

# **Feltham Evangelical Church**

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

## **Newsletter: March 2021**

Feltham Evangelical Church, Manor Lane, Feltham TW13 4JQ

T:020 8844 0352

W:[www.felthamevangelicalchurch.org.uk](http://www.felthamevangelicalchurch.org.uk)

E: [info@felthamevangelicalchurch.org.uk](mailto:info@felthamevangelicalchurch.org.uk)

## Calendar

### **w/c 28<sup>th</sup> February**

Sun 28<sup>th</sup> 9.30.am. - Prayer and Praise (Philip Venables)  
Sun 28<sup>th</sup> 11.00.am. - Morning Worship (Ravin Pradham)  
Sun 28<sup>th</sup> 5.00.pm. - Lord's Supper (Philip Venables)  
Tues 2<sup>nd</sup> 9.30.am. - Prayer Meeting  
Wed 3<sup>rd</sup> 7.30.pm. - Prayer / Bible Study (Acts 4:23-37)  
Thurs 4<sup>th</sup> 6.30.am. - Prayer Meeting.  
Fri 5<sup>th</sup> 10.30 am. - Evangelism.  
Sat 6<sup>th</sup> 10.30 am. - Evangelism.  
Sat 6<sup>th</sup> 9.00.pm. - Prayer Meeting

### **w/c 7<sup>th</sup> March**

Sun 7<sup>th</sup> 9.30.am. - Lord's Supper. (Andrew Heron)  
Sun 7<sup>th</sup> 11.00.am. - Morning Worship. (Philip Venables)  
Sun 7<sup>th</sup> 5.00.pm. - Evening Service (Richard Buggs)  
Tues 9<sup>th</sup> 9.30.am. - Prayer Meeting.  
Wed 10<sup>th</sup> 7.30.pm. - Prayer / Bible Study (Acts 5:1-16)  
Thurs 11<sup>th</sup> 6.30.am. - Prayer Meeting.  
Fri 12<sup>th</sup> 10.30.am. - Evangelism.  
Sat 13<sup>th</sup> 10.30 am. - Evangelism.  
Sat 13<sup>th</sup> 9.00.pm. - Prayer Meeting

### **w/c 14<sup>th</sup> March**

Sun 14<sup>th</sup> 9.30.am. - Prayer and Praise (Philip Venables)  
Sun 14<sup>th</sup> 11.00.am. - Lord's Supper (Philip Venables)  
Sun 14<sup>th</sup> 5.00.pm. - Evening Worship (Philip Venables)  
Tues 16<sup>th</sup> 9.30.am. - Prayer Meeting.

Wed 17<sup>th</sup> 7.30.pm. - Missionary Prayer / Bible Study (Acts 5:17-42)  
Thurs 18<sup>th</sup> 6.30.am. - Prayer Meeting.  
Fri 19<sup>th</sup> 10.30.am. - Evangelism.  
Sat 20<sup>th</sup> 10.30 am. - Evangelism.  
Sat 20<sup>th</sup> 9.00.pm. - Prayer Meeting

### **w/c 21<sup>st</sup> March**

Sun 21<sup>st</sup> 9.30.am. - Lord's Supper. (Dmitri Filchev)  
Sun 21<sup>th</sup> 11.00.am. - Morning Worship. (Philip Venables)  
Sun 21<sup>st</sup> 5.00.pm. - Evening Worship (Lloyd Mushambadzi)  
Tues 23<sup>rd</sup> 9.30.am. - Prayer Meeting.  
Wed 24<sup>th</sup> 7.30.pm. - Prayer / Bible Study (Andrew Heron)  
Thurs 25<sup>th</sup> 6.30.am. - Prayer Meeting.  
Fri 26<sup>th</sup> 10.30.am. - Evangelism.  
Sat 27<sup>th</sup> 10.30 am. - Evangelism.  
Sat 27<sup>th</sup> 9.00.pm. - Prayer Meeting

