

11 August 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)

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Elders

Bro Jimmy Lau
Bro Michael Yeo

Deacons

Bro Benjamin Tan
Bro Jerry Cheong

Preacher

Bro Ernest Lau

Administrator

Sis Goh Ser Ern



Tea and Time IN GOD'S WORD

Join us for a session on
Making & Maintaining Friendships

Date: 17th August 2019

Time: 2 pm - 3:30 pm
(together with tea)

Venue: LAPCOC Auditorium

*R.S.V.P sisters Katie, Chee Ming & Guek Hoon
before 16th August 2019*





Elder's exhortation

by bro Jimmy Lau

Rom 15:2 *Let every one of us please his neighbour for his good to edification.*

“Each one of us, let him please not himself, but his neighbour, as regards what is good, with a view to edification.” Paul lays down two principles for the Christians regarding their conduct:

1. Christians must not please themselves. (Rom 15:1)
2. Christians must please their brethren. (Rom 15:2)

1. Christians must not please themselves. (Rom 15:1)

The first lesson we have to learn is to deny ourselves, (Matt 16:24). Self-denial is difficult in this world that is filled with selfishness. Many are here to seek their own happiness. They make seeking their own happiness their supreme objective in life. In the search for happiness, who cares about pleasing others? They have to please themselves first. Whatever pleases them will make them happy.

Paul commended Timothy for his willingness to make the sacrifice to go to Philippi when others would not. He said: “**For all seek their own, not the things which are Jesus Christ's**” (Phil 2:21). Perhaps Paul had proposed to some of them to go and visit the church at Philippi, and they had declined it citing various reasons. But not Timothy!

The self-pleasers think only of their own happiness and the things that please them. The self-pleasers say: “I’m tired; ask others to do it.” “I’m not edified.” “I don’t like the way it is done.” “I don’t feel uplifted in worship.”

The principle of self-denial means one will do a certain thing even if it is not convenient and even when he does not like it. Such a Christian does not think of his own comfort and happiness but the happiness of others. This brings me to the second principle of Christian conduct.

2. Christians must please their brethren.

The word “please” comes from the Greek word “areskō” which means (quoting from Thayer’s Greek Lexicon):

1) to please

2) to strive to please

2a) to accommodate one’s self to the opinions desires and interests of others.

To please our brethren is to accommodate their weakness. Clarke wrote: *“For it should be a maxim with each of us to do all in our power to please our brethren; and especially in those things in which their spiritual edification is concerned. Though we should not indulge men in mere whims and caprices, yet we should bear with their ignorance and their weakness, knowing that others had much to bear with from us before we came to our present advanced state of religious knowledge.”* (Clarke Comm).

Paul says it all: **“We then that are strong ought to bear the infirmities of the weak, and not to please ourselves”** (Rom 15:1). This is NOT to accommodate their sins and errors but their weaknesses (infirmities) and ignorance. The Hebrews write says: **“Let us consider one another,”** (Heb 10:24). He means, let us think of one another and not just of self.

The apostle Paul says: **“Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others”** (Phil 2:4). To say it in a crude manner, he is saying: “Don’t be selfish; think of others.”

Paul gave the example of Christ as one who does not please Himself (Rom 15:3). The self-denial of our Lord Jesus is the best argument against the selfishness of Christians; Christ pleased not Himself. **“The reproaches of those that reproached thee fell on me.”** This is quoted from Psalm 69:9. It means Christ bore whatever dishonour, insults, blasphemies that should have been borne by us. Every sin is a kind of reproach to God; they fell upon Christ, when He was made sin, that is, a sacrifice, a sin-offering for us. He bore the guilt of sin and the curse for it. He said by implication: *“Upon me be the curse.”* (Gal 3:13). Christ bore the reproaches of those that reproached God.

Christ was willing to suffer reproach and contempt in order to do good to others; how about us? Are we willing to **endure** for the sake of our brethren? It’s like a leader who tells his men: “Don’t worry, anything goes wrong, I’ll be responsible.” He is willing to take all the blame. He is willing to take all the reproaches, insults and consequences.

