

## Weekly Newsletter: 6<sup>th</sup> June 2023

### Reflection: Completing your ministry

By Alianore Smith (taken from Word for the Week by LICC)

*Tell Archippus: 'See to it that you complete the ministry you have received in the Lord.'* Colossians 4:17

If you're really honest with yourself, how much attention do you pay to Paul's final words in his epistles? Those random greetings to random people?

I'm slightly ashamed to tell you that I very rarely read them in any great detail. I feel like once you've got through the heavy theology stuff, the greetings at the end are a bit of an excuse to slack off in your Bible reading.

But if we skip over these greetings, we miss something important.

Take this passage, for example. In Paul's closing reflections, he mentions nine different individuals. Each receives some form of context or introduction, or sends greetings to the church in Colossae. Each name has a story behind it. For example, Onesimus (4:9) is widely assumed to be the same Onesimus in the book of Philemon – a slave on whose behalf Paul pleads.

But the one who particularly caught my attention as I *forced* myself to read these names carefully was Archippus, for whom Paul has a direct message: 'See to it that you complete the ministry you have received in the Lord.'

There are so many questions raised by this one short verse. What ministry? Why hasn't he completed it? What does it mean to 'complete' a ministry? Why has he been singled out to receive such specific instructions? So many of these questions go unanswered, and will likely remain so... at least until Jesus returns in glory.

If someone said those words to you – in person or in writing – what would you think they were referring to? Would you think about the small group study you haven't quite finished preparing for? Would you consider the intercession list you never quite get to the end of? Or would your mind be drawn to your frontline? Your workplace, colleagues, friends, tasks, to-do lists?

Throughout this book, we have seen Paul's desire to convey the truth that *all* things are under the lordship of Christ, so it's possible that Archippus' 'ministry' is not actually a church-based one. He could have just

likely received a more 'secular' or practical ministry in the Lord. Maybe he was an accountant? Maybe he was a lawyer? Maybe he was just a really good neighbour? We do not know.

In the places you live, work, and play, what ministry has the Lord given you? Pray for the strength and perseverance to complete it.

## Prayer Meeting this week

Just a reminder that we're meeting in person for the prayer meeting this Wednesday at 7pm in the church. There will be no Zoom option and paper copies of the Prayer Bulletin will be available at the church.

## Plans for the summer

Joe and the family will be away in the US from Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> June until Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> July. Here are the plans for our services:

Date	Morning service	Evening Gathering
2 <sup>nd</sup> July	Neil Longwe	Neil Longwe
9 <sup>th</sup> July	Neil Longwe	Neil Longwe
16 <sup>th</sup> July	Bob Akroyd	No service
23 <sup>rd</sup> July	Bob Akroyd	No service

Neil and the family will be on holiday on 16<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> July and we're delighted that Bob will be taking our morning services.

The prayer meetings will continue on Wednesday evenings as normal at 7pm on Zoom and in person on 5<sup>th</sup> July.

For any pastoral matters when Joe is away, please speak to Neil, an elder or a member of the Pastoral Care Team (Alison Nelson, Alasdair Roberts, Elaine Harley or Liz Scott).

## Summer Appeal 2023



**Summer Appeal 2023**

Hannu & Hazel Sorsamo  
Finland

Lorna Ferguson  
Japan

James Stewart  
Singapore

Wycliffe Bible Translators

OMF

OMF

To contribute please use the bank details on [holyroodevangelical.org](http://holyroodevangelical.org) (use reference 'Summer Appeal'), send a cheque to our treasurer, Nick Archer, or speak to your elder.

The summer appeal is now open for 2023 and will go towards the support of our three missionaries – the Sorsamo family in Finland, Lorna in Japan and James in Singapore.

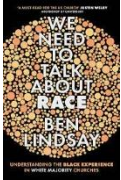
The church bank details can be found [here](#) and please use the reference 'Summer Appeal'.

Cheques (made payable to Holyrood Evangelical Church) and cash in an envelope marked 'Summer Appeal' can also be placed in the offering box or given to Nick Archer.

## Pickleball and Table Tennis – Tuesdays at 7pm

The church will be open on Tuesday evenings at 7pm for anyone wanting to play pickleball and/ or table tennis. Everyone is welcome and if you've never tried pickleball, come along and have a go at one of the world's fastest growing sports! Contact Joe for more details.

## Book Group



The book group this month will be discussing *We need to talk about race* by Ben Lindsay. Hazel Sorsamo will be leading the discussion and so the meeting will be on Zoom rather than in person. Please note that the meeting will be on 1 July. For more details speak to Anncris ([anncris@gmail.com](mailto:anncris@gmail.com)).

## Sunday Club Helpers

As we plan for the coming months at Sunday Club, we need volunteers in two ways:

1. **Summer Sunday Club:** we would love the Sunday Club Team to have a break over the summer holidays and are looking for volunteers to lead and teach the group during July and August. All the materials and resources will be provided and it's a great way to spend a Sunday morning!
2. **Sunday Club:** we are looking for helpers to join the Sunday Club Rota for the autumn term. No teaching or preparation will be required, you will be there as an extra pair of hands and to assist the group leader.

These are great ways to get to know the children in our church family and be involved in encouraging the next generation. Please contact Aileen, Jean or Aaron if you can help in anyway.

## Church Barbecue – Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> June

We're looking forward to getting together as a church family for a time of fellowship, food and fun! There will be team games, races, a tug of war and hopefully some sunshine...

We're back at the Newlands Activity Centre, Romanno Bridge, West Linton EH46 7BZ on **Saturday 17th June from 12 noon until 4pm**. Food will be served around 1pm.

Please sign up [here](#) so that we have an idea of numbers for catering. If you need transport, please speak to your home group leader to make arrangements in the first instance and contact Liz ([Liz@holyroode-vangelical.org](mailto:Liz@holyroode-vangelical.org)) if there are any problems or you need help organising a lift. Thank you!



## Act Like Men – Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> June



All men are invited to this evening conference to encourage each other to live for King Jesus in Edinburgh and beyond.

It's on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> June from 7- 8.30pm at Hope Church Bingham, 135 Mountcastle Drive South. The speaker is Robert Briggs and Sol Fenne is doing the music.

## Glen Scrivener – this Saturday

Calderwood Baptist Church, East Kilbride are having a conference focused on Building our Confidence and Glen Scrivener is the speaker. The conference is on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> June 9.30am-1pm and go [here](#) for more details.

Glen is director and evangelist of Speak Life and is passionate about people meeting Christ and equipping Christians to share their faith. He's often found speaking at Churches and Universities, in the studio producing online media or in his office, writing books and other evangelistic material. Glen is married to Emma, and they have a daughter, Ruby and son, JJ.

## Church Calendar

For your prayers and info –

- Monday:
  - Baby and Toddler Group from 10am – 11.30am
  - Warm Space from 12.30pm- 4pm
  - Pastoral Care Team at 7.30pm
- Tuesday: Pickleball and Table Tennis at 7pm
- Wednesday: Prayer Meeting at 7pm in person
- Sunday:
  - Worship Service at 10.30am (and live streamed). Jon Gemmell preaching.
  - Home Groups



[www.holyroodevangelical.org](http://www.holyroodevangelical.org)

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