

Feltham Evangelical Church *Newsletter February 2008*

A Bible-based church making known the Christian Faith

Calendar

w/c 27th January

27th 9.30.a.m Lord's Supper (Dan Walker)
27th 11.00.a.m. Morning Service (Graham King)
27th 11.20.a.m. Sunday School (Daphne Henderson)
29th 5.45.p.m. Lighthouse
30th 7.30.p.m Prayer / Bible Study (Malcolm Evans)
1st 9.30.a.m "Open House"

w/c 3rd February

3rd 9.30.a.m Lord's Supper (Dan Walker)
3rd 11.00.a.m Morning Service (Phil Symes) with refreshments afterwards
3rd 11.20.a.m. Sunday School (Trish Howard)
5th 5.45.p.m. Lighthouse
6th 7.30.p.m. Prayer / Bible Study (Phil Symes)
8th 9.30.a.m. "Open House"
9th 7.00.p.m. Feltham Bible Focus; Lewis Allen / Bruce Duguid (How "Green" should a Christian be?)

w/c 10th February

10th 9.30.a.m Lord's Supper (Micky Mollallegn)
10th 11.00.a.m Morning Service (Neil Kinghorn)

10th 11.20.a.m. Sunday School (Daphne Henderson)
10th 1.p.m. Lunch
10th 2.p.m. Afternoon Service (Neil Kinghorn)
12th 5.45.p.m. Lighthouse
13th 7.30.p.m Prayer / Bible Study (Phil Symes)
18th 9.30.a.m "Open House"

w/c 17th February

17th 9.30.a.m Prayer and Praise (Micky Mollallegn)
17th 11.00.a.m. Morning Service (Norman Wells) with Lord's Supper
17th 11.20.a.m. Sunday School (Diana Buah)
20th 7.30.p.m Prayer / Bible Study (Malcolm Evans)
22nd 9.30.a.m "Open House"

w/c 24th February

24th 9.30.a.m Lord's Supper
24th 11.00.a.m. Morning Service (Philip Venables)
24th 11.20.a.m. Sunday School (Diana Buah)
26th 5.45.p.m. Lighthouse
27th 7.30.p.m Prayer / Bible Study
29th 9.30.a.m "Open House"

News

James Phillips has obtained promotion with his work and starts a new job on January 28th at the Terminal 4 site at Heathrow.

Sheila Hume had an operation on January 14th when she had her gall bladder removed. Pray for Sheila that she would make a good recovery and that she would be able to carry on her ministries in the church.

Lillian Kerr has had a further stay in St Peters Hospital through a hemorrhage. She is now back home, but very weak. Pray that she might know God in her situation.

Pat Earle goes for tests on January 26th as a result of digestive problems.

Chinwe Onwuemena has her next stage of medical exams on February 14th. Pray the Lord's help.

Philip, May Lin, Michael, Joshua, Daniel and Zec Venables are due to be away in Malaysia until 21st February. Pray that they might be refreshed and renewed

Notes

Feltham Bible Focus This month we are happy to welcome two members of Gunnersbury Baptist Church to lead us in considering how we, as Christians, should respond to "Green" issues. Lewis Allen and Bruce Duguid are the two speakers. So come along if you can on February 9th and learn.

Fellowship Lunch Neil Kinghorn serves God with the London City Mission (LCM). His specialist work is among the staff of the London Ambulance Service. On February 10th he and his wife, Jayne should be with us. As part of the day we plan to have a bring-and-share lunch together. So bring some food or drink and then come and share in this time together. In the afternoon Neil will specifically talk about the work he is doing with LCM.

Mobile Phones Please could you make sure that mobile phones are turned off during the services.

Visiting Preachers As you can see from the Calendar above there are more visiting preachers with us this month due to Philip being away. These men give of their time in preparation and preaching as they willingly serve God among us. Let us make sure we pray for them and be appreciative of their willingness to help us here in Feltham.

