

Battle Baptist Church

Being Transformed Together



11th July 2021

'The Lord is compassionate and merciful, slow to get angry and filled with unfailing love.'
Psalm 103:8



'...his unfailing love toward those who fear him is as great as the height of the heavens above the earth.'
Psalm 103:11



What's in a name?

I remember at Primary school one of my friends was called Ceawlin. At the time he was just another friend, along with the likes of Lloyd, Richard and Aaron. Okay his name was probably a little harder to spell at first, but to me growing up, it was just what he was called, what was so special or different about that?

There are a whole load of different reasons why we're given the names we have. Some names are chosen because of their meaning, others so we might follow in the footsteps of much-loved family members, friends, a famous sports personality or celebrity; or it may be simply that the parents like the sound it.

Some names move in and out of favour over time more than others. It's not uncommon for there to be more than one child with the same name in a given class at school. Then there are the seemingly endless websites that will inform you of the top names for girls and boys - you can even search for a specific year and location.

Characters we read about in the Bible often have names with certain meaning and significance. A classic example would be that of Moses. The name Moses comes from the Hebrew verb, meaning "to pull out/draw out" [of water]. He was given this name by Pharaoh's daughter after she rescued him from the Nile (Exodus 2:10).

Over the next couple of months, starting this weekend we're going to be looking at who Jesus said he was, seen through the names

that he gave himself. The 'I am sayings' as they are often referred to, found in John's gospel, provide an instant window into the person and character of Jesus.

Making up a distinctive part of his teaching, they express important truths both in terms of Jesus' own personal character, but also his mission - all that he came to earth do accomplish. They may appear as simple words, but ones with immense depth.

I wonder if there is one that instantly comes to mind or resonates with us and our story? Perhaps we've never really explored them before, don't even know what they are? Maybe they've sunk into the background, so well-known and memorised to the point that they no longer speak clearly to us?

Now, as we explore these powerful statements, each is a starting point in their own right to one of the many amazing facets that make Jesus who he is. I wonder how God is going to speak to us?

Gathering together week by week, what will God reveal to us afresh?

How might we come expectant and ready to grow as disciples?

On the journey that is life, wherever we find ourselves, how will we in turn seek to share these truths with others?

My prayer is that God will speak, that we may hear and by his Holy Spirit we may be empowered, encouraged, and equipped to share the power that is the name of Jesus.

Ed Jones

PRAYER POINTERS

Afghanistan

A military and diplomatic vacuum has opened up in Afghanistan now that US troops have left, with its neighbours Iran, Pakistan and Russia all involved. It is estimated that 1m Afghans will seek refuge from the Taliban in Iran.

BBC Outreach

Pray for those who watch our Sunday broadcasts who perhaps we don't know. That we may connect with them and welcome them just as they are. May they respond to the good news of Jesus' sacrifice 'once for all time' (Heb 10.10).

Caterpillar Pre-School

As the team enter the last week of term, pray particularly for good health and recuperation over the summer: it's been a tough year! Pray for good contact with families at the Leavers' Party on 14th July. For those moving up to school.

NEWSLETTER

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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.

Church maintenance issues:

zionpremisesteam@gmail.com



NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Marriage Course: Janet and Gary Walsh will be leading HTB's Marriage Course on Tuesdays from 27th July to 7th September via Zoom. Please contact the office if you'd like to participate.

