

# Feltham Evangelical Church *Newsletter: June 2011*

*A Bible-based church making known the Christian Faith*

## Calendar

### **w/c 29<sup>th</sup> May**

29th 9.30.a.m. Lord's Supper (Philip Venables)  
29th 11.00.a.m. Morning Service (Philip Venables)  
29th 11.15.a.m. Sunday School (Sheila and Daphne)  
30th 9.00.a.m. Outing to Littlehampton  
1st 7.30 p.m. Prayer/ Bible Study

3rd 10.00 a.m. to midday Open House

### **w/c 5<sup>th</sup> June**

5th 9.30.a.m. Lord's Supper (Philip Venables)  
5th 11.00.a.m. Morning Service (Philip Venables)  
5th 11.15.a.m. Sunday School (Sheila and Trish)  
5th 5.30.p.m. "Together"  
7th 5.45.p.m. Lighthouse  
8th 7.30.p.m. Prayer / Bible Study  
10th 10.00.a.m. to midday Open House  
11th 10.30 a.m. Town Centre Evangelism  
11th 7.00.p.m. Feltham Bible Focus; Marcus Honeysett (We need Leaders!)

### **w/c 12<sup>th</sup> June**

12th 9.30.a.m. Lord's Supper (Marcus Honeysett)  
12th 11:00.a.m. Morning Service (Marcus Honeysett)  
12th 11.15 a.m. Sunday School (Daphne and Trish)  
12th 1.00.p.m. Fellowship Lunch

12th 2.00.p.m. Afternoon Service: (Marcus Honeysett: Honouring Leaders)

14th 9.30.a.m. Prayer Meeting  
15th 7.30.p.m. Prayer / Bible Study  
17th 10.00 a.m. to midday Open House

### **w/c 19<sup>th</sup> June**

19th 9.30.a.m. Prayer and Praise (Philip Venables)  
19th 11.00.a.m. Morning Service including Lord's Supper (Philip Venables)  
19th 11.15 a.m. Sunday School (Sheila and Diana)  
21st 5.45.p.m. Lighthouse  
22nd 7.30.p.m. Prayer/Bible Study  
24th 10.00.a.m. to midday Open House

### **w/c 26<sup>th</sup> June**

26th 9.30.a.m. Lord's Supper (Philip Venables)  
26th 11.00.a.m. Morning Service (Philip Venables)  
26th 11.15.a.m. Sunday School (Daphne and Sheila)  
28th 9.30.a.m. Prayer Meeting  
28th 5.45.p.m. Lighthouse  
29th 7.30.p.m. Prayer / Bible Study  
1st (July) 10.00.a.m to midday Open House  
2nd 8.30.a.m. Clear-Up

## News

*Virginia Okafor* is now a member of the church fellowship. We trust she would be blessed and the church would be blessed as she commits herself to us in the LORD's Name.

## Notes

*Feltham Bible Focus* looks at the issue of leadership this month. Marcus Honeysett, Director of Living Leadership, is due to be the preacher. Leaders are needed in all realms and thereby Christian leaders who seek to implement godly leadership are desperately needed. Marcus is therefore dealing with a very important subject. This is due to take place on June 11<sup>th</sup> at 7.00.p.m. Be there if you can.

*At the Afternoon Service* on June 12<sup>th</sup> Marcus we also be dealing with a leadership theme as he speaks on the subject "Honouring Leaders".

*International Day* On June 12<sup>th</sup> we intend to have an "Every Tribe and Language and People and Nation day". This gives us an opportunity to celebrate our racial and cultural diversity. In doing so we get a foretaste of what it will be like to be among the multitudes as described in Revelation: 5:6-14. On that day please feel free to dress in your national costume and possibly bring your country's national flag.

*Fellowship Lunch* is also due to be held on June 12<sup>th</sup>. Bring your own national food on that day to share together.

*Hayes Town Chapel* have their anniversary weekend on June 18<sup>th</sup>/19<sup>th</sup>. We are invited on June 18<sup>th</sup> at 6.00.p.m. to hear Garry Williams of the John Owen Centre, London Theological Seminary, preach on "The Life of William Tyndale and the Relevance of the Bible Today"

*Bible Study* continues on a Wednesday evening. This month we are due to finish our study of the first section of Proverbs. We plan then to study 1 Peter. It is good for us to study scripture together as a church. Come if and when you can.

### Health and Safety

- Parents are reminded that on the church premises their children are their responsibility except when the children are in Lighthouse or Sunday School,
- Children should **not** play or "hang out" on the car park when the car park is in use.

*Town Centre Evangelism* For June and July we plan to go out into the town centre on the second Saturday of the month. We intend then to review our evangelistic efforts and plan for what to do in the autumn and beyond. Please pray about this important aspect of church life that we would know the LORD's mind.

