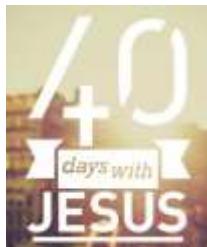


St. Paul's Barton Newsletter 18.03.21

The fifth of our six week Lent sermon series will be on Sunday 21st March when our speaker is Jane Shyvers. Many are using the book by Dave Smith "**40 days with Jesus**" together with additional Bible study materials. The Bible Study notes for Week 5 "Made for Mission" based on Matthew Ch28 V16-20 are included below.



*that we may know eternal peace
through the shedding of our Saviour's blood,
Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

Evening prayer words are on our website.

Wednesday 24th March at 7:30pm

PCC Meeting (Zoom).

Thursday 25th March at 7:30pm

Bible teaching from Rivi Litvin - Matthew.

To take part please contact us with your email address and you will then receive a Zoom invitation for the session along with an email with a handout for the study from Rivi.

Sunday 28th March at 10:00am

Palm Sunday

All-Age Service - Speaker: Josh Haywood

40 Days with Jesus Bible Study Groups

If you would like a Zoom link to either group please contact us.

Monday Group at 7:30pm - Week 6 - 29th.

Tuesday Group at 7:15pm - Week 6 - 30th.

Wednesday 31st March

Evening Prayer (at home) 7:30pm.

Thursday 1st April - Maundy Thursday

Friday 2nd April - Good Friday at 2:00pm

Good Friday Reflection (in the church) with Rev. Dozie Moneme.

Saturday 3rd April at 10:00am - 11:00am

Prayer for Israel & the Middle East (Zoom)

Contact us for a link.

Sunday 4th April - Easter Sunday

Easter Sunday Worship & Communion Service

- with Rev. Dozie Moneme.

Monday 5th April - Bank Holiday.

Sunday Services

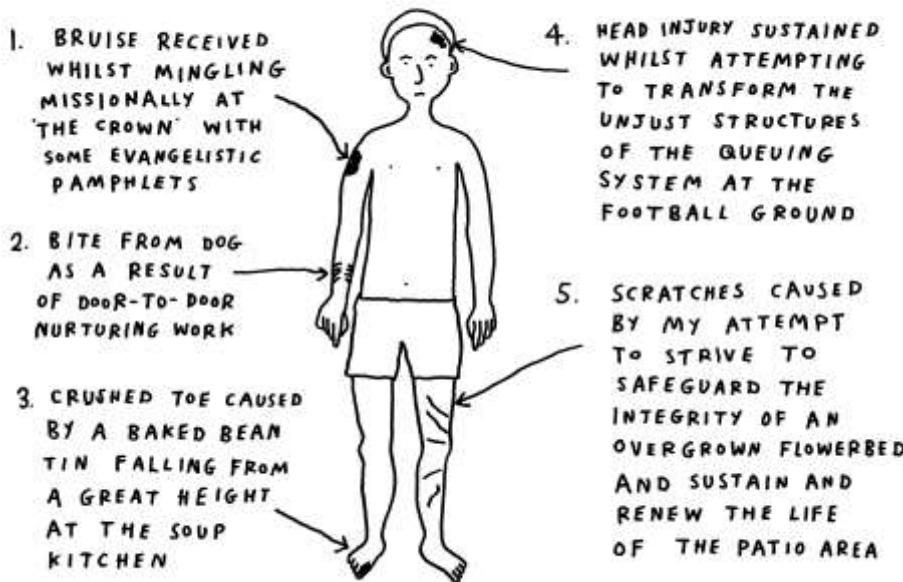
Sunday services are all streamed live on the church Facebook page and available to watch later on the church's Facebook page, Website and YouTube channel. Audio copies of the talks are also available on the website.

Our services are getting busier now and if you would like to attend in person you need to book as due to ongoing Covid restrictions seating capacity is limited. **Remember that you must maintain strict social distancing in the church.** To book contact Ian (see the Church Directory for the number) contact us via the church website or text **07947 153 344**.

After Church Coffee

Join us on Zoom for Coffee at 12:00 noon after the Sunday Service Phone or text **07947 153 344** or contact us via the church website for a link.

