

**23 February  
2020**

# 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**

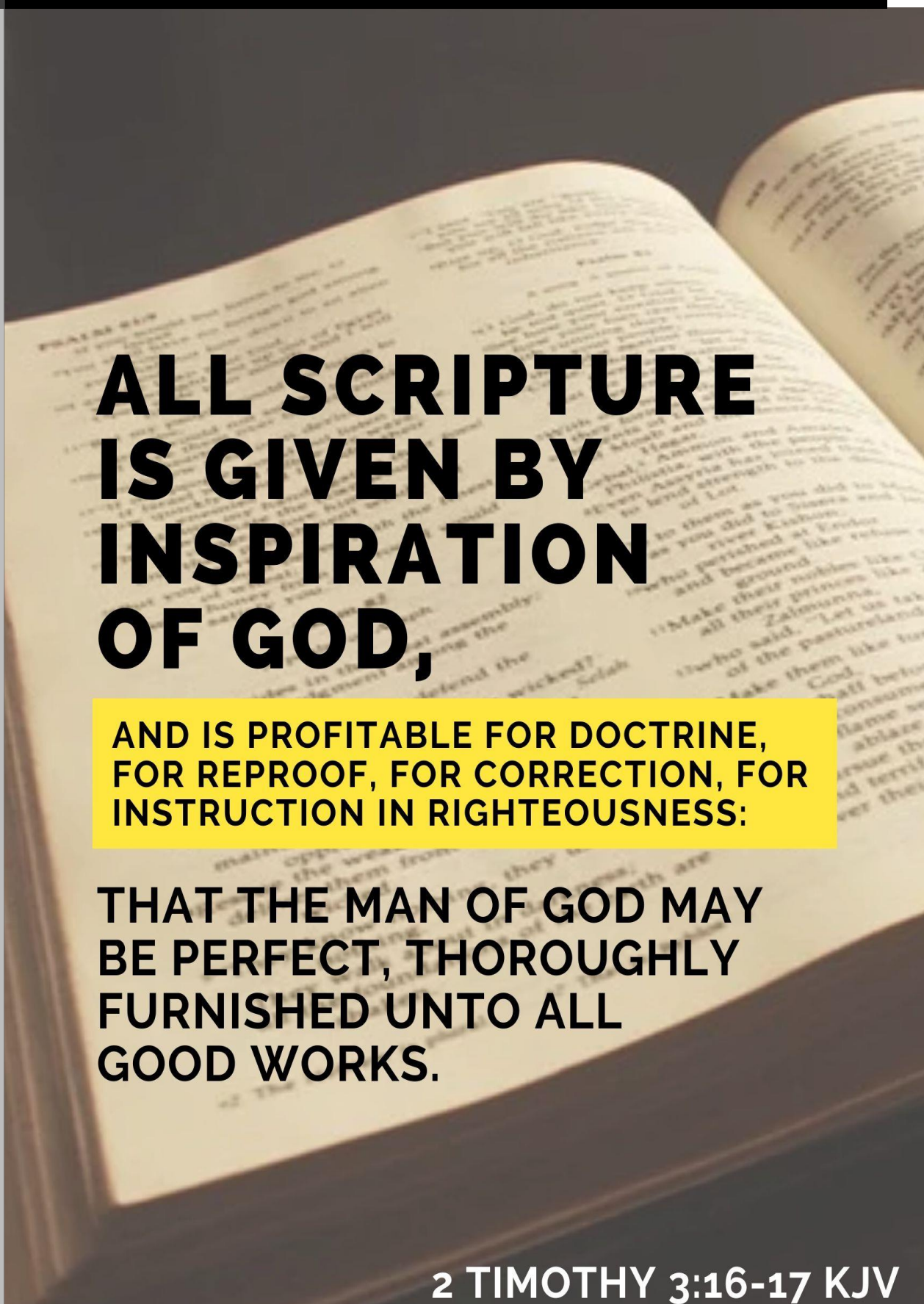
Bro Benjamin Tan  
Bro Jerry Cheong

**Preacher**

Bro Ernest Lau

**Administrator**

Sis Goh Ser Ern



**ALL SCRIPTURE  
IS GIVEN BY  
INSPIRATION  
OF GOD,**

**AND IS PROFITABLE FOR DOCTRINE,  
FOR REPROOF, FOR CORRECTION, FOR  
INSTRUCTION IN RIGHTEOUSNESS:**

**THAT THE MAN OF GOD MAY  
BE PERFECT, THOROUGHLY  
FURNISHED UNTO ALL  
GOOD WORKS.**

**2 TIMOTHY 3:16-17 KJV**



# *Elder's exhortation*

*by bro Jimmy Lau*

***2Co 1:17 When I therefore was thus minded, did I use lightness? or the things that I purpose, do I purpose according to the flesh, that with me there should be yea yea, and nay nay?***

To be fickle is to “*likely to change your opinion or your feelings suddenly and without a good reason*” (Cambridge Online Dict). People who are fickle change their minds so much you can't rely on them. Fickle comes from the Old English word *ficol*, for deceitful. Hence, a fickle minded person is one who deceives; you can't really trust his words because he keeps changing them.

