

23 SEPTEMBER  
2018

# LAP BULLETIN

Church of Christ 20 Lim Ah Pin Road Singapore 547839 Tel 6286 5605  
www.lapcoc.org limahpincoc@gmail.com www.facebook.com/lapchurchofchrist

## 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

**Deacons**

Bro Henry Leow  
Bro Jerry Cheong

**Preachers**

Bro Alvin Lin  
Bro Ernest Lau

**Administrator**

Sis Goh Ser Ern

*You are cordially invited to our Bible Seminar on*

# LIBERALISM IN THE CHURCHES OF CHRIST

*presented by  
the young adults of LAP COC*

📍 20, Lim Ah Pin Road

📅 29th Sept 2018 (Sat)

🕒 9:30AM to 3:30PM  
(lunch will be provided)

*see overleaf for  
more details*



# *Elder's exhortation*

*by bro Jimmy Lau*

***Joh 21:22 Jesus saith unto him, If I will that he tarry till I come, what is that to thee? follow thou me.***

The Lord Jesus had just foretold the work of Peter and his manner of death. Peter was to tend the lamb and to feed the sheep. He would die a martyr death. Perhaps Peter was grieved when he was told what his future would be; it definitely wasn't a bed of roses. He saw John. John was a favourite disciple of Jesus. He asked Jesus: "*Lord, and what shall this man do?*" (John 21:21).

What he was asking is: "What about John? What will his future be like?" He didn't get the answer he was looking for. Instead, he received a rebuke from the Lord: "*If I will that he tarry till I come, what is that to thee? follow thou me*" (John 21:22).

A very crude way of saying would be: "Don't be a busybody. It's none of your concern. You mind your own business. Your job is to follow me and don't worry about him. Period."

So apt are we to be busy in other men's matters but negligent in our own. It is the will of Christ that His disciples should first mind their own duties. Our Lord said this in the Sermon on the Mount: "*And why beholdest thou the mote that is in thy brother's eye, but considerest not the beam that is in thine own eye?*" (Matt 7:3). Our Lord is saying on this wise: "Be concern with your own sin first before you talk about the sins of others." Other people's character are of no concern to us; you take care of your own first. It is out of line for us to judge them when we are having our own sins to take care of.

Peter could have asked the question out of love and concern for John. He knew his own destiny; he was concerned for his good friend John. He hoped that John would not suffer the same fate as him. The Lord did give him the answer concerning John's destiny: "*If I will that he tarry till I come*" (John 21:22). Tradition has it that John was

the only apostle who died a natural death at a good old age. John was chosen to receive the apocalypses in Patmos and wrote the book of Revelations.

The answer of our Lord implies that each disciple has a distinct position in the world. *"What is that to thee? Follow thou me."* Therefore each man must look primarily to himself and his own duty. The apostle Paul wrote: *"Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith; prove your own selves. Know ye not your own selves,"* (2 Cor 13:5).

The Lord is not saying we should not be concern with other people's business. In fact, He taught us to love and care for one another. The parable of the Good Samaritan teaches us to show neighbourliness to our brethren. Our Lord is saying that Peter's primary duty was to follow Him; and so is ours. We have to remain steadfast in the faith before we can encourage another.

How can we bear one another's burden if we don't know what a brother is burdened with? (Gal 6:1). Therefore, the scripture also teaches us to *"Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others"* (Phil 2:4).

Our Christian duty demands that we should be concerned for our fellow brethren. We are not to be busy in their worldly things or meddling into their personal lives and secrets, but we are to be concerned with their afflictions and spiritual growth. Paul wrote: *"We then that are strong ought to bear the infirmities of the weak, and not to please ourselves"* (Rom 15:1).

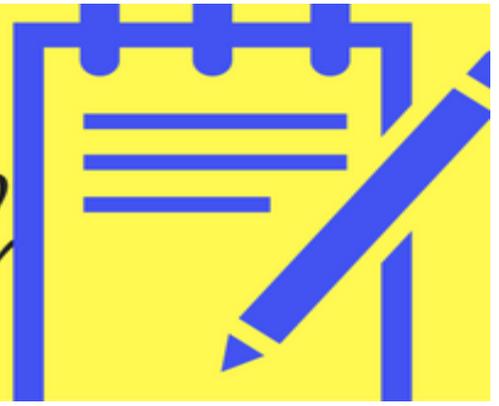
Christianity is not a selfish religion. The Lord wants us to help one another. We must bear one another's burden. No one can say it's none of his business. The law of love demands that we love our brethren enough to show concern for them: *"For I was an hungred, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in: Naked, and ye clothed me: I was sick, and ye visited me: I was in prison, and ye came unto me"* (Matt 25:35-36).

