

23 DECEMBER
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)

.....

Elders

Bro Jimmy Lau
Bro Lee Tian Seng
Bro Michael Yeo

Deacons

Bro Benjamin Tan
Bro Henry Leow
Bro Jerry Cheong

Preachers

Bro Alvin Lin
Bro Ernest Lau

Administrator

Sis Goh Ser Ern

THANKSGIVING DAY 2019

Let's start the new year with thanksgiving
and praise to God!



VENUE: LAP CHURCH BUILDING

DATE: 1 JANUARY 2019

TIME: 9.45 AM

**Please submit your thanksgiving slips TODAY
to sis Ser Ern via hardcopy/email/whatsapp**

*Psa 103:1 Bless the LORD, O my soul: and all that is within me,
bless his holy name.*

*Psa 103:2 Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his
benefits:*



Elder's exhortation

by bro Jimmy Lau

Jdg 13:12 And Manoah said, Now let thy words come to pass. How shall we order the child, and how shall we do unto him?

Chapter 13 of Judges tells the story of Manoah and his wife, who was barren. One day, an angel of God appeared to Manoah's wife promising that she would bear a son. Mrs Manoah had been barren since marriage and could not conceive, and she was of course very happy to hear the good news. But this good news came with a condition: her child would be a Nazarite even from his mother's womb. This means the child that was to be born would be dedicated to God from birth. Therefore, she was commanded to abstain from wine or any strong drink and unclean things. The angel of God also told her that her son would save the Israelites from the Philistines (Judg 13:1-5).

The happy Mrs Manoah told her husband about the good news. The happy husband prayed to God that the angel could come again to them and teach them what they should do to bring up the child (Judg 13:8). This child was not an ordinary child and since he came with special instructions, he wanted to know the "*operating manual*." A Batmobile is not an ordinary car and if you are given one, you will surely want to read the operating manual before you hop in and start the engine. In the same way, Manoah wanted to know the special instructions that should come with the special child.

The angel of God appeared to them and Manoah asked: "**How shall we order the child, and how shall we do unto him?**" (Judg 13:12).

This anxious would-be father wanted to know how to bring up the child. Every would-be new parent has the same anxiety. They will start to read books about bringing up children even if they have not been reading books before. It shows the responsibilities of soon-to-be parents.

Parents, we brought our children into the world; we should be concerned how we bring them up in the world. Every child comes with an instruction manual. Do you know how to bring up your child?

Every responsible Christian parent has to train the child in moral principles that will carry them through their lives: **“Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it”** (Pro 22:6).

Every Christian parent has an added responsibility to bring up their children in the teachings of the Lord: **“And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord”** (Eph 6:4).

“The best safeguard of the child is the consecration of the parent.” (Homilies By A.F. Muir, Pulpit Comm).

The best gift a parent can give to their children is an example of godliness and holiness. We want our children to grow up to be fine young men and women and we have to show them by our example. If that they see their father and mother are always quarrelling, they will learn likewise; it is difficult for such parents to tell their children not to quarrel. If parents do not read their bibles, they will bring up children who do not read their bibles.

“What shall be the ordering of the child?” is Manoah’s prayer. He knows that a child’s way needs ordering. It is well for us to be concerned with this same question. What to do with children? How to order their lives? The special method of training for the child Samson is described in the words, **“The child shall be a Nazarite unto God”** (Judg 13:5). The training starts from the mother: The mother is to drink no strong drink nor eat any unclean thing. Her son is to be trained in the same rigid abstinence.

Likewise, the training of a child starts from the mother. I have heard beautiful stories of how some mothers will play classical music to the babies in their wombs. Some of our sisters sing Christian choruses to the babies in their wombs. Some even read bible stories to them. Parents must remember that all children need training (Pro 22:6). The training of children must begin early; as early as when the child is in the womb. Don’t wait until the child is such and such years old; often times, it is too late.

Every godly parent should have this in mind that the supreme end of the training of children should be to fit them for the service of God. Samson is to be trained for God. Children should be regarded as God’s gift from their birth, and as only lent by Him: **“Behold, children are a heritage from the LORD, the fruit of the womb a reward”** (Psa 127:3). Therefore, we are to return the children to God in *“good condition.”*

The chief responsibility of the training of children rests on their parents. It is a work that cannot be delegated to teachers, or the church. Don’t blame the system or the church if a child turns wayward. His first school is in the home and his continuing education is still in the home. And parents, we are responsible for everything that happens in the home.

