

British Bible Camp 2021

Two new Christians!

**"Marriage Partners" - article
by Trevor Williams**

A visit to the Sea of Galilee

CONTENTS

- 3 MY PERSPECTIVE**
Changes
- 4 CONGRATULATIONS**
 - Two new Christians in Northampton
- 5 "MARRIAGE PARTNERS"**
Article by Trevor Williams
- 8 BRITISH BIBLE CAMP 2021**
Report of a fun and safe week
- 10 BRITISH BIBLE SCHOOL NOTES**
New online classes
- 11 FAMILY NEWS**
 - Edmonton Singles Enrichment Programme report
 - Appeal updates and information and prayer requests
 - Thankfulness for the life of Bill Tankersley
- 12 A VIEW OF THE BIBLE LANDS**
The Sea of Galilee
- 14 NOTICES**
- 15 DIARY OF EVENTS IN UK**
- 16 THE FINAL WORD**
The Greatest Race



Front cover: campfire at British Bible Camp; above: British Bible Camp staff



EDITORIAL AND PUBLICATION

The Christian Worker Magazine is published monthly as a news magazine for Churches of Christ in the United Kingdom. The first issue was published in January 1969.

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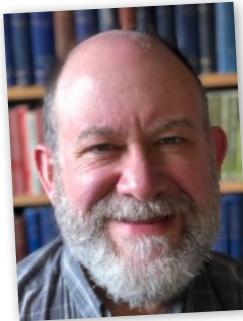
Former Editors: Albert E. Winstanley (1969-1973; 1980-1987); Robert C. Eckman (1973-1980); Graham A. Fisher (1987-2014)

All articles and news items should be sent to **Trevor Williams** by the 21st of each month. Late items may be accepted until the 25th. Publication is the first day of each month.

To receive *The Christian Worker Magazine* as a free pdf, send your e-address to jdgalloway@mac.com. Professionally printed copies are available at cost. Please contact Trevor for details – twilliams195@hotmail.co.uk.



MY PERSPECTIVE



In life's
constant
changes
Jesus
remains
the same

Changes

Life is always changing. Perhaps if it didn't change our lives would get boring! But change also brings with it challenges.

This past year and a half has brought lots of changes. As we have learned to live with a very infectious virus we have had to change the way we live and the way we do almost everything. Face coverings are required in some countries and some settings. Although we should have been doing it all along, hand washing is now seen as essential. We've even learned to worship in different ways and in different settings to protect the most vulnerable amongst us.

But life has always been full of changes, hasn't it? Arlene and I have had many changes in our lives the past few years, from the deaths of our remaining parents to the births of many grandchildren. Our latest change is being 'homeless' – as we await the house we are purchasing to be completed. We didn't plan this but are thankful for the offer for our house and the subsequent need to vacate it before our new home is completed. We are very thankful for children, as we are now living with our youngest son and his family (and yes, it is wonderful to wake up each morning with grandsons around!).

For many people changes can be very stressful. We like a certain regularity in life and we like to think we are in control of our lives. Yet changes still come. Many react with anger and obstinacy; others become depressed and withdrawn.

Despite all the changes that life throws at us we can be thankful – and anchored – on the fact that there are some things that never change.

God doesn't change. What he has said is not only what will happen but is what we can rely on.

We are familiar with what the Hebrew writer recorded: "Jesus the Messiah, the same yesterday, today, and forever". Jesus doesn't change. His paying the price for our sins will always be there; nothing can take that away. His continual forgiveness doesn't change. All the spiritual blessings that he gives will always be there – nothing can remove them.

Because God doesn't change his Word also doesn't change. What it said when written many thousands of years ago is just as applicable today as it was then. Nothing has been added; nothing has been removed; it continues to be the perfect word that we need to live.

In the world of science, books are often re-written as we discover things that are not as we thought they were. We even see history books being rewritten – not that history has changed but that what is acceptable has changed.

There are those who have tried to do this with God's word. Despite their efforts, the word of God remains and it is still alive and powerful.

In a constantly changing world, hold on to those things which will never change.

Jon



CONGRATULATIONS!

