

Feltham Evangelical Church

A Bible-based church making known the Christian Faith

Newsletter: April 2019

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Calendar

w/c 31st March

Sun 31st 9.30.am. - Lord's Supper
(Philip Venables)

Sun 31st 11.00.am. - Morning
Worship. (Peter Philpott)

Sun 31st 6,30,pm. - Prayer Meeting
for Abraham

Tues 2nd 9.30.am. - Prayer Meeting.

Tues 2nd 8.00.pm. - Elders Meeting.

Wed 3rd 7.30.pm. - Prayer / Bible
Study (Andrew Heron)

Fri 2nd 10.00. am. to 12.00.p.m. -
Open House.

Sat 3rd 11.00.am. - Evangelism.

w/c 7th April

Sun 4th 9.30.am. - Lord's Supper.
(Philip Venables)

Sun 4th 11.00.am. - Morning Worship
(Ravin Pradham)

Sun 4th 5.30.pm. - Together.

Tues 6th 9.30.am. - Prayer Meeting.

Tues 9th 6.30.pm. - YY Group

Wed 10th 7.30.pm. - Prayer / Bible
Study. (Paul Biddle)

Friday 12th 10.00 am. to 12.00.pm. -
Open House.

w/c 14th April

Sun 14th 9.30.am. - Lord's Supper.
(Marc Khunan)

Sun 14th 11.00.am. - Morning
Worship. (Andrew Heron)

Sun 14th 1.00.pm. - Fellowship
Lunch.

Tues 16th 9.30.am. - Prayer Meeting.

Wed 17th 7.30.pm. - Stanwell Cong.
Ch. (Chris Bennett)

Thurs 18th 7.30.pm. - Cranford
Baptist Ch. (Mostyn Roberts)

Fri 19th 10.30.am. - Good Friday
Service

Fri 19th 7.30.pm. - Hayes Town
Chapel (Bill James)

w/c 21st April

Sun 21st 9.30.am. - Lord's Supper.
(Dmitri Filchev)

Sun 21st 11.00.am. - Morning
Worship. (Philip Venables)

Sun 21st 5.30.pm. - Equip (Womens'
Workers)

Tues 23rd 9.30.am. - Prayer Meeting.

Tues 23rd 8.00.pm. - Elders Meeting

Wed 24th 7.30.pm. - Prayer / Bible
Study (Robin Asgher)

Thurs 25th 7.30.pm.- Feltham
Journey Discussion

Fri 26th - 10.00 am. to 12.00.pm. -
Open House

Fri 26th 9.00.pm. To Sat 27th 1.00.am.
- Revive

w/c 28th April (Week of Prayer and Fasting)

Sun 25th 9.30.am. - Lord's Supper.
(Philip Venables)

Sun 25th 11.00.am. - Morning
Worship. (Chungman Shon)

Sun 28th 6.30.pm. - Prayer Meeting

Mon 29th 7.30.pm - Prayer Meeting.

Tues 30th 9.30.am. - Prayer Meeting.

Wed 1st (May) 7.30.pm. - Prayer /
Bible Study (2 Corinthians 4:7-15)

Thurs 2nd 6.30.am. - Prayer Meeting.

Thurs 2nd 7.30.pm. - Prayer meeting

Fri 3rd 9.15.am. - Prayer Meeting.

Fri 3rd 10.00 am. to 12.00.pm. -
Open House

Fri 3rd 7.30.pm. - Prayer Meeting.

Sat 4th 9.00.am. - Prayer Meeting

Sat 4th 11.00.am. - Evangelism

Notes

Fellowship Lunch On April 14th we are planning to have a “bring-and-share” fellowship meal.

Food Preparation It is good for us to be able to share meals together as a church. We thank the LORD for His good blessing upon us during these times. One caution we need to continually have in mind is that of making sure the food we share together is appropriately prepared. Let us therefore make sure that any cooked food is thoroughly cooked.

