

July 2018 Newsletter



THE PASTOR'S PEN *by Alistair Chalmers*

Living in light of eternity?

I remember years ago hearing an illustration on the topic of living for eternity. The speaker took a rope and told us to imagine that it stretched forever and had no end, but the part he held in his hand was about 3 inches long and was coloured green. He explained that the green part of the rope is the few years that we live on earth, and everything we do now affects the eternal time that comes after death (the rest of the rope). As I have been studying the Bible recently and as we have been looking at Joel and 1 Thessalonians on Sundays, I have been struck by the recurring theme of the Day of the Lord (Jesus' Second Coming).

This has really challenged me to ask myself the question, do I live in light of the Day of the Lord?

This is an important question that affects every area of our lives. Our view of eternity affects the way we view our possessions, the way we view work, money, family, politics, relationships and also the way we view evangelism. Joel describes the Day of the Lord as a great and dreadful day (Joel 2:31). Great because God will dwell with His people, and dreadful because God's wrath will be poured out on the nations.

1 Thessalonians 5:2 describes the Day of the Lord as coming like a thief; we do not know when it will come. The exhortation for Christians is that we should be sober and live in anticipation that this day could come at any point. I think that living in light of the Day of the Lord affects the way we deal with non-Christians, but also the way we treat each other:



The fact that Jesus will one day return is cause for great rejoicing but should also be a wakeup call to tell the world the good news of Jesus Christ. When Jesus returns he will deliver His people but God's wrath will be poured on those who do not know Jesus. Therefore, our desire should be to tell the gospel to every person we meet. We should proudly live out our faith and take every opportunity we are given to share the gospel.

The Day of the Lord also affects the way we should live with our fellow brothers and sisters in Christ. We should be encouraging each other when we suffer for the sake of the gospel, and this encouragement should be based on our future with God after that final day. The way we interact with and encourage our fellow brothers and sisters in Christ should be based on our future, we should be sober minded, putting on faith and love as a breastplate, and the hope of salvation as a helmet (1 Thess. 5:8).

TEAMBUILDERS HOLIDAY CLUB 2-6 JULY 9:30AM-12:30PM

Our holiday club runs every morning in the first week of the holidays. Team Builders has a sports team theme and focuses on some awesome stories from the Bible including Joseph, Moses, Esther, Jesus and Paul – each one giving children the opportunity to see what life is like on God's team, and inviting them to join His team for themselves. If you're not able to be there, please support the team and children in prayer.



OUR REGULAR ACTIVITIES

- Evening prayer** – Wednesday 4 July at 7:45pm in the upstairs hall
- Lunchtime prayer** – Wednesday 18 July at 1pm in Room 1
- Grove 92** – Every Monday at 2pm (see Hazel Foster)
- Basics Bank** – Friday 10am-1pm (see Fiona Watson to become involved, or Ian Naismith to give food / money)
- Care Van** – Wednesday 18th July (see Alastair Mackintosh).

FERRYWELL VISIT TO TANZANIA *by John Gillan* 1st-13th April 2018



**'They will rebuild the old ruins and
restore the places destroyed long ago'
Isaiah 61:4**



Our journey started in February 2017, with a completely unexpected conversation. Would we be interested in sending some of our young people on a Home Building Expedition? Well yes, we were, though there were many questions, including: How would we raise the money (approximately £2800 each)? And what would we be doing there? How would we cope with the heat and for some of us the plane journey? Over the next 14 months we found answers to all of these and we saw God at work and with us each step of the way.

We spent just under two weeks in Moshi (at the foot of Mount Kilimanjaro) and during this time helped build two homes for local families. Both were living in shacks which were falling down around them. One of the most powerful experiences of the whole trip was working alongside these families in the 30+ degree heat, helping prepare the site, digging foundations, carrying water and soil and mixing cement, amongst



Our team on the last day outside the house built for Mama Rosa and her granddaughter Eva Marie (10)

many other tasks. For all of us, the opportunity to see extreme poverty close up was shocking and moving. It will leave a lasting legacy with us. It was also hugely humbling to see how much we have compared to many who live with so little. Although we could only achieve so much in the

space of a few days, we knew that our fundraising had covered the cost of the building of the two homes and so both families would in due course have a safe and appropriate home. Both homes have now been completed. Although it was a lot of hard work, we did have two days to go on safari at the end of our time, which was another amazing experience.

