



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. 18 No. 28

LORD’S DAY 13 JULY 2014

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Morning Service – 11am

Evening Service – 4pm

Prelude

The Lord Is in His Holy Temple

Call to Worship

Psalm 47:6-7

Psalm 113:1-3

*Opening Hymn **

RHC 197 – “All Glory, Laud and Honour”

RHC 15 – “How Shall I Sing That Majesty”

*Opening Prayer **

John Poh

John Poh

*Gloria Patri **

Glory Be to the Father

Responsive Reading

Psalm 78

*Second Hymn **

Psalm 78 verses 1-8
(to the tune of Vox Dilecti, RHC 298)

Announcements &

John Poh

John Poh

Memory Verse

*Tithes & Offerings & Doxology **

RHC 384 – “My Jesus, I Love Thee”

Scriptural Text

Amos 6:1-14

John 13:1-11

Pastoral Prayer

Dr Carl Martin

Dr Carl Martin

Sermon Message

Empty Echoes of Religion

A Personal Meeting with Jesus

The Lord's Supper

Dr Carl Martin

*Closing Hymn **

RHC 201 – “According to Thy Gracious Word”

RHC 102 – “O It Is Wonderful!”

Benediction/3-Fold

Dr Carl Martin

Dr Carl Martin

*Amen **

Postlude

The Lord Bless You

* 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.

DOXOLOGY

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost,
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world
without end. Amen, 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.

Church Theme 2014 – “Waiting for God” – Isaiah 30:18

CHURCH MEMBERSHIP

“...And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved” (Act 2:47)

Dear Brethren,

In this bulletin, I would like to share with you this write up, which is a response from Pastor Jack Sin to a question raised by a member of his church, Maranatha BP Church, Singapore. Local church membership is not only of great concern and significance to me, but also to the leadership and members of New Life BPC, London. We shared a common desire to see the Kingdom of God grow from grace to grace and from strength to strength.

However, we are not so much talking about numbers here, the increase of our membership roll, though that is desirable, but rather the biblical injunction in the Bible, which every true believers must adhere to. Therefore it is important that believers have a clear understanding of the doctrine of the church, and why they have to be part of this local body of Christ and not be a regular worshipper only.

It is my prayer that this brief answer to a pertinent question on church membership may set you thinking, particularly those who are not members yet, and those who are still on the fringe, undecided. May you prayerfully seek to know and do the Lord’s will as already revealed to you in His Word.

For those who are members, I trust that you will know afresh and anew of the blessedness and fruitfulness of being a significant part of this local assembly of God’s redeemed people in this part of London, UK. Your membership and participation in the life of the church is not just to make up the numbers, or to fill the empty pews, your are saved to be a gospel witness of the Lord Jesus Christ primarily through a local church.

Yours in Christ

Mok

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**Q: “Is church membership in a local church necessary?” Can a Christian be a perpetual visitor of a church?**

A: The universal Church, i.e. the Body of Christ (Romans 12:5) is composed of all the elect or true believers in Christ past, present and future. Non-believers are not part of the Body of Christ; therefore, it would seem that God keeps a "membership list" of who is in the true Church and fears the Lord (Malachi 3:16). We see a list in Revelation 20:12, the mention of the Lamb's book of life. If the Lord has a “membership roll” in heaven for the elect, it would be appropriate for local churches to establish and maintain a list of members on earth too to the best of its ability.

During the time of the early church, "the Lord added to them daily such as should be saved" (Acts 2:47). This verse indicates that salvation is a pre-requisite for being "added" to the local church. Reformed churches who require evidence of salvation before membership (and hence baptism later as a sign of the covenant after attending the catechism class with understanding and the studying of sound, reformed doctrines) are simply following the biblical model. See also 2 Corinthians 6:14-18 for a separation of the church and the unbelieving world.

Membership and hence accountability in the local church is strongly implied in our Lord and Paul's instructions to the Corinthians to "put away from among yourselves that wicked person" (1 Corinthians 5:13). The preceding verse speaks of those "without" and "within" the local church (Matt 18:15-20). Such language is meaningless without a clearly defined group of members in a local community of believers who share the same doctrinal beliefs.

Why is church membership important? Church membership is a way of officially identifying yourself with a local body of believers with accountability. Church membership is a statement that you are in agreement with the doctrines and practices of that local church and are a member or representative of it. Church membership is also a good way of determining who is committed to the Lord and allowed to have a part in important church decisions and be involved in official church ministry functions. Members have a part to play in the life and direction of the church. Church membership is not only sound but necessary for all true Christians. It is simply a way of saying, "I am a Christian and I believe in God and to demonstrate that, I am a member of this particular church with which I identify and I want to be a responsible steward of God's church."

