



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. 37

LORD'S DAY 11 SEPTEMBER 2016

ORDER OF WORSHIP

	<i>Morning Service – 11am</i>	<i>Evening Service – 4pm</i>
<i>Prelude</i>	<i>The Lord Is in His Holy Temple</i>	
<i>Call to Worship</i>	Psalm 116:1-2	Psalm 117:1-2
<i>Opening Hymn *</i>	RHC 5 – <i>"Command Thy Blessing From Above"</i>	RHC 205 – <i>"Thine is the Glory"</i>
<i>Opening Prayer *</i>	John Poh	Keene Chen
<i>Gloria Patri *</i>	<i>Glory Be to the Father</i>	---
<i>Christology Creed *</i>	<i>Christology Creed</i>	---
<i>Responsive Reading</i>	Psalm 29	---
<i>Second Hymn *</i>	<i>Psalm 29 verses 1-9</i> (to the tune of Ellacombe, RHC 29)	---
<i>Announcements & Memory Verse</i>	John Poh	Keene Chen
<i>Tithes & Offerings & Doxology *</i>	RHC 419 – <i>"Take My Life and Let It Be"</i>	---
<i>Scriptural Text</i>	Malachi 1:6-11	John 19:41-42
<i>Pastoral Prayer</i>	Dr Carl Martin	Dr Carl Martin
<i>Sermon Message</i>	<i>The Name of God and the Heart of Leadership</i>	<i>Body Parts and Burial Plots</i>
<i>The Lord's Supper</i>	Dr Carl Martin	---
<i>Closing Hymn *</i>	RHC 183 – <i>"Jesus Paid It All"</i>	RHC 13 – <i>"Abide with Me"</i>
<i>Benediction/3-Fold Amen *</i>	Dr Carl Martin	Dr Carl Martin
<i>Postlude</i>	<i>The Lord Bless You</i>	---

* 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

SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT OF THE CHRISTIAN MIND

Adapted from Maranatha Messenger, Sunday 28th August 2016

Introduction

2 Timothy 1:7, *'For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a **sound mind**.'* One of the positive effects of a regenerate life is also a **renewed mind** (Romans 12:1, 2). It is part of the progressive sanctification process that a redeemed child of God goes through as he or she develops his God-given faculties including the mind in the fear of God. Paul says in 1 Timothy 4:13, *"Till I come, **give attendance to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine.**"*

The Reading of Books

Philippians 4:8, *"Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, **think on these things.**"*

The world is full of books, both real and virtual and other literature but many are so ill-written with unedifying unsound content that they may not be worth reading at all. However, **it is judicious for a child of God to be acquainted with the Word of God** (the only book God authored) and with those books that edify and have a contributory role to the spiritual and intellectual development of the mind. In surveying a book (even on Kindle), the preface should be read first, together with a quick survey of the table of contents and the outside back cover comments (if any). A cursory survey of the background of the author and his intent in writing the book will help us decide whether one should dwell upon it with studious attention. A quick perusal of the first few pages of the introduction and the general headings of each chapter is needful. Remember our business in reading a Christian book is to consider the relevance (or corrections) of view of the author of a certain subject from a theological perspective.

It is always helpful to read with a pen and to make short notes by the side margin on crucial points and author's viewpoint as to whether you agree or not with the author and why. In reading, observe if the author is logically correct, deficient in his ideas, in his arguments; effective or defective; sound or valid and whether the reasons given are convincing and conclusive. If he is mistaken, correct his view and judge prudently and count it an enlargement of your intellectual gain. Read with discernment and interact with the author for the enlargement of your treasury of knowledge and to the improvement of your memory powers. Enter into the sense of arguments of the author and examine all their proofs and **acquire a habit of appraising critically, justly and prudently and not just a superficial read.**

Consider the signification of words and peruse them carefully and see how they are connected to ideas. Compare these words used in other places of the book. Observe the scope and design of the writer and enquire into his aim and end in writing that book or paragraph which will help explain particular sentences and ideas.

