



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. 22 No. 20

LORD’S DAY 20 MAY 2018

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Morning Service – 11am

Afternoon Service – 3pm

Prelude

The Lord Is in His Holy Temple

Call to Worship

Psalm 116:16-19

Ephesians 1:15-23

Opening Hymn *

RHC 1 – “O Worship the King”

RHC 3 – “Love Divine”

Opening Prayer *

Jonathan Kim

Jonathan Kim

Gloria Patri *

Glory Be to the Father

Responsive Reading

Psalm 116

Second Hymn *

Psalm 116 verses 1-6
(to the tune of St Agnes, RHC 231)

Announcements & Memory Verse

Jonathan Kim

Jonathan Kim

Tithes & Offerings & Doxology *

RHC 326 – “Like A River Glorious”

Scriptural Text

Exodus 4:1-17

Isaiah 53

Pastoral Prayer

Rev Mark Lehman

Rev Mark Lehman

Sermon Message

What Is That in Your Hand

Messiah

Closing Hymn *

RHC 385 – “May the Mind of Christ, My Savior”

RHC 64 – “Jesus! The Sinner’s Friend”

Benediction/3-Fold Amen *

Rev Mark Lehman

Rev Mark Lehman

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.

WINNING THE SOULS OF UNBELIEVERS

Adapted from New Life BPC Singapore Newline, Sunday 29th April 2018

Evangelism is more than a task or a method—it is a lifestyle. More than a project or a system, it is a way of life.

Viewing evangelism from this perspective is not only biblical, but it also broadens our understanding and vision for winning souls to Christ. It liberates and challenges us to reach out to our particular spheres of influence, even if we are not especially skilled in the art of persuasion or apologetics. This approach to evangelism encourages a lifestyle of consistent Christian witness and is specifically tailored to a believer's unique gifts, location, and calling. It views life with all of its twists and turns as an ongoing opportunity to point friends and neighbors to the unsearchable riches of Christ.

All Christians are called to evangelize the lost in this way. Indeed, **a life of Christian witness is compulsory for every sincere follower of Christ (Matt. 5:13–16)**. Charles Spurgeon boldly asserts that “soul winning should be the main pursuit of every true believer.” Whether across the street or across the planet, Christians are commissioned to evangelize and to be “prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you” (1 Peter 3:15; see Matt. 28:18–20).

Soul winning is of the very essence of the Christian life. However, if we are honest, our zeal for evangelism often wanes. We lack purposefulness in reaching out to our unchurched coworkers, family, and friends. We find ourselves more affected by the score of the big game or the price of gas than the eternal welfare of our neighbors. Moreover, our deficiency of prayer for the lost reveals evangelistic anemia in our lives and churches.

Dear Christian, it's time to rekindle our zeal for soul winning and to cultivate an evangelistic lifestyle that is wonderfully ordinary, consistently prayerful, and unyieldingly committed to communicating the truth of the gospel.

The best and most effective kind of outreach is a consistent witness in word and deed within the contours of ordinary life.

WONDERFULLY ORDINARY

Most instances of evangelistic activity in Scripture are found in the extraordinary public ministries of Christ and the Apostles. The four Gospels and the book of Acts include a litany of their remarkable soul-winning endeavors. Moreover, the New Testament Epistles are sprinkled with autobiographical accounts of Apostolic courage in soul winning, recounting evangelistic outreach to unsaved Jews and Gentiles in settings that were often hostile. Due to Scripture's emphasis upon the exceptional evangelistic ministries of Christ and His Apostles, sometimes soul winning is taught in a way that scares the Christian laity into thinking that they must evangelize in the same manner or not at all. While all Christians can certainly learn from the outreach activity of Jesus and the Apostles, we must distinguish their unique ministries from the more ordinary evangelism to which all Christians are called.

