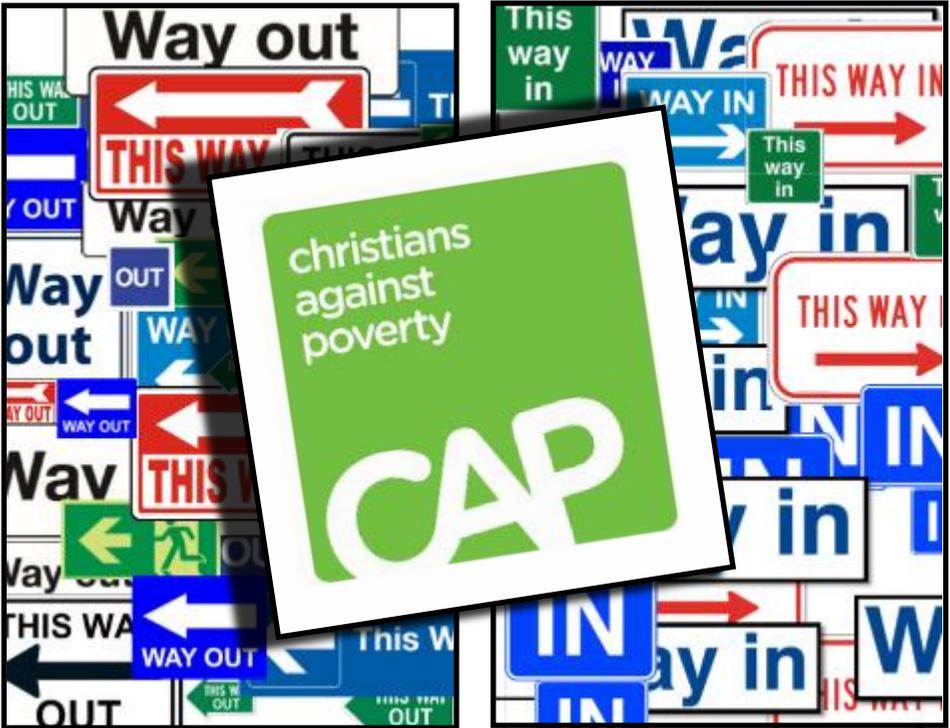


intouch



A Way Out and a Way In

South Parade's CAP Debt Centre, page 26

Over the last few years the “Step of Faith” column in this magazine has carried many stories from “ordinary” church members detailing the extraordinary things that God has done in their lives. Consistent through all of them is their testimony of the faithfulness of the Father in all situations. We’re grateful to Grace for allowing us to share her story this month (page 30). If you have a story to tell about how you came to know Jesus or about God’s hand in your life (and I’m sure we all do) and you want to share it with the church to encourage and inspire us, then contact the magazine via the email address below.

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Matthew Newman Editor

Informed, Involved, Inspired... Intouch!

Contributions to: magazine@spbc.org.uk or to the church office
Deadline for contributions: 20 July 2018
Next edition published: 5 August 2018

From the Ministry Team

A Day to Remember

Did you miss Ascension Day on 10 May? Paul Rockley looks at why we need to continue to reflect on the importance of Jesus's ascension.

It's a Public Holiday in over 30 countries like Germany, France and even the South Pacific island of Vanuatu. But not in the UK. It's right up there in the Church Calendar along with Christmas, Good Friday, Easter Sunday and Pentecost. But it's the least well-known and frequently neglected event in the Christian year. So let's remind ourselves of 10 reasons why Ascension Day is worth celebrating.



1 Because Jesus, God's Son, is joyfully reunited with His Father

Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. (Hebrews 12.2)

2 Because Jesus is crowned with glory

But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels, now crowned with glory and honour because He suffered death, so that by the grace of God He might taste death for everyone. (Hebrews 2.9)

3 Because Jesus' mission is accomplished

The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of His being, sustaining all things by His powerful word. After He had provided purification for sins, He sat down at the right hand of the Majesty in heaven. (Hebrews 1.3)

4 Because Jesus reigns over all

...which he exerted in Christ when He raised him from the dead and seated Him at his right hand in the heavenly realms, far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every title that can be given, not only in the present age but also in the one to come. (Ephesians 1.20-21)

5 Because Jesus is coming back in the same way He left

This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen Him go into heaven. (Acts 1.11)

6 Because Jesus sent the Holy Spirit to His followers

Exalted to the right hand of God, He has received from the Father the promised Holy Spirit and has poured out what you now see and hear. (Acts 2.33)

7 Because Jesus' work as a High Priest has begun

But because Jesus lives forever, He has a permanent priesthood. Therefore He is able to save completely those who come to God through Him, because He always lives to intercede for them. Such a high priest meets our need - one who is holy, blameless, pure, set apart from sinners, exalted above the heavens. (Hebrews 7.24-26)

I will come back and take you to be with Me that you also may be where I am

8 Because Jesus is preparing a heavenly home for His followers

In My Father's house are many rooms; if it were not so, I would have told you. I am going there to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with Me that you also may be where I am. (John 14.2-3)

9 Because Jesus gives gifts to His Church

He who descended is the very one who ascended higher than all the heavens, in order to fill the whole universe. It was He who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers, to prepare God's people for works of service. (Ephesians 4.10-12)

10 Because Jesus will share His throne with His followers

To those who overcome, I will give the right to sit with Me on My throne, just as I overcame and sat down with My Father on His throne. (Revelation 3.21)

Paul

Around the Church

Sent

At Sent, we continue to look for ways to engage with the community which surrounds our Headingley building.

In May, we hosted two creative writing workshops with A Quiet Word – a local performing arts company. During the workshops, we explored the themes of home and hospitality through discussion, creative writing and poetry.

Sent continues to look for ways to engage with the community in Headingley

In June, we will be participating with Leeds University Union's Leave Leeds Tidy campaign. As the name suggests, the campaign encourages students, when they move out in the summer, to leave Leeds tidy!

Students are able to drop off re-useable items to local collection points. These items will then be

sorted and help stock a Community Free Shop.

Donations can be made by local residents too! Items wanted include bedding, clothing, small electricals, furniture and kitchenalia. If you have any of these, you can drop them off on Sundays at either South Parade or St Michael's.

Nathan Shipley

Headingley

It has been an exciting couple of months, with plenty of events going on in the Church calendar relating to Easter. South Parade as a whole has played its part in these celebrations, not least with the Passover Meal that was shared in the upstairs hall on Maundy Thursday evening.

