



# 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. 27 No. 07

**LORD’S DAY 12 FEBRUARY 2023**

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

### *Morning Service – 11am*

### *Afternoon Service – 3pm*

*Prelude*

*The Lord Is in His Holy Temple*

*Call to Worship*

Deuteronomy 6:4-6

Deuteronomy 6:13-15

*Opening Prayer*

Rev Lim Chee Boon

Rev Lim Chee Boon

*Opening Hymn \**

RHC 8 – “*Holy, Holy, Holy*”

RHC 46 – “*A Might Fortress is Our God*”

*Responsive Reading*

Psalm 42

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*Second Hymn \**

*Psalm 42 verses 1-5*  
(to the tune of St Agnes, RHC 57)

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*Scriptural Text*

1 Thessalonians 2:1-10

Psalm 46:1-11

*Pastoral Prayer*

Rev Lim Chee Boon

Rev Lim Chee Boon

*Sermon Message*

***Making Disciples***

***The Hymn of Reformation***

*Closing Hymn \**

RHC 455 – “*Go Ye into All the World*”

RHC 453 – “*I Love to Tell the Story*”

*Benediction/3-Fold*

Rev Lim Chee Boon

Rev Lim Chee Boon

*Amen \**

*Postlude*

*The Lord Bless You*

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*\* 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.

### **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.

## **SHORTER CATECHISM QUESTION 47**

**Q: What is forbidden in the First Commandment?**

*A: The First Commandment forbiddeth the denying, or not worshipping and glorifying the true God, as God, and our God; and the giving of that worship and glory to any other which is due to him alone.*

Comments:

The First Commandment forbids us: 1. To deny God, which is *atheism*; 2. To worship any other God, which is *idolatry*; 3. To glorify any other God, which is *profanity*.

Scriptural Reference:

Psalm 14:1, Matthew 4:10, Romans 1:25

# **PRACTICING OBEDIENCE**

*Acts 1:12-26*

The first thing we see for the early Christians is that the ten-day period was a time to practice obedience. If we compare verse 12 with verse 4, we find that what the disciples did in verse 12 was a direct response to what the Lord Jesus Christ told them they were to do earlier. Earlier Jesus had said, “Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about” (1:4). In verse 12, we find that this is precisely what they were doing.

I do not think it was easy for them. We might say, as we look at this from our perspective, “Well, what else could they do? They had to wait.” Actually there were many things they could have done—and had been doing—before Jesus gave His commandment. After the crucifixion they had been scattering each to his or her own home. They had looked upon Jesus as the Messiah, thinking that He was going to drive out the Romans. But when He did not do that, well, that was the end of the dream, as far as they were concerned. The Emmaus disciples were going back to Emmaus. The others were on their way back to Galilee. And why not? There was nothing there to hold them together.

Another thing they might have done was to get on about their various business obligations. Some had been fishermen. One was a tax collector. During the prior forty days some of them went back to Galilee and began to take up fishing again. The disciples could have said, “Jesus has left us. He said He is going to come back, but we don’t know when that’s going to be. Right now we have to get on with the business of living.”

Again, if they had been thinking along spiritual lines, they might have said, “There are people to be won. There is work to do. There are cities to be evangelised.” I suppose it must have seemed utterly pointless for them to wait inactively in Jerusalem.

The reason they did not do these things is that Jesus had told them to wait in Jerusalem for the coming of the Holy Spirit.

The situations in which we learn most about obedience are those in which we cannot see why we are called to do what we are doing. This is because if we can give a reason for what we are doing, then we are not necessarily learning obedience, at least not simple obedience. What we are really doing is trusting our ability to reason things out. We are doing what we are doing because we think it is the best thing to do. There is nothing wrong with thinking things out, but it is quite another thing to learn obedience when the prescribed course does not seem the best option.

If you are going through a period like that in your life, when you know what you should do but do not know why, or if you are experiencing a delay in God’s dealings with you and it seems that you are stuck in one spot, learn that there is valuable preparation for future work just in remaining where God has put you. The action will come later.

