

## "Tell Me the Story of Jesus"



**New online classes hosted  
by the British Bible School**

**Poem from A. Spicer**



## CONTENTS

- 3 MY PERSPECTIVE  
The importance of God's word
- 4 TELL ME THE STORY OF JESUS  
Using films to teach people about Jesus
- 6 BRITISH BIBLE SCHOOL NOTES  
New Online Bible Classes
- 7 "I'M GETTING OLD"  
Poem by A. Spicer
- 8 NOTICES
- 11 DIARY OF EVENTS
- 12 THE FINAL WORD  
The Presence of Absence



## EDITORIAL AND PUBLICATION

*The Christian Worker Magazine* is published monthly as a news magazine for Churches of Christ in the United Kingdom. The first issue was published in January 1969.

**Editor-in-Chief:** Trevor Williams

[twilliams195@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:twilliams195@hotmail.co.uk)

(0115) 837 6895

195 Hickings Lane, Stapleford, Nottingham NG9 8PJ

**Production Editor:** Jon Galloway

[jdgalloway@mac.com](mailto:jdgalloway@mac.com)

(07906) 060618

5 Aklins Lane, Netherburn, Larkhall ML9 3FH

**Treasurer:** Jenny Sparks

**Website:** Emmanuel Uwujare

**Header Design:** Kevin Nicholson

**UK Congregation Directory Online:** [www.churchesofchrist.co.uk](http://www.churchesofchrist.co.uk)

**Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/christianworkeruk](https://www.facebook.com/christianworkeruk)

**Previous Editors:** Albert E. Winstanley (1969-1973; 1980-1987); Robert C. Eckman (1973-1980); Graham A. Fisher (1987-2014)

All articles and news items should be sent to **Trevor Williams** by the 21<sup>st</sup> of each month. Late items may be accepted until the 25<sup>th</sup>. Publication is the first day of each month.

To receive *The Christian Worker Magazine* as a free pdf, send your e-address to [jdgalloway@mac.com](mailto:jdgalloway@mac.com). Professionally printed copies are available at cost. Please contact Trevor for details – [twilliams195@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:twilliams195@hotmail.co.uk).



Front cover and above: Training to use 'Story of Redemption' Films.



# MY PERSPECTIVE



## Rejecting God's word is rejection of God

### The importance of God's word

Does God's word really matter? Does what God revealed in his word thousands of years ago really matter to us today? Or is the Bible, as the religious world seems to believe, an antiquated book that needs to be updated to meet modern ways of thinking?

As much as I would applaud the idea of democracy, where our government represents the people, I see this idea being used to justify just about anything. It is sad when we make what we want and desire the test for what we think is acceptable amongst God's people, let alone in our society.

I've had the privilege for the past few months to be teaching about Israel at Mount Sinai and then their travels in the book of Numbers to the Promised Land. Time and again the Israelites rebelled against God and what he had revealed to them through Moses. They thought they were objecting to Moses and often accused Moses of being the problem. Yet the real problem was that they were rebelling against God and his word.

The nation of Israel struggled with the competing influence of a pagan world around them. Sadly they didn't see that adopting more gods was not acceptable to the one true God. Why could God not be happy if they were also worshipping him? What they failed to realise was that there could be no other than him. He was the only Creator, the only one true God.

Sometimes we don't think of idolatry as a problem today. While we may not be bowing down and worshipping an image of stone or wood, we fail to realise that this is a narrow definition of idolatry. Idolatry is when we put anything in the place of God.

Usually the idol that people put in God's place is themselves and their opinions. Rather than listening to God we prefer what we want, which is largely shaped by the godless society in which we live. Somehow God has been pushed out of our thinking.

The Israelites often rejected Moses. They blamed Moses for their failure to enter the Promised Land when they first arrived. They blamed Moses when God sent plagues among them and many died. They blamed Moses for having to wander forty years in the wilderness. It is always easier to blame who ever is seen as the leader than to realise that our problems are usually of our own making.

Today it is the writers of the New Testament that often get the blame. Time and again we hear that the problem is what Paul wrote. Really? Do we realise who was behind what Paul recorded in the letters that are now part of God's word? Paul didn't make these things up – what he wrote was given to him by God's Holy Spirit, who in turn was given it by Jesus and the Father himself.

