

16 SEPTEMBER
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

Deacons

Bro Henry Leow
Bro Jerry Cheong

Preachers

Bro Alvin Lin
Bro Ernest Lau

Administrator

Sis Goh Ser Ern

COMBINED LADIES FELLOWSHIP (JCOC & LAP)

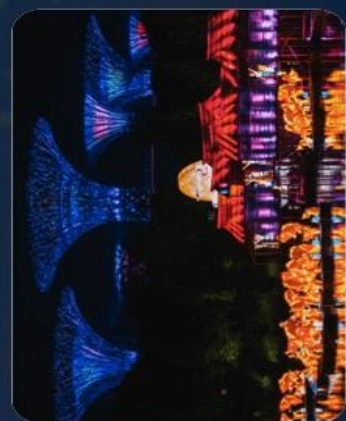
DATE: 22 SEP 2018 (SAT)

TIME: 5-8pm

VENUE: JURONG CHURCH OF
CHRIST

ADDRESS: 120 BOON LAY DRIVE,
SINGAPORE 649924

Join us for a session of fun
fellowship, lantern-making,
mooncake-tasting, and with dinner
provided! (\$5 per pax).
Do **RSVP by 9 Sep** so we know
how much food to order!



An open book with glasses resting on it. The text "Elder's exhortation" is overlaid in a large, white, serif font. Below it, in a smaller, white, serif font, is "by bro Jimmy Lau".

Elder's exhortation

by bro Jimmy Lau

Joh 20:29 Jesus saith unto him, Thomas, because thou hast seen me, thou hast believed: blessed are they that have not seen, and yet have believed.

Have you ever wished that you were one of those who had been a disciple of Jesus, listening to the Lord's teachings first hand and witnessing the miracles He performed? Imagine the joy and blessing! But, have you forgotten that many who saw and heard first hand from the Lord Jesus did not become His disciples? It was the preaching of the gospel that was making disciples (Acts 6:1, 7; 9:31).

Therefore, if you think it will be a blessing to see and hear from the Lord Jesus first hand, it may turn out the other way: unbelief.

We have here an account of another appearance of Christ to His disciples, after his resurrection. Christ appeared the first time to ten disciples, Thomas being absent. When the ten told Thomas that they had seen the Lord who had appeared to them, Thomas was not convinced. He snubbed at them and said: "*Except I shall see in his hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and thrust my hand into his side, I will not believe*" (John 20:25). Thomas doubted despite the other ten disciples testified to its truthfulness; he was faithless.

Eight days later, Christ appeared to them, Thomas being present this time. Our Lord reached out to Thomas and said: "*Reach hither thy finger, and behold my hands; and reach hither thy hand, and thrust it into my side: and be not faithless, but believing*" (John 20:27). Thomas saw and touched the Lord Jesus and believed. The Lord rebuked him with these words: "*Thomas, because thou hast seen me, thou hast believed: blessed are they that have not seen, and yet have believed*" (John 20:29).

"*Blessed are they that have not seen, and yet have believed.*" This beatitude is intended for the Church of all ages. We count those people blessed who lived in our Saviour's day and saw Him when He dwelt here among men. But we who now believe in our

Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ have a blessing superior to theirs. This blessing is not to those who saw and believed, but to those who *"have not seen, and yet have believed."*

We who know Jesus spiritually are more blessed than those who knew Him physically. It is more blessed to be united with Christ by faith than to have actually seen Him with our eyes, heard Him with our ears, or touched Him with our hands (1 John 1:1).

The apostle Peter wrote: *"Whom having not seen, ye love; in whom, though now ye see him not, yet believing, ye rejoice with joy unspeakable and full of glory"* (1 Pet 1:8).

There is joy in believing through the eyes of faith. It provides us the hope that we live for: *"For we are saved by hope: but hope that is seen is not hope: for what a man seeth, why doth he yet hope for?"* (Rom 8:24).

Barnes wrote: *"Hope is a complex emotion, made up of an earnest desire, and an expectation of obtaining an object"* (Barnes' Notes, e-sword). If you know that next week is your birthday and your dad is giving you a car, you will be smiling the whole week. If this weekend is your first date with a gorgeous girl whom you have been taking a liking for so long, you will be dancing in cloud nine the entire week.

Hope produces joy. And faith drives our hope to fruition. Our faith keeps our hope alive. Some say it is the other way, that is, hope keeps their faith alive. I think it works both ways. Our faith in the hope keeps us going. And the hope that we will have eternal life in heaven keeps our faith strong. We should be dancing with joy each day knowing we are going to heaven. Just tell your children that next week you are going to bring them to Disneyland and see their reaction the whole week. They will be jubilant and happy and will start bringing out their Disney characters to play the whole week.

"Blessed are they that have not seen, and yet have believed." We have a far superior blessing than those who saw Jesus in the flesh. Many did not believe when they saw and heard from Him. But many believed when the gospel about Him was preached. And, like the Ethiopian eunuch, they too went on their way rejoicing (Acts 8:39).