It was a tricky balancing act to pitch it as a family friendly event, due to the nature of there being a reasonable amount of explaining to be done; the significance of the various elements of the meal and

the associated accessories, such as the decorated cloth bag used for the piece of matzo which gets hidden for the children to find. Having said that, it is part of the tradition that the meal is shared by the whole family in Jewish culture, and children play their part in asking particular questions to which answers are given throughout the hours of the evening. It felt nice to have a sense of experiencing that culture, albeit as a Christian church family rather than an orthodox Jewish family.

*We are keen to encourage
new members to join the
Headingley Morning
leadership team*

A significant debt of gratitude is owed to those who spent their time in preparing the food that was shared on the evening, as well as to



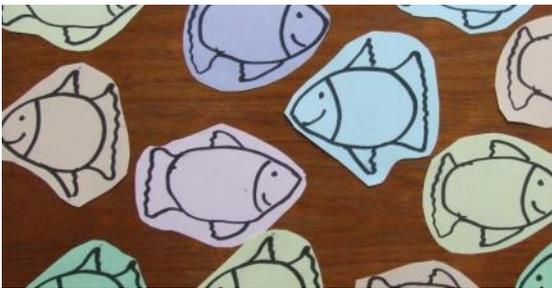
Richard Gibson from Christian Witness to Israel for his informative and entertaining explanation of the meal.

The Headingley Morning leadership team are considering the potential of making this an annual event, as there is scope for extending its appeal beyond our own congregation to the local community, other churches and those from non-faith backgrounds to participate in.

Talking of the Headingley Morning leadership team, it has recently reduced in size and we are very keen to encourage new members to join. Note that there is a distinction between those on the rota to lead worship on a Sunday morning and the leadership team.

The function of the leadership team is to support the ministry team by meeting once a month (on average) to focus on activities, pastoral matters and the direction relating to Headingley Morning congregation in particular. There are links to the Elders, Deacons and the Ministry Team through members of each attending the monthly leadership team meetings, which lends a sense that the team is larger than it technically is.

Through changes of circumstance



153 Fish at the Headingley Morning service on 8 April (John 21.11)

for a number of people, Scott and I are effectively the leadership team at the time of going to press, which is potentially a heavy burden to bear for a congregation of our size, although we do appreciate the support of Peter Morden and Paul Rockley from the Ministry Team. I must also thank Sue Ricketts, Robyn Savage and Rachel Geinda for their

support too.

There is no set constitutional number of members for the team. Anything between four and six seems to be a practical number and we are actively looking to broaden the range of cultural representation in the team, to reflect the make up of the mission community. Please do give prayerful consideration about whether you could actively support the work of the church in this way or encourage someone you know to become involved. Speak to Scott, Paul, Peter or me.

Finally on this theme, there are a couple of dates for your diaries

- On Monday 11 June, there will be a leadership team meeting, so please see Scott or me with any items that you would like us to consider.
- On Thursday 12 July, there is a Mission Community meeting planned. Specific details of times and agenda items will be publicised nearer the date but we would encourage you to make a commitment to engage with and support Headingley Mission Community through

this and subsequent meetings. They really are opportunities for us to collectively, prayerfully and proactively become a more Christ-like Mission Community.

Talking of community, and as indicated in the last edition of *Intouch*, we are planning the first of many regular bring-and-share lunches, this time to take place on 17 June. Weather permitting it will be in the form of a picnic in the grounds of Kirkstall Abbey. Plan B is the default option of “the hall”.

Part of the aim of these occasional lunches is to see real and meaningful cross-cultural integration develop within our Mission Community. One way in which this can be highlighted is for people to bring food that represents their cultural heritage. This can be on a global scale or regionally within the UK, or may be there is a dish which is specific to your family? Bring something along and be prepared to try something different and to talk to someone new.

Richard Sykes

Headingley MC Leadership Team

Christians in Politics

On Saturday 19 May, we handed over our Headingley building to

Christians in Politics is an organisation which seeks to encourage Christians to get involved in public life.

Christians in Politics for a date on The Influence Tour. Christians in Politics is an all-party, non-denominational organisation which seeks to encourage and inspire Christians to get involved in politics and public life.



The evening included a look at the theology behind political engagement, a panel who shared stories and perspectives from their experiences in public life and an interview with a Methodist Minister who has been arrested for direct action.

Below are a few comments from those who attended the evening:

- *“I thought it was a great evening and that it was incredibly beneficial. I for one will be joining a political party as a direct result!”*
- *“I am interested in politics anyway, so it was quite revealing. I liked the fact that Christians in the*

mainstream parties don't have the tribal barriers that we often see.”

- *“It was great to see a broad spread of political views and good to see people interested in setting up a Christians in Politics group in Leeds too.”*

For more information about Christians in Politics visit www.christiansinpolitics.org.uk

Nathan Shipley
Associate Pastor

...informed...

What's going on in your Mission Community, your homegroup or with something you're involved in at SPBC? Share news from your corner of the church. We'd love to hear about your latest events and plans so the whole church can pray for you. Email magazine@spbc.org.uk



...informed...

For service times, locations, Mission Communities, children's and student work, the weekly notice sheet, sermon downloads, this magazine and much more, go to the church website!

www.spbc.org.uk

*Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,
Let the earth hear His voice;
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,
Let the people rejoice;
O come to the Father, through Jesus the Son,
And give Him the glory; great things He hath done.*



Fanny Crosby

Giving Sunday

If you were at any of our services on 15 April or the two Sundays following, you would have been offered an A5 sized white envelope as you arrived.

Inside were several sheets of paper. These were:

- A letter from the church treasurer explaining how much it costs to provide current ministry and activities, and that South Parade is funded by its members, together with a relatively small amount of room letting income;
- A sheet with some Biblical references on why we should give to support the church;
- Various different ways to give to the church, and why we need to be able to identify giving if you are a taxpayer;
- A graph showing the spread of giving in 2017;
- A standing order form and Gift Aid Declaration (these were on lilac paper);
- A pink reply slip;

- And an envelope addressed to the church treasurer.

We asked you to prayerfully reconsider your giving because we have not done this for several years, and in 2018 for the third year in a row we have had to set a deficit budget.

We also rather ambitiously asked for replies by 1 May if possible, on the basis that if you don't deal with this immediately you may forget to do it at all.

We recorded the names of those who received the envelopes, because we thought we may have to post some out. We gave out nearly 200 packs but we have lots more if you missed out in April. We have not actually posted any packs, but if friends living outside Leeds and reading this article would like one, please email the treasurer and it will be sent.

By 24 May I had received 67 replies;

*The extra giving will fund
the deficit in the budget.
We are immensely grateful
to God and to you for this
commitment.*

some of these were increases in standing order rather than a pink slip in an envelope. 49 givers have increased their annual commitment. There are 11 totally new givers. The annual increase in giving is nearly £33,000, and if you add Gift Aid, since many of these givers pay tax, this increases to £40,000.