You see, when we object to the writings we find in the New Testament – usually because we don't agree with them – we are really objecting to and rebelling against God. Just as the Israelites in the wilderness found themselves opposing God when they thought they were opposing Moses, we find ourselves opposing God when we reject the writings of the apostles.

Let's get back to knowing and following God's word!

Jon



# Tell Me the Story of Jesus



As I write this we are planning to go to the cinema at the weekend to watch a film called "The Jesus Revolution". It is what is termed a 'Christian film' – I'm all for that and it has a big star from the telly in it. What if it is not scripturally accurate? What if they do not do things like we do in the churches of Christ? I'm resigned to that being the case. I am however, looking forward to not being bombarded with swearing, cursing, taking the Lord's name in vain and explicit sexual scenes and the promotion of all sorts of perverted ideas.

What if this and other so called 'Christian film's are watched by people with no faith or church background and it piques their interest? They will not sit wondering why it says this or that in the Bible yet is not portrayed correctly in the film. They might be entertained and, who knows, the story might create curiosity about Jesus. If it does what would be the best way to follow up?

The Pharisees emphasised the letter of the law; Jesus came along and told stories. Jesus' stories were scripturally accurate, stories about him often weren't and aren't. What if we had scripturally,

biblically accurate films to show people that we could use to study with them? We do! And they are free to use!

The story of our redemption, the story of Jesus, is the greatest story ever told. What if we had help to tell it? We do! And it is free to use!

To tell the story of Jesus the best place to start is with our story. If Jesus has not made an impact





on our life, why would he be worth sharing? If Jesus has not helped us out of our addiction, why would he be worth sharing? If Jesus has not taken away our sin and the feelings of guilt it brought, if peace has not been brought to our life through knowing Jesus, why would he be worth sharing. If the direction of our life has not been completely turned around and hope given to us by Jesus, why would he be worth sharing? However, Jesus has done all these things and many more, so he is worth sharing.

So, what is your story? What is so good about Jesus that you need to tell others about him? What if, after telling someone your story, it piques the interest of the listener to know more? What could you do then?

I suggest you invite them to watch a film. Just a short one around 6 or 7 minutes. A short film that you then could ask a question or two about to guide them to think about what they have watched. Not for you to tell them what they must believe, but to help them examine the claims of Jesus for themselves.

Through a series of short films, the story of redemption can be told, films you can show wherever there is an internet connection. You can use your smart phone, tablet, or laptop, and you can use it one to one or in groups.

Have a look at "[storyofredemptionfilms.com](http://storyofredemptionfilms.com)" to see a couple of samples. To get access to all the films you will need a link, which is available on request..

Free training is available to help you use the site, the films and the study questions most effectively. Training will also include how to use these face to face or on Zoom, one to one or in groups.

Next Generation Ministries have invited me to be the contact for the UK. For more information please use the following email address to contact me;



[storyofredemption@uwclub.net](mailto:storyofredemption@uwclub.net) Or my phone number is: 07434956692

There are many people waiting for a teacher around the world. Could you be their teacher using these films? Please consider it. Training will consist of sitting in an existing online study to initially observe. Then when you are ready, you will be able to take over that group or lead a new one.

James Nored, the author and presenter of the films, is in Scotland from the 22<sup>nd</sup> July then England in early August. If you would like a visit or have him come to hold a seminar, please ask about availability.

If we do not tell people the story of Jesus, who will?

Mark Hill

In various countries groups of people are getting together to tell Bible stories in a variety of ways.

Is there anyone who would like to join me in learning more about the ways we can bring the stories of the Bible alive for today's world? Drop me a line and let's see if we can learn something together.

Trevor [twilliams195@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:twilliams195@hotmail.co.uk)



# BRITISH BIBLE SCHOOL NOTES

## BRITISH BIBLE SCHOOL ONLINE CLASSES

No sooner than we complete our current round of online Bible classes, that we are preparing for the next. Indeed, as you read this, the first session of the new season will have already been conducted. All these classes are recorded so there is the opportunity to catch up before the next one.

