



ALLANDER EVANGELICAL CHURCH

FELLOWSHIP NEWSLETTER

5th July, 2021

Love and Obey: John 14: 15 - 27

The context of this passage is the situation where Jesus was making clear to his followers the future challenge of being his disciples, living as witnesses without him being physically present with them. The key to that life was love and obedience.

That characteristic of Love and Obedience is:

- a consistent Biblical theme. Deuteronomy emphasises the need to obey God's commandments in anticipation of blessing, whereas the NT motivation is in response to all that God has done through Jesus;
- what defines us eternally. The characteristic of the early believers, such as that expressed in 1 Peter, is of those who obey;
- is what Jesus modelled. He lived his life in obedience to the will and purpose of God. In his life he '*became obedient unto death*';
- needs help. Living in obedience is contrary to our nature and cannot be fulfilled by our own power. However, Jesus promised that the Father would send the Holy Spirit to be that Enabler;
- is a living assurance, for it affirms the satisfying and fulfilling of God's requirements and purpose. As the Father dwells and enables Jesus, so the Holy Spirit enables Jesus' life in us.

We concluded with communion, remembering that not only Jesus died for us but, being risen, he lives in and through us.
Christ in you – the hope of glory.

George and Margaret Cowan

George Cowan has expressed his sincere thanks and appreciation to his church family at Allander for the flowers, gifts and cards received to mark his and Margaret's 70th wedding anniversary. George was able to visit Margaret in Mugdock Care Home on the Wednesday and take the church flowers to her which she was able to see and to understand what they represented.

Please continue to remember George and Margaret in your prayers.

Faith Mission Prayer Union

Tonight at 7 30pm on Zoom. Access details: Meeting ID: 761 5194 1410; Passcode: jxn1vj.

Keswick

The Keswick Convention is due to start on Saturday 19th July and will feature three separate weeks of ministry. In-person meetings are being held, subject to Covid restrictions, but they can also be accessed through live-streaming. See www.keswickministries.org/convention for details.

Maryhill Holiday Club

Our friends at Maryhill Evangelical Church are holding a Holiday Club each morning this week for P1 – P7 children on the theme of Jungle Adventure. There has been a good attendance at their preliminary Thursday night meetings so we trust that this week – from Monday to Friday – will be really blessed. We have appreciated their prayer and help for us in our ventures in the past and so gladly reciprocate.

Sunday School New Start

The Sunday School has recommenced on with a number of children. Pray for Carol and her helpers.

Fun Days

Both Fun Days, last Friday and Saturday, went well with 35 children and their parents on Friday and 59 on Saturday. It was good to be able to make contact again and, hopefully, be a precursor to the Mother and Toddler and #One2Seven starting up in the autumn.

Mission of the Month

Our Mission of the Month for July is MAD Ministries headed up by Brian Lowrie. They have run our summer Holiday Club (and that of other local churches) for the past few years until the pandemic put paid to such activities. They also provided the material for the Christmas and Easter YouTube outreach during the winter.

Bible Study Advance Notice

The first of two 'keeping-in-touch' Bible Study sessions will be offered on Thursday 15th July at 7 30 pm. Normal zoom access.

Website

After much hard work by Manuel, the church website has now been significantly upgraded but, like the Forth Bridge, the

need for continuous maintenance remains. Feedback always welcome

Hope for Glasgow

We have received the Summer News letter from Terry McCutcheon in which he reports on progress during recent months. Six out of 7 men enrolled on the Day Programme have now completed it, especially Ian who has benefitted greatly in overcoming his addiction. Two extra programmes run by Christianity Explored Ministries and Biblical Counselling are proving a real help towards the aim of seeing the men reach recovery and attend church regularly. The work continues apace with Terry grateful for the opportunities to present reports to supporting churches – including Allander.

Scripture Union et al

It is so encouraging to see the way groups like Scripture Union are adapting to the effect of restrictions on their traditional activities. A 'limited camp' will be held in Lendrickmuir at the end of this month with our Gordon Craig as Cook.

Pray for:

Among others, David Jack being treated for intense hip pain; Elsie McIntyre with her husband, Neil's, funeral on Tuesday; and Liz Baxter, sadly, now bed-bound.

Finally,

Paul's sermon on Mars Hill (Acts 17: 23) says: *"For while I was passing through and examining the objects of your worship, I also found an altar with this inscription TO AN UNKNOWN GOD"*.

During the Euro Football Championship between France v Switzerland, there was a dramatic penalty shoot-out to decide the winners. The cameras zoomed in on the players and spectators. The anxiety on the spectators' and the players' faces was apparent as they lifted up their eyes towards the heavens, praying to 'an unknown god' for help. God has revealed to us in Scripture that we can know God through Christ Jesus. As we listened to God's Word on Sunday, we heard from John 14: 6 that Jesus said, *"I am the way, the truth, and the life, no one comes to the Father except through Me."*

Sandy Allan