

24 November  
2019

# 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)

### Elders

Bro Jimmy Lau  
Bro Michael Yeo

### Deacons

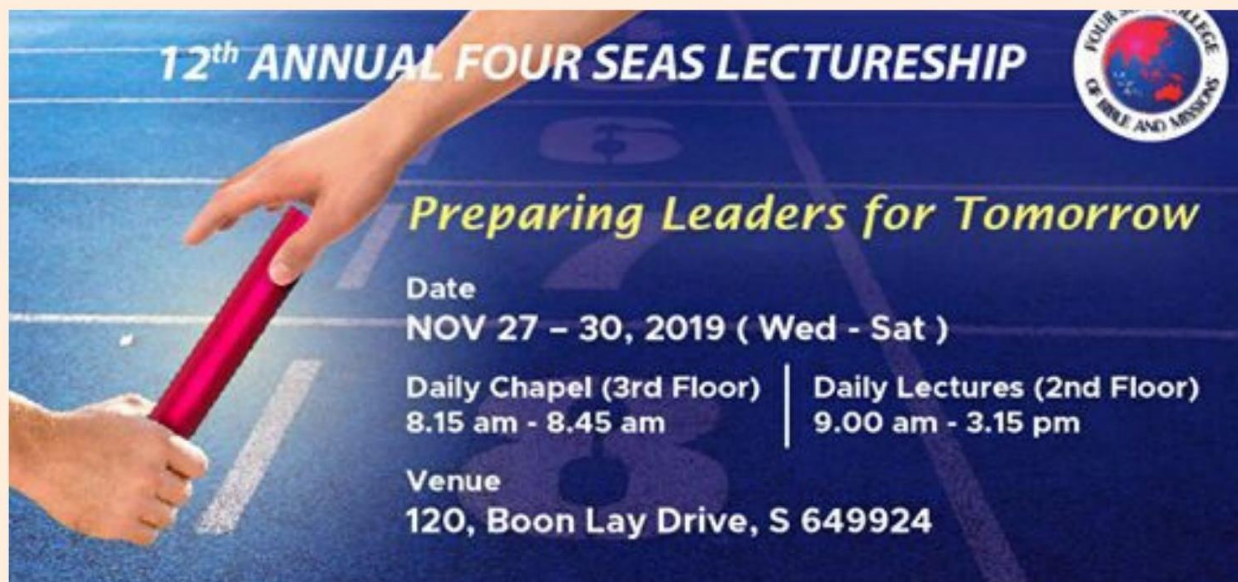
Bro Benjamin Tan  
Bro Jerry Cheong

### Preacher

Bro Ernest Lau

### Administrator

Sis Goh Ser Ern



**12<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL FOUR SEAS LECTURESHIP**

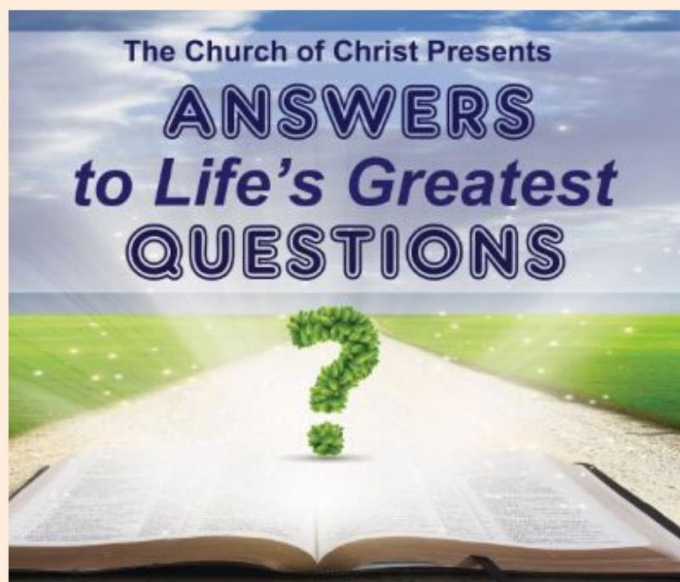
*Preparing Leaders for Tomorrow*

Date  
NOV 27 – 30, 2019 (Wed - Sat)

Daily Chapel (3rd Floor) | Daily Lectures (2nd Floor)  
8.15 am - 8.45 am | 9.00 am - 3.15 pm