THE FIVE MARKS OF MISSION



CartoonChurch.com

What's Happening

Sunday 21st March at 10:00am

5th Sunday of Lent

Worship & Communion Service - Speaker: Jane Shyvers

Lent sermon Series 5 - "Made for Mission" Matthew Ch28 V16-20.

Zoom Coffee at 12 noon - Contact us for a link.

40 Days with Jesus Bible Study Groups

If you would like a Zoom link to either group please contact us.

Monday Group at 7:30pm - Week 5 - 22nd.

Tuesday Group at 7:15pm - Week 5 - 23rd.

Wednesday 24th March

Evening Prayer (at home) 7:30pm.

If you can, join with us at home as we come before God.

Readings: Psalm 85, Genesis Ch3 v8-15 & Galatians Ch4 v1-5.

Collect:

*Gracious Father,
you gave up your Son
out of love for the world:
lead us to ponder the mysteries of his passion,*



Offering / Giving

If you are part of St. Paul's and have not yet committed to regular giving, we ask you to prayerfully seek God's will regarding this.

Ways to Give:

- **Set up a Standing Order** from your bank, you can request a form from Penny (our treasurer), or download one from our website. Just fill it in and send it to her or phone her for more details or to arrange for your form to be collected.
- **You can send a cheque**, payable to: **PCC of St. Paul's (Barton Parish)** to Penny.
- If you use online banking, you can give to St. Paul's by **Bank Transfer or by setting up a Standing Order**. Details of the church bank account are:
Bank: **NatWest Newport Isle of Wight**
Account Name: **Parochial Church Council of St. Pauls, Barton Parish**
Sort Code: **54-10-34**
Account Number: **92513263**

If you are a tax payer and have not filled in a **Gift Aid Form** these are available from Penny or on the church website.

For The Children >>



Bible stories for Easter - the third one is now available on the St. Paul's **YouTube channel**. This week we are looking at The Last Supper, at just 5 minutes long these are great for kids (of all ages!) - do pass it on...

Bits & Pieces >>

Cleaners this week - This week the church is being cleaned by Josephine and Michele - thank you!

Change of telephone number - Please note that the new landline number for the Vicarage is **01983 590475**.

Parking at the Christian Centre - Please note that the parking barriers are now back in place at the Christian Centre as we prepare it for use again. If you have any access requests or issues please speak to Kevin.

Thanks from

Isle of Wight Youth for Christ - "Thank you so much for the recent donation from St. Paul's Church towards the work of Isle of Wight Youth for Christ. Please pass on our thanks and appreciation to everyone at St. Paul's".

Stella

Stella's funeral will be at 2:15pm on Monday 22nd March. Please continue to pray for John, Debbie and the family at this time. If we are able to get details of a link to the service these will be circulated by email and the church WhatsApp group.

Are you on the church Electoral Roll?

Or have your details changed? In advance of our Church **APCM (Annual Parochial Church Meeting)** that will be held on **Wednesday 28th April in the church at 7:30pm**, the church Electoral Roll is now open.

If you would like to join the Electoral Roll forms will be available at the back of the church from this Sunday (21.03.21). They can also be downloaded from the Church Website - you'll find them under the Administration menu. Completed forms may be returned to the back of the church or sent to Liz Day our PCC Secretary. If you have any queries speak to our Churchwardens Josephine or Andrew.

**ELECTORAL
ROLL FORM**

Revive Newport

Michele and Liz both work for **Revive Newport** and the team have just started to raise £1,000 by walking 1,000k by the end of April.



Thank You!

The money raised will go back into the local Newport community. You can help them reach that target by visiting <https://revivenewport.org/donate/> -

A word of encouragement for us all - after the difficult and challenging year we have all experienced with the pandemic...

Be An Encourager

So when we could stand it no longer, we thought it best to be left by ourselves in Athens. We sent Timothy, who is our brother and co-worker in God's service in spreading the gospel of Christ to strengthen and encourage you in your faith, so that no one would be unsettled by these trials. 1 Thess 3:1-3

Recent Time

This last year, has been challenging for us all with the pandemic and it will have affected us all in different ways. Some folks, living on their own, unable to socialise, unable to go to church, because of age, infirmity or vulnerability. Many folks we have spoken to, are just longing to have a cuddle, to feel loved by others. As Christians, we know that Jesus embraces us, and keeps us under the shadow of His wing.