Think less of self and more of others. Can we do it? JOY stands for **J**esus, **O**thers, **Y**ourself, in that order. And when you reverse the order, and put **Y**ourself first, it is no wonder you are not joyful. We rob ourselves of our JOY when we put ourselves first.

Let us put these two principles in our actions:

1. Christians must not please themselves. (Rom 15:1)
2. Christians must please their brethren. (Rom 15:2)

When we start to seek the happiness of others, we will be happy.



Christians without Churches?

Adapted from Ethan R. Longhenry

(<http://lavistachurchofchrist.org/LVarticles/ChristiansWithoutChurches.html>)

Over the past few years a trend has increased among people, especially Americans: the idea that people can be good Christians without being part of a church. Many people will recognize that Jesus is the Messiah and Lord, but yet want nothing to do with any church. This attitude fits with the independent streak that marks most Americans. Many also feel that churches are just trying to get money out of people, and they do not see the value or relevance in being part of a church.

It is too often true that churches are not living up to the call of Jesus Christ. Some churches do not teach the Bible at all, and other churches favor their traditions over what the Bible teaches. Too many other churches teach the truths of the Bible and yet do not show the love and community that God desires. Do these difficulties, however, mean that we can or should be Christians without being part of a church?

We must first understand that there can be no such thing as a "churchless Christian." In Ephesians 4:4-5, we read that there is "one body", as assuredly as there is "one faith" and "one Lord." In Ephesians 5:29-30 (and Colossians 1:18), Paul identifies that "one body" as the church; this is the body for which He gave His life (Ephesians 5:25-27). Anyone who is not a part of this "universal church" is separated from Christ, and will

not be saved! A Christian, then, that is entirely "churchless" is no Christian, and has no part in the resurrection of life!

Is it possible for a Christian to be part of the "universal" church without being identified with a local church? The Scriptures give us no reason to believe that such is possible except temporarily, such as being converted while traveling.

God desires for His people to act in certain ways, and many of these actions require a person to be part of a local church of fellow believers. God desires that His people die to self and live for others (Galatians 2:20, Philippians 2:1-4). Christians are to think more highly of others and the needs of others than of themselves and their own needs. God intended for Christians to be first concerned with the needs of their fellow Christians (Galatians 6:10, Matthew 25:31-46). How can this be done if one is not part of a local church?

God also desires that His people work together, both to strengthen each other and to further His purposes (Hebrews 10:24-25, Galatians 6:2, Acts 2:42-47). Encouragement and accountability are important aspects of the Christian faith. Christians are commanded to consider how to provoke other Christians to love and do good works and to bear each other's burdens. They are to be open and honest with one another so that they can be the best servants of God they can be. This can only happen when Christians come together and get to know each other, and the local church has been designed for this purpose.

The witness of the Scriptures is clear: God expects Christians to work together in a local church. Love for one another, encouragement to continue in the faith, and accountability are all learned in the environment of the local church. We cannot grow to be the type of Christians that please God if we attempt to do so on our own!

Yes, it is unfortunately true that too often local churches are not representing God's intentions very well. Too many churches encourage too much passive behavior and do not challenge their members to represent the community that God expects the local church to be. Just because many churches fail to live up to God's desires, however, does not mean that we are "off the hook" of the local church. God established local churches in His wisdom for our benefit. If God desired to have "maverick Christians," He could easily have done so. He recognizes, however, that we are too weak to defeat Satan by ourselves. Christians need opportunities to assemble with one another, to show love to one another, building one another up, and encouraging and exhorting each other to continue to serve God according to His will.

If you believe in God and Jesus Christ, do not deprive yourself of the love and encouragement you need and that others need from you: join us!

WEEKLY NEWS



Travelling (Pray for safety)

1. **Bro Gavin** in Malaysia till 12 Aug
2. **Sis Germaine** in Ipoh till 14 Aug
3. **Bro Tian Geng & sis Jasmine** is away till 17 Aug.