Venue  
120, Boon Lay Drive, S 649924

FOUR SEAS COLLEGE OF BIBLE AND MISSIONS



The Church of Christ Presents

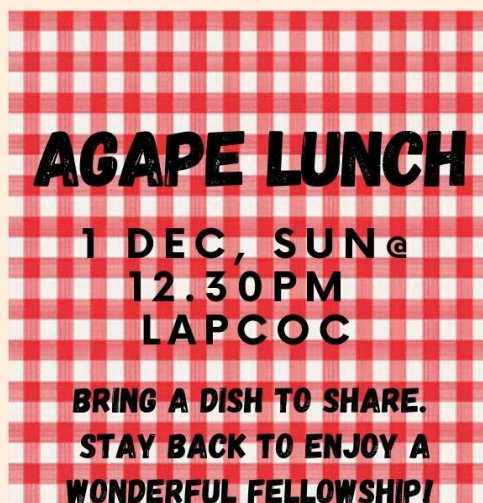
**ANSWERS**  
*to Life's Greatest*  
**QUESTIONS**

**28 NOV, THU @ 7.45PM**  
**WHO AM I?**  
BY ROGER CAMPBELL

**29 NOV, FRI @ 7.45PM**  
**WHERE DID I COME FROM?**  
BY JONATHAN BURNS

**30 NOV, SAT @ 7.45PM**  
**WHY AM I HERE?**  
BY TIM HAYES

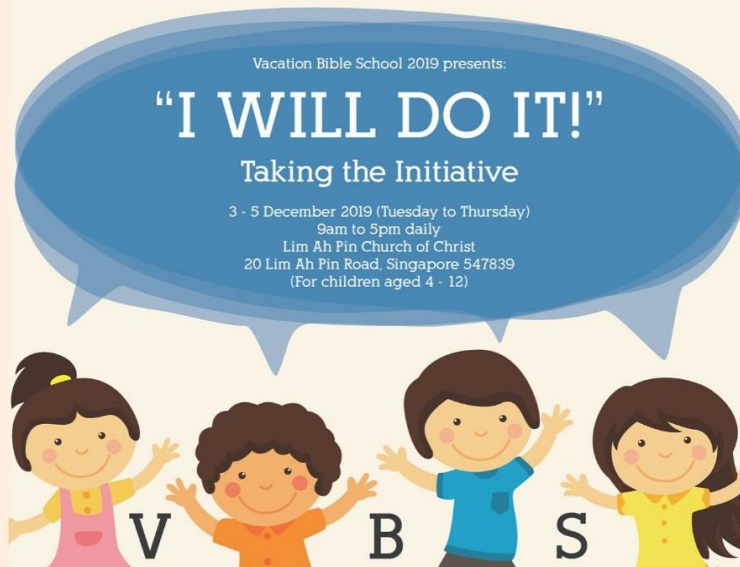
**1 DEC, SUN @ 9.30AM**  
**WHERE AM I GOING?**  
BY BILLY BLAND



**AGAPE LUNCH**

**1 DEC, SUN @**  
**12.30PM**  
**LAPCOC**

**BRING A DISH TO SHARE.**  
**STAY BACK TO ENJOY A**  
**WONDERFUL FELLOWSHIP!**



Vacation Bible School 2019 presents:

**"I WILL DO IT!"**  
Taking the Initiative

3 - 5 December 2019 (Tuesday to Thursday)  
9am to 5pm daily  
Lim Ah Pin Church of Christ  
20 Lim Ah Pin Road, Singapore 547839  
(For children aged 4 - 12)

**V B S**



# *Elder's exhortation*

*by bro Jimmy Lau*

***1Co 5:2 And ye are puffed up, and have not rather mourned, that he that hath done this deed might be taken away from among you.***

There was a case of incest in the church at Corinth where a member had his father's wife. Paul said such immorality was not even heard of among the Gentiles. That is, even the unbelievers would have scorned at such a practice. Yet, a member of the church at Corinth was guilty of such immorality and the church knew about it but was not doing anything about it.

They should have mourned; and should have given their first attention to the removal of the sin. But instead of being humiliated and covered with a sense of shame, they were puffed up. They were filled with pride over such a sin among them.

It is difficult to imagine what it would be like to live in a society where citizens could flaunt the rules and absolutely no consequences would follow—no fines, no imprisonment, etc. Can you conceive of a home environment where the children are allowed to do whatever they please with utterly no discipline imposed? Total chaos would reign in either of these instances. Well, that was exactly what had happened to the Corinthian church – they were doing absolutely nothing about the sinning member. No wonder it is a church that was filled up with non-penitent sinners.

To many, church discipline is a dirty word. They say it is unloving. Well, is it an unloving act when a parent disciplines his child? *"For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth"* (Heb 12:6).

