

Home Groups

Groups meet at No 27 on Sunday evening @ 6.30pm, on Tuesday afternoon @ 1.30pm (during school term time) & also on Wednesday afternoon @ 1.30pm (studies continue in Revelation, Mission & 1 Samuel). For more details on our Home Groups speak to Andy Wood.

Prayer

We meet to pray on Wednesday evening at 7.30pm: 4th April, 'Personal witness' (at Elke's; Geoff to lead). 11th April, 'World Mission' (at Sue & Kebede's, Andy to lead). 18th April, 'Praying with Catherine Barlow' (at Geoff & Beth's, Geoff to lead). Week commencing 22nd April, prayer triplets, 'National issues'.

Leaders

The elders meet to pray every Wednesday morning at 8am & for business on Tuesday 10th April at 7.30 pm (at David's). Email: becelders@gmail.com; Andy Wood's mob: 07748340838.

Dates for the diary

Family Service, Easter Sunday (April 1st), 10.30am.
Friday 18th May, Church AGM.
Prayer meeting with Rachel & Sjoerd van Veen, Wednesday June 6th, 7.30pm.
"Away Day...afternoon!", Saturday 9th June, Whitfield Centre.

April 2018

Easter Day, 10.30 am,
Family Service led by Andy Wood.

April 8th, 10.30 am,
Andy Wood will be preaching on Job chapter 1.
The service includes communion.

April 15th, 10.30 am,
Mike Wildsmith will be preaching on Job chapter 3.

April 22nd, 10.30 am,
Andy Wood will be preaching on Job chapt. 2:11-13 & chapt 8.

April 29th, 10.30am.

Andy Wood will be preaching on Job chapter 9

Communion & Notices - Andy Wood.
Co-ordinator - Susan Ayano.
Requests for intercessory prayer to be given to Andy Wood.

Easter Reflections

Read: 1 Corinthians 15:35–43

As we approach the celebration of Good Friday, I'm reminded of the seven sayings of Jesus from the cross and the glory and the power in each saying. Jesus was alone. He had come to His own, and His own did not receive Him. When He was being arrested in the garden of Gethsemane, we are told that "all the disciples deserted him and fled" (Matthew 26:56). The crowds who had so recently shouted, "Hosanna!" would soon shout, "Crucify him! ... Crucify him!" (Matthew 21:9, 27:22–23).

Now even His loyal Twelve had left. And at last we hear Him cry out, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" (Mark 15:34). Not only had He been forsaken by His human companions, but now in that desperate and lonely hour, He—because He was bearing our sins in His own body on the cross—had been forsaken by God. Jesus was enduring the suffering and judgment of Hell for you and for me.

How can you show your gratitude to God for allowing His Son to endure the shame and suffering of the cross?

Read: 1 Corinthians 15:44–49

Good Friday celebrates the day our Lord died for our sins on the cross. I have often sat by the hour and tried to imagine the agony and suffering He went through because of our sins. At one point He said from the cross, "It is finished" (John 19:30). He meant that God had accepted His work on the cross as the penalty for our sins.

Christ's death on our behalf is the reason God can forgive us and still be just. And His death teaches us the depth and breadth that there should be in our forgiveness of one another.

While that holy Friday was tremendous, it was only a prelude to Sunday morning when He was raised from the dead. Godly women had come to see His tomb, but angels made the glorious announcement, "He has risen!" (Luke 24:6). His resurrection guaranteed that we, too, will be raised, if we are believers and obeyers of His Word.

As you celebrate the truth that Jesus came from Heaven to redeem you, are you reflecting His likeness to those around you?

Billy Graham

<https://billygraham.org/story/celebrating-resurrection-sunday/>

STAFF AWAY DAY REPORT

Following our elders & deacons meeting, we plan to run a number of activities in the coming year. These will include prayer days, evangelism and church family events/family services. Our main focus will be on preaching, teaching and prayer, which will be met through our regular 'week by week' meetings.

Special events:

JUNE/JULY *Church family afternoon at the Whitfield Centre.*

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER *Prayer Day.
'Billy Graham' Evening (Saturday).*

NOVEMBER *Daily Bread Launch (Bible reading material for the whole church to use together) and Church Lunch.*

DECEMBER *Carol Concert guest speaker Mike Wildsmith.
Carol Singing in Soothill.
Visiting the homes in Soothill during Advent.*

Church Rota - April

Date	Children's Talk	Creche helper	Inter. Prayer	Refreshments
1st	Family Service	FS	FS	Sue Ayano
8th		Becky	Pauline	Elke
15th	Pauline	Michelle	Geoff	Lindsey/Stuart
22nd		Elke	Steve	Beth
29th		Becky	Jimmy	Michelle/Becky