Let us rejoice that we have faith when we heard the gospel of our salvation and of Christ. Let us continue to keep our faith strong so that we may obtain the hope that we have been waiting for.



Preacher's exhortation

THE RIGHTEOUSNESS OF THE SCRIBES AND PHARISEES

by bro Alvin Lin

Most, if not all of us, know what we need to do to go to heaven. We know that we need to be converted and become pure as little children (Mat 18:3). We know that we need to be born again through water baptism according to the inspired words of the Holy Spirit (Joh 3:5). We know that we need to do the will of God (Mat 7:21). However, human nature is such that we often want to do the bare minimum to achieve the desired results. In school, we want to know the passing mark for exams. At work, we want to know the sales quota to meet. In the home, we want to know what are the chores we need to finish (and leave the rest for another day). Unsurprisingly, there are some like the rich young ruler who also want to know the minimum requirement for entering heaven (Mat 19:16). We want to know what is the minimum amount of time we need to spend in personal devotion to God. We want to know what is the minimum amount of money we need to give to God in the weekly contribution. We want to know what is the minimum amount of effort required in serving God. In this article, we shall examine the benchmark set by Jesus for entering heaven, that is, to have a righteousness that exceeds the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees (Mat 5:20).

Edification

The scribes and Pharisees were righteous in teaching God's law (Mat 23:2), but the problem with them was that they did not practice what they teach (Mat 23:3). In fact, they bound heavy burdens on others that they themselves would not do (Mat 23:4), such as imposing Sabbath restrictions on others that they themselves would not follow (Mat 12:10-11). By not doing what they teach, they actually cause the name of God to be blasphemed (Rom 2:24). While we may be active in the ministry of edification, let us consider if our righteousness exceeds the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees in

practicing what we teach (Rom 2:1). We condemn denominations for not practicing true worship in not following the truth, but do we condemn ourselves in not having the right spirit when we worship God (Joh 4:24)?

Evangelism

The scribes and Pharisees were righteous in converting souls (Mat 23:15), but the problem with them was that they hindered their converts from entering heaven (Mat 23:13). In fact, they made them twice as much a son of hell as themselves (Mat 23:15), by compelling Gentile Christians to be circumcised and to keep the law of Moses which they themselves could not keep (Act 15:5,10). By stumbling their converts, they actually bring woe upon themselves (Luk 17:1-2). While we may be active in the ministry of evangelism, let us consider if our righteousness exceeds the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees in not stumbling those we convert (Luk 17:3-4). We are welcoming and forbearing of visitors that join us for worship, but do we exhibit the same kind of love and forgiveness towards them when they obey the gospel and become our brethren (Col 3:13)?

Benevolence

The scribes and Pharisees were righteous in their external obedience to the Law of Moses (Mat 23:23), but the problem with them was that they neglected the more important internal virtues (Mat 23:24). In fact, they were beautiful on the outside but ugly on the inside (Mat 23:5,27-28), being more concerned with pleasing man than God (Mar 7:1-23). By doing good to be seen of others, they actually lose their reward from God (Mat 6:1). While we may be active in the ministry of benevolence, let us consider if our righteousness exceeds the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees in doing good with the right motives (Mat 6:2). We do good to those who are good to us, but do we also do good to others who cannot repay us (Luk 14:12-14)?

The scribes and Pharisees did much edification, evangelism, and benevolence, but they could not escape the condemnation of hell (Mat 23:33) because of their sins of hypocrisy (Luk 12:1) and self-righteousness (Luk 18:9). The standard of righteousness set by the scribes and Pharisees are by no means low, yet to enter heaven we have to exceed this standard (Mat 5:20). The scribes and Pharisees thought themselves better than their fathers, just as we sometimes delude ourselves in thinking ourselves better than the scribes and Pharisees (Mat 23:29-30). But let us examine ourselves constantly to make sure that we do not become modern day Pharisees (2Co 13:5), and take heed to ourselves to make sure that we do not fall (1Co 10:12).

WEEKLY NEWS



Travelling (*Pray for safety*)

1. **Bro Jun Wei, sis Ser Ern, bro Reuben, bro Cornelius, sis Candice & sis Mary Ann** will be travelling to Vietnam for the mission trip from 21-25 Sep
2. **Bro Sek Hoong & family** in New Zealand till 21 Sep
3. **Bro Roberto** in Korea till 29 Sep

Guest Last Week

1. Sis Chua Shuan Kei (*Eastside COC, Australia*)
2. Bro Neville (*Lavender COC, Singapore*)
3. Bro Dennis & sis Lisa Loh
4. Tan Jia Wei (*sis Farah's friend*)
5. Shalen Manuel (*sis Seow Hui's helper*)
6. Lay Lay (*sis Lydia's helper*)
7. Daniel (Cambodia)
8. Susan Lee

Annual General Meeting 2018

Date: 30 Sep, Sun

Time: 12.15pm

Agenda:

1. To receive and adopt the auditor's report and financial statement for the year ended 31st March 2018.
2. To approve the appointment of Messers Kreston David Yeung PAC (Public Accounting Corporation) as auditors for the year ending 31st March 2019.
3. To approve the removal of the following MC members:
Lee Tian Seng, Paul Lim & Amos Yang
4. To approve the appointment of the following men into the Management Committee:
Michael Yeo, Isaac Chua & Ong Jun Wei
5. To approve the removal of Lee Tian Seng & Peter Kwan from cheque signatories & approve Kenneth Quek & Andy Lin as new cheque signatories

UPCOMING EVENTS

MARK IN YOUR CALENDAR!

