

SATURDAY 14 March 2020

5:00 PM

SUNDAY 15 March 2020

10:00 AM

God Desires Mercy, Not Sacrifice (Matthew 12:3, 5)

PASTOR WALLACE ONG

WORSHIP LEADERS

AMANDA SHIEW

ALVIN YIM



**ORDER OF SERVICE**

- Welcome & Announcements
- Worshipping God in Song
- Tithes & Offering & Foreign Missions Fund
- Pastoral Prayer
- Hearing God's Word
- Response
- Benediction

**WEEKLY MEETINGS & SERVICES**

**JOIN US IN PRAYER**

**WEEKLY PRAYER MEETING**

**Date:** Saturday, 21 March 2020

**Time:** 8:30am – 9:30am

**Venue:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Worship hall

**Worship:** Led by Chee Wan's group

**MONTHLY CORPORATE PRAYER MEETING**

**Date:** Sunday 15 March 2020

**Time:** 8:30AM – 9:30AM

**Venue:** Thurman Hall

Please come and join us for a time of prayer! Light refreshments will be served.

**PRE-WORSHIP PRAYER**

Worshippers are encouraged to come to the prayer room in the Main Sanctuary one hour prior to the start of worship every Saturday & Sunday to pray (except 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday).

**REGULAR WORSHIP SERVICES / EVENTS**

Mandarin	08:30 AM
Adult Bible Class	08:30 AM
Bahasa Malaysia	10:00 AM
English	10:00 AM
Youth	10:00 AM
Sunday School	10:00 AM
Filipino (1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sun)	10:00 AM
Cantonese	04:00 PM

**MONDAY**

KARIS Prayer Meeting 10:00 AM

**WEDNESDAY**

Prayer Meeting 08:00 PM

**FRIDAY**

KARIS Meeting 10:30 AM

Phinehas Cg Meeting 08:30 PM

**SATURDAY**

Prayer Meeting 08:30 AM

Boys' Brigade 02:00 PM

English Service 05:00 PM

**SERMONS AVAILABLE ONLINE**

Please visit: [www.pbc.my/sermons](http://www.pbc.my/sermons)

**LORD OF THE SABBATH**

**Matthew 12:1-4**

According to the Pharisees, the disciples reaped a crop. They threshed it by rubbing the berries in their hands and breaking the hulls off. Then they winnowed it by blowing the hulls away. By doing so, they were guilty of preparing a meal. This was actually a high holy day, very likely one of the holy days of the Days of Unleavened Bread.

Consider the disciples' motivation for what they did. First, they were hungry. Second, they were itinerate, using "shoe leather express," traveling with Jesus as a part of His entourage. He instructed them, giving them examples of His way of life, all along the way. He Himself said that He had no place to lay His head. They had, therefore, no place to prepare a meal. They did not have homes that they could readily return to.

These were strong, young men, probably in their twenties or early thirties (about the same age as Jesus), so they could have fasted without damage. But, because it was the Sabbath, Jesus *deliberately* drew attention to one of the Sabbath's main purposes: It is a day of mercy and not a day of sacrifice.

Christ's justification comes from I Samuel 21:1-6. He reasoned that, if it was all right for David to allay his hunger under an unusual circumstance by eating bread that had been consecrated for holy use, His disciples could provide for their needs in this manner. (The showbread was put into the Tabernacle on the table, and it sat there during the entire week. Then, every Sabbath it was exchanged for new bread. David ate the week-old bread that had just been exchanged for the new.)

So what is He saying? The Sabbath is a day of mercy. And if one can rightly, lawfully use "holy bread" to do something that, according to the letter of the law, was illegal, then it was also legitimate for the disciples to provide for their needs also in an unusual circumstance.

The emphasis here is on the word unusual. How frequently was David fleeing for his life and finding himself hungry? It did happen, at least this one time, but it did not happen every Sabbath. Maybe in David's lifetime something like this occurred a few times, but even for a man of war like David, it did not happen all that frequently.

