

10 JUNE
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



**A BIG THANK YOU TO ALL WHO PARTICIPATED
AND HELPED TO MAKE FAMILY CAMP 2018 A
GREAT SUCCESS!**



LOOKING FORWARD TO FAMILY CAMP 2019!



Elder's exhortation

by bro Jimmy Lau

Joh 9:31 Now we know that God heareth not sinners: but if any man be a worshipper of God, and doeth his will, him he heareth.

Now we know that God heareth not sinners. This verse has generated a lot of discussion and controversies. Does God hear the prayers of sinners? Many verses seem to indicate the He does not (Psa 66:18; 109:7; Pro 15:8, 29). Other places indicate that He hears the prayers of sinners. One obvious case is that God heard the prayers of Cornelius; a Roman centurion who was not a Christian (Acts 10:4). David sinned but God heard his prayer and the answer to his petition was a negative (2 Sam 12:15-18). On the other hand, righteous apostle Paul prayed to God to remove a thorn in the flesh that was tormenting him physically. However, the answer from God was also a negative (2 Cor 12:7-9). Even Abraham prayed that Ishmael should be the chosen seed since Sarah had remained barren. But God said no (Gen 17:18-19). Hence, should we also conclude that God does not hear the prayers of the righteous?

Let us not forget that the statement in John 9:31 was spoken by an uninspired man. He was assuming as a general truth, which was generally accepted, that God would not hear the prayers of sinners as stated by various Old Testament verses.

The scripture contains statements uttered by uninspired persons. For example, Job's wife said: "*Curse God, and die*" (Job 2:9). Surely, we don't agree with her statement.

Let's study the context of John 9 where this statement was uttered: "*Now we know that God heareth not sinners: but if any man be a worshipper of God, and doeth his will, him he heareth.*"

1. There was a man who was blind from his birth.
2. He was healed by Jesus and he began to see.
3. It was on a Sabbath day that Jesus healed him.
4. The Jews were surprised that he had his sight restored.

5. The Pharisees came to know of this phenomenon and said: *“This man is not of God, because he keepeth not the sabbath day”* (John 9:16).
6. Others said: *“How can a man that is a sinner do such miracles?”* (John 9:16).
7. The Pharisees summoned the man’s mother to verify that he was indeed born blind and how he could see now (John 9:18-23).
8. His parents, fearing the Pharisees, threw the question to their son (John 9:23).
9. The Pharisee pressed this point to the man born blind: *“Give God the praise: we know that this man is a sinner”* (John 9:24).

Note: The Pharisees could not deny that what had happened was a miracle. A miracle is a supernatural occurrence. A miracle is a work of God. And only one who is chosen by GOD can perform a miracle. The Pharisees denied that Christ comes from God. They called Christ a sinner. Therefore, God could not possibly work a miracle through Him.

It was at this instance that the man uttered the famous words: *“God heareth not sinners.”* He explains his statement: *“If this man were not of God, he could do nothing”* (John 9:33). He is saying this: If Christ is a sinner as the Pharisees thought He is, then, how is it that He could perform miracles? God would not perform miracles through a sinner. Therefore, Jesus must be from God.

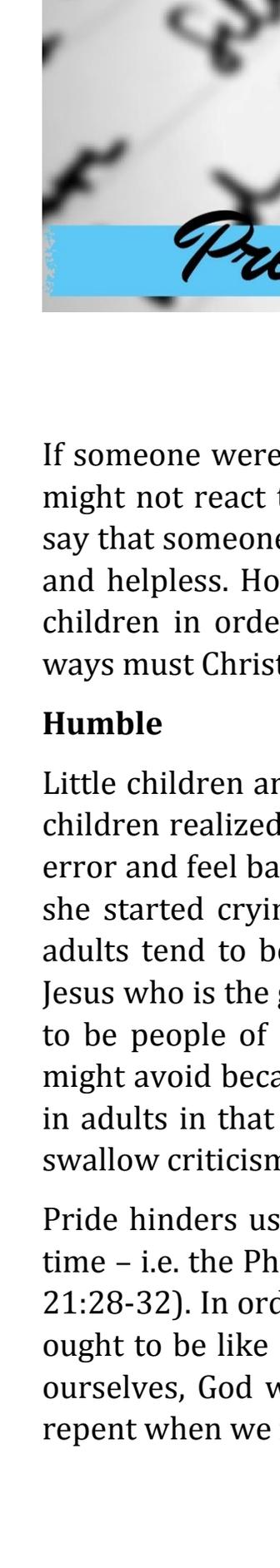
The argument goes like this:

1. God heareth not sinners, but only those who worship Him and do His will.
2. That God heareth this Man is certain, for such a miracle could be performed only by divine power.
3. This Man, therefore, is not a sinner, but is from God.

