

Sunday 30th
April 2017



Normal service will resume as soon as possible...?

Easter is over – what do we do now? Do we slip back into our regular routine daily lives? It is like Christmas, where we often have such a busy build-up to the date, and then when it is over, everything goes back to “normal” and we slip back into our old ways.

Easter, like Christmas, is a season of celebration. The question is, are we moved to press on with the Lord, or do we just look forward to sunshine and summer. There is one particular Sunday that in many Anglican churches, is called ‘Stir Up Sunday’.

That is exactly what Easter should be for us. A time to stir ourselves up. A time to rededicate our lives to Jesus, and to press on for a closer relationship with Him.

God does not call us to follow Jesus, and then simply be Sunday Christians. We are reminded in the book of Hebrews that Jesus has opened us for us **a new and living way** into God’s presence. That is for every day.

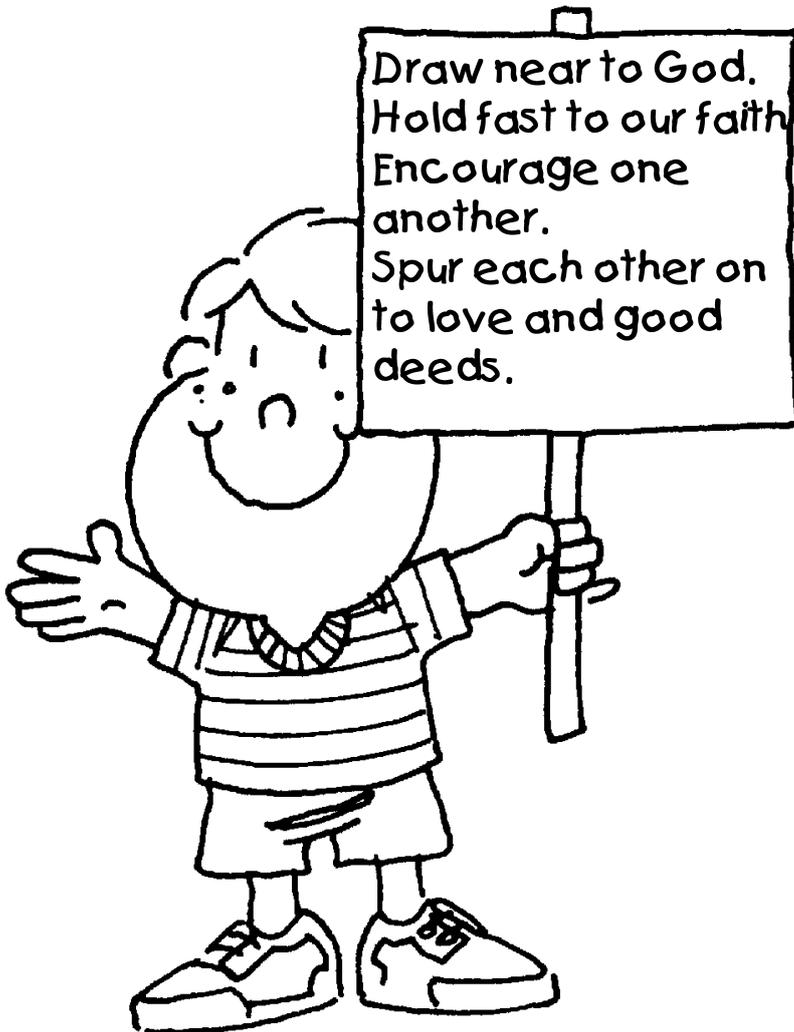
We are reminded to **draw near to God** with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith. That is about a daily relationship. It is so important not to lose sight of what Jesus has done for you and for me. He died that we may have our sins forgiven, and the way into the presence of God and our relationship with Him renewed. He died so that we may have that privilege - a daily walk with the Lord.

We are reminded to **hold fast** to what we have believed. It so easy for us to

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slip into a casual relationship with the Lord. Let's hold fast to what we have received and believed. It is so easy to get knocked about by all that is going on in the world round about us today, and so lose sight of what God has done for us, and to forget our daily walk with Him.



It is important that we **encourage one another** – it is so easy to condemn and moan about our fellow believers.....our brothers and sisters in Christ. Scripture reminds us – there is **one** body, **one** church, **one** Lord.

We are challenged to **spur one another on** to love and good deeds.

Four simple lines to keep before us each day.....

