

Feltham Evangelical Church

A Bible-based church making known the Christian Faith

Newsletter: August 2017

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Calendar

W/c 30th July

Sun 30th 9.30.a.m. - Lord's Supper.
(Marc Khunan)

Sun 30th 11.00.a.m. - Morning
Worship. (Philip Venables)

Tues 1st (Aug) 9.30.a.m. - Prayer
Meeting.

Wed 2nd 7.30.p.m. - Prayer and The
Word

Sat 5th 11.00.a.m. - Evangelism.

W/c 6th August

Sun 6th 9.30.a.m. - Lord's Supper.
(Michael Venables)

Sun 6th 11.00.a.m. - Morning
Worship (Marc Khunan)

Sun 6th 5.30.p.m. - Together.

Tues 8th 9.30.a.m. - Prayer Meeting.

Wed 9th 7.30.p.m. - Prayer and The
Word

Sat 12th 7.00.p.m - Feltham Bible
Focus: (*Healthy Friendships - Philip
Venables*)

W/c 13th August

Sun 13th 9.30.a.m.- Lord's Supper.
(Marc Khunan)

Sun 13th 11.00.a.m. - Morning
Worship. (Philip Venables)

Sun 13th 1.00.p.m. - Fellowship
Lunch.

Tues 15th 9.30.a.m - Prayer Meeting

Wed 16th 7.30.p.m. - Prayer and The
Word

Sat 19th 9.00.a.m. - Cleaning and
Maintenance.

W/c 20th August

Sun 20th 9.30.a.m. - Lord's Supper
(Philip Venables)

Sun 20th 11.00.a.m. - Morning
Worship (Philip Venables)

Sun 20th 5.30.p.m. - Equip. (God's
Big Picture)

Tues 22nd 9.30.a.m. - Prayer Meeting.

Wed 23rd 7.30.p.m. - Prayer and
The Word

W/c 27th August

Sun 27th 9.30.a.m. - Lord's Supper.
(Philip Venables)

Sun 27th 11.00.a.m. - Morning
Worship. (Philip Venables)

Mon 28th 10.30 a.m. - Fellowship Day

Tues 29th 9.30.a.m. - Prayer
Meeting.

Wed 30th 7.30.p.m. - Prayer and
The Word

Thurs 31st 7.30.p.m - Feltham
Journey Discussion

Fri 1st (Sept) 10.00.a.m. To 12.00.p.m
– Open House

Sat 2nd 11.00.a.m. - Evangelism.

Notes

Sunday School In August there will be no Sunday school during the morning service. Please continue to bring your children to the services, though, so that they can learn of our God in the service. Pray for Sheila, Trish, and Diana as they take a well-earned rest.

Equip on August 20th gives opportunity to start to look at the whole Bible Story. We intend to be looking videos from the God's Big Picture Bible Overview Course.

Ladies Evangelistic Evening is due to take place on September 16th. This gives a great opportunity to serve together and to bring ladies you know to hear the Good News of how we can know new life in Christ. Please see Amy for more information.

Preaching Over the holiday period, on July 30th, August 13th, 20th and 27th and September 3rd we intend to have a series of messages about our Lord Jesus Christ at the 11.00 service.

EveryoneMustKnow is up and running with lots of leaflets to distribute. Ask Mark how you can help.

Open House is closed during August. It is due to re-open on 1st September.

Together on August 6th includes opportunity to hear of the ministry that our sister Hong Ki Seong is involved in in Jordan, as she is visiting us on that day.

Feltham Bible Focus this month is on August 12th. Philip Venables from our own fellowship is due to be preaching about friendship.

Fellowship Day On August 28th, August Bank Holiday Monday, we intend to spend a day together based at the church premises. It is planned that the day will include:

- Bible Teaching / Worship in the morning,
- Lunch together with barbecue type food
- Activities in the afternoon.

Pray for a great day and come along if you can.

Fellowship Lunch On Sunday 13th August we intend to have a bring-and-share fellowship lunch together.

