

14 JANUARY
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)

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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

CHURCH OF CHRIST PRESENTS



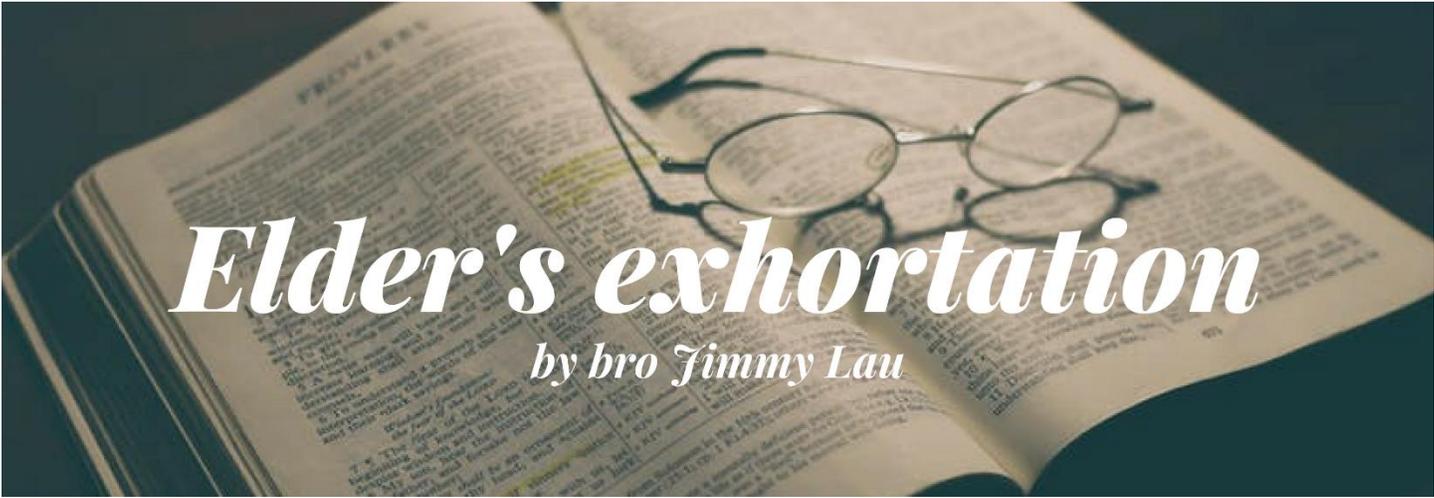
"THE GREATEST GIFT TO MAN"

Speaker: Peter Chin

28 January 2018, Sunday

| 9.30am | 20 Lim Ah Pin Road

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



Elder's exhortation

by bro Jimmy Lau

2Ki 16:10 And king Ahaz went to Damascus to meet Tiglathpileser king of Assyria, and saw an altar that was at Damascus: and king Ahaz sent to Urijah the priest the fashion of the altar, and the pattern of it, according to all the workmanship thereof.

Ahaz, king of Judah, went to Assyria. During his stay in that heathen city, he saw an altar with which he was greatly captivated. He quickly made a sketch and sent it to the priest Urijah and commanded him to construct one according to the sketch. Upon receiving the king's order, Urijah quickly made a same altar according to the pattern.

When it was completed, Ahaz commanded to replace the brazen altar at the temple of God with the new altar he had made. He shifted the brazen altar built by King Solomon to an obscure corner in the temple. He called his own altar "the great altar," and ordered that the morning burnt-offering, and the evening meat offering, and all the principal sacrifices should henceforth be offered upon it.

"Ahaz began badly, and every fresh movement in his life was a step from bad to worse. His history is a further illustration of how one sin leads to another. It was a continuously downward path." (HOMILIES BY C.H IRWIN, Pulpit Comm).

Sin will only get worse. Ahaz did not begin well. He walked in the ways of the kings of Israel. He committed a lot of heinous sins (vs 3). He *"sacrificed and burnt incense in the high places, and on the hills, and under every green tree"* (vs 4). Another altar made no difference to him. Nothing will serve him but he must have an altar just like the one he saw in Assyria.

Apostasy has to begin with someone. In this case, Ahaz started it and the priest followed and went along. We did not read of the nation Israel rising up against it. Why? They were used to idolatry since Jeroboam's time. They were accustomed to burning their sacrifices in the high places and worshipped the golden calves. They saw no harm in them. And now they see no harm in the new altar. A new altar made no difference to them. Why not? It's new; sounds interesting.

