



LENT
A TIME OF PREPARATION



Green Lane
BAPTIST CHURCH

MARCH 2020 Newsletter

Sarah's Message

For Lent or for Life?

In some church traditions, God's people give things up for Lent. This is not a regular part of Baptist spirituality. The purpose of the 'giving up' is to allow a more focussed time seeking God's will without the distractions of (for example) complicated cookery or luxury items or technology that swallows time unnoticed.

A practice through Lent that helps us focus on spending time with God and discerning His will must be a positive thing, though, so as deacons and minister, we would like to invite you to 'take up' something instead. Throughout Lent we will be having a prayer initiative where we can come together and pray in different ways, speaking to God and listening for what His Spirit might say.

We are half way through the first week – there is a meeting on Monday morning at 10.30 and another on Tuesday at 7.30. On Wednesday, there is a meeting from 8-9pm, as there will be every Wednesday through Lent. Even if you cannot manage every meeting of the first week, we encourage you to come for the next 6 weeks. The final Wednesday (8th April) will also include sung worship and food.

I would encourage you to think about whether concentrated times of prayer should be just for Lent, or for life?

Rev. Sarah Bingham

Lent Fellowship Prayer initiative sessions start Wednesday 26th with the film "War Room". Please see diary for dates and times throughout Lent.

Rob White and the family would like to thank everyone for their kind words of sympathy, support, telephone calls, visits and prayers after their sad loss of Jean.

Thank you all. Rob White

BIBLE STUDY – Jessica Kirby

Bible study is a highlight of my week, I look forward to it. I have been a regular attendee of the Sunday evening group ever since it began. I have found it helpful because it has helped me to get to know people from church on a deeper level and social level. It has been a safe place to discuss problems and ask for prayer in my personal life and form trust. It has also helped me to formulate opinions and gain confidence in what I believe, through being able to say what I think about the topic/ what I have read. I have also found it relevant to my life and regularly find that what we are reading in the book 'The Eyes Of The Heart' relates to the workplace and my attitudes and perceptions.

The weekly Sunday evening Bible Study is at 6.30pm hosted at Richard and Jo Timmis at their house. Please see them for information.

The evening begins with a welcoming environment with refreshments and chat about our week, followed by the book study. The book we are currently studying 'The Eyes Of The Heart' is a useful book to remember the importance of pausing to listen and paying attention, as opposed to always being quick to speak and act, to hear God speak.

The other Bible Study meets weekly on Wednesday at 11:30am at church, targeting people who are available to meet midweek. The Wednesday group have just started a systematic journey through Mathew's gospel.

MEND-IT

The Mend-It fundraising quiz raised £190 profit in aid of our midweek community project. Thanks to Anna and everyone who either came or donated. We were also grateful to guests from St Matthew's Church who attended and we thank them for their wonderful support.