

6 JANUARY
2019

LAP BULLETIN

Church of Christ 20 Lim Ah Pin Road Singapore 547839 Tel 6286 5605
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Worship Schedule

SUNDAY

9.30 am
Worship
(English)

11.15am
Bible Class
(English)

3.45pm
Bible Class
(Mandarin)

5.00pm
Worship
(Mandarin)

7.00pm
Worship
(English)

THURSDAY

7.45pm
Bible Class
(English/Mandarin)

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Elders

Bro Jimmy Lau
Bro Lee Tian Seng
Bro Michael Yeo

Deacons

Bro Benjamin Tan
Bro Jerry Cheong

Preachers

Bro Alvin Lin
Bro Ernest Lau

Administrator

Sis Goh Ser Ern



Happy
NEW YEAR
2019



Sermon outline

Standing In The Gap

Sermon outline by bro Jimmy Lau

Text: Eze 22:30 (KJV)

And I sought for a man among them, that should make up the hedge, and stand in the gap before me for the land, that I should not destroy it: but I found none.

Introduction

What Is A Gap? A gap is a breach, break, hole between two objects; an unfilled space.

Why Gap Exists? It exists when something or someone is missing.

Discussion: Standing In The Gap

1. The Urgent Call. A shortage of faithful people for God's work in every generation:

- i. In Ezekiel's day. Eze 22:30
- ii. In the days of Sodom and Gomorrah. Gen 18:32
- iii. In the days when Jesus was on this earth. Matt 9:37, 38
- iv. In today – The workers are still few. John 4:35

2. The Kind of Man God is Seeking.

- i. Someone who is a Disciple. Matt 28:19; Luke 6:40
- ii. Someone who will be Available. Matt 4:19, 20
- iii. Someone who will be Committed. Luke 9:62

- iv. Someone who is Ready. Ezra 7:10
- v. Someone who Loves God Wholeheartedly. Mark 12:30
- vi. Someone who will Uphold the Truth. 2 Tim 4:1, 2; Jude 1:3
- vii. Someone who will Submit to the will of God. Matt 7:21-23
- viii. Someone who is Holy. 2 Tim 2:19-21.
- ix. Someone who will Endure Hardness. 2 Tim 2:1-3; 4:5
- x. Someone who Loves the Souls of Man. Mark 16:15

3. When Good Men Refuse To Step Forward.

- i. Jotham's parable of the trees looking for a king. Judg 9:7-15
- ii. A quote: "All that is necessary for evil to prosper is that good men do nothing."

4. What Happened If....

- i. Moses had not stand in the gap between Pharaoh and Israel?
- ii. David had not stand in the gap between Israel and Goliath?
- iii. Esther had not stand in the gap between her nation and Haman?
- iv. Jesus had not stand in the gap between God and man? 1 Tim 2:5

5. There Will Be Gaps When A New Work Starts.

- i. Teachers and preachers.
- ii. Benevolence workers and care givers.
- iii. Personal Work Workers.
- iv. Elders and deacons.
- v. Giving to the Lord.

Conclusion

Are you the one God is looking for? Could God use me? Could God use you? Why Not?

Accepting the call to stand in the gap is one of the most important things we can do as a Christian. We need to understand that things happen when we stand in the gap.



What I've learnt in 2018

by bro Jonathan Yang

Hi guys! I bring greetings from the brethren that worship at Wimbledon Church of Christ as well as the members that meet at Budapest. It's been 3 months since we left for the UK and we miss the fellowship that we have every Sunday back home. Thankfully, with God's providence we have found a place to worship in the UK where we can stay active and be useful to the congregation here. All of you are constantly in our prayers and we especially miss our interactions with the children.

It's been an eventful year for me personally and I wanted to share 3 things I've learnt this year that have hopefully made me a better person and a more resilient Christian. They are neither profound nor revolutionary, but I hope that they can help you as we start 2019.

What someone can give you today, is all you should expect of them

I found this way of thinking to be beneficial in both my interactions in the workplace as well as in church. In the past I used to have the idea that if I can sacrifice my time and energy for a cause, it should not be difficult for others to do it as well. It resulted in me having unrealistic expectations of others. In principle I was hoping that my enthusiasm would rub off on the people I work with and that they would want to put in as much 'effort' as I did. What I did not take into account, is the difficulties others may face behind the scenes. What if someone wants to be part of the work but can only give 'X' amount of time because of other responsibilities? The example of the widow with the 2 mites comes to mind. Does the quantity of her contribution determine the importance or significance of it? I believe not.

