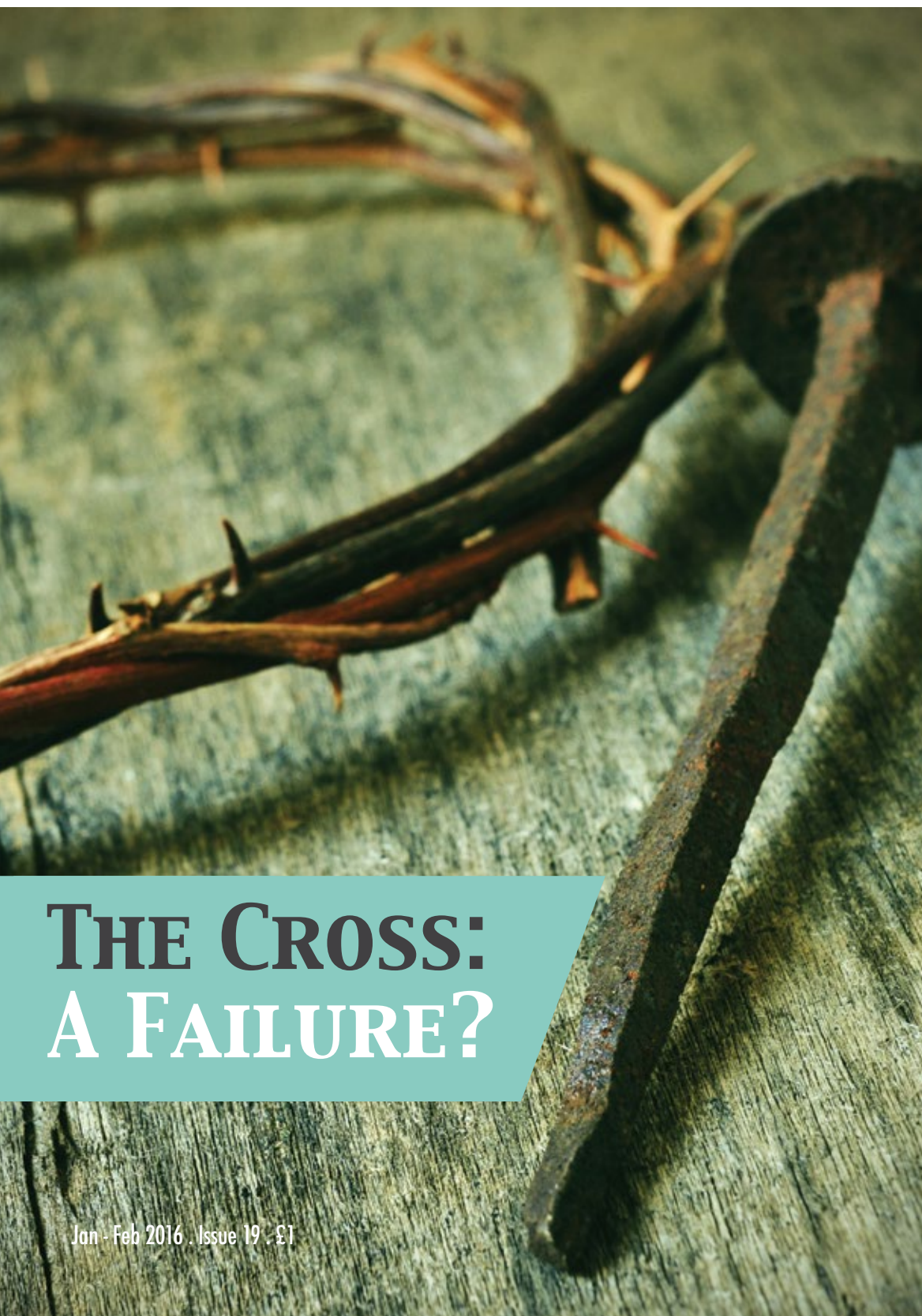


# FREE PRESBYTERIAN VISION



THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE FREE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF ULSTER



## THE CROSS: A FAILURE?

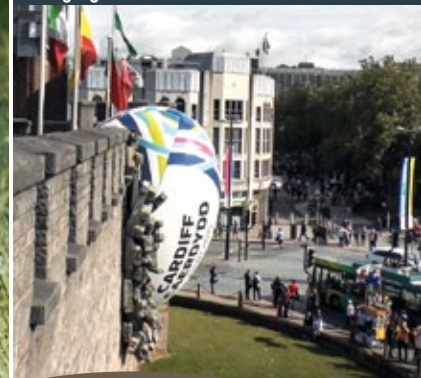
Jan - Feb 2016 . Issue 19 . £1



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### Editorial

## Recently I had the privilege of speaking at a Bible Conference in one of our congregations.

To be involved in those meetings was an encouragement, not least because of the manner in which those present accepted and responded to the ministry. I think I experienced just a little of what the apostle knew at Thessalonica – a people embracing the message joyfully, and recognising it as the Word of God (1 Thessalonians 1:6, 2:13). Paul thanked God for this, and preachers are still richly blessed by hearers with such an appetite.

A few days later, I caught a little of a radio interview with an Anglican Bishop. Without the introduction, I wouldn't have known he professed Christianity – such was the disdain with which he treated the Scriptures. I suppose I shouldn't have been surprised, but sometimes hearing these “teachers” peddle their “fables” (2 Timothy 4:3-4)

so openly does shock. It is a challenge to keep on preaching and practicing the Word whatever the circumstances and however many the scoffers.

And so, as we begin 2016, we must rededicate ourselves to the task of living out the truth of God. John said, “I have no greater joy than to hear that my children walk in truth” (3 John 4). Our lives must ever be an outworking of the truth of Scripture, and of the timeless principles we find there. Today, the temptations to abandon these principles, to redefine the faith, to push back the boundaries, must be resisted. Remember the Bereans? “They received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the Scriptures daily, whether those things were so” (Acts 17:11). And in this, they are an example to us all.

Timothy Nelson  
editor@fpvision.org



# A HOLY PEOPLE

“BE YE HOLY; FOR I AM HOLY.”

