

Feltham Evangelical Church

A Bible-based church making known the Christian Faith
Newsletter February 2007

Calendar

w/c 28th January

28th 9.30.a.m Lord's Supper
28th 11.00.a.m P Venables
30th 5.45.p.m. Lighthouse
31st 7.30.p.m Prayer / Bible Study
2nd 9.30.a.m Coffee Morning

w/c 4th February

4th 9.30.a.m Lord's Supper
4th 11.00.a.m P Venables ((refreshments afterwards)
6th 5.45.p.m. Lighthouse
7th 7.30.p.m.Prayer / Bible Study
9th 9.30.a.m Coffee Morning
10th 10.00.a.m. Leaflet Distribution
10th 7.00.p.m. Feltham Bible Focus (D Stockford)

w/c 11th February

11th 9.30.a.m Lord's Supper
11th 11.00.a.m D Webber

11th 1.p.m. Lunch
11th 2.p.m. D Webber
12th 8.30.p.m. Leadership Meeting
13th 5.45.p.m. Lighthouse
14th 7.30.p.m Prayer / Bible Study
16th 9.30.a.m Coffee Morning

w/c 18th February

18th 9.30.a.m Prayer and Praise
18th 11.00.a.m P Venables (Lord's Supper)
21st 7.30.p.m Prayer / Bible Study
23rd 9.30.a.m Coffee Morning

w/c 25th February

25th 9.30.a.m Lord's Supper
25th 11.00.a.m G King
27th 5.45.p.m. Lighthouse
28th 7.30.p.m Prayer / Report (R Asgher)
2nd (Mar) 9.30.a.m Coffee Morning

News

Karolina and Martin Curtis were granted their first child on January 8th called Aaron. We trust that God's blessing would be upon them as they start family life.

Lillian Kerr is presently in St Peters Hospital. She is very much struggling with lung / breathing problems. Only family members can visit at the present time. But we can support through prayer and cards / letters.

Miss Breen is presently at home. She is glad of this, but experiences much weakness in the body.

James Phillips is presently in much pain through a persistent knee problem.

Notes

Feltham Bible Focus As part of the new arrangements for our services we now have a Saturday evening preaching meeting on every second Saturday of the month. The first of these took place on 13th January and we were pleased to welcome a number of visitors to be with us to hear the Word of God. On February 10th we welcome Dominic Stockford from Christ Church, Teddington to preach the Word.

Daniel Webber who is Director of the European Missionary Fellowship, EMF, is due to be with us on February 11th. On that day we are due to be having lunch together and a service in the afternoon at 2.00.p.m. The lunch will be on a bring-and-share basis.

Cranford Baptist Church On March 3rd at 3.00 p.m. there is due to be thanksgiving service at Cranford Baptist as Robin Asgher is inducted as pastor of the church there. Robin has lived in our church property for over three years now and we trust the Lord's blessing upon him, Muno and the church at this time.

Prayer and Bible Study On Wednesday evenings we meet together to pray to our Father and study the Bible. This provides with an opportunity to learn together and to grow in the ways of the LORD. From 31st January we plan to be studying the book of Ephesians. If you want to know more about the studies then please speak to Philip.

Flowers Does anyone want to contribute towards the flowers in the church? If so, please put your name in the church entrance hall next to your chosen date(s) and pass your money to Trish (Howard) at the appropriate time.

Spiritual Notes Others need our help

There are people at Feltham Evangelical Church who need help. In fact, if we are honest, most of us need help in one realm or another. But do we care enough to help each other? To that question you may answer, "well I don't know how to help." Let us look then at how our Saviour help two troubled individuals. The incident is found in Luke 24:13-35

He spent time with them

The two were journeying down from Jerusalem to Emmaus with much on their minds. As they walk they are conversing together as regards to all that had happened (see vv14-15a). Meanwhile, the LORD Jesus comes alongside them and went with them (v15b). When we realize the surrounding context we are led to marvel about how He took time to be with them. Remember that He was just raised from the dead having Himself performed the great work of salvation by Himself. And surely He could have been celebrating with all the

inhabitants of heaven who knew some of the significance of these tremendous events that had happened. Instead Jesus Himself (notice the "Himself") was giving up His time for two disconsolate individuals. Are we prepared to give up our time and "personal enjoyments" so that others can be benefited?

This is the first stage then in helping others. It is to spend time with them. By spending time with others we show our interest in them. We also find out about each others situation by being with others. In fact this is the essence of Christian fellowship; it is a sharing together.

Ask Questions

This raises though the issue of what we do when we are with other Christians. Are we motivated by a desire to help others or is our interest just in ourselves. One way of showing our interest in the position and perspective of others is to ask them questions. So our LORD asks the two **"What kind of conversation is this that you have with one another as you walk and are sad?"** (v17). And then when one of them mentions about the things on their minds the LORD again brings a question **"What things?"** (v19b).

So easily in conversations we are just waiting to jump in to give our opinion about this and that. Such an approach really displays a selfish spirit. Rather the spirit of love is shown when we want to know about others and help others and that is seen when we ask questions.

Allow time to speak

Those who want to help others will allow them the time to speak so that they can disclose their situation. In fact the disclosure is part of solving the problem because the speaking out can often be an unburdening process. Moreover, in having to express verbally your situation you can often start to see the situation clearer and see a way to a solution.

Accordingly our LORD gives them time to speak. Notice it is both of them (v19b) who are allowed to speak and unburden themselves. The LORD was there to help both of them. They then go on to speak at length about the things on their mind (vv19b-24) So we must give others time to speak if we are serious about this business of helping others. We also learn the lesson from our LORD in that He did not interrupt them, but let them speak freely.

Where is the solution?

One issue that often hinders people from wanting to be involved in helping others is that, in the end, they feel they will not be able to help others. No doubt there are times when those with specialist skills in certain areas will need to be involved. Such cases would be, for example, where there is financial problems or mental illness. However, through all problems there is one fundamental place where we can take people in order to help them. And that place is to lead people to Christ Himself through His Word.

That is what the LORD does with this disconsolate couple once they have unburdened themselves. Here was the ultimate bible study as **beginning at Moses and all the Prophets, He expounded to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning Himself** (v27). Remember for all of us, ultimately, our sole encouragement is found in Christ Himself as we remember that **He loved Me and gave Himself for Me** (Gal. 2:20). He loved me so much that He gave His life to help Me. We therefore help others when we take them to the ultimate helper who is Jesus.

This raises the issue though, about how much we know of the solution. If we do not know the LORD or know little of Him we will not be likely to be of much help to others. So let us study the Bible in order to be wise in the things of Christ and thereby we will be able to help others.

The end point

How were these two impacted by their time with the LORD? This is how Luke records part of the outcome **And they said to one another, "Did not our heart burn within us while He talked with us on the road, and while He opened the Scriptures to us?" So they rose up that very hour and returned to Jerusalem, and found the eleven and those who were with them gathered together, saying, "The Lord is risen indeed, and has appeared to Simon!"** (vv32-34). Now they understood. Now they were relieved. Now their problems were solved. And why? Because they had seen the LORD.

Let us learn then from this account of how the LORD helped these two. Do we love each other enough to want to help one another in all our trials and problems? If we do then let us seek to follow the example of our LORD. Specialist counselors and others with special pastoral skills have their value. But each of us should remember, that we can be involved in this vital business of helping one another.