Rather than heap guilt on regular Christians for not soul winning on street corners or in market squares (which few believers are called or gifted to do), wouldn't it be far better to foster a view of evangelism that naturally flows from the ordinary rhythms of daily life and weekly schedules? **Shouldn't we view gospel witness primarily as the overflow of a sincere walk with God in the particular sphere in which God has placed us?**

God is sovereign, and in His sovereignty He has placed each one of us right where He wants us (Ps. 115:3; Acts 17:26–27). You may wish to be somewhere else, but right now you are exactly where God wants you to be. “The heart of man plans his way, but the Lord establishes his steps” (Prov. 16:9; see Rom. 8:28). Therefore, God calls us to reach the lost right where we are. He has sovereignly placed us in a distinct sphere of influence, in part, to reach out to nonbelievers with the life-transforming gospel of Jesus Christ.

Dear believer, God by His sovereign hand has put you in a specific community and planted you in a particular neighborhood or apartment building. He has also given you a distinct vocation. Why? In part, so that you would shine the light of the gospel to those around you in the ordinary course of your life.

To be sure, there will be occasions for more strategic forms of gospel outreach such as door-to-door evangelism or special outreach events. However, what has proven to be the best and most effective kind of outreach is a consistent witness in word and deed within the contours of ordinary life—a gospel conversation with an unbelieving coworker at the office, a word about God’s saving grace to an unchurched parent at your child’s soccer match, a discussion about gospel-driven parenting with a group of unsaved young mothers at the park, or a call from a lost family member who requests counsel during a crisis. These examples teach us that evangelism is less a task and more a way of life.

Soul winning is meant to be wonderfully ordinary, transpiring in the rhythms of everyday living. It overflows from a personal relationship with God that treasures Christ above all things. And those who know Christ want others to know Him as well. **The question is, are we willing and ready to identify and act upon the evangelistic opportunities that God brings our way?** Perhaps our lack of readiness partially stems from an absence of prayer.

CONSISTENTLY PRAYERFUL

Consistent and earnest prayer for the lost is the engine of steadfast evangelism. Without it, evangelistic fervor grows cold. We become indifferent to the miserable condition of perishing souls. Praying regularly for unbelievers, however, ignites and fuels a passion for soul winning. It cultivates a love and compassion for the lost. Furthermore, dependence upon God in prayer fosters confidence in God’s power to awaken the spiritually dead. Prayer reminds us that though we are the messengers of the good news, only the Holy Spirit can convince and convert sinners by supernaturally furnishing them with new hearts and turning them from “darkness to light and from the power of Satan to God” (Acts 26:18; see Ezek. 36:26; Eph. 2:4–5; Col. 2:13).

Therefore, **we must recover the daily practice of heaven-compelling, blood-earnest, throne-of-grace-gripping prayer for the unsaved.** Additionally, we must revive prayer meetings that include supplication for the lost and not just endless petitions for physical health and well-being. Steadfast prayer is a nonnegotiable for those who are serious about soul winning. It is the evidence of a humble reliance upon God as we seek to lead people to Christ.

UNYIELDINGLY TRUTHFUL

Evangelism without gospel truth is like a book without words. Yet, so much of what passes for evangelism today is bereft of the propositional truths of the gospel. Reduced to little more than a personal testimony or a man-centered appeal to find one's fulfillment in Jesus, evangelism becomes our story rather than God's story. But people need to hear less about us and more about the Saviour.

In his classic mid-nineteenth-century work *Words to Winners of Souls*, Horatius Bonar writes, **"It is not opinions that man needs: it is Truth. . . . It is not religion: it is Christ. It is not literature and science; but the knowledge of the free love of God in the gift of his only-begotten Son."**

Faithful and effective evangelism, therefore, is constituted of biblical truth. Specifically, it should highlight key doctrines such as God's holiness and the righteous requirements of His law (Lev. 11:45; Gal. 3:10–11); mankind's fallen, miserable, and depraved condition (Rom. 5:12; Eph. 2:1–3); God's love for sinners in the sending of His eternal Son to become a man in order to perfectly fulfill the requirements of God's law (John 3:16; Rom. 5:18–19), satisfy divine justice on the cross (Ps. 22; 1 John 4:9–10), and rise from the dead on the third day (Rom. 4:22–25); all to reconcile us to God by grace through faith in Him (2 Cor. 5:19; Eph. 2:8–9). Finally, we must give attention to the coming judgment that all who are united to Christ will be ushered into the glories of heaven, and all who are still in their sins will be cast into hell with the devil and his angels (Matt. 25:31–46). This is the gospel that the whole world needs to hear—the good news that "there is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus" (Rom. 8:1).