Apostasy begins when men start to change God's pattern. The first Temple built by Solomon was constructed from plans according to God's pattern. Jeroboam deviated from God's pattern when he introduced the golden calves into the worship. Ahaz apostatised when he changed the altar that was built according to God's pattern.

"The sin in this affair consisted in meddling with, and improving according to human taste and fancy, the altars of the temple, the patterns of which had been furnished by divine authority." (JFB Comm).

The prophet Jeremiah warned: *"Thus saith the LORD, Learn not the way of the heathen,"* (Jer 10:2a). It's a solemn charge given to the people of God not to conform themselves to the ways and customs of the heathen, notably their religious ways, their ways of worship, their superstition and idolatry, and even their lifestyle.

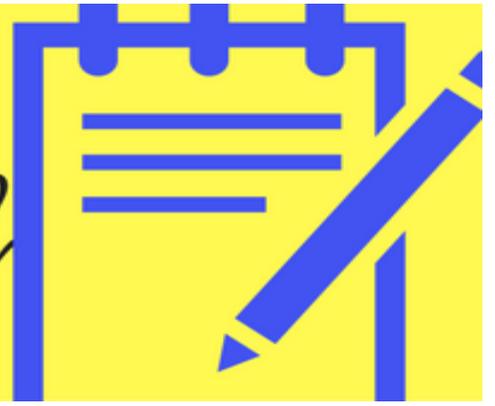
But Ahaz forsook the worship of the true and living God, and even exchanged God's altar for a heathen one. Where did he get the idea? He got it from the heathen. He came; he saw; and he copied.

The way to stay in the path of truth is to stay in the path of truth. Don't look left and don't look right; just walk straight and follow God's pattern: *"There is a way that seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death"* (Pro 16:25).

Our Lord warns: *"Enter ye in by the narrow gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many are they that enter in thereby"* (Matt 7:13, ASV).

Let us walk on the straight and narrow way that leads to life. *"Thou shalt not follow a multitude to do evil"* (Exo 23:2). Don't follow the crowd; follow God.

From the Brotherhood



What About Divorce?

Adapted from Wayne Jackson

(<https://www.christiancourier.com/articles/302-what-about-divorce>)

"Consider the following case: John and Mary are married, but John has grown tired of the relationship. He has, to use his expression, 'fallen out of love' with Mary. He is not interested in another woman, he just wants to live the single life again. "

John's attitude is like that of so many self-centered people in today's world. He seems to labor under the illusion that he can abandon the most sacred of human relationships, simply at his own whim. The attitude is one of consummate selfishness and stands in opposition to a number of biblical principles.

(1) Marriage is a life-long commitment. Once a marriage covenant has been made, unless it is dissolved for a biblical reason (e.g., death or sexual infidelity – Rom. 7:2; Mt. 5:32; 19:9), it is an abiding obligation. ". . . [T]he woman that has a husband is bound by law to the husband while he is living," i.e., as long as he is alive (Rom. 7:2; 1 Cor. 7:39).

The Bible is clear on the matter of the perpetual design of the marriage union.

(2) God is the Author of the marriage institution. It is he who joins the man and woman to one another in this sacred union (Mt. 19:6). It is, therefore, only the Creator who may determine when a divorce proceeding may be initiated.

And the fact of the matter is this: God has *authorized* divorce solely for the cause of fornication (Mt. 5:32; 19:9). To initiate a divorce upon any other basis, therefore, is to go beyond that which is authorized by divine law (cf. 1 Cor. 4:6 – ASV).

Such an action is a presumptive transgression of Heaven's marriage law (1 Jn. 3:4). Just as no person is eligible to marry without the sanction of divine law, in like manner, no one is free to divorce without the authority to do so.

(3) When one enters a marriage relationship, he or she enters into a covenant agreement with a companion; that agreement is witnessed and sealed by God (see Ezek. 16:8; Mal. 2:14).

To divorce a marital partner without divine authority is to become a "covenant breaker" – an action strongly condemned in the Scriptures (Rom. 1:31). Read the catalog of sins mentioned in this context for some idea of how God views such a transgression.

(4) The marriage covenant carries inherent responsibilities. When a person commits to the marriage relationship, he or she accepts certain obligations of this relationship (see 1 Cor. 7:3-5; Eph. 5:22ff; 1 Tim. 5:8). To vacate a marriage by the utilization of an unauthorized divorce is to flaunt these sacred responsibilities.

