order to protect congregation.

Until the changes are in place and communicated, we will continue to hold online services.

To join our online services or to obtain further updates, please visit the church website (www.newlifebpc.org.uk) or call the church manse (0207-3280869).

With the Lord's blessing,

John Poh & Jonathan Kim
Task Force Members