

**8 September
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

Combined Youth Fellowship

**21 SEP, SAT | 10AM-3PM
LAPCOC**



**SING
UNTO
THE
LORD**

Psalms 13:6

*Please make payment of \$4
to Ser Ern for bento lunch
by 8 Sep.*



Elder's exhortation

by bro Jimmy Lau

1Th 3:5 For this cause, when I could no longer forbear, I sent to know your faith, lest by some means the tempter have tempted you, and our labour be in vain.

The devil is called the tempter. The job of the tempter is to tempt. And he is an expert in doing it. His first target was mother Eve and he was successful (Gen 3: 1-6). He used a loose woman to tempt young Joseph but that young man ran away from the temptress (Gen 39:7-12). He used another temptress to seduce mighty Samson. That outwardly strong man was weak inside and he succumbed to the temptress' temptation (Judg 16:1-21).

Satan cannot read our minds; he is not like God. But he can see our weakness. In the book of Job, we see him walking up and down the earth (Job 1:7). Why was he doing that? He was observing mankind and like a lion, targeting his prey: **Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour** (1 Pet 5:8).

The early Christians were under many persecutions. In persecutions, people are tempted to apostatize from God, in order to avoid suffering. In afflictions of other kinds, Satan often tempts the sufferer to murmur and complain; to charge God with harshness and partiality. Even in good times, we can be sure the tempter is not far off for he knows the hearts of men will be lifted up and deny God (Pro 30:9; Jer 22:21). Hence, he piles them with riches and the lust of the flesh.

In all times of affliction, as well as in prosperity, we may be sure that "the tempter" is not far off, and we should be on our guard against his wiles. It is possible to resist the devil; he is not that powerful that we cannot overcome him: **Resist the devil, and he will flee from you** (James 4:7).

Everyone has some weak points, but not everyone has the same weak points. Some may have a weakness for alcohol, drugs, or tobacco. For others, it may be gambling, money, women or pornography. Some have to do with behaviour: anger, worry,

selfishness, jealousy, pride, covetous, hatred, unforgiving attitude and etc. The devil is very good at finding and exploiting people's weak points. Do you know your weak points?

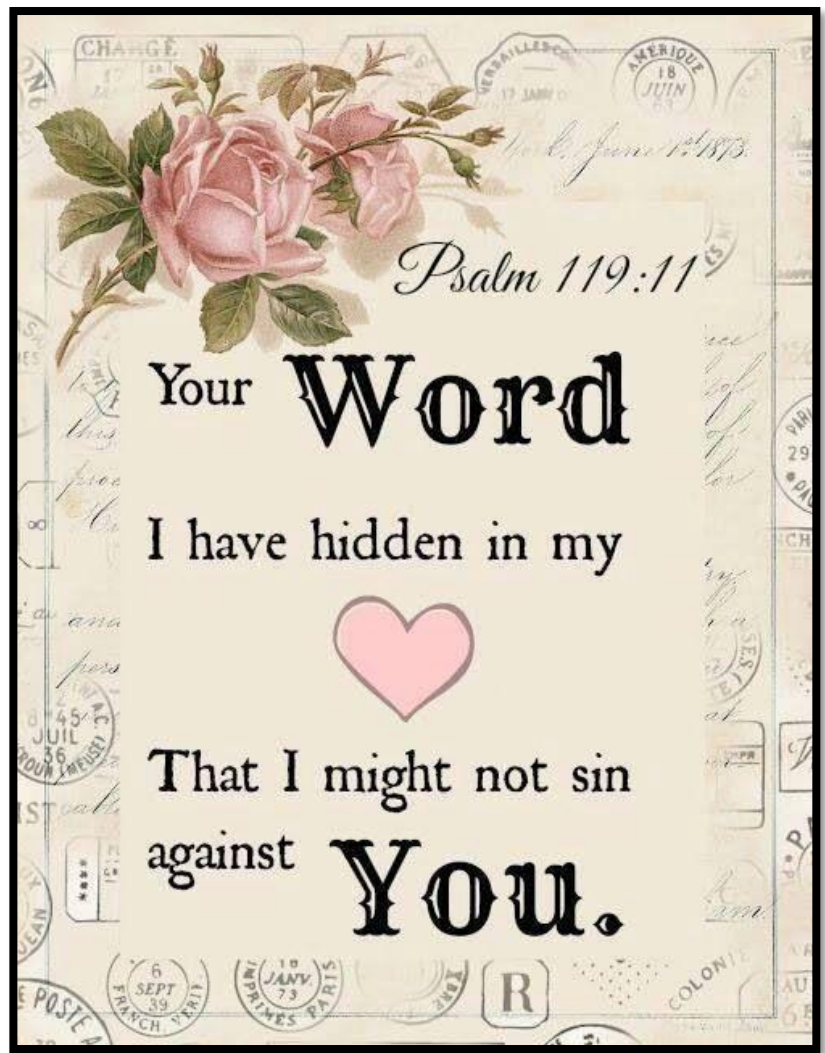
Before the act of sin, a seed is sown, and there must be an environment for it to take root and grow in. What is sown in the mind will come forth in action. Anger is not just a thought; it will reveal itself in angry words and fighting. Selfishness is not simply a personal attitude; it reveals itself in uncaring, unloving actions, and it causes strifes and back-biting. A sexual thought will result in a sexual act. Jesus is right when he said: **"But those things which proceed out of the mouth come forth from the heart; and they defile the man. For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies,"** (Matt 15:18-19).