New Christians in Northampton

On Sunday 8th August, with great joy, we witnessed the baptism of **Bruijet Owuso**. We rejoice with his parents Christian and Naomi that, having been brought up to know Jesus, he has accepted him as Saviour. A veteran of many youth weekends and camps, during lockdown Bruijet spent more time studying God's Word. He concluded he needed to be baptised and it was thrilling for the congregation he had grown up amongst to share the moment.

Just before the first lockdown **Emmanuel Brefo** moved from Italy to Northampton and was able to meet with us. His wife and daughters have now reunited with him. On Sunday 22nd August, his wife **Esther** was immersed. What a thrill to not only be



reunited as a family but now they are united in Christ. We rejoice with them and commend both **Bruijet** and **Esther** to you for prayers as they grow in Christ.

Mark Hill



MARRIAGE PARTNERS

Several of the major protestant denominations in the United Kingdom have approved or want to approve same sex marriage. Love is a natural process of living and so is settling down with someone special and establishing a home. The problem is that what the Bible has to say about this and the current general opinion is at odds with each other. What I am sharing is the result of a series of Bible studies that I shared with our home church.

The two shall be together as one.

Genesis 2:24 is the initial concept of marriage – one man, one woman being together, leaving parents and starting their own home. When Jesus was asked about divorce in Matthew 19:4-6 and Mark 10:5-8 he went back to the Genesis passage and reaffirmed that early directive. This is strengthened in Ephesians 5:25-33 and in 1 Corinthians 6:9-20. Thus five times Scripture makes the same point.

Same sex partners

It is now common to hear of ‘gay’ marriages and to see people of the same sex kissing on television. Fifty years ago this would have been unthinkable! Not only have times changed the British laws have changed, so what is the church

supposed to do? One major denomination recently voted to accept and allow same sex marriages in its places of worship. I am also aware that the English State church is anxious to do the same. “Hurray” some people might think but what does God direct and what would please him?

A variety of different marriage relationships in the Old Testament can be studied and seen to be not in agreement with the Genesis passage. For instance Abraham took Hagar as a mistress; Judah visited a woman he thought to be a prostitute; David and Solomon were polygamous – but were they right in doing so? In Genesis 19:1-13 we have the strange account of angels visiting Lot and the men of Sodom wanting to have sexual relations with them. What may seem even stranger to us is that Lot offered his own daughters to those men.

Leviticus 18:22 clearly defines that homosexual activity is strongly forbidden and this is strengthened in Leviticus 20:13. Note however that it was not only homosexual activity that was forbidden – read the chapter and see.

When we go into the New Testament Romans 1:18-32 seems very clear that same-sex sexual activities are wrong. Paul in writing to the Corinthians had a lot to say about their many problems. It is well worth noting that there were so many that he cannot even spend a great deal of time with each one but the situations are made very clear. In 1 Corinthians 5 we have the situation of a man who ‘has’ his father’s wife and the church seems rather proud of its position. Verses 9-13 brings the matter to a head by disassociation with the



MARRIAGE PARTNERS

sexually immoral, greedy, swindlers, idol worshippers, slanderers, and drunkards.

When the original plan for marriage is changed the church has a responsibility to itself, to keep the original directive. That includes dealing with homosexuality or Christians living together without marriage plus all the other matters as well. Verse 12-13 is very pointed. The world may do one thing, but Christians must follow the moral code.

1 Corinthians 6:9-19 introduces another list and it is notable that those who do such things will not inherit the Kingdom of God. Included are the sexually immoral, idol worshippers, adulterers, male prostitutes, homosexual offenders, thieves, greedy, drunkards, slanderers and swindlers. Then Paul drops a bombshell by showing that some of the Christians at Corinth had been involved in these groups. Yes those who had been 'gays' in the congregation, but with lovingkindness the Apostle notes that these Christians had been washed (immersed into Christ), sanctified (made holy), and justified (made innocent by the covering of the blood of Jesus). By entering into a relationship with Christ a new life has come about. They were born again, their sins had been removed and they were recreated in Jesus – and that also applies to every single one of us today.

In Chapter 7 Paul extolled the virtues of marriage. Some people can live by themselves in service to Jesus but most cannot, that makes marriage a blessing.

