

CHRISTIAN WORKER



The need for training

Three new Christians!

Christian events
throughout the UK

Updates from Malawi
and India



From the editors:

Contents

Front cover – main photo:

Loughborough Fellowship
Day; smaller photos: East
Kilbride Ladies' Day, India
School Bag Project, In-house
Training Day, Clinic in Malawi
under construction

2 – From the editors

3 – Spotlight on Training Needs

5 – Congratulations!

6 – "The Voice"

7 – In Memorium

9 – British Bible School News

10 – Family News

12 – Around the World

14 – Notices

15 – Diary

16 – The Final Word

The *Christian Worker* is
published monthly as a news
magazine for Churches of Christ
in the United Kingdom.



Editor-in-chief: Trevor Williams
twilliams195@hotmail.co.uk
(0115) 8376895



Production editor: Jon Galloway
[https://www.facebook.com/
christianworkeruk](https://www.facebook.com/christianworkeruk)
Deadline: 21st of each month

You are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus.
(Galatians 3:26)

This magnificent chapter describes the necessity of faith in Jesus, even as Abraham was faithful four hundred years before the law given to Moses was revealed. It is an amazing discussion that lays before us two options: we either follow the ritual sacrifices of the Mosaic Law or accept the sacrifice of Jesus. For those who wish the first – there is no hope; but for those whose faith is in Jesus alone – there is life eternal. This faith is drenched in water at the time of our baptism into Christ and breaks down every social barrier possible. Racial differences are removed; we stand as one nation before God. Every social barrier has been dismissed; slave or free, implying rich or poor are no more. Differences between the sexes have gone, all differences between any human is eliminated – we are one in Christ Jesus. Through this change of circumstance all the faithful are placed into Abraham's family and become the heirs of the promises given so long ago and so far away. Every blessing is ours.

None of these blessings can be obtained by our works or our own goodness. All have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God. Whoever we are, we have all fallen short and all through faith have been lifted up – not because of ourselves but because of Jesus, the conqueror of life over death. We are empty vessels filled with the divine. We are nothing and now made everything. We who tried to gain the victory with God have been given it free and without charge through the shed blood of Jesus. We were lost but have now been found, we were blind but now see. It is Jesus and no one else who has provided us with all things. Our faith can only be in him and through him we have become the inheritor of Heaven itself. Hallelujah, what a Saviour!

Trevor

It is sad for us when those we love pass on from this life into eternity. Most should know that **Isobel Vick** departed this life on Sunday morning, 28th September. The funeral will be at the Falkirk Crematorium on Tuesday, 4th October. We plan to publish more about Isobel in the November issue.

Jon

Spotlight: The need for training

How can we best serve our local congregations and those in our area? While most of us have simply observed Christians before us and tried, to some extent, to imitate what they were doing, most of us realise that receiving some good training could also be of help.

In many areas of life, in-house training is a regular occurrence. Whether it be in education or business, we all want to be better at what we do and that inevitably involves some form of training. It is true that we learn a great deal through experience, but we can learn so much more when we share also in the experiences of others.

In-house training can take several different forms. Often we can benefit from those within the congregation who have particular knowledge or experience, but sometimes it is useful to bring in others from outside who through teaching and training can share their experiences in a number of areas of God's mission. That is where the British Bible School can fit in. With a broad range of teachers with much varied experience, the British Bible School has put together a number of training options which we think can be useful to the growth and development of local congregations.

Let me give you an idea of what goes on during these 'training sessions' from the point of view of a congregation receiving training.

Each time we have asked for In-house Training at East Kilbride it was to help us to be better equipped in a particular area. Once we contacted Patrick Boyns, principal of the British Bible School, he would then ask us what it was that we were specifically looking for and needing so that he could tailor the training to fit our circumstances.

The first training we asked for was in the area of "Leadership." Patrick was the one who came and presented

four sessions throughout the day on a Saturday. The information was Biblical, challenging, and gave us some things to think about and implement in our

congregational setting.