Why are churches reluctant to enforce church discipline? I can think of some reasons:

**1. Don't think it is a sin** – They don't see anything wrong with it. Some asked: "What's wrong with drinking?" "What's wrong with co-habitation?" "What's wrong being homosexual?" They see all those sins happening around them until they became so used to them and begin to accept them. They have forgotten that the Saviour had come to save



them from their sins so that they will go home and sin no more (John 5:14). Christ did not come to die so that we can remain in the same state of sin.

**2. Guilty themselves** – Leaders are sometimes guilty themselves such that they become hypocrites when they condemn the sin of another. The fingers will be pointing back at them: “What about you?” It is a shame when church leaders are not exemplary in their conduct. It is for this reason that God has laid down the qualifications for elders and deacons (1 Tim 3:1-13).

**3. Think it is unloving** – Some said church discipline is an unloving thing to do. Is it an unloving thing when the court punishes a murderer to a life of imprisonment? Is it an unloving act when a mother punishes her son who beat up his younger sister? Discipline is all about love. Church discipline is about helping someone to see his sinning ways and repent so that his soul can be saved: “*Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God?*” (1 Cor 6:9).

**4. Lack moral courage** – Some could not find it in their hearts to do it. Spoiled children are the result of their parents who could not find it in their hearts to discipline them. In the church, no one wants to be the bad guy. It could also be that the sinning brother or sister is popular in the church and to discipline him is to offend a number of other members. It takes a courageous prophet to tell a king: “*Thou art the man*” (2 Sam 12:7). King David had sinned; he needed to be chastised too. Let us pray that our leaders will have the moral courage to enforce church discipline on an erring member.

**5. Don’t judge** – They don’t want to appear judgmental. Some misapplied this verse: “*He that is without sin among you, let him first cast a stone at her*” (John 8:7). They said we are all imperfect; so why judge? Some judgements are unrighteous and downright hypocritical; God condemns such judgements. Christ said we are to judge righteously (John 7:24).

**6. Fear action will divide the church** – Sometimes church leaders fear the action will divide the church. Paul said: “*A little leaven leaveneth the whole lump*” (1 Cor 5:6). Church discipline is to preserve the purity of the church.

It is a shame when a certain denominational preacher has been charged in the court of the land and is found guilty of stealing from the church and yet the members still applauded him, and cried him up for being a wonderful preacher. No wonder that preacher can still smile and stand in front of his congregation and appear as if nothing has happened: “*Were they ashamed when they had committed abomination? nay, they were not at all ashamed, neither could they blush*” (Jer 6:15).

Let us be ashamed when there is a sin in the congregation. Let us support the elders when they enforce church discipline. Let us keep the church pure and holy.



## Preacher's exhortation

### Faith on Fire

*By bro Ernest Lau*

Faith is a key aspect of the Christian life. We look up to those who are stalwarts of the faith, who have committed themselves to God and exhibit unwavering trust in Him. We hope to have as strong a faith as them. However, the strength of our faith is best demonstrated when it is tested by fire. Our faith will be tested by the fiery trials of life: sickness, discouragement, sorrow etc. What will be our reaction when we face such tests? In Daniel 3:8-13, we read of 3 men whose faith were literally tested by fire. Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego were Jews living during the Babylonian captivity. King Nebuchadnezzar had decreed that all bow down to his golden image when the music plays. However, they refused. They were captured, and the king threatened to throw them into the fiery furnace. The 3 men replied to the king:

*"O Nebuchadnezzar, we are not careful to answer thee in this matter. If it be so, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and he will deliver us out of thine hand, O king. But if not, be it known unto thee, O king, that we will not serve thy gods, nor worship the golden image which thou hast set up" (Daniel 3:16-18).*

There are 3 things we can learn about faith from their powerful statement:

#### **1. Confidence**

The 3 men had confidence and trust that God was able to deliver them from the fiery furnace. Indeed, the God we serve has demonstrated on many occasions that He is powerful and capable of saving His people. God was able to use 300 men to defeat an army of 135,000! (Judges 7-8). God was able to use the boy David to conquer the giant Goliath (1 Samuel 17). God was able to part the Red Sea so that Moses and the Israelites could walk on dry land! (Exodus 14). Indeed, God would go on to deliver Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, by sending the angel of the Lord to protect them so that they were unharmed from the fire (Daniel 3:19-27).

The same God who delivered Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego is able to deliver us from our troubles as well. We need to have the same faith and confidence that God can deliver us, because we know that nothing is impossible with God (Luke 1:37). Today we should not expect God to perform miracles to save us, because we know the age of miracles has passed. However, God can still work things out through His hand of providence, in the same way that He preserved faithful Joseph throughout his time in Egypt (Genesis 50:20). No matter what problem we face: it may be a health problem, or work problem, or family problem, or relationship problem... God can help us and deliver us.