*Francis
Willoughby*

News, notes and prayer-opportunities

- Pick up a booking form today for the **ladies breakfast** on 20th May, please note breakfast is from 8.30am not 8am as advertised.
- *Church members:* Don't forget the AGM meeting on **Tuesday** at 7.30pm in the chapel.
- BBFC are in the **Christian Cup Final** on the 20th May at Charlton Athletic Football ground. If you would like a ticket and a place on one of the coaches please let the office know. The coaches leave the car park at Jempsons at 3.00pm. The coach is free to church supporters (a small donation is always welcome), but **BOOK YOUR PLACE NOW** before this is advertised more widely. Tickets on the gate will be £10 (£5 concessions) to all.

What's on this week...

Caterpillar Preschool (Tuesday to Friday) and Caterpillar Crew (Tuesday to Friday) plus:

Thursday 4th May the Manna House and kitchen will be used as a Polling Station for the local elections. There will be no access to these rooms for other users.

Sunday, April 30th. ● 8am Breakfast in the Manna House. ● 8.20am: Pre-meeting Prayers in the prayer room. ● 8.45am Chapel Gathering plus Youth Group. ● 10am Refreshments in the Manna House. ● 10.20am: Pre-meeting Prayers in the prayer room. ● 10.45am All Age Chapel Gathering. ● 5pm Informal Worship in the Chapel with Creche, Sunday Club and Youth Group. Refreshments from 4.30pm and after the service.

Tuesday, May 2nd. ● 9.15-11am Caterpillars Explorers Parent and Toddler Group. ● 9.15am: Prayer-for-Healing Group (prayer room). At 10.45am there will be prayer for all who come. ● 2pm: Tuesday Fellowship, Speaker: David Laskey. ● 7.30pm: Church AGM

Wednesday, May 3rd. ● 5.15-6.15pm: BBFC Youth training at the Rec. ● 6.30pm: BBFC training at the Rec. ● 7pm: Battle Baptist Runners meet at the church.

Thursday, May 4th. ● 2 to 3pm: Prayer meeting for the Middle East in the Prayer Room will be led by Mark Hirst & will focus on the team going out to the Holy Land to help with the Holiday Club in June this year.

Friday, May 5th. ● 7.30am: Early Morning Prayer in the Youth Room followed by a 'do it yourself' breakfast. ● 9.15am Chatterbox for mums, dads and carers (upstairs) & Friday Alpha ● 10.30am: Coffee Club (upstairs). ● 12.30pm: Friday Lunch Club for retired people. (Advance booking *essential* on 772192, weekdays between 6pm and 7pm.) ● 3.30-5pm: After School Club. ● 7-9pm: 4:12.

Sunday, May 7th. ● 8am Breakfast in the Manna House. ● 8.20am: Pre-meeting Prayers in the prayer room. ● 8.45am Chapel Gathering & communion plus Youth Group. ● 10am Refreshments in the Manna House. ● 10.20am: Pre-meeting Prayers in the prayer room. ● 10.45am Chapel Gathering with Creche & Sunday Club. ● 5pm Informal Worship in the Chapel with Creche, Sunday Club and Youth Group. Refreshments from 4.30pm and after the service.

"Do not wear yourself out to get rich;
have the wisdom to show restraint.
Cast but a glance at riches, and they are gone,
for they will surely sprout wings
and fly off to the sky like an eagle."
Proverbs 23:4-5

This week's prayer pointers

- ◆ Pray for the AGM on Tuesday. Pray that as a church we would be united and strengthened.
- ◆ Pray for church leaders in East Sussex as they receive invitations from Mark to a meeting about "The Turning" - a mission across East Sussex in 2018.
- ◆ Pray for Claire Grimble as she returns to Nepal for 5 weeks to complete research and pack up her house before returning to the UK to continue her studies at All Nations. Pray for her as she says goodbye (albeit a temporary goodbye) to the friends and contacts she has made in Nepal.

Dates for your diary

- ◆ 13th May Men's walk and breakfast at Alexandra Park.
- ◆ 20th May Ladies breakfast
- ◆ 7th-9th July SOLID—book now!!
- ◆ 25th –29th August Soul Survivor



Church maintenance issues: zionpremisesteam@gmail.com

Battle Baptist Church is part of Life with Hope Trust; registered charity 1134288, Mount Street, Battle, East Sussex TN33 0EG. • Website: www.battlebaptistchurch.org.uk •

Telephone and answerphone (01424) 774825 • Email: office@battlebaptistchurch.org.uk •

Caterpillar Preschool direct telephone line: (01424) 774997.

Ed Jones (Pastor) Francis Willoughby and Mark Hirst (Associate Pastors).
Our other elders: John Southam (Church Manager); Rob Duffill (Treasurer); Andy and Jo Garlick; Ben Garlick.