We are immensely grateful to God and to you for this commitment. This will fund the deficit in the 2018 budget. Thank you very much indeed.

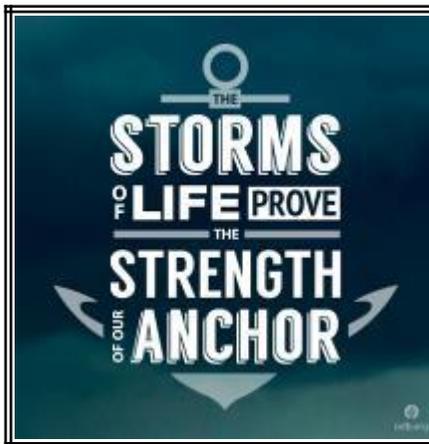
If you have not replied yet, please

do not think it is too late. I will welcome the little envelopes whenever they come in. And do not think that the need to consider your giving has passed now we have met the deficit in the 2018 budget. We had already cut £35,000 expenditure, mostly on mission in the UK and overseas, before I presented the budget. We would like to be able to return our contributions to Home Mission and BMS to the 2017 level.

Finally, I'll just reassure you that I don't receive a penny from South Parade for acting as treasurer; it takes on average 12 hours per week, and I have just received a pay rise at work so I will be increasing my giving by £5 per month from June.

Katharine Widdowson

Church Treasurer
treasurer@spbc.org.uk



The Anchor in the Storm

Listen to Jane Waites's sermon on the storm in Acts 27 given at Headingley on 27 May by visiting the resources section of the church website www.spbc.org.uk

BMS World News

Helping Children in India to Thrive

Thanks to your gifts to BMS World Mission, a school on the street in Kolkata is providing children with an education, teaching them the skills they need to succeed.

Tens of thousands of children live day and night on the streets of Kolkata. They have no access to education or healthcare, and are often forced into begging or selling alcohol to survive.

But underneath a bridge in the bustling city, something amazing is happening. Fifty children who call



the streets their home are getting to go to school. The BMS-supported team teaches the children reading, writing and arithmetic – lessons from the government kindergarten syllabus. And once they're ready, we help get the children into government schools.

We want more children to receive a quality education. Our team is working hard to set up a second school.

Nawab was begging outside a horse racing track when the BMS-supported Street Servants met him. After talking with his parents, the team invited Nawab to come to the street school, along with his two sisters. He excelled. Thanks to the school, Nawab's life has changed dramatically. Along with eight other children who were taught by BMS-supported teachers in Kolkata, he's now in a government school, getting a

full education. Nawab is studying his way out of poverty, thanks to you.

We want more children like Nawab to receive a quality education, and our team is working hard to set up a second school. “We want to see more children get into government schools,” says BMS worker Ben Francis. “We want more communities changed, and more families leaving the streets.”

“I just want to say thank you to everyone in the UK,” says Ben. “You’re enabling underprivileged children to touch love, and helping us show Jesus’ love in the most tangible way that people will understand.”

Pray for the children in the street school, that they would continue to learn and get an education. Pray for the teachers and volunteers too.

A Tale of Two Villages

Boreholes that you funded are providing clean water for hundreds of people in northern Uganda, preventing illness and transforming communities.

Today, there are over 663 million people living without a safe water supply close to home. When faced with an issue this big, sometimes you have to start small, working in village after village, providing safe water and preventing disease until one day, everyone has access. And that’s exactly what BMS World Mission is doing.

In northern Uganda, the main borehole in Abwoch village was contaminated, and in Pajaa the nearest clean source for the community was half an hour’s walk away – most families had to make two to five trips per day.

Thanks to your support, this is no longer the case. BMS has drilled boreholes in both these villages, providing over 350 people with



clean water.

BMS environmental consultant Tim Darby gathered the community together in each village, and they decided where the boreholes would be drilled.

In the space of seven days, the two boreholes were built. The villagers were taught hygiene skills, and elected a committee to help with maintenance and ensure the water remained clean.

Your support for BMS work in Uganda is providing safe water to hundreds, preventing disease and saving lives

Charles Opiro, part of the borehole committee in Pajaa, says that people have not been sick from water related diseases since the new water pump was built, as now they don't have to drink from puddles or dirty lakes.

And it's not just about the clean water. The boreholes are providing new economic opportunities, too. Charles' neighbour takes her goods to the market, as she now doesn't have to spend all her time collecting water anymore.

Your support for BMS work in Uganda is providing safe water to hundreds, preventing disease and saving lives. It's transforming the way villages in northern Uganda live. "I just want to say thank you," says Tim. "You've enabled so many people to access clean water already. We're so grateful."

Four Reasons Why You Should Serve With BMS

Choosing to serve with BMS World Mission could be the most incredible step you ever take. If you're wondering if God can use you overseas, here are four reasons why you should push that door and find out more.

- **You'll help transform lives around the world in the name of Jesus.**

When you serve with BMS, you get the chance to show people what Christ's love feels like, and looks like. It will be one of the most beautiful things you'll ever do. From accountants to doctors, our workers are bringing life in all its fullness to some of the world's most marginalised people – and you can join them.

- **You'll join an amazing,**

global team.

This is one of the very best parts of serving overseas with BMS. The people you work alongside are some of the most passionate, wonderful Christians you could ever hope to meet. They are our fellow workers and partners overseas. They're the World Church. They're our brothers and sisters, and you will learn so much from them.

- **You'll be well prepared.**

Language studies. Living in community. Biblical and mission training. We will help you with it all, overseas and at our mission training and hospitality centre. You'll learn about God, you'll learn about yourself, and you'll be disciplined for service in another culture.



- **We take security and your welfare very seriously.**

We have someone on hand 24 hours a day, seven days a week, ready to answer your call in an emergency. We have protocols for evacuation and kidnapping should either situation ever arise, and measures to protect your identity in sensitive countries. Mission can be dangerous, but we're risk-aware, not risk averse.

To read more reasons why you should consider serving with BMS, head to:

**www.bmsworldmission.org
10reasons**

We have plenty of opportunities to work overseas with us. You can find all our vacancies by heading to www.bmsworldmission.org/opportunities

Jesus, undeterred, went right ahead and gave his charge: "God authorised and commanded me to commission you: Go out and train everyone you meet, far and near, in this way of life, marking them by baptism in the threefold name: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Then instruct them in the practice of all I have commanded you. I'll be with you as you do this, day after day after day, right up to the end of the age."

Matthew 28.19-20 (The Message)

Communicating Consent

GDPR at SPBC

In the last edition of *Intouch* we mentioned **GDPR** (or the **General Data Protection Regulation 2016**). I'm sure you will have now had umpteen emails on the subject and we must apologise for adding one from **SPBC** to that list.

