

upbuilding, encouragement and consolation – this is common good. Is private good bad? Not always so; depending on the situation. Judas' betrayal of Jesus for 30 pieces of silver was definitely for a selfish bad private good. Jesus' death on the other hand is for common good so that no one should perish but all should come to repentance.

We see the same words in the book of Nehemiah 2:17-19, "Then I said to them, "You see the trouble we are in, how Jerusalem lies in ruins with its gates burned. Come, let us rebuild the wall of Jerusalem, that we may no longer suffer disgrace." And I told them of the hand of my God which had been upon me for good, and also of the words which the king had spoken to me. And they said, "Let us rise up and build." So they committed themselves to the **common good**." The rebuilding of Jerusalem was towards a **common good**. The early church in Acts 2:43-44 practised **common good**. "All who believed were together and had all things in **common**; they would sell their possessions and goods and distributed the proceeds to all as any had need." Hebrews 13:16 (Message Bible) "Make sure you don't take things for granted and go slack in working for the **common good**; share what you have with others. God takes particular pleasure in acts of worship - a different kind of "sacrifice" - that take place in kitchen and workplace and on the streets."

How do we individually practise and do things that are for the **common good** of all? Be liberal, be generous in your deeds and words, be kind to others. Always put the other first. Learn to do good; seek justice, correct oppression; defend the fatherless, plead for the widow (Isa 1:17). Another way is to foster mutual respect and consider others better than yourself. Do nothing from selfishness or conceit, but in humility count others better than yourselves (Phil 2:3). Be good neighbors. Tell the truth in love, have verbal accuracy. And "Love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return", Jesus commands in Luke 6:35.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 7 & 21 July - YACG
- 15 & 22 July - Care Group
- The Gifts of the Holy Spirit Module.

SUNDAY SPEAKERS

- 2 July - YACG
- 9 July - Elder James
- 16 July - Pastor Kim
- 23 July - Rev. Marion Parkes
- 30 July - Elder Antony

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SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

| TABERNACLE OF DAVID - English Services | | | SETAPAK COMMUNITY CHURCH (A/G) Chinese Services | | |
|--|---------------------------|------------|---|-------------------------------|------------|
| WED | Intercessors Night | 8.00 p.m. | WED | Senior Care Group | 10.00 a.m. |
| FRI | Care Group | 8.00 p.m. | | (2nd & 4th week of the month) | |
| | YACG Care Group | 8.00 p.m. | THU | Prayer Meeting | 8.30 p.m. |
| SUN | Eagle-Lion Bible School | 9.00 a.m. | | (1st & 3rd week of the month) | |
| | Celebration Service | 10.15 a.m. | SUN | Celebration Service | 8.15 a.m. |
| | Children Church | 10.15 a.m. | | | |
| | Youth Alive | 10.15 a.m. | | | |
| | Psalms Coffee House | 7.30 p.m. | | | |
| | (1st Sunday of the month) | | | | |

TABERNACLE OF DAVID

Bulletin | JULY 2017

All for the Common Good

Paul in 1 Corinthians 12 says this, "Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of service, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of working, but it is the same God who inspires them all in every one. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the **common good**."

For the common good. What does this mean? Simply, common good refers to what is shared and beneficial for all or most members of a given community; it is to work out an outcome or a result that would ultimately benefit more than one person, more than oneself. It benefits all, most and sundry, everyone. There is no one left out. No one's excluded. And this theme of common good runs throughout the Bible. When the Hebrews departed Egypt, all left. Young to old, infirmed and healthy. Deliverance came to the common good of all Israelites. Common good is in contrast with **private good** of individuals and specific sections of society. For example, 1 Cor 14: "For one who speaks in a tongue speaks not to men but to God; for no one understands him, but he utters mysteries in the Spirit. On the other hand, he who prophesies speaks to men for their upbuilding and encouragement and consolation. He who speaks in a tongue edifies himself, but he who prophesies edifies the church." One who speaks in a tongue edifies himself – this is private good - but he who prophesies edifies the church for

continued... →

The Holy Spirit

Remained on Him

“And John bore witness, “I saw the Spirit descend as a dove from heaven, and it remained on him. I myself did not know him; but he who sent me to baptize with water said to me, ‘He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain, this is he who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.’ And I have seen and have borne witness that this is the Son of God.” (John 1:32-34).

After His baptism by John the Baptist, “Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, where for 40 days he was tempted by the devil” (Luke 4:1,2). After every test by the devil, “Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee” and he began to preach and teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone (Luke 4:14).

Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit. Jesus, led by the Spirit. Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit. It is no wonder that Jesus’ ministry on earth fully depended on the Holy Spirit remaining on Him, abiding in Him and empowering Him. For us Christ believers, Jesus declares in John 14:12, “Truly, truly, I say to you, he who believes in me will also do the works that I do; and greater works than these will he do, because I go to the Father.” What Jesus says is when He return to the Father, He is going to let the Holy Spirit remain and continue the Father’s work on earth, and in a greater manner than what He (Jesus) could do because Jesus was physically in one place at a time; now the Spirit will be

everywhere, with and in each believer; the works of God will multiply!

And if we are to do greater works, then how much more do we need to fully and unequivocally depend on the Holy Spirit to fulfil this divine calling, destiny and purpose of John 14:12. If we are not doing or not witnessing these greater works now, then we need to examine ourselves whether we have fallen short: have we regularly ignored the Holy Spirit? Have we consistently side-lined Him whom Jesus calls as our Teacher, Guide and Comforter? Do we only pay the Holy Spirit lip service? And importantly, are our lives holy and righteous before God because the adjective description of the Spirit is after all “Holy Spirit”. He will only remain and abide in a holy vessel. Paul encourages us, “Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you? So let us cleanse ourselves from every defilement of body and of spirit, making holiness perfect in the fear of God”.



15 & 22 July
Saturdays
10am to 4pm
T.O.D.

EAGLE LION BIBLE SCHOOL, Christian Education
Dept of TOD is proud to bring to you this module:

The Gifts of the Holy Spirit

with **Rev. Marion Parkes**,
Life Beyond Limits Ministry, UK

Topics to be covered:

- Gifts of the Holy Spirit
- Interactive Workshop on Motivational Gifts/ Identification of Giftings
- Strengths and Weaknesses of the Gifts
- Prophetic Gift and Activation

FREE ADMISSION

JULY BIBLE READING PLAN

We started this month with the subject, Love, brought to us by the young adults. Let’s continue to study a little further on this subject in the books of **1, 2 and 3 John** where one of the key words common in all three books is **LOVE**.

1 John

John warned against heresy and stresses the themes of love, light, knowledge and life; love being the dominant note. Possessing love is clear evidence that one is a Christian. Find in this book:

- Key to wise living – discern the spirit behind any teaching or word of ministry.
- Key lessons in faith – faith is based on knowledge of God’s word and His character.
- Vital keys to dynamic church life – Unity.

2 John

John encouraged the extension of hospitality to itinerant teachers but warned against the abuse of it by false teachers. They were to discern who to welcome and who to reject. Find in this book:

- Guidelines for growing in godliness – look out for words like “walk, know, follow, love, receive, beware, do not, understand...”

3 John

John described three personalities; Gaius on his generous hospitality, Diotrefes whose pride disrupted the harmony of the fellowship and Demetrius whose life exemplified Christian fidelity. Find in this book:

- Guidelines for growing in godliness – look out for words like “Prosper, understand, be assured, be eager, faithful, recognise, beware, reject, reprove...”

Journal what the Holy Spirit speaks to you as you study these books. You can see how love can be expressed in a practical way and not blindly. May we be transformed by His Word and His Spirit.