

21 JUNE 2020

LAP BULLETIN

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▶ TUNE IN **FACEBOOK GROUP (LAP LIVE STREAM)**
SUNDAYS @ 9.30AM | THURSDAYS @ 7.45PM

**HYMNS FOR
SUNDAY WORSHIP**



THE FORGOTTEN FIGURE IN THE HOME

by bro Jimmy Lau



**PRAYER REQUESTS, BIRTHDAYS
& MEN-TO-SERVE SCHEDULE**

THANKSGIVING: PHASE 2

WE ARE HERE FOR YOU

Elders

Bro Jimmy Lau
Bro Michael Yeo

Deacons

Bro Jerry Cheong
Bro Benjamin Tan

Preacher

Bro Ernest Lau

Administrator

Sis Ser Ern

5

All to Jesus I Surrender

I SURRENDER ALL

Judson W. Van DeVenter, 1896

Winfield S. Weeden, 1896

1. { All to Je - sus I sur - ren - der, All to Him I free - ly give; }
 { I will ev - er love and trust Him, In His pres - ence dai - ly live. }

2. { All to Je - sus I sur - ren - der, Hum - bly at His feet I bow, }
 { World - ly plea - sures all for - sak - en; Take me Je - sus, take me now. }

3. { All to Je - sus I sur - ren - der, Lord, I give my - self to Thee; }
 { Fill me with Thy love and pow - er, Let Thy bless - ing fall on me. }

I sur - ren - der all, I sur - ren - der all,
 I sur - ren - der all, I sur - ren - der all

All to Thee, my bless - ed Sav - ior, I sur - ren - der all.

33

Count Your Blessings

Johnson Oatman, Jr., 1897

Edwin O Excell, 1897

1. When up - on life's bil - lows you are tem - pest - tossed, When you are dis -
 2. Are you ev - er bur - dened with a load of care? Does the cross seem
 3. When you look at oth - ers with their lands and gold, Think that Christ has
 4. So, a - mid the con - flict, wheth - er great or small Do not be dis -

cou - raged think - ing all is lost, Count your man - y bless - ings, name them
 heav - y you are called to bear? Count your man - y bless - ings, ev - 'ry
 prom - ised you His wealth un - told; Count your man - y bless - ings, mon - ey
 cour - aged, God is ov - er all; Count your man - y bless - ings, an - gels

one by one, And it will sur - prise you what the Lord hath done.
 doubt will fly, And you will be sing - ing as the days go by.
 can - not buy, Your re - ward in heav - en nor your home on high.
 will at - tend, Help and com - fort give you to your jour - ney's end.

CHORUS

Count your bless - ings, Name them one by one; Count your
 Count your man - y bless - ings, Name them one by one; Count your man - y

HYMN #2

bless-ings, See what God hath done; Count your bless-ings,
bless-ings, See what God hath done; Count your man - y bless-ings,

rit. Name them one by one; *a tempo* Count your man-y bless-ings, See what God hath done.

90

None of Self and All of Thee

Theodore Monod, 1874

James McGranahan, 1876

Not too fast

1. O the bit - ter pain and sor - row That a time could ev - er be,
 2. Yet he found me; I be - held him Bleed - ing on th'ac - curs - ed tree,
 3. Day by day His ten - der mer - cy Heal - ing, help - ing, full and free,
 4. High - er than the high - est heav - ens, Deep - er than the deep - est sea,

When I proud - ly said to Je - sus "All of self, and none of Thee,"
 And my wist - ful heart said faint - ly "Some of self, and some of Thee,"
 Bro't me low - er while I whis - pered "Less of self, and more of Thee,"
 Lord, Thy love at last has con - quered "None of self and all of Thee,"

mf All of self and none of Thee, *f* All of self and none of Thee,
 Some of self and some of Thee, Some of self and some of Thee,
 Less of self and more of Thee, Less of self and more of Thee,
 None of self and all of Thee, None of self and all of Thee,

ff When I proud - ly said to Je - sus "All of self and none of Thee."
 And my wist - ful heart said faint - ly "Some of self and some of Thee."
 Bro't me low - er while I whis - pered "Less of self, and more of Thee."
 Lord, Thy love at last has con - quered "None of self, and all of Thee."
rit.

THE FORGOTTEN FIGURE IN THE HOME

by bro Jimmy Lau



My daughter was checking on what food to order for the coming Father's Day. She exclaimed: "How come there is no promotion for Father's Day?" She is right.

We see pages and pages of advertisements and promotions when it comes to Mothers' Day. We don't see that kind of attention given to Fathers' Day.

Fathers are not only the forgotten figures in the homes and in the commercial world but also at the pulpit and Sunday School lessons. When it comes to the subject of mothers, there are so many women that come into our minds - Lois, Eunice, Hannah, Mary, Sarah, etc. There are so many lessons and poems written about mothers. But how many fatherly figures can you name from the men in the Bible? The apostles, Paul and Peter? I don't think so!

