



BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF W.A.

For the Testimony and Glory of Jesus Christ

October 7th, 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 Joel Wong/Sonny Lim

*Hymn

HOP 14 Come, Thou Almighty King

*Invocation/Gloria Patri 2

Responsive Reading

Proverbs 14:1-9

Holy Communion

[Deacon Adrian Cheng, Deacon Eugene Leong, Deacon Joel Wong]

Hymn

HOP 94 Alas! and Did My Saviour Bleed

HOP 99 When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

Presentation of Tithes & Offerings **HOP 435** Come, Ye Thankful People

*Doxology 3/Offertory Prayer

Scripture Reading

Ephesians 5:18

Hymn

HOP 139 Wonderful Words of Life

Pastoral Prayer/Message

Pastor Joseph Poon/Yew Jinn Chieng

What Controls You?

*Hymn

HOP 122 Holy Ghost, with Light Divine

*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

Lead me in the way everlasting

Dear BPCWAians, We saw last week in Psalm 139, that when David desired to be led in God's way he first acknowledged that God knew him through and through. So, the first lesson is that we cannot pretend before God else we cannot be led by God. The place to start for growth in Christ is to realise that God knows fully what we are. And He thoroughly knows any impure motives for our actions even as they are remotely conceived in our thoughts. Secondly, in order for us to grow to new heights in God's way, we must acknowledge that there is much we do not truly know about ourselves that God needs to show us. David cried to God to search him and know his heart, try him and know his thoughts and to see what are the wicked ways in him. Of course David knew that God knows his heart and thoughts already. This is a cry to ask God to reveal the wicked ways in him and then to lead him in the way everlasting. If we are not interested in what God already knows about us, then we will not be interested to walk in His ways. We will instead continue to be hypocritical and walk in our shallow ways. This week, we will see practical examples of progressing in God's way.

Know our own hearts and thoughts.

(1) Service in church or to others. Know that God is watching and knows every impure stirring and motive. But like David, we must actively seek to know ourselves as God knows us. You can "help" others but God knows if it is to make yourself look holier, or look kind and loving compared to other people in church – "See, I am the one who goes out of the way to help you while others are so uninterested in you". "I am so selfless to care for you, while others only care for their group of friends." Part of the walking before God is serving. But you can offer to do this and that in church, yet the motive can be so

that others will be impressed at what you do compared to others. God forbid that we should adopt the ways of the world by parading our service or abilities in front of others so that they know. By an intentional “slip of the tongue” or by your actions, you can show off your abilities which otherwise no one would have known. These are indeed normal everyday things that can indeed be unintentional and harmless, or may be so-designed to promote self. Only God knows, and only you know. And you go home and lie in bed nursing the thought of how well other people must be thinking about you. And like the Pharisees, you are thinking how bad others are as compared to what you have done outwardly. We must continue to do good to others. We must strive to serve God with all diligence and zeal, with all our strength. But let’s do it with pure motives. Remember, David willingly prepared for Solomon to build God’s Temple when God turned David down. He did not get upset or sulk or become jealous. Do you get angry when you are not asked to serve in a certain capacity or get bypassed in church for certain roles? Do you get jealous that someone else was asked instead of you? Well, if such emotions well up in you, know your heart and thoughts – they are sinful. Your motives are selfish.

(2) Choices in life. On the personal front, you can also say “In doing this I can serve God better” or “if I took this job, I can earn more, have more time to serve God on my off days”, but in reality, you are choosing what your heart wants while knowing it is a sinful path. It may sound holy to others. But if it is a job that causes you to break God’s laws, you must not rationalise. Yes, we should use our material gains and resources to serve God. But if that job is not to be taken by a Christian, God is aware of your true selfish reason – to satisfy your own aims and desires. You can even get yourself into certain situations and then say that you cannot help it and no one understands. Some like to

say, "I have no choice". What the person is saying, if he is honest, is "Even God cannot help me, so I need to sin". Remember David says, "thou understandest my thoughts afar off" and "thou compassest my path and my lying down, and art acquainted with all my ways". This means God knows how we get ourselves into certain situations and yet try to explain away our behaviour. We overcommit on loans and let it lead in its "everlasting" ways – lifetime repayments that are beyond our means unless we disobey God. We overcommit on secular work or school activities or personal development programs and yet say, "I have no time".

These are some real practical considerations we have to face up to. God knows, no matter how well you try to conceal the real reasons and excuses. He knows our character from our mother's womb. Parents know their children's ways well. They can see through pretensions when they cry, complain, and when they want to do something. But God knows your reins, the deepest inner parts hidden in you. The point is, there is no point pretending or rationalising. We fool no one but ourselves. God willing, we shall consider how we should respond instead when such wicked ways arise in us.