Unscriptural divorce creates an environment of temptation. When a marriage partner initiates a capricious divorce, he subjects his mate to the temptations of yielding to unlawful sexual fulfillment (cf. 1 Cor. 7:5).

This is very likely the point that Jesus made in the sermon on the mount when he declared that a man who divorces his wife, for a reason other than fornication, "makes her an adulteress" (Mt. 5:32). The meaning probably is this: He subjects her to the temptation of finding another companion, which relationship would constitute adultery (cf. Arndt & Gingrich, **Greek Lexicon**, Chicago: University of Chicago, 1967, p. 528).

Are we so naive as to think that God will not hold one accountable for such neglect?

Marriage is a sacred and most serious undertaking. Our youth must be taught not to enter into this union lightly.

And when one yields to this covenant relationship, he or she must remain committed to it – if at all possible.



Baptism



WELCOME TO THE FAMILY OF GOD!

We rejoice over the baptism of bro Siang Yee (sis Jasmine Yong's friend) on 7 Jan! He is currently studying law in UK. Please keep him in prayers for his spiritual growth and for his safety as he studies overseas. His particulars are as follows:

Name: Chua Siang Yee

Mobile: 9092 0389

Birth date: 13 Jun 1989

Email: siangyeechua@gmail.com

Condolences



Our deepest condolences to the family of **bro Ivan Ho Chong Tat** who has gone to be with the Lord on 7 January 2018. Please continue to keep sis Belinda in your thoughts and prayers during this time of bereavement.

Travels (Pray for safety)

Bro Joel & sis Grace in Morocco till today.

Guests Last Week

1. Bro Calvin Tan (*Kota Kemuning COC, Malaysia*)
2. Sis Chua Shuan Kei (*Eastside COC, Australia*)
3. Sis Deborah Tan (*Tai Peng COC, Malaysia*)
4. Samuel Dela Cruz (*sis Mergie's husband*)
5. Peh Guang Rong (*sis Yan Ling's husband*)
6. Kenny Kee (*sis Debbie's husband*)
7. Alexis (*bro Samuel's wife*)
8. Frances (*bro Jeremy's wife*)
9. Stephanie Senna (*bro Martyn's fiancée*)
10. Tan Sok Ting (*bro Reuben's friend*)
11. Chary (*Swee Inn's helper*)

Health

Please pray for the health & recovery of the following:

1. **Sis Pooi Fun's** recovery from dengue fever
2. **Sis Fong Yoke's** recovery from her cataract operation on 10 Jan. She will be going for another cataract surgery on 17 Jan.

Change of email

Sis Jeje has changed her email to medezjeje@yahoo.com

UPCOMING EVENTS

MARK IN YOUR CALENDAR!

14 January 2018, Sunday

Youth Fellowship

Time: 1:30 - 3:00 pm

Venue: Church Building

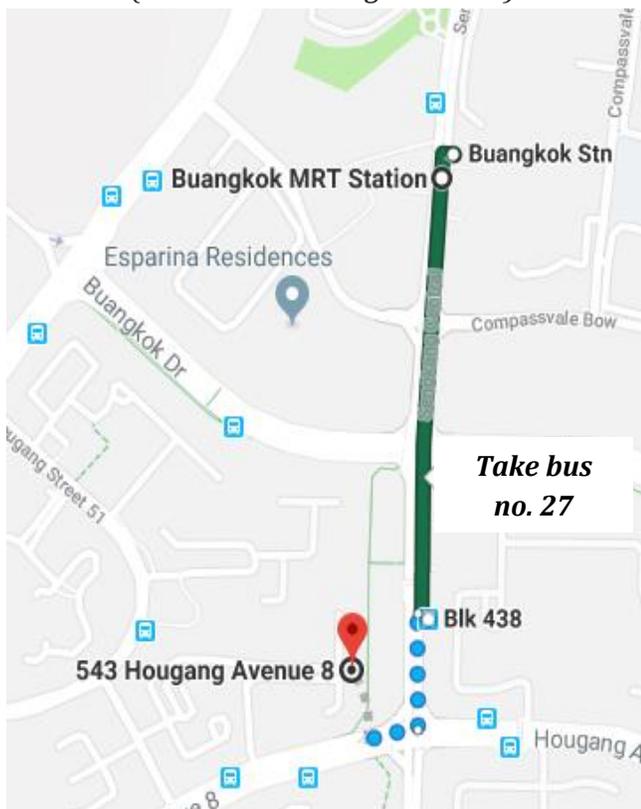
Start your new year on a great note by bonding with your fellow youths! Come join us for games and a devotion!

