



ALLANDER EVANGELICAL CHURCH

FELLOWSHIP NEWSLETTER

1st February, 2021

Sunday Sermon: What did Jesus do?

Bearing in mind that in building our Christian life the only foundation is Jesus, this series of sermons looks at the life of Jesus in order to fully appreciate the nature of that foundation. In asking what was Jesus like, we come this week to think of what did he do?

When we consider what the New Testament says of Jesus' **private life** it is striking how unremarkable it was: nothing spectacular. In simple terms, he exercised normal domestic responsibility, he prayed in many situations in a spontaneous way, he engaged with the Word of God, constantly referring to Scripture. He 'went to church' regularly and faithfully and invested in the lives of others in positive relationships and fellowship.

We can learn so much from these disclosures by being encouraged to live out our Christian lives in such 'ordinary' contexts.

Thinking of his **public ministry** he "*went around doing good*" which took the form of healing, performing miracles, preaching the good news, and developing relationships, especially with those who followed him as disciples. Taking the incident recorded in Luke 5: 17-26, what is significant is that, uniquely, Jesus forgave sins, bringing peace and wholeness to a lost humanity.

Just as we should emulate his private behaviour so we should share with him the task of his public ministry in proclaiming the kingdom of God, empowered by the risen Jesus.

Zoom Boom

It looks as if Allander is really making optimum use of Zoom for making interim provision for fellowship, prayer and teaching during the extended Covid restrictions. Attendance at the Prayer times and the Bible Study are very encouraging and it looks as if the facility of 'broadcasting' the Sunday morning service on Zoom is really appreciated. The additional activity of meeting virtually after Sunday morning in Breakout Rooms on Zoom has encountered some teething problems technically but looks as if it is addressing a real need. Thanks to David Jack for all his work in making this possible.

Children's Outreach

The Elders are planning to have a children's programme online for Easter (as we did for Christmas) each Wednesday in March at 6.30pm. We will once again be working with Brian Lowrie and the team at MAD Ministries.

We are working on a mail-out for 15th February to 80 homes in Milngavie and Bearsden and will also be advertising in the Community Magazine and featuring in the Milngavie and Bearsden Herald. The title for the five programmes is "From Darkness To Light "

Please pray for this outreach that parents will encourage children to view and participate and that they will understand the true significance of Easter and why Jesus died on the cross at Calvary.

Mission of the Month

We continue to support several agencies and missionary ventures through the free-will offerings normally placed in the box at the door. That can still be done by sending contributions to the Treasurer, David Jack or by bank transfer.

In January we supported **Platform 67** from whom we have received the following acknowledgement.

Dear all at Allander Evangelical,

Thank you for your generous gift to Platform 67 of £770 (includes a special donation) received via a direct credit to our bank account on Tuesday 26th January 2021. It comes after a daunting year and stands as a beautiful reminder of God's faithfulness to accomplish His world-wide mission through His servants. Thank you for your side-by-side partnership with us in the Gospel's advance.

The Mission of the Month for February is **Release International** a mission founded



from the work of Richard Wurmbbrand working among persecuted Christians across the world.

FM Prayer Union

Lack of space prevented mention in last week's Newsletter so this is a reminder that it is on tonight at 7 30pm on: Meeting ID: 770 6265 8756; Passcode: 1cRLbp

Maryhill

We enjoy very good fellowship with our friends at Maryhill Evangelical Church. Donald Crosbie sent us this invitation on their behalf: *This year Maryhill Evangelical Church is celebrating 125 years of ministry in the community of Maryhill. Due to current COVID restrictions, we are unable to celebrate as normal, but are putting together a short programme on Zoom on Saturday night 13th February at 7:00 pm. There will be a short time of reflection on the past work at Maryhill, and a moment to share our vision for the future in God's will. Daniel Sutherland will minister in song. If you would like to join with us on this occasion, the Zoom details are as follows:-Meeting ID: 83777742463; Passcode: mec*

We hope you can join with us. Let me know via this email address (crosbiedonald3@gmail.com) if you can be with us.

Finally,

The Government gives us the daily figures of those whom Covid 19 has infected, hospitalised, or are in intensive care, and sadly those who have died, now numbering over 100,000. This can become alarming, but for those who know the Lord Jesus we can trust Him fully and know that God is in control and cares for us.

When thinking about numbers my mind went back to Acts ch2 v38 & 41 where Peter said "Repent and be baptised, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit," Those who accepted the message were baptised, and about **three thousand** were added to their number that day.

Let's pray that at this time of uncertainty the daily numbers of those responding to God's call will be greater than those of recent years. Continuing to pray for our families, friends, neighbours and nation.

Ian Baird