## **2. Concession**

Although the 3 men were confident that God was capable of delivering them, they also acknowledged that God may not. After all, God is not our servant to come whenever we call Him. Furthermore, God never promised to deliver His people every single time. Sometimes, God's people are allowed to suffer as punishment for their sin (Judges 2:11-15). Sometimes God's people suffer because of the evil doings of others, as Abel did at the hands of his brother Cain (Genesis 4:8). Sometimes, God's people suffer without ever knowing the reason, as Job did also (Job 6:24).

As Christians, we will surely face troubles and persecution in our Christian journey (2 Timothy 3:12). We need to acknowledge that sometimes we may not be delivered from these troubles. However, that does not mean that God is far from us. Sometimes God allows us to suffer for our own benefit (James 1:2-4). Sometimes, God has something better prepared for us at the end of our trouble (Romans 8:28). Despite our suffering, we know that God is always watching and He will ensure that we do not suffer anything that is beyond our ability to overcome (1 Corinthians 10:13).

## **3. Commitment**

The 3 men were confident that God was able to deliver them; they acknowledged that God may not deliver them; but regardless whether God saves them or not, they proclaimed that they would never bow down to the idol. What faith! They were committed to obey God no matter the circumstances. They were even prepared to die for God. Unfortunately, some give up on God when they go through adversities (Matthew 13:20-21). Men of faith in the Bible follow God in spite of their adversities.

We need to commit ourselves to God regardless of the circumstances. We ought not follow God only when we receive blessings. We know that God will take care of us if we seek His kingdom first (Matthew 6:33). However, that does not mean that our life will be free from trouble. Jesus taught that all who follow Him must be prepared to deny themselves and take up their own cross (Luke 9:23). Why do Christians still trust in God when He allows us to go through suffering? We remain committed to God because we are assured of Him.

We are assured of God's reality, and of the reward that awaits all who suffer for His cause. We know that our heavenly reward will far outweigh any earthly suffering that we face now (2 Corinthians 4:17-18). Therefore, Paul affirms:

*"For the which cause I also suffer these things: nevertheless I am not ashamed: for I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day" (2 Timothy 1:12)*



### **Welcome to the family of God!**



We rejoice over the baptism of **bro Lawrence Sia** on Sunday! He and his wife, **sis Precious**, will be placing their membership with LAP. Let's give them a warm welcome! Their particulars are as follows:

Name: Lawrence Chui Sia  
Birth date: 7 Sep 1982  
Email: lawrenceCsia@yahoo.com

Name: Precious Gomez Sia  
Birth date: 21 Feb 1983  
Email: precgomez@yahoo.com

### **Guests last week**

1. Sis Jenny (*LCOC*)
2. Sis Mabel
3. Sis Novie (*sis Jonalyn's friend*)
4. Alexis Lim (*bro Samuel's wife*)
5. Bryan Chan (*sis Chee Ming's son*)
6. Shang Loh (*sis Farah's friend*)
7. Mervyn Chua (*sis Sydney's friend*)
8. Gan Sok Ting  
(*bro Reuben's friend*)
9. Meyske (*sis Debbie's helper*)
10. Shalen (*sis Seow Hui's helper*)
11. Isaiah (*Cheshire Home*)

### **Clothing Collection**

**Please contribute and bring your clothing to LAP on 8 December (not earlier or later)** for our brethren in the Philippines who were affected by the recent earthquakes.

### **Travelling (Pray for safety)**

1. **Bro Wee Sin & family** will be travelling to Taiwan from 27 Nov - 7 Dec. They will be worshipping at Taichung COC next Sunday.
2. **Bro Nicodemus & family** in Perth till 25 Nov
3. **Bro Kwan** in China till 3 Dec
4. **Sis Sarah** in Hong Kong & Japan till 7 Dec