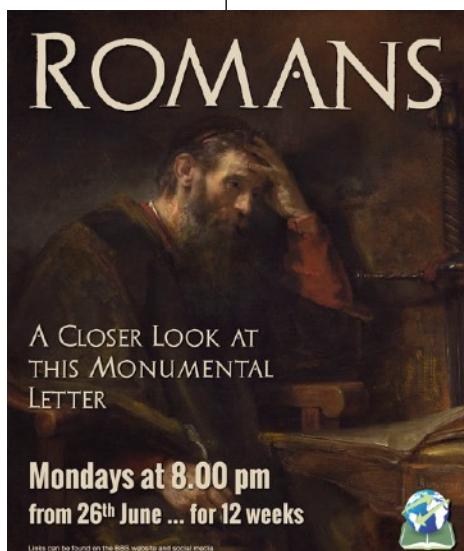
One of the advantages of being online is that opportunity to catch up; another is that you can join from wherever you are on the evening. Due to this, it has been good to get acquainted with brothers and sisters within and outside the UK.

Available for twelve weeks beginning 26<sup>th</sup> June 2023 at 8.00 pm we are offering you the following two studies.

**Romans** will be taught each Monday evening by Jack Paton.

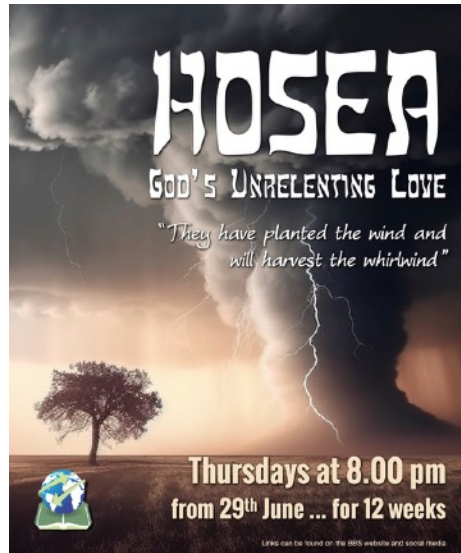
These classes will concentrate on a particular aspect of the Letter, one which should be the focus of all study of Romans, and indeed of all Scripture: participation "in Christ,"

especially in his death and resurrection which is the central dimension of Paul's theology. Just reading the letter to the Romans has changed people's lives and brought them to Christ. So take some time out to focus on this particular aspect. Whilst it may help you it certainly will equip you to help others in their understanding also.



**Hosea** will be taught each Thursday evening by Jon Galloway.

Hosea was called to bring God's message to Israel to get them to come back to him.



God's love for his people is depicted through Hosea loving his unfaithful wife. Although written to God's people thousands of years ago, the message is still applicable today. If you ever wondered if God really loves you, or how much he loves you, this is a study to participate

in. God will use Hosea's actions to speak louder than words.

## QUIZ NIGHTS

It is, of course, good to keep the old grey cells working and what better way to do it than with a quiz. It's light hearted, entertaining but also educational. For individuals or groups, everyone of any age is welcome. There's nothing too testing, the emphasis is on fun. You might want to have a pen and paper handy – plus a box of choccies to award yourself if you happen to win – or even if you don't. Please check dates on social media. Your quizmaster is Steve Whitehead. So, will you attend? Is that your final answer?

We look forward to seeing our regular attenders and any who would like to drop in online and take a look. Come and see what the classes are like.

Log-in details and more information can be found on our web page and social media.

Mark Hill  
[britishbibleschool.com](http://britishbibleschool.com)





## I'M GETTING OLD

*The congregation where I go  
Have known me quite awhile.  
But now each time they see me,  
They give a little smile.*

*I went to lead a hymn,  
The one that I adore,  
But when I opened up my mouth,  
My teeth fell on the floor.*

*The congregation, bless 'em,  
Became a restless crowd,  
With shoulders bouncing up and down,  
Trying not to laugh out loud.*

*With time to get composure,  
This really beggars belief,  
My back gave way, I couldn't stand.  
As I bent to get my teeth.*

*Like the hunch-back of Notre-Dame,  
I went to find my seat,  
But misjudged it all and had a fall,  
My embarrassment complete.*

*The following Lord's Day evening,  
I was called to lead a prayer,  
My hearing is not as good as it was,  
And silence filled the air.*

*A booming voice called my name,  
It gave me such a fright,  
I dropped my notes,  
They scattered left and right.*

*Time had come for me to speak,  
All notes in a trembling hand,  
As I reached to retrieve my glasses,  
All I found was an elastic band.*

*I tried another pocket,  
But alas I could not find,  
Those essential glasses  
That I'd carelessly left behind.*

*Extemporaneous was once my pride,  
Notes I did not need,  
Now empty memory begs my brain,  
Give me something to read.*

*My wife gave me her glasses,  
I know I shouldn't smile,  
But trying to focus with those things,  
Took me, quite a while.*

*A few words of exhortation,  
Was all that I could do.  
Don't laugh my friend, don't laugh.  
One day it will happen to you.*

*A Spicer*

# KING HEROD

MAD, BAD, AND DANGEROUS?

