

**22 September
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

CHURCH OF CHRIST PRESENTS

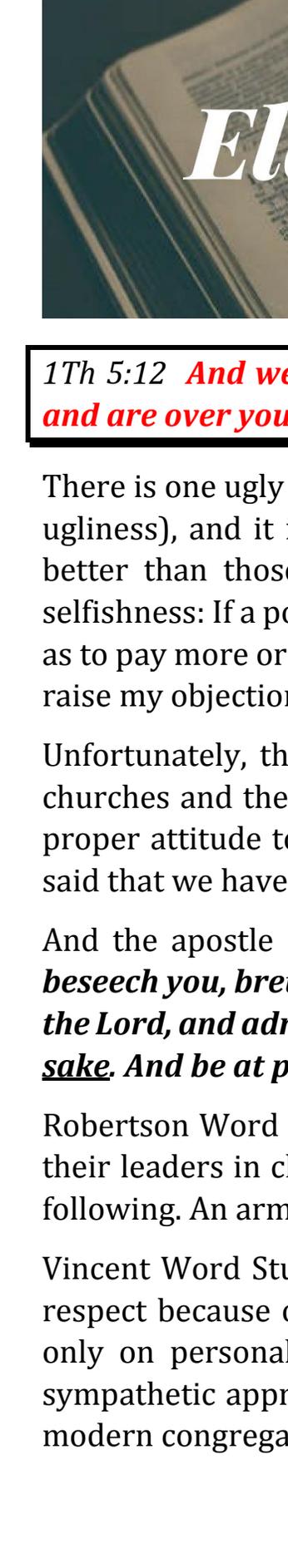
DO I NEED TO BE BAPTISED?

Speaker: Alvin Lin

29 September 2019, Sunday | 9.30am |

20 Lim Ah Pin Road

www.lapcoc.org / limahpincoc@gmail.com / +65 6286 5605



Elder's exhortation

by bro Jimmy Lau

1Th 5:12 And we beseech you, brethren, to know them which labour among you, and are over you in the Lord, and admonish you.

There is one ugly side about human beings (but thankfully, not everyone has the same ugliness), and it is the notion that they can run an organization or the government better than those who have been appointed to do it. I believe the root cause is selfishness: If a policy does not benefit me, or worse, cause me to be adversely affected as to pay more or lose a benefit I already am having, it is a bad policy and I am going to raise my objections or show my displeasure.

Unfortunately, this work of the flesh crept into some of the Christians in the early churches and the inspired writers had to write to admonish the Christians to have a proper attitude to those who minister to them. The writer of the epistle of Hebrews said that we have to obey and submit to them (Heb 13:17).

And the apostle Paul in his writing to the church at Thessalonica wrote: ***“And we beseech you, brethren, to know them which labour among you, and are over you in the Lord, and admonish you; And to esteem them very highly in love for their work's sake. And be at peace among yourselves”*** (1 Thess 5:12-13).

Robertson Word Pictures: The idlers in Thessalonica had evidently refused to follow their leaders in church activities. We need wise leadership today, but still more wise following. An army of captains and colonels never won a battle.

Vincent Word Studies: Know - Recognize them for what they are, and as entitled to respect because of their office. Their esteem for their superintendents is not to rest only on personal attachment or respect for their position, but on intelligent and sympathetic appreciation of their work. It is a good and much-needed lesson for the modern congregation no less than for the Thessalonian church.

Barnes' Notes: To cherish for them an affectionate regard. The office of a minister of religion demands respect. They who are faithful in that office have a claim on the kind regards of their fellow-men.

Clarke Commentary: Act kindly towards them; acknowledge them as the messengers of Christ; and treat them with tenderness and respect.

JFB Commentary: Know — to have a regard and respect for. Recognize their office, and treat them accordingly.

Expository Bible Commentary: "Know them that labour among you," means "Know them for what they are"; recognise with all due reverence their self-denial, their faithfulness, the services they render to you, their claim upon your regard.

Matthew Henry Commentary: As the shepherd should know his flock, so the sheep must know their shepherd. They must know his person, hear his voice, acknowledge him for their pastor, and pay due regard to his teaching, ruling, and admonitions. They must esteem their ministers highly in love; they should greatly value the office of the ministry, honour and love the persons of their ministers, and show their esteem and affection in all proper ways.

