

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. 28 No. 46

LORD'S DAY 17 NOVEMBER 2024

Website: www.newlifebpc.org.uk

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Morning Service – 11am

Prelude The Lord Is in His Holy Temple

Call to Worship Psalm 95:1-3

Opening Hymn * RHC 24 – "Praise to the Lord, The Almighty"

Opening PrayerJohn PohResponsive ReadingPsalm 126

Second Hymn * Psalm 126

(to the tune of All Saints, RHC 562)

Scriptural Text Psalm 68:1-35
Pastoral Prayer Rev Mark Chen

Sermon Message Our King Is a Great Conqueror and Glorious Deliverer

Closing Hymn * RHC 552 – "God of Our Fathers"

Benediction/3-Fold Amen * Rev Mark Chen

Postlude The Lord Bless You

* Congregation Stands

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.

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.

SHORTER CATECHISM QUESTION 31

Q: What is effectual calling?

A: Effectual calling is the work of God's Spirit, whereby, convincing us of our <u>sin and misery</u>, enlightening our minds in the <u>knowledge of Christ</u>, and <u>renewing our wills</u>, he doth persuade and enable us to <u>embrace</u> Jesus Christ, freely offered to us in the Gospel.

Comments:

There are two ways by which God calls or invites men to be saved – the *outward* call of his Word or his Providence, and the *inward* call of his Spirit. The former of these is often ineffectual through the evil of our hearts; the latter is always effectual. The steps or stages of the *inward*, *effectual* call of the Spirit are four: 1. *Conviction*, or making us feel our sin; 2. *Enlightenment*, or making the way of salvation plain to us; 3. *Renewal*, or inclining us anew to the love and practice of what is good and right; and 4. As the fruit of these, *Faith*, or enabling us to trust in Jesus Christ as our Saviour.

Scriptural Reference:

John 16:8, Ephesians 1:17, Romans 8:5, John 6:44-45

Dear brethren, this week's bulletin article is the concluding part (Part 3) of the article "The Vibrant Life and Doctrine of a Reformed Church" written by Rev Jack Sin, pastor of Sovereign Hope Bible-Presbyterian Church, Singapore. We pick up where we left off week with the application for believers:

The Vibrant Life and Doctrine of A Reformed Church – Part 3

Application for Believers

Devotion to God & His Glory

Knowing all this, how do we apply these precepts in our lives? Matthew 22:37 says, 'Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind.' Our first and foremost commitment is the glory of God and our consecration to Christ. It can be manifested in the priorities we set for ourselves. **Resolve in your heart that you will seek to honour God in our lives in faithful daily Quiet Time, Sabbath worship and personal evangelism and not be too engrossed in our secular work, studies or leisure or family that it overwhelms us and we forget our eternal goals and our primary aim in life.**

Diligence in Studying & Applying the Word of God

2 Timothy 2:15 says, 'Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.' What you do not have, you cannot give. The entire Christian life is governed by a book, and it is the very inspired word of God, the very bedrock of our faith and the manual of our Christian living. Imagine that you are a manager of a corporate firm, and they have a corporate philosophy, and it is written in the corporate manual or guidebook but you are not aware of it. Are we aware of the severity of the solemn commandments and teachings of God? Is it in the area of systematic study and application of the word, prayer or service that we need to be diligent? Attend the church service, BS class and SS class and be grounded in the word. Do not traffic in unpracticed truth.

Discipline with Ourselves

Proverbs 12:24 says, 'The hand of the diligent shall bear rule: but the slothful shall be under tribute.' A disciple is a very disciplined follower of his master to that extent that he obeys and keeps all his rules and instruction dutifully, like soldiers in the Lord's army. We need to cultivate a personal stringent regime when we make a conscious effort to improve ourselves. For example, it could be discipline in Sabbath worship and coming on time, and discipline in personal worship, teaching, missions or outreach or personal and corporate prayer. We are fighting a war and that requires a maximum level of alertness, physical fitness and spiritual discipline as well. Less sleep, more effective use of time and less entertainment of world, distractions and seductions and more intercession and meditation on the Word of God.