The meaning of this verse is, therefore, "It is well understood that God will not give miraculous power to impostors and false prophets." Jesus performed a miracle. Therefore, Jesus must be from God.

Today, some denominations are performing fake miracles. They are imposters and false teachers. The “miracles” are staged and choreographed to deceive the audience. Time and time again, they have been proven false. We can safely conclude that they are not from God; and so are their teachings. They are false teachers out there to deceive.

Let us study the scripture diligently that we may understand it and expose the incorrect teachings: *“Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth”* (2 Tim 2:15).



Preacher's exhortation

Like A Child

By bro Ernest Lau

If someone were to tell you that you are like a child, how would you react to it? We might not react to it positively because such a description is usually derogatory. To say that someone is like a child, it is usually meant that he is naïve, unwise, immature and helpless. However, it is interesting to note that Jesus said that we must be like children in order to enter into the kingdom of Heaven (Matthew 18:1-4). In what ways must Christians be like children?

Humble

Little children are humble and receive correction more readily than adults do. When children realized that they had done something wrong, they will quickly realize their error and feel bad about it. A child once stepped on my foot, and when she realized it, she started crying. An adult would probably deny that he had done it. In contrast, adults tend to be prideful. In the context of Matthew 18, the disciples were asking Jesus who is the greatest in the kingdom of Heaven (Matthew 18:1). As adults, we like to be people of importance. Aren't there certain "lowly" jobs in Singapore that we might avoid because it is too embarrassing to do? Furthermore, we can see the pride in adults in that we do not like to be told that we are wrong; it is difficult for us to swallow criticism.

Pride hinders us from entering the kingdom of God. There were those during Jesus' time – i.e. the Pharisees – who refused to obey Jesus because of their pride (Matthew 21:28-32). In order to follow Jesus, we have to deny ourselves (Luke 9:23). Christians ought to be like children: humble and ready to receive correction. When we humble ourselves, God will lift us up (James 4:10). Are we ready to receive correction and repent when we fall short?

Honest

Children are honest and innocent. The false doctrine of Calvinism teaches that children are depraved and sinful. However, Jesus taught that the kingdom of Heaven is made up of people who are like children (Matthew 18:1-4). Is Heaven full of depraved and sinful people? Certainly not, children are innocent! Because they are so innocent, we often play tricks on them, and they readily believe. Part of their innocence can also be seen in their honesty: children are so honest that it is difficult for them to keep secrets. In contrast, adults can be malicious and have evil desires. Paul taught that in understanding, we should be like men, but in malice, be like children (1 Corinthians 14:20). Certainly in understanding the teachings of the Bible, we must not remain like children; we have to learn to eventually eat the strong meat of the Word (Hebrew 5:12). However, in terms of malice and other evil desires, we ought to be like little children: children are not malicious!

Having evil desires and thoughts hinders us from being part of the kingdom of Heaven. Before we can become a Christian, we must repent of our sins and evil desires (Acts 2:38; Galatians 5:19-21). Even as a Christian, we must continually abstain from such evil desires. Christians ought to be like children: honest and innocent. We ought to “provide things honest in the sight of all men” (Romans 12:17) and also be “harmless as doves” (Matthew 10:16). Are we honest and innocent in our dealings with all men?

Hungry

Little children are always hungry (1 Peter 2:2). When we think of babies, all they do is cry, eat, and sleep. When the babies are hungry, and do not get their milk, they will cry; even in the middle of the night they may cry because they want their milk. Furthermore, they are hungry not just for food, but also for knowledge. They will ask many questions: what is this? What is that? Why? Why? Why? They are like sponges, ready to absorb any knowledge we give to them. In contrast, adults sometimes are satisfied and complacent about their education. We are lazy to upgrade our knowledge and skills. The Singapore government even resorts to giving out incentives to Singaporeans in order to encourage us to upgrade our skills.