The Feltham Journey If you have not joined the journey why not take the opportunity of the start of a new month to join. The reading schedules are in the entrance hall.

Prayer For Revival There is a “Concert of Prayer for Revival” in our churches and nation on April 6th at Christ Church, Teddington from 10.30.am. to 12.00.pm.

Preaching Meetings In the week preceding Easter (17th, 18th and 19th April) we are again invited to the series of meetings arranged at local churches (see details in calendar). These are occasions when we can hear good preaching and benefit from fellowship with others. As a result of these arrangements there is due to be no prayer meeting and Bible study on April 17th.

Mobile Phones Please make sure these are turned off during the services so there is no unnecessary disturbance.

Equip On April 21st we plan to consider how “Women Workers” should be a part of our church life.

Our Church Outing is due to take place on the second bank holiday in May (May 28th).

Biographical Lecture At Amyand Park Chapel on Saturday 27th April 2019 (10.30.am.-12.00.pm.) on Allen Gardiner, Missionary to Patagonia. The speaker is due to be Bill Hughes (North Wales).

Spiritual Notes

Real Christianity

So easily in church we present a sugar coated view of Christianity. We indicate, by the way we present the faith to people, that if they will come to have faith in Jesus then they will have lives which are sweet and easy. The Bible is not guilty of such misrepresentation. The Bible presents faith in the hard realities of life. Psalm 13 is such a psalm. In this psalm David is cast down by many internal struggles and God seems far away from him. Such an experience is quite familiar for many of God's people and so we should have much to learn from this psalm.

An Absent God; The Reality (vv1-2). David is desperate to know the sweet awareness of God's presence in his soul. He feels forgotten by the Lord. He is in turmoil within and aware of enemy hostility against him from without. All kinds of things of disturbing character are running around in his mind and it seems to be going on day-after-day.

We notice how David does not dress-up his situation to give an appearance that all is well. He is in deep pain in his soul and he is recounting it to the LORD, who He longs to have fellowship with. For all who feel turmoil in their hearts and minds, this psalm shows that they are not on their own. Even godly David had such turmoil. But the key thing for David, and us, is that he is perseveringly turning to the Lord. And so should we be in our struggles and turmoil.

An Absent God; The Consequences (vv3-4). David is not seeing a way ahead; it all seems bleak. He feels that if God does not come and give light then he only has death to look forward to. His sense of desperation is overwhelming.

Furthermore, he is aware that his spiritual defeat and ultimate

death will give opportunity for his enemies to gloat. They will see it as a victory and rejoice thereby. The implication is that this would be not only dishonouring to David, but also dishonouring to his Lord.

An Absent God: The Faith (vv5-6). Given what has gone before, the last two verses seem to come from nowhere. We are not expecting them. But they are the response of a man of faith; he is a man recalling what he has known of God and bringing that knowledge into his present perplexities.

Critical to the response of faith is the statement at the end of the psalm: **"for he has been good to me."** In order to move on through and beyond the hardships which come into our minds and hearts because we feel God is absent, we need to remember what God has done for us and been for us in the past. Most particularly, we need to remember how He has saved us and brought us from death to life. Our salvation always reminds us that God is good to us even when our feelings say otherwise. With the goodness of God prevailing in his mind David can make three outstanding declarations.

Firstly we see his trust in God's unfailing love (see v5a). He knows that God is an eternal refuge, and has everlasting arms, and he is happy to rest his being in such a God. But he goes further, he goes on to rejoicing in this God of his salvation (see v5b). And finally we find him singing (see v6a). This is amazing given the depth of hardship in his soul. But we learn so much here. We need to be talking to ourselves in like manner the psalmist, when we are having desperate struggles in our inner being.

Oh, how marvellous this psalm is as we see how to move through and out of desperation, despair and depression in our inner beings. When all seems to be bad in us and around us; we must remember that God is for us and we must praise Him.