

Sunday 2nd
July 2017



Tommy Thomas ~ Superhero.

The children attending the holiday club in Ramallah a week or so ago followed a theme taken from 1 John 3 verse 18. “let us not love with words but with actions in truth”. We decided to share the story of Paul on each day, with his conversion, time in prison and the shipwreck on his way to Rome as particular action highlights. We spent the first thirty minutes each day singing actions songs and then told the story of Tommy Thomas – a schoolboy superhero! He is a very average boy who daydreams of being a Jedi Knight, **saving his friend “Princess” Anna from the villain of the piece, their teacher Mr Harris.** Each day the tale would end on the most incredible cliffhanger, only for everything to be resolved happily, until 5 minutes later we were all **left once more in suspense. Finally, “superhero” Tommy is elected as school president.** This all happens as Tommy is quietly and simply kind and generous to the other children in the school. His opponent, the best **sportsman and “top of the class” boy, also happens to the most big headed.** As you can imagine, Tommy himself is amazed that all his kind behaviour to other younger and more vulnerable children wins him the support required to be elected, overwhelmingly.



This story was introduced to our own holiday club by Josh Carter last October. It was well received by the children in Battle, and seemed to me to fit with our theme in Ramallah. With expert translation and the aid of a dressing gown and **bright green “light sabre”, the story brought to life** how each child could be a superhero in their daily life by their actions and attitude to one another.

Our time in the Holy Land was very special. It was a trip of two halves. The first was the time with the children. The second part involved visiting a number of significant places connected to the life of Jesus. For everyone there will have been a “special” moment. **For me it was the opportunity to stand** *continues...*

Bringing Life to the Heart of 1066 Country, and beyond

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on top of mount Arbel overlooking the northern part of the Sea of Galilee. This is a fairly small part of the area around Capernaum where Jesus spent those three years of his ministry reported in the Gospels, before the final journey south to Jerusalem. Two thousand years is a very long time. The majority of the places we were able to visit are, mostly, traditionally the places written about in the gospel. What is absolutely definite is that while on the land or out on the water, the landscape, the hills and the mountains would have been the backdrop to his teaching.

Let me encourage you with Psalm 121 that has been a backdrop to my following Him....

I lift up my eyes to the mountains ~ where does my help come from?

My help comes from the LORD, the Maker of heaven and earth.

He will not let your foot slip ~ he who watches over you will not slumber;

indeed, he who watches over Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.

The LORD watches over you ~ the LORD is your shade at your right hand;

the sun will not harm you by day, nor the moon by night.

The LORD will keep you from all harm ~ he will watch over your life;

the LORD will watch over your coming and going both now and forevermore.

Yours in Christ

John Southam

News, notes and prayer-opportunities

- Please get baking/buying cakes for SOLID (children's Christian camp). Your donations are greatly appreciated by tired and hungry leaders & children. Gluten free cakes would be appreciated too! Please deliver them to the office by 9.30am on Friday 7th July.
- *Reminder for your diary.* On each 1st Thursday of the month, there will be a World Mission prayer-meeting; 2pm to 3pm in the Prayer Room, led by Peter Woodcraft. *Do come if you are free.*
- Everyone is welcome to join us on Monday night for Prayer and Praise in the chapel from 7.30pm.
- With many Sunday leaders and children away at SOLID next weekend there will be no Sunday clubs at 10.45am or 5pm.
- We send our love and condolences to Steve and Lyndon Keen whose daughter Helena died a few days ago after a brief illness. Helena was born with severe learning and physical difficulties and for many years was a constant presence sitting in her wheelchair when the congregation met at Claverham. She was also known by many from her participation in the programme of the Parchment Trust. Helen packed a lot into her 34 years and will be sadly missed by family and

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What's on this week...

Caterpillar Preschool (Monday to Friday) and Caterpillar Crew (Monday to Friday) plus;

Sunday, July 2nd. ● 8am Breakfast in the Manna House. ● 8.20am: Pre-meeting Prayers in the prayer room. ● 8.45am Chapel Gathering and baptism plus Youth Group. ● 10am Refreshments in the Manna House. ● 10.20am: Pre-meeting Prayers in the prayer room. ● 10.45am Chapel Gathering. ● 5pm Informal Worship and communion with Youth Group, Sunday Club and Creche. Refreshments from 4.30pm and after the service.

Monday, July 3rd. ● 9.15-11:45am Caterpillars Parent and Toddler Group. ● 7.30pm: Prayer and Praise.

Tuesday, July 4th. ● 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: Ed Jones.

Wednesday, July 5th. ● 6.30-8.30pm: BBFC training Claverham field. ● 7pm: Battle Baptist Runners meet at the church.

Thursday, July 6th. ● 9.15-11:45am: Caterpillars Parent and Toddler Group. ● 2-3pm: World Mission prayer meeting in the prayer room.

Friday, July 7th. ● 7.30am: Early Morning Prayers in the Youth Room followed by a 'do it yourself' breakfast. ● 9.15am Chatterbox for mums, dads and carers (upstairs). ● 10.45am: Coffee Club in the Youth Room. ● 12.30pm: Friday Lunch Club for retired people. (Advance booking *essential* on 772192, weekdays between 6pm and 7pm.)

Sunday, July 9th. ● 8am Breakfast in the Manna House. ● 8.20am: Pre-meeting Prayers in the prayer room. ● 8.45am Chapel Gathering and communion plus Youth Group. ● 10am Refreshments in the Manna House. ● 10.20am: Pre-meeting Prayers in the prayer room. ● 10.45am Chapel Gathering. ● 5pm Informal Worship with Youth Group. Refreshments from 4.30pm and after the service.

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carers alike. A service of Thanksgiving will be held on Wednesday 12th June at 12noon here - all are warmly welcome. ● Mark is preaching at Ringmer Church today, please pray for him.

Prayer and Praise

Monday 3rd July 7.30pm

Worship and seek the heart of God – together.

This week's prayer pointers :

- ◆ Pray for Sebastian as he is baptised at the 8.45am gathering. Pray **that he would grow into a man after God's heart.**
- ◆ Pray for **SOLID children's camp next weekend. Pray for safety, fun and that God's love and grace would be received by the children and adults attending.**
- ◆ Pray that **God would be glorified at Monday's prayer and praise evening** and that our ears would be open to hear His voice.

Dates for your diary

- ◆ 7th-9th July SOLID children's camp.
- ◆ 17th July Church Meeting
- ◆ 25th-29th August Soul Survivor
- ◆ 3rd September BBB10k run



Church maintenance issues: zionpremisesteam@gmail.com
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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.