When most think of training for leadership they usually think about men serving as shepherds or elders of a congregation. We were not ready for that but were needing training in basic leadership principles and skills. The material was tailored

to suit our needs and was a big help to us. This area of training has since been expanded and was presented at the



Advanced Bible Study Series in Gemünden earlier this year. It is useful information to help congregations as they are growing.

Our next training was last year and we saw a need for some basic Bible training. This training weekend was entitled “Back to Basics” and was presented by Patrick Boyns and Ian Starrs. The morning sessions looked at the need for Bible study, what the Bible contains and how it is put together. The afternoon centred on a brief survey of how we got the Bible and concluded with some practical ideas of how to make time for Bible reading and study. Those participating felt that it was time well spent.

Our most recent training was in the area of “Missional Outreach.” Patrick Boyns was again the presenter. He discussed the mission of God and how we fit into it. He had spent some time looking into the makeup of our town so that we knew the population demographics of our area. This enabled us to spend time thinking about what we could do to reach those around us. It was interesting in seeing that although Scotland and the UK, as a whole, has become more cross-cultural in recent years, this is not reflected much in the

population of the area where we are in East Kilbride. Again, it was felt that this was a very productive day as we began to think and plan how we can reach those around us.

The British Bible School currently offers seven areas of training for congregations:

- Missional outreach
- Back to basics
- Congregational growth
- Leadership
- Good stewardship
- Youth issues
- Praise and worship

You can learn more about each of these by visiting <http://britishbibleschool.com/training/training-options>. Have a look and see how these could help the congregation where you are. Then start making plans to

have a training event – visit <http://britishbibleschool.com/training/planning-a-training-session> for more information.

You might want to think about setting aside one weekend every year for the purpose of training – you could include it in

your congregational development plan. (If you don't have one of these, you could do with some training on **Leadership** or **Congregational Growth!**)

Let us all work towards giving the best we can for Lord!



Jon Galloway

Congratulations!

The congregation meeting in **Brighton** requests that you rejoice with us as a new Christian has been added to our number.

Terence Hernandez, son of Darwin and Fides, was baptised in August while visiting family in the Philippines. When the Hernandez family came to this country, Terence was just starting school. Now eighteen, His decision to be added to the Lord's body came after encouragement from and studies with his father and Ken Peters. Being baptised in the Philippines meant that he gave his life to God in the same building that his father did many years ago.

Please pray with us that he will grow in his faith and be useful to the Lord in the coming years and that the Christians here will have the wisdom to know how to help him to grow.

Stephen Daniell



The **Leicester** congregation rejoices as we welcome **Emmie Hill** who was baptised on 8th September and **Florence Adams** who gave her life to Christ on 12th September. We ask that you remember them both in your prayers. We give thanks and praise to God.

Paul Hill

Congratulations to **Alistair and Joy McDonald**, who were married on 21st August in Aberfoyle, Joy is the daughter of Colin and Jane Hinde and is part of the **Lomond** congregation.

Jon Galloway



Congratulations to **Alison Hickinbotham** and **Mark Stockton** who were married at the **Northampton** Christian Fellowship Centre on Friday, 16th September. The service was conducted by Richard Sharpe.

Trevor Williams



"The Voice"

This little, on-line, monthly teaching magazine comes to issue number 22, October 2016. Its genesis lay in the editorial-type articles I was privileged to write for *The Christian Worker* over twenty-seven years. When my eyes failed me and the new CW team took over, they decided not to run similar articles but to produce a magazine with a different style and emphasis. This left a gap which was not going to be filled, and many brethren kindly wrote to tell me that they would miss the sorts of articles I used to write. By the miracles of modern medicine my eyes were ultimately restored to where they had been, though my general health was such that not for one micro-second did I regret having to hand over

to the other lads, who continue so faithfully to serve you all via this medium. But my eyes were now able

and my mind was just as active. I decided I could continue producing similar articles to those which had gone before, but in slightly more depth because there were always space constraints in the CW. I could also produce at least two such articles instead of one, plus the occasional extra, smaller items as they arose. *The Voice* usually runs to eight pages, or so. It is not, therefore, monumentally difficult to cope with reading it.

