



COVENANT

Bible-Presbyterian Church

Preaching Christ for His Glory and His Kingdom

Order of Worship — 15 November 2015

Theme for the Year: "Out of Myself and into the Savior" (Ezekiel 14:4-6)

Prelude	<i>The Lord Is in His Holy Temple</i>
Call to Worship	
*Opening Hymn	63 - <i>Take the Name of Jesus with You</i>
*Invocation & † <i>Gloria Patri</i>	
Scripture Reading	Philippians 4:1-9
Hymn	TP 133
Tithes & Offering	
**† <i>Doxology</i> & Offertory Prayer	
Scripture Reading	Hebrews 12:1-2
Hymn	364 - <i>Yield Not to Temptation</i>
Confession of Faith & Pastoral Prayer	
Sermon	"The Christian's Endurance and Discipline"
*Closing Hymn	204 - <i>Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus</i>
*Benediction & <i>Threefold Amen</i>	
Silent Prayer & Postlude	
Announcements	<i>*Congregation standing</i>

† 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.

†† Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Amen.

Covenant Bible-Presbyterian Church meets every Sunday at 10:00 am
at 47 Davis Road, Attadale, Western Australia

Website: www.covenantbpc.org.au

Contact: pastor@covenantbpc.org.au

How Shall We Protect Our Daughters?

Sugar and Spice and Everything Nice?

I don't have daughters. I'm not sure whether to be glad or sad.

There is a general consensus that boys are initially difficult but mellow with age.

On the other hand, girls are initially complaint but morph into teenasuaruses.

The World Calls to Our Daughters

There are many temptations and snares. Therefore, it is our duty to protect daughters. These are perilous times.

In Scripture, we see 2 daughters immersed in pagan culture. Their father Lot should've known better.

Lot Did Not Protect His Daughters

There are times when the welfare of daughters is better than other times. This was not one of those times.

In Genesis 19, we learn that angels, in the form of men, visited Lot.

The men of the city demanded that Lot hand them over for sexual relations.

He replied these words to them in verses 7-8 - *"I pray you, brethren, do not so wickedly. Behold now, I have two daughters which have not known man; let me, I pray you, bring them out unto you, and do ye to them as is good in your eyes: only unto these men do nothing; for therefore came they under the shadow of my roof."*

Many would shrink back in revulsion at his suggestion. How could he offer his daughters to them?!

Yet, we must be slow to distance ourselves from him. Actually, much of what we are and have done, mirror him.

Lot Was a Righteous Man

The Bible gives us the definitive evaluation of Lot. 2 Peter 2:7 calls him *"just Lot."*

This means that he was a believer. Therefore, believers are capable of doing what he did to his daughters.

Lot Was a Vexed Man

Yet he was troubled by the behavior of the people. 2 Peter 2:7 says that he was *"vexed with the filthy conversation of the wicked."*

It bothered him. He was outraged by their conduct - their behavior, dressing, speech; he was nauseated.

Lot Was a Tormented Man

But we also learn to what extent he was vexed.

Verse 8 says that as he dwelled among them, he saw and heard what they did, and his soul was tormented every day.

So this was a righteous man who was deeply conflicted by what he saw.

We Are Like Lot

We are no different. As believers, we see the trends of culture and we become outraged. At least I hope we are.

We may even pass judgment on the things we see - the skimpy dresses, the selfies, and the casual dating, etc.

As Christians, we can't avoid such feelings. And this is good - it shows that the word is cleansing us.

But that's where we want the comparison to stop. We don't want to admit that we, like Lot, can do what he did to his daughters. So why did he do it?

Pressure

Lot was pressured by the situation. He was being threatened by the men of the city. They were many.

There were external pressures. I'm sure we can sympathize with him. We are pressured on a daily basis by the media, by the culture, and by our own children.

It has been said that Lot wanted to be polite to the intruders rather than protect his daughters.

This was the custom of Sodom - it was culturally acceptable to have sex with visitors! And Lot, rather than rocking the boat, gave his daughters to them.

Not to do so would be odd.

Normal Alternative

For him to do this, it must have seemed like a normal alternative.

But how could this be normal? It's normal if your morality has been compromised.

When Lot and Abraham parted, he pitched his tent toward Sodom. After a while, he moved into the city. Then he became a city leader. There was something to protect!

We don't compromise overnight. We do so after many years of wrong thinking. It takes years to desensitize us.

Lot was so desensitized that the alternative he proposed was normal.

He Exposed His Daughters to Immorality

Because of his decisions and actions to move to Sodom, he exposed his daughters to immorality.

It was something that bothered him. He was vexed daily by it. The conduct, the speech, the actions of the people were an affront to him.

Yet, he allowed his daughters to witness it and to live in the city.

He Promoted Immorality to His Daughters

How did he promote immorality? He was a city leader. A city leader would have restrained the evil. But it was permitted.

There can be no other way of looking at this. While he may not have approved of it; he implicitly approved of it because he did nothing to stop it.

In fact, he was influenced by it.

He Failed to Protect

It is no surprise that after he exposed them to evil and promoted evil to them, that he failed to protect them from it.

His daughters learned. And they slept with their father subsequently. What shame.

