

22 January  
2017

# LAP BULLETIN

Church of Christ 20 Lim Ah Pin Road Singapore 547839 Tel 6286 5605  
www.lapcoc.org email@lapcoc.org 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

**LEAD**  
**BY EXAMPLE**  
**THERE'S SOMEONE**  
**LOOKING UP TO YOU**





# ELDER'S EXHORTATION

BY BRO JIMMY LAU

*Proverbs 29:18 Where there is no vision, the people perish: but he that keepeth the law, happy is he.*

**Vision** - The word commonly used for the revelation of God's will to the prophets (Isa 1:1). The darkest times in the history of Israel had been when there "*was no open vision*" (1Sam 3:1). It means there was no prophet to teach the people. The result was "*every man did that which was right in his own eyes*" (Judges 21:25). No one was keeping the law of God and morality was at its worst.

When there are no men preaching about sins, the world will perish; perish in their sins. The prophets were the instructors of the people in divine things. The fatal effect of the absence of such revelation of God's will is stated to be confusion, disorder, and rebellion.

We see in this proverb the importance of preaching the word of God. When there is no true preaching of the word, evil men will take over and preach the devil's gospel. False preachers will come and misuse this verse for own gain. They will tell you they have received a vision from God, and the vision is to tell the members to build a mega church building and the members are to sign on pledge cards to pledge their monies for this cause.

Another misapplication of this verse is interpreting the vision to mean to be visionary. While it is good for leaders to communicate vision, the verse is not talking about a leader's vision. False teachers and preachers are fond to say this: "*To be a big church, you need to think big. If you want to grow, then you need to think growth. If you want to triple your attendance in two years, then you need to build an auditorium that size. If you can dream it, you can believe it. If you can believe it, you can achieve it.*" Then, they would give out pledge cards for the members to sign.

Without true and spiritual preaching, people are unrestrained. Christians need to know the truth so they will not be easily persuaded by the sweet talks from false teachers.

The prophet Hosea says: **“My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge”** (Hosea 4:6). We have to be thankful to God for the abundance of *“open vision”* which we enjoy. We have the word of God in our hands. There is no excuse for lack of knowledge of the word of God.

Therefore it is the duty of every Christian:

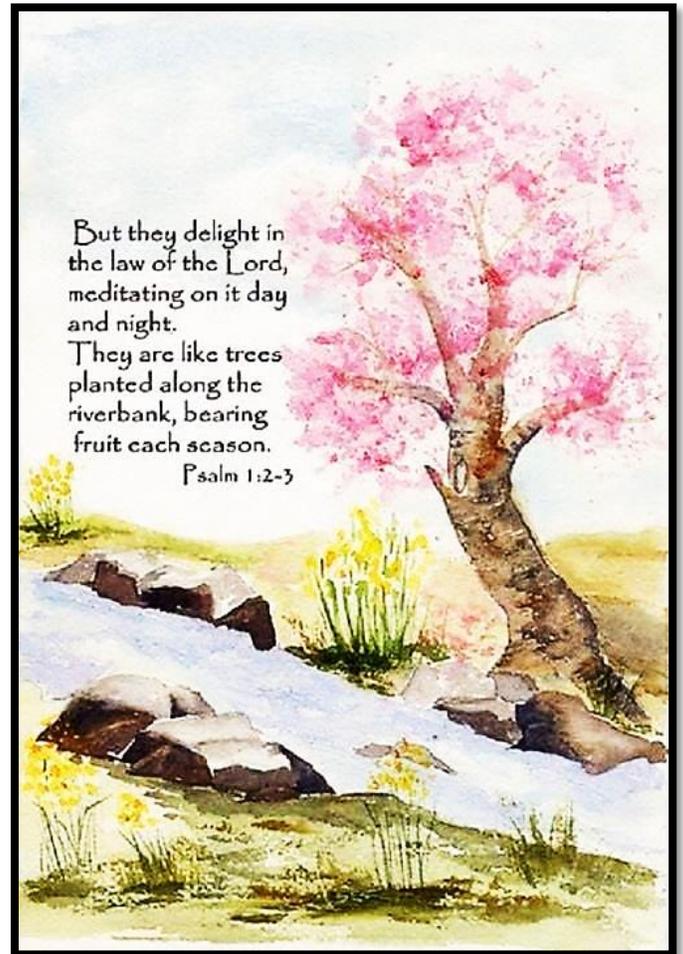
- (1) to study the Scriptures,
- (2) to circulate them throughout the world, and
- (3) to teach and expound them to children and the ignorant.