The New Testament leaves us in no doubt that each generation is to encourage and teach the next so the saints will be fed and grow spiritually. It is one thing to baptise a seeker but it is entirely another to ensure that they mature, grow and, above all, remain faithful. So many fall away often

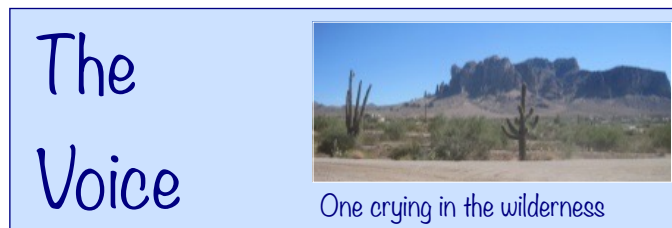
because they are not being fed properly. There is no New Testament epistle which was written to tell would-be converts how to become Christians. They were not written to help convert the unfaithful but were written to strengthen Christians and help keep them faithful (that you can discover how to become a Christian by reading them is true, but this was not their aim). *The Voice* is produced with these aims in mind: to encourage Christians in their faith, to deepen their understanding and so help them grow, and to help keep them faithful. A variety of articles and approaches are used which we hope will stimulate and enlighten at times, for, as we know, "*No one who puts his hand to the plough and looks back is fit for the Kingdom of God*" (Luke 9:62) and that "*He who*

endures to the end will be saved" (Matthew 24:18; Mark 13:13). In the broader panorama of life this

small magazine may not appear to be too important but, as one supermarket reliably informs us, 'every little helps'.

There are three articles in the October issue: 'Einstein was wrong!' (not an article about physics at all!), 'The death of a faithful alarm clock', and 'Infallible Jesus?' (this after reading from an Anglican cleric that Jesus never claimed to be infallible). Only one reader so far has dropped out and many have signed up. If you would like to be added to the readership list, just contact me at gafisher888@aol.com and I'll do the rest. It will cost you nothing more than a little of your time, but we pray it will be well worth it!

Graham Fisher



Lewis Eastwood

13th September 1997 to 26th July 2016

It is with great sadness that the congregation in Loughborough reports the death of Lewis Eastwood on the 26th July 2016. Lewis was a familiar face – attending worship on Sunday evenings from a very young age and part of the youth group. He always took delight in spending time and fellowshiping with friends and family, especially his friends within the congregations.

Whenever there was a young adult or youth engagement he was always one of the first to show an interest and book his place. He travelled all over the country attending youth weekends and camp, making friends in many places. He was always keen to continue in fellowship after our evening meetings around a pizza, a pack of cards or simply just to chat. Often he would come straight from work to attend the meeting and spend time with his friends.



When I reflect on his character I can say without a doubt that Lewis did not have a bad word for anyone. He showed concern for others and was a positive influence on those around him. He loved general knowledge and was always keen to share his latest discoveries and facts with those around him.

Lewis will not only be missed by the Christians at Loughborough but by many from congregations all around the UK. This is such a difficult time for his parents, Stuart and Michelle – please take time to pray for them as they come to terms with the loss of their only child. I pray that they will see the love of Christ radiating through his people and will find comfort in this.

Jason Hill

Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that whatever you ask from God, God will grant you." Jesus replied, "Your brother will come back to life again." Martha said, "I know that he will come back to life again in the resurrection at the last day." Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live even if he dies, and the one who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?" he replied, "Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God who comes into the world." (John 11:21-27 NET)

Iris Forster



The Bedminster congregation in Bristol is sad to report the passing of our dear sister Iris Forster. Baptised in November 1961 – the daughter of our late sister Elsie Williams – she was a much loved member of our congregation, having a cheerful disposition and a strong faith. In particular, Iris loved hymn singing, and she wrote some beautiful poetry.

Poor health in recent years prevented her otherwise regular attendance in worship, but she retained a lively interest in congregational matters and read each weekly bulletin with great interest. It also cheered her greatly to receive visits from her brothers and sisters.