If you or a church friend have not received an email entitled "SPBC Privacy Policy" please contact Charles Fletcher (secretary@spbc.org.uk) and he will arrange for the email to be sent to you. If you are not electronically enabled appropriate alternate action can be arranged.

If you have received the email and:

- **Confirmed that you have read the Privacy Note** – thank you; there is no real need to read this article any further unless perhaps you are suffering from insomnia or have a geeky interest in what is a pretty boring subject.



- **Don't want to continue as part of the SPBC family** – we're sorry; we'll miss you, and we'll be removing any information we hold about you according to our data-retention policy. If you need further details there's a link to the policy in the email, we must apologise that it's not an exciting read or the next blockbuster.

Sensitive information will be stored securely and only accessible to authorised people. It will not be disclosed to anyone else without your consent.

- **Haven't got around to reading it yet** – please do that now, yes now; technology permitting, it takes less than five minutes and it will really help us in our

(Continued on page 18)

GDPR: The identity & contact details of the data controller & data protection officer

English: Data-controllers say how data is stored and processed - at SPBC these are the trustees (ie the elders). The Data protection officer is a new role under GDPR and responsible for compliance - currently this is the church secretary who can be contacted by email: dpo@spbc.org.uk

GDPR: Purpose of the processing & the lawful basis for that processing

English: We collect contact information to enable the church to keep in touch with you and provide pastoral-support. Additional “legitimate purposes” (eg rota preparation, event organisation, safeguarding etc) are described in the Data Protection Policy and are required to help all aspects of church life to run smoothly.

GDPR: Any recipient or categories of recipients of the personal data

English: Any of the Ministers, members of staff, or volunteers may receive your personal information. Information regarded as sensitive (eg health, financial, convictions, etc) will be stored securely and only accessible to authorised people. It will NOT be disclosed to anyone else without your consent.

GDPR: Details of transfers to third country and safeguards

English: We don't send your information to people overseas, but we do need to tell you that some information may be stored on computers that are not located in the UK (eg the so-called “cloud”). We have looked to see that the organisations running these computers have adequate protection for holding personal data.

GDPR: The existence of each data subject's rights

English: Every person as a data subject can ask to see any information we hold about you (including pastoral support information). If that information is incorrect you can ask for it to be corrected.

GDPR: The right to lodge a complaint with a supervisory authority

English: If you do not agree with how we hold or process your information you can formally complain - speak to our Data Protection Officer or you can contact the Information Commissioners Office.

(Continued from page 16)

need to comply with GDPR. Lack of compliance could lead to big fines for trustees, raiding their piggy-banks would be unlikely to be enough.

- **Are not sure what the Privacy note means** – we’re sorry; we have tried to keep it as clear as possible. On page 17 are some “simple English” explanations of what GDPR requires us to say about how your information is processed.

Please be assured that, beyond some additional security measures, we are not changing how we process your data or what we do with it. We do not and will not be selling on contact details or other information to third parties like charities, the government,

or even West African princes who say they will give you millions.

GDPR may be the current “big thing” but with your prompt responses hopefully it will soon become as unremarkable and as much business-as-usual as Accident Reporting or Fire Drill tests.

Extra work has been created by GDPR but it is there to help control things like nuisance calls for PPI or Accident claims. It therefore also requires us all to be careful with each other’s data – think about what you post on Facebook or WhatsApp; it’s great to wish people Happy Birthday but who might use that date-of-birth for malicious purposes?

James Ricketts

Deacon

...informed...

Still need to find out more? Email dpo@spbc.org.uk or ask any relevant questions or comments to James Ricketts, Mark Vipin, Adrian Howe or Charles Fletcher who will be happy to try and answer any questions even if they wish that they’d never heard the four letters of GDPR used in that order.



Read All About It

*“Prayers for the sick may breach GDPR, Church fears”
Daily Telegraph Headline 25 May 2018*

Prayer Diary



June - July 2018



JUNE

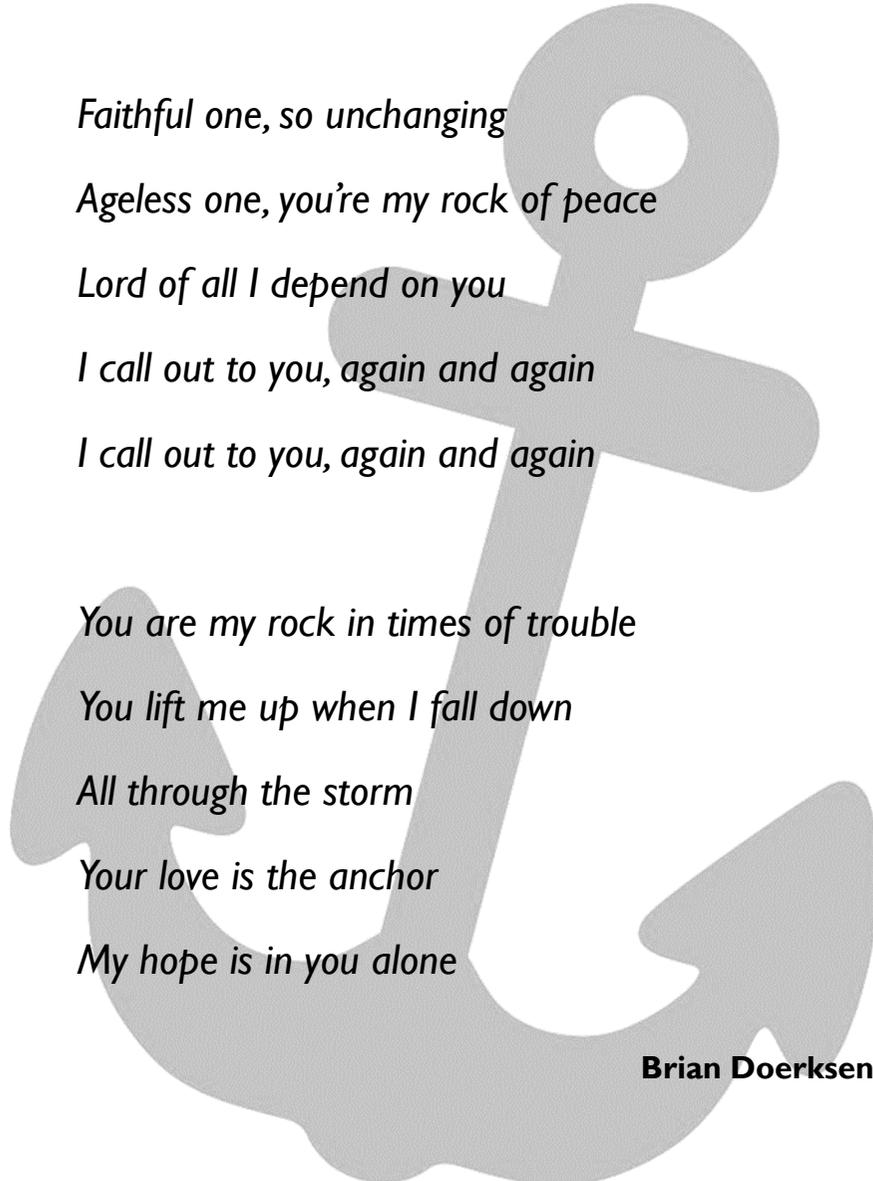
Sun	3	The Ministry Team
Mon	4	Anne Morden
Tue	5	The June Project this week
Wed	6	Your Mission Community Leadership Team
Thu	7	The Arabic Christian Fellowship
Fri	8	Your neighbours
Sat	9	Your homegroup, small group or cell group leader
Sun	10	The Outdoor Service at Headingley today
Mon	11	The Christianity Explored course
Tue	12	Rooted
Wed	13	Your friends and family who don't know Jesus
Thu	14	Local and National leaders
Fri	15	The church office
Sat	16	Our friend returning from North Africa this month
Sun	17	The Alpha course at Cragg