There is another way in which the disciples prepared for what was coming: they gathered together for fellowship. We read about it in verse 14: “They all joined together constantly.” There were the eleven disciples. They are mentioned in verse 13: “Peter, John, James, and Andrew; Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew; James son of Alphaeus and Simon the Zealot,

and Judas son of James.” (This was not Judas Iscariot.) There were also women. “The women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and his brothers.”

As we go on to verse 15, we find that by the time Peter stood to give his speech about the need to choose a twelfth person to fill out the apostolic band, there were 120 gathered. We do not know who the 120 were. But we can think who some of them might have been. Nicodemus had shown an interest in Christ. He may have been there. Joseph of Arimathea may have been present. How about the Emmaus disciples? They had returned to Jerusalem earlier, according to Luke 24. They probably stayed on once they knew that Jesus had been raised from the dead. And what about Mary, Martha and Lazarus? What about people Jesus had healed? These and others would have been present, the nucleus of the emerging church.

People need people. This is part of what it means to be a human being. One of the worst things that can happen to a person is to be utterly isolated from other people, and the converse of this is that if we are to grow intellectually, socially and spiritually, we need others. Christians need other Christians. When you become a Christian, you do not become a Christian in isolation. Rather, you enter into the body of those who are also Christ’s disciples, and you find fellowship with them.

### Study Questions

1. What are the first two things the disciples did while waiting?
2. Why did the disciples wait in Jerusalem?
3. Why do we not always know why we are called to do something?
4. What is the importance of identifying with other Christians?

**Application:** Do you know someone in a period of delay? How will you minister to them by letting the person know they are not alone?

**Key Point:** Christians need other Christians. When you become a Christian, you do not become a Christian in isolation. Rather, you enter into the body of those who are also Christ’s disciples, and you find fellowship with them.

**Prayer:** Pray that you will be content to wait upon God in the situations of your life.

A devotional adapted and edited from “Think & Act Biblically” by James Montgomery Boice

# WELCOME TO NEW LIFE B-P CHURCH LONDON

Our Lord's Day activities begins with the **Church Prayer Meeting** at **10:15 am** followed by the **Worship Services** at **11.00 am and 3.00 pm**. Do invite your friends to come to Church.

## NEWS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dear Worshippers, we extend a warm welcome to you this Lord's Day. We hope that you have a blessed time of worship with us today.

For those unable to attend Church in person, we are streaming our worship services online. To join our online services or for more information, please call the church manse, or email us at [admin 'at' newlifebpc.org.uk](mailto:admin@newlifebpc.org.uk).

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

**Children's Sunday School** – held after Morning Service at 1:30pm

**After-Service Fellowship** – Join us for lunch fellowship after the morning worship service. Please bring your own lunch as only drinks will be provided.

**Annual Congregational Meeting 2023** – The Church will be holding its ACM on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> February 2023 after the morning service. The ACM will be moderated by Rev Lim Chee Boon. Members pack will be distributed on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> February.

**Worship Service Collections:** Last Sunday – £240.00, Church Maintenance Fund - £10, Love Gift from New Life Singapore - £6100

**Church Maintenance Fund Total: £16,050.50**

## MEMORY VERSE

### Last Week

*“No servant can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon.”*

**Luke 16:13**

### This Week

*“God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.”*

**Psalm 46:1**

### Next Week

*“Therefore will not we fear, though the earth be removed, and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea;”*

**Psalm 46:2**

## Pre-cautions for Worship Services held at the church premises:

Dear all,

While the legal Covid restrictions having been lifted, we will continue to observe the following precautions:

- We continue to urge those who feel unwell (especially with Covid symptoms) to stay home and join us at our online services.
- No offering will be collected during the worship service. Offerings can be made at the offering box when entering or exiting the church.
- During worship services, please continue to sit with your own households.
- While not required, the use of face covering is voluntary. Please bring your own face covering.

To join our online services or for more information, 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