



ALLANDER EVANGELICAL CHURCH

FELLOWSHIP NEWSLETTER

4TH MAY, 2020

Hello Everyone

Another month, another week of lockdown, and another newsletter.

The Mind-set that Matters

Drawing attention to the fact that one of the features of the current situation is the anxiety that people feel and express, wondering what is going to happen, why, for how long, etc, John powerfully reminded us of the principle that the way of thinking is critical to the way of living.

That is clearly manifest in the world where, currently, its traditional values, such as possessions, position, and lifestyle, are being challenged and shown to be a 'house of straw'.

What of the Christian? Should we not be thinking differently from the way the world thinks? The Bible clearly thinks so and has much to say about the importance of the mind and 'thinking Christianly'; seeing things '*from God's point of view*', '*having this mind-set in you that was in Christ Jesus*'.

Romans 12's: "*Be not conformed to this world but be transformed by the renewing of your mind*", like the Philippians 2: 5 exhortation, is not only addressed to the individual believer but to the church as an entity so that what should be our guiding principle in the present (and any) circumstance is: What is God's purpose in all of this? What is God saying? How does God want me / us to respond and live? That means turning from what comes naturally, to a deliberate adoption of Christ's mind-set as evidenced in the Incarnation when He humbled Himself knowing that what He was going through was in pursuit of God's purpose and glory.

Zoom Prayer meeting

Last week's Prayer Meeting was well 'attended' with over 30 people joining in and many taking part. No major technical hitches this week due to David Jack's excellent management, including making it possible for some to tune in by phone. It will continue DV on Tuesday evenings from 8 – 9pm with a new address, different from last week. The **new** access details are:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81920229424?pwd=ZjlwcWJpMzhKYS8rY01tU29sd0tkUT09>

ID: 819 2022 9424; Password: 047533

Telephone access: 0131 460 1196

(Please note this is a new ID and Password which will now remain relevant for future Prayer meetings)

Know Your Bible

Our Bible Study series on Getting to Know Your Bible will be launched this Thursday, 7th May at 7 pm for 30 – 40 minutes and on each evening, led by Howel. Access details are:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89984453732?pwd=MEV5MFhITGIRazJYbFh6WjZ5REZ6dz09>

ID: 899 8445 3732; Password: 005502

Telephone access: 0131 460 1196



Please Pray For

Mary Atwell who had a bad fall but is now back home from QEUH; David Jack now recovering from a throat infection; Joyce Kyle at the passing of a very close friend; Carol Macleod with continued problems with her feet; Liz Baxter with clinic visits. Also, people in Care Homes, Anne Wilson in Mugdock Care Home, Joyce Kyle in Almond View Care Home and Gordon Craig working in Milngavie Manor. Flora says: *They all need our prayers for protection at this difficult time.*

Shared experiences

Gordon Craig writes to say how blessed he has been through hearing a sermon on Habakkuk stressing that *"it is ok to bring our questions to God but that we need to wait for His answers. God is working His purpose out. Then I looked at Psalm 51 and noticed: the words: Create, Renew, and Restore. In this time my prayer is that God would do just that"*. And Margaret Stewart shares a verse from Psalm 91: *"They who live in the in the shelter of the Most High will dwell in the shadow of the Almighty"*

More from Inga

The course I am teaching is part of the MA programme in Language, Community and Development run jointly by Wycliffe Bible Translators and Moorlands College. The programme prepares people for a variety of different opportunities including Bible Translation. I teach the discourse course. It covers many issues relevant to Bible

translation, such as how does the reader know who is doing what to whom. Over the years of working with Mixtec I have learned a lot about how Mixtec functions. In Mixtec they like beginning sentences with 'and'. When there isn't an 'and' that shows it is the start of a new paragraph. Analysing texts provides insights that can then be transferred to Bible translation. For example, we would not want a section of the Gospels to begin 'Once upon a time'.

The 6 students are from four different countries: England, The Netherlands, Germany and Switzerland. Most of them have already spent time studying the language they are analysing during the course.

Teaching online is a new experience. In many ways it is not that different from teaching face-to-face. We are using Zoom for the teaching sessions, and also to give the students opportunity to ask questions as they work through their assignments.

Quarantine:

Q	Quiet your soul
U	Unite as one with God
A	Act with Godly love
R	Read your Bible
A	Activate your faith
N	Nourish your soul
T	Talk with God
I	Intercede for others
N	Nestle in the presence of God
E	Elevate God in worship

Finally

I have been pleasantly encouraged in recent days by the number of phone calls received from customers and colleagues asking after my physical welfare. Keeping in touch is even more important for Christians now that we cannot meet together in communal worship and fellowship. I was struck by 2 Timothy ch2 v22 in the New Living Translation, the second half of which reads *'Pursue faith and love and peace, and enjoy the companionship of those who call on the Lord with pure hearts'*. So keep up the phone calls, texts and e-mails so we can all enjoy the companionship of the Lord's people.

Ian Baird