Psalm 91

However as humans, we were created to have fellowship with one another. Thank God for social media and the internet, but not everybody is fortunate to have these facilities, especially those of the mature generation!

Paul's Journeys

Paul and his companions had arrived in Thessalonica on his second missionary journey in AD 58, and planted the first church in that city. It was also a sea port, trade centre, on the NW corner of the Aegean sea in Greece. Previously, Paul had been with his followers in Philippi, and were treated outrageously. **1 Thess 2 For we wanted to come to you, certainly I, Paul did, again and again, but Satan blocked our way.** So, Paul sent Timothy to visit, to strengthen and encourage them in their faith, so that no one would be unsettled by these trials.

Building Each Other Up

As Christians, we all have seasons in our lives of discouragement, opposition and separation. Many folks are starved of encouragement and acceptance. Our stiff British upper lip, denies us from admitting our needs. We are afraid of being thought of as weak, or being rejected. We all need each other, we are all equal in God's sight.

Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other, so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective. James 5:16.

Very truly I tell you, no servant is greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him. John 13:16.

Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just in fact you are doing. 1 Thess 5:11.

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies, and God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort those who are in trouble, with the comfort with which we are comforted by God. 2 Cor 1:3-4.

Fruit From our Labours

The dictionary defines encouragement like this. "If someone is encouraged, by something that happens, it gives them hope and confidence." For example, by telling them what they are doing is good, and telling them, that they should not give up if things are not going so well! Victory in Jesus, will come if we persevere and "keep pressing on."

My wife was given a prophecy many years ago. "Don't let a day go by without blessing somebody." She has endeavoured to do that either by prayer, phone, text letter etc, regardless of perhaps needing encouragement herself. Paul states in **1Thess 3:10 Night and day, we pray most earnestly that we may see you again and again, and supply what is lacking in your faith. It brings joy to a Christian, to see fruit from their labours.**

Paul had experienced this joy countless times. Only God can change a persons life. But He will use His people to be an instrument in the process to do it. If you don't like what you



are reaping, change what you are sowing! It is not enough just to be courteous to others, we actively have to show unconditional love.

Having an Increase of God's Love

1 Thess 3:12 Paul continues. **"May the Lord make your love increase and overflow for each other and for, everyone also, just as ours does for you.** Only God can increase our love for one another. How? Jesus said **"If you have love for one another they will know that you are My disciples."** **John 13:35**

People will be attracted to you. It has been difficult during lockdown, to express our love to others. However, ask the Lord, who needs encouragement today. Send a text, card, or ring them, just to tell them you were thinking of them.

If your capacity to love has waned, ask God to fill you again with His never ending supply. Paul says **"I can do all things in Christ who strengthens me"** **Phil 4:13.**

Finally **v13 May He strengthen your hearts, so that you will be blameless and holy in the presence of God and Father, when our Lord Jesus comes with His holy ones.** Amen.

John Yates - <https://clarioncallministries.co.uk>

In and around the Parish

Two weeks ago we highlighted one of the memorials in the churchyard at St. Paul's. This week in a similar vein we hear from Gary Newman about the Commonwealth War Graves Commission (CWGC) and his connection to St. Paul's...

EYES ON, HANDS ON - By Gary

The Eyes On, Hands On (EOHO) project is a Commonwealth War Graves Commission (CWGC) initiative which seeks to involve local communities in the monitoring and care of many of the thousands of War Graves scattered throughout the United Kingdom.