In 2 Corinthians 5:17 Paul stressed that we have a new beginning; everyone must live their life for Jesus. Most Christians also have to keep on renewing their new beginning. We all have to restart, clear up our mess, start afresh, and repent. 1 John 1:7 reminds us that by walking in the light of Jesus, the blood of Jesus purifies us from all sin. Hallelujah, what a Saviour, one who is willing to love us even when we have problems. 2 Corinthians 6:14-7:1 encourages holiness but



when we are playing around with the call of the world we are turning our backs on God.

Hebrews 13:4 instructs that there needs to be purity in the marriage bed. Society today encourages multiple sexual partners; sexual activity outside of marriage is regarded as good, sex is simply recreational. Yet we go back to the beginning and we find that it is right for a man to leave his father and mother and cleave to his wife. 1 Corinthians 10:31 is a golden rule for all Christian activities: 'So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God'. Any action that does not bring honour to our Heavenly Father needs to be put to one side by Christians.

But what of those who early in life feel that they are attracted to someone of the same sex, are they to be abandoned by the church? No. Rather it is right they are loved and encouraged to live a life for Jesus. Often the confusion of youth is frightening. Our young people today live in a world that tells them that they can do what they want sexually – at least if the other person is willing. They are encouraged to be whatever gender or sexuality they wish to be. But what does Jesus say about taking up the cross? Read Matthew 16:24-27.

Is it pleasing to God when Christians live together as husband and wife without marriage? It would seem that most couples in Britain today live together before marriage, those who do not are usually professing Christians. We live in a world

MARRIAGE PARTNERS

that has thrown God out of society and society has made a mockery of relationships. When God is shown the door, Satan walks in. It is never easy to say no to passion but so easy to say no to Jesus. The church is in the good news business. Jesus is our guide, our hope, our Saviour. To everyone who knows they are in a relationship which is not of the original order let me encourage you to put the matter right. This may take courage and possibly even heartache but Jesus stands at your side and says, 'Come to me all you with burdens, lean on me and I will give you peace and rest'. I know after talking to those who may have feelings for someone of their own sex that there is heartache and confusion. Not all love is love and the

imaginings of the human heart are both strong and frightening.

I urge brethren especially church leaders to be gracious but strong in encouraging their flocks to follow God's moral code. Homosexuality, premarital sex, adultery as well as anything else that does not follow God's guidance, (theft, greed, drunkenness, slander, etc) must be resolved with loving kindness and Godly encouragement. To ignore these matters is a dishonour to Christ.

In fear and trembling before our God,

Trevor Williams

AT REST

Eddie Johnson (East Kilbride)

29 December 1936-8 August 2021

Although he was born in Yorkshire, he moved to Zambia when he was thirty and considered himself a Zambian. His final years were spent in Scotland due to needing cancer treatment.

Eddie was blessed with three children, as well as grandchildren and great-grandchildren. For his 83rd birthday his wife Beatrice organised a surprise party including his family from Leeds, whom he had not seen for quite a while. The joy he had that day of being with family and friends was wonderful!

He met Beatrice in Zambia. As they were courting she told him that if he wanted to find her she would be at church. Initially he would drop her off but soon he began to go in with her, resulting in him eventually also becoming a Christian. He also liked to drink but she told him that if he was drinking not to come around. This resulted in his giving up drinking because he couldn't bear to not see her.

Needing treatment for cancer he ended up in East Kilbride and the Johnsons became part of the congregation here.

They usually could be seen each Sunday sitting on the front row and joined in all the activities of the congregation.

Although he had tumours removed a few years ago the cancer returned and caused other complications. When he had to be in hospital visits were restricted due to Covid. Being a people person this was particularly difficult for him.

His funeral was conducted by Iain Cameron and Jon Galloway on Wednesday, 25th August.

Jon Galloway



British Bible Camp 2021



Ever since I first attended at the age of nine (and probably before that) British Bible Camp has been somewhat synonymous with Oxford, so much so that we would often say, “Are you going to Oxford camp?” With the usual site at Youlbury deciding to remain closed this year, Camp was instead held at The Christian Adventure Centre in Viney Hill from Monday to Friday, 9th-13th August. Nestled between the River Severn and the River Wye in the beautiful Royal Forest of Dean, the site accommodated 115 staff and campers in tents and in buildings. There was something wholesome in the atmosphere of the site, especially with it being intentionally Christian, from scripture passages displayed on the building’s interior walls, to the spotting of grazing sheep early in the mornings, reminding us that we are his people and the sheep of his pasture. Through the gates into the Forest of Dean, some saw more exotic local wildlife in the form of wild boar and deer which caused great excitement. Being the only group on site, it felt like a haven.