The overall lesson, however, is that it is not the intention of God's law to deprive anybody of good things. The intent of God's law is to ensure life. If the need arises, one should not feel conscience-stricken to use the Sabbath in a way that would not "normally" be lawful. Christ admitted that what David did was not "normally" lawful. Neither was what the disciples were doing "normally lawful," except for the extenuating circumstance.

In this case then, they were blameless because a larger obligation overruled the letter of the law. The larger obligation was to be merciful. The letter of the law said that they could not have that bread. The larger obligation said that it was more important to eat than it was to fast (to sacrifice eating). Holy bread, or holy time (the Sabbath), can be used exceptionally in order to sustain life.

**Matthew 12:5-6**

Christ's comments in Matthew 12:5-6 allude to the instructions contained in Leviticus 24:5-9. These five verses together with I Samuel 21 explain that, not only did the priests put the bread in the sanctuary, but they also baked it on the Sabbath. Thus, it was hot when they put it in the Holy Place on the Sabbath—right out of the oven. Was it lawful for a woman, in the ordinary course of her household responsibilities, to bake twelve loaves of bread on the Sabbath? It was not. This is the illustration that Jesus utilizes in Matthew 12.

"The priests in the temple profane the Sabbath, and are blameless." They not only did these things, they were also made sacrifices on that day, which consisted of a great deal of labor. Why, then, were they "blameless"? For the same reason that Jesus justified healing on the Sabbath (in John 5) and the same reason that the priests were blameless for circumcising on the Sabbath: They were doing the work of God, the work of salvation. They were fulfilling a purpose on the Sabbath that somebody had to do. This is the issue throughout John 5, 7, and 9.

Christ is greater than the Temple. He is the Head of God's spiritual Temple. He is its High Priest, and the disciples are His priests in training, His agents! Thus, their Sabbath ministry

*A loving and caring church that glorifies God in evangelism and disciple making.*

## WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

intensifies, even as Jesus' does. Were they justified, then, in eating on the Sabbath? Absolutely! They were justified because of the circumstances and the offices they were now holding in God's spiritual Temple!

So, the circumstances dictated a "profaning of the Sabbath" because of their involvement in the work of God. Loving service is greater than ritual fulfillment. What loving services were Jesus and His disciples performing on the Sabbath? They were teaching God's way. They were healing people. Now, what is mercy? Mercy is doing helpful acts: acts of love, aid, comfort, pity, and sympathy for other's distress. All these works help relieve a person of a burden.

JOHN W. RITENBAUGH  
Extracted from <https://www.bibletools.org/>

### MINISTRY NOTICES

#### **MISSION MINISTRY**

##### DIASPORA MISSION TRAINING

- Learn how to catalyse indigenous discipleship movements within diaspora communities.

- Four training sessions and one day trip to Elshaddai Refugee Learning Centre

**Date:** 21 & 28 March 2020

**Time:** 10:00am – 1.30pm

**Venue:** 2<sup>ND</sup> Worship Hall

**Reg:** At the foyer

For more info, please contact:  
Chin Khoon Ark 012-233 8028.

#### **CHRISTIANITY EXPLORED (CE)**

**Starting:** Sunday, 19 April 2020

**Time:** 1:00pm

**Venue:** Morris Hall @ House 22

**Duration:** 7 weeks course

To register, please contact:  
Peter Lim: 012-229 9251.

#### **PREMARITAL COURSE (PMC)**

The next PMC is scheduled to start.

**Date:** Sunday, 22 March 2020

**Time:** 1:30pm

**Venue:** De Run Lounge

There will be six sessions, with diverse topics designed to help seriously dating couples prepare for marriage. Perhaps you would like to join us? Give us a call to find out more about the course.

Pr. Cheng Cheung : 03-7957 5103  
Sow Cheng : 012-248 0072  
You may also pick up a PMC brochure & registration form at the foyer.