Another of our  
Evening Lectures Online

Saturday, 8th July 2023 at  
7.30 pm

Presenter: Steve Whitehead

See website for details  
[britishbibleschool.com](http://britishbibleschool.com)

Hosted by the  
British Bible School



# NOTICES

Jerry and Zoobie Jones have continued to develop their retreat centre in the little village of La Chappelle au Riboul, in the Mayenne area of France. While there recently we started to talk again about the possibility of Christians from Britain having a time of fellowship there. Considering the distance, we feel that we would like to have about ten days to enjoy the area.

In order for this to take place I need UK Christians to indicate their interest. Would you like to go Easter time or in half-term week, or late in the summer holidays? Do you want to take children? The house is equipped with games rooms, art and craft room, huge grounds to play in. Would you be happy to share kitchen duties? There is a dishwasher. There is also a banqueting hall.

Not all rooms are ensuite but there are plenty of bathrooms all over the place. With over twenty bedrooms there are plenty of rooms, plus games rooms, classrooms and a chapel. We would be on a self-catering basis and would need to look after ourselves. Accommodation prices will be kept as low as possible.

If you are interested, please contact me **NOW**, [twilliams195@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:twilliams195@hotmail.co.uk) If there is no interest, we shall not take the plans any further.

Many thanks  
Trevor



## Modernisation & Christianity

(Romans 12:2)

### 2023 Workshop

Organised by Edmonton Church of Christ

Date: Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> July 2023

Time: 10:00am – 4:00pm (BST)

Speaker: Deacon James Obeng (Edmonton)

#### Group Discussion Leaders

Bro Gary Smith (Leicester)

Bro Vincent Samson (India)

Bro Shadrack Appiagyei (Berlin, Germany)

Venue:

Zoom



Meeting ID: 830 5148 5139

Passcode: workshop

Contacts:

Deacon Maxwell: 079-8343-5054

Elder Appiagyei: 078-4732-1141

Elder Banin: 075-0668-9396





# Notices

JOIN US for a time of *Encouragement*.  
A time to *Refresh* and *Restore*,  
to *Reset*, *Focus* and *Re-ignite* the fire.

*With special guests from the Nolen Hills congregation (Nolensville, Tennessee)*

## Evangelism Through Discipleship: An Ancient Method in A New Time

**14 July 2023**  
**from 10.00 - 16.00**  
**at Balmule House, Dunfermine**

### Featured Sessions:

- Reaching Out:** *Sharing the Gospel with confidence.*
- Leading with Love:** *Serving in the Gospel with confidence.*
- Intergenerational Discipleship:** *Filling the generation gaps.*

For directions to Balmule House, visit [www.balmule.co.uk](http://www.balmule.co.uk)  
For more information email [alan.j.moyes@gmail.com](mailto:alan.j.moyes@gmail.com)



**Kirkcaldy**  
church of Christ



Daughters of Christ UK (DOCUK)  
Ephesians 2:10

JOIN US AS WE CELEBRATE OUR 2<sup>ND</sup> ANNIVERSARY.  
**THEME: SERVING TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE**

**Speaker:** Alison Inyang - Denmark Hill, London Congregation  
**Date:** SATURDAY JULY 22<sup>ND</sup>, 2023  
**Time:** 9:00am to 4:45pm (UK time)  
**Venue:** Wembley Church of Christ, 92 Barnhill Road, Wembley, HA9 9BS.