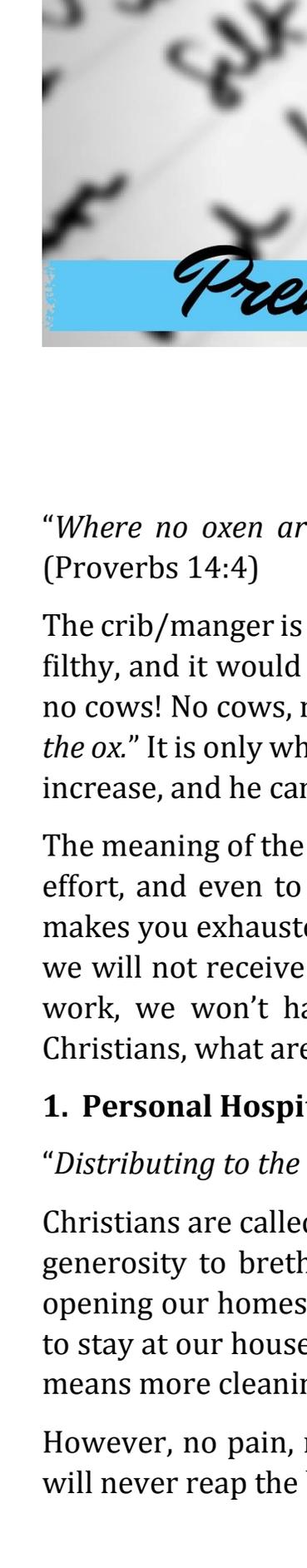
People's News Testament, BW Johnson: Know them - Recognize and appreciate.

The reason I am quoting extensively from other sources is to let every Christian who is a member of a local congregation to know and appreciate those who labour among them. He may be your preacher, bible class teacher, event organiser, elder, deacon, church administrator, a volunteer in any work of the church, or the cleaner: he deserves your respect and appreciation because of the work he is doing.

Lenski commented: *"To consider them very much in love on account of their work" implies appreciation, esteem, and thus willingness to be led and trained.... Wherever we have faithful pastors such as these and appreciative members, **the right condition obtains for spiritual success and progress in the work of the church.*** (Lenski Commentary on 1 Thessalonians, page 354).

Indeed, for the church to grow towards spiritual maturity, members must be willing to be led, recognise and appreciate those who lead them. That is spiritual maturity.

Have you matured as a Christian? Think about it.



Preacher's exhortation

Do You Like It Clean or Dirty?

by bro Ernest Lau

"Where no oxen are, the crib is clean: but much increase is by the strength of the ox"
(Proverbs 14:4)

The crib/manger is the place where the ox drinks water from. You can imagine it is usually filthy, and it would take effort to clean it every day. One way to keep it clean... is to have no cows! No cows, no dirt, no need to clean. However, *"much increase is by the strength of the ox."* It is only when the farmer has cows to plow the fields, that the crops can grow and increase, and he can profit from it. No cows, no crops, no cash.

The meaning of the proverb is this: in order to gain a benefit, we must be willing to put in effort, and even to get our hands dirty. Why do people engage in physical exercise? It makes you exhausted, sweaty and dirty. However, except we put in the effort to exercise, we will not receive the health benefits. No pain, no gain. Why do we work? If we do not work, we won't have money to buy food for the family (2 Thessalonians 3:10). As Christians, what are some areas that require us to get down and dirty?

1. Personal Hospitality

"Distributing to the necessity of saints; given to hospitality" (Romans 12:13)

Christians are called to be ready to show hospitality. To be hospitable is to show love and generosity to brethren and visitors. Hospitality can be demonstrated in several ways: opening our homes for fellowship; inviting brethren for meals; inviting visiting brethren to stay at our house. However, hospitality requires effort! To invite visitors to our homes means more cleaning to do!

However, no pain, no gain. Without putting in the effort to demonstrate hospitality, we will never reap the blessings it produces. We are exhorted to *"be not forgetful to entertain*

strangers: for thereby some have entertained angels unawares” (Hebrews 13:2). The Hebrews writer brings our minds back to Abraham who unwittingly showed hospitality to three men who turned out to be angels of God. Imagine if Abraham had not welcomed them! Is it not a blessing even for us to have the opportunity to show kindness to God’s messengers? Furthermore, we know that Jesus will judge us based on our deeds of hospitality, and reward those who have shown hospitality to strangers and those in need (Matthew 25:31-46).