Let us be concerned with these questions: **“How shall we order the child, and how shall we do unto him?”** Are you doing right for your children?



Preacher's exhortation

Obadiah's Difficulty

by bro Ernest Lau

In the Old Testament passage of 1 Kings 18:3-14, we read of a man by the name of Obadiah. This is not the prophet Obadiah who wrote the book of Obadiah. This Obadiah was a governor in the wicked King Ahab's house. However, Obadiah was a God-fearing man, and when Queen Jezebel sought to destroy the Lord's prophets, Obadiah secretly hid them in caves and provided them with food and water. What a courageous man of God, to go against the king and queen! But Obadiah was afraid of something.

In comes Elijah. Elijah was the man that King Ahab was most angry with, and Ahab really wanted to kill Elijah. Elijah met Obadiah and told him that he wanted to see King Ahab. He wanted Obadiah to go and call King Ahab over. Obadiah was afraid! He was afraid that Elijah might not keep his promise and instead disappear somewhere, which will get Obadiah into big trouble! Elijah reassured Obadiah that he would not disappear.

1. A BROKEN PROMISE

Obadiah was not afraid to defy the king and queen; but he was afraid of a broken promise. He was afraid that Elijah would not keep his word. He was not the only one. The apostle Paul, a stalwart of the faith, was also hurt by a broken promise. His companion, John Mark, who was supposed to minister to the group's needs on their missionary journey, deserted them and returned home. The adverse effect that this incident had on Paul was such that he even quarrelled with Barnabas, and absolutely refused to give John Mark a second chance to follow them again (Acts 15:36-40).

We can probably empathize with Obadiah and Paul. Perhaps we had trusted somebody to perform his duty, but he neglected it. Perhaps we were counting on somebody to be present for an important function, but he did not turn up. It hurts! Such incidents cause us to be wary against trusting others. Seeing the adverse impact broken promises can have, we should not break our promises to others either!

2. A GOD-GIVEN PROMISE

Fortunately, we have a God who always keeps His promises. Men are susceptible to breaking their promises; but not God. As Moses said, *“God is not a man, that he should lie; neither the son of man, that he should repent: hath he said, and shall he not do it? or hath he spoken, and shall he not make it good?”* (Numbers 23:19). We are reminded of the great promise that God made to Abraham and Sarah, that out of Abraham would come a great nation, and descendants as numerous as the “stars of the heaven” (Genesis 12:1-3; 22:17-18). Abraham and Sarah waited a long time for God to fulfil His promise. Nevertheless, God kept His promise; Abraham welcomed His son Isaac at an old age of 100.

God has made promises to us as well. Jesus promised that He will come again to receive us into His Father’s house (John 14:1-3). Jesus assures us of a better place after this miserable earthly life! That is not merely a possibility, it is a promise! However, we do not know the exact date of His coming (2 Peter 3:9). Do we believe in God’s promise? Have we made ourselves ready for His coming?

3. A CHRISTIAN’S PROMISE

Just as God always keeps His promises, He expects His people to do the same. Since the Old Testament times, God has laid down that those who do not perform their vows are committing sin (Deuteronomy 23:21). Likewise Christians must keep our word: *“let your yea be yea; and your nay, nay; lest ye fall into condemnation”* (James 5:12). If we had said yes, we had better mean it! Therefore Christians must do our best to keep our promises, even though we may be tempted to renege on it. Seeing the importance of keeping our word, we must refrain from making rash promises, as Jephthah did (Judges 11:30-31). God will judge us for every idle word that proceeds from our mouths (Matthew 12:36).

Perhaps the most important promise we made to God was the one we made at our baptism. When we were baptized, we were “baptized into the name of the Lord Jesus” (Acts 19:5 ASV) i.e. we are baptized into the authority of Jesus. Therefore by submitting ourselves to water baptism, we are submitting ourselves to Jesus’ authority. It is a promise to no longer serve ourselves, but instead serve Jesus. Have we kept our promise to Jesus?

Obadiah, the one who defied the wicked king and queen, was afraid of a broken promise. Broken promises cause hurt and distrust. Thankfully, we have a God above who never breaks His promises. He has promised eternal life to all who are faithful to Him. Let us also be keepers of our promises, and above all, let us keep our promise to Jesus, to obey Him and to serve Him all the days of our life.

WEEKLY NEWS



Glorification Meeting

Date: 30 Dec 2018, Sun

Time: 12.30pm

All men are required to attend this meeting.

