



# BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF W.A.

For the Testimony and Glory of Jesus Christ

March 11<sup>th</sup>, 2018

## SUNDAY COMBINED WORSHIP SERVICE

### 1 The Lord Is in His Holy Temple

The Lord is in His holy temple, The Lord is in His holy temple: Let all the earth keep silence, Let all the earth keep silence before Him Keep silence, keep silence before Him. Amen.

### 2 Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost, As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, Amen.

### 3 Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

### 4 The Lord Bless You and Keep You

The Lord bless you and keep you; The Lord lift His countenance upon you, and give you peace, and give you peace; The Lord make His face to shine upon you, And be gracious unto you, be gracious, The Lord be gracious, gracious unto you. Amen.



Prelude/Preparatory Hymn Winnie Lim/Deacon Eugene Leong

The Lord Is in His Holy Temple 1

Call to Worship Deacon Adrian Cheng/Deacon Joel Wong

\*Hymn **HOP 23** How Great Thou Art!

\*Invocation/Gloria Patri 2

Responsive Reading Proverbs 4:1-9

Hymn **HOP 133** O Breath of Life

Presentation of Tithes & Offerings **HOP 147** Turn Your Eyes upon Jesus

\*Doxology 3/Offertory Prayer

Scripture Reading Ephesians 4:20-24

Hymn **HOP 309** Yield Not to Temptation

Pastoral Prayer/Message Pastor Joseph Poon/Sonny Lim

## Put On and Put Off!

\*Hymn **HOP 252** Higher Ground

\*Benediction/Threefold Amen

Announcements

\*The Lord Bless You and Keep You 4

\*Congregation Standing

### THEME FOR 2018:

"...what doth the LORD thy God require of thee, but to fear the LORD thy God, to walk in all his ways, and to love him, and to serve the LORD thy God with all thy heart and with all thy soul," (Deuteronomy 10:12)

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# PASTORAL LETTER

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## Old Habits Die Hard

Dear BPCWAians, Some like to dip their biscuit into their hot cup of tea or coffee before eating it. Some have to shower first thing in the morning, while others will shower at the end of the day, and some both times. As a saying goes, man is often a creature of habit. What we do regularly and for a long enough period of time becomes our habit and our routine. So, our habits will often shape our lives. They often determine how we spend our time and what we do. Yet, we often do it almost automatically simply because it has become our routine to do so. In fact, we are uncomfortable if we do not do it. And if so, it is almost fearful to think that we will simply keep doing it without thinking, especially if they are time wasters or if they are things which will cause us to sin. What is more fearful is that the parents' routines will often form the children's habits. How are we training our children in what we plan for them to do regularly? Does the Bible have anything to say about it? We are not merely talking about having good habits for daily living, but about good *Christian* habits that every Christian should desire to have.

**Stopping bad habits.** Before forming good habits, we must first deal with our bad habits. As long as these stay in our lives, good habits are difficult to form. We should not continue doing something simply because we've been doing it for many years and are used to it. If we recognise sinful habits in our life as God reveals them as we study His Word, then we cannot continue to live in them (Rom 6:1, 2). No "grace period" must be allowed when it comes to sins, even if it is something that we've grown very used to. Deal with bad habits now. It may mean that we must do things very differently to remove ourselves from the path of sin, be willing to live with "inconvenience", or disposing of things that are sinful (Matt 5:29, 30). Some typical bad habits are the results of being ill disciplined in how we spend our time and overindulging the flesh. For example, our addiction to checking our phones, aimless surfing on the internet, mindless

texting, gaming and TV serial addictions, “shopping therapy” when we are stressed or bored, staying up till the wee hours doing unnecessary and trivial things, endless hours grooming our hair or nails or other parts of the body, overeating, oversleeping, and the list goes on. The issue is that bad habits results in idols in our hearts, unedifying relationships with people that cause us to desire worldly things, do things against God’s Word, or to go to bad places that Christians should not be at. Time spent with these idols will prevent our minds from being renewed and will not allow us to build up on good habits. In fact, they take up the time that we should use to be learning God’s Word, praying, and serving. These will be our stumbling blocks and must be removed. We cannot assume that they are harmless. What and who we spend time with (your favourite Korean movie star via Youtube for example) will affect your Christian walk – “Be not deceived: evil communications corrupt good manners.” (1 Cor 15:33). Recognise and face up to them, and be determined to stop doing them.