We will miss Iris, and commend her now into God's keeping.

Geoff Daniell

Iris went home to be with the Lord recently and during her life time she liked to write short poems about her faith. Below are two of the poems that she wrote.

Trevor Williams

*So much to see,
so much to do,
God has given the time
for me and you.
Seek out the beauty
seek out the way,
keep to the straight path
be sure not to stray.
Keep looking upward
into the light
and he will always be with you
by day and night.*

*"Take time to be holy,
speak oft with our Lord."*

*A beautiful hymn
with wonderful words.*

*Always take time
to pray and reflect,
God always listens
no prayer he rejects.
Remember that Jesus
is listening to you –*

*He interceded
for me and for you.*

*So take the time
to watch and pray,
to be ready to meet him
on that glorious day.*

Two Study Weekends ... One Beautiful Letter

Wembley: Fri. 14th to Sat. 15th October 2016
Fri. 18th to Sat. 19th November 2016

East Kilbride: Fri. 11th to Sat. 12th November 2016
Fri. 2nd to Sat. 3rd December 2016

Paul's letter to the Ephesians takes us beyond this realm and into the heavenly places. Though the theological implications are vast, there is a wealth of practical instruction that cannot be overlooked.



Study Weekends provide opportunities for short periods of instruction in a group setting. For more information please visit our website or look for us on Facebook.

All are welcome to either or both weekends!



Late Winter Family Retreat

"More About Jesus"

... learning more from the Teacher

20th to 22nd November 2017

Please see our website www.britishbibleschool.com

PLACES AVAILABLE

**Fully booked! Many thanks to all who have booked their place.
Look out for details of further events!**

... those of like faith • Times of praise and reflection
... the words of the Teacher • Small group learning sessions
... and mealtimes together • Beautiful scenery, regardless of weather!

Manor, Keswick

£60 per person

Family News

Loughborough: On Saturday, 25th June, we hosted a Fellowship Day. This was a spiritually uplifting day built around three thought provoking lessons from our guest speakers: Graeme Morrison, John Griffiths and Mark Hill.



congregations for our Ladies' Day. Many thanks to our speakers – Funmi Glover, Barbara Starrs and Chrissy Vick – who presented three encouraging lessons.

Our theme this year was "Faith in Action." The lessons centred on "The Christian Woman in the Work Place," "Making a Difference" and "In One Accord."

The theme for the day was "The Upward Dimension, the Inward Dimension and the Outward Dimension." The emphasis was on the fellowship we can enjoy as part of the body of Christ, which was demonstrated throughout the day with the worship and the time spent with each other.

Many thanks to all who attended and to the men who helped prepare and serve the lunch.



Arlene Galloway

Ilkeston: The Christians in Ilkeston hosted a coffee morning on behalf of Macmillan nurses on 24th September. It was a lovely

time to meet and greet friends as well as other Christians.

Thank you to all who were able to share this day with us.

Liam Bates

East Kilbride: On Saturday, 10th September, around seventy came together from fourteen different



Please remember Ken Mullan in your prayers – he recently had a foot operation which has put him out of action for several weeks.

Trevor Williams

European Christian Workshop: This year was the eleventh consecutive workshop, held once again at Lancaster University, from Thursday to Saturday, 25th -27th August.

The style of the workshop was no different from previous years. The main theme for the weekend, *POWER*, formed the basis of the four keynote addresses. One of the marks, if not *the* mark, of a good lesson is its simplicity. Jason Darden, the keynote speaker from the Mission Viejo congregation, achieved this admirably in all four of his lessons: The Power of *Unity*; The Power of *Adaptability*; The Power of *Teamwork*; and The Power of *Peace*.

The singing was led by Alan Dod from the Thamesmead (London) congregation. The lessons which I attended were excellent. I also have it on good authority that the others were as well.

For this year, the attendance was 66 from 33 congregations. It was good to have Christians represented from eight countries!