The headings is a good place to see all these besides reading some details. **Do not read a book with a prejudiced mind but give the author the benefit of the doubt and a fair reading.** If there is a particular subject or a particular author that interests you, then give attention to read more and delve deeply into it. A good book deserves a second perusal and is to be masticated with interest. **Check up the bibliographic information given normally at the end of the book and diligently seek out other books that are relevant to the themes** under consideration if it is a subject that interests you. The authors or books consulted will give you a clue of the philosophical inclination of the author as birds of a feather flocked together.

Intellectual Discourses with People

It is a useful thing that we **be observant and inquisitive** (in a good sense of the word). While travelling and meeting different people during the course of life, talk and listen to people, especially godly and erudite men who has something meaningful to impart to us. Be all ears when you listen to a sermon (i.e. Sabbath day), attended a lecture (e.g. Emmanuel Reformed Bible College) or an edifying conversation with a senior or more knowledgeable person speaking to you.

God may just use him or her to impart grace and share an enlightening Word to nourish your mind and direct you to the truth. James says we are to be **swift to hear**, slow to speak and slow to anger (James 1:19); for with the eyes and ear gates, we gather useful information for our minds. **Do make short notes of the valuable quotes, verses, anecdotes or worthwhile lessons learnt and retain them in our minds or in a booklet.**

Enriching Memorable Experiences of Life

While we may decry some of the dubious emotional experiences of the Charismatic community, it does not mean that the Christian life is to be devoid of meaningful, edifying Christian experiences. God may put us through some happy or trying moments or an instructive phase of life that with opportunities of learning to enlarge and improve our spiritual and mental faculties. **From our workplace to family, church, school, different situations including sickness, trial and loneliness can be schools of learning as well.**

We are exposed to different situations and stations in life which has rich and varied lessons for us to glean from, that it may help us to develop and enlarge our minds for the use of the Lord daily. Be sensitive and teachable during these didactic moments of life and grow intellectually in the Lord. Like what Solomon says, *"Commit thy works unto the LORD, and thy thoughts shall be established"* (Proverbs 16:3).

Perusing Edifying Websites

I hesitated to include this section initially but it would be needful to mention such a crucial aspect of E-learning in contemporary times. **I would encourage the careful and disciplined perusal of God-honouring websites, web portals, videos of sermons and not the indiscriminate use of them.** I would recommend you read the classics written by Spurgeon, JC Ryle, Whitefield, AW Pink, (Attributes of God) Jonathan Edwards, (Religious Affections) Pilgrim's Progress, Foxes Book of Martyrs, the Reformers, like Calvin, (Institutes of the Christian Religion) Luther and Knox.(Reformation of Scotland) Visit the relevant Christian sites on the puritans that warns of cults and occult. Matthew Henry Commentaries, church history sites like ChurchHistory.com, of Creeds and Confessions, contemporary issues and reliable church-based websites and devotional guides like the Daily Remembrancer, Daily Manna, Sword & Trowel, Evangelical Times, Banner of Truth magazine, Reformation Now, Creation Science magazine and many others where there are doctrinal and devotional resources to feed the mind with spiritual food. **Read Isaac Watts on his book on Logic and RC Sproul on the Consequence of ideas with profound insights.** Let it be a healthy and vigorous exercise of our mental abilities, sharpened and nurtured for the Master's use. Check the MBPC website and Maranatha Resource Ministry (MRM) in church library for good books and read some Chinese books if you want to improve your Chinese language (i.e. I am making slow progress here).

Conclusion

God has given to us a sound and rational mind that we are to use it to meditate on His Word and other edifying Christian literature. I buy an average of 4-5 books a month and peruse them to get insights and ideas. Develop and discipline our minds for our spiritual nourishment and subsequently to help those of others. Matthew 22:37-38 speaks of loving God with **our mind** as well. Paul said well in 2 Corinthians 10:5, *"Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ."*

The life of a believer is a life of spiritual discipline and mental diligence. Let us walk worthy of the vocation wherewith we are called. As believers, let us make a conscious effort to exercise our God-given faculties and nurture them for the advancement of God's kingdom and to the spiritual enrichment of the saints.

