

Weekly Newsletter: 2nd May 2023

Reflection - Navigating Gospel Truth

By Norma Shippin

“When it comes to reading the Gospel accounts of Jesus’s life, we’re faced with an exhilarating ride and an utterly breathtaking view. But to navigate the Gospels well, we need to get a sense of what the Gospels are, we need to find our feet, and we need to get a grasp of the terrain.”

These are some words from the introduction to Rebecca McLaughlin’s study guide which we are using in the weekly women’s bible study sessions on a Thursday morning at 10.30am in the church hall.

I well remember coming to Holyrood as a student in 1977 (a lifetime ago) and being so excited by the fact that I had found a church where the word of God was central to everything and where I could drink deeply from a fountain of biblical truth week by week. It was never a sterile exercise – there was a real sense of being ushered into the presence of the living God and to come away feeling that we had met with the Lord Jesus. One of the things which I have treasured over the years is the joy and privilege of being able to learn so much from the many Godly men and women in the church. That excitement has never diminished and it remains such a blessing to be part of the body of Christ together. My thirst to learn more and to spend time with other believers is, I am sure, shared by all of us.



So, in these studies we are a group of women setting out to ask ourselves some searching questions and the purpose of doing this is to help us be confident that in the Gospel accounts we are getting access to what Jesus really did and taught. These questions are designed to help us understand that all four accounts were written well within the lifetime of the eyewitnesses to Jesus’ life and that they record authentic testimony about historical events.

We have already looked at the authors of the Gospels and we will be going on to consider some other eye witness accounts of the events; the differences in accounts between the Gospels and how they show different perspectives; the languages and texts used in the Gospels.

We long to meet with Jesus in these sessions and share thoughts and insights – to dig deeper into familiar stories and texts and learn from each other in that process. Beyond that we long to become more confident in our understanding of the Gospel story and to glory in the fact that Jesus really is the son of God who took

on human flesh and died to free us from our sin and shame and rise again to everlasting life. What could be a better way to spend our time? Come and join us!

Defibrillator Training



Last call! Please sign up to be trained in how to use the defibrillator. As you may have seen, a defibrillator has been fitted to the front of our building. Gillian Pickering has offered to provide training for anyone interested.

Please complete the google form [here](#) to let us know if you'd like to attend and we'll be in touch with more details. Thank you!

Prayer Meeting – in person

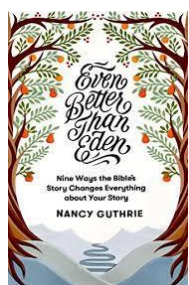
This Wednesday (3rd May) the prayer meeting will take place at **7pm in person** in the church. There will be no Zoom option and we'll return to meeting online next Wednesday. Hard copies of the prayer bulletin will be provided in the church.

Please note...

A couple of things -

- The **men's discipleship groups** have finished for this session. So don't go to Starbucks at 7.30am on Thursday!
- **Monday 8th May** is the bank holiday for the King's Coronation and there will be no Baby & Toddlers or Warm Space

Nancy Guthrie is in town!



Nancy Guthrie is coming to Scotland in September and will be doing an evening session on Wednesday 6 September from 7.30pm- 9.30pm at Grace Church Leith.

She'll be giving two messages from her book 'Even Better Than Eden'. Nancy's a great author and speaker. Tickets can be bought [here](#) or contact Liz (Liz@holyroodevangelical.org) as there is a group from church going together.

CARE for Scotland

Liam McArthur MSP is proposing a Bill in the Scottish Parliament to legalise assisted suicide. This will undermine the right to life and put vulnerable people at risk of coming under pressure to end their lives prematurely. If you are able, please consider signing the Care Not Killing petition [here](#).

Clothes Swap Evening

This from Bethany Nelson 'We are so excited to be holding the Clothes Swap Evening again on Friday 12 May at 7.00 pm. Come along to our clothes swap event for a chance to refresh your wardrobe, spend time with friends, and learn more about how to tread lightly on our earth. Get your ticket here: <https://psandgs.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1710552>'



Africa Inland Mission (AIM) in Scotland

AIM we will be hosting an friends' and supporters' event on Saturday 13th May at Charlotte Chapel. Please join them to celebrate what God is doing to establish His church among Africa's least reached, to hear more of the challenges that remain and the part AIM is playing in responding to them.

They are looking forward to having Rosina Ferdinand join them. Rosina is a Malagasy believer who has led AIM's work on Madagascar for the past several years. She continues as a missionary living and working to share the gospel among her own people, the Sakalava, on the very island she grew up on. Click [here](#) to read her story.

The event will run from 11.00am to 1.00 pm. Coffee will be available from 10.30am and a light lunch will follow. Please contact AIM by email to Tim Matthews mobilisationdirector.eu@aimint.org, or by text to Sheona Chisolm 07933 999150 if you are able to attend.

Church Calendar

For your prayers and info –

- Monday:
 - Baby & Toddler Group: 10am – 11.30am
 - Warm Space from 12.30 – 4pm
- Wednesday: Prayer Meeting at 7pm in person
- Thursday: Women's Bible Study at 10.30am in the church
- Saturday: Katherine and Daniel's Wedding at 1pm in the church
- Sunday:
 - Communion Service at 10.30am (and live streamed). Joe Barnard preaching.
 - Equip (and live streamed) at 6pm



www.holyroodevangelical.org

Incorporated as a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation, Scottish Charity Number SCO44820