



# 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. 25 No. 13

**LORD’S DAY 28 MARCH 2021**

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

	<i>Morning Service – 11am</i>	<i>Afternoon Service – 3pm</i>
<i>Call to Worship</i>	Psalm 105:1-4	Psalm 27:7-9
<i>Opening Prayer</i>	Pr Mok Chee Cheong	John Poh
<i>Opening Hymn</i>	<i>“And Can It Be That I Should Gain?”</i>	---
<i>Responsive Reading</i>	Psalm 105	---
<i>Scriptural Text</i>	Ruth 4:9-10	Acts 3:15
<i>Pastoral Prayer</i>	Pr Mok Chee Cheong	Pr Mok Chee Cheong
<i>Sermon Message</i>	<i>Redemption Accomplished</i>	<i>The Prince of Life</i>
<i>Closing Hymn</i>	RHC 107 – <i>“I Will Sing The Wondrous Story”</i>	---
<i>Benediction</i>	Pr Mok Chee Cheong	Pr Mok Chee Cheong

## **SHORTER CATECHISM QUESTION 56**

**Q: What is the reason annexed to the Third Commandment?**

*A: The reason annexed to the Third Commandment is, That however the breakers of this commandment may escape punishment from men, yet THE LORD OUR GOD will not suffer them to escape his righteous judgment.*

Comments:

The special warning here held out to us is, that although men may permit us to break this commandment with impunity, yet God will assuredly not do so. *He* will not fail to judge us.

Scriptural Reference:

Deuteronomy 28:58-59

## **MEMORY VERSE**

### **Last Week**

*“The LORD recompense thy work, and a full reward be given thee of the LORD God of Israel, under whose wings thou art come to trust.”*

**Ruth 2:12**

### **This Week**

*“For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call.”*

**Acts 2:39**

### **Next Week**

*“Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord.”*

**Acts 3:19**

# THE ABCD OF A CHRISTIAN HOME

## Introduction

It is difficult to build a happy and vibrant Christian home these days. Many families are disintegrating with children revolting against parents, spouse against spouse in violence or immorality, or in-laws against daughters and sons. Society is adversely affected when the basic foundation of the family of the family is under attack. How then can a Christian couple build a home that can stand to the test of trials and temptations?

The Bible gives us the only solution and is an open secret. Love between a husband and a wife has first to be founded on Christ, the Solid Rock. We can love each other because He first loved us (1 Jn. 4:19). It is conventional wisdom that if we were to construct a building, we need to have sound foundation. So, to build a house, you need a system of foundation and supports that will prevent the house from collapse and thereby endanger the lives of the occupants. It is in vain for the watchman to do a job when God is not protecting the city (Psa. 127:1). It is futile for us to work so hard when there are holes in our pockets as the prophet Haggai puts it.

In other words, there is more than human effort, there is a divine side to things which we sometimes fail to recognise. It is just like you can buy a bed but not sleep, food but not appetite, weapons but not peace, sex but not love, insurance but not security. Only the Almighty Jehovah who is our Redeemer and Lord is sovereign over the affairs of our lives. Do you know Him? Do you seek Him first and honour Him? So, the secret of a happy home is one where Christ is the Head and is honoured and revered not just occasionally but in a real sense, everyday, all the time in our decision-making, conflict resolution, in bringing up children, in our values and principles with a clear conscience. But first you must know Him personally as your Saviour and Lord. Romans 10:9-10 says,

*That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.*

Christ is the propitiation for our sins and is accepted by God.

Psalm 127:1 - The building of a godly home

The tedious construction process of a building requires planning, digging and materials. It is elaborate and hard work. It takes time and effort, but yet its success also depends on other factors like the weather that affects its progress ultimately. It is not wrong to want to build a home but how we built it is important.

The foundation strong: basis is firm grounding, not money, not intellect, not worldly advice or beauty or degrees but the LORD, our Jehovah God, our Creator, Yahweh and Saviour, Jehovah. A covenant home is God-centred. It affects relations, decision-makings, communications, solving problems and conflicts. Humble ourselves and do away with pride before God. With divorce increasing and families breaking down, what is the secret of strong family ties? What are the elements of a loving and stable home? There are at least four and the author will just use this acrostic ABCD to summarise them.

