

LBAC's Family Calendar & Events

Sunday, October 13

- 9:00AM Morning Coffee
- 9:30AM Worship & Celebration
- 11:15AM Foundations Classes: Sess. 1, Wk 6

Monday, October 14

- 6:00PM Compulsive Eaters Anonymous
- 7:00PM Pure Desire
- 7:00PM Survivors of Incest Anonymous

Tuesday, October 15

- 10:00AM All Staff Team Meeting
- 6:00PM Student Leaders
- 7:00PM The Process- High School
- 7:00PM Women Connecting with Missions

Wednesday, October 16

- 6:30PM AWANA

Thursday, October 17

- 5:00PM Lydia House Women's Outreach
- 7:00PM Junior High Live

Friday, October 18

- 8:00PM Narcotics Anonymous
- 6:30AM Men's Bible Study on Campus

Saturday, October 19

- 9:00AM Compulsive Eaters Anonymous
- 7:00PM Alliance Women's National Project

Sunday, October 20

- 9:00AM Morning Coffee
- 9:30AM Worship & Celebration
- 11:15AM Foundations Classes: Sabbath
- 11:15AM Cannon Farewell Lunch

MISSIONS

<http://www.lbac.org/missions>

GROWTH GROUPS

<http://www.lbac.org/gg>

Mid-week Adult Bible Studies

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

<http://www.lbac.org/children>

Sunday Mornings: Gospel Project @ 9:30AM

Fun N Funky @ 11:15AM

AWANA

<http://www.lbac.org/awana>

Wednesday Nights September through May

YOUTH MINISTRIES

<http://www.lbac.org/youth>

The Process High School~ Tuesdays @ 7:00PM

Junior High Live ~ Thursdays @ 7PM

WOMEN'S MINISTRIES

<http://www.lbac.org/women>

Woman To Woman Mentoring

Contact: sherylnnelbac@gmail.com

Lydia House Meals Ministry

Contact: mcoliver789@msn.com

Women Connecting with Missions

3rd Tuesday of each month @ 7:00PM

Crafty Women

2nd Saturday of each month @ 10:00AM

MEN'S MINISTRIES

<http://www.lbac.org/men>

Contact: mensministry@lbac.org

long beach alliance church offices

3331 palo verde avenue • long beach, ca • 90808-4113

phone: 562.420.1478 • office@lbac.org • www.lbac.org

church office hours: tuesday-thursday, 10:00AM-5:00PM

www.facebook.com/longbeachalliancechurch

church staff team

meghan brearley, children's director
562.708.9261 • megan@lbac.org

jesse duckett, youth pastor
562.454.7122 • jesse@lbac.org

tina rand, receptionist & treasurer
562.420.1478 • tina@lbac.org

scott trickett, associate pastor
562.972.5306 • scott@lbac.org

michelle crammer, office manager
917.288.3424 • michelle@lbac.org

chris lankford, lead pastor
562.685.4132 • chris@lbac.org

kyle rand, facility needs
562.900.0921 • kyle@lbac.org

ben shaw, worship & celebration intern
562.420.1478 • ben@lbac.org



THE
ALLIANCE

Weekly Schedule

Regular Ministry Schedule & Contacts

GOSPEL GLADIATORS

WELCOME TO LONG BEACH ALLIANCE CHURCH
OCTOBER XIII, MMXIX

Congregational MEETING

to vote on the 2019-2020
proposed nominations

Sunday, November 3, 11AM

October 24-27 2019

MEN'S RETREAT



SEE MIKE COMSTOCK @ THE COURTYARD MEN'S TABLE TO SIGN UP!
FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE!
OR CALL 562.505.8398 FOR MORE INFORMATION!

It's time to say goodbye...

The Cannons are moving to Missouri!



Join us for a light lunch and a chance
to say farewell to Mary & Loy as they
head into their next venture.

Sunday, October 20, 2019

11:15AM ♥ Gym



SET FREE



Connecting Women for Kingdom Impact

*So if the Son sets you free,
you will be free indeed.*

—John 8:36

Missions Trivia Night:

Saturday, October 19, 2019 at 7PM-8:30PM

Sign up in the Courtyard today! A Women's Ministry Gathering Event



LBAC Year-to-Date Financial Report

	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Received</u>	<u>Budget %</u>
Weekly:	\$12,715.40	\$10,347.24	81.4%
Month-to-Date:	\$12,715.40	\$10,347.24	81.4%
Year-to-Date:	\$76,292.40	\$69,356.17	90.9%
Disbursed YTD:	\$63,039.00	GF Balance: \$6,317.17	

GOSPEL GLADIATORS

"THE INTENT OF THE LAW"

LONG BEACH ALLIANCE CHURCH • OCTOBER XIII, MMXIX • ROMANS II:XXIII-XXIX • PASTOR CHRIS LANKFORD

I) YOUR IDENTITY IS AUTHENTICATED BY YOUR ACTIONS

- A. The recipients of the letter to Rome were clearly proud of their Jewish heritage (Romans 2:17-20), something to which Paul (the writer) could completely relate (Philippians 3:4-6).
- B. Paul identifies two four-part sets of Jewish honor categories which are both connected to the core issue which Paul is exposing – the assumption of the Jews that simply being recipients of God's Law through Moses provided them with eternal security (2:17-20).

