



# **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. 20 No. 45

**LORD'S DAY 06 NOVEMBER 2016**

### **ORDER OF WORSHIP**

#### ***Morning Service – 11am***

#### ***Evening Service – 4pm***

***Prelude***

*The Lord Is in His Holy Temple*

***Call to Worship***

Psalm 95:6-7

Psalm 62:1-2

***Opening Hymn \****

RHC 19 – *"Come, We That Love the Lord"*

RHC 65 – *"And Can It Be That I Should Gain?"*

***Opening Prayer \****

John Poh

John Poh

***Gloria Patri \****

*Glory Be to the Father*

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***Responsive Reading***

Psalm 37

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***Second Hymn \****

Insert – *"The Steps of a Good Man"*

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***Announcements & Memory Verse***

John Poh

John Poh

***Tithes & Offerings & Doxology \****

RHC 445 – *"O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee"*

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***Scriptural Text***

Malachi 3:1-3

John 20:23

***Pastoral Prayer***

Dr Carl Martin

Dr Carl Martin

***Sermon Message***

*A New Day is Coming*

*Sent with Authority*

***Closing Hymn \****

RHC 213 – *"Welcome, Happy Morning!"*

RHC 451 – *"Ready"*

***Benediction/3-Fold Amen \****

Dr Carl Martin

Dr Carl Martin

***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.

#### **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.

***"Growing in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ" - 2 Peter 3:18***

# **WHY ARE THE LABOURERS SO FEW?**

Adapted from Life BP Church Singapore Weekly, Sunday 23rd October 2016

When our Lord Jesus beheld the spiritual condition of the lost multitudes He said, "*The harvest truly is plenteous, but the labourers are few.*" (Matthew 9:37) The need for labourers for the Lord's harvest is still as great today. Although Christians are found in many parts of the world, they often represent less than 10% of a country's population. In many countries the salvation of souls is barely keeping up with population growth. In other countries it is falling far behind population growth. There are still about 2.91 billion people who have never heard the gospel of Christ before. That is about 40% of the world's population. These statistics show us the immense size of the unreached world today.

## **The Urgent Needs**

The problem is that we fail to perceive how great the need is. Perhaps we are so comfortable here that we are ignorant of the vast multitudes outside who are still without the Gospel. Time is running out. Who knows when the dark clouds of God's judgment will break out? The task is definitely an urgent one. There is no doubt that much work needs to be done, and it must be done without delay. But who will do the work? Why are there so few labourers for the Lord's harvest?

First of all, not many are willing to be involved in the work. We are too busy with other things. There are plenty of distracting activities and pursuits that take up a lot of our time and energy. Many Christians who are active in serving God when young become inactive once they start working and become enmeshed in the rat race. God's Kingdom has lost many potential labourers to the world of business, finance and industry. Few are willing to forsake the world and follow Christ.

Secondly, those who are willing to be labourers in the Lord's harvest need to learn how to reach out to the lost. This requires some skill and training. For evangelism, we need to learn how to approach people, how to communicate the gospel to them clearly, and how to answer common questions that people ask.

Those who would serve in long-term missions need to go through some training first in order to be effective on the field. And after they have gone to the mission field, they have a limited time to be involved in the harvest. Missionaries cannot go on working forever. The time will come when they will have to retire and return to their home country because of old age or disability. Eventually, new ones have to be recruited to take their place. One great concern in missions today is that the number of fulltime missionaries will decrease because old missionaries are retiring or dying and few new ones are coming to the field.

There is also a shortage of pastors for our local churches today. Most pastors of Bible-Presbyterian Churches in Singapore are now in their 50s and 60s. In ten years' time, many of them may not be able to continue serving. Who will serve the next generation? Why do so few young people give their lives to the Lord for fulltime service?

## **Meeting the Needs**

The need for labourers is not to be met by canvassing or advertising for them. It is not met by offering very attractive compensation packages. It is also not met by conscripting young Christians into service. These are methods that human organizations and kingdoms of the world would use to resolve a shortage of manpower.

God's kingdom is different: Its needs are supplied through prayer. In v.38 Christ said, "*Pray ye therefore the Lord of the Harvest, that He will send forth labourers into His harvest.*" Prayer is something that all of us can be involved in for the Lord's harvest. And as we pray for the supply of more labourers, we can have maximum confidence that God will grant our request because Christ Himself has commanded us to pray for this, and therefore it must be according to God's will.

History has proven that there is a direct relationship between prayer and the progress of the harvest. One example took place during the time of a well-known 19th century preacher, Dwight L. Moody. Two students who attended his summer Bible school began to pray earnestly and regularly that the Lord of the harvest would send more labourers into His harvest. The result of this was that 5,000 young men and women pledged themselves to the work in answer to their prayer!