# Bible Curriculum

- of the month -

## December 2019

Sunday	1 Dec	8 Dec	15 Dec	22 Dec	29 Dec
Worship Sermon	Gospel Meeting	Bridging the Gaps in the Church			
	Where Am I Going?	Between Leaders and Followers	Between Workers and Idlers	Between Different Personalities	Between Different Cliques
	Billy Bland	Michael Yeo	Ernest Lau	Ernest Lau	Benjamin Kwan
Adult Class		Nehemiah - A Champion Builder for God	Esther - A Champion of Courage	Peter - A Champion of Spiritual Growth	Paul - A Champion of Evangelism
	Glen Tattersall	Low Chong Ping		Reuben Lim	
Young Adult Class	Psalms Benjamin Kwan				
Foundation Class	Christian Living – Christians in the Workplace/School Ong Jun Wei				
Upper Primary Class	The Christian Life Is A New Life	Learning to Give	God Rewards Faithful Service	Being Strong in Weakness	Examine Yourself
	Sharyl				
Lower Primary Class	Wise Parents and Happy Children	A Soldier Full of Faith	The Little Daughter who Died	When He Opened the Book	A Mother who Asked for Crumbs
	Fong Yoke				
Nursery Class	Peter Teaches Cornelius	Peter in Prison Again	Following Jesus Through Godly Living	Following Jesus in Times of Persecution	Review
	Seow Hui				
Cradle Roll	Creation Candice				
Thursday	5 Dec	12 Dec	19 Dec	26 Dec	
Adult Class	"The Death and Burial of Jesus" (John 19:16-42)	"The Empty Tomb" (John 20:1-10)	"The Witnesses of Jesus' Resurrection" (John 20:11-21:14)	"Lovest Thou Me?" (John 21:15-25)	
	Timothy Ng				
Children Class	First Murder	First Man to be Taken by God to Paradise Without Dying	First Shipbuilder (Recorded in Scripture)	First Skyscraper	
Primary	Peck Lian				
Nursery	Melissa				





## Thursday Bible Class

### Gospel Meeting

"Who Am I?"

by Roger Campbell

## Next Sunday's Sermon

### Gospel Meeting

"Where Am I Going?"

by bro Billy Bland

### Birthdays this week

24 Nov (Sun) – Susan Ng

25 Nov (Mon) – Angel

26 Nov (Tue) – Jong Wah

27 Nov (Wed) – Chong Ping

28 Nov (Thu) – Lilian

29 Nov (Fri) - Dexter



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

# PRAYER REQUESTS

## Overseas

- *Bro Kenneth Liong & sis Iris* in San Francisco
- *Bro Jonathan & sis Joan, bro Jeshua & sis Farah* in UK
- *Sis Shuan Kwee* in Hong Kong

## Health

- *Sis Baby's* health
- *Sis Suan Kiang's, sis Linda's & sis Poh Im's* health
- *Bro David Sum's father's* recovery from spine surgery
- *Sis Jasmine Lim's mother's* recovery from fractured ankle
- *Bro Roberto's son's* recovery from kidney stones
- *Bro Kenneth Quek's* recovery from his knee surgery
- *Bro Soo Ping's* recovery from his spine surgery

## Pregnancy

- Sis Olivia (Dec/Jan), sis Jasmine Chan (Mar), sis Wenyu (Apr)

## NSF

- Bro Titus, bro Shawn, bro Zachary, bro Wei Xiang

## MEN-TO-SERVE SCHEDULE

Morning Worship @ 9.30am		24-Nov-19	1-Dec-19	8-Dec-19
Song Leader		Jeremy Kwan	Ernest Lau	Jeremy Kwan
Opening Prayer Leader		Peter Chin	Benjamin Tan	Kenneth Quek
Preacher		Tim Burroughs	Billy Bland	Michael Yeo
Lord's Supper Text		Mar 14:22-25	Mat 26:26-29	Isa 53:4-9
Lord's Supper Servers	Scripture Reader	Gordon Loo	Shawn Wong	Axel Chee
	Prayer: Bread	Wong Sek Hoong	Chua Kian Hong	Alvin Chan
	Prayer: Fruit of Vine	John Goh	Reuben Lim	Melvin Tan
	Prayer: Offering	Andy Lin	Farand Lim	Martyn Gostelow
	Server	James Mira	Ng Wei Jie	Yew Tian Geng
Announcer		Benjamin Kwan	Timothy Ng	Benjamin Tan
Greeters		Wang Tingwei Teo Kim Tian	Shum Chee Ming Lim Poh Im	Sharyl Lau Wang Ting Pei
Evening Worship @ 7pm				
Song Leader & O.P.		Ernest Lau	Jimmy Lau	Benjamin Kwan
Speaker		Reuben Lim	Alvin Chan	Jimmy Lau
Lord's Supper, Giving & C.P.		Ong Jun Wei	Lim Poh Teng	Gavin Cheah
Thursday Service @ 7.45pm			28-Nov-19	5-Dec-19
Song Leader			Gospel Meeting	Benjamin Kwan
Opening Prayer Leader				Kenneth Quek
Teacher				Timothy Ng
Closing Prayer Leader				Charlie Teo