If there is any criticism of the workshop at all it would be that the programme was packed full of excellent lessons that were at the same time (what is described as *cafeteria* style). There is a (partial) solution from the organisers of the workshop: **all the sessions, including the keynote sessions, are available to purchase (for a small fee of £25) on CD or USB memory stick.** Audio CDs or

USB memory sticks from previous years are also available. Please e-mail audio@europeanchristianworkshop.com or telephone 01509 768789 to place your order.

What is my overall view of the workshop? Excellent Christian company and fellowship, a period of sound *exegesis*

(Jason Darden used this word – the correct handling of scripture) and value for money.

The **theme** for the next **European Christian Workshop** will be ***Shalom*** and the date will be **24th to**

26th August 2017. Please make a note in your dairies.

I challenge you, if you haven't been before, to come and find out for yourself how good it is! If you've been before, I entreat you to come again. You may attend all or parts of the workshop as a boarder or non-resident. The ECW caters for all!

Sam Appiah-Anane

Christian Worker: A big thank you to **Tony Styles** who, for the past 32 years, has been the treasurer for the Christian Worker.

The past couple of years have been a little easier for him since we went electronic but Tony took on a huge responsibility which he carried out with great care. Thank you so much Tony!

Trevor Williams



India: School Bag Project 2016.

Thank you for your generous support towards this year's school bag project. Although we had fewer resources this year compared to previous years, God has enabled us to help 300 children with your kind donations. This year's programme was carried out in four phases and in three locations. Our special thanks go to Christians in the UK, Singapore, Malta and India for sharing their blessings. Thank you and God bless you!

Please pray that we may have opportunity to reach these children through our is Children's Bible School. (We do this once a week in different local communities to teach children Bible stories, moral lessons, good habits and end the class with a nutritious snack. Often this provides an opportunity to reach their parents also. When we distribute School Bags, we try to make



some contacts and identify potential locations and try to reach the children in that community.) Please continue to support and pray for our work in India.

Tony Tyson and Joel Madiki

Malawi: Kalambo Clinic Update.

On 17th August a small group representing the congregations in Loughborough, Stapleford and Bristol set off for Malawi for a twelve day visit. During this time

we had the privilege of meeting our brothers and sisters in the Area 47, Lilongwe and Kalambo congregations.

One of the reasons for the visit was to review progress relating to the building of a clinic in Kalambo. This is a project that the



Loughborough congregation embarked on some time ago with the financial help and prayers of Christians throughout the UK and further afield. Although we

have experienced many challenges along the way we are able to report that good progress has been made during recent months with the construction. The clinic

and house for the health assistant should be completed by the end of the year. We thank God for this. Further visits are scheduled later this year or early next year to continue with this work and ensure the focus remains on completing the work.



for God was evident through their fellowship with one another and their praise to Him. We spent the afternoon

worshipping with them and continued well into the evening singing praises to our Lord.

During the visit we spent time with the

During our visit we were able, through donations from congregations and individuals, to help people in need. We purchased 300 five kilogram sacks of maize for the elders at the Kalambo congregation to distribute to families in need. We provided 130 hymn books and 50 Bibles for the Area 47 and Kalambo congregations.

Mosquito nets and baby clothes were given to the maternity ward at the Lilongwe hospital for distribution to mothers with new-borns who were at risk.



children, face painting and give out small gifts that people had donated for the trip – these included toothbrushes, sun-glasses, bubbles, small mirrors, crayons and colouring books, pencils and clothing.

We thank God for the opportunity to visit Malawi and our brothers and sisters in Area 47 and Kalambo. We pray that He will

continue to bless the clinic project so that the people in the region will soon be able to benefit from local health care. The congregation at Loughborough will provide a further update of progress

We also had the opportunity to worship with the Christians in Kalambo who were hosting a gospel weekend. There were around 300 people from all over the region. Their love

later in the year. Please keep this work in your prayers.

Jason Hill

GLENROTHES LADIES DAY

SOMETHING TO HOLD ONTO!

8th October 2016

The Glenrothes ladies would like to invite you to share in a day of fellowship and faith.