	<u>Perceived Identity</u>	<u>Honor Categories</u>	<u>Honor Foundation</u>
Set #1 (Romans 2:17-18)	Confirms Jewish Identity	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Rely on the Law• Boast in God• Know His Will• Approve what is excellent	Jews have been instructed by God from the Law
Set #2 (Romans 2:19-20)	Confirms You (Yourselves)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Guide to blind• Light in darkness• Instructor of fools• Teacher of children	The Law embodies knowledge & truth

- C. On the surface, the honor categories of the Jewish Christ-followers in Rome seems justified by their genuine lineage (note Romans 1:16, 2:9-11), biblically defensible status (Deuteronomy 4:7-8; Psalm 19:7-10, 119:101-105, 119:130), and certainly reflected the general Jewish culture[†] from the time period of the Apostle Paul.

[†] The following selection is from an anonymous historical Jewish "Pseudepigrapha" document (literally, 'falsely attested writings') from circa 80CE/90CE. It gives us a good idea of the Jewish ethos toward Gentiles and the Jewish mindset about foreign occupation (of Israel) during the time Romans was written. "For these are the people whom you have elected, and this is the nation of which you found no equal. But I shall speak to you now, and I shall say as my heart thinks. In your law we have put our trust, because, behold, your Law is with us, and we know that we do not fall as long as we keep your statutes. We shall always be blessed; at least, we did not mingle with the nations. For we are all a people of the Name; we, who received one Law from the One. And that Law that is among us will help us, and that excellent wisdom which is in us will support us." (2 Baruch 48:20-24, from *The Old Testament Pseudepigrapha*, Ed., James Charlesworth, ©1983, Anchor Yale Publishing (2009), *Syriac Apocalypse of Baruch*, trans. by Albertus Frederik Johannes Klijn (Rijksuniversiteit Groningen: The Netherlands), pg. 636).

- D. Despite the seemingly honorable identity for the Jews as recipients and representatives of the Law of Moses, their inability to “practice what they preach” (hypocrisy, 2:21-23) brings dishonor/shame on God’s reputation. In a final four-part set, shame replaces honor in a shocking reversal of perceived identity with authentic identity.

<u>Genuine Identity</u>	<u>Shame Categories</u>	<u>Shame Foundation</u>
<div data-bbox="42 305 98 503" data-label="Text"> <p>Set #3 (Romans 2:21-23)</p> </div> <div data-bbox="145 365 295 438" data-label="Text"> <p><i>You then, who (are)...</i></p> </div>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Teachers (of Law)</i> • <i>Against Stealing</i> • <i>Against Adultery</i> • <i>Against Idolatry</i> 	<p><i>Your Pride In Law Dishonors God Due To Your Hypocrisy</i></p>

- E. Rather than the Jews blessing the nations (cf. Genesis 12:3, see also Acts 2:47), God’s identity is blasphemed (disrespected, slandered, reviled, cf. Revelation 13:5-8) and He is cursed among those who need Him most. Hypocrisy crushes belief and faith (Romans 12:24).

II) THE FLESH IS AN ECHO OF THE SPIRIT

- A. Circumcision was a physical “sign of an everlasting covenant” (promise) between the Jews and God which physically marked the flesh of every Jewish male (cf. Genesis 17:9-14). In the same way circumcision cut away part of the male body, so also the Jews were to cut away the world, and be separated (cf. Leviticus 20:7-8).
- B. “Circumcision” & “uncircumcision” were ‘dirty nicknames’ Jews and Gentiles had for one another, which made Paul’s statements about following the Law that much more intense and personal for the Jews (Romans 2:25-26). The idea of Gentiles “keeping the Law” and condemning the Jews was an insane idea (2:27).
- C. But finally, Paul begins to get to the heart of his point which he began developing all the way back in Romans 1:16-17. Those things we can see and observe (e.g. receiving/hearing the Law, or circumcision) do not make a person right with God (Romans 2:28).
- D. Rather, the inward life of God’s Spirit authenticates a person as genuinely circumcised (a truly circumcised Jew). One whose identity is truly in God seeks honor from God, and does not act shamefully in seeking praise from men (Romans 2:29).

GROWTH GROUP GUIDE

Gospel Gladiators: Circumcision of the Heart

Week 6 • Romans 2:17-29

Ice Breaker

What was your first job? Did you enjoy it? What did you do with the money you earned?

In-Depth

- Read Romans 2:17-29
- Discuss what you learned from this week's sermon

1. Those who think they are right with God (Romans 2:17-24)

- A. In Roman 2:17-20, Paul lists at least 9 things his Jewish readers did that led them to believe they were right with God. List them.
Are these good things to do?
- B. Read Romans 2:21-23. Why is Paul unimpressed by their good deeds? Also read 1 Samuel 15:22; Psalm 51:16-17. Matthew 15:7-9.
Why is God unimpressed?
- C. Read Romans 2:23. Also read Micah 3:9-12; Matthew 3:7-10; Luke 18:11-14. What leads one to break the law and boast on their obedience to it at the same time?
- D. Romans 2:24. Also read Ezekiel 36:19-21. In what ways can God's people dishonor his name?

2. Circumcision of the Heart (Romans 2:25-29)

- A. Paul switches from discussing the law to circumcision. What was the significance of circumcision (see Genesis 17:11; Romans 4:11)?

- B. Read Jeremiah 9:25-26. Paul & Jeremiah speak of two circumcisions. What is the difference? What is Paul's point in these verses?

- C. Read Colossians 2:11-12. What is the significance of baptism for Christians?

Making It Relevant

- 1. Reread Romans 2:17-20, but replace the word "law" with "Bible" everywhere it appears. Does this now sound like it's talking to you? Now read Romans 2:23-24, doing the same thing. Does this sound like you, too?

- 2. The world condemns Christians for any sin, but ignores the many good deeds they may do. Is this fair?