1 PETER 1:16

**T**he Lord desires that His people live for the glory of his Name. We may be a small remnant, a little flock, but we are truly a holy seed renewed in the image of God in knowledge, righteousness and holiness. By the power of His grace we are under His rule in Christ and can say, *“O Lord our God, other lords beside thee have had dominion over us; but by thee only will we make mention of thy name”* (Isaiah 26:13). God’s children have turned from every sandy foundation and are standing on the sure foundation He has laid in Zion. *“For other, foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ”* (1 Corinthians 3:11).

The believer’s testimony is clear and certain, *“This is my rest for ever: here will I dwell; for I have desired it”* (Psalm 132:14). God’s holy seed have received the Spirit of their everlasting Father according to His promise, *“I will put my spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes”* (Ezekiel 36:27). So we travel a different way from the world. It’s *“the way of holiness”* (Isaiah 35:8) and our identity is *“the people of [his] holiness”* (Isaiah 63:18). He has *“purified unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works”* (Titus 2:14), *“hath not called [them] to uncleanness, but unto holiness”* (1 Thessalonians 4:7) and *“hath saved [them] and called [them] with an holy calling”* (2 Timothy 1:9).

Yet even the Lord’s chosen ones are not without danger of defiling themselves with the sins and corruptions of the age. Alas, there is more than just the danger! *“How is the gold become dim! how is the most fine gold changed!”*

(Lamentations 4:1) is the cry too often descriptive of our condition. Yet the Lord exhorts us to holy living: *“be ye holy; for I am holy”* (1 Peter 1:16).

**BEING UNITED  
TO CHRIST, THE  
FOUNTAIN OF  
HOLINESS, LET  
US THEN GO  
DAILY BY FAITH  
TO HIM.**

The pattern of true holiness is Jesus Christ. He died as much for our sanctification as our justification, delivering us from the indwelling power of sin as well as its condemnatory power. Being united to Christ, the fountain of holiness, let us then go daily by faith to Him. No one can accomplish real crucifixion of the flesh in his own strength. Victory over the dominion of indwelling sin is only realized in the strength that is in Christ Jesus and in the power of His might. When eyes are not on Christ, ears are not hearing His word, hearts are not filled with Him, sin and self don’t lose their attraction. But in close fellowship and communion with the Saviour, facing the temptations of the world, the flesh and the devil, we will say with Joseph, *“how can I do this great wickedness and sin against God?”* (Genesis 39:9).

Remember, He set apart (sanctified) Himself for His people’s sake: *“And for their sakes I sanctify myself, that they also might be sanctified through the truth”* (John 17:19). His very own sanctification is the source and ground of ours, in our union with Him. He is the One from whom our fruit is found. This is our motive to live godly lives and make this a year of progressive holiness, so glorifying Him.

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✚ **Rev Leslie Curran**, Associate Editor, is the Director of Let the Bible Speak radio ministry in N Ireland, and a regular preacher on its worldwide network of broadcasts.

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# THE COVENANTERS

## A VISIT TO KILMARNOCK

**T**he nineteenth century New Laigh Kirk sits in a prominent, elevated position near to the centre of the East Ayrshire town of Kilmarnock. My visit, however, was not so much to examine this impressive, refurbished church building – it was more to do with what lay around the structure, in the kirkyard. New Laigh kirkyard has three memorials to Covenanters who died during the dark days of the seventeenth century.

The first stone stands just to the right of the church porch, as you enter from the steps rising from John Dickie Street. It bears the following inscription:

*Here lie the heads of John Ross and John Shields,  
Who suffered at Edinburgh, December 27th 1666,  
And had their heads set up in Kilmarnock.*

*"Our persecutors mad with wrath and ire,  
In Edinburgh members some do be, some here;  
Yet instantly united they shall be,  
And witness 'gainst this nation's perjury."*



Ross was a native of Mauchline, Ayrshire, and Shields a tenant of Titwood farm in the parish of Mearns, Renfrewshire. They were accused of being spies, found to be in possession of arms, and to be in Kilmarnock for the purpose of passing information about the King's troops – all capital offences at the time.

The second memorial, elaborately carved with images of pistols, swords and flags, and containing the words 'Solemn League and Covenant' and 'God and our Country', is found at the centre of the graveyard. It commemorates the martyrdom of John Nisbet, tried on the charge of being at the Battle of Bothwell Bridge, and executed on the

gallows at Kilmarnock Cross on 14th April 1683. The place of his execution is still marked by a stone inside the nearby Burns Mall. His memorial contains the following verse:

*"Come, reader, see, here  
pleasant Nisbet lies,  
His blood doth pierce the high  
and lofty skies;  
Kilmarnock did his latter hour  
perceive,  
And Christ his soul to heaven did  
receive.*

*Yet bloody Torrance did his  
body raise  
And buried into another  
place;  
Saying 'Shall rebels lye in  
graves with me!  
We'll bury him where evil  
doers be."*

The third and last stone is more recent, replacing an earlier one set into the kirkyard's northern wall. The original depicted an open Bible, and the words of Psalm 44:17 and Revelation 2:19. The present

inscription identifies Thomas Findlay, John Cuthbertson, William Brown, Robert Anderson, and James Anderson, who were all brutally treated by their persecutors, and who were among 200 drowned near the Orkney Islands after being sentenced to transportation upon capture at Bothwell in June 1679.

Reference is also made on the same memorial to John Findlay, an honest and pious man martyred at the Grassmarket, Edinburgh, in December 1682.

### WHO WERE THE COVENANTERS?

Memorials to men and women 'of the Covenant' are to be found throughout Scotland – but who were these 'Covenanters'? In essence, they were those who signed the National Covenant in 1638, an affirmation of their opposition to the 'meddling' of Stuart kings in the affairs of the Church of Scotland.

Seventeenth century monarchs held to 'the Divine right of the monarch'. Not only did they claim God's mandate to be infallible rulers in civic matters, but to be sovereign in the business of the church. This was unacceptable to Scottish Presbyterians: No man, king or otherwise, could be Head of the Church – that role belonged to Christ alone. And so this issue was central to the entire Covenanting struggle. Those naturally loyal to the Stuart dynasty were thus alienated, and for fifty years (1638-88) until the arrival of Prince William of Orange, untold suffering would be the lot of these faithful souls.

