



## ALLANDER EVANGELICAL CHURCH

### FELLOWSHIP NEWSLETTER

25<sup>th</sup> January, 2021

#### Sunday Sermon: Christ's Character

Continuing the series on the Person of Christ this Sunday's message, based on Revelation 1: 12 – 18 and John 1: 14 focused on the question: What is He like?

**Full of grace and truth.** The aged John, reflecting on the Jesus that he knew and loved declared that He was full of grace and truth. As the Word, He is the revelation of all that God is. He declared himself to be The Way, The Truth and The Life. And as truth, He spoke clearly in a way that people recognised. But He did so graciously, even when rebuking. That should characterise our behaviour: speaking divine truth and doing so with grace. God wants to develop these characteristics in us as his disciples.

**Holy.** Jesus was not only holy in the sense that He was sinless and perfect but also in His dedication and being set apart. His reply to anxious parents, "*Don't you know that I must be about my Father's business*" bear testimony to this.

**Love.** Jesus showed compassion and concern for others, especially those in need. He wept over Lazarus and wept over Jerusalem. But His greatest act of love was to die for us on Calvary. "*Greater love hath no man than this*". He could say, "*As the Father has loved me so love I you*" and follow that with "*Love one another as I have loved you*".

**Humble.** That meant condescension. He came to serve, not be served.

Yet He was – and is – realistic in wanting us to be like Him in all His character. His command to us is: put it into practice.

#### #One2Seven

A further series of internet-based #One2Seven is being planned for the period leading up to Easter under the theme: From Darkness to Light. Once again it is being provided by Brian Lowrie and the MAD Ministries Team and will be broadcast at 6 30 pm on Wednesdays 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup>, and 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021 on [www.allanderchurch.org.uk](http://www.allanderchurch.org.uk)



#### Church Fellowship

While lockdown has been in force, meeting for informal fellowship after the services has not been possible (except for the ladies' impromptu huddle in the car park!!). Now, with Zoom, an arrangement is being trialled to meet voluntarily in random smaller groups after Sunday morning service for about ten minutes. Further details from David Jack.

#### People and Prayer:

Christine Harvey is encouraged with Jack's slow but steady recovery after a fall last week. Gordon Craig wants to thank everyone for their prayers for him and his Mum, Margaret. This week's routine Covid test has been returned negative for which we praise the Lord – another answer to

prayer. Continue to remember Joyce Kyle confined to her room over all these months and George Cowan unable to visit Margaret, and all the others needing our prayers.

### **SAT-7**

Jim Gourley has received the following from SAT-7: *"I wanted to thank you for the support SAT-7 received from Allander Evangelical Church in 2020. We have been encouraged and blessed by your partnership with us. It has been a record year of interactions between our viewers and audience support teams especially for our SAT-7 Kids channel that saw a 90% increase and audience engagement for SAT-7 ACADEMY our educational programmes soared by 328%!"* More information available including a 4 – minute video. Contact Jim Gourley at 07841911923.

### **C I Seminar – Understanding the Times**

On Saturday, 30th January, Greenview Church will be hosting a special Zoom Webinar by the Christian Institute, running from 10.30 am to 12 noon on the topic of Understanding the Times. The Christian Institute is encouraging us to become aware (if we're not already) of what has been happening "under the radar" – things that have received little or no coverage in the media, but which – in

their own way – are just as dangerous to our spiritual health as the virus is to our physical health. The speakers will be CI's Scotland Officer, Nigel Kenny, and his colleague from Newcastle, John Denning, who is their Education Officer. Access details: Meeting ID 954 9148 7840 and Passcode: 253870

### **David McColl writes from Bolivia,**

We are doing well and have settled back into life here. Covid is spreading very quickly and all the hospitals are overwhelmed, there have been a large number of deaths although most go unreported/unrecorded.

My work is continuing as normal with Samaritans Purse although we have had a lot of staff off with Covid over the past few weeks. Thankfully we are doing fine so far and William who has turned 6 months is doing well.

We are still unsure of future steps and would appreciate prayers for wisdom and guidance as we try to decide either to extend here or move to something new.

### **Inga**

Inga continues with her local work and her expert training for other translators. She is in better health but still undergoing dental treatment.

### **Finally,**

Recently in a shop I had to use my Bank Card's PIN and for a moment I completely froze as I struggled to remember what the number is. As much as I can put this memory lapse down to ageing, what added to the confusion was that the first number to come to my mind was the Passcode for our church's Zoom Meetings! My life lesson from that moment was that you remember the things you use regularly and forget the things you don't! What a challenge when it comes to the place of the Word of God in our lives. If our interactions and applications of it are fleeting and infrequent then we are likely to forget it, but with regular engagement there is hope that His Word will be ingrained in our spirits. *Proverbs 4:5 Acquire wisdom! Acquire understanding! Do not forget nor turn away from the words of my mouth.*

John Macleod