**ZOOM:** [bit.ly/3NDVRAI](https://bit.ly/3NDVRAI)  
**Meeting ID:** 6816234697 **Passcode:** [DOCUKIm21](#)  
**In person and Zoom registration are required**

**Registration Details:** [bit.ly/3NCQTV7](https://bit.ly/3NCQTV7)  
**Contact:** Mobile: 07904303347  
**Email:** [docuklm2021@gmail.com](mailto:docuklm2021@gmail.com)



## Leicester Youth Day

**Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> July 10am to 16:00**

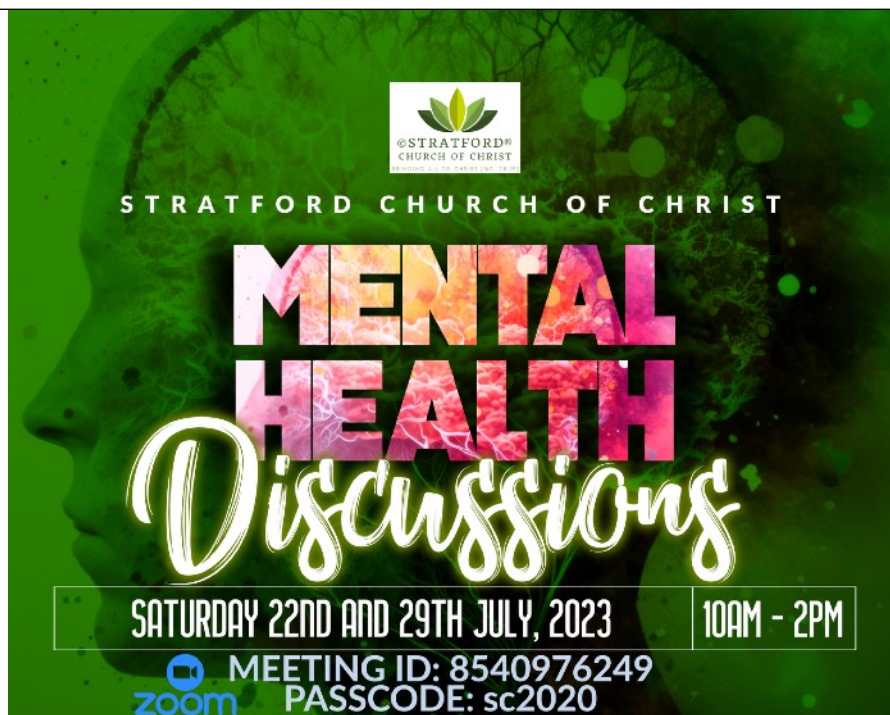
The Leicester youth wish to invite congregations to our first youth day in our new building, Dean Mushamba who is a university minister in Lubbock and Jessica smith will be joining and teaching.

**For further information**

**Daniel Blake:**

**07733 714159**

# Notices



The poster features a green background with a faint silhouette of a human head. At the top center is the Stratford Church of Christ logo, which includes a stylized green leaf icon and the text "©STRATFORD CHURCH OF CHRIST". Below the logo, the text "STRATFORD CHURCH OF CHRIST" is written in white capital letters. The main title "MENTAL HEALTH Discussions" is prominently displayed in the center, with "MENTAL HEALTH" in large, bold, pink and orange block letters, and "Discussions" in a white, cursive script font. At the bottom, a white box contains the text "SATURDAY 22ND AND 29TH JULY, 2023" and "10AM - 2PM". Below this box, the Zoom logo is followed by "MEETING ID: 8540976249" and "PASSCODE: sc2020".

©STRATFORD  
CHURCH OF CHRIST

STRATFORD CHURCH OF CHRIST

**MENTAL  
HEALTH**  
*Discussions*

SATURDAY 22ND AND 29TH JULY, 2023 10AM - 2PM

zoom MEETING ID: 8540976249  
PASSCODE: sc2020

C O N T A C T S :  
☎ 07979096293 | 07852343010 | 07932237767

Speakers: Metal Health Experts, Psychologists

🌐 [www.stratfordchurchofchrist.org.uk](http://www.stratfordchurchofchrist.org.uk)  
✉ [stratfordchurchofchrist18@gmail.com](mailto:stratfordchurchofchrist18@gmail.com)

## Church of Christ Liverpool invites you to Liverpool Young Adult Fellowship

On Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> July 2023

Arrival 9:30am - 10:00am

Fellowship from 10:00am - 4:00pm

## Being a Christian in this Contemporary World

Speakers: Announced Nearer to Event



RSVP to Bro. Rexford Adu Boahen by email on  
[nanadomfeh6@gmail.com](mailto:nanadomfeh6@gmail.com) or on 07538563751