King Charles I introduced Archbishop Laud's Book of Common Prayer to

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Scotland in 1637. Opposition was immediate, and when the King declared that refusal to comply was treason, the battle lines were drawn. Severe repression followed. Ministers were 'outed' from their pulpits and banished from their parishes. Many continued to preach at open air conventicles, or in barns and private houses. This became a capital offence. Citizens failing to attend their local church – now in the charge of Episcopalian 'curates' – could be fined and interrogated by torturous methods. Failure to take the oath of loyalty to King Charles, recognising him as head of the church, might well result in summary execution by blood-thirsty dragons scouring the country for 'rebels'.

Persecutions became more frequent during the 'Killing Times' that followed the restoration of Charles II in 1660. An army of 6000 Highlanders, altogether unsympathetic to the Presbyterian Lowlanders, was raised by the government in 1678. These 'soldiers' swept through the West and South of Scotland, looting and plundering, and quartering themselves on the already impoverished Covenanters.

These, then, were the Covenanters – brave souls who would not bow the knee to those who sought to usurp the Crown Rights of their one true Sovereign, even Jesus Christ, no matter the cost! The bard of Scotland, Robert Burns, pays this tribute:

*The Solemn League and Covenant  
Brings now a smile, now brings a tear;  
But sacred freedom, too, was theirs:  
If thou'rt a slave, indulge thy sneer.*

⋮ Rev Timothy Nelson



# THE CROSS: A FAILURE?

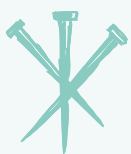
*Did he really say it? And if he did, what did he mean? We refer to the controversy occasioned by one of Pope Francis's homilies during his autumn visit to the USA. This is how it was reported: "The cross shows us a different way of measuring success. Ours is to plant the seeds. God sees to the fruits of our labours. And if at times our efforts and works seem to fail and not produce fruit, we need to remember that we are followers of Jesus Christ and **his life, humanly speaking, ended in failure, the failure of the cross**" (Emphasis added). Roman Catholic apologists have been quick to highlight the words "humanly speaking" – after all, did not His own disciples view it so, forsaking Him and fleeing, with no real expectation of a victorious resurrection?*

*In truth, it matters not what Pope Francis actually meant that day in St Patrick's Cathedral, New York. The fact is, the Roman Catholic Church, by its teaching and practice, deems the cross work of Christ a failure! Why else would we have the blasphemous dogma of transubstantiation, a plethora of man-made 'sacraments', an endless round of penances and indulgences, the fantasy known as purgatory, et al – why, if the cross was sufficient to atone for sin?*

**Rev Gary Goodes** demonstrates that the cross was no failure...

**W**as the death of the Lord Jesus Christ a failure, as the Pope says, or was it His greatest victory? "We preach Christ crucified, unto the Jews a stumbling block, and unto the Greeks foolishness; But unto them which are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God, and the wisdom of God." (1 Corinthians 1:23)

Today many people look at Calvary and all they see is a man dying on a cross. They can't understand why Christians are thrilled about the cross, why they want to sing about blood and death. The cross is just a stumbling block, as it was to the Jews in Paul's day. Unenlightened Jewish minds couldn't understand why the Messiah had to die. And the Greeks wanted something only proud intellectuals could understand – not a simple message accessible to anyone. That's why they tripped over the teaching of the cross.



## CALVARY IS GOD'S MASTERPIECE. IT WAS NO FAILURE; IT WAS THE VICTORY OF CHRIST.

But Calvary is God's masterpiece. It was no failure; it was the victory of Christ. *"Thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ."* (1 Corinthians 15:57)

### SUBSTITUTION EFFECTED

The death of Jesus Christ was no failure, because He died as our Substitute. *"But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death, crowned with glory and honour; that he by the grace of God should taste death for every man."* (Hebrews 2:9) Note the phrase, *"the suffering of death."* His was not an easy passage from this world. It was excruciating agony and torture of the worst kind, for it was on a cross. He experienced all the pain, all the loneliness, and all the torments, that have ever been associated with death. Yet the wonder of it is that He did it voluntarily, so that

He would receive what we deserved for our sins. That is what the Bible means when it says, *"Christ died for our sins."* (1 Corinthians 15:3)

The death He tasted was the penalty of our sin. He endured all that the devil could throw at Him. But more than that, He bore God's wrath over sin. On that cross, the Lord absorbed the full penalty of sin. If we were to suffer hell for all eternity, we would never pay the full price. But He gathered up an eternity of punishment, paid it all, and emerged as the risen and victorious Saviour. That is power! In every possible dimension, Jesus Christ took the pain and agony of death, and tasted it all for us.

Remember that He was without sin. He was guilty of nothing. He never sinned. He could have escaped death, but He chose to die as our substitute, bearing our sin. The sinless One took upon Himself the sin of all those who would trust Him. He paid the price of our sin and secured redemption for us.

### SALVATION PURCHASED

*"For it became him, for whom are all things, and by whom are all things, in bringing many sons unto glory, to make the captain of their salvation perfect through sufferings."* (Hebrews 2:10) The word "captain" can be translated 'author' or 'pioneer.' It means that Christ was the first and only initiator of salvation. There is no way to get to God apart from Him. Christ said, *"I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me."* (John 14:6 cf Acts 4:12)

Similarly, we read in Hebrews 5:8,9 *"Though he were a Son, yet learned he obedience by the things which he suffered; And being made perfect, he became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him."* The suffering was essential. His sufferings made Him the perfect captain. His death opened up the way so that He could bring *"many sons unto glory."*

Our salvation was purchased by the precious blood of Christ. (1 Peter 1:18-20) Peter's words show us that God, in the counsels of eternity past, had

already planned out Calvary. Before man had even sinned, before the world was even created, God had planned Calvary. Revelation 13:8 declares that Christ is *"the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world."*

### SATAN DEFEATED

The first prophecy ever given about the Lord Jesus Christ, Genesis 3:15, predicted that He would crush the serpent's head. Hebrews 2:14 announces the fulfilment of the ancient prophecy. Satan's great power is death. He is the paymaster for the wages of sin. If he can keep a person living in sin until death, then he's got that person for ever! Christ conquered death to destroy the devil. He came out of the grave, and announced, *"Because I live, ye shall live also."* (John 14:9) *"O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory?"* (1 Corinthians 15:55)

### SAINTS VICTORIOUS

Christ's saving work means that every born again, blood washed believer is now standing on victory ground, knowing the assurance of eternal salvation, and looking forward to that great day when the Lord shall return in glory and power! A day is coming when, *"the bright and morning star"* (Revelation 22:16) shall appear. That will be the hour of the Christian's triumph, and the consummation of his redemption and salvation. He shall be changed, in a moment. (See 1 Corinthians 15:52-55 cf 1 Thessalonians 4:15-18)

Today, the storm clouds gather. Delusion sweeps the earth. But for God's people the morning of an eternal day will dawn. Why? Because Christ did not fail in life or in death!