REGISTRATION 10 - 10:30 AM

A light lunch will be provided with the day concluding around 2pm

Please notify us of numbers to

Nicky - phillipsallen528@gmail.com or

Jan - jduncan41@blueyonder.co.uk

by the 19th September so we can make arrangement for catering



Northampton Ladies Day!

Saturday 8th October, 10am-3pm

Two speakers will cover the topics

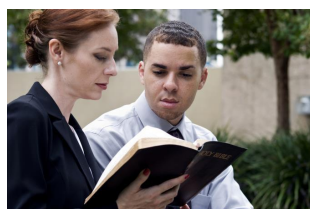
- What is in your purse?
- Who is the true servant, Martha or Mary?

We have had many successful Ladies Days at Northampton and pray that they will continue.

Please come along and be blessed by this one!

Contact: Denise Sharpe -

denisecrafty@yahoo.co.uk



Sheffield City Annual Seminar

Topic: "Church Growth & Challenges".

22 October. 2016

Speakers:

Thayer Salisbury (U.S.A.) & Adrian Limb (Eastwood, UK)

Venue: Sheffield City Church of Christ, Duchess Road Community Centre, Shoreham Street, St. Mary's Road, Sheffield, S1 4SR.

Schedule:

10:30 AM Arrival and Welcome

11:00 AM (Thayer Salisbury)
"Church Growth & Challenges"

12:00 Noon (Adrian Limb)
"The Christian Family in this Present Time"

1:00 PM Lunch
1:45 PM **Tract Distribution & Evangelism**
4:00 PM (Thayer Salisbury)
"Holding on (based on Romans 12:2)"

5:00 PM **Closing remarks & Prayers**
Refreshments- Refreshments-Refreshments-Refreshments



Mailing Address:

23 Walshaw Road, Sheffield, S35 0AS.

Worship Centre: Duchess Road Community Centre, Shoreham Street, St. Mary's Road, Sheffield, S1 4SR.



Power Up

Taking your strength from GOD

Loughborough Youth Weekend

11th – 13th November 2016

Ages 12 – 18

Contacts:

Liam Bates (07771242927)

David Bullock (07985714816)

Bookings: loughboroughccyp@hotmail.co.uk

October

1st – **Stretford, Manchester**: Special Meeting, 1.00 pm. Lunch will be provided.

8th – **Glenrothes**: Ladies' Day, 10.00 am-2.00 pm (including lunch).

8th – **Northampton**: Ladies' Day, 10.00 am-3.00 pm.

14th-15th – **Wembley**: British Bible School study weekend on "A Letter to the Ephesians." Teachers: Patrick Boyns and Mark Hill.

22nd – **Sheffield City**: Annual Seminar: "Church Growth & Challenges", 10.30 am-5.00 pm at Duchess Road Community Centre, Shoreham Street, Sheffield S1 4SR. Speakers: Thayer Salisbury and Adrian Limb.

28th-30th – **Bristol**: Prime Time. This programme for the over 40s has been held several times over the years and always has been a joy to everyone who attends and serves. Contact Jason Snethen for further details (07795 560990 or jsnethen@hotmail.com).

November

4th – **Liverpool**: Gospel Meeting, 7.30 pm at regular meeting place (corner of Picton Road and Wellington Street, Waterloo, Liverpool, L22 8QH); speaker: Tommy Stone (Chattanooga, Tennessee). Contact: Mike Glover (mike97@talktalk.net).

11th-12th – **East Kilbride**: British Bible School study weekend on "A Letter to the Ephesians." Teachers: Patrick Boyns and Jon Galloway.

11th-13th – **Loughborough**: Youth Weekend, ages 12-18 – "Power Up". Bookings: loughboroughccyp@hotmail.co.uk. Contacts: Liam Bates (07771 242927) or David Bullock (07985 714816).

12th – **Eastwood, Nottingham**: Quarterly Gospel Outreach Meeting, 6.00 pm welcome, refreshments; 7.00 pm meeting. Speaker: John Morgan – "Jesus the same Yesterday, Today and Forever."

18th-19th – **Wembley**: British Bible School study weekend on "A Letter to the Ephesians" (part 2). Teachers: Patrick Boyns and Mark Hill.