Well, the apostle Paul was charged with fickleness. The word “lightness” refers to a fickleness of mind. He had said he would come to Corinth (1 Cor 16:5). The full itinerary was to go to Corinth and then to Macedonia and from Macedonia back to Corinth and to Judea (2 Cor 1:16). But he changed his plans and did not make that trip directly to Corinth, but came to Macedonia first. He didn't appear at Corinth.

His enemies were quick to take the occasion to blemish his character. If they could prove that Paul was a deceiver, they could infer so was his preaching about Jesus. If you can't trust his character, you also cannot trust what he preaches. They seized the opportunity to discredit his ministry.

Paul has to explain his conduct. He explained: “*But I call God to witness against me—it was to spare you that I refrained from coming again to Corinth*” (2 Cor 1:23, ESV).

God knows his intention and that it was kind and a loving thing to do. This postponement of the intended visit was a sign of forbearance, to spare them the pain if he should go to them. It was not fickleness of character but out of love for them for which they should have been grateful. If he had gone to Corinth, he would feel it to be necessary to exert his authority as an apostle, and remove at once the offending members from the church. He would go in with a rod as he had said (1 Cor 4:21). He

didn't want to. He preferred to avoid the necessity of these painful acts of discipline, by sending to them a faithful and affectionate epistle.

There are two important lessons we can learn from this episode:

1. Keep your promises.
2. Don't jump to conclusion.

### **1. KEEP YOUR PROMISES.**

Do you know someone who is fickle minded? Someone who said he would turn up for an event but didn't? Or, someone who promised to hand in his part in the project but had forgotten about it? Do you still trust his words?

The Psalmist wrote: *"My covenant will I not break, nor alter the thing that is gone out of my lips"* (Psa 89:34). The speaker is God. It shows the faithfulness of God. What God has promised, He will perform.

The person who makes a promise with no intention of keeping it is a liar. *"Lie not one to another, seeing that ye have put off the old man with his deeds"* (Col 3:9).

### **2. DON'T JUMP TO CONCLUSION.**

Give the person a chance to explain his actions. Don't judge a person by his one single act. Life becomes much easier when you stop jumping to conclusions and making assumptions. There is a big difference between what you know and what you think you know; learn the facts before jumping to conclusions.

A lot of misunderstandings can be avoided if we would just learn to listen and investigate. Misunderstandings occur because of lack of communication. It is also due to a lack of love. *"Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things"* (1 Cor 13:7).

Someone said: "If they love you; you won't have to explain anything because they believe in you. If they don't love you, then, any amount of explanations is useless." How true it is!

Let love prevail. Love means we keep our promises. Love means not judging each other presumptuously.



## *Preacher's exhortation*

### **A Faithful Saying (Part II): A Noble Office**

*By bro Ernest Lau*

***“Faithful is the saying, If a man seeketh the office of a bishop, he desireth a good work” (1 Timothy 3:1 ASV)***

In Paul's epistles, he has 5 faithful sayings that he wants Christians to remember. A faithful saying is a saying that is true and trustworthy. For example, Paul would write: *“This is a faithful saying, and these things I will that thou affirm constantly”* (Titus 3:8). Because the saying is true and important, Paul desires that it be repeated constantly! In the previous article, we examined the first faithful saying, *“that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners”* (1 Timothy 1:15). In Part 2, we will examine Paul's faithful saying in 1 Timothy 3:1, where Paul writes to us about the noble office of the elder.

#### **1. A Vital Office**

The office of the elder is a noble office because it is vital towards the church. It is vital because of the work that the elders do. The elders feed the flock, through teaching and ensuring they receive the adequate spiritual food that they need (1 Peter 5:2). The elders oversee the flock; they inspect and look after the sheep, and make decisions to ensure their welfare (1 Peter 5:2). The elders are examples to the flock, leading the way for them to follow (1 Peter 5:3). The elders watch for the souls of the flock; they protect the sheep from wolves within and without, and they have to give account to God for those under their charge (Hebrews 13:17).