Pull out and use!

Mon	18	Heather McLeen
Tue	19	Colin & Jill Jones and their work with the church in Normandy
Wed	20	Geoff King
Thu	21	People who have been baptized recently
Fri	22	The Deacons
Sat	23	Nathan Shipley
Sun	24	Junior Church leaders and helpers
Mon	25	Kate Burkett
Tue	26	Sam and Katie
Wed	27	Jane Waites
Thu	28	The "School Kit" course in the Green House this evening
Fri	29	Paul Rockley
Sat	30	The Sent away day
JULY		
Sun	1	Levi Booth now on home assignment
Mon	2	Young People meeting in Cell Groups
Tue	3	Kate Churchill
Wed	4	Tim Jackson and his role as UCCF Relay Worker
Thu	5	Teddy Praise and Play
Fri	6	ABC Coffee Shop
Sat	7	The Walk of Art in Horsforth this weekend
Sun	8	Connect Mission Community
Mon	9	Andrew Bedingham and the work of the CAP centre
Tue	10	Missionaries with BMS World Mission
Wed	11	TLG mentors working with children in schools

Thu	12	St George's Crypt
Fri	13	The Joanna Project
Sat	14	Those in hospital or waiting for treatment
Sun	15	Headingley Morning Mission Community
Mon	16	Retired people in the church
Tue	17	Cragg Mission Community
Wed	18	Work with children and young people across the church
Thu	19	Sent Mission Community
Fri	20	Connect Bible Club
Sat	21	Transformations Leeds
Sun	22	Preachers and worship leaders in all Mission Communities
Mon	23	Peter Morden
Tue	24	Katharine Widdowson, church treasurer
Wed	25	Chris Gnanakan
Thu	26	Charles Fletcher, church secretary
Fri	27	Your Mission Community
Sat	28	All those who've lost loved ones recently
Sun	29	St George's Crypt
Mon	30	All of South Parade's Mission Communities
Tue	31	Leeds Faith in Schools
AUGUST		
Wed	1	The YBA and churches across Yorkshire on Yorkshire Day
Thu	2	The Elders
Fri	3	Caring for Life
Sat	4	The Ministry Team

Faithful One



*Faithful one, so unchanging
Ageless one, you're my rock of peace
Lord of all I depend on you
I call out to you, again and again
I call out to you, again and again*

*You are my rock in times of trouble
You lift me up when I fall down
All through the storm
Your love is the anchor
My hope is in you alone*

Brian Doerksen

Consumers or Stewards?

Our Response to Environmental Issues

Richard Sykes shares his thoughts on an environmental issue that came to his attention and asks questions about how God wants us to be involved in our response to such matters.

A little while ago I was browsing my Facebook feed, as you do when you have a few minutes to kill, and a Greenpeace petition popped up in the items, to which I responded. It was one of those things that, when you've seen it you think, "How can I not have been aware of this before?":

Deforestation in Indonesia for the production of palm oil.

The photographs in the article accompanying the survey were well chosen to show the devastation caused by the process of clearing the natural vegetation and habitats, to be replaced by industrial sized palm oil plantations. These plantations are resource hungry and the commercial lifespan of an oil palm is

typically 25 years. If the plantations are not managed responsibly, the consequence is that more natural habitat is routinely sacrificed in the search for new areas to grow oil palms on an enormous scale.

Another alarming feature of the article was that in 2014 some big consumer goods manufacturing brands had signed up to Greenpeace's commitment to only use responsibly produced palm oil. However, almost two years later, they reported:

In December 2015, Greenpeace surveyed 14 global consumer goods manufacturers with 'no deforestation' policies in place, including snack food, confectionary and personal care companies. We wanted to understand the practical actions that these companies are taking to implement their policies, and the impact those actions are having on the ground in Indonesia. The responses we received reveal there is a considerable amount of work to be done before companies have deforesta-



tion-free supply chains.

None of the companies we surveyed are able to say with any certainty that there is no deforestation in their palm oil supply chain. Most companies are unable even to say how much of their palm oil comes from suppliers that comply with their own sourcing standards. Furthermore, only one of the 14 companies surveyed – Ferrero – can trace nearly 100% of its palm oil back to the plantation it is grown on. At the other end of the spectrum, Colgate-Palmolive has a policy that excludes deforestation across multiple commodities, not just palm oil.

However, there is weak evidence that its palm oil is deforestation-free. Colgate remains reliant on GreenPalm certificates, which do nothing to ensure that the palm oil it buys is not linked to deforestation. Colgate cannot trace any of its palm oil back to the plantation, and even though more than half of its palm oil is traceable to the mill, that is insufficient progress when compared with other companies in the sector. Colgate does not disclose any information about its suppliers, nor has it joined any industry transformation initiatives.

An investigation in early 2018, again by Greenpeace International, re-

veals that a palm oil supplier to Mars, Nestlé, PepsiCo and Unilever is destroying rainforests in Papua, Indonesia. Satellite analysis suggests that around 4,000ha of rainforest were cleared between May 2015 and April 2017 – an area almost half the size of Paris.

*God isn't satisfied with
us passing the buck.
We can be more informed
in making choices about
how the Earth's resources
are used.*

Inevitably, I received a follow-up phone call from Greenpeace, asking for financial support. During the conversation with the representative I made the following observation: The subject of the information above seems to fit into a phenomenon of modern western culture – consumerism. Since the sugar plantations of the 18th to the early 20th centuries, the western world has become adept at creating demands and manipulating the markets. Since the advent of TV advertising and increased understanding of psychology we, the consumers, are subjected to clever use of information. Recent programs on TV have highlighted other areas of concern relating to promotion of unhealthy food / drink, increasing reli-

ance on drugs and issues relating to waste plastics.