*"O victory in Jesus,  
My Saviour, forever.  
He sought me and bought me  
With His redeeming blood;  
He loved me ere I knew Him  
And all my love is due Him,  
He plunged me to victory,  
Beneath the cleansing flood."*

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⋮ Abridged from a sermon preached in Hillsborough Free Presbyterian Church

# WHITEFIELD COLLEGE CORRESPONDENCE COURSE GRADUATION



The final graduation service for those taking college correspondence courses was held on Monday 19th October at Lawrencetown House.

Our pictures show presentations to Marie O'Prey by Rev B McClung, to Agnes McGladdery by Rev D McMillan, and the full group, at the centre of which is Mr Sydney McMullan, who graduated in two courses.



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# NEW WEBSITE FOR FP VISION

Amazingly, we are now on the fourth year of Free Presbyterian Vision! We acknowledge God's hand upon the work, and we believe it has been used to encourage a living faith in Christ. From the outset, it was the intention to bring the content of the magazine to readers not just on the printed page. While many will always prefer to read the magazine in traditional format, others would like to access the material on phones, tablets and laptops.

With this in mind, we are delighted to announce the launch of a new website: [fpcvision.org](http://fpcvision.org). This website hosts the archives of FP Vision. There are links to previous issues, thereby presenting the work of the Free Presbyterian Church to a wider audience. Significantly, many articles have been gathered from previous issues, grouped into themes and tagged to allow them to be found through search engines. These articles are web-optimised and can be read easily on whatever device you choose.

The Free Presbyterian Church believes that the Bible is our sufficient rule of faith and practice. Thus our writers will bring the Bible to the reader, and will place matters of doctrine and ethics under the rule of Scripture. To have these articles available on the web is a tremendous resource, facilitating our desire to spread the word of God.

It is our prayer that as people search the internet for information on vital issues, they will find themselves reading articles from FP Vision. Please pray with us to this end! God has given us gifts – able writers with strong faith in the authority of the Word of God – and we must seek to use these gifts for His glory in the propagation of truth. The internet is often used as a tool for evil; please join us in praying that, under God, through this medium “the word of the Lord may have free course, and be glorified” (2 Thessalonians 3:1).

Dr Stephen Pollock (Associate Editor)



# CHILDREN'S CORNER



**Boys and girls, it's cold outside.** Winter is here again! Sometimes at this time of the year you might hear your dad complaining of having a flat battery in his car. Does he mean that the car battery has been squashed down flat like a pancake? No, he means that it has no power left in it. It's dead and the car won't start. When this happens to a car battery, sometimes the mechanic will use special cables called "jump leads" to bring power into the flat battery from another stronger, well charged battery.



As Christians we are like those jump leads. Our power source is, of course, the Lord Jesus Christ. Flat batteries are a picture of all the people we meet that are in trouble because they haven't got the Saviour. They need His help and forgiveness. As Christians we should share with others the power of God. Only He can give them the new life and forgiveness they need.

But we need to be careful. Our lives must be clean and pure before God. Jump leads only work properly if there is no dirt or rust when they are attached to the battery. If all is well then a spark is made. Through Christ, we need to make sparks of kindness, love and care towards all those around us who need to be saved, so that we might win them for the Saviour.

## Quiz:

These verses contain words connected with cars. Fill in the grid with the correct answers. **Take the letters from the highlighted squares and rearrange them to spell a popular mode of transport in Bible times?**

2nd Chronicles 26v15

Luke 4v11

Exodus 28v40

Psalms 23v5

Mark 4v19

1st John 1v5

2nd Corinthians 2v14


Answer:

Compiled by  
Robert McConnell

'For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth.'  
Romans 1:16

## PRIZES!

Are you 12 or under? Send your answer, name, address and church to:

Rev. Stephen Pollock

Email: [answer@fpvision.org](mailto:answer@fpvision.org)

15 Fernagreevagh Road, Loughgall, Armagh, BT61 8PN

### £5 WINNERS LAST TIME:

- |                                 |                                    |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| » John Cully<br>(Portavogie)    | » Ethan Salt<br>(Aghalee)          |
| » Leah Shields<br>(Markethill)  | » Daniel Haffey<br>(Armagh)        |
| » Thomas Clarke<br>(Tandragee)  | » Hannah Johnston<br>(Enniskillen) |
| » Zara Barnes<br>(Hillsborough) | » Rachel McQueen<br>(Cookstown)    |



EVEN IF YOU DIDN'T WIN THIS TIME, PLEASE KEEP TRYING - MAYBE NEXT TIME!

# CHOSEN NOT FOR GOOD

**A** simple search of words like 'elect' or 'chosen' in an appropriate programme will show you how prevalent the concept is in the Bible. One writer states: 'No other doctrine has been so central in theology and so ignored in the pulpit.' It is looked upon with fear and suspicion, a doctrine that might belong in a Bible college but not in the mind of the regular Christian.

Such thinking doesn't equate with an honest reading of the Scriptures. The Lord Himself spoke on the topic to His hearers: *"For many are called, but few are chosen."* (Matthew 22:14) Paul deals with the matter many times: *"According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world"* (Ephesians 1:4).

The issue at stake is not 'if' there is election, but rather 'why?' Why did God choose to save some out of humanity – all of whom deserved His wrath and condemnation? In the simplest terms, the God of heaven chose to save some because He chose to save them. Paul says it was out of God's *"good pleasure"* (Ephesians 1:5). Christ revealed to us that it was because it was *"good"* in God's sight (Matthew 11:26). The election of sinners to salvation occurs before the foundation of the world (Ephesians 1:4), before men did *'good or evil'* (Romans 9:11), in the free and unconstrained will of God, and all for His glory (Ephesians 1:6, 11). In view of the depth of our sin and the evil of our rebellion, it is not a marvel that God chose some, but that He chose any!