How Do We Protect Our Daughters?

We are living in Sodom today. By our implicit approval of the culture, we fail to protect our daughters.

We are to determine what we are exposing them to, what we are promoting, and how to protect.

Yes, for our daughters, we are to teach and keep them to a standard - so as to protect them.

~ Pastor



Westminster Larger Catechism

Q. 24. What is sin?

A. Sin is any want of conformity unto, or transgression of, any law of God, given as a rule to the reasonable creature.

Q. 25. Wherein consisteth the sinfulness of that estate whereinto man fell?

A. The sinfulness of that estate whereinto man fell, consisteth in the guilt of Adam's first sin, the want of that righteousness wherein he was created, and the corruption of his nature, whereby he is utterly indisposed, disabled, and made opposite unto all that is spiritually good, and wholly inclined to all evil, and that continually; which is commonly called original sin, and from which do proceed all actual transgressions.

Worship Service Roster

Service	This Week (15.11.15)	Next Week (22.11.15)
Speaker	Mark Chen	Mark Chen
Worship Leader	Raymond Woo	Johnson Lim
Pianist	Jabez Huang	Nancy Lim
Welcomers	Jacob & Merilyn Woo	Danny & Susie Tan
Offering Stewards	Yen Fye Yap*, Kim Leow*, Chris Budiman, Jacob Woo	John E Tan*, Rex Sriharan*, Ian Read, Jansen Ng
Usher	Merilyn Woo	Jerome Ng
Kitchen Duties	Jenni Budiman*, Evelyn Lee, Jackie Hong	Victor Poon*, Peggy Woo, Sandy Chua
<i>Prayer Meeting</i>	<i>20 November 2015</i>	<i>27 November 2015</i>
Speaker	Mark Chen	Mark Chen
Chairperson	Ken Hong	LH Chua
Pianist	Ian Tay	Valerie Ong

Announcements

1. A warm welcome to all worshipers. May God richly bless you. Please stay behind after the service for fellowship and tea.
2. Next week's message: "God's Endurance and Discipline" (Hebrews 12:3-11).
3. Bible Conference. Speaker: Mathews Abrahams (Pastor, Ebenezer B-P Church, Melbourne). Venue: Bayview Geographe Resort, Busselton. Date: 19-22 April 2016. Please register with Ken and Jackie Hong.
4. Sunday School meeting today after service. All Sunday School teachers and song leaders are requested to be present.
5. Young People's Group on Saturday, 21 November at 4:30 pm at the Ng residence. Topic: "Christian Modesty." Please contact Jerome at 0451 124 799 for more details.
6. For a soft copy of the bulletin, please sign up at www.covenantbpc.org.au/newsletter.

Appointments for the Week	Last Lord's Day Tithes & Offering, & Attendance
WED 10:00 am Attadale Craft Group FRI 7:45 pm Prayer Meeting and JF SAT 4:30 pm Young People's Group SUN 9:00 am Adult Bible Class 10:00 am Worship & Sunday School	<i>General Fund</i> - \$3,658.55 (#502 - \$200.00). <i>Missions Fund</i> - \$510.00 (#501 - \$100.00). <i>Building Fund</i> - \$3,975.00 (#304 - \$2,600.00, #305 - \$475.00, #306 - \$800.00, #307 - \$100.00). <i>Total Tithes & Offering</i> - \$8,143.55. Attendance - 162.

Building Fund to Date	
Available Building Fund	\$40,445.41
Outstanding Pledges	\$31,590.00
Last Week's Collection	\$3,975.00
Total	\$76,520.41
<i>Outstanding Loan</i>	- \$430,000.00
<i>Amount Still Needed</i>	\$353,479.59
Building Fund Account:	
Covenant Bible-Presbyterian Church (Westpac Bank, Applecross)	
BSB: 036-031 Acct: 316969	
SWIFT: WPACAU2S	

Elders: **Mark Chen (Pastor)** 6114 4242, 0415 932 373. **Jimmy Orchard** 0413 274 407.
 Deacons: **Ken Chong** 0402 553 313. **LH Chua** 0435 601 373. **Terence Lee** 0418 845 617. **Johnson Lim** 0402 145 682. **Jacob Woo** 0421 212 206.

The Christian's Endurance and Discipline

Hebrews 12:1-2

Is it hard to live the Christian life. We give into temptation, hunger after respectability, fear persecution, and struggle with disbelief. This is the Christian life. And we need to press on in the Christian race.

1. We Must Persevere in the Faith Because Countless People Have (v 1).
 - a. They are countless
 - b. They witness to us of what they did
 - c. It is a command
 - d. The one who runs will complete it
2. We Persevere By Having Endurance and Discipline (v 1).
 - a. It is a race of God's choosing
 - b. It is to be run with patience and endurance
 - c. It is to be run with discipline
 - i. Weights
 - ii. Sins
3. We Persevere Because We Have Christ's Help (v 2).
 - a. Those who ran were helped by Christ.
 - b. Fix
 - c. Christ is the source of faith

Questions for Reflection:

1. What is your goal today? Is it Jesus?
2. How are you leading your family in that goal?
3. What are the weights and sins you need to shed?