#### **THE MARRIAGE COURSE**

This course consists of seven weekly dinner dates for married couples designed to offer a lifetime of practical ideas and tools to keep your relationship strong. Each session begins with a dinner with couples seated for two, viewing a video and discussing topics of importance privately at your table. There will be no sharing and counseling. Come and invest in your marriage!

**Facilitators:** Elder Bryan Lee & Yee Mei

**Dates:** Every Tuesday, 31 March to 12 May 2020

**Time:** 7:00pm to 9:45pm

**Venue:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Worship Hall

**Cost:** RM300/couple

Kindly register at the foyer. For more info, kindly contact:

Fong Yee Mei : 012-217 2251

Chuah Siew Har : 012-283 5172.

#### **WORSHIP MINISTRY**

We need more volunteers to join our teams, to serve during Saturday and Sunday service. Training will definitely be provided.

- Saturday Evening Service Worship Team

Contact John Thomas @ 016-655 9017.

- Ushers

Contact Skip Ng @ 012-339 1568.

### GENERAL NOTICES

**DEEPEST HEARTFELT CONDOLENCES** to Olive Chen & family. Olive's beloved brother the late Mr. Richard Chen Kee Min was called home to the Lord on 09 March 2020.

#### **BOOK FOR SALE**

**Title:** FOLLOWING JESUS THROUGH MARK  
A Lenten Journey

**Author:** Joe R. Baskin (formerly IMB missionary in Malaysia)

**Venue:** At the foyer

**Cost:** RM10 each

All proceeds will go to Joe R. Baskin as a gift.

#### **COVID 19 - PRECAUTIONS**

In view of the increasing number of Covid-19 cases in Malaysia, PBC members and regular worshippers who have returned to Malaysia from South Korea, Iran and Italy must self-quarantine at home for 14 days from the date they re-enter the country. Further advice will be given as the need arises.

All worshippers are advised to remain vigilant and adopt good personal hygiene practices as well as other precautionary measures to reduce the risk of virus transmission.

#### **PBC MEMBERSHIP**

We are pleased to advise that Chay Choy Leng, June has been accepted as full member.

#### **FOCUS ON THE FAMILY**

##### MOTHER & DAUGHTER CONNECTION

A mother's influence can have a remarkable impact on her daughter's physical and emotional growth.

Mother & Daughter Connection is now open for registration! A girls' day out filled with meaningful talk, fun and laughter for a mother and her daughter (aged 9 to 13).

**Date:** Saturday, 04 April 2020

**Time:** 9:00am to 4:00pm

**Venue:** Tropicana Golf & Country Resort, Petaling Jaya

**Cost:** RM165 / pair

**Reg:** Family.org.my/madc

#### **PBC STUDY LOANS**

Study Loans are now available to assist children of PBC members to pursue their post Form Six or Post A-Level studies at the Methodist College Kuala Lumpur or any other institution of learning that may be approved by the Council of Elders from time to time. Please refer to the Notice Board for further details. Application forms are available from the Church Office.

#### **2019 TPRI PBC TAX EXEMPT RECEIPTS**

- 2019 Tax Exempt Receipts are ready for collection at the foyer on Saturday & Sunday from 07 – 22 March 2020.
- Receipts which are not collected will be sent by normal post after 22 March 2020.
- For clarification, please contact Eric Chong at 03-7957 5103.

#### **SATURDAY PRAYER**

Date: 21 March 2020

Time: 8:30am

Led by Chee Wan's Group

#### **NEXT WEEK'S SERVICES**

21 & 22 March 2020

SPEAKER

WORSHIP LEADER

#### **SATURDAY**

05:00 PM

Wong Yoke Ming

Lee Ju-Hann

#### **SUNDAY**

10:00 AM

Wong Yoke Ming

Ho Chee Seng

#### **SUNDAY (YOUTH)**

10:00 AM

