# 21 OCTOBER 2018

# LAP BULLETIN

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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)

#### **Elders**

Bro Jimmy Lau Bro Lee Tian Seng

#### **Deacons**

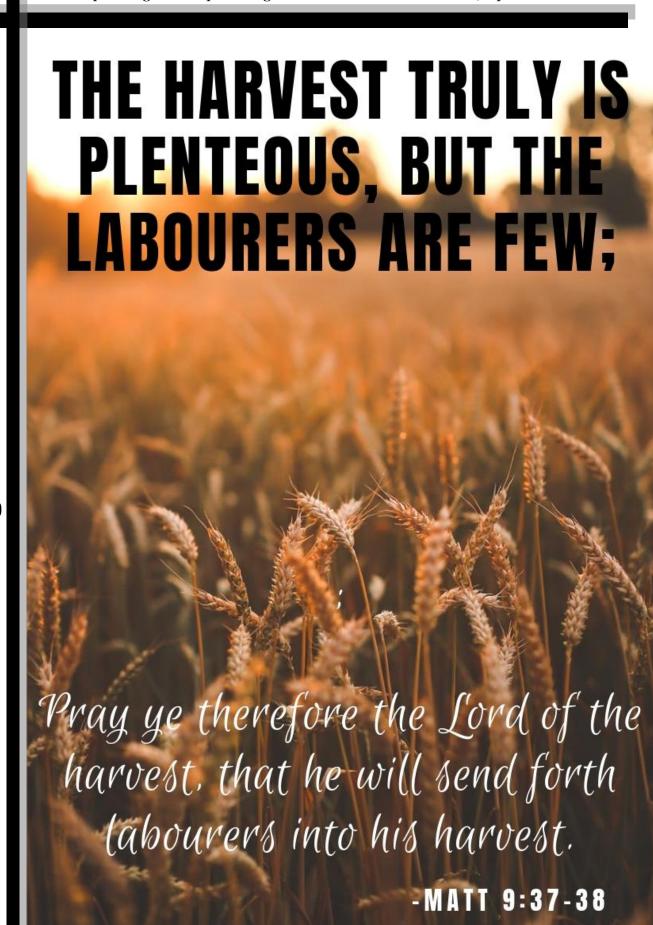
Bro Henry Leow Bro Jerry Cheong

#### **Preachers**

Bro Alvin Lin Bro Ernest Lau

Administrator

Sis Goh Ser Ern





Jdg 4:8 And Barak said unto her, If thou wilt go with me, then I will go: but if thou wilt not go with me, then I will not go.

Deborah lived in a time when men were women and women were men. We see two powerful women in this chapter of the book of Judges. They were Deborah and Jael. Deborah had wisdom, leadership and motivation. Jael was a man killer. That woman took a tent nail and with a hammer, she nailed it into the temple of Sisera, captain of the army of Canaan, and fastened it into the ground (Judg 4:21). I must admit I can't do that.

Deborah was no Joan of Arc. She needed a commander to lead the army to fight Jabin, king of Canaan. She called on Barak. Apparently, God had made a call to Barak to lead an army to fight against Jabin for Deborah said: "Hath not the LORD God of Israel commanded, saying, Go and draw toward mount Tabor, and take with thee ten thousand men of the children of Naphtali and of the children of Zebulun?" (Judg 4:6).

But Barak hesitated and did not move. Deborah came knocking on his door and repeated God's command. I think the answer from Barak is somewhat disappointing for he said: "If thou wilt go with me, then I will go: but if thou wilt not go with me, then I will not go" (Judg 4:8).

It was the reason that the people of Israel went to Deborah and not to Barak for judgment (Judg 4:6). The men were not leading; they were not providing the leadership as they ought to. Barak had to lean on the strength of a woman in order to pluck up the courage to lead the army.

"His offer to go with her, shows the truth of his faith, for which he is praised, Heb 11:32, but his refusal to go without her, shows the weakness of his faith, that he could not trust

God's bare word, as he ought to have done, without the pledge of the presence of his prophetess." (Wesley Notes).

Perhaps this unlikely couple complemented each other. Barak provided the physical strength and leadership to lead the army while Deborah provided the advice and counsel on any emergency, being the prophetess of God. Hence, Barak thought, having the prophetess with the army ensured God's presence and counsel would be with them.

When those words were spoken from the mouth of a man, they really feel awkward to me. It was different when a woman said in like manner: "For whither thou goest, I will go; and where thou lodgest, I will lodge" (Ruth 1:16). That was a faithful daughter-in-law following her mother-in-law. Most women would rather follow their own mother than their mother-in-law. But Ruth was a fantastic woman. Young men, if the woman you are courting does not hold your mother in high regard, leave her because that will be the beginning of conflicts in the house and you don't want to be the one choosing between your mother or your wife to live in the same house.

