

Feltham Evangelical Church

A Bible-based church making known the Christian Faith

Newsletter: July 2019

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Calendar

w/c 30th June

Sun 30th 9.30.am. - Lord's Supper (Philip Venables)

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

Tues 2nd 9.30.am. - Prayer Meeting

Wed 3rd 7.30.pm. - Prayer / Bible Study (Marc Khunan)

Fri 5th 10.00 am. to 12.00.pm. - Open House

Sat 6th 11.00.am - Evangelism

w/c 7th July

Sun 7th 9.30.am. - Lord's Supper (Ron Hollands)

Sun 7th 11.00.am. - Morning Service (1 John 1:1-4; Ron Hollands)

Sun 7th 5.30.pm. - Together

Tues 9th 9.30.am. - Prayer Meeting

Tues 9th 8.00.pm. - Elders Meeting

Wed 10th 7.30.pm. - Prayer / Bible Study (Andrew Heron)

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

w/c 14th July

Sun 14th 9.30.am. - Lord's Supper (Josh Venables)

Sun 14th 11.00.am. - Morning Worship (1 John 1:4-2:2 ; Andrew Heron)

Sun 14th 1.00.pm. - Fellowship Lunch

Tues 16th 9.30.am. - Prayer Meeting

Wed 17th 7.30.pm. - Missionary Prayer / Bible Study (Rob Goodgame)

Fri 18th 10.00 a.m. to 12.00.p.m. - Open House

w/c 21st July

Sun 21st 9.30.a.m. - Lord's Supper (Marc Khunan)

Sun 21st 11.00.a.m. - Morning Worship (1 John 2:3-14; Ravin Pradham)

Sun 21st 5.30.p.m. - Equip (One-to-One Bible Study)

Tues 23rd 9.30.a.m. - Prayer Meeting

Tues 23rd 8.00.p.m. - Elders Meeting

Wed 24th 7.30.p.m. - Prayer / Bible Study (2 Cor. 6:14-7:1)

Thurs 25th 7.30.p.m. - Muslim Evangelism Training

Fri 26th 10.00 a.m. to 12.00.p.m. - Open House

Fri 26th 9.00 p.m to midnight. - Revive

w/c 28th July

Sun 28th 9.30.a.m. - Lord's Supper (Philip Venables)

Sun 28th 11.00.a.m. - Morning Worship (1 John:2-15-27; Philip Venables)

Sun 28th 1.15.pm. - Church Picnic

Tues 30th 9.30.a.m. - Prayer Meeting

Wed 31st 7.30.p.m. - Prayer / Bible Study (Marc Khunan)

Sat 3rd (Aug) 11.00.a.m - Evangelism

Notes

Fellowship Day Join with us on August 26th for our day of fellowship together from 10.30.a.m. The preachi Fellowship Day on the August Bank Holiday, August 26th we plan to spend a day together as a church based at the church premises. We have a Thought For The Day at 11.00.am.

Open House Open House continues on a Friday morning. We want these times to be usefully used for contacting people in our community. Also they give a great opportunity for those in the church to get together.

Equip This month, on July 21st, we plan to have instruction and training about conducting one-to-one Bible studies.

Church Picnic On July 28th we plan to have a picnic lunch together at Bedfont Lakes. This is due to be on a bring-and-share basis. Contact Mark for further details.

Elders Meetings from this month are due to take place on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month. Pray for the elders as they meet together.

Early Morning Prayer Meetings These are not due to take place in July and August.

Newspapers We have subscriptions for Evangelical Times and Evangelicals Now. If you would like a regular copy of these monthly publications then please speak to Parm.

Muslim Evangelism This month, on July 25th, we

plan to have further opportunity for training in reaching out to Muslims. We are due to meet in Hounslow at 7.00.pm. Jimmy Aitkenhead from London City Mission will be leading us.

Preaching At our 11.00.am Morning Worship service during July to September we intend to be studying the Letters of John. Pray for anointing on the preachers and for learning and growth among us.

Fellowship Meal On July 14th we intend to have our fellowship meal together. It is on a bring-and-share basis.