It is proper to prayerfully consider membership in a Bible believing church after attending it for a year or so when you are ministered to by the preaching of the Word, worship and fellowship of that church and in due time, to consider to serve in a relevant area or capacity as well. To be a perpetual visitor of a church would be likened to someone who courts or dates a girl friend for life in a non-committal relationship without the desire of marrying the person even after many years of courtship and serious relationship. That will be quite strange and irresponsible. Something to pray about and to act upon as the Lord leads us. Hope this helps.

Jack Sin

# WELCOME TO NEW LIFE B-P CHURCH LONDON

Our **worship services** begin promptly at **11.00 am and 4.00 pm.**

Please stay back for Bible Study and fellowship lunch after the morning worship and for tea after the evening service. Do invite your friends to come to Church.

| APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK                                                       | WELCOME                                                                                                                      |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Tues 15 July <b>No Ladies Mid-Week Bible Study</b>                              | We extend a warm welcome to all worshippers this Lord's Day. We do hope that you have a blessed time of worship on this day. |
| Fri 18 July <b>No Young Adults Fellowship</b>                                   |                                                                                                                              |
| Sat 19 July                      4:00pm <b>Bible Study &amp; Prayer Meeting</b> |                                                                                                                              |

| Next Lord's Day | Morning Service              | Evening Service                | LORD'S DAY DUTIES                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|-----------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Preacher</b> | Dr Carl Martin               | Dr Carl Martin                 | <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>TODAY: 13/07/2014</u></b></p> <p><b>Chairman:</b>            John</p> <p><b>Organist:</b>            Anthony</p> <p><b>Pianist:</b>                Jasmine</p> <p><b>Ushers:</b>                Tom / Constance</p> <p><b>Sunday School:</b>    Hannah / Rachael</p> <p><b>Lunch:</b>                 Jasmine</p> <p><b>Washing Up:</b>        Volunteers</p> <p><b>PA Crew:</b>              Jonathan</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>NEXT WEEK: 20/07/2014</u></b></p> <p><b>Chairman:</b>            Jonathan</p> <p><b>Organist:</b>            Anthony</p> <p><b>Pianist:</b>                Jasmine</p> <p><b>Ushers:</b>                Daniel / Yetta</p> <p><b>Sunday School:</b>    Hannah / Rachael</p> <p><b>Lunch:</b>                 Carry in</p> <p><b>Washing Up:</b>        Volunteers</p> <p><b>PA Crew:</b>              Scott</p> |
| <b>Message</b>  | Between God and Broken World | Knowing that Impacts our doing |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>Text</b>     | Amos 7:1-9                   | John 13:12-20                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |

| NEWS/ANNOUNCEMENTS                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |  |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Pre-lunch Bible Study:</b> This week's study will be led by Dr Martin.</li> <li>• <b>Pray for those who are sick:</b> Douglas, Barbara, Prema, Margaret, May Chew, Constance, Deborah, Pastor Ki, Mrs Ki, Susan, Dr Carl Martin, Dr Scott-Pearson, Nina, Helen, Eld Chew's mother, Rev Colin Wong, Scott, Patricia, Hannah, Sarah, Shirley, Jonathan, Jasmine.</li> <li>• <b>Pray for those seeking employment:</b> Yetta, Patricia.</li> <li>• <b>Pulpit Ministry:</b> Please pray for the Church and the calling of Pr Mok Chee Cheong as our resident minister, and that the visa application will be accepted and completed without delay.</li> <li>• <b>Church 18th Anniversary Service:</b> Sunday 20th July, followed by a carry-in lunch. Please see Sis. Maureen if you wish to provide a dish.</li> <li>• <b>Church ACM</b> will be held after morning service on Sunday 27th July</li> </ul> |  |
| <p><b>Worship Service Collections</b> - Last Sunday: £1142, Lunch: £46.70</p> <p><b>Attendance</b> - Morning: 22 (A) 5 (C), Evening: 15 (A) 2 (C)</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |  |

## SHORTER CATECHISM QUESTION 24

**Q: How doth Christ execute the office of a prophet?**

*A: Christ executeth the office of a prophet, in revealing to us, by his Word and Spirit, the will of God for our salvation.*

Comments:

A prophet is a man who declares the will of God; and we are here told that this is what Christ, as our prophet, does for us. He does so by his Word, for the whole Bible is his; but inasmuch as the mere reading of the Bible is not sufficient of itself to make a man wise unto salvation, he likewise bestows his Holy Spirit, that so the Word may profit those who hear it.

Scriptural Reference:

Hebrews 1:1-2, John 16:13

## MEMORY VERSE

| Last Week                                                                                                                  | This Week                                                                                                                                                            | Next Week                                                                                                                 |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p><i>“What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?”</i></p> <p><b>Romans 8:31</b></p> | <p><i>“He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things?”</i></p> <p><b>Romans 8:32</b></p> | <p><i>“I will extol thee, my God, O king; and I will bless thy name for ever and ever”</i></p> <p><b>Psalms 145:1</b></p> |