I applied back in 2019, along with hundreds of others in the UK, to act as an EOHO Volunteer, and help look after some of the War Graves here on the Island. After an unfortunate delay, due to the current pandemic, I was accepted around September 2020 and asked to complete some online training. The training is divided between 'Eyes On' (EO) and 'Hands On'; the EO being how to, safely and respectfully, check grave sites and headstones to ensure they are in good order and to report back to the CWGC. The HO training, again due to pandemic restrictions, has not been undertaken, but when able to, will impart the necessary skills to gently clean and look after the headstones. My areas of responsibility are: East Cowes Cemetery, St Mildred's Churchyard in Whippingham, Newport Cemetery, Carisbrooke Cemetery and St Paul's Cemetery in Halberry Lane. I also temporarily monitor two graves in St Olave's Churchyard in Gatcombe.

I'm an 'Island lad', born, raised and still live in the

parish of St Paul's. My family have a long history with the church, my mother, youngest daughter and myself being christened here as well as my eldest daughter singing in the church choir in the late 1990's. I volunteered for the EOHO project, because having served in the Royal Navy for 35 years, I have an acute sense of duty and having served in Iraq and Afghanistan have seen first-hand the ultimate sacrifice being made. I wanted to honour and ensure these departed brothers in arms are cared for and never forgotten.

What do I look for? Well, that the area around the grave and headstone is neat and tidy; that the headstone is upright, undamaged, clean and accessible; that all badges, emblems and inscriptions are clear, legible and recognisable. This information, along with photographs, is sent to the CWGC via the Area Coordinator, who if necessary, will arrange for repair or replacement of CWGC headstones. However, it must be stressed that replacement is always the last resort as the CWGC has a conservational approach so will only replace if absolutely necessary. After all some of these headstones are a hundred years old and may have been seen and touched by the grieving relatives.

Personal headstones and monuments to war casualties (where the family chose to erect their own memorial rather than accept a Commission headstone), are not under the care of the CWGC but they will still be monitored, to ensure the casualty's name remains legible, and as volunteers, we are asked to monitor these and keep the CWGC informed.

There are eight servicemen laid to rest in St Paul's Cemetery from both the First and Second World Wars, some I know part of their story, others I know very little. So if any of these brave men are your relatives and you'd like to share their story please get in touch.

So if you see a stranger wandering around, looking at headstones, wearing Hi Viz. and holding a clip board, it's probably me. If so, please stop me for a chat as I'm always happy to talk about those in my care.

Gary.

To find out more about the CWGC see
<https://www.cwgc.org/>

Don't despise the resistance!

Matthew 5:14-16 You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

In the sermon on the mount, Yeshua said, "You are the light of the world," and commanded us to let our lights shine that we may give glory to our Heavenly Father. This world is becoming more ungodly and dark, and by deep contrast, the saints of the Lord will shine brighter! A candle in a bright room isn't particularly significant or easy to notice. A candle in the darkness shines like a lighthouse and offers the only source of guidance for movement.

When Yeshua (Jesus) warned that the love of many will wax cold (Matthew 24:12), He implied that those who remain

loving will really stand out. The resistance increases; the contrast deepens!

Bodybuilders are familiar with resistance training. They work each muscle group to the point of exhaustion... take a few days off... and the muscle mass increases. The next time they exercise with even more resistance... the result, more bulk! So it is with us in these treacherous times. The darkness and resistance of these evil days requires and will produce greater faith and greater love... if we let them.

This world is testing our love and quenching our light. How will we respond? Will we wimp out, be extinguished, and grow cold? (Matthew 24:12). Or will we recognize that the resistance we face is God's way of building faith and love in His disciples?

Are you exhausted, spiritually spent and on the verge of quitting? Take some serious time out this Shabbat (Sabbath). Rest and reflect on how your love, joy and faith were tested this week. Give thanks for the "resistance" training the Lord has orchestrated just for you, and allow Him to rebuild your spiritual muscles while you rest. You will return on Monday ... more spiritually ripped in His love, and wrapped in His light!

George Whitten - <https://worthyministries.com>

PRESS RELEASE - GAFCON IOW - 11.03.21



This week Gafcon IOW was launched. This is a local expression of a global movement, and the Steering Committee are thrilled to be under the umbrella of the largest Anglican movement in the world.

The Gafcon movement is a global family of authentic Anglicans standing together to retain and restore the Bible to the heart of the Anglican Communion. Our mission is to guard the unchanging, transforming Gospel of Jesus Christ and to proclaim Him to the world. We are founded on the Bible, bound together by the Jerusalem Statement and Declaration of 2008, and led by a Primates Council, which represents the majority of the world's Anglicans.