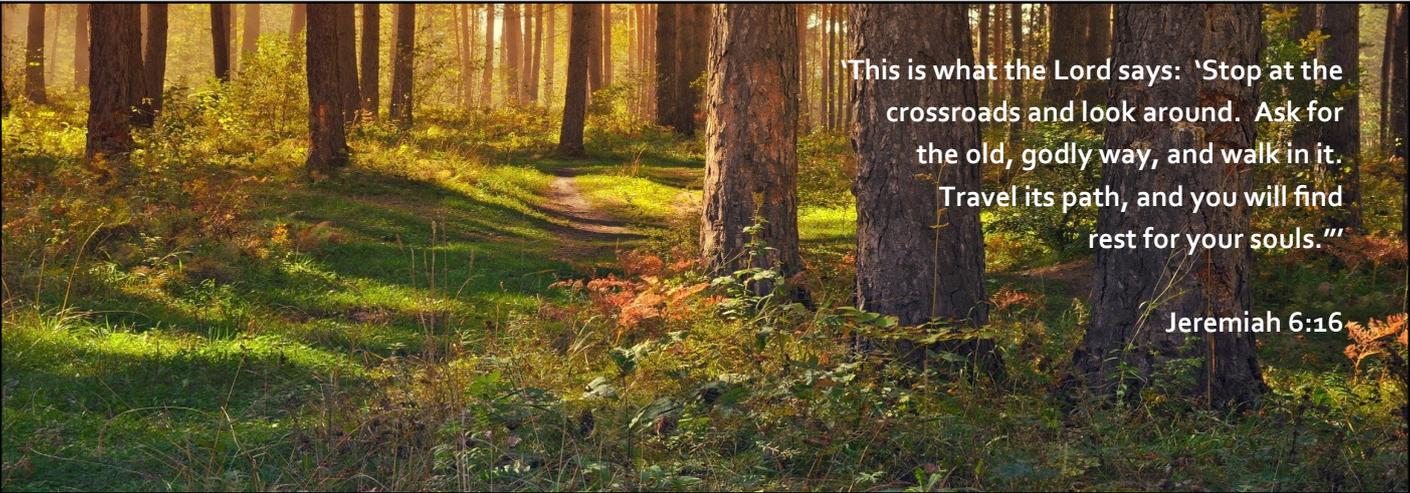
Church Weekend: Provisional dates for this are 14th- 16th October.

Membership: An application for church membership has been received from Kieran Dudgeon. As is our custom, if any member would like to comment on Kieran's application, please get in touch with the Elders.

Battle **Foodbank** needs a treasurer. It's a voluntary position, needing someone who can give about a hour a week and can use excel spreadsheets and do online banking. For further details please see Steve Reading or contact him on 07535 899 350.

WORLD VIEW

India: When Ankita's son fell seriously ill, she visited many doctors, but none could help him. "I decided to bring him to the church for prayers even though we were Hindus," she shares. "He was completely healed!" Ankita and her husband are now Christians. Praise God for all those coming to know Jesus through miraculous healings. Source: Open Doors



'This is what the Lord says: 'Stop at the crossroads and look around. Ask for the old, godly way, and walk in it. Travel its path, and you will find rest for your souls.'"

Jeremiah 6:16

What's on this week....

The Caterpillar Pre-School is open Monday to Friday

Sunday 11th July

- 10.30am **Worship Gathering:** online or at the chapel (please book your seats in advance)
- 5.30 - 6.30pm **Sunday Breakout** online for teens

Monday 12th July

- 9.30 - 10am **Prayer meeting**
- 3.45 - 5.15pm **Chosta** for years 7-13. Come along for games, chat, discussion and more.

Tuesday 13th July

- 10 - 11am **Walking Football** at the Rec

Wednesday 14th July

- 10 - 12 noon **Renew 1066** at Cherry Gardens
- 12 - 12.30pm **Prayer meeting** via Zoom
- 6.30pm **BTFC Runners** meet at the chapel

Thursday 15th July

- 9.30 - 10am **Prayer Meeting**
- 1 - 3pm **Worship Working Party** in the Youth Room

Friday 16th July

- 7.30 - 8.15am **Early Morning Prayers** in the Youth Room
- 7 - 9pm **BBC Youth** Check Instagram for exact details of timings and activities.

Sunday 18th July

- 10.30am **Worship Gathering** online or at the chapel (please book your seats in advance)
- 4pm **Service of Lament** followed by 4.45pm picnic tea and a time of sharing (from 5.15pm)
- 5 - 6pm **Sunday Breakout** online for teens