



ALLANDER EVANGELICAL CHURCH

FELLOWSHIP NEWSLETTER

23rd May, 2022

Sunday Sermon: 1 Corinthians 15: 50 - 58

Yesterday saw the conclusion of this excellent and interesting series on the significance of resurrection, based on Paul's great chapter in 1 Corinthians 15, in response to the question: Easter is over, what's next?

Previous sermons have highlighted the fact that the truth of resurrection is proof of forgiveness, the defeat of death and the promise of a glorious future. That knowledge is not only comforting and reassuring but has an immediate value in that it stimulates **daily strength**.

Knowing what is tied up in the process of resurrection, as demonstrated by Christ, and is applied to the believer, is a **motive for perseverance**. Work, such as the Thessalonian "labour of love", etc, will be rewarded despite all the hardship in its execution and disappointments at the difference between it and the world's perception of values.

It **reveals the momentum of God's power**. The energising of the Christian walk is done because Jesus is alive; and alive and active in the believer. Paul could only 'do all things' because of the power that came 'through Christ'. All he wanted was *"to know Him and the power of his resurrection"*.

And the evidence of that power 'at work in you' is a **measure of God's presence** in our daily witness and testimony, knowing that *"if the Spirit of him who raised up Christ from the dead is living in you, he will also give life to your mortal bodies because of his Spirit who lives in you"*.

Slavic Gospel Association.

We are looking forward to the visit of Mark Foster, tomorrow, Tuesday 24th May, at 8 00pm.

This will be an opportunity to hear first-hand from Mark about Slavic Gospel Association and their work in war-torn Ukraine. It would be a good opportunity to restart attendance at the Tuesday night Prayer Meeting with this special focus on the plight of believers and the general populace in Eastern Europe.

Please plan to come to this meeting.

Bible Study

This week we look at the major onslaught on Jericho as recorded in Chapter 6

Mission of the Month

This is the last Sunday to support our Mission of the Month - CEF (Child Evangelism Fellowship). There is a range of literature available, free, in the Crush Hall including: How to pray for your kids, Sharing the Vision and their regular magazine, Impact.

Next Sunday

Both services next Sunday, will be taken by Simon Snodgrass. (See their story below). We owe much to Simon and Hannah for their enthusiastic and very able leading of the #One2Seven meetings on Wednesday nights and we look forward to their heading up the Holiday Club, which starts on 27th June.

Next Sunday, 29th May, being the last Sunday of the month, there will be no Communion at either service.

Simon and Hannah Snodgrass

We are the Snodgrass Family – Simon, Hannah, and our daughter Edith. We work with Child Evangelism Fellowship (CEF) in Scotland. I (Simon) am from Northern Ireland and Hannah is from the USA. We trained together at CEF in Northern Ireland for two years before we moved to Scotland in June 2021. The Lord laid on our hearts the words of Psalm 78 v4, 6. Our desire is to see this generation of children and future generations hear the truths of the Gospel, put their hope in Christ alone, and be discipled by God's Word in local Bible believing churches. We are involved in children's ministry across the central belt of Scotland. This includes children's Bible Clubs during the school year, Holiday Bible Clubs and summer clubs in the community, training for teachers, and providing materials. Allander Evangelical was our first children's club when we moved to the area and we have really enjoyed our partnership with you! It has been a great blessing in our lives and ministry!

Holiday Club

Last Monday saw a good turnout for the Holiday Club planning meeting, including a number of your young people eager to help in any way they can.

Any further offers of help with games, registering, snacks, supporting team leaders or general supervision of excited children will be most welcome. The next meeting will be on Monday 13th June at 7 30pm.

Praying for Inga

It's good to have Inga 'home' with us for these two months. Here is an extract from her recent Prayer Letter which gives an insight into the challenges translators like her and Sue face as they seek to make the Word of God available in the mother tongue. "I really enjoy being involved in the translation. The question that the team asks can be interesting. For example, as we were reading through Mark's Gospel with the St Andrews team we came to 1: 45 where it says, "Jesus could no longer enter freely into the towns.". One wanted to know if there was a demonstration which prevented Jesus entering the town. This question illustrates the huge challenge for translators – the Mixtecs interpret Scripture through their own cultural grid. Often in Oaxaca City there are blockades which prevent free flow of traffic. So a demonstration would be a logical reason for Jesus not to be able to enter."

Finally,

We have heard of the depraved actions of the Russian forces on the civilian population in Ukraine. The Ukrainian authorities have shone a light on this lawlessness and are endeavouring to bring these crimes to the International Court at the Hague. They also highlight this to sway public opinion against Russia. The truth of the matter is that sin is common to all men, not just one particular people. There is a constant battle within our own souls. As the Apostle Paul says in Romans 7 v 15 "For I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate". Is this the same man who wrote "If any man be in Christ, he is a new creature"? Yes it is. He knew the reality of his depraved nature. We blame the accuser for our actions, but in reality, the battle within us is between the new and old nature. Whether you are a Christian for 1 week or 70 years, the battle is ongoing. It is comforting to know that even Paul, who wrote half of the New Testament Scriptures, endured the same trials and battles within himself, just as we do.

Sandy Allan