

**9 December
2018**

LAP BULLETIN

Church of Christ 20 Lim Ah Pin Road Singapore 547839 Tel 6286 5605
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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 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



He that spareth his rod hateth
his son: but he that loveth him
chasteneth him betimes
(Proverbs 13:24)



Elder's exhortation

by bro Jimmy Lau

Jdg 11:7 And Jephthah said unto the elders of Gilead, Did not ye hate me, and expel me out of my father's house? and why are ye come unto me now when ye are in distress?

Jephthah was the son of a harlot. His father's name was Gilead, named after the city and country in which he was born. Gilead had other sons by his wife. Jephthah, being the son of a harlot, was despised by his other brethren. He was considered an illegitimate son. Upon the death of their father, his brethren chased him out of the house. Jephthah fled from his brethren and dwelled with some vain fellows in the land of Tob (Jdg 11:1-3).

The Ammonites came and invaded Israel and oppressed them for eighteen years (Jdg 10:8). The Ammonites were now in Gilead. The elders of Gilead sent for Jephthah to deliver them from the Ammonites. "And they said unto Jephthah, Come, and be our captain, that we may fight with the children of Ammon" (Jdg 11:6).

Apparently, Jephthah had made a name for himself as a ring leader of those vain fellows and was known to be a tough guy and a fighter. In Gilead, no one was brave enough or capable enough to lead an army to fight against the enemies. It was at this time they remembered their half-brother, Jephthah.

Jephthah chided them for their past treatment towards him and how they had hated him, but were now requesting his help in their distress. Previously, they had not wanted him but now they even offered him to be the head of the Gileadites (Judg 11:8).

It is a case of when you need me, you remember me; and when you don't need me, you cast me away. I am reminded of a joke about a young man who seldom talked to his dad. While studying in a college abroad, he sent this SMS to his father: "Dear dad, no mon, no fun, your son." The father replied: "Dear son, too bad, so sad, your dad."

The young man remembered his father only when he ran out of money. Yet, his message was short and to the point; he didn't ask about his dad's well being or about the family. The father replied in kind.

What will you do if your child who is on an overseas student exchange program does not write, sms, email, or call home all the time he has been there and one fine day you receive this sms from him/her: "Need money; send money"?

If you were Jephthah, what would you do? Would you answer them: "That's your problem" or "I don't care" or "That's your retribution". Would you rejoice that your enemies are in trouble?

Jephthah was a friend in need. He was hated by the Gileadites in prosperous times, but when trouble came he was discovered to be their best friend. Jephthah did not allow his personal conflicts to come in between him and the need of the country. It was between patriotism and personal differences he had to choose. He chose patriotism. He considered the cause of Israel greater than the conflicts he had with the Gileadites. It reveals the character of this man.

Indeed, the value of a true friend is seen in the time of adversity. "Remember who the real enemy is" (quote from movie, Hunger Games: Catching Fire). Jephthah weighed and considered the Ammonites were his real enemies. Gilead was still his family. He could have helped the Ammonites and defeated Gilead and make himself the chief of the city. But he didn't want to help the enemies of Israel.

Likewise, the cause for the Lord's church is greater than the cause of any one person. Christians must know who the real enemies are. "For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places" (Eph 6:12).

One may have a personal dislike for the preacher or any one of the leaders, but the Lord's church is greater than one's personal agenda. Our real enemy is Satan and his influences. Our war is against false teachings, worldliness, materialism and sin. A real Christian will go on to promote the things that lead to the glorification of the church than to dwell on his own personal issues.

Jephthah set aside all personal differences and fought with his brethren against the common enemy: the Ammonites. Let us learn from this great judge and man of faith.



Preacher's exhortation

Learning From Adversity

by bro Alvin Lin

What comes to your mind when you find success in life? How about when you meet with problems? There are many in the world who would never ask God “why me” when they are successful, yet when they encounter adversities their first thought is to ask God “why me”. But sometimes it is only through undergoing the furnace of affliction that we are tested and refined (Isa 48:10). In this article, we shall discuss what we can learn from adversities in life.