A lack of hunger hinders us from entering the kingdom of God. In John 6, we read of some people who were hungry for physical food but not spiritual food. They had seen Jesus performing the miracle of the feeding of the 5,000. They kept following Him after, but not because they believed in Him; they followed Jesus for more bread. Jesus told them to labour instead for spiritual food (John 6:27); unfortunately many were

uninterested and departed. Even Christians can be complacent about our faith, when we are satisfied with our level of Bible knowledge. Christians must be hungry for God's Word just as babies are hungry for milk. Only when we hunger for righteousness, can we then be filled (Matthew 5:6). Are we taking every opportunity we can to learn more from God's word?

Let us be like little children, who are humble, honest, and hungry. The next time someone says that you are like a child, perhaps you can now take it as a compliment. Let us not forget what our Lord Jesus Christ said, "except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven."



Management Committee (MC) Nomination

In lieu that bro Tian Seng, bro Paul Lim, and bro Amos Yang will be leaving for the new work, the church will be holding a management committee members nomination exercise to replace them. Please nominate up to three mature male members on the Nomination Form and give it to sis Ser Ern. **Nomination close on 24 June.**

Travels *(Please pray for travelling mercies)*

1. **Sis Carol** in Istanbul till 11 Jun
2. **Sis Fong Yoke** in Malaysia till 12 Jun
3. **Sis Germaine** in Bangkok till 12 Jun
4. **Sis Sharyl** in Korea till 15 Jun
5. **Bro Gordon & sis Clara** in Japan till 15 Jun
6. **Sis Annie Chee, sis Peck Lian, sis Wai Kheng & sis Yuet Ming** in Israel till 15 Jun
7. **Bro Alvin and bro Jeshua** in KL till 16 Jun and 20 Jun respectively.
8. **Sis Tuan Sang, sis Tingwei, sis Tingpei and family** in Japan till 17 Jun

Palau Mission

Bro Ernest & sis Stephanie will be in Palau from 27 Jun – 26 Sep to work with the church there. They will leave on 21 Jun to the Philippines first before flying to Palau. Please pray for their safety and for the success of their work.

Birth of baby Maya!

Our heartiest congratulations to **sis Lydia** and her husband on the birth of their baby girl, Maya Libin Gurralla, on 5 June 2018. Please continue to pray for the health of both mother and daughter.

Guest Last Week

1. Bro John Grubb
(Chestnut Mountain COC, US)
2. Bro Alex & sis Ruishan *(San Francisco)*
3. Bro John Yo *(Taichung COC, Taiwan)*
4. Bro Patrick Ng *(Section 17 COC, M'sia)*
5. Bro Yu Kong & sis Lee Yok Hoon *(Malacca COC, M'sia)*
6. Sis Vicky *(Jurong COC, S'pore)*
7. Bro Ivan Kwek *(sis Joann's friend)*
8. Kenny Kee *(sis Debbie's husband)*
9. Peh Guang Rong *(sis Yan Ling's husband)*
10. Frances Tok *(bro Jeremy's wife)*
11. Chloe Neo *(sis Sydney's cousin)*
12. Gan Sok Ting *(bro Reuben's friend)*
13. Patrick & Jay *(bro Benedict's friends)*
14. Isaac & Jia Yi *(sis Michelle's friends)*
15. Jonathan *(bro Philemon's friend)*
16. Esther *(sis Vicky's friend)*
17. Shalen Manuel *(sis Seow Hui's helper)*
18. Jonalyn F. Balagot
19. Nanette Cuplang
20. Triston

UPCOMING EVENTS

MARK IN YOUR CALENDAR!

Youth Fellowship

Date: 10 June, Sunday (TODAY)

Time: 1.30pm – 3pm

Venue: Church Building

Agenda: *Sharing session on how to pray better, and a group prayer session*

Php 4:6 Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.