"Sow a thought and you reap an action. Sow an action and you reap a habit. Sow a habit and you reap a character. Sow a character and you reap a destiny."

James says: **"But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed. Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death,"** (James 1:14-15).

Control our lusts and we control much of the temptations. The only way to avoid temptation is not to go near it. Why accept a certain job when you know temptations are abundant in that kind of job?

As Peter warned: **Let us be sober and vigilant**" (1 Pet 5:8). A sober mind is a clear mind that knows what he can do and what he cannot and must not do. Therefore, it is important to fill our minds with godly things that we may overcome temptations: **Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee** (Psalm 119:11).



From the Brotherhood



Who is Closer to God?

Adapted from Bob Pulliam

(<https://lavistachurchofchrist.org/LVarticles/WholsCloserToGod.htm>)

Now don't get me wrong! This is not a contest mentality being advocated here. But the question does enter my mind. I surfed over a channel the other day where people had the lights dimmed low, all were holding candles and swaying while singing *Alleluia*. I'm not trying to poke fun at anyone ... this is a serious question that I believe is worthy of consideration ... Do we not get close to God with the lights on? Do we not get close to God if we do not violate Fire Marshal's ordinances and light hundreds of candles? Do we not get close to God if we do not sway and close our eyes while we sing? I'm serious!

Let me give you a simple, and realistic scenario here. Someone comes to worship with us on Sunday morning, and we sing *Alleluia*. The lights are on, eyes are open, and no one is swaying. That same visitor goes across town on Sunday evening and sings the same song with the lights off, candles lit, eyes closed, bodies swaying. The visitor goes away saying, "I felt so much closer to God this evening than I did this morning." Are you with me on this? ... I don't like to be critical, but there is more than one vital problem here. Let me lay them out for you:



1. This person bases "closeness" to God on feelings. Would you find that in the Bible for me? Where did people in the Bible seek a relationship with God based on emotion? The Bible does speak of the heart in our service to God, but did you know that the emotions are only a fraction of what the word heart refers to in Scripture? About one-fourth to be more precise ... The heart refers to the intellect

of man (Matthew 9:4; Mark 2:8); the will of man (II Corinthians 9:7; I Corinthians 7:37); the conscience of man (Acts 2:37); and the emotions (which I doubt that we need to give Scripture for, since that seems to be all some people see in this word ... but here's one, Psalms 33:21).

2. This person cannot "get close" to God without external stimulation. That's not just wrong — that's pitiful. Now you can call this judging all you want, but such does not erase the fact that this person needs external stimuli to feel close to God! I can understand how someone can be moved by external stimuli; but being moved by such does not make one closer to God. It just makes you feel closer! Buddhist monks are around darkened rooms and candles every day; but it doesn't make them better people, or closer to any so-called deity.
3. This person will not allow the true basis of being close to God as a guide for their lives. They think that basis is emotion; but the Bible says otherwise. They think that their emotions are God calling them and drawing them, and is evidence of their "knowing the Lord". John wrote, *"Now by this we know that we know Him, if we keep His commandments."* (I John 2:3) By what do we "know Him"? The way we feel? John went on to write, *"He who says, 'I know Him,' and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him."* (I John 2:4) But didn't Jesus say, *"No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him; and I will raise him up at the last day."*? (John 6:44) We commonly hear people talk about how God was calling them in this way or that way. They will go to this verse to verify their conviction. But wait! Read the next verse: *"It is written in the prophets, 'And they shall all be taught by God.' Therefore everyone who has heard and learned from the Father comes to Me."* (John 6:45). How does God draw people? By hearing and learning, not emotional feelings. Consider the conversions in Acts for a moment. Which of those cases ever involved God calling through emotions? Shouldn't that tell you something?