Men, God's design is for you to take on the leadership in the church: "Let the women keep silence in the churches: for it is not permitted unto them to speak; but let them be in subjection, as also saith the law. And if they would learn anything, let them ask their own husbands at home: for it is shameful for a woman to speak in the church. (1 Cor 14:34-35).

The priests that served in the temple under the Mosaic Dispensation were men. The apostles were men chosen by the Lord. The elders of the church were men (1 Tim 3:1-2). Men are to lead in public prayers: "I desire therefore that the men pray in every place, lifting up holy hands, without wrath and disputing" (1 Tim 2:8).

There were many wonderful women in the scriptures. But they were not leaders. Even Deborah had to engage a man to lead the army. Yet those women supplement the qualities and services that men could not provide. We thank God for the many wonderful sisters we have in the church of God. I can tell you that elders, deacons and preachers can do what they are doing because of the supportive wives behind them. Women are not created to be leaders but their supportive roles are just as great and very much needed in the church. We thank God for the faithful women in our midst.

Brothers and sisters, each of us has our own place in the services in the kingdom of God. Let us recognise God's design for leadership and support roles in the work of the church. May our men continue to lead and serve God and our women continue to serve in the talents God has given them.



## **Hymn #1**

# "A BEAUTIFUL LIFE"

"Let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith" (Gal. 6.10)

**INTRO.**: A song which encourages us to do good unto others is "A Beautiful Life". The text was written and the tune (Life's Evening Sun) was composed both by William M. Golden (1878-1934). The song is dated 1918, but not much can be found about its background. Perhaps Golden's best known song is "Where the Soul Never Dies," beginning, "To Canaan's land I'm on my way."

The song suggests several things that we can do to be a good influence on others.

### I. According to stanza 1, we must do our work for the Lord every day

"Each day I'll do a golden deed By helping those who are in need; My life on earth is but a span, And so I'll do the best I can."

- A. Christianity is a religion that must be practiced daily and affect our daily lives: Lk. 9.23
- B. Therefore, daily we should be concerned about those who are in need: Jas. 1.27
- C. The reason that this is so important is that our lives are but a span so we must do good while we have the time: Jas. 4.13-17

## II. According to stanza 2, we must let our lights shine

"To be a child of God each day, My light must shine along the way; I'll sing His praise while ages roll And strive to help some troubled soul."

- A. God wants us to be His spiritual children: 1 Jn. 3.1
- B. However, as His children, He wants us to let our lights so shine that men may see our good works and glorify Him: Matt. 5.14-16
- C. One way to do this is to sing His praise that we might teach and admonish others: Col. 3.16

## III. According to stanza 3, we must be kind to others

"The only life that will endure Is one that's kind and good and pure. And so for God I'll take my stand; Each day I'll lend a helping hand."

- A. Our lives are more than just our physical existence, and to have an enduring quality they must be influenced by Christ: Matt. 6.25, Gal. 2.20
- B. A life that is truly influenced by Christ will be characterized by kindness: Eph. 4.32, Col. 3.12
- C. Such a life will also not be ashamed to take a stand for God so that it can be a help to others: Rom. 1.16, 2 Tim. 1.8

## IV. According to stanza 4, we must help those who are in need

"I'll help someone in time of need And journey on with rapid speed;
I'll help the sick and poor and weak, And words of kindness to them speak."

- A. We should be willing to help those who are in need because we love our neighbor as ourselves: Lev. 19.18
- B. Again, we need to show this love while we have the time because we are journeying on with rapid speed: Ps. 90.9-10
- C. Showing our love means helping the sick and poor and weak: Matt. 25.31-46

# V. According to stanza 5, we must to serve God by assisting others in any way that we can

"While going down life's weary road, I'll try to lift some traveler's load; I'll try to turn the night to day, Make flowers bloom along the way."

- A. We can lift the traveler's load by showing our faith in giving him what he needs: Ias. 2.14-18
- B. We can help turn the night to day by showing our love in assisting others in need: 1 Jn. 3.17-18
- C. We can make flowers bloom along the way by being an influence for righteousness: 1 Pet. 2.11-12

**CONCL.:** The chorus re-emphasizes the need to be doing these things because of the brevity of life:

"Life's evening sun is sinking low; A few more days and I must go To meet the deeds that I have done, Where there will be no setting sun."

God has eternal life planned for His people in heaven. However, to be made fit for such a wonderful dwelling place, we must strive while we journey here on this earth to have "A Beautiful Life."  $\sim$  Adapted

# WEEKLY NEWS



With the impending departure of bro Lee Tian Seng to the new work, and with bro Henry Leow stepping down from the role of deacon, we are pleased to inform that **bro Michael Yeo and bro Benjamin Tan** have agreed to fill in the roles of elder and deacon, respectively. If you have any feedback, please email to the elders by **TODAY**. For your reference, the qualifications for elders, deacons and their wives are found in 1 Timothy 3:1-13 & Titus 1:6-9.