Address: Liverpool Church of Christ, Picton Road, Waterloo, Liverpool, L22 8QH

GAMES | DEVOTION | FOOD | FUN





# DIARY

## July

- 3<sup>rd</sup> – British Bible School evening class:** “Romans, part 1” taught by Jack Paton each Monday, 8.00-9.00 pm. Links to join the class can be found on the BBS social media and website: [www.britishbibleschool.com](http://www.britishbibleschool.com).
- 6<sup>th</sup> – British Bible School evening class:** “Hosea” taught by Jon Galloway each Thursday, 8.00-9.00 pm. Links to join the class can be found on the BBS social media and website: [www.britishbibleschool.com](http://www.britishbibleschool.com).
- 7<sup>th</sup> – British Bible School quiz night:** a light-hearted, educational Bible quiz hosted by Steve Whitehead, the first Friday of each month from 8.00-9.00 pm. Links to join the quiz can be found on the BBS social media and website: [www.britishbibleschool.com](http://www.britishbibleschool.com).
- 8<sup>th</sup> – Leicester:** Youth Day, 10.00 am-4.00 pm. Contact: Daniel Blake (07733 714159).
- 8<sup>th</sup> – Edmonton (London):** Workshop – “Modernisation and Christianity”, 10.00 am-4.00 pm; speaker: James Obeng. Contact: Maxwell (07983 435054), Appiagye (07847 321141) or Banin (07506 689396). Also available on Zoom: Meeting ID – 830 5148 5139; Passcode: workshop.
- 8<sup>th</sup> – British Bible School online lecture:** “Herod the Great” present by Steve Whitehead, 7.30-8.30 pm. Links to join the lecture can be found on the BBS social media and website: [www.britishbibleschool.com](http://www.britishbibleschool.com).
- 14<sup>th</sup> – Kirkcaldy:** “Evangelism Through Discipleship: An Ancient Method in a New Time”, 10.00 am-4.00 pm. Venue: Balmule House, Dunfermline (directions can be found at [www.balmule.co.uk](http://www.balmule.co.uk)). Contact: Alan Moyes ([alan.j.moyes@gmail.com](mailto:alan.j.moyes@gmail.com)).
- 22<sup>nd</sup> – Daughters of Christ UK:** Second Anniversary Meeting – “Serving to Make a Difference”, 9.00 am - 4.45 pm. Speaker: Alison Inyang. Venue: Wembley building (92 Barnhill Road, Wembley HA9 9BS) and Zoom ([bit.ly/3NDVRAI](https://bit.ly/3NDVRAI), Meeting ID: 6816234697; Passcode: DOCUKlm21). Registration: [bit.ly/3NCQTV7](https://bit.ly/3NCQTV7). Contact: Bernie Wells (07904 303347 or [docuklm2021@gmail.com](mailto:docuklm2021@gmail.com)).
- 22<sup>nd</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup> – Stretford (Manchester):** Mental Health Discussions with Mental Health Experts and Psychologists, 10.00 am-2.00 pm. Venue: Zoom (Meeting ID: 8540976249; Passcode: sc2020). Contact: [stratfordchurchofchrist18@gmail.com](mailto:stratfordchurchofchrist18@gmail.com) or see our website: [www.stratfordchurchofchrist.org.uk](http://www.stratfordchurchofchrist.org.uk).
- 23<sup>rd</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> – Camp Tayside.** Location: Douglaswood Scout Camp near Dundee. Contact: Aubrey Boyns ([a.boyns@gmail.com](mailto:a.boyns@gmail.com)).
- 29<sup>th</sup> – Liverpool:** Youth Fellowship Day – “Where Do I Get Answers?”, 10.00 am-4.00 pm (arrive for 9.30 am). Venue: Liverpool congregation building, corner of Picton Road & Wellington Street, Waterloo, Liverpool, L22 8QH. Contact: Rexford ([nanadomfeh6@gmail.com](mailto:nanadomfeh6@gmail.com) or 07538 563751).
- 29<sup>th</sup> – Livingston:** Devotional Evening, 7.00 pm. Contact: [christianwoman@btinternet.com](mailto:christianwoman@btinternet.com).