20 January 2018, Saturday **Evangelism Sunday Tracting**

Time: 4.30pm

Venue:

Blk 543 Hougang Ave 8 Singapore 530543
(Nearest to Buangkok MRT)



Take bus
no. 27

Let's start the year by sowing the seed of the gospel!

Upcoming Events!

February

3 Feb – Ladies Fellowship

25 Feb – CNY Activity

March

10 Mar – FellowKidz

17 Mar – Blood Donation Drive

April

11-13 Apr – Combined Gospel Meeting

14 Apr – Teacher Training Workshop

21 Apr – Health Seminar on Diabetes

May

5 May – Senior Fellowship

26 May – FellowKidz

31 May-2 Jun – Chinese Asian Bible Lectureship

June

4-7 Jun – Family Camp



NEWS



Thursday Bible Class

Handling Difficult Relationships
by bro Benjamin Kwan

Birthday of the week

15 Jan (Mon) – Rhui Yin

20 Jan (Sat) –

Guek Hoon & Ernest



PRAYER REQUESTS

Overseas:

- *Sis Shuan Kwee* in Hong Kong
- *Sis Farah* in London, UK, for studies
- *Bro Long Jun* in China
- *Bro Nigel* in Dubai

Health

- *Sis Baby's & Auntie Yeoh's* health
- *Sis Suan Kiang's, sis Linda's, sis Peiyi's & bro Ivan's* health
- *Bro Roberto's* migraine & recovery from his knee surgery
- *Bro Capi's mother's* health
- *Sis Susan Goh's mother's, sis Jenny's mother's, Sis Siew Siew's mother* health
- *Sis Wenyu's grandmother's* recovery from her surgery
- *Sis Diana's sister-in-law's* recovery from her condition
- *Sis Katie's sister's* recovery from her condition

Pregnancy

- Sis Lydia (Jun'18), sis Jasmine Chan (Jun'18), sis Debbie (Jun'18)

NSF

- Bro Kevin, bro Wei Jie, bro Benedict

Please send any news & prayer requests to limahpincoc@gmail.com

MEN-TO-SERVE SCHEDULE

Morning Worship @ 9.30am		14 Jan 2018	21 Jan 2018	28 Jan 2018
<i>Song Leader</i>		Amos Yang	Ernest Lau	Benjamin Kwan
<i>Opening Prayer Leader</i>		Charlie Teo	Benjamin Tan	Low Chong Ping
<i>Psalms Text</i>		Psa 51:1-9	Psa 51:10-19	Psa 52:1-9
<i>Preacher</i>		Ernest Lau	Alvin Lin	Peter Chin
<i>Lord's Supper Text</i>		Php 2:5-11	1 Cor 11:23-29	Mar 14:22-25
<i>Lord's Supper Servers</i>	<i>Scripture Reader</i>	Henry Chee	Marc Wee	Axel Chee
	<i>Prayer: Bread</i>	Wong Sek Hoong	Farand Lim	Victor Lee
	<i>Prayer: Fruit of Vine</i>	Kenneth Quek	Paul Lim	Alvin Chan
	<i>Prayer: Offering</i>	Alan Poon	Timothy Ng	Ong Jun Wei
	<i>Assistant</i>	Melvin Tan	Gavin Cheah	Yew Tian Geng
<i>Foundation Class</i>		Arthur Yap	Lau Jeng Sang	Benjamin Tan
<i>Announcer</i>		Jimmy Lau	Benjamin Kwan	Lee Tian Seng
<i>Greeters</i>		Lim Poh Im Shum Chee Ming	Ludina Carrido Jeshua Lin	Diana Phoo Teo Kim Tian
Evening Worship @ 7pm				
<i>Song Leader & O.P.</i>		Jeremy Kwan	Jonathan Yang	Timothy Ng
<i>Speaker</i>		Ernest Lau	Jimmy Lau	Jerry Cheong
<i>Lord's Supper, Giving & C.P.</i>		Lim Poh Teng	Ling Leong Dak	Martyn Gostelow
Thursday Service @ 7.45pm			18 Jan 2017	25 Jan 2017
<i>Song Leader</i>			Timothy Ng	Ernest Lau
<i>Opening Prayer Leader</i>			Jerry Cheong	Low Chong Ping
<i>Closing Prayer Leader</i>			Danny Poo	Benjamin Tan