#### **Guests Last Week**

- 1. Sis Jessie (Jurong COC)
- 2. Bro Simon, sis Esther, Daniel & Hong Loon (sis Deborah's family)
- 3. Kenny Kee (sis Debbie's husband)
- 4. Jason Lam (sis Sarah's fiancé)
- 5. Jonathan (bro Philemon's friend)
- 6. Kelvin Kuan (sis Eunice's friend)
- 7. Tan Jia Yi (sis Michelle's friend)
- 8. Lay Lay (sis Lydia's helper)
- 9. Meyske (sis Debbie's helper)

#### Travelling (Pray for safety)

- 1. **Bro Chong Ping & sis Suan Kiang** are in San Francisco till 22 Oct.
- 2. **Bro Kian Hong, sis Kia Sang, bro Chin Siang, sis Lilian, sis Carol & sis Yuet Ming** in Japan till 25 Oct.
- 3. **Bro Tian Geng** is travelling for work till 11 Nov.

# UPCOMING EVENTS

MARK IN YOUR CALENDAR!

#### Fishers Of Men Graduation

Date: 21 October, Sun (TODAY)

Time: 1pm

**Venue:** Church building

The graduation ceremony is open to all. Lunch will

be provided for those who signed up.

### Singing Fellowship

Date: 4 November, Sun
Time: 1.30pm – 3pm
Venue: Church building
All are welcome, come and
praise our great God in song!





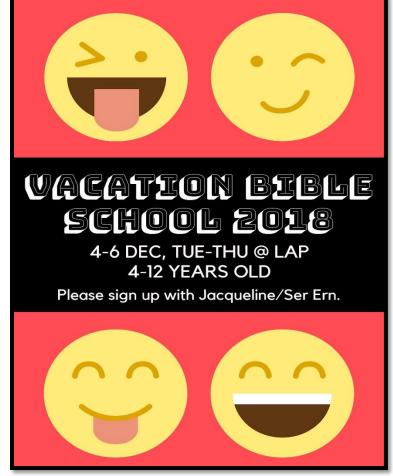


# NO-SEW SOCK SNOWMAN

10 November, Saturday | 10am - 12nn | LAPCOC Please inform sis Ser Ern if you are interested to attend.











# Thursday Bible Class The Need for Spirituality

by bro Jimmy Lau

### Birthday of the week

23 Oct (Tue) –
Hyea Sook & Charlene
25 Oct (Thu) – Jimmy
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Please send any news & prayer requests to limahpincoc@gmail.com

# PRAYER REQUESTS

#### **Overseas:**

- **Bro Kwan** in China
- Bro Long Jun in China
- Bro Kenneth Liong and sis Iris in San Francisco
- Bro Jonathan & sis Joan 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 & bro Soon Heng's health
- Sis Doris' recovery from vomiting, diarrhea & haemorrhoids
- **Sis Shu Fang's father's** recovery from angiogram to unblock one of the arteries
- Sis Jasmine's niece's growth & development

#### **Pregnancy**

• Sis Stephanie (Dec'18), sis Christine (Apr'19)

#### **NSF**

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

# **MEN-TO-SERVE SCHEDULE**

		THEN TO BEIN E BUILD BE		
Morning Worship @ 9.30am		21-0ct-18	28-Oct-18	4-Nov-18
Song Leader		Joel Lee	Benjamin Kwan	Jeremy Kwan
Opening Prayer Leader		Danny Poo	Timothy Ng	Victor Lee
Psalms Text		Psa 78:1-12	Psa 78:13-25	Psa 78:26-35
Preacher		Barry Hatcher	Lee Tian Seng	Michael Yeo
Lord's Supper Text		Php 2:5-11	1 Cor 11:23-29	Mar 14:22-25
Lord's Supper Servers	Scripture Reader	Nicodemus Oey	Axel Chee	Benedict Yo
	Prayer: Bread	Charlie Teo	Henry Chee	Jeshua Lin
	Prayer: Fruit of Vine	Alvin Chan	Paul Lim	Ling Leong Dak
	Prayer: Offering	Marc Wee	Nicodemus Oey	Martyn Gostelow
	Assistant	Cornelius Lee	Titus Goh	Gordon Loo
	Foundation Class	Benjamin Tan	Arthur Yap	Justin Kwan
Announcer		Ernest Lau	Jimmy Lau	Lee Tian Seng
Greeters		Ludina Carrido	Grace Ler	Wang Teng Wee
		Susan Cheong	Lois Chee	Teo Kim Tian
Evening Worship @ 7pm				
Song Leader & O.P.		Ernest Lau	Amos Yang	Benedict Yo
Speaker		Alvin Lin	Ernest Lau	Alvin Lin
Lord's Supper, Giving & C.P.		Lim Poh Teng	Ling Leong Dak	Martyn Gostelow
Thursday Service @ 7.45pm			25-0ct-18	1-Nov-18
Song Leader			Andy Lin	Alvin Lin
Opening Prayer Leader			Kenneth Quek	John Goh
Closing Prayer Leader			Benjamin Tan	Nicodemus Oey