The verse from Isaiah 61 came to mind when considering our trip: that we as Christians have an opportunity to put our faith into action and help with a very worthwhile task. We have so much to be thankful for, including how we have been restored and forgiven because of what Jesus did for us. We can in a small way, help bring some practical restoration to others and show care and love.



All five of us on safari



Sinead, Emily, Mama Rosa and Liam

Liam's summary helps to put our comfortable lives into perspective.

"The experience has taught me to be a lot more grateful and not to worry about my 'big problems' as much, as I know there are people in worse situations than I'll ever be and they always have a smile on their faces."

Thank you to all at BEC who have prayed, given and supported us in this journey in many different ways.

*John Gillan, Alison Higgins, Liam Hamilton,
Emily McDonald & Sinead Milligan*

SERVING OVER THE SUMMER

Many of our members involved in Christian activities over the summer and would really appreciate our prayers.

When?	What?	Who?
30 June-6 July	SU Motiv8 camp S4-S6	John Gillan
1-14 July	Mission Direct project in Zambia to extend a shelter for street kids, build a school classroom & install computers for the children	Fraser, Lynn, Ross & Jack McLaren
7-13 July	Christians in Sport Sports Plus camp	Struan & Becky Macdonald, Daniel Mackintosh. Graeme & Alex Shanks, Corrie Thomson
14-21 July	SU Motiv8 camp S3-S4	John Gillan, Craig Lumsden, Tim Foster
14-21 July	SU beach mission in Elie	Maggie Shearer (prayer support)
23-27 July	Northern Ireland Holiday Club	Peter Ervine
28 July-3 August	SU camp at Scoughall	Georgia Emmerson
30 July-3 August	Colinton Mains Holiday Club	Peter Ervine
5-11 August	SU camp at Scoughall	Jemma Cattanach, Olivia Emmerson, Travis Emmerson, Ben Johnston, Shaun Morlin
6-10 August	Faith Mission camp in Northern Ireland	Hazel Foster
Early August	DIME (Ferrywell) trips	Peter Ervine, John Gillan, Craig Lumsden, Derek McArthur, Sinead Milligan, Bridget Naismith, Martin Rosie

MISSION UPDATE *by Sheila MacLeod*

Richard and Elaine Leakey with YWAM in Switzerland - Richard has made a trip to Ivory Coast to research the possibility of a 'farming God's way' programme. A pilot training with just 13 people was held as well as a meeting with local pastors and the President of the regional Evangelical Alliance. The national YWAM leadership team would really like to develop a strategy of getting this material to the whole nation.

Back home in Burtigny, an evangelistic campaign over the four days of Easter was arranged in two locations – Nyon and Gland. More than 140 Christians from different churches organised services, activities for kids in local parks and went into old people's homes, culminating in a couple of street parties when a clear message of the gospel was shared.

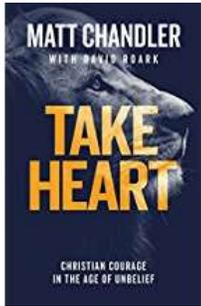
In the autumn, Richard will be leading a Discipleship Training School. A writer's seminar is also being held. Pray that young people will take up this opportunity to study God's Word and gain practical experience of Christian service.

Heber and Fiona Gallitto in Argentina - The church they planted in 2016 has just celebrated its 2nd year and has had the first wedding. They are continuing contact with people through helping children with their homework. Some new believers are attending step 1 of the School of Spiritual Growth and it is hoped there will be baptisms soon. Drugs, alcohol, abuse and violence are common everyday things - pray for God's protection on the people in the area. Remember the family, including Ivan, Martin and Melissa, who are all involved in different areas of the work that they will have grace, wisdom, health and strength. **Melissa gets married in November.**

	Flowers	Crèche & Roots
1 July	Bridget	Joanna, Esther & Simona
8 July	Lilias	Zoe, Bridget & Ali
15 July	Doreen	Anne J, Alex & Margo
22 July	Nan M	Corrie, Becky & Margaret
29 July	Audrey	Robert, Susan & Molly

THIS MONTH'S RECOMMENDATION by Alistair Chalmers

Matt Chandler, Take Heart



There used to be a time when Christianity was at the centre of our society. It was seen as normal to be a Christian, but this time is long gone. Today we live in what conference speakers and authors call a 'post-Christian culture', today it is no longer seen as the 'norm' to be a Christian or to go to church. Rather, Christians can be seen as strange or bigoted because of our stance on what the Bible teaches.