2. Personal Evangelism

“Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost” (Matthew 28:19)

Christians are called to preach the gospel and spread the good news of Christ. Every Christian has unique opportunities to share the gospel with our circle of friends and day-to-day acquaintances. We can evangelize by talking to somebody about Jesus or conducting bible studies with our friends. We can also contribute by simply passing our flyers and tracts, or inviting our friends to attend our services. However, evangelism requires effort! It requires us to pluck up our courage and confess Christ! It may even require us to get dirty and sweaty, especially after tract distribution sessions.

However, no pain, no gain. How can the world believe in Jesus unless Christians go and preach the gospel? (Romans 10:13-15). Furthermore, we will not receive the joy and reward that Paul did. Paul described those he helped to convert to Christ as his *“glory and joy”* (1 Thessalonians 2:19-20). We experience the rewards of Christianity when we help others to obey the gospel. Ultimately, we obtain the approval of Christ when we preach His gospel: *“Whosoever therefore shall confess me before men, him will I confess also before my Father which is in heaven”* (Matthew 10:32)

3. Personal Bible Study

“As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby” (1 Peter 2:2)

Christians are called to grow in the knowledge of God’s word. Christians ought to be engaged in daily meditation of God’s word (Psalm 1:2). In addition to our daily meditation, it is helpful to participate in bible classes on Sunday and Thursday, where a teacher guides us through the study. There are many online resources available for our use as well. However, Bible study requires effort! It requires setting aside time for daily reading and time in attending bible classes. It requires mental effort as we seek to understand and reflect upon the verses we read.

However, no pain, no gain. Without studying the Bible, how can we grow in the grace and knowledge of Jesus? (2 Peter 3:18). Without studying God's Word, how can we grow in faith? (Romans 10:17). Without studying, how can we rightly divide the truth and discern between right and wrong? (2 Timothy 2:15). Only by growing in the knowledge of God's word can we grow in Christian maturity and prepare ourselves to be teachers of God's word (Hebrews 5:12-14).

Clean or Dirty?

A manger is meant to be dirty, that is its purpose. We don't buy a new pair of shoes so that we could keep it spotless and unused in the cupboard do we? Shoes are meant to be used and dirtied. Do you want your Christian life to be clean or dirty? If we want our Christian life to be fruitful and rewarding, we need to be prepared to get down and dirty, and to put in effort. If we prefer to keep clean, then we can do nothing... but then why be a Christian in the first place? Let's put in the effort for God's glory!



Travelling (Pray for safety)

1. **Sis Sarah** will be travelling to Korea from 25 Sep till 1 Oct
2. **Bro Kwan** will be away for mission work from 27 Sep till 23 Oct
3. **Sis Yuet Ming** in the Netherlands till 23 Sep.

Guests last week

1. Sis Jenny (Lavender COC)
2. Kenny Kee (*sis Debbie's husband*)
3. Alexis (*bro Samuel's wife*)
4. Glaiza Tolentino (*sis Stephanie's cousin*)
5. Joycelin Tok (*bro Gideon's friend*)
6. Shang Loh (*sis Farah's friend*)
7. Lay Lay (*sis Lydia's helper*)
8. Sulis (*sis Baby's helper*)
9. Tan Kwang Han



22 Lectures

• Q & A Forum

• Special classes for Men & Women



12th ANNUAL FOUR SEAS LECTURESHIP

Preparing Leaders for Tomorrow

Date

NOV 27 – 30, 2019 (Wed - Sat)

Daily Chapel (3rd Floor)
8.15 am - 8.45 am

Daily Lectures (2nd Floor)
9.00 am - 3.15 pm

Venue

120, Boon Lay Drive, S 649924

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Vacation Bible School 2019 presents:

“I WILL DO IT!”

