

# **Feltham Evangelical Church** *Newsletter: June 2010*

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

### **Calendar**

#### **w/c 30<sup>th</sup> May**

30th 9.30.a.m. Lord's Supper  
30th 11.00.a.m. Morning Service (Philip Venables)  
30th 11.15.a.m. Sunday School  
2nd 7.30.p.m. Prayer / Bible Study  
4th 10.00.a.m. Open House  
5th 10.30.a.m. Town Centre Evangelism

#### **w/c 6<sup>th</sup> June**

6th 9.30.a.m. Lord's Supper (Mark Henderson)  
6th 11.00.a.m. Morning Service (Philip Venables)  
6th 11.15.a.m. Sunday School  
8th 9.30.a.m. Prayer Meeting  
8th 5.45.p.m. Lighthouse  
9th 7.30.p.m. Prayer / Bible Study  
11th 10.00.a.m. Open House

#### **w/c 13<sup>th</sup> June**

13th 9.30.a.m. Lord's Supper (Gary Donaldson)  
13th 11.00.a.m. Morning Service (Gary Donaldson)  
13th 11.15.a.m. Sunday School  
13th 1.00.p.m. Fellowship Lunch  
13th 2.00.p.m. Afternoon Service (Gary Donaldson)

15th 5.45.p.m. Lighthouse  
16th 7.30.p.m. Prayer / Bible Study  
18th 10.00.a.m. Open House

#### **w/c 20<sup>th</sup> June**

20th 9.30.a.m. Prayer and Praise  
20th 11.00.a.m. Morning Service (Philip Venables) including Lord's Supper  
20th 11.15.a.m. Sunday School  
22nd 9.30.a.m. Prayer Meeting  
22th 5.45.p.m. Lighthouse  
23th 7.30.p.m. Prayer / Bible Study (Graham King)  
25th 10.00.a.m. Open House

#### **w/c 27<sup>th</sup> June**

27th 9.30.a.m. Lord's Supper (Neil Richardson)  
27th 11.00.a.m. Morning Service (Neil Richardson)  
27th 11.15.a.m. Sunday School  
29th 5.45.p.m. Lighthouse  
30th 7.30.p.m. Prayer / Bible Study (Gerald Yuen)  
2nd (July) 10.00.a.m. Open House  
3rd 10.30 a.m. Town Centre Evangelism

### **Notes**

Hayes Town Chapel have invited Stuart Olyott to preach on June 12<sup>th</sup> at 7.00.p.m. His preaching is due to focus on "Our need at this hour". All from the church are welcome to attend as well. Please note that as a result of the scheduling of this meeting in Hayes that there is no Feltham Bible Focus in June.

Fellowship Lunch On June 13th we plan to have a fellowship lunch together. This is due to be on a bring-and-share basis. All are welcome. In the afternoon Gary Donaldson who is from the Lanka Evangelical Fellowship of Churches is due to give a report on God's Work in Sri Lanka.

Lose Lose / Win Win leaflets are available for distribution. 5,000 of these new leaflets have been printed. It would be good to think about passing them on to friends and neighbours. Also, if you want to help in distributing them to homes in Feltham then please speak to Philip.

### **News**

Joshua Venables hurt his foot quite badly on May 20<sup>th</sup> when a mirror fell on it. He is now making good progress with his recovery.

Faustine Marawu is now engaged to be married. Pray for Faustine and Raymond as they face big changes in their lives.

Vinay and Prathibha Kumar are due to have their first child later in the year. Pray for a healthy pregnancy and safe delivery of the baby.

### **Spiritual Notes Consistency**

A clock which is unpredictable in its time keeping is virtually useless because you never know whether or not it is telling the right time. Similarly inconsistent people are people with whom you do not know where you stand. Even as Christians we all fail in this realm of consistency. However, we should all be striving to have lives which offer a consistent witness to our LORD Jesus Christ.

It is after all, He, Jesus our LORD, who was utterly consistent in the way He conducted Himself whilst He was here on earth. We see this prefigured in the grain offering of the Old Testament in Leviticus 2. Remember that all the offerings in Leviticus 1-7 give indication of the LORD Jesus in who He is and what he did. In the grain offering we see how it had to be made with fine flour. Each particle of flour was of the same size; it was perfectly even. And in this we see the perfect evenness of the character of our Saviour Jesus. There were no "lumps" in His character; everything was in perfect balance.

