

## Weekly Newsletter: 4 February 2025

### New Members – Jack and Theo Allen

It was such an encouragement on Sunday to see Jack and Theo join the church by profession of faith. Here they share their stories –

Jack: I want to join the church because, while I have been a Christian for as long as I can remember, it feels like the next step in my walk of faith. Unlike most, I don't have a conversion story. I have been very blessed to grow up in a Christian household with parents who have made sure to bring me to church and to teach me the Word. I have been thinking about joining Holyrood for a long time and can't wait to finally be a member. I feel this is what God wants and what I need.

Theo: I feel like recently I have come closer in understanding with God and I feel like I am trusting in and relying on him more. I have always had some faith, being brought up in a Christian family but I now know my faith is genuinely what I believe, not just me fitting in with my family. I

want to join the church because I feel it is the next step to coming closer to God and that it is the right time. Thank you all for your prayers and encouragement.



### This Wednesday – Meal and Prayer Meeting

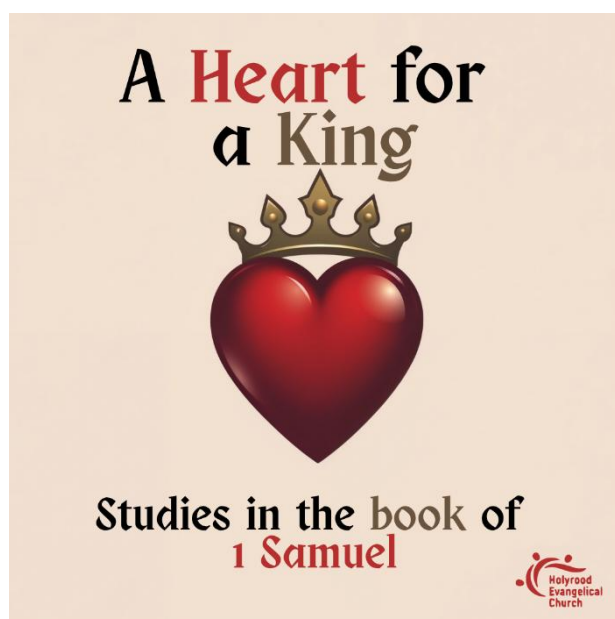
**This Wednesday** we are having a meal together from 5.45pm, food will be served at 6pm and we'll then pray together from 7-8pm. A separate Zoom option is available for those who cannot make it in person.

### This Thursday – Men's Discipleship

Men's discipleship will continue looking at the Westminster Confession of Faith on our **Thursday mornings from 10.30-11.30am**. Many consider this to be the finest theological document ever written. Join us to reflect on essential truths that should touch our hearts, govern our thoughts, and direct our lifestyles.

## This Sunday Evening - 1 Samuel is an absolute blockbuster!

By Jon Gemmell



Get ready for epic battles, laugh-out-loud encounters, soul-stirring sermons, unforgettable heroes and villains, a sinister snake king, fearless armour bearers, a sword-wielding prophet, and—of course—a humongous giant. This is the stuff of legends, and yet here it is, for real, and all in 1 Samuel.

While packed with some of the Bible's most iconic stories, 1 Samuel is far more than just a collection of famous moments. It's a book often overlooked as a whole, reduced to simplistic character studies like "be less like Saul, be more like David," or "face the giants in your life." But this incredible book was given to us by God for something much deeper—something richer and more powerful.

In our upcoming evening services, we'll begin an extraordinary journey through 1 Samuel, starting at chapter 1 and, Lord willing, travelling all the way to chapter 26 (with a few breaks along the way). Together, we'll uncover what God is teaching His people through their transformation from anarchy to monarchy, and how the story of 1 Samuel illuminates the person and work of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Don't miss this exciting journey as we dive into **1 Samuel: A Heart for a King**. It would be such a joy to have you join us as we explore this remarkable book and its timeless message.

## Christmas Appeal – Thank You from Bethany and Sparkle Sisters

**Bethany:** Thank you so much for the incredibly generous donation of £1,427.38 that you made following the Rapid Re-Accommodation Welcome Centre Appeal. We are humbled by the generosity of the members of Holyrood Evangelical Church who have felt led to respond to the Welcome Centre Appeal. We hope that you know this gift will make a significant difference to the guests who use our Welcome Centre service. It will allow us to continue providing a warm bed, food, and support to people who find themselves homeless and at crisis point this winter. This incredible gift will help us to provide an incredible 67 nights worth of support to one individual – thank you. Without church partnerships like yours, we would not be able to continue working towards ending homelessness in Scotland, one person at a time. Thank you again for choosing to support our work. We are truly grateful.

**Sparkle Sisters:** Thank you so much for your donation to Sparkle Sisters. We are appreciative of every single donation we receive because we couldn't continue the work we do without generous people like yourself and everyone at Holyrood Evangelical- your large donation will be incredibly helpful.

Please pass on our sincere thank you to everyone in the Church for being willing to raise this money for us! We really appreciate the support.



## Ladies' Breakfast – Saturday 15 February



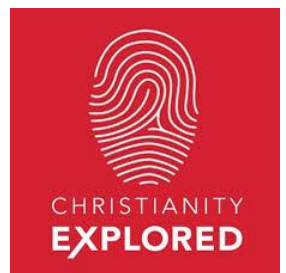
We are looking forward to having our next Ladies' Breakfast on **Saturday 15 February** and Lorna Ferguson will be our speaker.

We'll start with breakfast at 9.30am and a sign up sheet for food will be available in the church foyer over the next couple of weeks. We'll aim to finish about 11am. Please pray for Lorna as she speaks and that our time together would equip us to live wholeheartedly for Jesus. Contact [Liz@holyroodevangelical.org](mailto:Liz@holyroodevangelical.org) for more details.

## Christianity Explored – Sunday 23 February

Based on Mark's gospel, Christianity Explored is a relaxed and informal way of sharing the best news you can ever hear, and gives people space and time to think about the big questions of life.

We're starting a course for seven weeks from Sunday 23 February at 5-6pm in the church. Please be thinking and praying of people that you can invite along.



## Church Calendar

For your info and prayers:

- Wednesday: Meal from 5.45pm and Prayer Meeting at 7pm in the church and online.
- Thursday:
  - Men's and Women's Bible Studies at 10.30am in the church
  - Session Meeting at 7pm in the church
- Sunday:
  - Worship service at 10.30am – Joe Barnard preaching (live streamed)
  - Evening service at 6pm – Jon Gemmell preaching (live streamed)
- Monday:
  - Baby & Toddlers Group 10am – 11.30am
  - Warm Space 12 noon to 3pm



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

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