

Time to listen

I've had the joy of going into the local primary school and watching the Open the Book team tell the story about the Tower of Babel. The team built an impressive tower using cardboard boxes that was probably over twice my height. We heard how God stopped the project in its tracks by confusing the common language of the whole world. And so we have an account of how we got so many different languages. And also some home truths about the power of the human race to challenge the overarching power of God. We cannot ever outsmart God or be good enough to gain entry into his kingdom by our own means. It's only possible because he reaches down and reveals his love to us through Jesus. Now, God has opened up a way into his kingdom and we can know him personally through the power of the Holy Spirit. The beginning of the Church began with a sudden outpouring of his Spirit at Pentecost and so the Church was born. This began a reversal of the problem encountered at Babel. And each day the rich diversity of the peoples of the world, with their own unique language, are coming together as one.

This is only possible through the message of the Good News about Jesus which we are given to effectively communicate to others by word of mouth. We as Christians live counter-culturally because rather than building something that attempts to challenge the place of God, we seek to build his kingdom in the world. It's impossible to do this effectively and genuinely unless we connect with others in a relevant and meaningful dialogue. A massive part of this is going and listening (really listening) to those in our communities.

This is what we are trying to do through On the Way. We have ***one week*** left to encourage those outside the walls of our church buildings to complete the survey. This can be done a through pointing a smart phone at the QR code below



or using the link below (cut and paste it into your browser if it doesn't work):

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/OTWEW>

Alternatively, each church has been given some hard copies for you to pass onto those who are not tech savvy. Also, please consider joining the On the Way prayer group on Zoom each Wednesday morning (link on the weekly sheet). We are on a journey together and the Lord is calling us to join in.

Blessings,

Joe (Rector)

