



**DUNFERMLINE  
WEST BAPTIST**

**JESUS SAID**

**YOU ARE THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD -  
LIKE A CITY ON A HILLTOP THAT CANNOT BE HIDDEN**

For everything there is a season,  
a time for every activity under heaven.  
A time to be born and a time to die.  
A time to plant and a time to harvest.  
A time to kill and a time to heal.  
A time to tear down and a time to build up.  
A time to cry and a time to laugh.  
A time to grieve and a time to dance.  
(Ecclesiastes 3:1-4)

Dear friends,

Ecclesiastes 3 is a helpful reminder of the various seasons of life. In every season there are times of joy and abundance but also sadness and loss. It is often the case that traversing the valleys of life enable us to appreciate the mountain tops even more. This season is definitely an unusual time. It is a season that has created space for deep reflection on what our core values are. It is amazing to hear that a recent study from Tearfund has estimated that 1 in 4 UK adults have watched or listened to a religious service since lockdown.<sup>1</sup> Additionally, just under half of UK adults have prayed. In an unprecedented time, almost every person across the world has been placed on a new unexpected path and we are still discovering exactly where it leads to.

A particular challenge for the church is to discern how we ought to respond in this season today and also how it might shape our future. This will become more urgent over the next few weeks as we consider how we will facilitate gathering together again. Let us all pray for discernment and wisdom on how best to move forward. Certainly, so many things that we have been developing over the last two years have been a, literal, God send during this season. Our buddy groups and fun zoom meetings reflect the deepening of our sense of community. Hearing so many voices during our live services reflect our commitment to equipping and developing everybody. On that note, perhaps, you have been considering how Andrew is getting on having starting his internship with us before the lockdown. Well I have a fantastic update for you.

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<sup>1</sup> [https://www.tearfund.org/en-SC/media/press\\_releases/many\\_brits\\_look\\_to\\_faith\\_during\\_lockdown/](https://www.tearfund.org/en-SC/media/press_releases/many_brits_look_to_faith_during_lockdown/) Based on a poll of 2,101 UK adults.



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**Andrew** and I continue to maintain in regular contact and he has been largely involved in our online efforts. You may have noticed that he has been hosting the live chats for both our Sunday and Wednesday gatherings. He has also been communicating with the buddy groups regularly ensuring that our central prayer document is up to date. Additionally, I encouraged Andrew to apply for a leadership course with Tearfund, which he found out yesterday that he has been given a place on. He started the course the same day and will be guided through an excellent programme with 50 other young Christian leaders. For more details on the course see: <https://weare.tearfund.org/emerging-influencers/>

This is a really exciting programme for Andrew please do ask him about it and pray for him. We will look forward to more of his updates soon.

### **Share your pictures**

Please do **share any pictures with us** (if you are able) of what you are getting up to. You could share them to our Facebook Page, over What's App, or email them to me. It would be great to share some ideas for stay at home activities. Below are photos from Fiona, Andrew and Laura-Lee our partner mission worker.



### **World Mission: BMS**

Each week we will feature one of our partner missions. This week you might like to get up to date with our partner Laura-Lee Lovering in Peru. You can view her update videos at:

<https://www.bmsworldmission.org/video/update-laura-lee-lovering/>

### **What's on**

At the start of the **weekly prayer session** (Wednesdays 11:00) I will be reflecting from the Psalms and how they might be speaking into our lives today. Tomorrow I will be considering Psalm 6 and starting our day with God. I hope that you might be able to join me.



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Have compassion on me, Lord, for I am weak.

Heal me, Lord, for my bones are in agony.

I am sick at heart.

How long, O Lord, until you restore me?

Return, O Lord, and rescue me.

Save me because of your unfailing love.

For the dead do not remember you.

Who can praise you from the grave?<sup>[b]</sup>

I am worn out from sobbing.

All night I flood my bed with weeping,

drenching it with my tears.

My vision is blurred by grief;

(Psalm 6:2-7)

**On Sunday** we will be gathering again online at 11:00am for a time of worship together.

Luke is exploring getting the **weekly evening prayer and bible study** running again which will likely include a time to discuss the weekly study questions (as below). This would be over zoom.

## **Study Questions from 2 Corinthians 8:1-9**

If you haven't had a chance to watch the message from Sunday or would like to watch it again you can watch it at: <https://youtu.be/Z9daQxvOpkM>

1. Read 'The Giving Tree' by Shel Silverstein  
<https://www.slideshare.net/wicaksana/the-giving-tree-3293089>. What is your initial reaction to the story? What is the story trying to illustrate? Is it helpful in reflecting on the passage?
2. How is Jesus' sacrifice similar and/or dissimilar to the giving tree? (v9)
3. Why is it important to learn how to receive before giving to others? (v2)
4. Is giving an obligation? (v8)
5. How might we give generously as individuals and as a church?

## **Buddy groups and prayer items**

Andrew has been contacting the buddy group leaders weekly to update our online prayer area at: <https://dunfermlinewest.org/prayers>. Please do view the document regularly to keep



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up to date with how we can pray for each other. You can also add your prayers to the document or update us on the progress of other prayers.

## **Connecting with us**

You can connect into each of these services via <https://dunfermlinewest.org/online> and also via telephone using our latest stay connected details.

### **Subscribe, Like and Invite.**

Please do regularly keep up to date with the churches news on Facebook and YouTube and interact with its content. Subscribe to both YouTube and Facebook. Like the posts and comment on them. Invite your friends to be a part of our community.

**Our YouTube Channel** ( *To subscribe click on the red subscribe button* )

[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC7BuBS\\_TUKDMvu5Wcpg9PAg/](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC7BuBS_TUKDMvu5Wcpg9PAg/)

**Our Facebook Page** ( *To Like click the like button below the Page's cover photo* )

<https://www.facebook.com/dunfermlinewest>

## **Worship music**

I am sure we have all really appreciated the worship music that Amy, Beth and Rachel have been creating, please do offer them your encouragement. As we are creating new songs we are adding them to a YouTube playlist which you can listen to whenever you like. Simply click on the link below:

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLWewcFMHTJ0FjGKggn1g7DvINNI68px3C>

Let us continue to stay in touch, to pray for one another and to not lose hope.

**Your brother in Christ, Anthony**