The theme for this year was “**Make Some Noise**” – focusing on Psalm 100. At the initial scouting visit, the site manager made a small comment about how the site was remote and away from houses, so we could feel free to make some noise. This sparked the idea of feeling free to express and proclaim our faith, reconnecting with our Maker, especially after a year of digital interactions. This concept is further

echoed with the ESV rendering of Psalm 100, beginning with, “*Make a joyful noise to the Lord all the earth!*” How glorious was it to deeply dwell in our Bible classes, looking at God as Creator, God as Shepherd and God as Majesty.

We can all agree that singing together is one the immense blessings of being a Christian family. Morning assemblies were held in the chapel for singing and sketches, where we also had fun learning a new song called *God Made Me* by Randall Goodgame. The chorus is relatively simple but the verses are full of speedy tongue twisters that rival the *Sea of Galilee!* The sense of wonderment while devoting praise to God again during the setting of the sun makes it easy to see why campfire is such a highlight of camp. There was a feeling of everyone relishing the opportunity to sing and it was very uplifting seeing our eldest boys lead singing throughout the week, as well as the devotional and scripture readings on the last night.

As part of our booking, all the campers got to take part in two activities which the site offers. Led by their trained instructors, each cabin experienced a low ropes course and archery. For many this was a new opportunity to try new skills. The challenge was certainly a bonding activity for each cabin and it was wonderful watching their confidence in themselves and trust in their team blossom through



adversity. The instructors were impressed by the groups, commenting on their enthusiasm, determination and humour. In a conversation with Jon, the site manager (while he was having a peek at the class things set out for the pre-campers), he expressed that he loved having our group, seeing the things that we were doing to sow the seed and wished that all their groups were like ours. He was extremely touched when he received his very own camp t-shirt as a thank you.

Some heartwarming anecdotes include the counsellor who was about to tell off their cabin for talking after lights out, only to find that the reason torches were still on in the tent was because the kids were reading their Bibles aloud for their nightly devotional. Another counsellor recalls asking a camper who didn't seem to be listening to an instruction but was looking at something else instead – when asked what he was looking at the camper answered, "That," indicating up at the sky, marvelling at the starry night sky. The counsellor paused, and took that moment to share in appreciation

for God's creation. Our eldest boys (dubbed the Acappella boys) brought another edition of *Bible Rangers*, parody skit of Power Rangers which started two years ago during the last physical camp. These are just a few of the many lovely moments we had that made this year memorable.

We were incredibly blessed to have good weather so that maximising outside time for lunch picnicking and playing fun favourite games were possible. There was much cause for celebration in the form of two birthdays to the simple joy of hanging out with friends. At the time of writing, we have not heard of anyone contracting serious illnesses (lateral flow tests were taken before arriving) and we are extremely thankful that God is protecting us.

To close, let us be comforted by the words of Psalm 100:5 – *"For the Lord is good; His steadfast love endures forever, and His faithfulness to all generations."*

Crystal Holder

²⁵
UK LADIES RETREAT 2021
GETTING THROUGH WHILE YOU
ARE GOING THROUGH
29-30 OCTOBER 2021



Friday: 7pm - 10pm GMT

Saturday: 10am-3pm GMT

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8540976249?pwd=SnpodmRwejRWR2p5YUdBRGhGYk9GQT09>

Zoom Meeting ID: 854 097 6249
Passcode: sc2020

NB: The programme will cover adult themes and is suitable for ladies 16yrs and over

Come and explore the following topics with us

In times of doubt: 'God is still in Charge'... so..."Be Still and know that I am God'. In times of anxiety, 'I lift mine eyes to the Hill from where cometh my help'. When all is said and done; 'I couldn't do it without Him'. We will also be exploring health issues with our panel of experts.