We can pray for the supply of labourers with full confidence that God is in control over the work of saving souls and building His kingdom. God Himself will ensure its success as it is His harvest. In the next chapter of Matthew Christ sent out the twelve disciples (10:5-6). In the Acts of the Apostles, the Holy Spirit sent Philip to preach in Samaria. Later on, He sent Paul and Barnabas on their first missionary journey to Asia Minor. By the end of the book of Acts, the Gospel had already reached the city of Rome. The Lord of the Harvest was at work.

Now in our time, the Gospel message has reached the uttermost parts of the earth. We are all living testimonies of that fact. In about 2,000 years of history, the Gospel of Christ has continued to spread and save souls despite all kinds of obstacles and problems. As long as God is the Lord of the Harvest, there is no doubt that the Gospel will continue to advance onward. He will do this by raising up more labourers and by preparing the hearts of those who hear the gospel. There will be much rejoicing when the results of His harvest are finally disclosed!

## **Your Response**

If you want to invest your time and efforts in a work that is guaranteed to produce the most enduring results, will you respond to the call for labourers? Is the Lord calling you to consecrate your life to Him in fulltime Christian service?

It is a high calling to serve the Lord. Please don't dismiss it in favour of the attractive career opportunities that the world offers. Parents – don't discourage your children from fulltime service if they sense that the Lord is calling them to serve Him. God gave His only begotten Son to save you from sin and eternal death. Can you not give yours to serve Him?

May the Lord of the harvest hear our prayers for the urgent need for labourers.

- Rev Charles Seet

# 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
Weds 9th Nov	7pm	Mid-Week Outreach Bible Study	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.
Sat 12th Nov	4pm	Bible Study & Prayer Meeting	
Next Lord's Day	Morning Service	Evening Service	LORD'S DAY DUTIES
<b>Preacher</b>	Dr Carl Martin	Dr Carl Martin	<b><u>TODAY: 06/11/2016</u></b>  <b>Chairman:</b> John <b>Organist:</b> Anthony <b>Pianist:</b> Keene <b>Ushers:</b> Joel / Evelyn <b>Sunday School:</b> Hannah/Rachael <b>Lunch:</b> Hannah <b>Washing Up:</b> Volunteers <b>PA Crew:</b> Keene/Anthony  <b><u>NEXT WEEK: 13/11/2016</u></b>  <b>Chairman:</b> Jonathan/Keene <b>Organist:</b> Anthony <b>Pianist:</b> Joel <b>Ushers:</b> John / Yetta <b>Sunday School:</b> Hannah/Rachael <b>Lunch:</b> Shami <b>Washing Up:</b> Volunteers <b>PA Crew:</b> Joel/Anthony
<b>Message</b>	Here Comes the Judge	Demands, Doubts, Doubles	
<b>Text</b>	Malachi 3:4-6	John 20:24-29	
NEWS/ANNOUNCEMENTS			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Pre-lunch Bible Study:</b> This week, Dr Martin will continue with the study on "Building Firm Foundations".</li> <li>• <b>Basic Bible Knowledge Class, 3pm:</b> Dr Martin will continue the series of studies aimed at those wishing to become church members.</li> <li>• <b>Baptism instruction classes:</b> Any who are interested in being baptised, we are scheduling a series of Baptismal classes in the coming weeks. Please speak to Dr Martin for more information.</li> <li>• <b>Pulpit Ministry:</b> Pray for Dr Martin as he serves as the minister and for the continuation of his PhD studies.</li> <li>• <b>Lord's Supper:</b> We will be observing the Lord's Supper next week. Please come with hearts prepared.</li> <li>• <b>Church Maintenance Fund:</b> The Church needs to undergo some significant repairs in the coming months; a Maintenance Fund has been set up for anyone wishing to offer a love gift to assist with the costs.</li> </ul>			
<b>Worship Service Collections</b> – Last Sunday: £984.00, Lunch: £44.50, Scholarship Fund: £30, Baalah Fund: £100 <b>Attendance</b> - Morning: 44 (A) 11 (C), Evening: 16 (A) 1 (C)			

## SHORTER CATECHISM QUESTION 39

**Q: What is the duty which God requireth of man?**

**A: The duty which God requireth of man, is OBEDIENCE TO HIS REVEALED WILL.**

Comments:

Having just learned what God has done, is doing, and means to do for us, we are now to be told what he requires us to do *for him*. What he requires of us is *obedience* to all that he reveals. This is our *duty*, or *what we ought to do*.

Scriptural Reference:

Ecclesiastes 12:13, Micah 6:8

## MEMORY VERSE

Last Week	This Week	Next Week
"Thy mercy, O Lord, is in the heavens; and thy faithfulness reacheth unto the clouds." <b>Psalm 36:5</b>	"Delight thyself also in the Lord: and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart. Commit thy way unto the Lord; trust also in him; and he shall bring it to pass." <b>Psalm 37:4-5</b>	"Better is little with the fear of the Lord than great treasure and trouble therewith." <b>Proverbs 15:16</b>