*The Church Outing* We plan once again this year to visit Littlehampton as a church on May 30<sup>th</sup>, Spring Bank Holiday. We plan to leave at 9.00.a.m. We are due to travel by coach. Payment is on a voluntary contribution basis.

*DVDs* Various DVDs have been shown at the church this year. We have seen presentations about CH Spurgeon, William Tyndale, evangelistic and relief work in Sri Lanka and the reliability of the Bible. If you would like to borrow any of these to view at home please see Philip.

## Spiritual Notes Are the Scriptures useful for the whole of life?

Is the Bible useful for all of our lives or just for certain parts? Does it take us so far in life and then leave us to get on with the rest? Many people, even Christians, live split lives. They allow the Bible to direct them as regards to what they deem the "spiritual" aspects whilst arranging the rest of their lives according to their own standards. But should it be like this?

### The usefulness of Scripture

Paul in 2 Timothy 3:16-17 says that **All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.** Titus 2:14b tells us that the purpose of Jesus coming into the world was **to purify for himself a people**

**that are his very own, eager to do what is good.** We are fully living for Christ when we are doing what is good. Linking the two passages, just mentioned, leads us to conclude that we are equipped to do what is good through the Word of God.

Without the scriptures we are like newly constructed shop-lots which have been left with a “shell finish”. They have potential to function as shops, but without any fitting-out they are useless. They are not “fit-for-purpose”. However, when the fit-out takes place then the shop is equipped to function as a shop. Likewise without the scriptures we, as Christians, are not “fit-for-purpose”. We are unable to do those good works which give nobility to the Christian life. But when the scriptures are running into and through our lives then we are fully-fitted out to live lives that please God.

### **The function of the Scriptures**

But the question is asked regarding how does the Bible tell us what is the good we should be doing in a certain situation at a certain time and place. Are we told what to do at a certain time or where to go and where not to go? However, asking these questions betrays a false view of scripture. Notice what 2 Timothy 3:16 says. It says that scripture is useful for knocking us into shape through teaching, rebuking, correcting and training. When this is happening we tend to have all areas of our lives increasingly brought in line with the Word of God and therefore with the Spirit of God. Like Simeon we will be in the right place at the right time. We read of Simeon that **“moved by the Holy Spirit, he went into the temple courts. When the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the custom of the Lord required, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God** (Luke 2:27-28a).

### **Using Scripture in all of Life**

Moreover, the Word, whilst not prescribing everything to do in every situation of life, does give us all we need to make healthy decisions in life. All the instruction is there for us.

1. **Personal Life** by way of example, when someone is wanting to know where to live they can ask certain questions like:
  - Does choosing this location be good for my family life (see Eph. 5:21-6:4)?
  - Will it help to fellowship in a good Bible church (see Heb. 10:25)?
  - Will renting or buying this house be a good use of my resources (see Lk. 16:1-13)? Will I be spending too much money? Will I be wasting too much time in travelling to work / church?
2. **Family Life** Not only is it true that the scriptures give everything for our personal lives, it also is sufficient for family life. It gives all the necessary material for families too operate in a godly way. It shows the responsibilities that parents and children have. Look at the passage in Colossians 3:18-21 as one example of this.
3. **Church Life** We must continually be examining the scripture to check that as a church we are walking in the way of the LORD. So we will be looking for
  - **Commands:** these are statements of scripture which state exactly what we should be doing. We should be choosing elders with the characteristics described in 1 Timothy 3:1-7.
  - **Practice:** We look to see what the churches in the Bible were doing and thereby we draw examples that we can follow. The church at Troas **on the first day of the week came together to break bread** (Acts 20:7a). Given this practice we can conclude that it is good to celebrate the Lord's Supper each week.
  - **Principles:** Here we are seeking to work out matters in line with the principles of God's Word. 1 Corinthians 11:3 gives an order of headship; God, Christ, man, woman. We need then in church to be following the principle established in scripture that the man is the head of the woman and working that out in the detail of church life.

### **Bible Christians are Spirit Christians**

It is important to insert a corrective at this juncture. Some Christians dismiss the assertion that scripture is important for the experiencing of a good godly life. They say that they are “Spirit Christians”. They do not focus on the Word because they focus on the Spirit. But this is a false division. The truth is that the truly Spirit filled Christian is, simultaneously, a Bible filled Christian. The great danger for anyone faces who emphasizes the Spirit over against the Scriptures is that they are so easily duped by Satan who presents himself as an angel of light and thereby deceives.

The psalmist said in **Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path** (Psalm 119:105). The scriptures are sufficient to provide us with all the counsel we need for the next step and for all the steps on the pathway to glory. Individually and as a church let us be willing not to make decisions “off the top of our head”, but instead to search the scriptures. In doing so we will be wise and we will be equipping ourselves to live lives full of good works. And that will be for the glory of God.