BRITISH BIBLE SCHOOL NOTES

New classes starting this month

From Eden to Egypt

Later this month we will be starting a new term with our Online Extension Programme, offering another module from our Applied Biblical Studies curriculum. Classes are open to anyone interested in more in-depth, structured classes, but numbers are limited.

The new term will begin on 21st September and we will be studying one of our Old Testament modules: *From Eden to Egypt* (OLD02). Students will be introduced to the importance of Genesis as the foundational document of the Scriptures, placing it in its context and showing its relevance to God's purpose. This module will trace God's dealings with mankind until Israel's exodus from Egypt.

Unlike our weekly Online Bible Classes, students need to enrol for these classes and a nominal fee will apply. There will also be additional class assignments which students will be expected to complete – all designed to enhance the learning experience. Smaller classes also enable greater class participation and give better opportunity for useful discussion.

There are still a few places left for this class, so if you are interested in enrolling for this module, please visit our website and submit a Registration Form.

A Gospel and a Personal Letter

We are coming close to the end of another round of our Online Bible Classes and are delighted that good numbers continue to find these useful. David Chapman has been doing a splendid job guiding us through *Fire on the Mountain* – a study of the Pentateuch, whilst I have been teaching sessions on *Lessons on the Mountain* – a different mountain in Galilee.

Our next round of Online Bible Classes begins at the end of the month with classes continuing each Monday and Thursday evening. Jack Paton will be teaching a series on the *Gospel of Matthew*, and John Griffiths will be teaching classes on *Paul's Second letter to the Corinthians*. No registration is required for these classes, and details can be found on our website or on social media.

We thank you for your continued interest in and support of this important work. Please do continue to remember us when you pray.

Patrick Boyns

britishbibleschool.com

From Eden to Egypt

A British Bible School Applied Biblical Studies Module

The student will be introduced to the importance of Genesis as the foundation document of the Scriptures, placing it in its context and showing its relevance to God's purpose. This module will trace God's dealings with mankind until Israel's exodus from Egypt.

- Two hours each Tuesday
- Enrolment required
- Additional assignments
- Personal tuition
- BBS certification

Tuesdays at 7.30 pm

Online from 21st September 2021
... for 12 weeks

www.britishbibleschool.com



FAMILY NEWS

EDMONTON UPDATE

We are thankful and appreciative to all who participated in the Singles' Enrichment programme that took place on Saturday, 31st July 2021. The programme was the first of its kind organised by us. The theme was "Get Connected in the Lord".

Those who attended were aged 18 or above and were from congregations across the globe. David Lanier (Texas); Michael Appiagyei (Wembley), and Lavaughn Lewis (Grenada, West Indies) were the main speakers, and they spoke about the following topics:

- Does one need to get married?
- Is a Christian partner necessary?
- Christian courtship

The programme started at noon and ended at 4.00 pm. It was virtually based via Zoom owing to the global COVID pandemic.

In all, between 129 and 170 devices were tuned into the programme. This does not mean 170 people were in the Zoom platform because some families may have been using one device, or a person might use more than one device.

The participants were allowed to ask questions and make comments after each speaker. Those who attended enjoyed the programme (according to the feedback) and requested that this should be an annual programme. The next Singles' Enrichment programme is scheduled for 30 July 2022.

Ofori Dwumah

UPDATES AND REQUESTS

This month I was able to send £250 to Pakistan for Bibles and £150 to Strasbourg to help after their horrific floods. Many thanks to all who gave.

Reports are starting to



Naeem Sabir teaching Wednesday evening class in Pakistan

come in of persecution of Christian believers in Afghanistan. It is possible that some have already been murdered. Christians have to worship in secret and will be hunted. Please pray for believers in countries like this where Christianity cannot be expressed publicly. Thank you.

I have been asked if anyone knows of the current situation in Haiti. Please let me know.

Trevor Williams

We note with thankfulness the life of **Bill Tankersley** who served the churches in the London area for several years with his wife Cookie. A loving servant of God for whom we are thankful.