Prayer and The Word Even though there is no early morning prayer time on Thursday or Revive in August there are our regular Tuesday and Wednesday prayer times. The Wednesday evenings will take the form of a "Prayer / The Word" time when all are free to pray and share from the Word.

Spiritual Notes

Honesty

When you say you are a Christian you are declaring that you are a follower of One who **is the Way, the Truth and the Life** (John 14:6). To be someone who does not tell the truth is to deny who you profess to be. This is true because the One who you profess to follow, Jesus Christ, is “The Truth”!

What is a polygraph? It is an instrument which tests whether or not someone is telling the truth. So if you took a polygraph test how would you get on? Are you a person dedicated to truth and honesty? Or are you rather someone who conveniently uses (or abuses) facts for your own personal convenience?

Of the seven things God is said to abominate in Proverbs 6:16-19 two are a lying tongue and a false witness who speaks lies. This, of course, is to be expected because our God is a God **who does not lie** (Tit. 1:2b). He is a God who loves truth. If He were not such a God He would obviously be unreliable because questions would continually have to be asked as regards to whether or not He is telling the truth. Thus, because He never lies we can trust Him unreservedly, knowing that He is totally reliable.

The reality of the truthfulness of God was seen most beautifully when the Son of God came to earth. John could remark of Him that: **We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth** (John 1:14b). Any polygraph testing of our Savior would reveal a man of 100% truth. Moreover, as we have seen, He is actually declared to be The Truth (see John 14:6b). Jesus is truth or He is nothing.

Now that our Savior has returned to Glory, the Spirit of God has been sent into this world. Most specially He is in this world by being in His people. One description of the Spirit is that He is Spirit of truth. The Savior speaks to His disciples in the Upper Room as follows: **But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all truth** (John 16:13a).

As Christians we are called to be those who **do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God** (Eph. 4:30a). And if, as we have established, He is the Spirit of truth we surely grieve Him when we tell untruths. Therefore, to lie is to sin. Similarly, as Christians we are disciples of Jesus Christ; we are learners of Him who is the truth. Accordingly, It is a total contradiction of

who we are if we are people who lie and play “fast-and-loose” with the truth.

To be godlike and biblical in our dealings then we must be people who tell the truth. This has big implications for how we teach God's Word and how we live in the general course of our lives.

A phrase from the 1980's which summed up the slippage of truth in the world around us was that of “being economical with the truth.” In dealing with scripture we can deceive people by being “economical with the truth”. We show that we are people who are full of truth by declaring the whole counsel of God. To declare a God of love, but no wrath, is to deceive. To present our God as a God who forgives sin, but does not punish sin, is to lie.

But what of our general dealings in life? Are we those who are scrupulous about always declaring the truth? During our Lords' time on earth the people swore oaths concerning what they said. We read of this in Matthew 5:33-37. There seems to have been a scale operating, so that if you swore by heaven then your statement was more likely to be accurate than if you swore by earth. Our LORD said we should have nothing to do with such nonsense. He says to us: **Simply let your 'Yes' be 'Yes,' and your 'No,' 'No'; anything beyond this comes from the evil one** (Matt. 5:37).

As God's people then we should be known as those who tell the truth. We should never lie nor should we manipulate the truth for our own personal convenience. So in all the forms you fill in are you telling the truth? In all your dealings with others are you telling the truth? To which you say: *“everyone else lies so why can't I?”*. And the reply comes *“You are a Christian you are called to truth not lies”*

This all having been said, what are we to think of Rahab in Joshua 2:1-7? We read of how she hid the two Israelite spies then told the enquirers from the King of Jericho that they had gone. What we can say from scripture is that she was never commended for her deception. What she was commended for was her real faith in God which was shown in her caring for God's people (see Hebrews 11:31 and James 2:25).

Let us then be known as people of truth who hate lying and being a false witness. As such we will be faithful to our God and know His favor resting upon us.