Some may wonder, 'Am I elect?' Paul shows us that this can be discerned. Yet none knows his election until he responds to the Gospel, for Paul knew this of the Thessalonians only because the *"gospel came not unto [them] in word only, but also in power, and in the Holy Ghost, and in much assurance"*

(1Thessalonians 1:4-5). Young person, it is not your duty to figure out if you are elect or not: your duty is to repent and believe the gospel. Such faith arises in those chosen of God. Our election is not earned. God does not choose us because we were lovely but because He loved us. In humility and gratitude, we sing with the hymn writer: *" 'Tis not that I did choose Thee, For, Lord, that could not be; This heart would still refuse Thee, hadst Thou not chosen me."*

## FROM THE OLD TO THE YOUNG

*How sweet and awful is the place  
With Christ within the doors,  
While everlasting love displays  
The choicest of her stores.*

*While all our hearts and all our songs  
Join to admire the feast,  
Each of us cries, with thankful tongues,  
"Lord, why was I a guest?"*

*"Why was I made to hear Thy voice,  
And enter while there's room,  
When thousands make a wretched choice,  
And rather starve than come?"*

*'Twas the same love that spread the feast  
That sweetly forced us in;  
Else we had still refused to taste,  
And perished in our sin."*

- Isaac Watts



**T**his year, in the middle pages, we plan, God willing, to cover some of the major religious ideas that young people will encounter in school, university and in the workplace.

Knowing what others believe helps us to present the Gospel to them effectively. The truth of the gospel never changes, but how we approach others will vary according to what they believe.

By way of introduction, we need to think first about the issue of defending our faith.

**WE ARE  
SEEKING TO  
WIN SOULS,  
NOT JUST  
ARGUMENTS!**

# A HUMBLE APOLOGY

**T**he idea of respect has taken on a very particular flavour in our present culture. It may be described by the cliché 'Live and let live.' In essence, we are all supposedly given the freedom to believe what we want, and to practise our religion as we please. However, the Bible presents a religion that makes such a position impossible. While we would not use legal force to impose our religion on any, we must affirm that all religions are not equally valid.

The Bible claims exclusive truth and declares that there is only one way to God. *"Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved."* (Acts 4:12) That such a message was preached is a reflection of the teaching the apostles received from the Saviour for He said: *"I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me."* (John 14:6) Jesus Christ is the only way to God. He alone is absolute truth, and real life is only found in Him. Such exclusive claims mean that no other way to God is true. Hence the Christian will

not allow others to practise their religion without challenge. It is his unashamed and unapologetic desire to see others converted from false religions, and to come into the truth that is found in Christ alone.

Understanding this exclusive Gospel should not make us arrogant. We only know the truth by the gracious revelation of God. It is the Father who has revealed the truth unto babes (Matthew 11:25). Natural man cannot grasp spiritual truths (1 Corinthians 2:14), but, with Paul, we say, *"God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit"* (1 Corinthians 2:10). Arrogance should find no place in the Christian who knows all the spiritual knowledge he has is by the grace of God. However, such gracious privilege places us under responsibility to communicate the message to others. When we see our friends and neighbours in the darkness of false religion, we ought to lament their condition and fear for the eternal well-being of their souls. If their way to God is not His way then it is no way at all. Only the saved have eternal hope. Peter states that only those 'begotten again' have a 'lively' hope of *"an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you"* (1 Peter 1:4). If we have any heart for lost souls, we must surely desire that they would come to know hope in Christ alone.

Later in his first epistle, Peter exhorts all believers to *"sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear."* (1 Peter 3:15) Some deny our right to have an eternal hope; others genuinely want to know how to have what we have. Whatever the reason for the enquiry, it is our joyful task to give an answer. The word "answer" is from where we get our word 'apology'. When we think of an apology we think of saying sorry for something we shouldn't have done. But the Greek '*apologia*' has nothing to do with regret or repentance. The Christian is never 'sorry' for his faith, but must always be ready to give this humble apology. The apology in view here most likely comes from the practice in Athens of every man being obligated to present his own defence if he were brought to trial. In the days before expensive lawyers, citizens would have to frame their own defence. Peter is saying that if we are put on trial for our faith, actually or metaphorically, we should be ready to present a coherent defence of what we believe and why we believe it. Such a defence must come from those who have a consistent walk and a good conscience before God (1 Peter 3:17). This defence should be:

### RESEARCHED

Standing in court it is imperative that you know your defence. The Christian faith is a revealed faith – the revelation being the contents of the Bible. When Peter tells us to be "ready" to give our answer he is instructing us to be prepared (The word "ready" is translated 'prepared' in Mark 14:15 with respect to the upper room). Such preparation requires study and research into the truths of the gospel. We should be able to defend the reliability of the Scriptures as the inerrant, inspired Word of God. We ought to know the Bible's teaching regarding the person of Christ, very God and very man, hence the only suitable Mediator and Saviour of sinners. We ought to be able to define and defend the nature of

the atonement – what did our Saviour accomplish when He gave His life a ransom for many? We ought to give ourselves to the careful study of the Scriptures in order that we may be "ready".

### REASONABLE

By this I mean that our defence should make sense. The Christian message is consistent and rational. What we believe is based on historical fact. The resurrection of Christ as described in the Gospels can only be understood to mean that He, who was dead, actually rose from the dead. These miraculous and supernatural events transcend our reason, but nothing in the Gospel is contradictory. Sin leaves us guilty before God. For guilt to be removed the price of sin must be paid in full. On the cross the sinless Christ could not have died for His own sins. He died for the sins of others, paying the price in full. Hence the guilty can be pardoned. Rational truth is presented in the Bible, and we should be able to communicate it clearly and concisely.

### RESOLUTE

We are not apologising for what we believe. We are presenting Divine truth. Therefore our presentation must be made with resolution and confidence. This is the only worthy way to present Christ.

### RESPECTFUL

Peter tells us that we are to answer in *"meekness and fear"*. The sense is that our defence should be presented kindly and respectfully, without contention and contempt. When we disagree with others over their religious persuasion, we can be inclined to want to win the argument. Peter warns us of such. We need to keep in mind we are seeking to win souls, not just arguments!