Peter understood the Lord when he wrote these words in his old age: *"But let none of you suffer as a murderer, or as a thief, or as an evildoer, or as a busybody in other men's matters. Yet if any man suffer as a Christian, let him not be ashamed; but let him glorify God on this behalf"* (1 Pet 4:15-16).

Certain actions spell love and concern; others spell busybodies. The Good Samaritan showed love and concern (Luke 10:33-35). The multitude that came just to watch Jesus performed miracles or to watch the crucifixion were busybodies.

Let us get busy when a brother or a sister is afflicted with sickness or is spiritually down. This is our Christian duty – love one another (John 15:12).

From the  
Brotherhood



## New Testament Giving Versus Old Testament Tithing

Adapted from Brian R. Kenyon

(<http://www.gospelgazette.com/gazette/2018/sep/page8.html#article2>)

A preacher was once asked why he did not preach tithing. He responded by saying he could not afford to preach it because it would cut the contribution too much. His point was that where he preached, the members gave well beyond 10% of their income. However, not many congregations would fall into that category. Some have estimated that our brotherhood's contributions represent 5-7% of our collective income, while other estimates claiming to be more accurate say our contributions only represent 2-3% of our collective income (Gambill 49). In either case, it is not too difficult to see why many congregations do not have the funds to properly do the Lord's work. Contributions would probably double or even triple if members gave 10%. This often brings up the question, "What about tithing?" Thus, a comparison of Old Testament tithing with New Testament giving is profitable.

### Old Testament "Tithing"

The practice of tithing existed long before the Law was given to Moses at Sinai. Many nations in ancient history tithed property, produce, and currency. Some biblical examples are Abram, who paid a tenth to Melchizedek (Genesis 14:17-20) and Jacob, who promised to give God a tenth of everything (Genesis 28:20-22). According to some sources, when considering all the requirements under the Law of Moses, the Israelites may have given closer to 30% ("Tithe"). According to the Pentateuch, there were three different tithes. First, a tithe was to be given by the people to support the Levites who had no inheritance (Numbers 18:20-32). Second, a tithe was to be given of the land that was "holy unto the Lord" (Leviticus 27:30-33). Third, a yearly tithe was to be given to keep appointed feasts along with a special tithe that was to be given every third year (Deuteronomy 14:22-29).

The first century Jewish historian, Josephus, wrote two relevant statements in *Antiquities of the Jews* concerning tithing. First, "Let there be taken out of your

fruits a tenth, besides that which you have allotted to give to the priests and Levites. This you may indeed sell in the country, but it is to be used in those feasts and sacrifices that are celebrated in the holy city” (Book 4, 8, 8). Second, “Besides those two tithes which I have already said you are to pay every year...you are to bring every third year a third tithe to be distributed to those who are in want” (Book 4, 8, 22). To say Jews always only gave a tenth may not be accurate.

As we examine the writing prophets, we note that God’s people abused tithing in at least two ways. First, they “tithed,” but with no intention of showing concern for justice, righteousness or mercy (Amos 4:4). Tithing was supposed to be motivated by genuine love and joy for God and one’s brethren (Deuteronomy 14:23, 26, 28-29). However, when given from wrong motives, tithing was an abomination to the Lord. Second, God’s people withheld their tithes, thus “robbing” God (Malachi 3:8-10). This was also an abomination to God and would result in a withdrawal of God’s blessings if continued. Under the Law, tithing gave Israel the following opportunities: (1) to declare they were giving back a portion of what already belonged to God (Deuteronomy 8:18; 26:10-15); (2) to remember the blessings God gave them by imitating Him and His care for those in need (Deuteronomy 14:28-29); and (3) to serve God sacrificially, at a cost to themselves (Deuteronomy 14:22). These same opportunities are also available to us in our giving.