- Rev 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
Weds 14th Sept	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 17th Sept	4pm	Bible Study & Prayer Meeting	
Next Lord's Day	Morning Service	Evening Service	LORD'S DAY DUTIES
<i>Preacher</i>	Dr David Allen	Dr David Allen	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>TODAY: 11/09/2016</u></p> <p><i>Chairman:</i> John / Keene <i>Organist:</i> Anthony <i>Pianist:</i> Joel <i>Ushers:</i> Tom / Yetta <i>Sunday School:</i> Rachael / Hannah / Keene <i>Lunch:</i> Shami / Yetta <i>Washing Up:</i> Volunteers <i>PA Crew:</i> Scott</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>NEXT WEEK: 18/09/2016</u></p> <p><i>Chairman:</i> Peter / Jonathan <i>Organist:</i> Anthony <i>Pianist:</i> Keene <i>Ushers:</i> Tom / Yetta <i>Sunday School:</i> Hannah / Keene <i>Lunch:</i> Nina <i>Washing Up:</i> Volunteers <i>PA Crew:</i> Scott</p>
<i>Message</i>	TBC	TBC	
<i>Text</i>	TBC	TBC	
NEWS/ANNOUNCEMENTS			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-lunch Bible Study: This week, Dr Martin will continue with the study on "Building Firm Foundations". • Basic Bible Knowledge Class, 2.30pm: Dr Martin will continue the series of studies aimed at those wishing to become church members. • 7 Laws of the Teacher, 5:30pm: Dr Martin will be starting a new course after evening service. • Pulpit Ministry: Pray for Dr Martin as he serves as the minister and as he seeks guidance for his PhD studies. • Church Maintenance Day: Saturday 17th September, 11am. All are encouraged to come and help do maintenance to the church building. • Trip to Museum of the Book: Saturday 24th September, meet at the Museum at 10.30am. Please see Dr Martin for more information. • Trinitarian Bible Society AGM, Saturday 17th September, 11am. This will be held at Metropolitan Tabernacle. 			
<p>Worship Service Collections – Last Sunday: £1,270.91, Lunch: £48.00 Attendance - Morning: 44 (A) 11 (C), Evening: 18 (A) 2 (C)</p>			

SHORTER CATECHISM QUESTION 31

Q: What is effectual calling?

A: Effectual calling is the work of God's Spirit, whereby, convincing us of our sin and misery, enlightening our minds in the knowledge of Christ, and renewing our wills, he doth persuade and enable us to embrace 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

MEMORY VERSE

Last Week	This Week	Next Week
<p><i>"But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves."</i> James 1:22</p>	<p><i>"Give unto the Lord the glory due unto his name; worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness."</i> Psalms 29:2</p>	<p><i>"Behold, the Lord's hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; neither his ear heavy, that it cannot hear:"</i> Isaiah 59:1</p>

The Word Made Flesh

The Ligonier Statement on Christology

We confess the mystery and wonder
of God made flesh
and rejoice in our great salvation
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

With the Father and the Holy Spirit,
the Son created all things,
sustains all things,
and makes all things new.
Truly God,
He became truly man,
two natures in one person.

He was born of the Virgin Mary
and lived among us.
Crucified, dead, and buried,
He rose on the third day,
ascended to heaven,
and will come again
in glory and judgment.

For us,
He kept the Law,
atoned for sin,
and satisfied God's wrath.
He took our filthy rags
and gave us
His righteous robe.

He is our Prophet, Priest, and King,
building His church,
interceding for us,
and reigning over all things.

Jesus Christ is Lord;
we praise His holy Name forever.

Amen.