Spiritual Notes

Discipleship

The effectiveness of a man's message is measured by the lives of his followers. And so it is that the effectiveness of the message of our Lord Jesus will be measured by the degree of transformation in the lives of his followers. The ladies who were first at the tomb of our Lord Jesus give us much instruction as regards to how disciples of our Lord Jesus should live. From them we learn:

The Gospel Facts Are Foundational. The facts of how our Lord died, was buried and rose again are central to the gospel message (see 1 Cor. 15:3-4). Mary Magdalene and the other Mary had seen their Lord die (see Matt. 27:56), buried (see Matt. 27:61) and then they were at the tomb on the first day of the week to be the first witnesses of His resurrection (see Matt. 28:1). In making this assertion I have taken it that the other Mary of the

latter two events, is the same Mary, the mother of James and Joseph, who witnessed the Lord's death,

These women had clear evidence that Jesus had died and been buried; they had seen the evidence with their own eyes. So the appearing of Jesus thereafter, could only mean one thing; He was risen, as was declared by the angel (see Matt. 28:6) and witnessed by their own eyes (see Matt. 28:9). For us to be following in the way of our Lord we must always start at His death and resurrection. It is only there that we find forgiveness of sins and renewal of life.

The Word of God Must be Heard. In Matthew 28:5 we see the angel come with the message of Jesus risen from the dead. Testimony is given by the angel to these gospel realities and then instruction is given about what the ladies must do.

It is important here for us to note that the Word came to those who were determined to be with their Lord and to serve Him as best they could. The going to the tomb on the first day of the week was all about them wanting to be with their Lord, even in His death, and to serve Him by anointing Him (see Mark 16:1). It is to those that want to be with the Lord Jesus and serve Him that the Word of God comes.

We can so easily assume that this is just a thing that happens, but it takes resolve. The ladies had great determination and resolve to identify with the One who had been so violently rejected and crucified. The scale of their devotion is seen in the fact that all of the twelve fell away on account Him (see Matt. 26:31). No-one drifts into being with Jesus and serving Him. It takes resolve and determination. It is about taking up our cross daily and following Him. Every day we must determine that we are finished with living for self and set on living for our Lord.

In that state we will hear the Word; the Lord will graciously bring it to us. We note, further, that at this juncture in the Lord's unfolding purpose it was the faithful ladies, and not the failing disciples, who had the privilege of hearing the first post-resurrection gospel message from the angel.

They Obeyed The Word.

With the revelation of the Risen Christ in the Word spoken by the angel there came the challenge to the ladies to go and serve their risen Lord. In Matthew 28:7a the angel tells the ladies to **go quickly and tell his disciples**. Upon the completion of the Lord's message being given by the angel the ladies **departed quickly from the tomb with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples**. (Matt. 28:8). Here is the heart of discipleship on display; it is seen in immediate obedience to the Word. If God says it, we must do it straight-away. We must take heed to this beautiful showing of discipleship by the ladies. Having heard the Word we must, similarly get on and do it.

The Lord Reveals Himself.

Having set themselves in the way of obedience, the ladies have the beautiful experience of having the Lord reveal Himself to them. We read: **And behold, Jesus met them and said, "Greetings!"** (Matt. 28:9). The Lord they had sought as one dead they now met as one alive. The living Lord delights still today to reveal himself to those who hear and obey His Word.

They Worship.

When the Lord encounters us through His Word, how do we respond? The only proper response is to fall down and worship Him. This is exactly what the ladies did. We read: **they came up and took hold of his feet and worshipped him** (Matt. 28:9b). This action indicates that they never wanted to lose Him again. The Lord does not reveal Himself to us so that we can analyse Him . No! Rather it is that we can adore Him.

Continue in Service

The Lord then urges the ladies to not move forward into their service fearing what might happen, but rather to delight in their Lord who was now sending them on and confirming the angel's message. The ladies obey, once again, and finally we hear of them going on to fulfil their commission. We read in v11a: **While they were going.**

Matthew's gospel leaves us with the great commission see Matt. 28:19-20. That commission focusses on us going to make disciples of all nations. How are we to do that? It is by being of the likeness on Mary Magdalene and the other Mary. To follow their example of discipleship will equip us to be effective in our making disciples ministry. Let us seek to emulate these ladies in our discipleship and discipling of others. If such is the case, Feltham Evangelical Church could be set for some very significant days.