Taking the Initiative

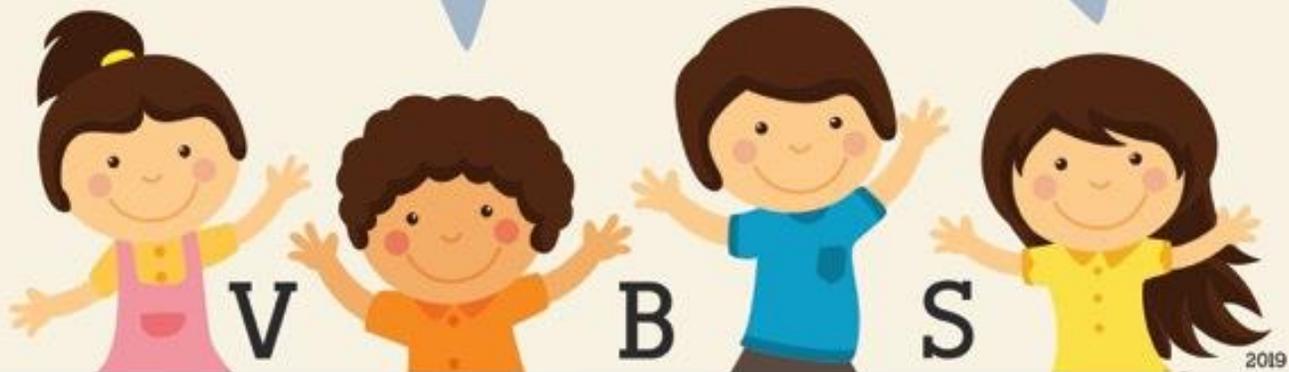
3 - 5 December 2019 (Tuesday to Thursday)

9am to 5pm daily

Lim Ah Pin Church of Christ

20 Lim Ah Pin Road, Singapore 547839

(For children aged 4 - 12)



Please contact Daryl (9737 0441) or Ser Ern (9457 6057) to enquire. Registration closes on 1 October 2019.



Thursday Bible Class

"Seven Great and Precious Promises"
(John 14:12-31)
by bro Jimmy Lau

Next Sunday's Sermon

"Do I Need to be Baptised?"
by bro Alvin Lin

Birthdays this week

27 Sep (Fri) – Carol



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* in UK
- *Sis Shuan Kwee* in Hong Kong
- *Bro Jeshua* in Switzerland (till 27 Sep) and UK (till 30 Apr'20)

Health

- *Sis Suan Kiang's & sis Linda's* health
- *Bro Wee Sin's* recovery from surgery for his right shoulder tendon
- *Bro David Sum's father's* recovery from spine surgery

Pregnancy

- Sis Olivia (Dec/Jan)

NSF

- Bro Titus, bro Shawn, bro Zachary

MEN-TO-SERVE SCHEDULE

Morning Worship @ 9.30am		22-Sep-19	29-Sep-19	6-Oct-19
<i>Song Leader</i>		Jeremy Kwan	Isaac Chua	Benjamin Kwan
<i>Opening Prayer Leader</i>		Low Chong Ping	Charlie Teo	Kenneth Quek
<i>Preacher</i>		Danny Poo	Alvin Lin	Peter Chin
<i>Lord's Supper Text</i>		Mat 26:26-29	Isa 53:4-9	Php 2:5-11
<i>Lord's Supper Servers</i>	<i>Scripture Reader</i>	Zachary Ling	David Sum	Gavin Cheah
	<i>Prayer: Bread</i>	Jerry Cheong	Martyn Gostelow	Soo Kok Leong
	<i>Prayer: Fruit of Vine</i>	Chua Kian Hong	Henry Leow	Melvin Tan
	<i>Prayer: Offering</i>	Ong Jun Wei	Andy Lin	Martyn Gostelow
<i>Announcer</i>		Leonard Chia	Alvin Foo	Titus Goh
<i>Announcer</i>		Benjamin Tan	Timothy Ng	Ernest Lau
<i>Greeters</i>		Constance Lau	Naomi Leow	Jonalyn Balagot
<i>Greeters</i>		Ellen Hernandez	Christine Phang	Ludina Carrido
Evening Worship @ 7pm				
<i>Song Leader & O.P.</i>		Timothy Ng	Ernest Lau	Jimmy Lau
<i>Speaker</i>		Jerry Cheong	Nicodemus Oey	Ernest Lau
<i>Lord's Supper, Giving & C.P.</i>		Henry Leow	Farand Lim	Gavin Cheah
Thursday Service @ 7.45pm		26-Sep-19		3-Oct-19
<i>Song Leader</i>		James Mira		Jimmy Lau
<i>Opening Prayer Leader</i>		Low Chong Ping		Jerry Cheong
<i>Teacher</i>		Jimmy Lau		Jimmy Lau
<i>Closing Prayer Leader</i>		Yew Tian Geng		Chua Kian Hong