-Trevor



A view of the Bible lands

The Sea of Galilee

The Sea of Galilee is a large lake in northern Israel. And, as lakes go, it really is large: it is 13 miles (21 km) from north to south and 8.1 miles (13 km) from east to west. It has a maximum depth of 141 feet (43 metres). There are no lakes in the mainland of the United Kingdom that are that large. The largest lake in England by surface area is Windermere (5.69 square miles). In Scotland the largest is Loch Lomond (27.45 square miles).

The Sea of Galilee comes in at 64.4 square miles. Northern Ireland, though, has one which is larger: Lough



Neagh (147.87 square miles).

On both trips we have made to the Bible

lands we stayed in Tiberias on the western shore of the Sea of Galilee. It is very pleasant to walk along the front along the lake.

The lake features very much in the

accounts of Jesus' life. He made Capernaum central to his teaching, which is on the northern shore of the lake. We read of voyages and storms on the lake as well as fishing, which still goes on today. Tour groups are given a meal of 'Saint Peter's fish', fish caught in the Sea of Galilee – and the fish is tilapia.

A visit to the Sea of Galilee would not be complete with being able to sail on the lake. The boats used are supposed to be based on boats which have been used on



A VIEW OF THE BIBLE LANDS



the lake for over a thousand years. Sailing tours either begin or end at the Yigal Allon Centre. On display in this centre is the hull of a boat that was found in 1986 when the water level of the lake was low. It has been dated to between the first century BC and first century AD, which places it at the time of Jesus. It has been carefully preserved and is thought to be the type of boat the disciples who were fishermen would have used.

Many Biblical sites are within view of the Sea of Galilee: Capernaum has already been mentioned, but we could include the Mount of Beatitudes, Magdala (where Mary was from), the Church of the Heptapegon (where many think Jesus fed the 5000), Kursi (where the demons were cast into the pigs), and Tabgha (where Jesus cooked breakfast on the beach for the disciples).

Although artists depict the Sea of Galilee with white sandy beaches, I have yet to see one. The shore is made up of pebbles and stones, the majority of which is black basalt.

We have been fortunate to see all types of weather on the Sea of Galilee, from calm water to a very windy storm which created the waves on the Sea which we sing about with the children.

Today the water level of the lake is lower than it was in Bible times. This is due to

the water being used for irrigation in Galilee. This region is where most of the crops in Israel are grown. There is good rainfall in this area which makes the surrounding countryside not the brown, dusty, wilderness of Judea but a green, lush, pleasant land.

This beautiful area of Israel is where Jesus spent the majority of his life. It truly is a green and pleasant land.

Jon Galloway



*Encouraging One Another
Tuesday, 21st September
10.00–11.30 am on Zoom
Thoughts from Tony Coffey
& Mike Heinemeier
plus prayer and discussion*

Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86094263539?pwd=aHptL0kZmpneidsYfPU3d2em9sQT09>
*Meeting ID: 860 9426 3539
Passcode: Edify*



415
Also came into E'-gypt: and Ja'-ed in the land of Ham.
Increased his people greatly: and stronger than their enemies.
Ed their heart to hate his people, to ed with his servants.
Used to Free Israel
Mo'-ses his servant; and Aa'-ron d chosen.

416
sake, that he might make his mighty power to be known.
9 He rebuked the Red sea also, and it was dried up, so he led them through the depths, through the wilderness.
10 And he saved them from the hand of him that hated them, and redeemed them from the hand of the enemy.
11 And the waters covered them, and there was not one of them left.

417
they sacrificed unto the idols of Ca'-na-an: and the land was polluted with blood.
39 Thus were they defiled with their own works, and went a whoring with their own in-ventions.

God's Wrath and Mercy
40 Therefore was the wrath of the LORd kindled against his people, insomuch that he ab-
shed against his people, insomuch that he ab-
shed their own inheritance.