Gafcon works to guard and proclaim the unchanging, transforming Gospel through biblically faithful preaching and teaching which frees our churches to make disciples by clear and certain witness to Jesus Christ in all the world.

On the Isle of Wight we want to faithfully work out the goals of Gafcon Global, by:

1. Proclaiming Christ faithfully to all people.
2. Defending the church against heretical and false teachers.
3. Providing a 'home' for anyone looking for authentic Biblical Anglicanism.

Rev. James Leggett, Rev. Mark Williams and Rev. Dozie Moneme lead four churches on the Island. They are so encouraged to be working together under the umbrella of Gafcon, and as such committed to seeing God's kingdom grow. They represent churches both inside the Church of England and also the Anglican Mission in England, which comes under the oversight of Bishop Andy Lines. We believe that the Gafcon movement is the most timely provision for the church on the Isle of Wight. We pray that the Lord will bless this initiative by growing his kingdom, as we plant, establish and secure churches across the Island.

Website: www.gafconiow.org.uk

An Open Letter on behalf of UK Christian Event Leaders - March 2021

We know that life is difficult for all of us right now. Being separated from those we love and unable to be together as families is painful. It is therefore with sensitivity, that we need to share with you about some of the challenges faced by Christian events.

Whether under a canvas roof, a big top or an open sky, it was always under an open heaven where God revealed Himself to us and our lives were never the same again; that moment where a glimpse of His glory brought salvation, healing, restoration, and the beginning of a new adventure of faith for you, or your family, or your church.

Christian events in the UK have a legacy that has impacted millions, and that legacy is refreshed year on year as more come to faith and respond to God's work in their lives. Christian events create space for us to come away from the day-to-day routine and for God to impact us. This has birthed new ministries, charities, and dreams in us which have gone on to bring cultural transformation and support the mission of the church.

But now, the Covid-Pandemic has had a profound impact on us all both practically and financially.

As we contemplate two years without gathering in the normal way, we have had to rapidly learn to meet in new ways - either online or in smaller hybrid events. We have all seen a change in this time - 'free' is becoming increasingly expected, but 'free' comes at a high cost for us. So, from us all in the UK that run a Christian event, we need you to know that most of us just can't do it.

Standing together as Christian event leaders, we're asking for your help this year.

No organisation is the same - we have different funding models for our events and festivals. Although it may be tempting to compare us and our different approaches, this really doesn't help you, or us.

In terms of our responses - some of us have postponed, some of us have moved to free digital alternatives, some to chargeable digital or hybrid events. We have all had to take the decision that is best for us in our unique situation now and for running our events in future. Some of us are underwritten, some have reserves, some have other areas of 'business' that can subsidise events. Many of us have none

of those things and rely hugely on ticket sales from our events to keep afloat.

If you want to see Christian gatherings survive, then now is the time we need your prayerful and practical support. We need people like you to stand with us financially, and to support us in any way you can - so that we are all here to gather again in 2022.

We're standing together now and ask you not to compare us, or even worse - to use the approach of one of us to publicly criticise another. Behind the scenes we all stand together, support and cheer each other on. **It is Kingdom we serve, not competition.**

The gospel brings freedom and is free to share. However, putting on a gathering where that truth is celebrated is not free. Gathering thousands together takes infrastructure and so much more and we simply cannot do these things for free. The very many elements that are needed to keep organisations running so that they can put on the spring and summer gatherings you love, need financing.



SPRING HARVEST

We don't mind who you support, we're all part of His kingdom. We come to you as one, because we prefer one another, and we want to see Jesus glorified. We don't watch and wait to see who will survive; we stand together as we know we will need more gatherings in the future, to accommodate those who have searched for hope during this pandemic and have found that hope has a name, and His name is Jesus.

We look forward to welcoming new believers, new seekers, and YOU at an event when this utterly cruel season has passed, and when the biggest tent, the biggest arena, will not be large enough to celebrate all He has done.

But to get to that place, we do, humbly, ask for your help. Here's how you can help.

