



DUNFERMLINE
WEST BAPTIST

JESUS SAID

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

So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us.

(2 Corinthians 5:17-19)

Dear friends,

Last Sunday as we continued our “Choose Your King series” Anthony highlighted the importance of unity within a community of believers. That is, unity with God and also unity with others. Jesus, before his ascension, prayed for his disciples ‘that they may all be one’ so that the world may know that God sent Jesus (John 17:21-23). Although, Jesus’ call to unity is clear, history teaches us that unity is not easy nor straight forward. Building unity often requires some form of reconciliation and healing.

Reconciliation is a word that goes to the heart of conflict, estrangement and tension seeking to ‘unmask the causes as well as provide radical solutions to the problem of broken relationships.’¹ The Apostle Paul wrote frequently on the topic of reconciliation recognising that the Triune God (Father, Son and Spirit) is the prime agent of reconciliation. The death of Jesus was the climax of reconciliation, as he demonstrated through his life and teachings that he came to restore the broken relationships between God his people and each other. As we come to celebrate communion on Sunday we are reminded of the unique diversity of those seated at the table as Jesus reconciles anyone who sits at His table to God.

What’s on

At the start of the **weekly prayer session** (Wednesdays 11:00) I will be reflecting from the Psalms on how they might be speaking into our lives today. Tomorrow I will be considering Psalms 22 to 23 and the Lord is my shepherd. You may wish to read the Psalms in advance.

The Lord is my shepherd;
I have all that I need.
He lets me rest in green meadows;
he leads me beside peaceful streams.
He renews my strength.

¹ John Corrie, Dictionary of Mission Theology, 328.



**DUNFERMLINE
WEST BAPTIST**

JESUS SAID

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

He guides me along right paths,
bringing honour to his name.

(Psalm 23:1-3)

On Sunday we will be gathering online at 11:00am for our monthly communion service. We are delighted that Stuart Lee, head of Church Development at Tearfund Scotland, will be joining us including bringing us the reflection. Stuart will also join us for our after service Zoom chat. Please do tune in live for the service so that we can gather at Christ's table together. You may also wish to prepare some bread and wine/juice in advance.

Our **weekly evening prayer and bible study** continues this Wednesday at 7.30pm over zoom via the standard meeting details. The group follow the study questions from our service.

Sharing In and Out Together

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.

World Mission: Scripture Union Scotland

'Our vision is to see the children and young people of Scotland exploring the Bible and responding to the significance of Jesus. We are a Christian charity with over 2,000 volunteers and 100 staff working in 4 contexts: schools, holidays, community-based missions, and training and equipping. We offer safe places where children and young people can have fun, meet new challenges, feel valued, accepted and be free to express their views and consider their own beliefs as they engage with peers and Christian leaders. We aim to prioritise the needs of those from a disadvantaged background in all our activities.' Like many other organisations, S.U. has had to be creative in how they could still engage with young people during the pandemic, especially when many were feeling very disappointed when camps, holidays and the Magnitude festival had to be cancelled. S.U. Holidays are planning online events during the summer and Scotland's Biggest Holiday Club can be explored using the Wonder Zone. Pray for the staff as they seek to provide teaching and support for many young people and that they will not feel too exhausted as they adapt to innovative new ways of working. Pray too for wisdom for those who have to make decisions at a time when the crisis has meant a drastic loss of income. This all impacts on our own Rachel, Finn and Beth.



**DUNFERMLINE
WEST BAPTIST**

JESUS SAID

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

Generosity

We would like to thank all of you for your generosity in continuing to give to the church during this time. We appreciate that these are uncertain times and are grateful that many of us are still able to contribute to the mission of the Church. You can find further information on how to give to the church via bacs (preferred), cheque or cash at:

<https://dunfermlinewest.org/giving/>

Study Questions on 1 Samuel 20-22

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/GmPjLKBfjDQ>

Please read 1 Samuel 20 to 22 in advance of the study.

- 1) Read 20:1-4, 12-17; Consider the relationships between Saul, Jonathan and David.
 - a) What are the loyalties between each of them and their challenges?
 - b) Write a list of positive and negative words that describe how the Saul, Jonathan and David relate to each other. (Also consider 20:30-34)
- 2) Read 22:1-8, 11-18; As Saul alienated more and more of his people David gathered more people to himself.
 - a) After reading Ec. 4:9-12; Jn 13:34-35; Jn 17:11,21-23; Phil. 1:27; How do these passages challenge you in your relationship with others?
 - b) How do these passages challenge you in your relationship with God?
 - c) How does our relationship with others affect our witness of the gospel?
- 3) Since the early church (recorded in the NT) there have been divisions amongst believers. Differences are not always black and white. How might a process of reconciliation and healing be started during times of division today? (Col. 3:12-17)
- 4) Bonus Question: The Scriptures are clear that we are to watch out for wolves in sheep's clothing (Matt. 7:15-19; 1 John 4:1-6). How do these passages challenge us today especially considering unity? Discuss the importance of understanding the difference between a false prophet and an individual whose veil has yet to be taken away.

Buddy groups and prayer items

Keep up to date with prayers for our community at <https://dunfermlinewest.org/prayers>.



**DUNFERMLINE
WEST BAPTIST**

JESUS SAID

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

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 at:

<https://dunfermlinewest.org/assets/files/dwbc-stay-connected.v5.pdf>

Subscribe, Like and Invite.

Please do regularly keep up to date with the churches news on Facebook and YouTube and interact with its content:

- YouTube: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC7BuBS_TUKDMvu5Wcpg9PAg/
- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/dunfermlinewest>

Worship music

As we are creating new songs we are adding them to a YouTube playlist which you can listen to whenever you like at: <https://dunfermlinewest.org/worship/playlist>

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

Your brother in Christ, Anthony