

Sunday celebration – 28th October 2018 – starting with tea / coffee at 10.15

CLOCKS GO BACK ON SATURDAY NIGHT – for those of you without young children, enjoy an extra hour in bed!

Welcome to our celebration this morning. If you are here for the first time – we hope you enjoy your morning with us. If you have any questions, there's some information which might help on the back page of this newsletter or please feel free to ask the welcome team, who will be happy to help or point you in the right direction.

I thought last week was a great time of thanksgiving and of dedicating Rowan Matthews together. Afterwards we gave 10 bags of food and the £100 (plus gift aid) that you had donated to the food bank. They were very grateful! Over this last year we have had the privilege of supporting the "School in the Quarry" project that has grown into a "School for the Village" project in Sierra Leone, helping the same children and more! As a church family we have been able to provide the set-up cost for this – any additional gifts will be used to fund the 2 teachers needed to teach the children so feel free to continue those creative ways of raising funds. In a world that is so often centred around self-gratification, practical expressions of generosity are an important way for us to reflect and demonstrate God's generosity and goodness. I am often reminded how the Apostles in Jerusalem asked Paul to make sure he "remembered the poor". It seems that living generously, especially towards the poor, is in the roots of our faith. Reading Genesis chapters 3 and 4 this week I have been amazed again at God's goodness and kindness even in the face of our rejection of Him. He gave opportunity for honest confession and repentance, provided protection, restored the bereft, drew people towards His presence in worship and started His redemption plan ensuring restored fellowship with Him was possible – but more on that next week! The God we follow is wise, good, generous and kind to us. One way to worship Him is to follow His example in our lives and attitudes to others - as we do, we open ourselves up to His presence in our daily lives. Let's continue to be generous and look for opportunities to do a random act of kindness that so often opens a door into someone's life.

This morning we want to give space and time for God in our worship together so that we can enjoy His presence and hear Him through each other - I am looking forward to seeing what each one of us has for the strengthening of the church. We also have Basil D'Sousa with us who we hope will share something of what he has on his heart at the moment and perhaps say something about the work of the Jeevan Asha ministry in India that we help support.

May the Lord bless you this week.

Richard

Remember: Saturday – 27th October – Monthly FCC PRAYER BREAKFAST – starting at 9.00 in Room 7, finishing with breakfast for anyone who would like it in Cafe Imbizo. Be great to see you there!

Let's thank God for:

- Graham and Deborah's move this coming week down to Devon to be closer to their family, and for their time among us and all they have given.
- All the teachers, children and young people among us – and their short break over half-term to recharge their batteries.
- The food bank and all the other agencies who work with the needy in our area.
- The School in the Quarry and the progress that has already been made towards making it a reality.

Let's pray for:

- The Alpha course – for the “Holy Spirit day” on Saturday and for the next part of the course that those attending will continue to encounter Jesus week by week
- For the young people as they go up to London next weekend for their delayed mission trip to Westbourne Grove; for safety, fun and an eye-opening experience as they serve the church in Notting Hill, which works with many who are in serious need.
- For the Light Party on Wednesday 31st October and all the children who attend.
- Basil D’Sousa and the work of Jeevan Asha among the untouchables in India.
- Please pray for our University students some of whom are struggling with settling into their new lives across the UK.

FCC Matters:

- **Any Questions:**

If you had any questions out of Richard’s talk last week on Genesis, we’d love to get together for a chat. If you would let us know if you have any evenings free in the week beginning Sunday 28th October, then we will try to make a date for us all to meet. Good answers not guaranteed, but we should be able to provide good coffee!!

- **Newcomer’s Lunch:**

If you are new to the church and would like to get to know us better, please sign the sheet on the welcome table by the door as we are organising a get together in Café Imbizo after church one Sunday shortly – date to be advised.

- **Cameo**

James will be speaking at Cameo on Thursday 1st November from 2pm about his last visit to Sierra Leone. All welcome to join us. See Roni for more details.

Further Afield:

- **KST+**

If you appreciated the KST taster morning we had recently with Nicky Wileman you would really enjoy this! *“Digging into Ephesians: Being God’s People in a Broken World”*

With Aled Griffith, the leader of Reach Church, Nottingham, and former principle of King’s Bible School.

Brief details:

Saturday 24th November. Starts at 9.00am and finishes with dinner at 6.30pm.

The Riverside Centre, Derby, DE24 8HY.

Let Mark know if you would like to come as he is wondering about taking a car full. And I am hoping to go too!

FCC Youth:

- We will be having our Kids Light Party on Wednesday 31st October. We hope to celebrate light and all that Jesus is too us.
- We will be starting at Fareham College and Henry Cort as welcomed additions to our flourishing schools work. Please pray for Martin as he goes into the school and College for the first time.

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