

Feltham Evangelical Church

A Bible-based church making known the Christian Faith

Newsletter: August 2018

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Calendar

w/c 29th July

Sun 29th 9.30.a.m. - Lord's Supper
(Philip Venables)
Sun 29th 11.00.a.m. - Morning Worship
(David Legg)
Sun 29th 6.00.p.m. - Evangelism
Tues 31st 9.30.a.m. - Prayer Meeting
Tues 31st 6.30.p.m - YY Group
Tues 31st 8.00.p.m. - Elders Meeting
Wed 1st 7.30.p.m. - Prayer and The
Word
Thurs 2nd 6.30.a.m. - Prayer Meeting
Sat 4th 11.00.a.m. - Evangelism

w/c 5th August

Sun 5th 9.30.a.m. - Lord's Supper
(Marc Khunan)
Sun 5th 11.00.a.m. - Morning Worship
(Philip Venables)
Sun 5th 5.30.p.m. - Together
Tues 7th 9.30.a.m. - Prayer Meeting
Wed 8th 7.30.p.m. - Prayer and The
Word
Thurs 9th 6.30.a.m. - Prayer Meeting
Sat 11th 7.00.p.m. - Feltham Bible
Focus; Men Are Superior To Women?!
(Philip Venables)

w/c 12th August

Sun 12th 9.30.a.m. - Lord's Supper
(Dan Jarvis)

Sun 12th 11.00.a.m. - Morning Worship
(Dan Jarvis)

Sun 12th 1.00.p.m. - Fellowship Lunch

Tues 14th 9.30.a.m.- Prayer Meeting

Wed 15th 7.30.p.m. - Prayer and The
Word

Thurs 16th 6.30.a.m. - Prayer Meeting

w/c 19th August

Sun 19th 9.30.a.m. - Lord's Supper
(Marc Khunan)

Sun 19th 11.00.a.m. - Morning Worship
(John Singleton)

Sun 19th 5.30.p.m. - Equip (John
Calvin)

Tues 21st 9.30.a.m. - Prayer Meeting

Wed 22nd 7.30.p.m. - Prayer and The
Word

Thurs 23rd 6.30.a.m. - Prayer Meeting

w/c 26th August

Sun 26th 9.30.a.m. - Lord's Supper
(Dmitri Filchev)

Sun 26th 11.00.a.m. - Morning Worship
(Philip Venables)

Mon 27th 10.30.a.m. - Fellowship Day

Tues 28th 9.30.a.m. - Prayer Meeting

Wed 29th 7.30.p.m. - Prayer and The
Word

Thurs 30th 6.30.a.m. - Prayer Meeting

Sat 1st (September) 11.00.a.m. -
Evangelism.

Notes

Ladies Conference is due to take place on September 29th between 4.00.p.m and 6.30p.m. Jayne Kinghorn from Dagenham will be speaking and her theme is “The Generation Divide”.

EveryoneMustKnow (EMK) leaflets are now available in many languages. Please use them among those you know. Also there is still opportunity to distribute them around the streets of Feltham. Please see Mark for all information on EMK.

Open House is closed during August. It is due to re-open on 7th September.

Car Park In order to make it easier for all to use the car park please could those who come first park nearest to the fence / wall on either side.

Equip On August 19th we intend to look at one of the great figures in Christian History, John Calvin.

Together On August 5th we intend to have an evening of music and singing. As one part of the evening please think about what is your favourite Christian hymn/song and the reason why. We intend to sing some of these.

Feltham Bible Focus this month is on August 11th. Philip Venables from our own fellowship is due to be preaching on “Men Are Superior To Women?! “ Come along and learn together.

Fellowship Day On August 27th, August Bank Holiday Monday, we intend to spend a day together based at the church premises. Pray for a great day and come along if you can. It is planned that the day will include:

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

Baptism If you are connected with church and have become a true follower of Jesus Christ then you need to move forward to baptism. If you want to be baptised please speak to one of the elders.

Fellowship Lunch On Sunday 12th August we intend to have a bring-and-share fellowship lunch together.

Data Protection New data protection laws came into effect on 25th May and we are still working to get ourselves fully compliant with all the requirements. To achieve this we need to have specific permission from you in order to contact you or store certain information about you. Accordingly, for those who have not done so already, please:

- complete the paper consent forms which are in the brown envelopes in the entrance hall, and pass them to Zach.
- and 'opt in' to the email sent out on 14th May.

If you have any queries, please speak to Zach.

Prayer and The Word The Wednesday evening gatherings will take the form of a “Prayer / The Word” time when all are free to pray and share from the Word.

Camp Youngsters from the church are involved in the camp run by Christian Camps in Wales from 18th to 25th August. Pray for a great time for them.

Spiritual Notes

Caught Empty-handed.

‘No one is to appear before me empty-handed is the Lord's Word in Exodus 34:20a. In this a striking principle is established. We are taught that we should be conscious of appearing before the Lord with appropriate offerings for Him. We can easily think that this is only for Israel in the Old Testament, who would bring physical offerings such as animals and produce. However, there is a principle established which we must properly respond to ourselves. The principle is that we should appear before the Lord with offerings to worship Him with.

It is interesting here that the instruction to not appear before him empty-handed involved all the people. This requirement is clearly reinforced in Numbers 7. Numbers 7 is one of the longest chapters in our Bibles and at first reading is full of needless repetition. However, we must be aware that repetition is never needless in God's Word. The fact that twelve times the details of what was offered by each tribe is written out in full must have meaning. Of course, the material could have been written in a list once and then a statement that “all the other tribes gave the same”. But no! The same list is given in full twelve times. Surely this is to make absolutely clear that the offering brought by every tribe was of equivalent importance and value.

With regards to ourselves, we are to follow the exhortation to the Hebrews to: **Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise - the fruit of lips that openly profess his name** (Heb. 13:15). It is interesting how the spiritual activities described here that we are called to, have parallels with the physical aspects of devotion observed in the Old Testament. So our offerings are not animals but a sacrifice of praise; they are not produce of the land, but the fruit of lips. Notwithstanding the change in the type of offerings there is the ongoing requirement to continually offer.

Accordingly, we must ask: are we appearing before God empty handed? Here we focus upon how we appear at church. So easily we have no thought of bringing our offerings to God every week. However, this is surely wrong. When we come together to worship the Lord we should come with what we have acquired during the week and offer our sacrifices of praise to the Lord. The character of our Lord's Day services would thereby be transformed for the better. The problem is that so many of us think the leaders at the front are the only ones who must prepare for the services. Truly they should prepare. But preparation should be for all of us as well. This brings us back to the call to Israel for all to bring their offerings. We must notice, going back to Exodus 34:20,2 that no-one was to appear before the Lord empty handed.

We must then ask how, practically, we are to acquire these offerings so that we are bringing them every Sunday (and other times) when we come to worship. Perhaps the key thing that helps us in this is the statement that it is **“through Jesus”** that we offer the sacrifice of praise. When we are seeing Jesus, in our reading of the Word of God, then we will soon be acquiring worship offerings to bring before the Lord. We will be seeing the great value of His saving work which has been sealed by His glorious resurrection and ascension. We will be glorying in the magnificence of His being. And we will be led on to ponder upon the glorious purpose of God thorough Christ, to retrieve us and retrieve this planet for His Glory. So why not write these down so you can remember them.

This process of acquiring offering should begin every Monday morning and end every Lord's Day. The open character of the celebration of the Lord's Supper at our church gives a particular opportunity to present your offering, but in all our services if we came with the attitude of “what-we-can-bring” rather than “what-we-can-get” surely there would be a significant transformation.