Truly, it is a faithful saying, that the office of a bishop is a noble office, because the work of the elders is vital towards the church. It is so vital that God has instructed that elders be ordained in every congregation (Titus 1:5). Through the work of the elders, the church can be edified and the saints can be perfected (Ephesians 4:11-12). Every



congregation will fare much better if they have elders installed; therefore, churches ought to be continually reminded of the importance of having elders, especially if no elders have been installed yet.

## **2. A Qualified Office**

The office of the elder is a noble office because of its qualifications (1 Timothy 3:1-7). In order to be qualified to enter this office, one must possess excellent moral qualities: blameless, vigilant, sober, good behaviour, hospitable, apt to teach, not an alcoholic, not violent, not greedy for dishonest gain, patient, not a brawler, and not covetous. Furthermore, there are qualifications regarding his family: he must be the husband of one wife, rule well his own house, have his children in subjection with all gravity, and his wife is to be grave, not a slanderer, temperate, faithful in all things (cf. 1 Timothy 3:11). Furthermore, the elder must not be a novice, but rather a matured Christian. Also, concerning his reputation, he must have a good report among those outside the church.

Truly, it is a faithful saying that the office of the elder is a noble office, because of the qualifications they need to possess. Elders cannot be men who are spiritually immature, or babes-in-Christ. Those who can become elders are men who are morally excellent, men who have good families, men who are matured and experienced, and men who have honourable reputation. Therefore, churches need to be continually reminded of the excellent qualities that the elders need to possess, so that Christians can appreciate this honourable office, and so that men can prepare themselves in order to enter this office.

## **3. A Prepared Office**

The office of the elder requires preparation. We can prepare this office by performing our duty towards the current elders. Christians have a duty to obey and submit to the elders (Hebrews 13:17). Christians have a duty to honour them (1 Timothy 5:17). Christians have a duty to know and esteem them very highly in love for their work's sake (1 Thessalonians 5:12-13). If the congregation does not perform its duty towards the elders, then it will hinder the work of the elders, and hinder others from stepping up to be elders.

We can also prepare the office by grooming young men (or yourself, if you are a young man). Having examined the qualifications of the elder, it is obvious these qualities do not come overnight. These qualities require years of growth and dedication to appear. We need to prepare ourselves by daily meditation and active service. Furthermore, we need to prepare young men and children through proper spiritual training, so they can grow up to be profitable and mature Christians, and eventually become elders.

Truly, it is a faithful saying that the office of the elder is a noble office. It is a vital office because of the work the elders do for the church. It is a qualified office because of the qualities the elders need to possess to enter this office. Therefore, there is a need for us to prepare the office. We prepare by performing our duty towards the current elders. We also need to prepare ourselves and the young ones to eventually become elders in the future. Since the eldership takes time to develop, churches need to be continually reminded of the need to make preparations today, to ensure we have elders tomorrow. May God bless every church with good and qualified elders.



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

**Bro Michael Yeo & sis Kwee Eng** in Scandinavia till tomorrow.

### **Guests last week**

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|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|
| 1. Sis Jenny ( <i>Lavender COC</i> )                                              | 5. Shang Loh ( <i>sis Farah's friend</i> ) |
| 2. Stephen, Lorna, Sharmaine & Sheena Tolentino ( <i>sis Stephanie's family</i> ) | 6. Min ( <i>sis Baby's helper</i> )        |
| 3. Kenny Kee ( <i>sis Debbie's husband</i> )                                      | 7. Meyske ( <i>sis Debbie's helper</i> )   |
| 4. Richard Ong ( <i>bro Victor's friend</i> )                                     | 8. Tita ( <i>sis Precious' helper</i> )    |
|                                                                                   | 9. Lina ( <i>sis Lois' helper</i> )        |
|                                                                                   | 10. Mabel Koh                              |



