



ALLANDER EVANGELICAL CHURCH

FELLOWSHIP NEWSLETTER

25th October, 2021

Sermon: Psalm 1

Yesterday's services were taken by Simon Turner from Kilsyth Community Church who has been with us several times over the past seven years.

Taking Psalm 1, he pointed out that this introductory psalm to the whole collection presents two ways of living: the way of the godly and the way of the ungodly. The choice between them is not a casual one but has eternal consequences. It is a critical choice.

Three features characterise the godly way with its promise of blessing, and the favour of God: it is a way that both pleases God and satisfies our souls.

The godly way is disciplined in that it eschews activities and influences that are sinful, spiralling down from walking, to standing to sitting in a godless environment. Significantly, it delights in the law of God – reads and absorbs Scripture and its teaching – and thereby becomes fruitful and flourishing.

In contrast, the ungodly way is worthless, described as chaff blown away by the wind. Their standing before God is futile and they will not enjoy the delights derived from Christian fellowship and the favour of God.

The right choice leads to a life justified by faith and blessed of God. On the other hand the wrong choice leads to eventual destruction and separation from God.

That is why facing the reality of two ways and making the right choice now is vital for each one of us.

New Zoom Codes

With David Jack's passing, the codes for the church's Zoom meetings have changed. They are now:

Meeting ID: **851 6446 7898**

Passcode: **080856**

And the hyperlink is

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85164467898?pwd=WTa2YnZ4K040a3BoZTVFdEVOWXhJQT09>

It is the same set of codes for each meeting.

Telephone access remains the same at 0131 460 1196

Blythswood Reminder

This is the last week for the Blythswood Shoe Boxes which should be at the church by Sunday, 31st October, at the latest. Financial contributions can be left in the Offering Box or given to Ian Baird.

Passion for Life: Introductory Meeting

A joint meeting of Milngavie churches will be held on Saturday 30th October at 9am, in Allander. It will start with some refreshments and pastries prior to a presentation.

The purpose of the meeting is to introduce the churches to "A Passion for Life" in which we – and other churches – will be involved in between Christmas and Easter 2022.

To hear full details of this exciting venture the plans we have, please come along on Saturday, 30th October at 9am.

Faith Mission Prayer Meeting

The Milngavie and Bearsden Faith Mission Prayer Group will meet on Zoom for its monthly meeting on Monday 1st November at 7 30pm. Zoom details are: Meeting ID: 785 1375 5511; Passcode: cMKe87.

Prayer

Among others, pray for Charlene McCutcheon home from hospital; Liz Baxter at home; Morag Wilson suffering constantly with mouth pain; Inga, with praise to God for good week teaching and presenting papers; Mary Atwell and Ibbie caring for her; Jess Paton in hospital.

Faith Mission

Gordon Thomson and his FM colleagues are planning to hold a Faith Mission Rally at Allander on Friday 5th November at 7 30 pm and will follow that with the resumption of the Rejuvenate outreach programme for teenagers on the Saturday.

Bible Study Reflections:

Several have mentioned how blessed they have been in reading Numbers for the Bible Study and reflecting on what they have read. Here are two of them.

Margaret Stewart, thinking of the lesson emerging from the "Twelve spies went to spy on Canaan" incident, says:

- Not to 'quail' with fear; but, to allow the Holy Spirit to quicken our spirits;
- Not to question God's ways; but to do quests for him with his strength.

Margaret Baird, summarised the seven chapters (10 – 17) in this way:

"These chapters show Israel's lack of awareness of God's sovereignty which led to a lack of trust, to wrong thinking, then to rebellion and its serious consequences. For example:

In chapter 10 they started to complain about the hardship they were suffering and wished they were back in Egypt where they had plenty of fish, fruit and vegetables. They forgot about the slavery they had suffered and that it was God who had rescued them.

(Chapter 12) Aaron and Miriam focussed on the fact that Moses hadn't married an Israelite woman - so why should their younger brother have a greater position than them. They forgot how God had protected Moses as a baby and brought him to the place where he was called to lead Israel out of Egypt. Moses was God's choice as leader.

In chapter 13 twelve scouts were sent to see what Canaan was like. It was a wonderful place but ten of them said that the people were too strong for them to conquer. They forgot how God had dealt with Pharaoh and the Egyptians to bring them out of Egypt and through the Red Sea, destroying Pharaoh's troops in the process.

As a result of the people's rebellion, and their refusal to go up to the Promised Land, Moses had to plead with God to preserve them for the honour of his name. Read Numbers 14 v 17-23.

More to come next week.

**The steadfast love of the Lord
endures for ever**