**Building regular schedules to inculcate good habits.** Ultimately, it is about being disciplined. Stop giving excuses and giving in to the flesh. Nobody could have had a busier schedule than our Lord Jesus Christ. And with the preaching and crowds that met Him, one would think that He would be the last to have something remotely regular. But even in the final week of Jesus’ Passion before His crucifixion, we are told that “in the day time he was teaching in the temple; and at night he went out, and abode in the mount that is called the mount of Olives. And all the people came early in the morning to him in the temple, for to hear him.” (Luke 21:37, 38) Despite much to do, our Lord had a regular pattern. There was no internet posting Christ’s preaching schedule each day, but the people, accustomed to His pattern, knew when to expect Him and could wait for Him.

Most of us will remember having a school timetable. It would specify the time the first class started for the day, what time would the tea or lunch break be, and when school would be dismissed. Most mothers would agree that often,

the child's life then works around this schedule. This school timetable would often determine what time the child was woken up each morning, what time was breakfast, and so on. This regularity helps in building habits. Mothers know that when kids come back from school, they may be hungry and may need a snack. Then it is time to nap so that the little ones can sustain their energy to go to church for the prayer meeting or fellowship meeting that night. Sleeping times and patterns are adjusted to fit what is deemed important in the child's life. This comes through planning and scheduling. But come holidays or when we grow up, it is then really left up to the individual how to spend their time – and this is where many often fail and backslide. I have spoken to many adults who tell me that their first habit in the morning has always been to do their Quiet Time with God. It may be even before they take their morning cup of coffee. After that, it may be a time of exercise before they go about the needed duties for the day. They build their schedule around doing what they need to do for the day, and make sure that they don't miss out on the essentials.

This week, we can only look at 2 aspects of building good Christian habits, and both are important starting points. If we allow our schedules to be taken up with unedifying routines and bad habits, our Christian walk will ultimately be affected and there's no one to blame but ourselves. Maintaining our walk with God often begins with planning our schedules around things that will help us to do so. What exactly should we plan to put into our schedules? We will look at a few areas next week. Even the world understands this and has a saying, "Sow a thought and you reap an action; sow an act and you reap a habit; sow a habit and you reap a character; sow a character and you reap a destiny."

Yours in our Lord's service  
Pastor

## ANNOUNCEMENTS, PRAISE & PETITION

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1. **Church Anniversary Dinner Registration (Today, after worship):** Join the church family in celebrating and remembering God’s goodness to BPCWA for the past 32 years. Please submit your registration forms today as registration will be closing next Sunday. Details of the Anniversary Dinner are available at the registration table.
2. **Husbands and Fathers Fellowship (Today, 3:30 pm):** Come and learn as Pastor teaches about the Biblical and practical aspects of being a husband and father from Ephesians 5:25-26. All husbands and fathers are encouraged to attend.
3. **Chinese Care Group (This Saturday, 17 March, 10:30 am):** The meeting will be held in Church. Pastor will be speaking on “The Christian Armour – For Defence and Offence” taken from Ephesians 6:17. Kindly bring a dish to share over lunch after the meeting. All are welcome to attend and learn God’s Word together.
4. **Rededication Sunday (Next Sunday, 18 March, during Worship):** All who are serving in any of the church ministries should fill in the form inserted in today’s weekly, and participate in the rededication vows during next Sunday’s service. Please place your completed forms in the box provided in the foyer. If you are interested to know more about any ministry, or have questions for the Church, please fill out the Service Survey on the back of the form.
5. **Adelpe Bible Study (Next Sunday, 18 March, 3:30 pm):** We will continue to learn from the Bible on whether “having peace of heart” or “having a burden” to do something means it is God’s will for us. All ladies are encouraged to come and study God’s word together and learn the Biblical way for seeking God’s will.

6. **Easter Sunrise Worship Service (Sunday, 1 April, 7.30 am):** This year's Sunrise Worship Service will be held at the Melville Limestone Amphitheatre, 10 Almondbury Road, Booragoon. Map printouts as well as the invitation flyers for the Good Friday, Easter Sunrise and Easter Worship Services are available at the foyer. This is a good opportunity to invite both Christian and unsaved family members and friends, to remember the Lord's death and resurrection as well as to hear the good news Gospel of salvation.

