



1ST MARCH 2020

Clive Collier writes....

As I prepare the sermon for this week based on Elijah's role in 1 Kings 21 I am wrestling with many unanswered questions which so often occur when we seek to make sense of Old Testament narratives and stories and draw helpful insights and conclusions for us in today's world.

As I do so, I am reminded of something I heard - and learned - when I was training to be a church minister at the age of 27. Whilst serving a six week mission placement, I had a conversation with the Vicar about the challenges of unanswered questions. He said that we "live with unanswered questions in the light of the answers that we do have"

This has much in common with the famous classic hymn:

**I cannot tell how silently He suffered,
As with His peace He graced this place of tears,
Or how His heart upon the Cross was broken,
The crown of pain to three and thirty years.
But this I know, He heals the broken-hearted,
And stays our sin, and calms our lurking fear,
And lifts the burden from the heavy laden,
For yet the Savior, Savior of the world, is here.**

I cannot tell...but this I know!

Faith is living with some of the questions of life unanswered because we have received the sure and certain answer to other questions we have asked that feeds our trust in a heavenly father who knows us and loves us.

I don't know the answers to so many aspects of life today but I came to faith after a deliberate and clear investigation into the history and facts surrounding Jesus Christ (this is at the heart of the Alpha Course).

I found God to be real and present through his Holy Spirit, have seen him answer prayers, provide for our lives, heal the sick and save many. So I trust him to be true to his word, I trust him to provide for us now and I trust him for eternity!

What are the answers that you need now to able you to trust him for those other questions which come into your mind so often!

Blessings, Clive

Notices

Lent Quiet Day

Saturday 7th March 10am-4pm here at Emmanuel Church. Tea and coffee provided. Please bring your own lunch. See flyer in church for more details.

Celebrate Creation—Reflections

We have planned an evening service series for Lent celebrating our Creator God and our part in caring for creation.

Meeting on Mondays in March starting with March 2nd in meeting room 1 here at Emmanuel church. Come and reflect, study the Bible and discuss. All welcome.

ROTAS: If you need to check rotas please log on to Church Builder. If you need help with this or any other information about events, groups or who's who then please contact the church office. Details overleaf.

ECB DIARY

SUN 1st March	10.30 am	Informal Worship, Elijah Blood in the vineyard Leader: Helen Collier Preacher: Clive Collier
	7.00pm	Evening Service (Refreshments at 6.30pm) Creation, The Value of Creation Leader: Erika Biscoe Preacher: Ian Biscoe
MON 2nd March	7.45pm	Celebrate Creation—Reflections
TUES 3rd March	9.00am	Prayers
WED 4th March	10.30am	Oasis Small Group
FRI 6th March	9.30am	Cherish Group
	7.00pm	Prayers
SAT 7th March	10.00am	Lent Quiet Day
SUN 8th March	10.30 am	Café Church God so loved the World Leader: Erika Biscoe Preacher: Helen Deegan
	7.00pm	Evening Service (Refreshments at 6.30pm) Creation, We are Creatures Leader: Barbara Walton Preacher: Peter Hill

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All notices to Admin Team by 7pm Wednesday