18th-20th – **Glasgow area**: Joint gospel meetings – Friday at **East Kilbride**, 7.30 pm; Saturday at **Clarkston**, 7.30 pm; joint Bible study and worship on Sunday at **Clarkston**, 10 & 11 am; speaker: Nick Wilson.

December

2nd-3rd – **East Kilbride**: British Bible School study weekend on "A Letter to the Ephesians" (part 2). Teachers: Patrick Boyns and Jon Galloway.

January 2017

20th-22nd – **Bassenfell Retreat** at Bassenfell Manor (Lake District). Theme: "More About Jesus." Organised by the British Bible School. (Now fully booked!)

February

4th – **Cumbernauld**: Men's Day.

10th-13th – **Cumbernauld**: Young Adult/Youth Retreat at Rowardennan Lodge Youth Hostel – "H₂O". Cost: £30 for two nights or £35 for three nights. Bookings: nicole8barr@gmail.com.

13th-19th – **Gemünden, Germany**: Advanced Bible Study Series. ABSS 1 – Monday pm to Friday noon, ABSS 2 – Friday pm to Sunday noon. Contact: Paul Brazzle (brazle.paul@gmail.com).

March

11th – **Great Barr**: Bible Seminar.

June

3rd – **Reading**: RISE (Reading in Song event) with Keith Lancaster and Durant, at Lodden Valley Leisure Centre. Contact: Craig Benjamin (csbjlb@gmail.com).

July

8th – **Edmonton**: Men's Workshop. Contact: Charles Banin (charlesbanino@aol.com).

August

13th-18th – **British Bible Camp**.

24th-26th – **European Christian Workshop** at Lancaster: *Shalom*.

September

9th – **Great Barr**: Annual Fellowship Day.

The Final Word: "Spiritual Men & Women"



In the book *Seven Promises of a Promise Keeper*, Tony Evans suggests seven pointers for a spiritual man. I think the same also applies to women and the passages of Scripture are worth reading.

1. A spiritual man has divine continuity with the past (Job 29:1-6). We all need to have experienced the hand of God and be thrilled to remember how God has worked in our lives in the past. This is really useful when the present does not seem very clear.
2. A spiritual man is committed to raising children (Job 1:5). We may or may not have small children in our homes, but here we see Job still caring for his grown-up family. There should be younger people in our congregations. Let's make sure that we are looking out for their welfare and for their parents.
3. A spiritual man earns respect (Job 29:7-10). Respect can only be given to those who first of all respect others. It is given as a free gift but can never be expected. It involves servant-hood.
4. A spiritual man is a man of mercy (Job 29:11-13). We all need to keep our ears and eyes open for other people. We are Christians to serve others and not to be served. Some people think that the church is there for their benefit instead of being the body of Christ that is to reach out to the lost and hurting.
5. A spiritual man is a man of justice (Job 29:14-17). It is easy to let other people do what we should do and be seen to do. It is easy to just stand back and ignore what is happening and ignore things around us. We need to stand for that which is right even if it costs us something.
6. A spiritual man is a man of stability (Job 29:18-20). People who are flaky should remind themselves that flaky refers to a certain type of pastry that can fall apart really easily. Too often men enter marriage thinking that their wives will treat them like their mothers did. The church, in fact the world needs men of stability who are worth being around and leading families and communities.
7. A spiritual man has wisdom (Job 29:21-25). Wisdom is a product of knowledge and experience. We have to learn how to be wise and anyone who is has to be told by others that they are. Wisdom only comes through failure and is a gift of God (James 1:5).

It is worth reading the passages in Job. This is one of the oldest pieces of literature in the world. Read it and be guided by these ancient words.

Trevor

Prayer

We pray for men that they will realise their high calling in their families and communities.

We pray for women who will be spiritual leaders and guides,

We pray for the aged that the richness of experience may bless others,

We pray for the young that they will maintain faith through the joys and anxieties of life

We pray for the guidance of the Holy Spirit, the example of Jesus and for your love, our Father.