Meekness and lowliness in heart

The word “meek” means “mildness of disposition, gentleness of spirit, meekness” and the word “lowly” means “lowly in spirit, humble”. Would anyone consider a tiger to be gentle and humble? Yet there are times when it is, for instance, when it is sleeping. But try poking a sleeping tiger and see what happens. Likewise, it is easy for us to be gentle and humble in times of serenity, but true meekness and lowliness in heart is learned in times when we are burdened (Mat 11:29). Burdens in life will either draw us to God or push us away from Him. Our Lord Jesus committed Himself to God when He was reviled and suffering (1Pe 2:21-23), while King Ahaz became increasingly unfaithful to the Lord in the time of his distress and turned to idols (2Ch 28:22-25). How do we respond to burdens in life? Do we humble ourselves and ask God for help, or do we become proud and depart from Him?

Contentment

The word “content” means “contented with one’s lot, with one’s means, though the slenderest”. Would anyone consider a tiger to be contented? Yet there are times when it is, for instance, when it is full. But try entering the tiger cage when it is hungry and see what happens. Likewise, it is easy for us to be content in times of abundance, but true contentment is learned in times when we are in need (Php 4:11-12). Needs in life will either draw us to God or push us away from Him. Paul was content to give up his former good life to gain Christ (Php 3:4-8), while the Israelites complained whenever they were hungry or thirsty (Exo 15:22-24; 16:1-3; 17:1-3; Num 11:4-6; 20:1-5; 21:4-5). How do we respond to needs in life? Do we become more appreciative of God’s blessings, or do we become bitter towards Him?

Obedience

The word “obedience” means “to obey, be obedient to, submit to”. Would anyone consider a tiger to be submissive? Yet there are times when it is, for instance, we read of news where some people keep tigers as pet. But when the owner forgets to feed the tiger for a few days or the tiger falls sick and becomes irritable, it attacks the owner instead. Likewise, it is easy for us to be submissive in times of bliss, but true obedience is learned in times when we are suffering (Heb 5:8). Sufferings in life will either draw us to God or push us away from Him. Our Lord Jesus was obedient to the point of death (Php 2:8), while Job’s wife asked him to “curse God and die” (Job 2:9). How do we respond to sufferings in life? Do we still obey God, or do we rebel against Him?

If we can be gentle and humble even in times when we are burdened, then we can remain gentle and humble in times of serenity. If we can be contented even in times when we are in need, then we can remain contented in times of abundance. If we can be submissive even in times when we are suffering, then we can remain submissive in times of bliss. On the other hand, if we cannot be gentle, humble, contented, and submissive when times are good, then all the more we won’t be so when adversity comes. A clay pot sitting in the sun will always be a clay pot; it has to go through the white heat of the furnace to become porcelain. Likewise, we have to go through God’s furnace of affliction to become vessels for honour, sanctified and useful for the master, prepared for every good work (2Ti 2:21).

WEEKLY NEWS



Baby Joy!

We rejoice with bro Ernest and sis Stephanie over the birth of their firstborn son, Theophilus Lau Zheng Wen! Theophilus was born on 3 December at 11.32pm, and weighed 2.84kg at birth. Please keep both mother and child in your prayers, for Stephanie's speedy recovery and for the child's continued growth and development.



Travelling (Pray for safety)

1. **Bro Danny & sis Linda** in Japan till 11 Dec
2. **Bro Kwan** in China & Taiwan till 18 Dec
3. **Bro Peter Chin, sis Pooi Fun, bro Jimmy, bro Kian Hong, sis Kia Sang, bro Alvin, bro Nicodemus, sis Christine, sis Sarah, bro Jun Wei, sis Ser Ern, sis Rachel & sis Eunice** in Malaysia till Dec.