To be sure, evangelism can be intimidating. It can be uncomfortable to bring up matters of eternal consequence with friends and acquaintances. Perhaps it would be less so if we viewed soul winning not so much as a task, event, or method, but more as the overflow of a vibrant, prayerful walk with God in the context of life's ordinary activities—an obedient and joyful response to divine appointments that God Himself creates. Dear Christian, it's hard to be silent about that which we cherish most.

[Adapted from Dr. Jon D. Payne, senior pastor of Christ Church Presbyterian (PCA) in Charleston, S.C.]

"The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life; and he that winneth souls is wise."

Proverbs 11:30

WELCOME TO NEW LIFE B-P CHURCH LONDON

Our worship services begin promptly at **11.00 am** and **3.00 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 23rd May		No 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.
Fri 25th May	7pm	Sovereign Grace Advent Testimony <i>Judging the Kingdom</i> - Mr John Douglas	
Sat 26th May	3pm	Bible Study & Prayer Meeting <i>Study on the book of Hosea</i>	
Next Lord's Day	Morning Service	Evening Service	LORD'S DAY DUTIES
Preacher	Rev Mark Lehman	Rev Mark Lehman	<u>TODAY: 20/05/2018</u>
Message	TBC	TBC	Chairman: Jonathan
Text	TBC	TBC	Organist: Anthony
NEWS/ANNOUNCEMENTS			Pianist: Anthony
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sunday School: This afternoon at 1:45pm the church will be holding Sunday School for young children and toddlers, led by Sisters Elizabeth, Nina and Barbara. Please invite friends and family to attend. • Church Pulpit Ministry: Pray for the Pulpit Ministry and for the calling of a new minister. • Metropolitan Tabernacle School of Theology 2018: 3rd - 5th July 2018. Theme: "<i>Depth and Scope of God's Truth</i>". • Ladies Fellowship: This will be held after lunch next Lord's Day. 			Ushers: Tom / Yetta
			Lunch: Luisa
			Washing Up: Volunteers
			PA Crew: Scott / John
			<u>NEXT WEEK: 27/05/2018</u>
			Chairman: Jonathan
			Organist: Michael
			Pianist: Anthony
			Ushers: Daniel / Margaret
			Lunch: Volunteers
			Washing Up: Volunteers
			PA Crew: Scott / Venise
Worship Service Collections - Last Sunday: £558.70; Lunch: £45.10, Balaah - £20.00; Church Maintenance Fund: £160.00 Attendance - Morning: 34 (A) 6 (C), Evening: 16 (A) 6 (C)			Church Maintenance Fund Total: £4,230.50
SHORTER CATECHISM QUESTION 12			
Q: What special act of providence did God exercise toward man in the estate wherein he was created? A: When God had created man, he entered into a covenant of life with him, upon condition of <u>perfect obedience</u>, forbidding him to eat of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, upon the pain of <u>death</u>.			
Comments:			
When God made Adam and Eve, he said that if they kept his commands, they should live for ever; but if they broke his commands, they should die. This was the <i>Covenant of Life</i> . God then put forth his first command, which was that they should not eat of a particular tree, called the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. Their regard for this would show how far they were willing to obey him in all things.			
Scriptural Reference:			
Genesis 2:16-17; Galatians 3:12			
MEMORY VERSE			
Last Week "But love ye your enemies, and do good, and lend, hoping for nothing again; and your reward shall be great, and ye shall be the children of the Highest: for he is kind unto the unthankful and to the evil." Luke 6:35	This Week "Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness." Isaiah 41:10	Next Week "For a day in thy courts is better than a thousand. I had rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God, than to dwell in the tents of wickedness." Psalm 84:10	