The danger here is very great. *"Faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God."* (Romans 10:17). Faith based on feelings has these warnings to contend with: *"He who trust in his own heart is a fool."* (Proverbs 28:26). *"There is a way that seemeth right to a man, but the end thereof is the way of death."* (Proverbs 14:12). *"I know, O Lord, that a man's way is not in himself, nor is it in a man who walks to direct his own steps."* (Jeremiah 10:23) *"Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths."* (Proverbs 3:5) Feeling saved, or good about one's self is dangerous business (Matthew 7:21-23). Our feelings should be based on our faithfully fulfilling the word of God. By this we will know that we know Him, and our joy may rest in truth, rather than subjective feelings.

WEEKLY NEWS



Bereavement

Our deepest condolences to **sis Phuong** over the loss of her husband, bro Philip Vanwinkle, on 2 September. Please pray for the bereaving family as they grieve over the loss of their loved one.

Special Collection

There will be a special collection **TODAY** for bro Lamhot's wife, who has stage 4 kidney failure, to support her treatment in Jakarta.

Contribution for the building fund for Commonwealth church of Christ, Philippines

Please pass your contributions to Ernest or Ser Ern by **TODAY**.

Annual General Meeting

The response summary is pinned on the noticeboard.

Guests last week

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. Sis Julia Ng (<i>Wahfu COC, HK</i>) | 7. Joycelin Tok (<i>bro Gideon's friend</i>) |
| 2. Sis Jenny (<i>Lavender COC</i>) | 8. Adhi (<i>sis Stephanie's friend</i>) |
| 3. Bro Paul & sis Ivy (<i>sis Baby's family</i>) | 9. Meyske (<i>sis Debbie's helper</i>) |
| 4. Sis Irene Kwek | 10. Sulis (<i>sis Baby's helper</i>) |
| 5. Kenny Kee (<i>sis Debbie's husband</i>) | 11. Lay Lay (<i>sis Lydia's helper</i>) |
| 6. Alexis Lim (<i>bro Samuel's wife</i>) | 12. Tan Kwang Han |

UPCOMING EVENTS

MARK IN YOUR CALENDAR!

Youth Fellowship

Date & Time: **TODAY** @ 1.30pm-3pm

Venue: LAPCOC

Come relax and get to know one another better over icebreaker games!

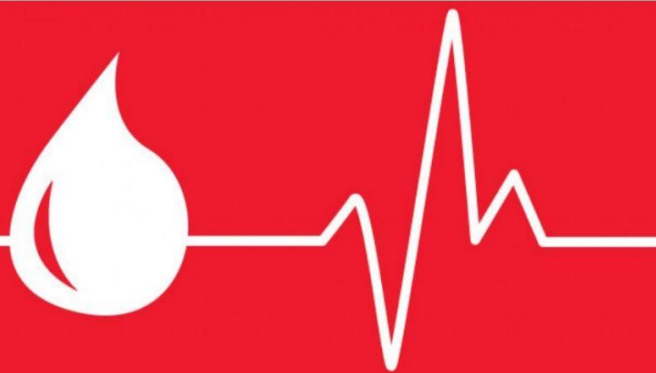
ORGANISED BY
JURONG CHURCH OF CHRIST
120 Boon Lay Drive Singapore 649924

BLOOD DRIVE

Give Blood. Give Life.

14 Sep @ 11am - 5pm

Sign up in the hall by 8 Sep!