Chinese Revival Meeting

Speaker: Bro Ong Eng Boon

Venue: LAP Church Building

Details: TODAY @ 3.45pm & 5pm

You are cordially invited to our Bible Seminar on

LIBERALISM IN THE CHURCHES OF CHRIST

*presented by
the young adults of LAP COC*

📍 20, Lim Ah Pin Road

📅 29th Sept 2018 (Sat)

🕒 9:30AM to 3:30PM
(lunch will be provided)

*see overleaf for
more details*

WHAT IS LIBERALISM?

presented by Joel Lee

LIBERALISM AND THE
LACK OF BIBLE AUTHORITY

presented by Issac Chua

THE THREAT OF LIBERALISM

presented by Paul Lim

HISTORY OF LIBERALISM

presented by Alvin Lin

IDENTIFYING LIBERAL CHURCHES

presented by Ernest Lau

CAN WE FELLOWSHIP WITH LIBERALS?

presented by Timothy Ng

Please sign up by
TODAY on the
noticeboard or inform
sis Ser Ern as packet
lunch will be catered.



CHURCH OF CHRIST PRESENTS

THE GREATEST BEING IN THE UNIVERSE

SPEAKER: JIMMY LAU

30 SEP 2018, SUNDAY | 9.30AM

20 LIM AH PIN ROAD

Come and join us to find out the answers!



Thursday Bible Class

What A Good Home Can Mean to A Congregation

by bro Alvin Lin

Birthday of the week

18 Sep (Tue) – Jeremy

19 Sep (Wed) – Winston



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 Ernest & sis Stephanie** in Palau
- **Sis Shuan Kwee** in Hong Kong
- **Bro Kevin** in New York for studies

Health

- **Sis Suan Kiang's, sis Linda's, sis Molly's & bro Soon Heng's** health
- **Bro Gideon's** recovery from his jaw operation
- **Sis Michelle's** recovery from her sprained ankle
- **Bro Martin's** recovery from stroke
(warded at NUH Ward @ Senja Lvl 5 Bed 4)

Pregnancy

- Sis Stephanie (Dec'18)

NSF

- Bro Wei Jie, bro Benedict, bro Titus

MEN-TO-SERVE SCHEDULE

| Morning Worship @ 9.30am | | 16-Sep-18 | 23-Sep-18 | 30-Sep-18 |
|------------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------|
| Song Leader | | Amos Yang | Jeremy Kwan | Ernest Lau |
| Opening Prayer Leader | | Danny Poo | Peter Chin | Timothy Ng |
| Psalms Text | | Psa 74:13-23 | Psa 75:1-10 | Psa 76:1-12 |
| Preacher | | Ong Eng Boon | Charlie Teo | Jimmy Lau |
| Lord's Supper Text | | Php 2:5-11 | 1 Cor 11:23-29 | Mar 14:22-25 |
| Lord's Supper Servers | Scripture Reader | Marc Wee | Gideon Quek | Nicodemus Oey |
| | Prayer: Bread | Victor Lee | Henry Chee | Farand Lim |
| | Prayer: Fruit of Vine | Paul Lim | Kenneth Quek | Alvin Chan |
| | Prayer: Offering | Joel Lee | Martyn Gostelow | Ong Jun Wei |
| | Assistant | Gavin Cheah | Jose Cardoza | Roberto Pascual |
| Foundation Class | | Isaac Chua | Arthur Yap | Lau Jeng Sang |
| Announcer | | Timothy Ng | Alvin Lin | Benjamin Kwan |
| Greeters | | Lim Poh Im Shum Chee Ming | Ludina Carrido Susan Cheong | Grace Ler Lois Chee |
| Evening Worship @ 7pm | | | | |
| Song Leader & O.P. | | Jeremy Kwan | Benedict Yo | Amos Yang |
| Speaker | | Ong Jun Wei | Henry Leow | Ernest Lau |
| Lord's Supper, Giving & C.P. | | Martyn Gostelow | Lee Tian Seng | Henry Leow |
| Thursday Service @ 7.45pm | | | | |
| Song Leader | | | Benjamin Kwan | Andy Lin |
| Opening Prayer Leader | | | Kenneth Quek | Peter Kwan |
| Closing Prayer Leader | | | Jimmy Lau | Reuben Lim |