We who have been graciously brought to know the truth, the only truth, have now the solemn and joyful task of defending that truth in the midst of many onslaughts. May God help us!

**WE ARE NOT  
APOLOGISING FOR  
WHAT WE BELIEVE.  
WE ARE PRESENTING  
DIVINE TRUTH.**

## CASTLEWELLAN CHRISTIAN RETREAT

**Fri 29<sup>th</sup> April – Mon 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2016**

**Cost: £85** (Covers meals & accommodation)

**Age: 16-28**

An opportunity for young people to refresh their souls with Christian fellowship and the ministry of God's Word. Various activities & free time in the evenings!

## EVENINGS OF PRAYER

### **GREATER BELFAST**

**Tyndale FPC, 19<sup>th</sup> Feb, Rev P Foster**

### **NORTH DOWN**

**Ballygowan FPC, 12<sup>th</sup> Feb, Rev A Smylie**

### **MID DOWN**

**Hillsborough FPC, 12<sup>th</sup> Feb, Rev G Goodes**

### **SOUTH DOWN**

**Mourne FPC, 12<sup>th</sup> Feb, Rev A Patterson**

### **MID ULSTER**

**Tandragee FPC, 12<sup>th</sup> Feb, Rev S Murray**

### **SOUTH WEST**

**Tullyvallen FPC, 19<sup>th</sup> Feb, Rev J Porter**

### **WEST**

**Omagh FPC, 12<sup>th</sup> Feb, Rev J Gray**

### **NORTH WEST**

**Garvagh FPC, 8<sup>th</sup> Feb, Rev G Lucas**

### **NORTH & SOUTH ANTRIM**

**Ballyclare FPC, 19<sup>th</sup> Feb, Rev N Hughes**

## DELEGATES MEETING

**Monday 15<sup>th</sup> Feb, Venue: TBC**

## SUMMER OUTREACHES

### **MADRID, SPAIN**

**23<sup>rd</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> July 2016**

### **GARDENSTOWN, SCOTLAND**

**6<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> August 2016**

### **N IRELAND, CHILDREN'S OUTREACH** **Date TBC**

Details & Costs tbc

# YOUTH COUNCIL EVENTS

## SPRING RALLIES

**Friday 11<sup>th</sup> March, 8.00pm**

Evangelistic Rallies in Londonderry, Castlederg, Markethill, Mourne and Bangor.

## TRAINING WEEKEND

**4<sup>th</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> March, Faith Mission Centre, Portadown**

**Theme:** The Theology of Evangelism (simply taught!)

**Cost:** £65

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# A WORD TO WOMEN

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## "THE TONGUE IS A LITTLE MEMBER."

(JAMES 3:5)

**I** love little things – tiny ornaments, for example. But some little things don't thrill me; insects such as flies and earwigs come to mind! In James 3:5 we are told, *"Even so the tongue is a little member, and boasteth great things. Behold how great a matter a little fire kindleth!"* The tongue, although small, need not be bad. Our tongues were designed to praise the Lord, but sadly we use them often to complain, criticise and gossip. James compares our speech to a fire. How lovely on a winter's night to light the fire and watch the flames spring to life and feel the warmth in the room! However, let a spark fall from an unguarded fire and a home and lives are at risk of destruction. Likewise our words can be comforting and warming, or unguarded and destructive.

Elkanah had two wives, Hannah and Penninah (1 Samuel 1:2). Not an ideal situation to start with, but greatly aggravated by Penninah's attitude towards Hannah. Hannah's childlessness was a grief to her, but she had to endure also the taunts of Penninah. The burden became unbearable and thankfully Hannah took it all to the Lord. Undoubtedly Penninah suffered as a second wife – Elkanah loved Hannah, and while generous to Penninah, Hannah was treated even more generously. Jealousy stirred Penninah to say cruel things to Hannah. Jealousy is often at the root of cruel words and actions. Potiphar's wife could not seduce Joseph, so she made a false accusation against him. Jealousy is a form of coveting. The words that come from a jealous heart are sparks that burn and are in danger of causing much hurt and harm. We have all been hurt by insensitive words. Let us guard against using them.

It is great to have news to share. In the parable, the woman who had lost a piece of silver was quick to share the joy of finding it with her friends

and neighbours, (Luke 15:9). However there is always a danger of sharing news which should not be told, or passing on detail that is biased or untrue. The story is told of a message sent through the trenches in the Great War. The original message was, "Send reinforcements, we're going to advance". However the message received was, "Send three and four pence we're going to a dance"! Many a message does not end as it started out. Thoughts and opinions are not facts. When we gossip we are on dangerous ground. Proverbs 16:28 warns that, *"a whisperer separateth chief friends."* Mary "supposed" the Lord Jesus to be the gardener (John 20:15).

What joy she experienced when He spoke to her and she realised her mistake! It is very easy to suppose things. A half-truth is a whole lie. With David we might pray, *"Set a watch, O LORD, before my mouth; keep the door of my lips."* (Psalm 141:3)

IF WE RESOLVE  
ANYTHING THIS YEAR,  
MAY IT BE THAT OUR  
SPEECH "BE ALWAYS WITH  
GRACE, SEASONED  
WITH SALT"

The exhortation in Philippians 4:8 could be applied to not only our thoughts but also to our speech, *"Whatsoever things **are** true, whatsoever things **are** honest, whatsoever things **are** just, whatsoever things **are** pure, whatsoever things **are** lovely, whatsoever things **are** of good report; if **there be** any virtue, and if **there be** any praise, think on these things."*

In poetic language, *"A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in pictures of silver."* (Proverbs 25:11) If we resolve anything this year, may it be that our speech *"be always with grace, seasoned with salt"* (Colossians 4:6).

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∴ **Olive Maxwell** lived and worked for over twenty years in the city of Cork. She and husband Colin continue to serve with the Mission Board focusing primarily on the Republic of Ireland

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# CONGREGATION CALL: NEWTOWNARDS

*"Them that honour me, I will honour"* (1 Samuel 2:30). This text, displayed on the wall behind the pulpit, summarises the history of the congregation in Newtownards. It owes its commencement and continuation to faithful men and women, those with the desire that the Lord would be honoured in this area. God has been pleased to bless their labours for Him.