### **w/c 28<sup>th</sup> March**

Sun 28<sup>th</sup> 9.30.am. - Prayer and Praise (Philip Venables)  
Sun 28<sup>th</sup> 11.00.am. - Morning Worship (Philip Venables)  
Sun 28<sup>th</sup> 5.00.pm. - Lord's Supper (Philip Venables)  
Tues 30<sup>th</sup> 9.30.am. - Prayer Meeting.  
Wed 31<sup>st</sup> 7.30.pm. - Prayer / Bible Study (Acts 6:1-16)  
Thurs 1<sup>st</sup> (April) 6.30 am. - Prayer Meeting  
Fri 2<sup>nd</sup> 10.30.am. - Good Friday Service.  
Sat 3<sup>rd</sup> 9:00.pm. - Prayer Meeting

## News

**Andrew Heron** is due to be preaching at on the afternoon of 28<sup>th</sup> February at the Unified Body of Christ Church in Hounslow.

## Notes

**Any Questions?** On Tuesday evenings between 7.30 and 8.30 on zoom we are seeking to give opportunity for people in the local area to ask any question regarding the Christian faith. Please mention about this to any you think may be interested. This is available on zoom with this link <https://us02web.zoom.us/s/88523892539#success>

**Evangelism** On Friday and Saturday mornings this month at 10.30.am. we meet at the church building to seek to go out to spread the good news about Jesus Christ our Lord. We are going out to seek to contact people in their homes or in the town centre either through leaflets or conversation. Please pray and / or come and join us in these times.

**Butts Farm** As we set ourselves towards church planting on the Butts Farm Estate we want to contact people for the Lord on the estate. So for five weeks on a Tuesday evening from March 9<sup>th</sup> a Bible Study going through Luke is due to be held on zoom for the residents of Canterbury Road. Pray for Mark and Andrew as they lead this study.

**Online Access** We plan to continue to make use of Zoom and Facebook Live for the relaying of our services. The links are:

- For Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88986370463?pwd=MjdwdHZwZTB6L29VV1VFUVBVWkRBZz09>
- For Facebook Live <https://www.facebook.com/felthamevangelicalchurch/live/>

**Passing Things On** There is a table in the side hall for those connected with the church to pass on any surplus possessions they want to dispose of. If things are not taken within two weeks please could you remove what has been placed there. If they are left after that then they will be removed. Uju will monitor the table to make sure things are not just left hanging around.

# Spiritual Notes

## Upsetting People

There is no upset in the trinity. The Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit are always in harmony and never upset with each other. Alas the story of humanity is somewhat different. Since Adam chose Eve's (and Satan's) way rather than God's way, in the garden of Eden, people have been upsetting one another. And 2021 finds that story continuing on and on and such will continue until the time of the new heavens and new earth where righteousness (and therefore God) will harmoniously dwell (see 2 Pet. 3:13). What we want to specifically look at in this study is the issue of whether or not our upsetting people should always be a cause of us having to repent. The answer to that conundrum is that it should sometimes, but not always.

We can start to get to the heart of the matter when we look at the life of our Lord and Saviour. He upset lots of people. However, He never repented for causing the upset. This is to be expected, of course, because our Saviour is sinless and perfect. He therefore never ever did anything wrong. He had nothing to repent about.

Whereupon we must clarify what we mean by repentance. We repent when we have done wrong. All known sin should be repented of before God. But further, when through our words or actions we have caused harm to another person we are called to repent towards them. We should acknowledge our wrong mourn over the committing of sin and ask the forgiveness of the one (or ones) we have offended. Something of the principle is set in Luke 17:3-4 where we read **Pay attention to yourselves! If your brother sins, rebuke him, and if he repents, forgive him, and if he sins against you seven times in the day, and turns to you seven times, saying, 'I repent', you must forgive him."**

Let us return to our Saviour and ponder upon why He upset so many people. He upset them because He challenged them

about their sin. Sometimes He challenged them in a very forthright way. Read Matthew 23:1-36 and see how He attacked the scribes and Pharisees. There whilst He is attacking them for their sins. He is not sinning Himself. Rather, He is exposing their sins. Similarly in Luke 4:16-30 when the synagogue congregation heard Him preach they were enraged; they sought to cast Him over the brow of the hill. He had taught them the truth about Himself and their selves and they wanted none of Him and His teaching.

