



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. 24 No. 26

LORD'S DAY 28 JUNE 2020

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Morning Service – 11am *Afternoon Service – 2pm*

Call to Worship

Psalm 66:1-4

Psalm 67:1-2

Opening Prayer

Jonathan Kim

Jonathan Kim

Responsive Reading

Psalm 66

Scriptural Text

James 4:1-12

Malachi 4:4-6

Pastoral Prayer

Pr Mok Chee Cheong

Pr Mok Chee Cheong

Sermon Message

A Call to Humility

The Day of Preparation

Benediction

Pr Mok Chee Cheong

Pr Mok Chee Cheong

NEWS / ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please note that due to instructions from the government with regards to the ongoing Corona Virus epidemic, we will be suspending our Activities and Sunday Worship Services in the Church premises with immediate effect.

Instead we will be streaming the sermons via a video conferencing facility each Sunday.

Please email *admin* 'at' newlifebpc.org.uk for more information.

Tithes & Offerings – these can be by cheque made payable to: New Life Bible-Presbyterian Church.

For direct bank transfer to the church account, please contact the treasurer, Mr Tom Tan.

Bi-Weekly Bible Study will next be held online on Friday 10th July, 7pm. Please speak with Pr Mok for more information.

SHORTER CATECHISM QUESTION 17

Q: Into what estate did the Fall bring mankind?

A: The Fall brought mankind into an estate of sin and misery.

Comments:

Adam's first sin is commonly called the Fall. And we are here told that, in consequence of this Fall, all men are now born in a sinful and unhappy condition.

Scriptural Reference:

Romans 5:12

MEMORY VERSE

Last Week

“And did not he make one? Yet had he the residue of the spirit. And wherefore one? That he might seek a godly seed. Therefore take heed to your spirit, and let none deal treacherously against the wife of his youth.”

Malachi 2:15

This Week

“But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be intreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy.”

James 3:17

Next Week

“But unto you that fear my name shall the Sun of righteousness arise with healing in his wings; and ye shall go forth, and grow up as calves of the stall.”

Malachi. 4:2

BEING A CHRIST-LIKE HUSBAND

Introduction

Few men appreciate long articles on how to conduct themselves - especially as to how they ought to treat their wives. So here, based on Ephesians 5, are the duties summed up in terms of their pattern and practice for husbands.

Christ's pattern for husbands

Christ is our pattern. The basic precept for marriage is, "*Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church*" (Eph. 5:25a). Following Christ's pattern of loving His bride, each husband is to love his wife in these ways:

1. *Absolutely*. Christ gives "Himself" for His bride - His total self (v.25). He holds nothing back. That is obvious from what He has done (think of Calvary), is doing (think of His constant intercession in heaven), and will do (think of His Second Coming). So we too are called to radical, absolute giving of ourselves to our wives in authentic love.
2. *Realistically and purposely*. Christ goes on loving the church, despite her spots and wrinkles, so that He can present her perfect to His Father in the Great Day (vs. 26-27). Our love must be both realistic (remembering our wives are sinners just like us) and purposeful (aiming for their holiness).
3. *Sacrificially*. Christ nourishes and cherishes His bride at His own expense (vs.28-29). So husbands ought to treat their wives at their own expense with the same care that they treat their bodies. If you get something in your eye, you give it immediate, tender care. Do you treat your wife with that same care when she is hurting?

How should we practice Christ's pattern?

Show great *interest* in your wife as a person. Care about her. Ask her how her day went and how the kids behaved today. Ask her about her dreams, fears, and frustrations. Learn to listen so that she opens up more.

Pray for your wife privately and with her. Lay out her needs before God. Be earnest in praying for her spiritual growth, and for relief in physical and emotional difficulties. Let her feel your strength and tenderness on her behalf at God's throne of grace.

Love your wife *lavishly*. Love her as she is - faults included. Please her (1 Cor. 7:33). Respect and honour her, and treat her tenderly (1 Pet. 3:7). Shower her with love and affection. Cherish her as God's special gift to you.

Heap *praise* on her. Be sincere, specific, creative, and repetitive in your compliments. Compliment her kindness, her smile, her dress, her hair, and a thousand things. Complement her affection in your voice, with love in your eyes, and with arms of embrace. Praise her in the presence of others (Prov. 31:28). Never allow the children to speak disrespectfully to and about her.

Learn what your wife *enjoys*. Does she enjoy walking together? Walk with her. Eating out? Take her out. Learn to love what she loves as much as possible. Cultivate shared friendship and interests. The more you find to do in common, usually the better your marriage will be.

Provide your wife with biblical, tender, clear *servant leadership*, not ruthless authoritarianism. Following Christ as your pattern, delight in serving her (Matt. 20:35-26). Be the spiritual leader of your wife and children. Be the father-shepherd, a gentle giant in the home.

Conclusion

Never forget the differences between men and women; become an expert in knowing and responding to the way your wife is. Never allow any relationship to take priority over your friendship with your wife. Never criticise her over small things; or big things, do it with great tenderness and love, at the right time, and in the right setting. Never compare your wife unfavourably to other people, or criticise her in front of other people. Never fail to give your wife sufficient freedom so that she can strive to be her own kind of a Proverbs 31 woman. Do not smother her or try to control her personality. Never stop being a courteous gentleman.

Remember this: if both you and your wife put God first, each other second, and yourselves third, you will be guaranteed a truly blessed marriage.

- PM (adapted)