The well-loved passage in Hebrews 11 has often been termed the 'Hall of Fame' or 'Roll of Honour' of men and women of faith. Not so well known is that list of diligent workers in Nehemiah 3. Here is the story of how God's people became burdened for His honour, and with diligence, and in spite of opposition, came together to rebuild the walls of Jerusalem. The parallel with the establishment and extension of the testimony in Newtownards is clear. There were, and still are, those in this place concerned for the glory of God. They are determined to see the walls of separation rebuilt and maintained. It would be impossible to mention all who have contributed, but *"God is not unrighteous to forget your work and labour of love, which ye have shewed toward His name."* (Hebrews 6:10) We can be sure that no one will be omitted from that Book of Remembrance being written in Heaven! (Malachi 3:16)

The witness in Newtownards commenced in 1971. A number of Christians who were attending the Martyrs Memorial Church were approached and meetings were commenced in May, firstly in the Red Cross Hall, and then in the Orange Hall. The congregation was constituted on Lord's Day November 21st, 1971, Dr Paisley preaching. Student minister Mr Alex Chambers served the congregation for three years. Rev Trevor Baxter was then placed as student minister and under his ministry the work began to grow. The need for a permanent presence in the town was met when ground was purchased on the Bangor Road. A temporary building was erected in May 1977.

The first ordained minister was Rev Alan Dunlop, who was installed in September 1981. Under his ministry souls were saved and the present church building was opened in November 1984.

Rev Fred Greenfield became minister in October 2001 and faithfully served the congregation until early 2007. The current minister, Dr Ron Johnstone, was installed in May 2008.

In recent years the congregation felt the need for additional facilities. The session and committee put the challenge of a Building Fund, explaining that, based on the financial response, they would draw up plans to present to the congregation. It was agreed to proceed with a new complex with a ceiling of a bank loan of no more than £250,000 to be repaid over 15 years.



The complex was opened on August 31st 2012 costing approximately £500,000. At the close of the opening service, Dr Johnstone announced to the congregation that the offering had amounted to £52, 285, making a total of £73, 674 received that month! The service closed with the singing of the very appropriate hymn, 'To God be the Glory.'

Due to the generosity of members no bank interest was paid. After two years, when the debt was almost paid off, renovations were carried out to the front of the main building costing over £100,000. The facilities in the extension have proved to be a great blessing to the work of the congregation. We are still humbled and amazed at the goodness of God and the generosity of God's people in an age of austerity.

As in other Free Presbyterian buildings, the symbol of the Burning Bush is prominently displayed. It is a challenge and constant reminder to members of their responsibilities. At the opening of the complex, Dr Johnstone spoke on the significant lessons of the Bush that burned and was not consumed. It was there Moses was given a vision of the glory of God, the guilt of man and the grace of Christ.

Such a vision was what had motivated the congregation to unite under God to erect the complex, the reason it exists as a congregation, and the ministry it is to carry out in all its endeavours. Mr Johnstone then highlighted that the Preservation of Scripture was a similar miracle to that of the Burning Bush in that while the flames of criticism had been directed against the Bible, it was not consumed.

The Passion of the Saviour on Calvary was a miracle for the flames of judgment due His people fell upon Him yet He was not consumed. Rather, He bore and extinguished God's wrath. The Pathway of the Saint is a miracle because, while the Church and individual saints walk through the fire, they are not consumed.

**BY GOD'S GRACE, THIS CONGREGATION HAS AN ABIDING DESIRE .... TO BE 'STRONG AND FAITHFUL' FOR THE LORD IN THIS AGE OF APOSTASY.**

And the Punishment of the Sinner in eternity will be a miracle for the same God who preserved that Bush from being consumed is able to preserve the risen body of the unbeliever in eternal fire.

For these reasons, he said, we must continue to determine that all the sermons preached would come from Scripture, centre on the Saviour, and therefore would be a means of bringing comfort to the saint and conviction to the sinner.

By God's grace, this congregation has an abiding desire not only to be challenged by the lessons from the Burning Bush, but to fulfil the motto on the Newtownards crest and be 'Strong and Faithful' for the Lord in this age of apostasy.

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∴ Dr Ron Johnstone

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Session and Committee



Opening of Complex





## RUGBY WORLD CUP OUTREACH

After being stuck in heavy traffic due to a fire in the Dublin tunnel we eventually made it onto the boat. With all 14 of us accounted for – including baby Noah – we were now on our way to South Wales. Our purpose was to distribute gospel literature to fans attending the Rugby World Cup matches in Cardiff. In the city, members of the team preached and testified in the open air, and around 12,000 rugby-themed tracts were distributed. Time was also taken to minister in the three local churches: Merthyr Tydfil, Rhiwderin, and Llanelli. Some of the team preached, some testified, and some sang. A children's meeting was also led by the team in Merthyr Tydfil, with choruses, a testimony, a memory verse, a story by Lydia Watson – as well as music provided by Paul Hanna on bagpipes! We're grateful to Ballynahinch church for the use of the mini bus, and to Paul who drove it and was with us as part of the team. One of the days was spent doing outreach in Merthyr Tydfil.

*I thoroughly enjoyed the Rugby World Cup Outreach trip to Wales. One of the highlights of the trip for me was spending a day in Merthyr Tydfil. Whilst in Merthyr we conducted two open air services and distributed tracts. I was really encouraged by the willingness of some to take Gospel literature and by the many people who stopped to talk and ask questions, especially those of other religions or*

*those who knew nothing of the Gospel. During this week, my eyes were opened to the lack of knowledge of the Gospel on the mainland, and the huge need for prayer for the work there.*

**(Fiona McShane, Portadown)**

Just a week later we were back over to the mainland with a team of nine young people to carry out evangelism in parts





of London. With an early landing into Stansted, and a great breakfast, we were ready for the work. Time was spent in the area of Walthamstow, promoting a weekend of meetings which were being held in our London church. As a team we also ministered in the services there by preaching, testifying and singing.

As we did in Cardiff, we gave out gospel literature at rugby matches held at Twickenham and at the Olympic Stadium. It was great that James Barker from Southend was able to join us. We know this was an encouragement to him as he continues to live for the Lord in that part of England. Another team member gives an insight as to how the trip encouraged him.