With so much misinformation being forced upon us, it is difficult to make educated choices about what we consume. It is even more difficult to know how to go about making a positive difference to global situations. One option is to support organisations like Greenpeace, either financially or by raising their profile through social media (or both). Boycotting brands that use irresponsible supply chain practices is a strategy employed by some, but this method does not communicate anything back to those companies and can lead to situations deteriorating further.

I am pretty certain that I have always thought that God gave us (humans) responsibility to look after the planet he created for us to in-

habit. With the information that industries feed to us, it is possible for us to remain unaware of the consequences of their actions on our behalf. However, taking the example of Adam and Eve, I am also pretty certain that God isn't satisfied with us passing the buck. In this day and age, we can be more informed and better educated to make choices about how the Earth's resources are used. Surely, our relationship with the Earth is a reflection of our relationship with God, demanding some effort and discipline on our part?

Individual choice matters and a collective voice can make a difference. As the advertisers tell us, we should “believe in better” and “every little helps”.

Richard Sykes

Headingley Morning Mission Community



A Way Out and a Way In

The CAP Debt Centre

One of the many exciting, outward-looking activities happening across South Parade Baptist Church is our CAP Debt Centre. In recognition of how reliant any missional activity is on the prayer and support of the church it is run by, this is the first of a series of articles written to connect you with everything God is doing through South Parade's Debt Centre and how you can support it practically and prayerfully.

Let's start with the basics: What is a CAP Debt Centre?



Run in partnership with Christians Against Poverty (CAP) a CAP Debt Centre is an opportunity for a church to connect with struggling households in its community. People in debt can book to receive a home visit from one of our trained Debt Coaches (currently Steve Fairhall - soon to be joined by Tim Rowe!) and be given free support to become debt free. CAP Head Office come up with a plan to help clients out of debt through repayment or insolvency/bankruptcy and, together with the Debt Coach, present this in an easy to understand way.

South Parade launched the Leeds North West Debt Centre with CAP in 2014 and today it is fully booked with families who need our

No amount of financial burden-lifting can compare to the experience of coming to know Jesus

help. Practical support for the poor and needy is a key calling on Christians as we seek to follow Jesus' compassionate example.

However, if we stopped at debt help we would be seriously short-changing each person we engage with through the Debt Centre! People are inviting representatives of the local church into their homes and seeing Christ's love in action. What an opportunity that is to explicitly share the Gospel! No amount of financial burden-lifting can compare to the experience of coming to know Jesus, and South Parade enjoys opportunities to pray with and share testimony with households across Leeds through the Debt Centre.



We need your prayers to help us be bold in evangelism on our visits and grasp every opportunity we get to talk about our incredible God. Please also pray for wisdom and

compassion as we meet with some of the most vulnerable and marginalised across North West Leeds.

We will share some stories with you in our next update, as well as further great opportunities for you to use your skills and time to support this vital work. But for now, please pray.

Bethany Cowling

Headingley Morning Mission Community / CAP

...informed...

If you would like to receive the regular prayer emails, please email bethanycowling@capuk.org

*We must go
Live to feed the hungry
Stand beside the broken
We must go
Stepping forward
Keep us from just singing
Move us into action
We must go*



Tim Hughes, God of Justice

Poetry to Ponder

Himself

Pat Dagleish recommended the poem on the opposite page by A B Simpson that she came across through her Bible reading notes.

Albert Benjamin Simpson (1843-1919) was one of the most important Christian workers of his day. He was an ardent soul-winner and was active in

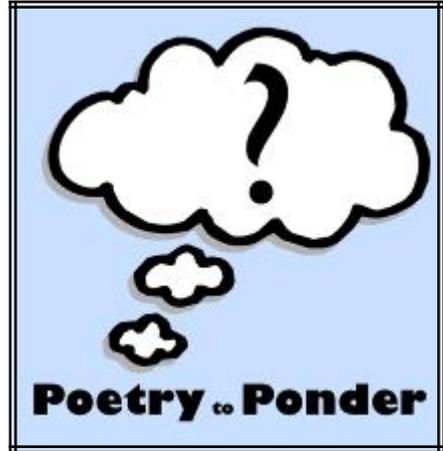


A B Simpson

raising up new believers and in training Christian workers.

He began his service as a Presbyterian minister, but later resigned after realising the inherent frustra-

tions in trying to serve the Lord within the denominational framework. He wrote over 70 books on the Bible and the Christian life. His many hymns and poems are full of inspiration and truth. He was the founder of the Christian and Missionary Alliance.



...inspired...

If you've come across a poem that inspired you, send it to magazine@spsc.org.uk to share it with the whole church.

Read All About It

"Church of England offers prayers read by Amazon's Alexa"
BBC News Headline 24 May 2018

Himself

*Once it was the blessing, Now it is the Lord;
Once it was the feeling, Now it is His Word.
Once His gifts I wanted, Now the Giver own;
Once I sought for healing, Now Himself alone.*

*Once 'twas painful trying, Now 'tis perfect trust;
Once a half salvation, Now the uttermost.
Once 'twas ceaseless holding, Now He holds me fast;
Once 'twas constant drifting, Now my anchor's cast.*

*Once 'twas busy planning, Now 'tis trustful prayer;
Once 'twas anxious caring, Now He has the care.
Once 'twas what I wanted, Now what Jesus says;
Once 'twas constant asking, Now 'tis ceaseless praise.*

*Once it was my working, His it hence shall be;
Once I tried to use Him, Now He uses me.
Once the power I wanted, Now the Mighty One;
Once for self I laboured, Now for Him alone.*

*Once I hoped in Jesus, Now I know He's mine;
Once my lamps were dying, Now they brightly shine.
Once for death I waited, Now His coming hail;
And my hopes are anchored, Safe within the veil.*

A B Simpson

Step of Faith

Assurance of Salvation

Adeola Grace sent her testimony to the church secretary to be shared with the rest of the church, with the instruction: “Kindly give my love to every church member. Tell them to make themselves Flammable and not Fireproof towards the Holy fire of God. It is more of a reality than the earthly fire”.

I was born into the Baptist family (First Baptist Church Kano, Nigeria) in May 1975. I got married at the First Baptist Garki Abuja, Nigeria in October 2001. I have been a church worker in the Baptist church

and in the Redeemed Christian Church of God. In 2001 the battles and challenges associated with marriage, career and success started in my life. I could not manage because I had pressures as a new mother, a wife and seeking a career. I crashed because of my marital decisions which I deeply regretted. Gradually I lost my joy. I lived with the burden of not forgiving myself. Little did I know that I was gradually becoming depressed until one fateful day I suddenly became exhausted and taken to hospital.