1. Pray for us.

We all need the wisdom of the Lord currently. Please pray regularly for us as we lead our organisations, listen to His leading and do all we can to serve Him and you.

2. Join us if you can!

Some events are running digital or hybrid alternatives in 2021. The best support you can give is to join those events and buy tickets. If you decide that you would prefer to wait until 2022 please consider buying a ticket in 2021 to ensure that your preferred event/festival is able to be there in 2022. We hear 'Oh I'll just wait and go in 2022 instead' but the harsh reality is that without support for us in 2021 you may not have that choice!

3. Consider a donation even if you can't go.

If you would normally plan to attend an event or festival this year and consider yourself 'a regular' please consider do-

nating - even if there is no event in 2021/a free alternative, or you can't go this year.

4. Sow into our future

If you are blessed financially please consider a one-off gift if you are able. A gift in 2021 - this is the make-or-break year for some of us and your gift could make the difference.

We stand together. Thank you.

New Wine | Spring Harvest | Festival of Life | Fusion | Youthscape | CreationFest | Kingdom Worship Movement | Festival of Praise

Lent Bible Study Notes - Week 5



INTRO

We're looking today at the Great Commission and discovering our life's mission. Have you ever wondered what on earth you are really here for or looked into the whole question of discovering our purpose in life?

The answer to this is something Jesus focused on significantly during the 40 days after His resurrection. One of the focal points of His teaching was telling His disciples how they were to continue His mission on the earth. Today we are looking at a particular incident when Jesus appeared to His followers on a mountain in Galilee. There are two things we are going to look at concerning our life mission:

1. The source of our mission is Jesus.
2. The goal of our mission is transformed lives.

BRING YOUR BIBLES

Read aloud **Matthew 28:16–20**, encouraging everyone to follow along in their own Bibles. The more translations the better as each may highlight something different.

Now allow the whole group the opportunity to share what stood out anew to them and why.

QUESTIONS

1. [If your church are running the 40 Days with Jesus sermons] What particularly impacted you from Sunday's message?
2. [If you are using the small group videos instead] What particularly impacted you from this week's message?
3. Read verse 18. How does our understanding of who Jesus is affect our understanding of who we are and what our mission is? Are there other factors or people in our lives who might try and influence our calling?
4. In verses 19–20 Jesus lays out what is known as 'the Great Commission'. What are the three things He calls us to do? To what extent do these three factors influence our daily lives, decision making and conversations?
5. This calling on us as followers of Christ highlights that we are together on a mission. What benefit do you think Jesus sees in us fulfilling His commission together, rather than on our own?
6. Read verses 19–20. Unpack the detail of what 'going and making disciples' involves. On a personal level,

7. who are we seeking to reach? Think of one of your friends who does not yet believe in Jesus. Imagine or 'see' them when they are fully devoted and in love with Jesus. How do you see them getting from where they are now, to where God would love them to be? Think about this coming week. Where will you be going? Who will you be meeting? In what ways will knowing that Jesus has all authority affect how you think, behave and pray in these situations and settings?

SHARE YOUR STORY

You can discuss the following questions together as one group or, if individuals prefer, you could split into groups of two or three.

8. Verse 17 reminds us that some worshipped, but some doubted, even though the risen Jesus was standing right in front of them! Can you think of a time in your Christian journey when you needed to process some truth about God, before you could fully own it?
9. Verse 18 speaks about the absolute authority the Father has invested in Jesus Christ (authority is the power or right to give orders, make decisions, and call to obedience). What would you do in the name of Jesus, if you knew that you could not fail? Share anything that God is stirring your heart to do.

PRAY TOGETHER

Take the time to invite the Holy Spirit. Perhaps begin with prayers of worship and thanksgiving, then you may choose to follow these suggestions for specific prayer:

You could pray:

- that any doubts in God would continue to diminish so that we can worship and love Him with all our heart, strength and mind
- for a fresh revelation of the authority each one of us has in Christ
- for those we will meet with in the coming week – that their hearts would be prepared and that we would be ready for any opportunity to bring them closer to Jesus.



St. Paul's Barton

TOGETHER - WHATEVER!