

St. Paul's Barton Newsletter 11.03.21

The fourth of our six week Lent sermon series will be on Sunday 14th March when our speaker is Rev. Kelvin Burke. Many are using the book by Dave Smith "**40 days with Jesus**" together with **additional** Bible study materials. The Bible Study notes for **Week 4 "Overcoming Failure"** based on John Ch21 Verses 1-22 are included below.



What's Happening

Thursday 11th March at 7:30pm

Bible teaching from Rivi Litvin - Matthew.

To take part please contact us with your email address and you will then receive a Zoom invitation for the session along with an email with a handout for the study from Rivi.

Sunday 14th March at 10:00am

Mothering Sunday

Fourth Sunday of Lent

Word & Worship Service - Rev. Kelvin Burke.

Lent sermon Series 4 - Overcoming Failure John 21 v1-22.



Zoom Coffee at 12 noon - Contact us for a link.

40 Days with Jesus Bible Study Groups

The **Monday Fellowship Group** and the **Tuesday Group** are meeting for six consecutive weeks. If you would like a Zoom link to either group please contact us.

Monday Group at 7:30pm - Week 4 - 15th, Week 5 - 22nd & Week 6 - 29th.

Tuesday Group at 7:15pm - Week 4 - 16th, Week 5 - 23rd & Week 6 - 30th.

Wednesday 17th March

Evening Prayer (at home) 7:30pm.

If you can, join with us at home as we come before God.

Readings: Psalms 52 & 91, Exodus Ch4 v1-23 & Hebrews Ch10 v1-18.

Collect:

Merciful Lord,

you know our struggle to serve you:

when sin spoils our lives

and overshadows our hearts,

come to our aid

and turn us back to you again;

through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Evening prayer words are on our website.

Sunday 21st March at 10:00am

Worship & Communion Service - Speaker: Jane Shyvers

Wednesday 24th March at 7:30pm

PCC Meeting (Zoom).

Sunday 28th March at 10:00am

Palm Sunday

All-Age Service - Speaker: Josh Haywood

Thursday 1st April - Maundy Thursday

Friday 2nd April - Good Friday at 2:00pm

Good Friday Reflection with Rev. Dozie Moneme.

Saturday 3rd April at 10:00am - 11:00am

Prayer for Israel & the Middle East (Zoom)

Contact us for a link.

Sunday 4th April - Easter Sunday

Easter Sunday Worship & Communion Service

- with Rev. Dozie Moneme.

Sunday Services

Our Sunday services are all streamed live on the church Facebook page and are available to watch later on the church's Facebook page, Website and YouTube channel.

To attend in person you need to book for Sunday services as due to Covid restrictions seating capacity is limited. **Remember that you must maintain strict social distancing in the church.** To book contact Ian (see the Church Directory for the number) contact us via the church website or text **07947 153 344**.

After Church Coffee

Join us on Zoom for Coffee at 12:00 noon after the Sunday Service (make your own of course!). Phone or text **07947 153 344** or contact us via the church website for a link.



Offering / Giving

If you are part of St. Paul's and have not yet committed to regular giving, we ask you to prayerfully seek God's will regarding this.

Ways to Give:

- **Set up a Standing Order** from your bank, you can request a form from Penny (our treasurer), or download one from our website. Just fill it in and send it to her or phone for more details or to arrange for your form to be collected.
- **You can send a cheque**, payable to: **PCC of St. Paul's (Barton Parish)** to Penny.
- If you use online banking, you can give to St. Paul's by **Bank Transfer or by setting up a Standing Order**. Details of the church bank account are:
Bank: **NatWest Newport Isle of Wight**
Account Name: **Parochial Church Council of St. Pauls, Barton Parish**
Sort Code: **54-10-34**
Account Number: **92513263**

If you are a tax payer and have not filled in a **Gift Aid Form** these are available from Penny or on the church website.



Gafcon IOW is pleased to announce the launch of its website www.gafconiow.org.uk

Gafcon IOW is a group of Anglicans from a number of Island Churches both within and outside the Church of England, biblically faithful, diverse in culture, churchmanship and united in mission

Visit the website for more information and to join us in proclaiming the gospel of Jesus Christ.

<https://www.gafconiow.org.uk/>

Tristan is 18 on Wednesday 17th March!



Little Rascals - St. Paul's Toddler Group

I cannot believe that Tristan, now a 6-foot mature, talented young man, was one of our first Little Rascals (St. Paul's Mums and toddler group) 16 years ago!