The first finding from the doctor was that I had no breath count! I remember saying to God “please let me live because there will be nobody to take care of my children”. Miraculously God restored my breath. The final diagnosis was that I was a patient of depression. I started living on anti-depressants. When I came to the UK in 2011 I was in and out of hospital with the final diagnosis that I was a patient of depression, my anti-depressant dosage increased.



One day I said to myself, I am tired of daily drugs and anxiety attacks so I decided to go back to the Bible after a long time. I hardly understand the Old Testament so I decided to read through the New Testament. I started from Matthew chapter one and every day I continued from where I stopped. I got to Matthew 21.22: “And all things, whatsoever ye shall ask in prayer, believing, ye shall receive”. These words arrested me. Each time I intend to go beyond that verse, I find myself reading this verse again and again, even in my unbelief, and then I asked myself what is it about this verse of the Bible?



The answer was that I gradually gained my confidence from that verse and I had these strong feelings within that I could stop the anti-depressants. I spoke to my GP and she said “Your condition does not require you stopping this drug. You’d rather reduce your dosage”. I got home and I didn’t continue with

Each time the attack comes, I say to myself, “I breathe in the word of God and I breathe out depression”

the drug because the power of that scripture was stronger in me than what anybody else said.

I had several attacks afterwards but each time the attack comes, I say to myself “I breathe in the word of God and I breathe out depression”. Gradually I discovered that I was getting better daily. I realised God was faithful to me even in my unfaithfulness. I could not hold back anymore when I found out I was getting better.

So I wanted God. My children encouraged me to attend South Parade Baptist Church explaining that they came there on a church trip from school. Every service I attended here in church was an eye-opener to turning over my burden to God. I started becoming unusually sober because the healing was real even in my unbelief. I was broken and I felt I needed to let God know how much I appreciate my healing. In December 2013 I asked Rev Brian how I can be genuinely saved. He didn’t say much but he led me to Christ. Believe me. I never knew a simple prayer can fill someone’s heart with an assurance of salvation. It was an experience I cannot explain. I told my pastor in Nigeria, she was very happy. I believe I am saved.

Now I can boldly say that if I confess with my mouth that Jesus is Lord and I believe in my heart that God raised Him from death I am saved.

For we ourselves were also once foolish, disobedient, deceived, serving various lusts and pleasures, living in malice and envy, hateful and hating one another. But when the kindness and the love of God our Saviour toward man appeared, not by works of righteousness

which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us, through the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit, whom He poured out on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Saviour, that having been justified by His grace we should become heirs according to the hope of eternal life. Titus 3.3-7 (NKJV)

Praise the Living Jesus!

Adeola Grace

...inspired...

If you want to share part of your spiritual journey for the Step of Faith column to inspire and encourage others email magazine@spbc.org.uk

Power in Love

There's power in love. Don't underestimate it. Don't even over-sentimentalise it. There's power – power in love. If you don't believe me, think about a time when you first fell in love. The whole world seemed to centre around you and your beloved.

Oh there's power – power in love. Not just in its romantic forms, but any form, any shape of love. There's a certain sense in which when you are loved, and you know it, when someone cares for you, and you know it, when you love and you show it – it actually feels right. There's something right about it.

There is something right about it. And there's a reason for it. The reason has to do with the source. We were made by a power of love, and our lives were meant – and are meant – to be lived in that love. That's why we are here.

Ultimately the source of love is God himself: the source of all of our lives.

Rev Michael Curry at the marriage of Prince Harry and Meghan Markle at St George's Chapel in Windsor 16/5/18

Ford's Focus

John's Gospel Part 18: The Way, the Truth and the Life

John 14

We finished chapter 13 on a note of despair but with an observation that the only way of being able to fulfil Peter's words of "laying down a life" was to recognise that life is first and foremost Spiritual and it is that Spirituality that works out salvation.

Peter has just been told by Jesus that he will deny him three times before even the rooster crows, but here in chapter 14 Jesus continues with words that give us hope.

"Let not your heart be troubled,



you believe in God believe also in me." This verse is crucial if we are to live a life that is spiritual, which is in fact the only way to live a life, because Jesus is saying that He and God are one. Jesus has said this many times before and he iterates it yet again. It is reassuring to notice that Jesus is preparing his disciples for life on earth without him but leaving then with full assurance that he is going to prepare a place for us in his Father's house.

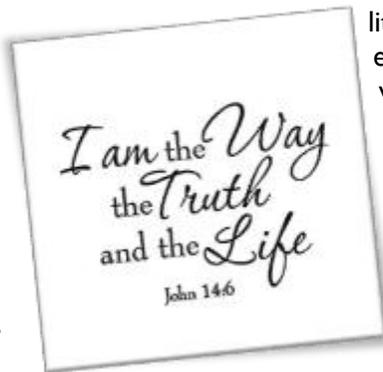
It would appear that both Thomas and Phillip either don't get it or they have both misunderstood who Jesus is. Thomas says "we do not know where you are going and how can we know the way?" while Philip says "Lord show us the Father and it is sufficient for us."

Thomas seemed to be saying that in his experience life was first and foremost physical and his whole outlook was one of a physical experience unable to extend to the spiritual. He had been with Jesus for three years and it appears he had

not grasped that this Jesus was God in man and therefore was the only access to the Father.

*Jesus confirms the
supremacy, the
steadfastness,
the sustaining, all-
encompassing nature
of God*

Phillip also reveals that his experience of Jesus's life is physical with a bolt-on optional spirituality and receives a fuller answer to his question than Thomas did. In John 14:6-11 Jesus explicitly reveals the Father and the only access to Him. Verse 6 contains one of the great "I am" sayings of Jesus. These "I am"s are significant all through scripture and started with God revealing himself to Moses in Exodus 3:14 where God says I AM who I AM. This one little statement declares and confirms the supremacy, the steadfastness, the reliability, the sustaining, the all-encompassing nature of God. Whenever we read "I am" in God's word it should always fill us with hope, a hope that does not fade or expire.



Whenever Jesus uses the words "I am" he is revealing and aligning himself to God. In essence he is saying "we are one."

As we move to verses 12-21 we read that Jesus implies that the way to know the Father requires action, our action. The action that is required is to ask and receive. Here we have Jesus preparing his disciples, and ultimately all future generations, to ask and receive, in order that we are not left as orphans or left without hope.

Jesus is saying that the Father is glorified in the Son and the Son will impart himself as "another Helper."