Flowers Trish Howard works hard to provide beautiful flower arrangements in the church building week-in-week-out. You can help contribute towards the flowers and makes special requests if you like. This is done by putting your name against the relevant date on the Flowers List in the Entrance Hall and then passing the money to Trish the week before the day you have indicated.

Ceiling Repairs to the ceiling in the main hall are due to commence on April 21st with QPMS Ltd being the contractors.

Spiritual Notes *Tongue*

Doctors in making an initial assessment of the health of a patient have, throughout history, looked at the tongue. The state of the tongue indicates the overall state of the patient. How

true this is in the spiritual realm as well. The tongue reveals the spiritual calibre of a person. The words that we speak reveal the content of our hearts.

James therefore says that **If anyone is never at fault in what he says, he is a perfect man, able to keep his whole body in check** (James 3:2b). Analyze the tongue and you have the analysis of the man. James is setting before us the standard of perfection only achieved by our LORD Jesus. However, the statement clearly establishes the principle that the more someone has their tongue under control then the more they have the whole being under control to the glory of God. The activity does not lead to a control of the body, but the control of the tongue indicates that the whole being is under control.

So how is it with ourselves? Surely here is realm in which we all struggle. In fact, soberingly, James goes on to say that **no man can tame the tongue. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison** (Jam. 3:8). Human initiatives totally fail here; we cannot even conquer our own tongues. But God can do it. Herein lies our only hope. We need to seek God that He would take control of our words. The tongue is, in a sense, an enemy within through which we can destroy ourselves (see James 3:6). When we start to think that we can conquer this enemy ourselves we are set for failure; it is impossible. We need God. So the non-Christian is on a loser straight-away because they essentially want to be in control of their lives and reject God as the ultimate ruler. For the Christian the challenge is to **continually yield yourselves unto God, as those that are alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness unto God** (Romans 6:13b).

When the citadel of the heart is taken control of by God then the outpost of the tongue will move to the glory of God. **The good man brings good things out of the good stored up in his heart, and the evil man brings evil things out of the evil stored up in his heart. For out of the overflow of his heart his mouth speaks** (Luke 6:45). Let us look then at some of these good things:

Edification. The Christian is concerned to build others up. 1 Cor 14 is a difficult chapter in many ways, but there is one thing that we must learn from this chapter and that is that God has a great concern for edification in His church. And when we are following in God's way we especially will want to see others built up. Are we speaking words that will strengthen others in their walk for God?

Fruit of the Spirit. When the citadel of the heart is controlled by God then the Spirit of God has full control of our lives and the fruit of the Spirit will be seen in our lives. **The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control** (Gal 6:22-23a). Do our words reflect these characteristics?

Reliability. We live in a world where words are cheap. How many times have you phoned an organization and have been promised that someone will call back later and heard nothing more. For the Christian we should be people who are known to keep our words. David could say concerning the man who dwells in the sanctuary of God that **he keeps his oath even when it hurts** (Psalm 15: 4b).

Honesty. Closely related to reliability is honesty. We are NOT "*economical with the truth*" as Sir Robert Armstrong infamously said. Rather we speak truth and remember that God hates lies. One of the things the LORD is said to hate in Proverbs is "**a lying tongue**" (Prov. 6: 17b).

Speak of the LORD. It is from the LORD that we have received so many good things. It is in the Word of God that we are told so much about these good things. So do we speak of these good things and above all of the GOD Lord Himself. The sons of Korah were surely doing this when they say: **My heart is stirred by a noble theme as I recite my verses for the king; my tongue is the pen of a skillful writer** (Ps 45:1). Do we speak so little of the LORD because we His noble themes are so little in our minds. If so let us rectify this by diligently studying His Word to learn of those noble themes.

And so let us pray **May the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be pleasing in your sight, O LORD, my Rock and my Redeemer** (Psalm 19:14).