**But he that keepeth the law, happy is he** - It is not having the law, but obeying it, and living up to it, that will entitle us to blessedness. The Psalmist wrote: **“But his delight is in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night”** (Psalm 1:2).

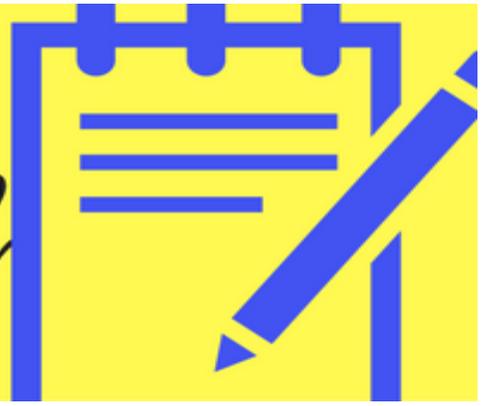
When there is no preaching, the people perish; they turn to wickedness. But when there is preaching to warn the people of their sins, there is righteousness and love. David wrote: **“Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee”** (Psalm 119:11).

The word of God keeps us from sin. How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the true gospel to warn us from the dangers of hell fire. They love us enough to warn us about the eternal damnation.

We need more preaching from the pulpit. Let the preacher be bold enough to tell us our faults and to bring us to repentance and to the way of life.



# From the Brotherhood



## Building Relationships—Strengthening the Family

*by John W. Moore*

Thirty-five years later, it is as vivid as it was the day it happened. The aroma of bacon cooking over an open fire; the sounds of water cascading over the rocks of the Colorado River; the fishing poles leaning carefully against the old shady oak tree; the feel of the cool morning breeze wafting its way through our tent; my wonderful ole Dad sipping on his disgusting ole syrup thick brewed river coffee; and my sweet dear mother traversing through our campsite keeping everything organized—I was having the time of my life in the great outdoors getting to do what I absolutely loved



to do. Exploring, fishing, adventure around every corner, surviving in the wilderness, living off the land (and of course on lots of snacks brought from home), was to me a little like going back in time and pretending I was a Native American or on an expedition with Lewis and Clarke. I loved the outdoors and mom and Dad knew it

too. They were, by the way, the first to introduce me to its numerous wonders, and encouraged my appreciation of it by allowing me to join the boy scouts, buying me camping gear, and taking me and my brother and sister fishing, camping, and hunting as often as they could. It was the laughter and fun we had along the way that made it all so meaningful. It was the working together to get things done and the common experiences that helped bind us together as a family. It was also on those trips that we talked and shared our inner most thoughts and concerns. As we gazed into the starry filled sky we mused at the creative power of the majesty on high and reminded one another that God was and is truly powerful.

Their interest in me and the things I like to do didn't end with the outdoors. When it came to sports, one or both of them, were always (and I do mean always) at every game. Starting with my older brother who played several sports, my sister who marched in the band, and then going through my own years of little league, basketball, and football, there is absolutely no telling how many games and practices my parents attended. Like my wife, Carla, has done for several years for our boys, my mother often cooked for the team, and became a second mom to many of the boys.

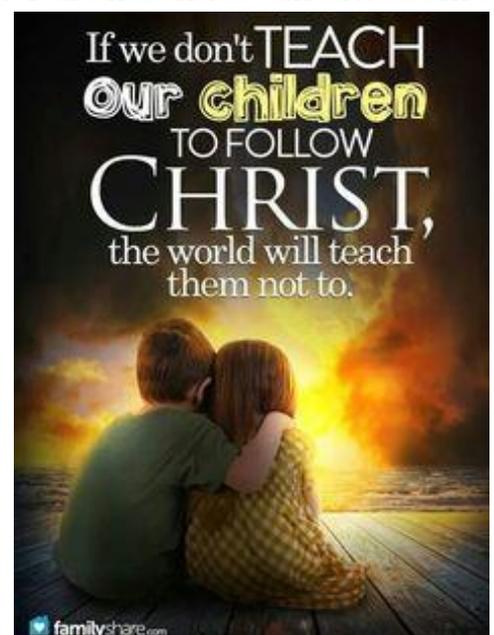
All of their interest in my activities, however, wasn't just their attempt to make me happy. Rather, it was about building and maintaining a establishing a relationship with me. Time and attention are essential ingredients in developing and nurturing any relationship, and with children you only have a small window of opportunity to seize the day. Well known author Josh McDowell, once said "rules without relationship, equals rebellion." Relationship building requires time. Being a parent involves so much more than just issuing dictums about right and wrong or giving orders to clean up your room, or take out the trash. In fact, those who limit their parenting to verbal instruction will almost never be successful in rearing a child who will want to serve the Lord. Children need lots of attention. They need hugs and words of encouragement. They need to know that they are important and loved. Everyone has the need to be appreciated and valued, and their self will only be nurtured when parents give attention to their children's interest and talents.