The seeds of the group were originally sown in my heart during a conversation I had with dear Stella (Page) in 1999. A few years later some of our own children were taking their own youngsters to a very busy toddler group in Newport and were thinking that a smaller one would be a happier experience. This coincided with Mrs. Gill of Westmont School, whose piano Andrew tuned, closing her nursery department. She was keen to offload her equipment- God works in amazing ways! So Little Rascals was born!

Little Rascals

TODDLER GROUP



Now, 16 years later, we are still going strong, or were until we sadly were forced to close due to the pandemic, we had just celebrated our 15th birthday! We have however kept in touch with our members during the year to let them know that we continue to think and pray for them.

We have so enjoyed 16 years of meeting every Tuesday morning in the Christian Centre; sessions full of craft, painting, playing

together, music and fun; but above all friendship, support happiness and love. We know of some Mums who are still friends after 16 years thanks to Little Rascals.

We have been so very grateful to our wonderfully loyal helpers over the years but we are not getting any younger and we have lost lovely Lena from our faithful staff team. So we are asking ourselves, what of the future? Perhaps this is the time when we change the format of the sessions?

There is such a need in our area for support for Mums/Dads/Grandparents/Aunties, their babies and toddlers and we feel it is essential that some provision is in place.

We would very much appreciate your prayers for this situation please.

Many thanks, **Barbara**.

For the children >>

Josh has been busy again producing bible stories for Easter. The second one is now available on the St. Paul's **YouTube channel**. This week we are looking at Jesus and the Temple Just under 4 minutes long great for kids - do pass it on...



An Atheist In The Woods

An atheist was walking through the woods.

"What majestic trees!"

"What powerful rivers!"

"What beautiful animals!"

He said to himself.

As he was walking alongside the river, he heard a rustling in the bushes behind him. He turned to look. He saw a 7-foot grizzly charge towards him. He ran as fast as he could up the path. He looked over his shoulder and saw that the bear was closing in on him. He looked over his shoulder again, and the bear was even closer. He tripped & fell on the ground.



He rolled over to pick himself up but saw that the bear was right on top of him, reaching for him with his left paw and raising his right paw to strike him.

At that instant the Atheist cried out, "Oh my God!"

- Time Stopped.

- The bear froze.

- The forest was silent.

As a bright light shone upon the man, a voice came out of the sky.

"You deny my existence for all these years, teach others I don't exist and even credit creation to cosmic accident. Do you expect me to help you out of this predicament? Am I to count you as a believer?"

The atheist looked directly into the light, "It would be hypocritical of me to suddenly ask You to treat me as a Christian now, but perhaps You could make the BEAR a Christian?"

"Very Well," said the voice.

- The light went out.

- The sounds of the forest resumed.

- And the bear dropped his right paw, brought both paws together, bowed his head and spoke:

"Lord bless this food, which I am about to receive from thy bounty through Christ our Lord, Amen."

(Thanks to Sylv!)

Bits & Pieces >>>

Cleaners this week - This week the church is being cleaned by Kathy and Ian - thank you!

Change of telephone number - Please note that the new landline number for the Vicarage is **01983 590475**.

Prayers please... Please remember Pat A. who is still unwell and those in our church family who will be remembering special dates and anniversaries of their loved ones who have gone to be with the Lord.

Parking at the Christian Centre - Please note that the parking barriers are now back in place at the Christian Centre as we prepare it for use again. If you have any access requests or issues please speak to Kevin.

Thanks from the IW Foodbank - Dear All at St Paul's Barton, We would like to thank you for your kind and generous donation of £222.00 which will go towards the work we do with families and individuals in need throughout the Isle of Wight.

The Isle of Wight Foodbank has fed 4,521 people since April last year. This can feel like a seemingly hopeless situation and the Foodbank can never be the whole answer but, with your support, you have brought hope to those in crisis.

The food bank relies on the support of people across the Isle of Wight and further afield, particularly now when we have experienced even greater levels of need.

The Isle of Wight Foodbank believes the recent local increase is due to people struggling with low income and loss of work due to coronavirus. Your compassionate contribution helps us to continue helping serve those who are in hunger poverty. Many Thanks - **IW Foodbank**.

Book Review

For all avid readers, and a must for every Christian...

"Beyond The Pandemic" by Clifford Hill.

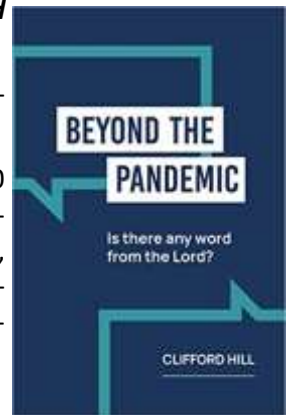
It is revealing, scriptural, and prophetic for the days we are living in.