This word "another" literally means "another exactly the same as", who will be with you, alongside you and in you. This helper or comforter is the "Spirit of truth" and notice who Jesus says will receive him, it is those who know Christ (verse

17), those who have asked and have received and acknowledged that Christ is God, those who acknowledge that life is spiritual and understand that we live a spiritual life and that it is a life lived from the inside out not outside in.

Repentance is all about turning around and walking away from, walking in the opposite direction. It is in this very act of physical, intellectual and spiritual repentance, this turning around and walking away from, that we begin to live a life that is spiritual, enabling us to be assured of the promise in verse 18 “I will not leave you as orphans, I will come to you”.

Jesus goes on to say that it is possible to see and know Christ because of the unity of the Father and Son, the unity of Son and Spirit, and the unity of Spirit and flesh. The Christian life is only possible if the unifying elements of love and obedience to spiritual laws are adhered to and upheld. It is the moral application of the laws of existence that will be the ultimate redemption of the world.

In verse 23 Jesus says in response to a question from Judas (not Iscariot) about Jesus being mani-

fest to people, that it is all about love, “you love me and you will keep my commandments”. Notice it does not say “you might” or “you could” it says “you will” implying it is a law of spirituality that is at work. Also notice in his answer Jesus says “My Father will love him”. This is the personal touch, the personal assurance that Jesus knows the Father. He then goes on and uses the corporate, “we will come to him and make our home with him” (the “him” is not gender specific).

It is this personal assurance of the corporate unity of the completeness of God who is interested in the insignificance of me that gives hope to our nation and our world. We will see in the next chapter how this unity of the Godhead works out in life.

Steve Ford

Headingley Morning Mission Community
blog.steveford.me.uk

*Trust in the Lord with all your heart
and lean not on your own understanding;
in all your ways submit to him,
and he will make your paths straight.*

Proverbs 3.5-6 (NIV)

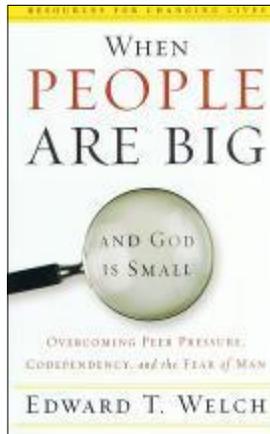
Recommended Reads

When People are Big and God is Small by Ed Welch

Ed Welch seeks to help his readers overcome peer pressure, co-dependency and the fear of man in this title - a book in the Resources for Changing Lives series.

Welch achieves this aim, by addressing the issue in two sections. The first part of the book helps the reader to recognise how and why

we fear others - a much more common issue than we might initially think. This is followed by a second section with some guidance for overcoming this fear of others.



Using a variety of examples; punchy, clear and memorable phrases; and reflection activities at the end of each chapter, Welch writes particularly helpfully for the reader to apply the lessons for growing in godly character.

I read this through with a couple of the student leaders from the Leeds University Union Christian Union. We often reflected upon how others opinions of us can negatively affect us. Thus we were grateful of the way that Welch pointed us back to God, and gave us tools to help us to look to Him.

Tim Jackson
UCCF Relay Worker



Church Noticeboard



Sunday 10 June
Headingley
10.30am

Outdoor Service

- ✓ Shorter service in the courtyard at Headingley
- ✓ Check the road closures and don't be late
- ✓ Suitable for all ages
- ✓ Could you help with coffee or cake?
- ✓ Be friendly and chat to passers-by
- ✓ Pray for good weather!

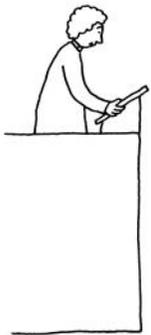


I have been listening to podcasts from the Bible Project (thebibleproject.com) They are great if you are interested in a bit of Bible history and context. In particular I have just listened to a series of 4 on Acts and I thought it might be worth recommending them in Intouch. Go to thebibleproject.com/podcasts/ for links to the podcasts.

Steve Ford

CHURCHGOERS

THE DIFFERENT SORTS



WHAT TO DO ABOUT THEM →

THE KEEN



GIVE THEM ANOTHER JOB TO DO

THE MILDLY JADED



ENCOURAGE THEM - PERHAPS WITH A FREE GIFT, OR CAKE

THE APATHETIC



MAKE A LOUD AND UNEXPECTED NOISE

THE BACKSLIDER



IF I KNEW WHAT TO DO IN THIS CASE I WOULD WRITE A BESTSELLING BOOK (WITH STUDY GUIDE)

Paul's Privacy Notice to the Ephesians

CHRISTIANITY EXPLODED

#13

Ephesians 7

This epistle is private and confidential for God's holy people in Ephesus. If you have received it in error, please notify us and remove it from your system and be advised that if you were not the intended recipient any use, dissemination, forwarding, printing, or copying of this epistle or its attachments is strictly prohibited. ²Any views or opinions presented are solely those of the author and do not necessarily represent those of all the Apostles. ³Please note that Tychicus, the dear brother and faithful servant in the Lord, has my explicit consent to tell you everything and share my sensitive personal data with you but only for this very purpose, that you may know how we are, and that he may encourage you. You should not use this data for any other purpose. ⁴Please let us know if you would like further information about our privacy policy and how we process personal data. Email data@apostlepaul.org or write to The Data Co-ordinator, c/o the Apostle Paul, Main Prison, Rome.



South Parade meets as four distinctive Mission Communities across Leeds: in **Headingley** and **Cragg** on a Sunday Morning, and as **Sent** at Headingley on Sunday evenings. **Connect** meets in the community in Bramley. We run a CAP Debt Centre and run the ABC Coffee Shop in Holt Park, and have a partnership with the Arabic Christian Fellowship. To find out more, visit the website or contact the church office.

Together, we have a shared vision to **build community in Christ**. We hope that all who meet us will be helped to **belong** to Christ and his people, will discover what it means to **believe** in him, and will **become** all that he invites them to be in character, lifestyle, witness and service.

Senior Minister
Minister

Peter Morden
Paul Rockley

Associate Pastor for
Youth and Young Adults
Children's Worker
Associate Pastor
Church Administrator
Under 5s Co-ordinator

Nathan Shipley
Heather McLeen
Geoff King
Kate Churchill
Kate Burkett

Elders

Andrew Bedingham,
Freeman Dumenu,
Charles Fletcher (Church Secretary),
Ruth Hughes, John Pelham,
Sue Ricketts, Tim Rowe, Joe Walsh

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“

*“He has sent me to proclaim
freedom for the prisoners and
recovery of sight for the blind,
to set the oppressed free”*

”

Luke 4.18 (NIV)

intouch

 **SOUTH PARADE
BAPTIST CHURCH**
Building Community in Christ