Combined Youth Fellowship

Date: 23 June, Saturday

Time: 12pm – 6pm

Venue: The Food Place @ Raffles City Shopping Centre

(nearest MRT: City Hall) #03-15

Highlights: *Lunch/Amazing Race Event/Optional Dinner*

Amazing G race! Join us for the first combined (JCOC/LAPCOC/LCOC) youth event of 2018. Get to know our tiny Singapore a little better and bond with the rest of the youth from the other congregations.

Note: Wear a suitable outfit for walking



SENIOR FELLOWSHIP 2018

NO-SEW CUSHION

7 JULY 2018, SATURDAY

10AM - 12NN

LAP CHURCH BUILDING

PLEASE INFORM BRO ALVIN OR SIS SER ERN
IF YOU ARE INTERESTED TO ATTEND.

UPCOMING EVENTS

9 Aug – Bible Quiz

8 Sep – FellowKidz

29 Sep – Bible Seminar

28 Nov–1 Dec – FSC Lectureship

4 – 6 Dec – Vacation Bible School

NEWS



Thursday Bible Class
How To Be Confident & Influence People
by bro Ernest Lau

Birthday of the week

- 11 Jun (Mon) – Leong Dak
- 13 Jun (Wed) – Yuet Ming & Siang Yee
- 15 Jun (Fri) – Roberto
- 16 Jun (Sat) - Jasmine Lim



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

PRAYER REQUESTS

Overseas:

- *Sis Shuan Kwee* in Hong Kong
- *Sis Farah & bro Siang Yee* in London, UK, for studies
- *Bro Long Jun* in China
- *Bro Nigel* in Dubai
- *Bro Kenneth Liong and sis Iris* in San Francisco

Health

- *Sis Baby's & Auntie Yeoh's* health
- *Sis Suan Kiang's, sis Linda's & sis Molly's* health
- *Sis Doris'* recovery from her trigger finger surgery
- *Sis Alice's* recovery from a closed fracture
- *Lisa's (bro David Sum's daughter)* recovered from her surgery.
- *Sis Molly's brother's* health
- *Bro Capi's mother's* health
- *Sis Siew Siew's mother's, sis Shu Fang's mother's, sis Doris' mother's, sis Shermin's grandmother's & sis Sarah's grandmother's* health
- *Bro Gideon's* recovery from his jaw recovery

Pregnancy

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

NSF

- Bro Kevin, bro Wei Jie, bro Benedict, bro Titus

MEN-TO-SERVE SCHEDULE

Morning Worship @ 9.30am		10-Jun-18	17-Jun-18	24-Jun-18
Song Leader		Benjamin Kwan	Jeremy Kwan	Isaac Chua
Opening Prayer Leader		Charlie Teo	Timothy Ng	Benjamin Tan
Psalms Text		Psa 68:1-13	Psa 68:14-26	Psa 68:27-35
Preacher		Kwan Tai Choom	Peter Chin	Jerry Cheong
Lord's Supper Text		1 Cor 11:23-29	Mar 14:22-25	Mat 26:26-29
Lord's Supper Servers	<i>Scripture Reader</i>	Nicodemus Oey	Axel Chee	Yew Tian Geng
	<i>Prayer: Bread</i>	Lim Poh Teng	Victor Lee	Henry Leow
	<i>Prayer: Fruit of Vine</i>	Farand Lim	Paul Lim	Kenneth Quek
	<i>Prayer: Offering</i>	Andy Lin	Alan Poon	Kenneth Leong
	<i>Assistant</i>	Ng Wei Xiang	Roberto Pascual	Jose Cardoza
Announcer		Jimmy Lau	Amos Yang	Benjamin Kwan
Greeters		Jessica Patete Maria Fu	Wang Tingwei Teo Kim Tian	Grace Ler Lois Chee
Evening Worship @ 7pm				
Song Leader & O.P.		Ernest Lau	Jonathan Yang	Timothy Ng
Speaker		Alan Poon	Paul Lim	Jimmy Lau
Lord's Supper, Giving & C.P.		Martyn Gostelow	Marc Wee	Jerry Cheong
Thursday Service @ 7.45pm				
Song Leader			14-Jun-18 Andy Lin	21-Jun-18 Jeshua Lin
Opening Prayer Leader			Kenneth Quek	Low Chong Ping
Closing Prayer Leader			Benjamin Kwan	John Goh