7. **Thanksgiving and Prayer Items:**

- Thank God for His guiding hand and wisdom to know how to plan for church matters at the Session Meeting yesterday.
- Thank God for the Beach Games conducted yesterday, the opportunity to get to know new friends better and invite them to church.
- Pray for preparation of hearts as we renew our vows on Rededication Sunday to serve our Lord with clean hands, pure motives, and in co-labouring with other members of BPCWA as one body in the Lord.
- Pray for the Chinese Care group meeting this Saturday to strengthen brethren in God's Word to withstand the wiles of the evil one.
- Pray for new students who have joined our midst that they will not be distracted by the world but continue to worship God and to grow spiritually with us.
- Pray for Yew Jinn to be able to complete needed assignments during the FEBC semester break this week. Pray that he will be grounded in the Word as he prepares to serve God in the full-time ministry.
- Pray for the selection of architect that will enable us to follow God's purposes for BPCWA in the redevelopment of Nehemiah.

SERVICE DUTY	11/3 COMBINED	18/3 COMBINED
Speaker/Interpreter	Pastor Joseph Poon/Sonny Lim	Pastor Joseph Poon/Kong Vui Yip
Worship Leader/Interpreter	Deacon Adrian Cheng/Deacon Joel Wong	Deacon Joel Wong/Sonny Lim
Preparatory Hymn	Deacon Eugene Leong	Deacon Eugene Leong
Musician(s)	Winnie Lim	Sharon Poon
Welcomers	Alex Luu, Grace Luu, Lee Lian Yong	Colin Chng, Fiona Chng, Yi Choong Liew
Offering Stewards *To Help Count Offering	*Alex Luu, *Jonathan Woo, Wei Yan Stephen Chia, Allan Ang, Pei Shion Chai	*Benjamin Kan, *Jason Tey, Michael Lee Edward Ee, Terry Chong, Allan Ang
Ushers	Kenny Tan, Yi Mey Tan, Jay-Son Lim	Caleb Cheng, Rowena Cheng, Shie Tian Wong
Audio Visual	Yi Choong Liew	Albert Ho
Kitchen Duties	Yi San Chieng, Lily Liow, May Chee Tey Edward Teng, Joanne Teng	Yung Tsing Mew, Andy Ho, Lee Fung Fong Ming Ming Th'ng, Mable Soon
Transport	Allan Ang (0433 032 709) / Deacon Eugene Leong (0401 155 386)	

### Nursing Home Ministry

Subiaco	Allan Ang (Hannah Th'ng)	Caleb Cheng (Benjamin Kan)
South Perth	A: Kenny Tan B: Alex Luu	A: Alex Luu B: Allan Ang
Berrington	Allan Ang (Hannah Th'ng)	Caleb Cheng (Benjamin Kan)
Bull Creek	Kenny Tan	Allan Ang

### APPOINTMENTS FOR TODAY AND THE WEEK

Sunday	11/3	12:30 pm	Teens Q & A
		3:30 pm	Husbands and Fathers Fellowship
Tuesday	13/3	7:30 pm	Prayer Meeting: Pastor Joseph Poon/Deacon Joel Wong, Deacon Adrian Cheng, Yung Tsing Mew
Wednesday	14/3	7:30 pm	Far Eastern Bible College Online Courses: Genesis
Friday	16/3	10:00 am	Mothers Fellowship: Genesis
		7:30 pm	Fellowships Meeting: Regen/Youth 180°/CAF/CSF
Saturday	17/3	10:30 am	Chinese Care Group
Sunday	18/3	8:30 am	Pre-Service Prayer Meeting
		9:00 am	English Basic Bible Knowledge Class
		10:00 am	Sunday Combined Worship Service
		2:00 pm	Nursing Home: Concorde – 25 Anstey Street, South Perth Onslow Gardens – 39 Hamersley Road, Subiaco
		3:30 pm	Nursing Home: Berrington, Subiaco – 45 Bishop St, Jolimont Bull Creek – RAAFA Memorial Estate, 2 Bull Creek Drive, Bull Creek WA 6149
Adelphe Bible Study			

### ATTENDANCE & OFFERINGS (4/3)

Attendance: 200 (Combined-167; CSS-33); Prayer Meeting: 72

Tithes and Offerings: \$6,204.47