Determination in Responsible Stewardship in the Church

1 Peter 4:10-11 says, 'As every man hath received the gift, even so minister the same one to another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God. If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God; if any man minister, let him do it as of the ability which God giveth:

that God in all things may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom be praise and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.' We are saved to serve and as stewards of the manifold grace of God, we have sacred duties to fulfill. It requires gumption and hard (and heart) work to fulfil our duties and serve Him with our God given gifts and talents. We need to consciously develop and deploy our God given abilities and use them to advance God's kingdom each year and be fervent and faithful in this commitment to fulfill the will of God concerning us. Be a good example to others and be committed to Christ as you serve in the local church.

Deterrence Against Sin (and Distractions)

Psalm 1:1-3 says, 'Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful. But his delight is in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night. And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper.' We are in a battlefield daily, fighting against the temptation of the flesh and spirit that wars against the soul. Satan will try to draw us away from holiness and sanctification but we must fight back and persevere on for 1 Thessalonians 4:3 says, 'For this is the will of God, even your sanctification, that ye should abstain from fornication:'We need to set up a strong and reliable deterrence against sinful habits and practices in our lives (i.e. anger, covetousness, immorality, laziness, pride, hatred, jealousy etc.). Colossians 3:5-6 says, 'Mortify therefore your members which are upon the earth; fornication, uncleanness, inordinate affection, evil concupiscence, and covetousness, which is idolatry: For which things' sake the wrath of God cometh on the children of disobedience:' Are there any habitual or besetting sin or distractions, we need to beware of in our lives? Do I need to cut down on or stop playing HP games, anime, social media or leisure or sleep or even excessive watching of online movies? Is there anything to confess and repent of as we get right with God? 2 Timothy 2:20-22 says, 'But in a great house there are not only vessels of gold and of silver, but also of wood and of earth; and some to honour, and some to dishonour. If a man therefore purge himself from these, he shall be a vessel unto honour, sanctified, and meet for the master's use, and prepared unto every good work. Flee also youthful lusts: but follow righteousness, faith, charity, peace, with them that call on the Lord out of a pure heart.' Let us be alert and vigilant against the wiles of the evil one and stand up to it without failing, relying on the strength of the Lord. Nothing is impossible with God.

Conclusion

Finally we are reminded of Hebrews 12:1-2 which says, 'Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.' As we examine ourselves towards the final quarter of 2024, let us continue to walk faithfully with the Lord. We want to have the right priorities in our lives with the proper focus that is pleasing before the Lord. Ephesians 4:1 says, 'I therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you that ye walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called,' As committed Christians, let us seek the Lord's holy will and strength to persevere with these Godhonouring goals. Let us prayerfully persevere on as we serve and worship God as a Christ centred Reformed church.

WELCOME TO NEW LIFE B-P CHURCH LONDON

Our Lord's Day activities begin with the **Worship Service** at **11.00 am** followed by a **Bible Study** at **1:30pm**. 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, please join our Worship Service and Bible Study on our live-stream via YouTube - https://www.youtube.com/@NewLifeBPCLondon

We thank God for providing Rev Mark Chen to minister to us for the entire month of November

Tithes & Offerings – The offering box is located at the entrance to the Church Sanctuary. **After-Service Fellowship** – Join us for lunch fellowship after the morning worship service. Please thank Daniel & Maureen Poh for providing today's lunch.

Afternoon Bible Study – Rev Chen will continue the study from 1 Thessalonians. This week, we shall cover Chapter 2, Vs 13-20.

Children's Sunday School – held after the After-Service Fellowship at 1:30pm.

MEMORY VERSE

Last Week

"Yet the LORD will command his lovingkindness in the daytime, and in the night his song shall be with me, and my prayer unto the God of my life."

Psalm 42:8

This Week

"Blessed be the Lord, who daily loadeth us with benefits, even the God of our salvation.

Selah."

Psalm 68:19

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

Dear all.

When attending the church Worship Service and Bible Study, 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 online.
- Please place your offerings in the offering box when entering or exiting the church.
- During worship services, please continue to sit with your own households.

To join our online services or for more information, please visit the church website (www.newlifebpc.org.uk) or call the church manse (020 73280869).

With the Lord's blessing,

John Poh & Jonathan Kim, Task Force Members