Let us look then at His perfect life and learn from it four things which should be seen in our lives.

#### **Reliability**

This is most particularly seen in the life of our LORD Jesus and how He spoke about His death and resurrection and

went through with all that He spoke of. **"The Son of Man is going to be betrayed into the hands of men. They will kill him, and on the third day he will be raised to life."** (Matt. 17:22b-23a) is what he said to His disciples. And He went through with it all. Look at His life in total thought and see how He always kept His word. This is how it should be with ourselves as well. If we cannot do something, do not intend to do something or are even uncertain about doing something we should make sure that we do not say that we are going to do that thing. David says concerning the godly person who dwells in God's presence (see Psalm 15:1) that he **keeps his oath even when it hurts** (Psalm 15:4b). The Christian then should always seek to keep their word even when it leads to personal difficulty. As much as lies within us, let us do what we say.

### Harmony

As mentioned above, right throughout His ministry the LORD spoke consistently about how He had come to give His life and be raised from the dead. This is but one indication of how you knew exactly where you stood with Him on a subject. He never had to change His mind. All His teaching beautifully harmonizes together. One example is to compare two lengthy sermons that He gave in Matthew 5-7 (The sermon on the Mount) and Luke 7:20-49 (The Sermon on the Plain). These sermons beautifully blend together with no contradiction at all. The consequence of this is that whether or not you liked Jesus teaching you knew exactly where you stood with Him.

In like manner we should be consistent in our words so people know where we stand on an issue. We should consider all the information and teaching we have on a subject and reach a position which we stick with. We do this until such time as we are convinced, through receiving further information, that the first conclusion was not correct. If we are continually changing our mind on a subject then people do not know where we stand. Confusion results if people rely on our words and then we change our mind. This continually happens in criminal cases. Someone is charged and goes to court on the basis of the statement by a witness. If in court the witness changes their statement then utter confusion results.

With some people it is very difficult to know where you stand because their statements on issues seem to be lacking in consistency. You are left thinking how could they say this when they had previously said that. The more we are moulded by scripture in our thinking then the less this is likely to happen.

### Balance

It is said of our Saviour that He was **full of grace and truth** (John 1:14b). Depending upon our personalities we are all prone to be lob-sided. Some of us are "grace" people and veer away from the truth so as not to offend others. Whilst others of us are "truth" people so that we unnecessarily hurt people by presenting the truth in an insensitive way. Whereas our Saviour was had this beautiful mixture of grace and truth. He graciously told the truth. Accordingly, we should be **speaking the truth in love** (Eph. 4:15a). We are to speak the truth, but always with gentleness. We accordingly never speak so as to show our superiority to others, but rather to win others.

We note also how imbalance results when we are driven by personal preference rather than biblical principle in reaching our conclusions. The outcome is that conclusions reached on related issues can be totally inconsistent. We must always be driven by biblical reasoning so we are saved from this imbalance. We can see such imbalance in the parable of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10:30-36). The Priest and Levite were driven by personal preference as regards to who they helped, but the Samaritan was driven by the Biblical principle of self-sacrificing love to help all.

### Restraint

As we look at the life of our LORD we see that all His words were calculated to honour God and do good to others. There were no rash outbursts which He later regretted. So with ourselves all our words should be carefully chosen for the honour of God and benefit of others. In the time of our LORD a scheme operated whereby if you swore by something great meant those words were more trustworthy than other words you might utter (see Matt. 5:33-36). The LORD rejects this approach for His people and says rather **Simply let your 'Yes' be 'Yes,' and your 'No,' 'No'; anything beyond this comes from the evil one** (Matt 5:37).

It is further poignant to note that our Saviour is never recorded as telling a joke; all His words counted to do good. We need to be careful as well. It is noted that the older godly man should be temperate (see Titus 2:1). There should be a straightness about our dealings with one another. Humour no doubt has its place in lightening the living of life. However, if not used carefully it can be very destructive.

Let us then seek to emulate our Saviour and display consistency in our lives. Thereby we will be trustworthy people effectively living for the glory of God. O LORD save us from unreliability and rashness.