Showing an interest in your children and in the things they enjoy is absolutely essential for the building of relationships. When my wife and I first got married she knew very little about football and didn't really care too much for it either, but when our boys began hitting the grid iron she became an avid fan. Not once did she leave with them the impression that she wasn't interested in them or what was important to them. Over the years she learned more and more about a sport she never played, asking them informed questions like "what's the difference between man and zone coverage." She also made pizza rolls for the team, purchased their favorite Gatorade, and spent lots of time looking for that all-important PowerBar. Our boys have not doubted for a minute whether or not their mom was interested in them. As a result she and they have found it is easier to communicate and when it came time to having those "right from wrong talks", they were a whole lot more willing to listen and more receptive to her advice.

Of course, relationship building involves much more than just being at all your children's activities. Spending time with them should mean more than just sitting next to them watching television or proudly clapping for them from the bleachers. Planning outings, involving them in sports, taking them to guitar lessons are all really a means to an end. With each activity you are creating memories and sharing common experiences that will serve to bind you together as parent and child. You are also giving them an opportunity to develop character and an appreciation for the values of life.

The values we often want our children to acquire can so often be developed and nurtured in their interest and activities. An outdoor camping outing can teach the needed skill of organization, planning, resourcefulness, and educate them to the design of God's marvelous creation. Music lessons, playing in a band, or sports can help teach self-discipline, hard work, and the importance of working on a team. Children need to be kept busy doing things or else they will resort to the virtual worlds of pseudo fantasy presented on the television or on the internet. If that gets taken away, they will find someone or something to fill the void.

Relationship building and the acquiring of life skills and values are all a part of parenting in the biblical way. We must always remember the ever practical advice of the proverb writer, "a child left to himself bringeth his mother to shame" (Pro. 29:15). This means we must be involved in their lives and mold them into productive Christians by spending time to plan and promote meaningful activities for their spiritual well being and social development. Parents have an awesome responsibility and an incredible blessing to "train up a child" (Pro. 22:6). They have been given the daunting task of guiding the home and bringing up their children (1 Tim. 5:14; Eph. 6:4). They are truly a blessing from the Lord (Ps. 127:3) and we must therefore be a good steward of that which he has entrusted to our care. "As arrows are in the hand of a mighty man, so are children of the youth" (Ps. 127:4). Let each parent then become a mighty parent warrior that will take the necessary time to make sure that our children are headed for the target of Christian virtues and a heavenly home.



# Weekly News

## Collection for the bonus of our Mission Workers

We appreciate our mission workers – bro Kwan (China), bro Bob Xiang (China), bro George Zhang (China), bro John Yo (Taiwan), bro Wang (Taiwan), bro Glen Tattersall (Australia) & bro Hai (Vietnam). Boxes will be made available for you at the pulpit area till **22 Jan (TODAY)** to give angbaos to show your appreciation to them during this festive season.

## Health (Pray for speedy recovery)

1. **Sis Susan Goh** who suffered a fall and had 2 bone fractures on her left ribcage.
2. **Sis Linda** is suffering from diarrhoea and vomiting as a result of her chemotherapy.