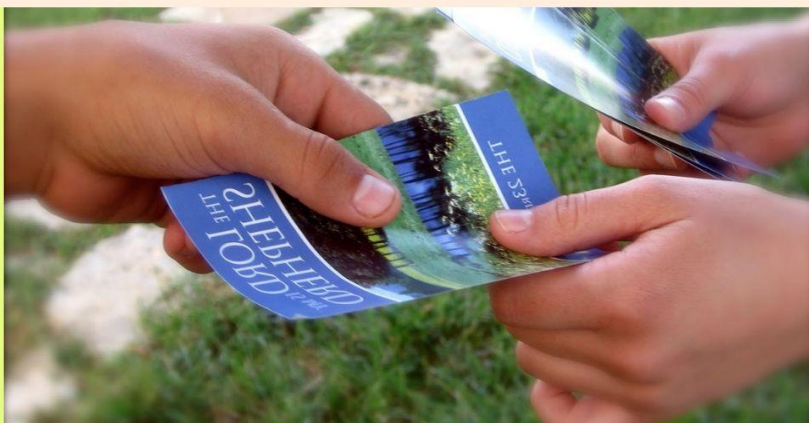


ALL MEN ARE INVITED! ANNOUNCER TRAINING

22 Sep @ 1.30pm @ LAP
by Peter Chin

TRACTING

21 SEP @ 4.30PM
@ BLK 110 Hougang
Ave 1



EVANGELISM SUNDAY

29 SEP @ 9.30AM @ LAP
"DO I NEED TO BE BAPTISED?"
BY ALVIN LIN





Thursday Bible Class

"Jesus Prepares for His Betrayal"

(John 13:18-38)

by bro Jimmy Lau

Next Sunday's Sermon

"True, Good & Beautiful!"

by bro Ong Eng Boon

Birthdays this week

8 Sep (Sun) – Doris

9 Sep (Mon) – Titus

11 Sep (Wed) – Annie Chee

14 Sep (Sat) - Capi



Please send any news & prayer requests to

limahpincoc@gmail.com

PRAYER REQUESTS

Rezoning

We are presently in the process of applying to have our premises rezoned for worship. Please pray for the success of this project!

Overseas

- **Bro Kenneth Liong and sis Iris** in San Francisco
- **Bro Jonathan & sis Joan** in UK
- **Sis Shuan Kwee** in Hong Kong
- **Bro Jeshua** in Switzerland (till 27 Sep) and UK (till 30 Apr'20)

Health

- **Sis Suan Kiang's & sis Linda's** health
- **Bro Wee Sin's** recovery from surgery for his right shoulder tendon
- **Bro David Sum's father's** recovery from spine surgery
- The health of **Justina** (sister-in-law of sis Tuan Sang)

Pregnancy

- Sis Olivia (Dec/Jan)

NSF

- Bro Titus, bro Shawn, bro Zachary

MEN-TO-SERVE SCHEDULE

Morning Worship @ 9.30am		8-Sep-19	15-Sep-19	22-Sep-19
Song Leader		Jimmy Lau	Isaac Chua	Jeremy Kwan
Opening Prayer Leader		Peter Chin	Victor Lee	Low Chong Ping
Preacher		Low Chong Ping	Ong Eng Boon	Danny Poo
Lord's Supper Text		1 Cor 11:23-29	Mar 14:22-25	Mat 26:26-29
Lord's Supper Servers	<i>Scripture Reader</i>	Gordon Loo	Titus Goh	Zachary Ling
	<i>Prayer: Bread</i>	Soo Kok Leong	Kenneth Quek	Martyn Gostelow
	<i>Prayer: Fruit of Vine</i>	Lau Jeng Sang	John Goh	Chua Kian Hong
	<i>Prayer: Offering</i>	Reuben Lim	Lim Chin Siang	Ong Jun Wei
Announcer		Alvin Foo	David Sum	Leonard Chia
Greeters		Charlie Teo	Ernest Lau	Benjamin Tan
Greeters		Shum Chee Ming	Sharyl Lau	Constance Lau
Greeters		Lim Poh Im	Wang Ting Pei	Ellen Hernandez
Evening Worship @ 7pm				
Song Leader & O.P.		Benjamin Kwan	Ernest Lau	Timothy Ng
Speaker		Alvin Lin	Michael Yeo	Jerry Cheong
Lord's Supper, Giving & C.P.		Nicodemus Oey	Kenneth Quek	Henry Leow
Thursday Service @ 7.45pm				
Song Leader			12-Sep-19	19-Sep-19
Opening Prayer Leader			Ernest Lau	Benjamin Kwan
Teacher			Benjamin Tan	Henry Leow
Closing Prayer Leader			Jimmy Lau	Jimmy Lau
			Ong Jun Wei	Chua Kian Hong