



14TH JULY 2019

James Dunne writes.....

Doing God's Will

Nowadays when most Christians talk about God's will they mean something detailed and specific. In the Gospels the Pharisees excelled at focussing on the detail of God's will to the point that they had lost sight of the thrust and heart of God's plan. Christ's proclamations that *the Sabbath was made for man and not man for the Sabbath*, and that the Pharisees were right to *tithe Dill and Cumin but ought not to have forgotten about Love* are cases in point.

From a biblical perspective what is God's will for our lives? In various places and ways God sets out guiding principles for our lives. I have picked three that I have found very relevant to my life.

Do justly, love mercy and walk humbly with your God **Micah 6:8**

Love one another as I have loved you **John 13:34**

Go and do likewise **Luke 10:37**

Recognising that a particular verse or principal has relevance in your life is just the first step. What follows is a lifelong struggle to make that principal real in your life. It is akin to the student or apprentice being introduced to a particular skill or principal for the first time. You begin as an observer, then a nervous participant, you wrestle with the best way for you to apply it and then you develop into a craftsman responsible for your own work.

We are fortunate to have the Holy Spirit to guide us through this process, but we also have God's word to offer guidance. Amongst the verses that have helped me most in my Christian journey are:

Get understanding **Proverbs 4:7**

Now grant me wisdom and knowledge, so that I may lead this people **2 Chr. 1:11**

Blessed is the man..... he meditates on God's word (Law) day and night **Psalm 1**

I have found that God's word not only provides life guiding principles but also methods of applying those principles. What is the purpose of studying God's word ? it is that these Godly principles take root in our heart and we are able to say that we are *rooted and built up in him* **Col 2:7** and that we are able to *grow up in our salvation* **1Peter 2:2**

Many years ago a friend of mine quoted a particular translation of a proverb which was, *Trust that God will guide you, and He will*

I have been unable to track down the translation but I have always loved the sentiment and have found it to be true in my life.

Blessings, James

Notices

MEN'S CURRY EVENING AT SHAKIL'S

Coming up on Tuesday 16th July at 7.45pm. If you would like to book, please contact Colin Arter: colin@colinarter.co.uk

HOLIDAY AT HOME AT EMMANUEL CHURCH

If you are retired or unable to go away on holiday then come and join us for a holiday at home. Come and enjoy crafts, games, historical Bicester, film, tea dance, and much more. August 20th—22nd. 10am—3.30pm. To book, please call **01869 600299** or email: home4ew@gmail.com Booking forms also available at one of the churches in Bicester. For more details call **01869 243479** **Volunteers needed! Please use the contacts above or call Emmanuel Church office: 01869 320021**

COFFEE MORNING WITH KIDS

Meeting up again here at Emmanuel Church on Monday 15th July at 9.00am.

All welcome!

ISRAEL—MAY 2020

Join Helen and Clive as they lead a 9 day tour of Israel in the footsteps of Jesus.

Places are limited to 35 and you can reserve your place from now on. For more info talk to Clive and Helen, visit: www.israel2020.co.uk or come to the information evening on Thursday 18th July 7.30pm here at Emmanuel Church.

GARDEN TALK

Join us to chat about our gardening joys and sorrows over a cup of coffee. Saturday 20th July, 24th Aug and 28th Sept. 10.30-12noon here at Emmanuel Church.

THE GREATEST SHOW HOLIDAY CLUB

Monday 29th July to Friday 2nd August for ages 5-11. Booking open.

Please visit: www.lovebicester.com/children's-holiday-clubs or contact Karen Stoddart at Emmanuel Church office for more details. **Volunteers needed! If you can offer some time then please contact Karen in the office here at Emmanuel Church: 01869 320021** Please pray for all involved in this important outreach.

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 14th JULY	10.30am	Café Church OUR PLACE IN GOD'S KINGDOM BUILDING Leader: Andrew Collett Preacher: Clive Collier
	7.00pm	Evening Service (Refreshments at 6.30pm) Prophetic series 1 Leader: Helen Collier Preacher: Clive Collier
MON 15th JULY	9.00am	Coffee Morning with Kids
TUES 16th JULY	9.00am	Prayers
	7.45pm	Men's Curry Night at Shakils
WED 17th JULY	8.45am-12noon	Café open
	10.30am	Oasis Small Group
THURS 18th JULY	8.45am-12noon	Café open
	7.30pm	Israel trip information evening
FRI 19th JULY	8.45am-12noon	Café open
	9.30am	Cherish Group
	7.00pm	Prayers
	7.30pm	Contemplative Compline
SAT 20th JULY	10.30am	Garden talk
SUN 21st JULY	10.30am	Informal Worship Holy Spirit Week 8 Equipping us with Gifts and Fruit Leader: Autumn Hunt Preacher: Nigel Crook
	7.00pm	Evening Service (Refreshments at 6.30pm) Prophetic series 2 Leader: Carol Hill Preacher: Peter Hill

Website: www.emmanuelbicester.org.uk **Church Office:** 01869 320021

Karen Stoddart: administrator@emmanuelbicester.org.uk

Lesley Wasley: ministrysupport@emmanuelbicester.org.uk

All notices to Admin Team by 7pm Wednesday