## Guests Last Week

1. Bro Sim Boon Quang & sis Mui Hoong  
(Lavender COC, S'pore)
2. Sis Chua Shuan Kei  
(Church Street COC, Melbourne)
3. Sis Joan Lee (Church St. COC, Melbourne)
4. Sis Eunice Tan (Ipoh COC, M'sia)
5. Bro Calvin Tan (Kota Kemuning COC, M'sia)
6. Sis Eng Yih Ting (Kota Kemuning COC, M'sia)
7. Bro Andy Ling (Kota Kemuning COC, M'sia)
8. Bro Willy Ling (Kota Kemuning COC, M'sia)
9. Sis Sandra Leong (Kota Kemuning COC, M'sia)
10. Kok Wei & Iris Lee  
(bro Henry & sis Lois' friends)
11. Jack Chan (sis Eunice's friend)
12. Bai Guang Rong (sis Yanling's husband)
13. Rukmini (sis Kim Choo's helper)

## UPCOMING EVENTS

MARK IN YOUR CALENDAR!

### 4 February 2017, Saturday

#### **CNY Youth Visitation**

Meeting Time & Venue:

**9.30am at church building**

**OR 10am at Auntie Baby's house**

*Come join us in visiting our older brethren and in celebrating Chinese New Year together!*

### 12 February 2017, Sunday

#### **Singing Fellowship**

Time: 1:30 - 3:00 p.m.

Venue: Church Building

*Come join us as we spend an afternoon praising God in song! Open to all members, young and old. Please check with Ben Kwan if you have any questions.*

# NEWS



## Thursday Bible Class

**Closer than a Brother**

By bro Ernest Lau

## Birthday of the week

22 Jan (Sun) –

Abby & Gracie

24 Jan (Tue) –

Candice & Margie



Please send any news & prayer requests to

**Bro Alvin Lin**

[linminhan@hotmail.com](mailto:linminhan@hotmail.com)

or

**Bro Ernest Lau**

[ernestz15@hotmail.com](mailto:ernestz15@hotmail.com)

or

**Sis Ser Ern**

[gserern@gmail.com](mailto:gserern@gmail.com)

# PRAYER REQUESTS

## Overseas:

- **Bro Mitchell** in Perth, Australia for studies
- **Sis Rachel Ting** in UK for studies
- **Our supported missionaries:**  
Bro Kwan, bro Bob & bro George (*China*), bro Glen (*Australia*), bro John Yo (*Taiwan*), bro Hai (*Vietnam*)

## Health

- **Sis Baby's & Auntie Yeoh's** health
- **Sis Suan Kiang's, sis Linda's & Kwan Mama's** health
- **Sis Susan Goh's mother's & sis Doreen's mother** health
- **Sis Kim Tian's** recovery from her skin problem
- **Sis Jasmine Lim's** recovery from her eye problem
- **Sis Sharon (Jurong COC)'s** recovery from her surgery
- **Sis Annie Cheong's husband's, bro Jose Cardoza's father's** health and salvation

## Expectant Mothers

- Cynthia Lee (Mar'17), Daryl Cheong (May'17)

## NSF

- Bro Gideon, bro Joel Lee, bro Kevin

## *Serving in Worship*

Date		22 Jan 2017	29 Jan 2017	5 Feb 2017
Song Leader		Justin Kwan	Joel Lee	Jeremy Kwan
Opening Prayer Leader		John Goh	Reuben Lim	Charlie Teo
Psalms Text		Psa 18:25-36	Psa 18:37-50	Psa 19:1-14
Preacher		Peter Chin	Ernest Lau	Kwan Tai Choom
Lord's Supper Text		Matt 27:35-50	Isa 53:4-9	Mark 15:24-37
Lord's Supper Servers	Scripture Reader	Jeshua Lin	Zachary Ling	Soo Kok Leong
	Prayer: Bread	Danny Poo	Chua Kian Hong	Victor Lee
	Prayer: Fruit of Vine	Ng Chee Beng	Wee Hooi Kok	Henry Chee
	Prayer: Offering	Amos Yang	Timothy Ng	Ong Jun Wei
	Assistant	Shawn Wong	Melvin Tan	Titus Goh
Foundation Class		Benjamin Tan	Arthur Yap	Justin Kwan
Announcer		Jimmy Lau	Benjamin Tan	Paul Lim
Greeters		Constance Lau Wu Wenyu	Lim Poh Im Shum Chee Ming	Ludina Carrido Susan Cheong
Midweek Service: 26 Jan 2017		<b>Song Leader</b>	Benjamin Kwan	
		<b>Opening Prayer Leader</b>	Low Chong Ping	
		<b>Closing Prayer Leader</b>	Danny Poo	