Guests Last Week

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| 1. Sis Emily & sis Debra Nair, & bro David Lee (<i>Jurong COC</i>) | 10. Chia Yock Ee (<i>bro Daniel Goh's wife</i>) |
| 2. Sis Kris Ewe (<i>Malaysia</i>) | 11. Tan Jiayi (<i>sis Michelle's friend</i>) |
| 3. Sis Eveline (<i>Indonesia</i>) | 12. Tan Shu Ting (<i>sis Sharyl's friend</i>) |
| 4. Bro Hai, bro Sahn, sis Phung, & sis Kim (<i>Vietnam</i>) | 13. Karen Pang (<i>sis Sharyl's friend</i>) |
| 5. Bro KhovaKham, Soutjati & Aphaphone Inthilath (<i>sis Por's family, Laos</i>) | 14. Eva Chia (<i>sis Tingpei's friend</i>) |
| 6. Bro Jozel, sis Bing, sis Loise and bro Wayne, bro Edwin, bro Rogelio, & sis Liza (<i>Philippines</i>) | 15. Norman Leow (<i>bro Alvin Lin's friend</i>) |
| 7. Bro George Zhang (<i>China</i>) | 16. Michael & Clariss (<i>sis Siew Siew's friend</i>) |
| 8. Bro Emmanuel George (<i>India</i>) | 17. Eric & May (<i>sis Siew Siew's colleagues</i>) |
| 9. Bro Billy Bland, bro Tim & sis Robin Burroughs, bro Jason Hilburn, bro Stan Stockton, & bro Jamie Long (<i>USA</i>) | 18. Michael & Lay Ha (<i>sis Annie Teo's friends</i>) |
| | 19. Kelvin Kuan (<i>sis Eunice's friend</i>) |
| | 20. Lay Lay (<i>sis Lydia's helper</i>) |
| | 21. Meyske (<i>sis Debbie's helper</i>) |




UPCOMING EVENTS

MARK IN YOUR CALENDAR!

SAVE THE DATE AND COME JOIN US!

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

17TH - 20TH DECEMBER 2018
EL SANCTUARY, MELAKA
12 - 23 YEARS OLD



FOR DETAILS AND RSVP, PLEASE CONTACT:

KEITH ENG +6016 924 9116

KEVIN LEE +6012 521 8547

THANKSGIVING DAY 2019

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



VENUE: LAP CHURCH BUILDING
DATE: 1 JANUARY 2019
TIME: 10 AM

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:



Escape 2018

31 DECEMBER 2018, MON | NIGHT |
MORE DETAILS WILL BE RELEASED SOON.

NEWS



Thursday Bible Class

The Need for Successes in Life

by bro Alan Poon

Birthday of the week

9 Dec (Sun) – Suzie

11 Dec (Tue) – Jeng Sang & Kevin Lee

12 Dec (Wed) – Pooi Fun

13 Dec (Thu) – Shu Fang & Wei Xiang



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 & aunt's** health (relapse of cancer)
- **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		9-Dec-18	16-Dec-18	23-Dec-18
Song Leader		Justin Kwan	Jeremy Kwan	Amos Yang
Opening Prayer Leader		Benjamin Tan	Michael Yeo	Danny Poo
Psalms Text		Psa 80:1-9	Psa 80:10-19	Psa 81:1-16
Preacher		Ernest Lau	Benjamin Kwan	Benjamin Tan
Lord's Supper Text		Mar 14:22-25	Mat 26:26-29	Isa 53:4-9
Lord's Supper Servers	Scripture Reader	Cornelius Lee	Marc Wee	Axel Chee
	Prayer: Bread	Wong Sek Hoong	Lim Poh Teng	Victor Lee
	Prayer: Fruit of Vine	Ling Leong Dak	Farand Lim	Paul Lim
	Prayer: Offering	Andy Lin	Martyn Gostelow	Joel Lee
	Assistant	Gavin Cheah	Yew Tian Geng	Jose Cardoza
Foundation Class		Lau Jeng Sang	Justin Kwan	Arthur Yap
Announcer		Benjamin Kwan	Jimmy Lau	Timothy Ng
Greeters		Grace Ler Lois Chee	Constance Lau Wu Wenyu	Lim Poh Im Shum Chee Ming
Evening Worship @ 7pm				
Song Leader & O.P.		Ernest Lau	Ernest Lau	Benedict Yo
Speaker		Alvin Chan	Alvin Lin	Henry Leow
Lord's Supper, Giving & C.P.		Nicodemus Oey	Lim Poh Teng	Ling Leong Dak
Thursday Service @ 7.45pm				
Song Leader			13-Dec-18 Jeshua Lin	20-Dec-18 Benjamin Kwan
Opening Prayer Leader			Low Chong Ping	Kenneth Quek
Closing Prayer Leader			Benjamin Tan	Danny Poo