## **Authority**

God is the supreme Authority in the home and is to be submitted to unconditional. However, He has delegated the authority to the husband as the head of the home. Often, problems in the family erupt when we do not have proper authority structure. God has sovereignly given the burden and responsibility to the man (Eph. 5:23-25; Col 3:18-20). So, wives, you are to obey and submit to husbands as you have covenanted in your marriage vow. For the man, note that leadership comes with its privilege and obligation. It is a fearful thing to lead and you must keep close to the Lord Jesus, who is your ultimate ruler and leader, and you are to lead by example and by love to your spouse who is worthy of all your affections and care. Later, you may have many little followers in God's own time, that you will lead them as well.

## **Bible**

Authority is not without a guide or basis. The Bible is to be central to the Christian home, just like the hymn writer says,

O give us homes where Christ is Lord and Master,  
The Bible read, the precious hymns still sung.

Your infallible standard for the directions and managements of the home is the manual by the manufacturer, the inspired and preserved Word of God (2 Tim. 3:16, 17). Please refer to it often and (when things go wrong), read the instructions carefully again and again. This will prevent many unnecessary quarrels and problems and will ensure a safe and happy home in the Lord. Let the Bible be a lamp to your feet and a light to your path (Psa. 119:9, 11). Cherish it. Love it. Read it. Meditate upon it daily and assimilate it into your life and do not forget family worship and Sabbath worship as well (Jos. 1:8; Isa 58:13, 14).

## **Communication**

One of the common problem in marital relations is the breakdown of communication. Firstly, communication begins with our relationship to God. Do we pray often and do we constantly intercede together as a family before the Throne of Grace (Heb. 4:16)? Sometimes, when are in trouble, we tell everyone except God. Secondly, do you also and talk frequently? Do you share your visions, emotions, aspirations, and your hurts and feelings? Do you bother to listen to each other? Now, you may come back from a long day work and your spouse has a lot to tell you. Listen to her even though you may be tired. We have different affiliation needs and we all need companionship. You must be all ears to your spouse. Spend quality time together. Deepen relationship by purposeful interaction. Do not always email or short message service, speak to her personally often and share from your heart.

## **Discipline / Diligence**

There is a sense in which discipline and diligence are almost responsible for the success of anything, from our studies to our jobs, to the church and the home. God expects us to do our part with both heart work and hard work. There is blessing in Christian discipline and labour. The Christian home requires both the husband and wife to cooperate and work hard to succeed in their spiritual lives, including rearing of children in the home and the responsible stewardship of the talent God gives you. Nothing ventured, nothing gained. There is no elevator to success, you have to use the stairs of diligence. Whatever your hand finds to do, do it heartily as to the Lord (Col. 3:23). Glorify God by honest hard work and God will surely bless and prosper your family and days ahead.

## The priorities of the home

1. God first - Matt. 6:33, *“But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.”* Matt. 6:21, *“For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.”*
2. With eternal values in view - Col. 3:1, *“If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God.”*
3. Bible / Prayer (family worship) and Sabbath worship.
4. Christian fellowship and responsible stewardship.
5. Catechising of children - teaching them to honour God in word and deeds, to have a sincere desire, and aspiration, to please God (Heb. 11:6, *“But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.”*). This will save us from many troubles and pain later.

As one embark on a journey of covenantal promise in building a loving Christian home, remember that there is great joy, and the fear of God must be with us. We must be wise and prudent in a treacherous immoral world and look up to the Lord Jesus always and keep to His immutable laws given in His holy Word.

### Conclusion

Finally, Jesus Christ is the only Guarantor of the covenant home that will last. The wife is the partner in the building of a blessed family. It is not impossible with God. All things are possible but it takes discipline, diligence, right priorities and prayer. Start on the right track from the beginning and this applies to every couple married or intending to marry. Do not be self-centred or world-centred but Christ-centred and always remember to honour Him first (Matt 6:33). This is the only sure way of eternal happiness and joy during all the vicissitudes of life. May the Lord richly bless and prosper your covenant marriage to the honour and glory of His name.