NOTICES

Online Bible Classes with the British Bible School

For twelve weeks commencing
5th July 2021

www.britishbibleschool.com

Trusting the Teacher

... taking him at his word

Autumn Weekend Family Retreat

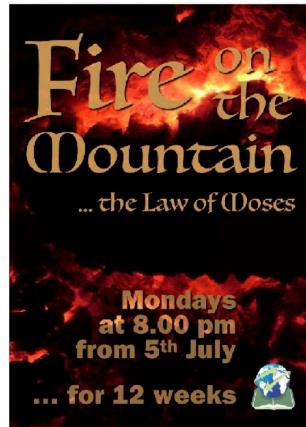
Friday, 17th to Sunday, 19th
September 2021

at Letton Hall
in Norfolk



www.britishbibleschool.com

Mondays at 8.00 pm

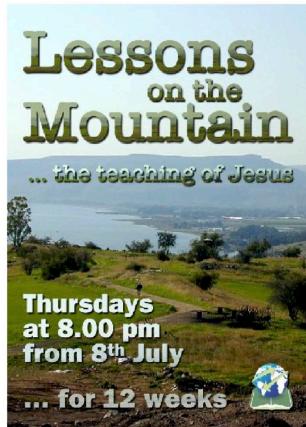


At the foot of a mountain in a remote desert, a nation of liberated slaves received a law and entered into a covenant with their God, the only God.

Thousands of years later, the influence of that law is still felt ...

Presenter: David Chapman

Thursdays at 8.00 pm



One of the most profound and life-changing texts, this section of the Gospel of Matthew has so much to say of the daily walk of the disciple of Jesus.

Considered by many to be something of a manifesto of the kingdom of God ...

Presenter: Patrick Boyns

Bassenfell Manor, Bassenthwaite, Lake District
Monday, 1st to Friday, 5th November 2021

Three full days of study and reflection away from the cares of life

- Delightful accommodation, good food and decent company
- All-inclusive cost: £150 per student

For full details visit our website: www.britishbibleschool.com

ACTS

British Bible School
Autumn Study Week

Bassenfell Manor, Bassenthwaite, Lake District
Monday, 1st to Friday, 5th November 2021

Three full days of study and reflection away from the cares of life

- Delightful accommodation, good food and decent company
- All-inclusive cost: £150 per student

This module begins to examine this key New Testament book within the context of God's purpose for mankind. The mission implications for the student are immense as the good news of Jesus continues to be taken across cultural boundaries throughout the world.

For full details visit our website: www.britishbibleschool.com



DIARY

September

2nd-23rd September – British Bible School: Evening Online Class – “Lessons on the Mountain – the teachings of Jesus” (taught by Patrick Boyns), each Thursday at 8.00 pm. Please see British Bible School website for details (<http://britishbibleschool.com/news-and-events/online-events>).

4th – Great Barr (Birmingham): Fellowship Day, 10.00 am-3.30 pm. Theme: Abundant Life In Christ (John.10:1-10). Lesson 1: Abundant Life in Christ through His Love & Sacrifice (John 10: 7-18, 25-30) – Stephen Woodcock (Shepshed). Lesson 2: Abundant Life in Christ through His Humility & Service (John 13:1-17) – Adam Barr (Cumbernauld). Zoom ID: 879 9050 1513; Password: 484833. The Zoom link opens as from 9:45 am. Contact: Sola Adeosun (sola.adeosun@gmail.com).

6th-20th September – British Bible School: Evening Online Class – “Fire on the Mountain – the Law of Moses” (taught by David Chapman), each Monday at 8.00 pm. Please see British Bible School website for details (<http://britishbibleschool.com/news-and-events/online-events>).

11th – Great Barr (Birmingham): An Evening of Prayer and Psalms, 7.00 pm. Contact: Sola Adeosun (sola.adeosun@gmail.com).

17th-19th – British Bible School Family Retreat at Letton Hall: “Trusting the Teacher...taking him at his word”. Please visit our website at: <http://britishbibleschool.com/news-and-events/upcoming-events/letton-hall-family-retreat-2021> and complete the Registration Form online. A deposit of £10 per person is required on booking, with full payment due by 3rd September 2021.

21st – Encouraging One Another: Zoom meeting, 10.00 am-11.30 am; speakers: Tony Coffey & Mike Heinemeier (plus prayer and discussion). Venue: Zoom <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86094263539?pwd=aHptL01kZmpnejdsYjFPU3d2em9sQT09> (Meeting ID: 860 9426 3539, Passcode: Edify). Contact: Tony Coffey (tonycoffey@gmail.com) or Jon Galloway (jdgalloway@mac.com).