## August

- 5<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> – British Bible Camp:** EPIC – the Greatest Fish Story Every Told. Location: Lockerley Water Farm, E Tytherley Road, Lockerley, Romsey SO51 0LW. Contact: Jason Snethen (07795 560990 or [Britishbiblecamp@gmail.com](mailto:Britishbiblecamp@gmail.com)).
- 19<sup>th</sup> – East Kilbride:** Barbecue and Devotional Evening, 3.00 pm. Contact: [christianwoman@btinternet.com](mailto:christianwoman@btinternet.com).

## September

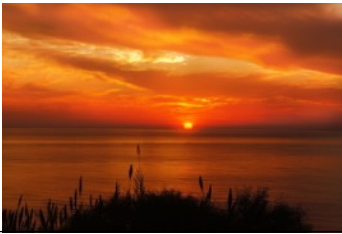
- 2<sup>nd</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> – East Kilbride:** British Bible School Study Weekend, 9.30-4.00 on Saturday; Bible class and worship on Sunday. Contact: Jon Galloway ([jdgalloway@mac.com](mailto:jdgalloway@mac.com)).
- 9<sup>th</sup> – Reading:** SongFest – “Songs of Hope and Joy”, 1.30-6.00 pm. Lunch will be served plus time for children’s songs and fellowship. Venue: Crescent Resource Centre, Warbler Drive, Lower Earley, RG6 4HB (ample parking on site). Please send in numbers for catering purposes. Contact: [message4heidi@outlook.com](mailto:message4heidi@outlook.com).
- 15<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> September – British Bible School Autumn Family Retreat** at Letton Hall. Further details and registration will be on our website soon, but make plans now.

## October

- 7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> – East Kilbride:** British Bible School Study Weekend, 9.30-4.00 on Saturday; Bible class and worship on Sunday. Contact: Jon Galloway ([jdgalloway@mac.com](mailto:jdgalloway@mac.com)).
- 27<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> – East Kilbride:** Gospel meetings, 7.00 Friday-Saturday, 11.00 Sunday. Contact: Jon Galloway ([jdgalloway@mac.com](mailto:jdgalloway@mac.com)).
- 28<sup>th</sup> – Aughton:** Family Fun Day, 1.00-3.30, and Gospel Meeting, 4.45-6.00. Contact: Mike Glover (07879 444267 or [mike97glover@gmail.com](mailto:mike97glover@gmail.com)).

## November

- 6<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> November – British Bible School Autumn Study Week** at Bassenfell Manor. Further details and registration will be on our website soon, but make plans now.



# THE FINAL WORD



## The Presence of Absence

Following on from my thoughts of last month about getting old, I want to share some thoughts about the ultimate discussion that is rarely talked about. We use a whole plethora of words about death: passed on, passed away, gone home. And when we talk about it ourselves it may be couched as 'if something happens to me'.

The word death has a finality to it that everyone hates. Now those of us in Christ are thankful for our salvation, that through the death of Christ we may have life. That is our faith and trust. But what about those who have not had the opportunity to think about the gospel because they have never heard of the love of Jesus, or they do not have the ability to develop faith or are too young or even too old? These are perhaps questions that we do not like to think about.

Whatever the case, when someone dies, they leave behind the presence of absence. Even in the case of a child who dies before birth, they leave behind the expectation of a life that never came to fully be. The preparation for that child

will have taken place and their presence is felt in absence.

For those who live a long life they leave behind all the material possessions they owned but, greater still, they leave behind the way they were: funny, grumpy, kind, thoughtful. When we leave this life, we leave behind memories that we probably do not know that we have even created. We touch other people's lives for generations. We leave behind memories so that people can still remember, such as what we sounded like. We leave behind what we thought about or created or taught. We leave behind much of ourselves that have influenced others in hundreds of ways. When we die, we are not an eliminated life force, we leave behind the presence of our absence.

If you have a story to tell, write it down; if you want to say something worth saying, say it now; if you want to share, do it so that you may leave the presence in your absence.

Is it any wonder that week by week Christians are reminded of the death of

Jesus in the breaking of bread – we have his presence in his absence.

*Thank you, Lord, for the life you have been gracious to grant us. Each day we meet people we know, and our life becomes part of theirs. We may even meet someone for a moment or two but something special is exchanged. We really do not know our own selves and yet there is meaning in all we say and do. Guide us and direct us we pray. Amen.*

Trevor