Our Lord would have saved Himself an awful lot of trouble if He had simply said "I am sorry for upsetting you" to the scribes and Pharisees in Matthew 23 and the people of Nazareth in Luke 4. But He never did because He never had to. In fact to make such a statement would have been unhelpful for those He dealt with because it would take away from the convicting power of His words and actions.

All the servants of God in scripture follow this pattern when they are faithfully conducting their ministries. Accordingly, when the prophets set forth the true ways of God with the anointing of the Lord they never repented of their actions. Go and look at Jeremiah's ministry for example. Look at Jeremiah 37 and 38 as a showcase. He would no doubt have saved himself an unpleasant prison experience if he had simply apologised.

It must be clear here that we are referring to righteous words and actions which have caused upset. Such should never be apologised for. However, if we have caused pain and upset through sinful words and actions that should be a completely different matter. In such a case we should be immediately broken over our sin and the upset it has caused. With heartfelt repentance we should acknowledge our wrongs and seek the forgiveness of the offended party(ies). Let us note here that it is the sin that we repent of not the upset that is the outcome of the sin. Us causing the upset may grieve us, but it is the failure to act in a godly way which brings forth our repentance.

I make this distinction because we tend to follow the way of the world and engage in a malformed approach to these

matters. So if someone is upset with us we repent of upsetting them. Such an approach is generally well-intentioned because we want to see the relationship restored. It is however a flawed approach. If a parent apologises to their disobedient child for upsetting them through having to tell them off then they harm their child. The child learns of the wrongness of their disobedience through feeling the upset of having their parent having to chastise them.

However, it must be said that we do not rejoice over causing upset. The parent who upsets the disobedient child has done so because they love them; and as someone who loves they do not want to see the other person so upset. To rejoice in the pain of others through our actions is not godly and should be repented of. However, we must still realise that the pain we have caused should lead to godly sorrow which leads to repentance.

Paul deals with these themes in 2 Corinthians 7:8-9 where we read: **For even if I made you grieve with my letter, I do not regret it—though I did regret it, for I see that that letter grieved you, though only for a while. As it is, I rejoice, not because you were grieved, but because you were grieved into repenting. For you felt a godly grief, so that you suffered no loss through us.** Paul was ministering into the Corinthians lives out of love. As a result it caused him grief that he might unnecessarily upset them. However, he knew that if the rebuke from himself was worked through properly it would have a good outcome by there being grief among them leading to repentance. Paul sums up the situation by saying **For godly grief produces a repentance that leads to salvation without regret** (2 Cor. 7:10).

At this point we must be aware that righteous words can be spoken and righteous actions undertaken in an ungodly way. The message we convey may be right, but the manner of conveying the message may be sinful. In such situations we should repent of our manner and conduct, but not of the message. A parent who rebukes their disobedient child with humiliating words and a violent manner should repent of the

words and manner, but not of the message which is to correct the disobedience.

We live in a world where it has become popular to repent of upsetting people. So often we will hear somebody say that "I am sorry if anyone has been offended by what I have said or done." Society generally views that person to be very honourable and commends them. This is, in spite of the fact that that person may still be completely happy with what they have done. Alas, nobody but nobody bothers about that. Such an approach is not the biblical way, it was not the way of the Saviour or the faithful servants of God. We repent for actions and not outcomes. We can grieve that our righteous actions have caused grief to those we love, but that does not mean we are to repent of them.