### **Workshop on Personal Evangelism** **(Youth Fellowship)**

Date: 8 Mar, Sun

Time: 1.30pm – 3pm

Venue: LAP Auditorium



# March 2020

## BIBLE CURRICULUM

Sunday	1 Mar	8 Mar	15 Mar	22 Mar	29 Mar
Worship Sermon	A Workman Is...				Evangelism Sunday
	Fervent in Prayer	Active in Preaching	Earnest in Encouraging the Saints	Zealous in Helping Others	I AM the Bread of Life
	Jimmy Lau	Ernest Lau	Charlie Teo	Ernest Lau	Alvin Lin
Adult Class	Being Unsociable With People	A Spirit of Worldliness	A Spirit of Selfishness	A Spirit of Timidity	A Spirit of Pride
	Farand Lim				
Young Adult Class	Philippians Benjamin Kwan	Marriage Jimmy Lau			
Foundation Class	God's Scheme of Redemption Timothy Ng				
Teenger Class	Tell Me The Story of Jesus' Temptation	Tell Me The Story of Jesus' Sermons and Parables	Tell Me The Story of Jesus' Miracles	Tell Me The Story of Jesus' Apostles	Tell Me The Story of Jesus' Transfiguration
	Andy Lin		Ernest Lau		
Upper Primary Class	Music In The Church	Children Of Light	A Glorious Church	Honour To Father and Mother	The Christian Soldier
	Susan Ng				
Lower Primary Class	Gideon Learns to Trust God	Samson becomes Judge	Samson, Weak or Strong?	Naomi, Woman of God	Ruth, Loving and Kind
	Lois				
Nursery Class	Moses and Aaron Before Pharaoh: the Ten Plagues	The First Passover and the Exodus	God Provides Food and Water for His People	Moses Needs Help	Love the Lord Your God and Your Neighbor As Yourself
	Rhui Yin				
Cradle Roll	Baby Jesus Suzanne				
Thursday	5 Mar	12 Mar	19 Mar	26 Mar	
Adult Class	Genesis 9: The Rainbow	Genesis 10: Noah's Descendants	Genesis 11: Tower of Babel	Genesis 12: Abram's Call	
	Jimmy Lau				
Children Class	Chapter 10: Journey from Joppa to Teach Cornelius	Chapter 11: Kingdom also for Gentiles	Chapter 12: Leader Beheaded; Liberated from Prison	Chapter 13: Missionary Journeys of Paul Begin	
Primary	Sau Ching				
Nursery	Tingpei				



### Thursday Bible Class

**Genesis 8: The Flood**

**Recedes**

by bro Ernest Lau

### Next Sunday's Sermon

**A Workman Is**

**Fervent in Prayer**

by bro Jimmy Lau

### Birthdays this week

28 Feb (Fri) – Thyna



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 Siang Yee, bro Jeshua & sis Farah** in UK
- **Sis Shuan Kwee** in Hong Kong
- **Bro Gideon** in Finland (till 15 May'20)

## Health

- **Sis Baby's** health
- **Sis Suan Kiang's, sis Linda's & sis Poh Im's** health
- **Bro Soo Ping's** recovery from his spine surgery
- **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
- **Sis Shermin's father's** recovery from knee fracture

## Pregnancy

- Sis Jasmine Kwan (Mar), sis Wenyu (Apr), sis Cynthia Lee (Jun), sis Melissa (Aug)

## NSF

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

## MEN-TO-SERVE SCHEDULE

Morning Worship @ 9.30am		23-Feb-20	1-Mar-20	8-Mar-20
Song Leader		Jimmy Lau	Jonathan Yang	Jeremy Kwan
Opening Prayer Leader		Jerry Cheong	Benjamin Tan	Timothy Ng
Preacher		Benjamin Kwan	Jimmy Lau	Ernest Lau
Lord's Supper Text		Mar 14:22-25	Isa 53:4-9	Php 2:5-11
Lord's Supper Servers	Scripture Reader	Leonard Chia	Gavin Cheah	Nicodemus Oey
	Prayer: Bread	Henry Leow	Reuben Lim	Wong Sek Hoong
	Prayer: Fruit of Vine	Soo Kok Leong	Zachary Ling	Lau Jeng Sang
	Prayer: Offering	Farand Lim	Lim Poh Teng	Gordon Loo
Announcer		Alvin Foo	Alarico Alves	Yew Tian Geng
Greeters		Charlie Teo	Michael Yeo	Andy Lin
		Shum Chee Ming	Sharyl Lau	Constance Lau
		Michelle Chan	Wang Ting Pei	Ellen Hernandez
Evening Worship @ 7pm				
Song Leader & O.P.		Jimmy Lau	Timothy Ng	Benjamin Kwan
Speaker		Lim Poh Teng	Jerry Cheong	Ernest Lau
Lord's Supper, Giving & C.P.		Farand Lim	Benjamin Tan	Lim Poh Teng
Thursday Service @ 7.45pm				
Song Leader			27-Feb-20	5-Mar-20
Opening Prayer Leader			Emmanuel Licodini	Ernest Lau
Teacher			John Goh	Henry Leow
Closing Prayer Leader			Ernest Lau	Jimmy Lau
			Kenneth Quek	Charlie Teo