

IN *touch*

OCT
2018

the monthly newsletter for Rushden High Street Independent Wesleyan Church

...I've never done that before!

...THOUGHT
FOR THE
MONTH

How do you feel when you have to do something for the first time? It might be going to a new place or it could be meeting a particular person. In the church it might be taking on a new role. At work it is perhaps tackling a new responsibility. For some it's quite an easy thing to do while for others it can be very difficult – how will I cope?

There is an incident recorded in the New Testament from which I feel we can learn an important lesson as we face new, and sometimes daunting challenges. It is recorded in Matthew chapter 14. Jesus has just fed the five thousand, and at the end of the day He sent His disciples in a boat across the Sea of Galilee, while He went on to a mountainside to pray. In the early hours of the morning, the boat was buffeted by the waves because the wind was against it. Jesus went out to the sea, walking on the water, but when the disciples saw Him they thought it was a ghost! Jesus said "Take courage! It is I. Don't be afraid". Peter, the one who always seemed to jump in wanted to walk on water too – and Jesus gave him the opportunity: "Come".

He'd never done this before (I don't think anyone had!), but there are three important lessons for us in what happened.

1 . He had to take the first step. That's always the hardest ... but it's something that must be done. Be willing to do that – as John Ortberg entitled his book – 'If you want to walk on water, you've got to get out of the boat'. What is it you're facing? – Take the first step.

2 . When he looked around and saw the effect of the wind, he started to sink. So often we focus on all the difficulties and things that could go wrong. The problem was that he took his eyes off Jesus and looked at the circumstances. Let's keep our eyes fixed on Him.

3 . He cried out, "Lord, save me!". That's the best response when we're trying something new and it feels overwhelming – call out and ask God to help you through.

You might not walk on water – but whatever you're facing – take the first step, keep your eyes on Jesus, ask Him for help. You'll get there!

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the word for today

'the things we can't see now will last forever'

(2 Corinthians 4:18 MSG)

Source:

The Word for Today
United Christian
Broadcasters,

Westport Road,
Stoke-on-Trent, ST6 4JF

Free issues of the daily
devotional are available for
the UK & Republic of Ireland.

...welcome this change!

We enjoy the blessings of change, but not the process of change. We're creatures of habit. We form our habits, and our habits form us. Then we start to see things exclusively from our own perspective. And when that happens – we stagnate. The truth is, without change there is no growth. When you have the right attitude every experience – positive and negative – becomes an opportunity for progress. Think about it: trees need more than sunshine to produce fruit. Rainy seasons are productive seasons too, and they always precede the harvest.

You don't have to like rain, you just have to understand its purpose and benefits. The Bible says that every day 'the Lord... makes us more and more like him... we are changed into his glorious image' (2 Corinthians 3:18 NLT). But to become like Jesus you must follow wherever He leads. That means following Him through the wilderness of temptation, the pain of rejection, the forfeiting of your reputation, the surrendering your will, and being ready to go to the place of crucifixion where you die to all forms of self-centred living. Following Jesus may mean being in a different location tomorrow than you are today. Once you grasp this principle, you'll stop fearing and resisting the changes taking place in your life and start seeing God at work in them. Paul says: 'Even though on the outside it... looks like things are falling apart... on the inside... God is making new life... The things we see now are here today, gone tomorrow. But the things we can't see now will last forever' (2 Corinthians 4: 16 – 18 MSG).



church offerings

SUNDAY 12th	AUGUST	£258.50
SUNDAY 19th	AUGUST	£284.90
SUNDAY 26th	AUGUST	£263.00
SUNDAY 2nd	SEPTEMBER	£256.00
SUNDAY 9th	SEPTEMBER	£285.00
SUNDAY 16th	SEPTEMBER	£177.30

In addition, the sum of £1295 was paid direct to the bank in August. If you would like to give in this way, please see Richard Weekley. Many thanks



Coming Soon – Messy Church!

We are changing the name of '2nd Sunday' to 'Messy Church', in order that we might join with many churches all over the country and use the same 'branding'. We are hoping that we can raise the profile of this service and attract new people to join with us.

Please will you consider who you could invite? Bring your family and friends – it will be suitable for all ages. There will be crafts (but don't worry, anyone can take part in them!), chat, drama, games, videos, a short interactive talk and more - and of course, lovely refreshments to finish. No-one will be asked to do anything they're not comfortable with!