Guests last week

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| 1. Bro Menard Dator (<i>Lavender COC</i>) | 9. Sulis (<i>sis Baby's helper</i>) |
| 2. Sis Jenny (<i>Lavender COC</i>) | 10. Meyske (<i>sis Debbie's helper</i>) |
| 3. Kenny Kee (<i>sis Debbie's husband</i>) | 11. Shalen (<i>sis Seow Hui's helper</i>) |
| 4. Gan Sok Ting (<i>bro Reuben's friend</i>) | 12. Lay Lay (<i>sis Lydia's helper</i>) |
| 5. Grace Tan (<i>bro Gavin's friend</i>) | 13. Kwang Han |
| 6. Glaiza Tolentino (<i>sis Stephanie's cousin</i>) | 14. Tong Lee Lee |
| 7. Adhi (<i>Glaiza's friend</i>) | 15. Emily Esconde |
| 8. Lawrence & family (<i>sis Stephanie's friends</i>) | |

UPCOMING EVENTS

MARK IN YOUR CALENDAR!

Youth Fellowship

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

Venue: LAPCOC

Discussion: Christians and the Government



FELLOWKIDZ 2019

7 SEPT, SAT @ 11AM - 5PM

@ SIS SARAH'S HOUSE

(BLK 201C, COMPASSVALE DR,
#14-547, SINGAPORE 543201)

Mini Coffee Workshop 迷你咖啡分享会



all are welcome!



7 September 2019 (9月7日) 10:00 ~ 12:00

Venue 地点: Lim Ah Pin Church of Christ

Please sign up with Sis Ser Ern if interested
请向思恩姐妹报名或询问

Organized by Senior Fellowship Committee



Thursday Bible Class

**"Jesus' Triumphant Entry
into Jerusalem"**
(John 12:12-19)
by bro Ernest Lau

Next Sunday Sermon

**Standing Up to Fill the Gap:
Being an Evangelist**
by bro Kwan Tai Choom

Birthdays this week

12 Aug (Mon) –
Ludina & Germaine
14 Aug (Wed) – Sarah Ho
15 Aug (Thu) – Cynthia Lee
17 Aug (Sat) – Jana



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, bro Siang Yee, sis Farah** in UK
- **Sis Shuan Kwee** in Hong Kong
- **Bro Jeshua** in Switzerland (till 27 Sep) and UK (till 30 Apr'20)

Health

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

NSF

- Bro Titus, bro Shawn, bro Zachary

MEN-TO-SERVE SCHEDULE

Morning Worship @ 9.30am		11-Aug-19	18-Aug-19	25-Aug-19
Song Leader		Jimmy Lau	Jeremy Kwan	Ernest Lau
Opening Prayer Leader		Benjamin Tan	Kenneth Quek	Michael Yeo
Preacher		Michael Yeo	Kwan Tai Choom	Ernest Lau
Lord's Supper Text		Mar 14:22-25	Mat 26:26-29	Isa 53:4-9
Lord's Supper Servers	Scripture Reader	David Sum	Gavin Cheah	Shawn Wong
	Prayer: Bread	Gordon Loo	Chua Kian Hong	Martyn Gostelow
	Prayer: Fruit of Vine	Wong Sek Hoong	Roberto Pascual	Ling Leong Dak
	Prayer: Offering	Ong Jun Wei	Farand Lim	Alvin Chan
Assistant		Nicodemus Oey	Titus Goh	Melvin Tan
Announcer		Ernest Lau	Benjamin Kwan	Jimmy Lau
Greeters		Constance Lau Ellen Hernandez	Naomi Leow Christine Phang	Jonalyn Balagot Ludina Carrido
Evening Worship @ 7pm				
Song Leader & O.P.		Jeremy Kwan	Ernest Lau	Jimmy Lau
Speaker		Ong Jun Wei	Benjamin Tan	Farand Lim
Lord's Supper, Giving & C.P.		Ernest Lau	Martyn Gostelow	Ling Leong Dak
Thursday Service @ 7.45pm				
Song Leader			15-Aug-19	22-Aug-19
Opening Prayer Leader			James Mira	Jimmy Lau
Teacher			Henry Leow	Low Chong Ping
Closing Prayer Leader			Ernest Lau	Ernest Lau
			Melvin Tan	Gavin Cheah