21st September-14th December – BBS Online Module: “From Eden to Egypt”, 7.30-9.30 each Tuesday evening. Teachers: Jon Galloway & Mark Hill. For further information and to register for the module: <http://britishbibleschool.com/biblical-studies/online-extension-programme>. Contact: Patrick Boyns (study@britishbibleschool.com).

24th September – British Bible School: Weekly Friday Evening Quiz on Zoom resumes, 8.00 pm. Quiz master: Steve Whitehead. Please see British Bible School website for details (<http://britishbibleschool.com/news-and-events/online-events>).

25th – Liverpool: Gospel Meeting – “Finding God” (Matthew 11:28-30), speaker: Wayne Pascall, 7.00 pm. Zoom Meeting ID: 970 213 6444. Contact: Charles Yankiah (07891 262910 or cyankiah@hotmail.com).

27th & 30th September – British Bible School: New Evening Online Classes begin. Mondays: “Gospel of Matthew” (taught by Jack Paton); Thursdays: “Paul’s second letter to the Corinthians” (taught by John Griffiths). Both classes are at 8.00 pm and will continue for 12 weeks. Please see British Bible School website for details (<http://britishbibleschool.com/news-and-events/online-events>).

October

29th-30th – Peterborough: Ladies’ Retreat on Zoom: “Getting Through While You Are Going Through”, 7.00-10.00 pm. <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8540976249?pwd=SnpodmRwejRWR2p5YUdBRGhGYk9GQT09> (Zoom Meeting ID: 854 097 6249 Passcode: sc2020). Contact: Marsha Erysthee (merysthee1@aol.com).

30th – Liverpool: Gospel Meeting – “Finding God” (Matthew 11:28-30), speaker: Steve Lusk, 7.00 pm. Zoom Meeting ID: 970 213 6444. Contact: Charles Yankiah (07891 262910 or cyankiah@hotmail.com).

November

1st-5th – British Bible School Autumn Study Week at Bassenthwaite Manor: Acts. Teachers: Patrick Boyns, Jon Galloway, Mark Hill, and Jack Paton. Cost: £150 all inclusive. For further information and registration form: <http://britishbibleschool.com/news-and-events/upcoming-events/autumn-study-week-2021>.

December

11th – Great Barr (Birmingham): An Evening of Prayer and Psalms, 7.00 pm. Contact: Sola Adeosun (sola.adeosun@gmail.com).



THE FINAL WORD



The Greatest Race on Earth

Did you enjoy seeing the opening of the Olympics in Japan recently? This week I watched the opening of the Paralympic Games and was thrilled at the heroism of so many men and women who were determined to overcome whatever physical disabilities they have. I sat in front of the television and saw Olympians with arms missing or legs amputated, people in wheelchairs, the blind, the disfigured and I cheered and cried at the same time. Tears poured down my face as I saw the bravery and tenacity of these people. I cheered them on in the hopes that every one of them would prove to be a champion even if they did not gain a medal. I even thought of my own self and thought that my aches and pains were nothing compared with these valiants that we saw. One of the commentators reported that those entering the stadium did not consider themselves as disabled, they

were there to do the very best they could and wanted to enjoy the occasion.

It has been a long time since I ran but alongside my brothers and sisters in Christ I am running and so are they. We are all running the race and we can all win the prize (1 Corinthians 9:24-27). We are all fighting the good fight of faith (1 Timothy 6:12). We are all taking hold of eternal life.

It is a struggle at times. Life seems more like a battle than a joyful holiday. So often we go one step ahead only to be pushed back two steps. We pray and do not hear the voice of God. We study often without understanding the Scripture. We sing the praises of God and it seems the sound goes nowhere.

We are like the Olympians who get up early in the morning and train for hours on end, day after day, strengthening our bodies, being prepared and taking time to be better today than we were yesterday. Day after day after day, the journey and walk with Christ is never ending until we reach our home. A home prepared for us by the crucified and resurrected Saviour of mankind. Then we are crowned with the crown of life and we stand alongside Jesus and hear the anthems of Heaven sung. Then we shall hear the crowds of witnesses roar in praise and thanksgiving.

So together we fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith. With all of this we will not grow weary or lose heart because we are in the greatest race on earth.

Trevor