Clifford is the author of more than 40 books, well known in Britain and internationally, as a preacher, lecturer, writer and broadcaster, with a prophetic ministry. He writes with passion, clarity, and pulls no punches.

[Available on Amazon £10.00](#)

Pam

*Have you read a good book (or a bad one!) recently?
Send your review to Kevin.*



Revive Prayer Letter

Dear Prayer Partners,

March is here, and Spring is on our doorstep, with the warm sunshine, and daffodils everywhere, there is a definite feeling of hope in the air. Spring always does hold that feeling of new beginnings, but this year it has a whole new meaning of hope. Finally, there really does seem to be the ever quoted 'light at the end of the tunnel', as the way out of lockdown and all that means to us as families, as well as for businesses, can be seen.

I was reminded of the verse **Romans 15:13, "May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit."**



WE CAN'T GIVE YOU A PAY-RISE, BUT WE CAN GIVE YOU A PARKING SPACE AT WEEKENDS

That seems to be a really good prayer for all of us, to start this letter!

So here are Pete's prayer requests for this coming month:

◆ **Newport Youth Cafe and Detached Youth Work**

Praise God that all the team have been able to get their jobs, so they will be able to get back out on the streets, to do their detached youth work, once the schools have gone back, and after the three weeks allowing for the vaccinations to take effect. If ever this contact was needed it is now, along side the media outreach. Pray for the team members as they go out in faith and hope, to these young people, and pass that on to them.

◆ **The Living Room**

It is looking like the Café should be able to open in May, which is really exciting, as we can't wait to be able to see people in person again, so please pray that we will be ready to make a difference in the lives of our customers, and to the people in our community that need us.

Please pray for all the team, also pray for wisdom on whether to try to open a week or two earlier to do a take away service.

◆ **Communication**

We have been a charity for 10 years now, and have been working in many ways in the community since 2005. Despite this, it feels as if many people still don't know who or what we are, or what we do, so we are going to work hard this year to communicate better with people through Facebook, Instagram, and other ways. Please pray that we will be guided in our efforts, and that in everything we will be seen to show and demonstrate the love of the Saviour we are seeking to serve.

◆ **Expanding Our Work**

We have been feeling that there is an even greater need for the work of Revive, and the Church in general, to be more active in our towns and communities, especially after all we have been through over the last year. Please pray as we seek God for new ways to expand what we do to reach more people, as well improving what we are already doing.

◆ **Please keep Pete and his family** in your prayers, giving thanks that they are all continuing to do well, and pray for covering as Pete becomes even busier as his Revive work increases, as lockdown is lifted.

I am sure that you will all pick up, as I have done, that Pete wants to move forwards, onwards and upwards! I have found myself praying 'for vision, and for provision for the vision!' Maybe you could join with me, as we pray to the God of all Hope!

I trust that each one of you, our lovely partners in prayer, are also keeping well and safe, and your loved ones also. As this year, and the lockdown, opens up, I pray that you will know God's guiding and peace in all aspects of your lives also.

Thank you again for being there, and supporting us in your prayers, needed now more than ever as we move forward in all that God has planned. Love and blessings, **Maureen Revive Prayer Coordinator.**

As you may or may not know Michele & Liz D both work for Revive Newport and the team have just started to raise £1,000 by walking 1,000k by the end of April.

The money raised will go back into the local Newport community. You can help us reach that target by visiting <https://revivenewport.org/donate/> - Every little helps! Thank You!

Team Revive are

**WALKING
1000K
TO RAISE
£1000**



Please support me and the team as we walk 1000k by 30 April 2021 by donating below

Money raised will be used to bless those living in our community



Be broken and fill with His anointing!

Mark 14:3 And being in Bethany in the house of Simon the leper, as he sat at meat, there came a woman having an alabaster box of ointment of spikenard very precious; and she brake the box, and poured it on his head.

This touching story of how Yeshua (Jesus) was anointed before His crucifixion carries a beautiful illustration that has ministered to me time and again. I have wondered why the alabaster box needed to be broken when Mary could have simply opened it and poured out the nard; (extremely expensive and precious perfume which might have been Mary's dowry).

One commentator said that she refused to use that box for any other purpose after anointing Him. That would make sense if it was Mary's dowry because it would be an expression of a bridal vow to Yeshua and no one else. But whatever the motive in her heart, Mary's example speaks powerfully of the total devotion and commitment her soul had for Yeshua, her will to give the best of everything she had; and it speaks of brokenness followed by anointing and its beautiful fragrance.