Travelling (Pray for safety)

1. **Sis Tingwei** in Tasmania, Australia, till today
2. **Bro Peter & sis Pooi Fun** in Perth till 30 Dec.
3. **Sis Olivia** in Germany till 1 Jan
4. **Bro Justin & sis Bernice** in Central Asia till 2 Jan
5. **Sis Michelle** in Vietnam for immersion program till 3 Jan.
6. Those travelling in Malaysia:
 - **Bro Michael Yeo and sis Kwee Eng** till 25 Dec & 29 Dec respectively.
 - **Bro John, bro Alvin Lin, bro Jeshua, bro Alan & sis Elsa** till 26 Dec.
 - **Bro Paul Lim, sis Siew Siew & Elisha** till 26 Dec
 - **Bro Kwan and sis Sew Hua** till 31 Dec. Bro Kwan is holding an intensive disciple training class for 5 days in Klang COC, preaching in Klang, Subang & Section 17 COC on Sundays.

Health

Please pray for the quick recovery of the following:

1. **Bro Wei Xiang** from his fractured arm
2. **Sis Susan Ng** from hives
3. **Sis Candice** from her neck pain as well as injuries to her elbow & leg

Guests last week

1. Bro Daniel & sis Kimberly Coble (*Mount Grove COC, Missouri*)
2. Sis Joann Lee (*Central North COC, Australia*)
3. Bro Ivan Kwek
4. Sis Jia Xin (*Jurong COC, Singapore*)
5. Kenny Kee (*sis Debbie's husband*)
6. Alexis Lim (*bro Samuel's wife*)
7. Meyske (*sis Debbie's helper*)

UPCOMING EVENTS

MARK IN YOUR CALENDAR!

ESCAPE 2018

31 DEC, MON | 8.30PM | LAP

DEADLINE: TONIGHT 12 MIDNIGHT



JOIN US FOR A WALK IN THE GARDEN
AND A PICNIC
BOND OVER
5TH JAN 2019 (SAT), 9AM - 12.30PM
GARDENS BY THE BAY (BAY EAST)

让我们在**2019年1月5日**，
星期六，早上**9点**至**12点半**，
一起到滨海东花园去
郊游野餐吧！



NEWS



Thursday Bible Class

The Need for Understanding

by bro Timothy Ng

Birthday of the week

24 Dec (Mon) –

Kwan Tai Choom

25 Dec (Tue) – Sara Wu

29 Dec (Sat) - Iris



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 & bro Soon Heng's** health
- **Sis Shermin's grandmother's** health
- **Sis Germaine's** recovery from her anterior cruciate ligament (ACL) surgery.

Pregnancy

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

NSF

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

MEN-TO-SERVE SCHEDULE

Morning Worship @ 9.30am		23-Dec-18	30-Dec-18	6-Jan-19
Song Leader		Amos Yang	Benedict Yo	Alvin Lin
Opening Prayer Leader		Danny Poo	Peter Chin	Lee Tian Seng
Psalms Text		Psa 81:1-16	Psa 82:1-8	
Preacher		Benjamin Tan	Ernest Lau	Jimmy Lau
Lord's Supper Text		Isa 53:4-9	Php 2:5-11	1 Cor 11:23-29
Lord's Supper Servers	Scripture Reader	Axel Chee	Nicodemus Oey	Shawn Wong
	Prayer: Bread	Victor Lee	Henry Chee	Farand Lim
	Prayer: Fruit of Vine	Kenneth Quek	Paul Lim	Ling Leong Dak
	Prayer: Offering	Joel Lee	Charlie Teo	Alan Poon
	Assistant	Jose Cardoza	Ng Wei Xiang	Melvin Tan
Foundation Class		Arthur Yap	Lau Jeng Sang	Benjamin Tan
Announcer		Timothy Ng	Alvin Lin	Ernest Lau
Greeters		Lim Poh Im Shum Chee Ming	Ludina Carrido Susan Cheong	Wang Tingwei Teo Kim Tian
Evening Worship @ 7pm				
Song Leader & O.P.		Benedict Yo	Timothy Ng	Benedict Yo
Speaker		Lee Tian Seng	Jerry Cheong	Ernest Lau
Lord's Supper, Giving & C.P.		Ling Leong Dak	Martyn Gostelow	Benjamin Tan
Thursday Service @ 7.45pm				
Song Leader			Andy Lin	Jeshua Lin
Opening Prayer Leader			Peter Kwan	Peter Chin
Closing Prayer Leader			Reuben Lim	Benjamin Tan