Matt Chandler says that as we look at our culture, as we see how the church seems to be more and more marginalised, Christians should Take Heart. Chandler looks at church history to show that the church has grown and thrived most during times of pressure and marginalisation and has actually deteriorated and become more self-focused rather than Christ-focused during time when society was 'Christian'. The church thrives in the margins because it causes Christians to look and depend on God and to find their hope and courage in God.

As you feel the pressure at work, as you're questioned by friends or family members because of your faith or as you take a stance because of what you believe, the Bible teaches look to God and take courage! This is a very helpful quick read that puts our culture in its context, helps us understand church history and gives practical insights into how to live as a Christian in a world that is trying to fight Christianity and forget about God.

HEART OF THE MATTER SCHEDULE

1 July: Heart of the Matter Gold 8 – Adrian Plass

8 July: Durham Cathedral – Talking about Jesus

15 July: Shirley Donovan

Missionaries David and Shirley were abducted in the Niger Delta and held captive last year.

22 July: Dr David Donovan

29 July: Rev. Bruce Pass – Bruntfield Evangelical Church

Black Diamond 107.8 FM: Sunday 9 am. repeat 8 am. following week. FM and online. Crystal 107.4 FM: Sunday 11 am. /Midnight and Tuesday 11 am. FM and online. Alive FM 107.3 FM: Sunday 10 am. FM and online. TD 1 106.5 FM: Sunday 8 am. FM and online. Internet stations Heartsong Live and Caleb: Various times

1 July 2018		
10am	Communion Service	Chairing: Ian
11am	Coffee Team: Alasdair, Margo & Tim Welcome Team: Pete, Terri, Neil & Jonathan	
11.30am	All Age Service & communion Leader: Ian Naismith	Speaker: Christiaan Hofstra Great is the Lord Psalm 91
6:30pm	Evening Service Leader: Alistair Chalmers Welcome: Pete & Terri	Speaker: Luca Sueri Sights Set on Jesus 1 Thessalonians 4:1-12
8 July 2018		
10am	Communion Service	Chairing: Ian <i>Missionary Offering for the medical trip to Romania</i>
11am	Coffee Team: Gill, Sylvia & Violet Welcome Team: Charles, Tim, Hazel & Ian	
11.30am	All Age Service Leader: Alistair Chalmers	Speaker: Ian Naismith Great is the Lord Psalm 92
6:30pm	Evening Service Leader: Garry Ferrier Welcome: Hazel & Ian	Speaker: Tim Foster Sights Set on Jesus 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18
15 July 2018		
10am	Communion Service	Chairing: David
11am	Coffee Team: Jonathan, Pete & Terri Welcome Team: Bobby, Joanna, Alice & Esther	
11.30am	All Age Service Leader: Alistair Chalmers	Speaker: Robert Murdock Great is the Lord Psalm 93
6:30pm	Evening Service Leader: Jamie Wilson Welcome: Laurence & Sylvia	Speaker: Alistair Chalmers Sights Set on Jesus 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11
22 July 2018		
10am	Communion Service	Chairing: David <i>Second bag offering for Heber & Fiona Gallitto</i>
11am	Coffee Team: Alasdair, Alice & Anne Welcome Team: Sabine, Thane, Ian & Jonathan	
11.30am	All Age Service Leader: Graeme Shanks	Speaker: Graeme Shanks Great is the Lord Psalm 94
6:30pm	Evening Service Leader: Fiona Watson Welcome: Ian & Jonathan	Speaker: Alistair Chalmers Sights Set on Jesus 1 Thessalonians 5:12-28
29 July 2018		
10am	Communion Service	Chairing: Michael
11am	Coffee Team: Bruce, Sylvia & Tim Welcome Team: Andrew, Emma, Pete & Terri	
11.30am	All Age Service Leader: Ian Naismith	Speaker: Paul Johnston Great is the Lord Psalm 95
6:30pm	Evening Service Leader: Tim Foster Welcome: Alice & Sabine	Speaker: Graeme Shanks The Search for a King Samuel 1:1-2:11