### **New Testament Giving**

We are no longer under the Law of Moses (Galatians 3:24-25; Colossians 2:14), including God’s law of tithing. However, to say that we are not under the Law does not mean our responsibility to give is somehow lessened or that it does not matter (Black 39). The New Testament teaches that we are to give liberally (Romans 12:8; 2 Corinthians 8:2; 9:11-13). New Testament examples show that our giving can exceed 10%. Jesus set forth the poor widow as a good giver because “she out of her poverty put in all that she had, her whole livelihood” (Mark 12:44). Note what Jesus required of the rich young ruler before he could inherit eternal life: “Sell all that you have and distribute to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me” (Luke 18:24). The Lord approved of Zacchaeus because, among other things, he said, “I give half of my goods to the poor” (Luke 19:8-9). The Jerusalem church, recognizing that everything they possessed was not their own, sold their goods and “brought the proceeds of the things that were sold, and laid them at the apostles’ feet” (Acts 4:32, 34-35). The churches of Macedonia gave liberally out of far greater affliction and poverty than any of us will likely experience in our lifetime (2 Corinthians 8:1-5). All these examples reflect great sacrifice on the part of the giver. Can we expect any less of our giving today?

## Scriptural Giving Today

Let us conclude by noting some principles that must govern our giving (adapted from Brannan 22). First, perhaps the Lord has not set a definite percentage to our giving for the purpose of proving the sincerity of our love (2 Corinthians 8:8). How sincere does our love for God prove to be when measured by what we give? Second, God does not want us to give reluctantly or merely out of duty, but cheerfully (2 Corinthians 9:7). Do we give cheerfully or “just because I have to”? Third, acceptable giving requires sacrifice on the part of the giver (2 Corinthians 8:5). David exemplified this by saying he would not “offer burnt offerings to the Lord my God with that which costs me nothing” (2 Samuel 24:24). Do we sacrifice or just give God the “leftovers”? Fourth, we are to give as God has prospered us (1 Corinthians 16:2). Do we increase our giving when our financial prosperity increases? Fifth, God requires us to give liberally (2 Corinthians 9:11, 13). Does God consider what we give now to be liberal or are we robbing Him? Giving is a serious matter, both for our soul’s salvation and for the well-being of the local church! Let’s give as the New Testament directs!



### Baby Joy!

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

### Travelling (Pray for safety)

1. **Bro Jun Wei, sis Ser Ern, bro Reuben, bro Cornelius, sis Candice & sis Mary Ann** in Vietnam for the mission trip till 25 Sep
2. **Bro Ernest & sis Stephanie** in Palau till 26 Sep
3. **Bro Roberto** in Korea till 29 Sep

### Guests Last Week

1. Bro Ng Hee Liang & family (*Section 17 COC, Malaysia*)
2. Bro Ong Eng Boon (*Klang COC, Malaysia*)
3. Bro Yu Kong (*Malacca COC, Malaysia*)
4. Sis Lee Yok Hoon (*Malacca COC, Malaysia*)
5. Sis Heather Jenkins (*Benoni COC, South Africa*)
6. Paul & Ivy Tan (*sis Baby's family*)
7. Peh Guang Rong (*sis Yan Ling's husband*)
8. Kenny Kee (*sis Debbie's husband*)
9. Tan Jiayi (*sis Michelle's friend*)
10. Lay Lay (*sis Lydia's helper*)
11. Meyske (*sis Debbie's helper*)
12. Daniel (*Cambodia*)

## **Annual General Meeting 2018**

**Date:** 30 Sep, Sun (Next Sun)

**Time:** 12.15pm

### **Agenda:**

1. To receive and adopt the auditor's report and financial statement for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2018.
2. To approve the appointment of Messers Kreston David Yeung PAC (Public Accounting Corporation) as auditors for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019.
3. To approve the removal of the following MC members:  
***Lee Tian Seng, Lim Keng Soon, Paul & Yang Shi Jie Amos***
4. To approve the appointment of the following men into the Management Committee:  
***Yeo Siew Wah (Michael), Ng Yi Peng Timothy & Ong Jun Wei***
5. To approve the removal of Lee Tian Seng & Peter Kwan from cheque signatories & approve **Kenneth Quek & Andy Lin** as new cheque signatories

A banner with a background image of a spiral notebook and a pen. The text 'UPCOMING EVENTS' is written in large, white, sans-serif capital letters. Below it, in smaller white capital letters, is the phrase 'MARK IN YOUR CALENDAR!'.