Yours in our Lord's service

Pastor

ANNOUNCEMENTS, PRAISE & PETITION

- 1. Men's Fellowship and Ladies Fellowship (Today, Dinner 6:00 pm, Program 7:00 pm):** All are encouraged to join us in studying God's Word with Pastor speaking to the Men on "Wisdom in Decision Making Pt 3" and Sharon Poon to the Ladies on "Is your best for your Master?" (Lk 21:1-4). Translation will be available.
- 2. Family Seminar (This Saturday, 13 October, 9:00 am – 12:00 pm):** Pastor will be conducting a family seminar on "The Covenantal Family". This is intended for building strong marriages and families for God. All are welcome to come to learn about what a Christian home should be. There will be a separate program for children 6 years and under running concurrently. Please see Terry Chong for any queries.
- 3. Seniors Fellowship (Next Saturday, 20 October, 10:30 am):** Meeting will be held in church with Pastor speaking on the topic "The Reason For Sickness - Signs of Preparedness". Fellowship Lunch will follow after the message, please kindly bring a dish to share. All are warmly welcome to join.

4. Thanksgiving and Prayer Items:

- Thank God for the opportunity to share the Gospel to many at last Sunday's City Evangelism. Pray that the Gospel seed sown will bear fruit in God's will.
- Thank God for the Mothers Fellowship 5th Anniversary Thanksgiving meeting on Friday. Pray for godly mothers and wives in our homes.
- Pray for candidates who will be baptised, affirmed and transferring their memberships to BPCWA next week. Pray as they prepare to take their vows that they will be faithful disciples of Christ for the rest of their lives and joyfully serve our Lord in unity with us at BPCWA.
- Pray for the message at the Combined Husbands and Mothers Fellowship meeting next Saturday to strengthen and build strong covenantal families at BPCWA.
- Pray for the Holy Spirit's quickening of our hearts as we learn God's Word during the sermons, at Bible Studies in church and during our quiet time.

SERVICE DUTY	7/10 COMBINED – Holy Communion	14/10 COMBINED
Speaker/Interpreter	Pastor Joseph Poon / Yiew Jinn Chieng	Pastor Joseph Poon / Sonny Lim
Worship Leader/Interpreter	Deacon Joel Wong / Sonny Lim	Deacon Adrian Cheng / Deacon Joel Wong
Preparatory Hymn	Deacon Eugene Leong	Deacon Eugene Leong
Musician(s)	Winnie Lim	Sharon Poon
Welcomers	Alex Luu, Grace Luu, Kenny Tan	Colin Tey, May Chee Tey, Yi San Chieng
Offering Stewards	Alex Luu, Jason Tey, Benjamin Kan Michael Lee, Mark Heath, Terry Chong	Eddie Foo, Pei Shion Chai, Stephen Chia Wei Yan, Jonathan Woo, Colin Chng
Ushers	Claude Yiu, Esther Yiu, Vincent Naing	Kenny Tan, Yi Mey Tan, Mable Soon
Audio Visual	Caleb Cheng	Albert Ho
Kitchen Duties	Yi San Chieng, Lily Liow, Edward Teng Joanne Teng	Lee Lian Yong, Victoria Lew, Christine Chia Mable Soon

APPOINTMENTS FOR TODAY AND THE WEEK

Sunday	7/10	6:00 pm	Men's Fellowship and Ladies Fellowship
Tuesday	9/10	7:30 pm	Prayer Meeting: Pastor Joseph Poon/Deacon Joel Wong, Deacon Adrian Cheng, Yi Mey Tan
Wednesday	10/10	7:30 pm	Far Eastern Bible College Online Courses: Old Testament History
Friday	12/10	7:30 pm	Fellowships Meeting: Regen/Youth 180°/CAF/CSF
Saturday	13/10	9:00 am	Combined Husbands and Mothers Fellowship (Family Seminar)
Sunday	14/10	8:30 am	Pre-Service Prayer Meeting
		9:00 am	English Basic Bible Knowledge Class/Chinese Basic Bible Knowledge Class
		10:00 am	Sunday Combined Worship Service
		12:30 pm	Teens Q & A
		2:00 pm	Nursing Home: Concorde/Onslow Gardens
		3:30 pm	Nursing Home: Berrington/Bull Creek

LAST WEEK'S ATTENDANCES & OFFERINGS

Attendances – Sunday Worship: 193 (Combined: 166; CSS: 27); Prayer Meeting: 77

Tithes and Offerings – Sunday Worship: \$6,819.95 (#4503: \$115.25; #4504: \$261.60; #4505: \$44.00)

Building Fund – Last Week: \$3,503.57; To Date: \$125,002.42; Gap: \$1,174,997.58

WESTMINSTER CONFSSION OF FAITH – CHAPTER ONE: OF THE HOLY SCRIPTURES

10. The supreme Judge, by which all controversies of religion are to be determined, and all decrees of councils, opinions of ancient writers, doctrines of men, and private spirits, are to be examined, and in whose sentence we are to rest, can be no other but the Holy Spirit speaking in the Scripture.