Do you think God cares about fathers? I'm sure He does. When God wanted to choose a nation to whom He could entrust His Law to, how did He choose? He chose a faithful father.

He said of Abraham: ***"For I know him, that he will command his children and his household after him, and they shall keep the way of the LORD, to do justice and judgment; that the LORD may bring upon Abraham that which he hath spoken of him" (Genesis 18:19).*** He knew Abraham's DNA would be passed down to his descendants. What was that unique DNA that was in Abraham?

1. **He will be a Good father:** ***"He will command his children and his household after him."***

2. **He will be a Spiritual leader to his children:** ***"They shall keep the way of the LORD."***

3. He will be a Moral teacher to his children: *“They will do justice and judgment.”*

When God was choosing a family for His only begotten Son Jesus Christ, do you think He only considers the woman Mary? Did He not also look at the character of Joseph? I'm sure He did.

Joseph is a forgotten figure in the life of Jesus. Let us see why God chose Joseph to be the “father” of His Son Jesus.

Joseph and Mary were engaged to be married. But before the wedding, he heard that his soon-to-be wife was pregnant. He didn't know who the father was, but he knew it wasn't his. What should he do? What would YOU do if it had happened to you? I know what I will do: CALL OFF THE WEDDING!

Some might want to shame her in public and tell the world what a loose woman she is. But what did Joseph do? Was he angry? I think so. Is he calling off the wedding? Yes, the thought

did come to him (Matthew 1:19). Is he going to shame Mary publicly? No, he had no intention of doing it.

What Joseph did show him to be a man worthy to be the “father” of Jesus: ***“Then Joseph her husband, being a just man, and not willing to make her a publick example, was minded to put her away privily” (Matthew 1:19).***

I believed he was angry and saddened by what had happened. But he still loved Mary. How do I know? His action reveals his character and feeling. The Scripture says he was not willing to make Mary a public example. It means, he did not want to put her to shame, to embarrass her in front of everyone. So, he decided to do it discreetly.

Under the Mosaic Law, if Joseph were to deliver Mary to the elders of the people

to be judged, she would be stoned to death (Remember the woman caught in adultery in John 8:1-11). But Joseph wanted to spare Mary the shame and the death sentence. What does it tell us about his character? First and foremost, he was MEEK.

Joseph would rather let the wrong be on him than be on Mary. What would the folks say of him when they learned he had called off the wedding? Not very nice things, I would think.

It reminds me of another man named Abimelech. Abimelech was king of Gerar. Abraham lied to him that Sarah was his sister. So, Abimelech took Sarah. He was rebuked by God. He said to God: ***“Did he not himself say to me, ‘She is my sister’? And she herself said, He is my brother. In the integrity of my heart and the innocence of my hands I have done this” (Genesis 20:5, ESV).***

He released Sarah and gave gifts to them and said to her: ***“Behold, I have given your brother a thousand pieces of***

silver. It is a sign of your innocence in the eyes of all who are with you, and before everyone you are vindicated” (Genesis 20:16).

Abraham and Sarah were at fault and should be the ones saying SORRY and making restitution to Abimelech. Instead, Abimelech made restitution. His words, ***“It is a sign of your innocence in the eyes of all who are with you, and before everyone you are vindicated”***, means in the eyes of others, Sarah was innocent and he was wrong to take her. He was willing to be the bad guy in this episode.

Joseph was willing to take the blame for calling off the wedding. The Scripture correctly calls him a JUST man. Few men would do the same for a spouse who has “cheated”.

Therefore, being a Meek and Just man, Joseph would be a good MORAL Teacher to his children.

Secondly, Joseph OBEYED God. God said to him: ***“Fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife: for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost” (Matthew 1:20).***

Most men will say there is no way they are going to marry her. Some might even question God: “How can I be sure her pregnancy is of the Holy Spirit?”

But Joseph obeyed God and took Mary as his wife. That is faith plus obedience. When God was choosing a “father” for His only begotten Son Jesus, he chose one who was faithful and obedient to His command. Joseph and Abraham shared the same qualifications: They were faithful and obedient.

Thirdly, Joseph was a LOVING father. Though he knew he was not the biological father to Jesus, he loved Him nonetheless. How do I know? When Herod tried to kill Jesus,

Joseph fled out of Judea and went all the way into Egypt. If he did not love Jesus, he would gladly let Herod have Him. How far did he go from Herod? To Egypt! (Matthew 2:14). Egypt was out of reach of Herod.

Later, when he had to return to Palestine, he chose to stay far away from Judea and lived in a poor town called Nazareth, right to the north of Palestine (Matthew 2:23).