So I believe this act is an illustration meant to encourage every devoted soul whose offering of herself brings circumstances which "break" her. The fragrance of perfume following the breaking "fills the room".

Broken people "smell" different. Their humility and love are an ambiance that is unmistakable. Being broken before the Lord affects everyone around... as the Apostle Paul said, "... we are a fragrance of Christ to God among those who are being saved and among those who are perishing;" (2 Corinthians 2:15). And Paul was a broken man.

We should never be ashamed to be broken, even if we are criticized by those around us, as Mary was. The Lord's com-



mendation of her has travelled around the world for 2,000 years and inspired millions of believers in circumstances that break them. God will not deny a broken heart and a contrite spirit. When we offer ourselves and our most precious things, whether they be material, personal, dreams, longings, loved ones, or our very destinies, on the altar of sacrifice, it is then that God's anointing will be greatest upon us. It will pour out of us like the ointment from that broken alabaster box -- and His pleasure in us will "fill the room".

Know that when you offer your best to the Lord your hard beautiful stone box will be broken, and after that, the fragrance of your life will be beautiful wherever you go.

George Whitten <https://worthyministries.com>

Lent Bible Study Notes - Week 4

INTRO In this session we are going to be looking at a stunning example of overcoming failure. Simon Peter reached a very low point in his life when he denied Jesus three times. Yet within a couple of months, he was boldly preaching about Jesus on the Day of Pentecost, and became one of the greatest leaders in the history of the Church. What made the difference? An encounter with the risen Jesus! This story contains two hugely encouraging lessons:

1. Jesus helps us in our **present struggles**
2. Jesus heals us from our **past failures**

BRING YOUR BIBLES Read aloud **John 21:1–17**, encouraging everyone to follow along in their own Bibles. The more translations the better as each may highlight something different.

Now allow the whole group the opportunity to share what stood out anew to them and why.

QUESTIONS

1. *[If your church are running the 40 Days with Jesus sermons]* What particularly impacted you from Sunday's message?
2. *[If you are using the small group videos instead]* What particularly impacted you from this week's message?
3. What particular struggle are the disciples facing in verses 1–3? What strikes you about the problem and/or the context of the situation?
Note to leader: there is nothing extraordinary about the situation. This is the disciples normal day-to-day life, they were getting on with their daily routine.
4. In verse 4 we see how Jesus is present in the midst of the disciples' daily struggles. Do we believe that this is still true for us today? Are we like the disciples who initially fail to recognise Him? How might we allow Jesus to speak into our daily routine and struggles?
5. How did the disciples respond to the advice Jesus gave them? How can we be open to His calling in our lives?
6. Read the following phrase out loud and take a moment in quiet to dwell on it:

The Creator has all the knowledge and power that we will ever need. He knows more about the fish than the fishermen! He knows more about accountancy than the accountant, more about business than the entrepreneur, more about parenting than parents, more about teaching than teachers, more about life and more about reaching people than we do!

Do you believe this to be true, and if so how should it affect our lives and decision making?

7. Look at verse 5. How does Jesus refer to the disciples? What does this reveal to us about the heart of God?
8. In verses 15–17 we see God's heart for us being demonstrated through Jesus' discussion with Peter. Jesus is coming to him to heal him from his past failure, not to condemn him. What strikes you about how Jesus speaks to Peter? How is this different to when we have been let down by someone else or when we have let someone else down?
9. What is the significance of Jesus' question to Peter? Why is He focusing so strongly on Peter's love and heart for Him?
10. In denying Jesus three times how was Peter failing to keep the great commandment: Love the Lord your God with all your heart, mind, soul and strength?
Note to leader: Despite showing courage by following Jesus, Peter's reaction ultimately revealed that he loved himself, his reputation and what others thought of him – more than he loved Jesus.

SHARE YOUR STORY You can discuss the following questions together as one group or, if individuals prefer, you could split into groups of two or three.

1. Are there times in your life when, like Peter, you have very specifically known the love and forgiveness of Jesus? How has His forgiveness empowered and equipped you to move forward into His ministry?
2. 'The call is greater than the fall.' Think of Bible accounts of other people who experienced a fall, but were re-instated by God. Encourage each other with Bible promises that we can draw on when facing a sense of failure (eg Romans 8:27–39).

PRAY TOGETHER Take the time to invite the Holy Spirit. Perhaps begin with prayers of worship and thanksgiving, then you may choose to follow these suggestions for specific prayer:

You could pray:

- for anyone in the group who is facing past or present failure
- that God will give you 'surprise appointments' with people who need to know that Jesus helps with past and present failure
- that you will all know Jesus' power and presence wherever you go.