I recall an incident where I was in charge of an event a few years back. I had tasked Lucas to be the songleader for that event. Unfortunately, he was held back due to unforeseen circumstances and was late. I will always remember the look of discouragement he had when he came in to see me songleading whilst throwing him a disapproving look. Was it fair for me to assume that he was being irresponsible? Could

I have given him the benefit of the doubt that he had every intention to come on time but was held back by factors out of his control? The answer is obviously yes. Relationships can be irreparably damaged if we assume the worse of people, especially in the church. If we assume that our brother / sister is giving their best, it will show in our demeanour and attitude towards them and this will only serve to encourage them which is ultimately what we want.

Trusting in the Lord's providence

This phrase is used very often in sermons and lessons. I only learnt to appreciate this upon moving to the UK. I had mentally prepared myself to wait awhile before finding a job. However, even before moving to the UK I had already been to the Church at Wimbledon once before and was prepared to hit the ground running when it came to being involved in the church work here. Within 2 Sundays, I had been called into the room for a men's meeting and assigned preaching topics for November and December. Even though I was dealing with the anxiety of waiting for job opportunities whilst burning through our savings, I decided that I should not use it to excuse myself from being able to prepare lessons and lead in hymns during worship. It sounds like there is no link between the two but trust me when I say that I have heard (and given similar excuses myself) many times that because of stress from the world, Christian men are unable to perform their responsibilities in church.

Through my lessons as well as updates on the status of my job search, the members came up to me to tell me how encouraged they are by my willingness to step forward and be part of the men to serve even though I was quietly anxious about my lack of a job. They encouraged me to wait on the Lord, that my opportunities would come and that they too have learnt to wait and not be impatient with the providence that God would supply. Sure enough, within 5 weeks of landing in the UK, I had my first job and am doing well enough for the superiors I work for to recommend me for a permanent post. As of now, it's still in the works, but I want to use this example to encourage all of you to remember that God will always give us what we need to be useful to him in our journey here on earth. If we wait on him and trust in his judgement, we will always be blessed.

Consistency in character

I heard a sermon on Sunday a few weeks ago and these 3 words resonated with me. I've not had the best of times spiritually the last 2 years and it has affected various aspects of my life. I've shared it to some extent during my lessons in the men's class as well as with close friends. I truly believe that these 3 words have helped me to

overcome some of the hurdles I've faced thus far and I hope it will help you. We are often very affected by how people view us, how people treat us and how we treat them in return. If we work hard, we expect to be acknowledged, if we are treated badly, we find no reason not to reciprocate in kind. What this brother shared over the pulpit with regards to consistency in character will help us understand better what we need to do to reflect our status as children of God. He spoke of doing the right thing because it was the right thing to do. How often do we catch ourselves doing the right thing and expecting praise? How often do we justify our outbursts, silent treatment, gossiping and bad manners with the sinful actions of others? Practicing consistency in character is taking the best of what a Christian is, and showing it in everyday life, not for praise, not for receiving goodness in kind, but because it is the right thing to do.

I spoke in my first sermon here in the UK about how living as a christian is both extremely simple and impossibly hard. All we need to do is treat others as we would like to be treated, yet we often treat others how others treat us. Meditate on that statement for awhile and realise how we often make things difficult for ourselves to live a life worthy of God's praise and love. Here in the UK, it is important to everyone to fight for what they feel are their rights. If you feel you're working too hard because your colleagues are slacking off, you have the right to be less hardworking. If you feel hurt because someone spread a rumour about you in the office, you have the right to get back at them in whatever way makes you feel better. If every reaction we have is a result of the actions of someone else, we are giving the power of decision to everyone but ourselves. We are no longer in control of our salvation. We have given the fate of our salvation to others. If we practice consistency in character, by being honest, loving, kind and compassionate regardless of our circumstances, we will find joy in being right in the sight of God.



I hope that these few points will help you in whatever small way to improve your walk with God. It always warms my heart to see group pictures of you guys on facebook. It encourages me to work harder, and I look forward to the day we return to enjoy your fellowship once again.

Here's wishing everyone a Happy new year

God Bless

Jonathan (and Joan)

WEEKLY NEWS



Collection of angbao for our Mission Workers

We appreciate our mission workers – **bro Bob Xiang (China)**, **bro George Zhang (China)**, **bro John Yo (Taiwan)**, **bro Wang (Taiwan)**, **bro Glen Tattersall (Australia)** & **bro Hai (Vietnam)**. Boxes will be made available for you at the pulpit area **from 6 Jan (TODAY) till 27 Jan** to give angbaos to show your appreciation to them during this festive season.

Bereavement

Our deepest condolences to:

1. The **family of bro Soon Heng** over his passing on 31 Dec
2. The **family of bro Henry Chee** over the passing of his aunt on 1 Jan

Please pray for the bereaving families as they grieve over the loss of their loved ones.