— adapted and edited from Jack & Angelina Sin, *Christian Perspective On Contemporary Youth Issues*

### NEWS / ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Dear Worshippers, as the Church Premises reopens for Morning Worship Service please note that there will be strict social distancing measures put in place. Face coverings must be worn in the church at all times out of consideration for all worshippers.**

**For the time being, the 3:00pm Afternoon Worship Service will still be conducted online.**

If you require the link to our online zoom services, or have any questions or require further clarity, please call the church manse, or email us at admin 'at' newlifebpc.org.uk.

**Tithes & Offerings** – There will be an offering box at the entrance to the Church Sanctuary for you to place your offerings in.

## **CHURCH NOTICE**

Dear fellow worshippers and friends,

We are pleased to inform the worshippers and visitors of New Life Bible Presbyterian Church that the church will resume holding worship services in the Church premise on Sunday mornings.

The church activities will take place as follows:

- Sunday Morning Worship Service, 11am – Church Premises & Online
- Sunday Afternoon Worship Service, 3pm – Online only

Provided that there is no worsening of the pandemic in London, we hope to start holding the Afternoon Worship Service and Fortnightly Bible Study within the church premises in the coming months.

### **Changes introduced to the Worship Services held at the church premises**

In compliance with the current Government guidelines, the following changes have been introduced:

- Worship services will be limited to 60 minutes duration.
- No singing and offering collection during the worship service. Offerings can be made at the offering box when entering or exiting the church.
- All Bibles and hymn books will be kept and unavailable for use. Please bring your own Bible and remember to take it away with you after worship service.
- Adopt a 2-metre social distancing seating arrangement (household members may sit with each other).
- Face coverings to be worn in the church **at all times** out of consideration for all worshippers. For young children under the age of 11, the use of face covering is optional. **Please ensure you bring your own face covering.**
- No socialising with anyone outside of your household or support bubble within the Church premises.
- No socialising outside the Church premises.
- No food and drinks will be made available (Fellowship Lunch has been temporarily suspended).
- No access to non-essential areas of the church – this includes the Fellowship Hall and kitchen.
- New movement arrangements to be adopted (please follow directions).
- Temperature measurements will be taken for every worshipper and visitor.
- Worshippers and visitors are required to complete the contact details slip for the NHS Test & Trace service. These details will be kept securely in church for 21 days and then destroyed. They will only be submitted to Test & Trace if a Covid-19 case occurs.
- Alternatively, please download the NHS COVID-19 Mobile App and scan one of the QR codes in the Church entrance to check-in.

To join our online services or to obtain further updates, please visit the church website ([www.newlifebpc.org.uk](http://www.newlifebpc.org.uk)) or call the church manse (020 73280869).

With the Lord's blessing,

John Poh & Jonathan Kim  
Task Force Members

## **And Can it be That I Should Gain?**

And can it be that I should gain  
An int'rest in the Saviour's blood?  
Died He for me, who caused His pain?  
For me, who Him to death pursued?  
Amazing love! how can it be  
That Thou, my God, shouldst die for me?

Long my imprisoned spirit lay  
Fast bound in sin and nature's night;  
Thine eye diffused a quickening ray,  
I woke, the dungeon flamed with light;  
My chains fell off, my heart was free;  
I rose, went forth, and followed Thee.

No condemnation now I dread;  
Jesus, and all in Him, is mine!  
Alive in Him, my living Head,  
And clothed in righteousness divine,  
Bold I approach the eternal throne,  
And claim the crown, through Christ my  
own.

*Charles Wesley*

## **RHC107 - I Will Sing The Wondrous Story**

I will sing the wondrous story  
Of the Christ who died for me -  
How he left his home in glory  
For the cross of Calvary.

Chorus:  
Yes, I'll sing the wondrous story  
Of the Christ who died for me,  
Sing it with the saints in glory,  
Gathered by the crystal sea.

I was bruised but Jesus healed me -  
Faint was I from many a fall;  
Sight was gone and fears possessed me,  
But he freed me from them all.  
[Chorus]

He will keep me till the river  
Rolls its waters at my feet;  
Then he'll bear me safely over,  
Where the loved ones I shall meet.  
[Chorus]

*Francis H. Rowley*