Messy Church – the 2nd Sunday of every month @ 4.00pm – Don't miss it!



assembly dates this month (for your prayers please)

- WEDNESDAY 3rd October** – South End Infant School (Anne)
- WEDNESDAY 10th October** – Tennyson Road Infant School
- WEDNESDAY 17th October** – Denfield Park Primary School (harvest)
- WEDNESDAY 17th October** – Alfred Street Junior School
- TUESDAY 30th October** – Whitefriars Primary School
- WEDNESDAY 31st October** – South End Infant School (Anne)

inTouch articles

If you have anything you'd like to put in future editions of inTouch then please pass it to Phil or Colin.



october 2018

weekday diary dates

TUES	2nd	10.00am	Prayer Meeting – 15 Fern Road
		2.00pm	Short Mat Bowls
WEDS	3rd	9.15am	Jellybabes Toddler Group
		7.30pm	Home Group – 7 Lodge Road
THURS	4th	6.00pm	Allsorts Children's Club
		7.30pm	Y-Not Youth Club
SAT	6th	9.00am	Leaders' Morning at the Mission Church
		10.00am	Coffee Morning
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MON	8th	7.30pm	START Course at The Coffee Barne, Higham Ferrers
TUES	9th	10.00am	Prayer Meeting – 50 Boundary Avenue
		2.00pm	Short Mat Bowls
WEDS	10th	9.15am	Jellybabes Toddler Group
		7.30pm	Home Group – 7 Lodge Road
THURS	11th	1.00pm	Women's Auxiliary Harvest & Ploughman's Lunch
		6.00pm	Allsorts Children's Club
		7.30pm	Y-Not Youth Club
SAT	13th	10.00am	Circuit Prayer Meeting at Alma Street
		10.00am	Coffee Morning
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MON	15th	7.30pm	START Course at The Coffee Barne, Higham Ferrers
TUES	16th	10.00am	Prayer Meeting – 15 Fern Road
		2.00pm	Short Mat Bowls
		7.30pm	Leaders' Meeting at the Manse
WEDS	17th	9.15am	Jellybabes Toddler Group
		7.30pm	Home Group – 7 Lodge Road
THURS	18th	6.00pm	Allsorts Children's Club
		7.30pm	Y-Not Youth Club
FRI	19th	6.00pm	Family Cinema Night – 'Peter Rabbit'
SAT	20th	10.00am	Coffee Morning
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TUES	23rd	10.00am	Prayer Meeting – 50 Boundary Avenue
		2.00pm	Short Mat Bowls
SAT	27th	10.00am	Coffee Morning
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MON	29th	7.30pm	START Course at The Coffee Barne, Higham Ferrers
TUES	30th	10.00am	Prayer Meeting – 15 Fern Road
		2.00pm	Short Mat Bowls
WEDS	31st	9.15am	Jellybabes Toddler Group
		7.30pm	Home Group – 7 Lodge Road



october 2018

sundays at high street

SUNDAY **7th** 10.45am Rev. Phil Hearson
(*incl. Communion*)

6.00pm Wymington Chapel Harvest -
Rev. Ian Fall

SUNDAY **14th** 10.45am Rev. Phil Hearson

4.00pm **Messy Church!**

SUNDAY **21st** 10.45am Mr. Richard Keech

SUNDAY **28th** 9.45am Breakfast

10.45am **Informal Service**

6.00pm Wymington Chapel
Rev. Ian Fall

a reminder...

Should you ever find it difficult to join us for any service you wish to attend please don't hesitate to speak to either the minister or a church leader about arranging a lift, we are always happy to sort something out - **don't miss out!**



generous givers

The following article was in 'Our Daily Bread' – we've been asked to print it as an encouragement and challenge as we look to build our hall extension.

'Everything comes from you, and we have only given what comes from your hand' – 1 Chronicles 29 v 14

After reviewing all God had already done throughout our church's history, leaders presented the congregation with a proposal for a new gym to help us better serve our community. The leadership team announced they'd be the first to sign pledge notes to fund the construction. I initially prayed with a heart soured by selfishness, not wanting to offer more money than we had already committed to give. Still, my husband and I agreed to pray for the ongoing project. While considering all God continued to provide for us, we eventually decided on a monthly offering. The combined gifts of our church family paid for the entire building.