Baby Joy!

Our heartiest congratulations to **bro Benjamin Kwan and sis Deborah** over her pregnancy! Please keep sis Deborah in prayers for her smooth pregnancy and safe delivery.

Guests last week

1. Bro Ivan & sis Joann Kwek (*Central North COC, Australia*)
2. Bro Marcus Gostelow
3. Bryan Chan (*sis Chee Ming's son*)
4. Alexis Lim (*bro Samuel's wife*)
5. Stephanie Gostelow (*bro Martyn's wife*)
6. Jason Lam (*sis Sarah's husband*)
7. Kelvin Kuan (*sis Eunice's friend*)
8. Meyske (*sis Debbie's helper*)

Business Meeting

Date: 20 Jan, Sun

Time: 12.15pm

All members above 21 are required to attend this meeting.

UPCOMING EVENTS

MARK IN YOUR CALENDAR!

Singing Fellowship

Date: 13 Jan, Sun

Time: 1.30pm – 3pm

Venue: LAP Main Hall

All are welcome! Come and praise God in song!

Tracting

Date: 19 Jan, Sat

Time: 4.30pm

Venue:

Blk 639 Hougang Ave 8

Join us in spreading the gospel!

Evangelism Sunday

Date: 27 Jan, Sun

Time: 9.30am

Topic: Do I Need God?

Speaker: Ernest Lau

Invite your family & friends to hear the gospel!

NEWS

★★★★★★★★★★

Thursday Bible Class

"The Nature and Work of the Word" (John 1:1-18)

by bro Alvin Lin

Next Sunday Worship

Standing in the Gap to Lead

by bro Peter Chin

Birthday of the week

6 Jan (Sun) – Doreen

10 Jan (Thu) – Andy

12 Jan (Sat) - Cornelius

★★★★★★★★★★

Please send any news & prayer requests to

limahpincoc@gmail.com

PRAYER REQUESTS

Overseas:

- **Bro Long Jun** in China
- **Bro Kenneth Liong and sis Iris** in San Francisco
- **Bro Jonathan & sis Joan, sis Farah** in UK
- **Sis Shuan Kwee** in Hong Kong
- **Bro Kevin** in New York for studies
- **Bro Siang Yee** in UK for studies

Health

- **Sis Suan Kiang's, sis Linda's & sis Molly's** health
- **Bro Leong Dak's mother-in-law & sis Shermin's grandmother's** health
- **Bro Wei Xiang** from his fractured arm
- **Sis Susan Ng** from hives
- **Sis Candice** from her neck pain, injuries to her elbow & leg

Pregnancy

- Sis Christine (Apr'19), sis Mae (May'19), sis Deborah (Aug'19)

NSF

- Bro Wei Jie, bro Benedict, bro Titus, bro Shawn

MEN-TO-SERVE SCHEDULE

Morning Worship @ 9.30am		6-Jan-19	13-Jan-19	20-Jan-19
Song Leader		Alvin Lin	Joel Lee	Justin Kwan
Opening Prayer Leader		Lee Tian Seng	Paul Lim	Kenneth Quek
Preacher		Jimmy Lau	Peter Chin	Alvin Lin
Lord's Supper Text		1 Cor 11:23-29	Mar 14:22-25	Mat 26:26-29
Lord's Supper Servers	Scripture Reader	Shawn Wong	Zachary Ling	Titus Goh
	Prayer: Bread	Farand Lim	Reuben Lim	Cornelius Lee
	Prayer: Fruit of Vine	Ling Leong Dak	Timothy Ng	Alvin Chan
	Prayer: Offering	Ong Jun Wei	Alan Poon	Benjamin Tan
	Assistant	Melvin Tan	Gordon Loo	Leonard Chia
Foundation Class		Benjamin Tan	Ng Wei Jie	Yew Tian Geng
Announcer		Ernest Lau	Benjamin Kwan	Jimmy Lau
Greeters		Wang Tingwei Teo Kim Tian	Mary Ann Catalos Ellen Hernandez	Grace Ler Wu Wenyu
Evening Worship @ 7pm				
Song Leader & O.P.		Benedict Yo	Benjamin Kwan	Jeshua Lin
Speaker		Ernest Lau	Alvin Lin	Timothy Ng
Lord's Supper, Giving & C.P.		Martyn Gostelow	Nicodemus Oey	Jerry Cheong
Thursday Service @ 7.45pm				
Song Leader			10-Jan-19	17-Jan-19
Opening Prayer Leader			Reuben Lim	Alvin Lin
Teacher			Kenneth Quek	Low Chong Ping
Closing Prayer Leader			Alvin Lin	Alvin Lin
			Ong Jun Wei	Paul Lim