**UPCOMING EVENTS**  
MARK IN YOUR CALENDAR!

A poster for a church event. The background is a dark blue space scene with a large, bright orange and yellow sun on the left and several planets of various sizes and colors (red, blue, brown, white) orbiting it in white elliptical paths. The text is white and bold.

**CHURCH OF CHRIST PRESENTS**  
**THE GREATEST BEING  
IN THE UNIVERSE**  
SPEAKER: JIMMY LAU  
30 SEP 2018, SUNDAY | 9.30AM  
20 LIM AH PIN ROAD  
Come and join us to find out the answers!

## **Youth Homezone**

**Date:** 20 October, Sat

**Time:** 3 pm to 6 pm

**Venue:** Church building

**Activities:** Board games & pizza

***All youths are invited to join us for an afternoon of fun and fellowship!***



**Thursday Bible Class**

**What A Good**

**Congregation Can Mean to**

**A Home**

*by bro Alvin Lin*

**Birthdays of the week**

27 Sep (Thu) – Carol

29 Sep (Sat) – Linda



Please send any news & prayer requests to [limahpincoc@gmail.com](mailto:limahpincoc@gmail.com)

# PRAYER REQUESTS

**Overseas:**

- **Bro Long Jun** in China
- **Bro Kenneth Liong and sis Iris** in San Francisco
- **Bro Ernest & sis Stephanie** in Palau
- **Sis Shuan Kwee** in Hong Kong
- **Bro Kevin** in New York for studies

**Health**

- **Sis Suan Kiang's, sis Linda's, sis Molly's & bro Soon Heng's** health
- **Bro Martin's** recovery from stroke  
(warded at NUH Ward @ Senja Lvl 5 Bed 4)

**Pregnancy**

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

**NSF**

- Bro Wei Jie, bro Benedict, bro Titus

## MEN-TO-SERVE SCHEDULE

Morning Worship @ 9.30am		23-Sep-18	30-Sep-18	7-Oct-18
<b>Song Leader</b>		Jeremy Kwan	Ernest Lau	Amos Yang
<b>Opening Prayer Leader</b>		Peter Chin	Timothy Ng	Low Chong Ping
<b>Psalms Text</b>		Psa 75:1-10	Psa 76:1-12	Psa 77:1-10
<b>Preacher</b>		Charlie Teo	Jimmy Lau	Alvin Lin
<b>Lord's Supper Text</b>		1 Cor 11:23-29	Mar 14:22-25	Mat 26:26-29
<b>Lord's Supper Servers</b>	<i>Scripture Reader</i>	Nicodemus Oey	Gideon Quek	Shawn Wong
	<i>Prayer: Bread</i>	Henry Chee	Farand Lim	Andy Lin
	<i>Prayer: Fruit of Vine</i>	Kenneth Quek	Alvin Chan	Reuben Lim
	<i>Prayer: Offering</i>	Martyn Gostelow	Ong Jun Wei	Benjamin Tan
	<i>Assistant</i>	Jose Cardoza	Roberto Pascual	Ng Wei Xiang
<b>Announcer</b>		Arthur Yap	Lau Jeng Sang	Arthur Yap
<b>Greeters</b>		Alvin Lin	Benjamin Kwan	Paul Lim
		Ludina Carrido	Grace Ler	Constance Lau
		Susan Cheong	Lois Chee	Wu Wenyu
Evening Worship @ 7pm				
<b>Song Leader &amp; O.P.</b>		Benedict Yo	Amos Yang	Jimmy Lau
<b>Speaker</b>		Alvin Lin	Ernest Lau	Benjamin Tan
<b>Lord's Supper, Giving &amp; C.P.</b>		Lee Tian Seng	Henry Leow	Paul Lim
Thursday Service @ 7.45pm				
<b>Song Leader</b>			<b>27-Sep-18</b>	<b>4-Oct-18</b>
<b>Opening Prayer Leader</b>			Andy Lin	Alvin Lin
<b>Closing Prayer Leader</b>			Peter Kwan	Lee Tian Seng
			Reuben Lim	Kenneth Quek