Grateful for the many ways God used that gym for community events since we celebrated opening its doors for ministry, I'm reminded of another generous giver – King David. Though the Lord didn't choose him to build His temple, David invested all his resources to the project (1 Chronicles 29:1 – 5). The leaders under him and the people they served gave generously too (vv. 6 – 9). The king acknowledged all they'd contributed had first been given to them by God – the Creator, Sustainer and Owner of everything (vv. 10 – 16).

When we recognise God owns it all, we can commit to grateful, generous and faithful giving for the benefit of others. And we can trust the Lord will provide – and may even use the generosity of others to help us when we're in need.

Lord, please help us remember You own it all as we commit to giving You our all, willingly and selflessly.

'God gives first, and He always outgives the most generous givers'

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prayer for changing seasons

Faithful Father,

As the leaves change colour and fall we are reminded of life's changing seasons. We become aware that time passes more quickly than we expect or plan for. Help us to make the most of each day You give us - and to be thankful.

Thank you that through all the changing seasons You are unchanging. Your love goes on reaching out. Thank You for sending Jesus who died to make it possible for us to know You and come to You when our days on earth are completed. Help us to trust Him, to receive Him and to live in the power of His Spirit, now and forever.

In Jesus' name, Amen.



church birthdays

If you would like to be included please let Jeanette know and we'll endeavour to get a card to you on the Sunday nearest the date, giving us all the chance to wish one another all the best on our birthdays.

10th	ELLA WEEKLEY	24th	ROBIN BRYANT
10th	DANIEL REEVE	26th	SOPHIE LAMBERT
18th	JOSHUA PORTER	31st	AIDEN REEVE



flowers this month

Thank you to the following who have kindly offered to provide flowers and to Jane and Madge who arrange the rota and distribution.

7th	MARGARET RANDALL <i>(Mum & Dad's anniversary)</i>	21st	PAM BARNES <i>(Christopher's birthday)</i>
14th	CAROL BUTLER	28th	ELSIE KEECH



to make you think

He that loses his conscience has nothing left that is worth keeping. - *Isaac Walton*

.....
If you're not allowed to laugh in heaven, I don't want to go there.
- *Martin Luther*

.....
Everyone says forgiveness is a lovely idea until he has something to forgive. - *CS Lewis*

.....
A belief is what you hold; a conviction is what holds you.

.....
The sole purpose of a child's middle name is so he can tell when he's really in trouble.

.....
People who are out to find fault seldom find anything else.

.....
The road to success is always under construction.



dates for your diary - november 2018

SATURDAY 10th	Circuit Meeting at Alma Street (10.00am)
TUESDAY 20th	Officers & Trustees Meeting (7.00pm)
SATURDAY 24th	Christmas Lights switch on! - Activities in the hall all day



puzzle page

Puzzle Page – now the nights are drawing in, here's something to work on. The following are all titles of hymns or newer (well-known) Christian songs - but someone has taken the vowels and also changed the spacing between words. However – just to help, all the answers come in alphabetical order. Hand your answers in before 28th October and you may win a small prize. (You don't need to get them all – just do your best!).

1. BDW TH M
2. LL HL THP WRF JSS NM
3. LL I NC HL DDR
4. BTY FRBRK NNSS
5. BFRTH TH RNF GDBV
6. CMN NDC LBRT
7. TRNL FTH RSTR NGT SV
8. FRM HVNY CM
9. HR S BRD HR S WN
10. HWSWT THNM FJSS SNDS
11. M NW CRTN
12. N CHRST LN
13. LDS HVN LYFTHR LD S
14. MKN SSN DM JSTY
15. JESS HVP RMSD
16. SHTFR JYND SNG
17. TCH M T DNC TTH BT FYR HRT
18. THL RDSMY SH PHRD
19. WHNS RVY THWN DR SCRSS
20. YR THWR DF GDTH FTTH

Answers to last month:

1. 1 Samuel; 2. John; 3. Psalms; 4. Titus; 5. James; 6. Deuteronomy; 7. Genesis; 8. Ephesians; 9. Jonah; 10. Lamentations; 11. Romans; 12. Exodus; 13. Proverbs; 14. Malachi; 15. Revelation

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High Street Independent Wesleyan Church