There was also another instance when Jesus was twelve years old and was accidentally left behind in the temple by Joseph and Mary. You might ask: “How is it possible that Joseph and Mary did not know Jesus was not with them all this time?”

Have you watched the movie, Home Alone? In that movie, a child was left behind TWICE on the family vacations.

The reasons: Too many children and too rush. Well, besides Jesus, Joseph and Mary had other children. Moreover, the feast of Passover was a very important feast, and everywhere would be crowded with people rushing from one place to another. Jesus was the eldest child and the assumption by the parents would be He should be able to catch up with them.

What happened when they discovered Jesus was not with them? They turned back to Jerusalem. When they found Him, Mary said: **“Son, why hast thou thus dealt with us? behold, thy father and I have sought thee sorrowing” (Luke 2:48)**. Not only Mary, but Joseph was also distressed and worried about Jesus. Joseph loved Jesus as his own son.

Fourthly, Joseph was a Spiritual leader. Yearly, he would bring his family to Jerusalem at the feast of Passover (Luke 2:41).

Fathers, you are not a Spiritual Leader to your children if you

are not faithful in attending Sunday worship. God wants fathers to be spiritual leaders in their homes. He chose Joseph because he was spiritual. He chose Abraham because he would bring spirituality to his children.

Joseph brought his family to the temple to worship God. Fathers, are you bringing your families to God?

A father may bring his family to church but not necessarily to God. A father brings his family to God when he is an example of faith to his children. If a father is not setting an example of faith, how can he expect his children to be faithful to God?

God expects fathers to lead in spiritual matters: **“And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord” (Ephesians 6:4)**.

Joseph was a forgotten figure in the Bible. But God saw his goodness and chose him to be the “father” for His son Jesus.

What have we learned about Joseph?

1. He was a **Moral Teacher** being himself a meek and just person.
2. He was an **Example of Faith**: He was Faithful and Obedient to God’s commands.
3. He was a **Loving father** to Jesus.
4. He was a **Spiritual Leader** to his family.

Abraham and Joseph were model fathers. Fathers, you can learn about fatherhood from those two great persons of the Bible. God gives you children and He wants you to lead them to Him.

Children, don’t forget your fathers who bring you up, give you a place to call home, provide love and provisions for you, teach you the fine things of this life, and lead you to God.

Fathers are seldom the topic in our conversation. Perhaps, your father has been a missing figure in your conversation. And perhaps this is because you have not seriously given some thoughts about what he has done for you and the family (just as you have never analysed the contributions given by Joseph). Today is Fathers’ Day. Let us remember and honour fathers for their love, dedication, devotion, and faith.



Prayer Requests, Birthdays & Men-to-Serve Schedule

OVERSEAS

- Bro Kenneth Liong & sis Iris in San Francisco
- Sis Shuan Kwee in Hong Kong



HEALTH

- Sis Baby's, sis Yeoh's, sis Rosalind's, sis Swee Inn's & bro Winston's health
- Sis Suan Kiang's health
- Sis Jasmine Lim's mother's recovery from fractured ankle



PREGNANCY

- Sis Melissa (Aug)



NSF

- Bro Shawn
- Bro Zachary
- Bro Wei Xiang



THIS WEEK

23 Jun (Tue) - Molly
24 Jun (Wed) - Clara

NEXT WEEK

1 Jul (Wed) - Auntie Yeoh & Olivia
3 Jul (Fri) - Gordon

6 Jul (Mon) -

Charles & Lydia

9 Jul (Thu) -

Swee Inn & Debbie

12 Jul (Sun) -

Kim Tian & Lois

13 Jul (Mon) - Victor

16 Jul (Thu) - Emmanuel

20 Jul (Mon) -

Cynthia Tan

22 Jul (Wed) -

Sydney & Shawn

25 Jul (Sat) - Jessica

MEN-TO-SERVE (SUN)

21 JUN

28 JUN

SONG LEADER
& OPENING PRAYER

JONATHAN YANG

BENJAMIN KWAN

SERMON TITLE

***ANDRONICUS & JUNIA:
THE FELLOW-PRISONERS***

***TIMOTHY:
THE YOUNG EVANGELIST***

PREACHER

BENJAMIN KWAN

ERNEST LAU

LORD'S SUPPER, GIVING
& CLOSING PRAYER

ERNEST LAU

ONG JUN WEI

MEN-TO-SERVE (THU)

25 JUN

2 JUL

BIBLE CLASS TOPIC
& TEACHER

***GENESIS 24
TIMOTHY NG***

***GENESIS 25
ERNEST LAU***



THANK GOD WE ARE IN PHASE 2!

Singapore began Phase 2 on 19 June.

We are thankful for the easing of restrictions, but please continue to be vigilant and be responsible citizens!

We continue to pray for the virus to be well contained in Singapore and that restrictions be further eased soon.