*After being approached by Jonny Smith, I decided to go to London for some outreach during the rugby World Cup. The time there brought me closer to God, and expanded my knowledge especially in relation to other faiths. I was asked to speak at one of the open airs. This was my first time, and it taught me to rely more on God. I didn't know what*



*to expect but He helped me through it. It was privilege to have the opportunity to spread the gospel.*

**(Timothy Irwin, Armagh)**

Many teams will be disappointed they did not win the World Cup, but it has been fantastic to get alongside two teams which had the desire to win something much greater – eternal souls for the kingdom of God! I trust this will just be a stepping stone for each of the young people who helped, strengthening them in their faith,



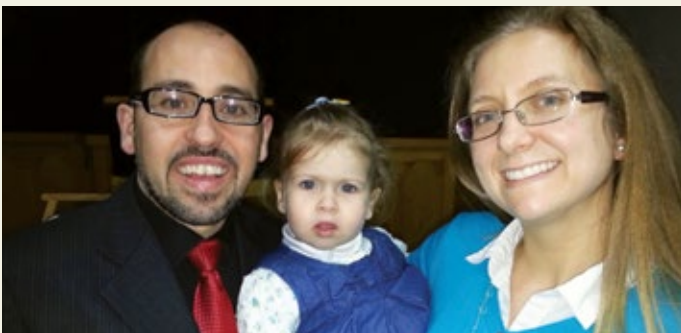
prompting them to go further in service for the Lord.

Pray for our young people as they stand up for Christ, sharing the boldness of Paul: 'For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth.' Pray also for the families and churches which Revs Nigel Smyth, Richard Monteith and Patrick Baker represent, that they will know the Lord's blessing in all their labours.

∴ **Jonathan Smith** (Youth Outreach Worker)



## ANGEL IN ALCORCON



**T**his last year we have seen the membership increased in a way I haven't seen in all the years I have known the Alcorcon congregation. Among those who became members are an elderly couple, a family of three children, another family with two grown children and their grandmother. Another family that left some five years ago is back with renewed zeal for the things of God. And lately we have had another very faithful older couple attending, and they are very much at home with us. Last week we interviewed a young woman who has a little baby. After going through a series of studies on discipleship, she came to Christ, and she wants to be baptised. I mustn't forget

another woman, who just left last week to go to Ulster to be with her husband; both are from here. She testified that the Lord has saved her these last days before leaving. We've tried to keep faithful in the preaching of His Word, and He has blessed. This is His work and to Him is all the glory.

One important thing for us as a family: We needed to be closer to Alcorcon so I could develop my ministry, so we moved from Toledo to Madrid. We are now 12 minutes away, not 50. Soon I begin a series on discipleship with an ex-Jehovah's Witness who attends our services. We will focus on the Trinity, salvation and church life.

I continue to be fully involved with the young people. Though the numbers are small, we trust the Lord will increase this area of the ministry. Our evening services are as large as the morning services used to be, and the church is now to full capacity and beyond in the morning services. The Lord is very good to us, and we are very thankful to Him.

I will tell you more next spring as I will be in Ulster for deputation meetings. Pray about this, and for the church in Alcorcon and our ministry here.

# CARLOS CORALLES CALLED

**M**arried with two children, Sebastian (22), and Laura (17), Carlos arrived in Spain from Columbia in December 2000. A converted Roman Catholic, he set himself to join a Bible-believing church. This brought him to Alcorcon. Here he discovered the doctrines of grace and the importance of faithful preaching, reverent worship, and the sufficiency of Scripture.

In 2001, he studied Church History and Homiletics in Grace Bible College. Carlos was duly ordained to the eldership in Alcorcon, and has preached in various churches. Now God has called him to the ministry. His call was sealed through a message preached by Mission Board Chairman, Rev Harris. He will start his training this month.

The son of a single mother, Carlos spent his childhood with grandparents until his grandmother died. He went to live with his mother's sister's family. He did not have contact with his mother again until after his conversion. His best childhood memory is of his grandmother, a devout Roman Catholic, reading the Bible. Obviously, this was a strange providence, but it left an immense impression on him. Teenage years were particularly difficult. In the 1980's drug gangs were rampant in his city. Carlos became involved in crime, and at 15 years old left his aunt's house to 'live it up!' When 18 he suffered a bullet wound in his leg and was conscripted into the army. He enjoyed military life and served in a unit against guerrilla forces.

Three months after joining the Army, there was a military ceremony and every soldier was given a New Testament by the Gideons. This he read, and here his conversion story begins – alone in the Andes mountains, reading the Psalms his grandmother had read to him as a child.



Carlos left the army, married his girlfriend and they had their first child. Most of his former friends in crime were either dead or in prison. After the untimely murder of his 15-year-old cousin, he turned to alcohol, yet continued to read the Bible. In time, through faithful preaching, he was led to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ.

God has called Carlos to the ministry. His call was sealed through a message preached by Mission Board Chairman, Rev Harris.

The Missionary Council invited him to its Missionary Weekend in November and several meetings were organised. We are indebted to those who helped with transport and to Alex Bernabeu, his interpreter. Please support Carlos prayerfully and practically as he commences his studies. Anyone wishing to contribute financially should contact the Mission Board Office.

## MISSION BOARD DETAILS

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# UGANDA UPDATE



**2**015 has been an exciting year at Emmanuel Christian School. In February we had about 220 children in Nursery and Primary. By November that number had risen to 295, plus 18 in our newly opened secondary department. The Church has also grown - over 180 worshippers on Sunday. We have been blessed by the visits of so many friends

from the Free Presbyterian Church. Local enthusiasm has attracted much favourable conversation about the Lord's work here, which may account for the increase.

There have been some conversions and we rejoice to see these "new" saints growing in grace and in the knowledge of Christ. Bible study on Wednesday

evenings has taken on a 'question and answer' dimension as we explain the basics of the Gospel. Our fervent prayer is that God will provide faithful labourers who will nurture these young souls, and so produce the future Church leaders needed to expand the Kingdom of God in Africa.

∴ Rev Noel Kelly

## "PRAISE THE LORD, SING HALLELUJAH!"

**O**n Saturday 9th May 2015 in Hillsborough a very special Evening of Male Voice Praise was held, when choirs from the Whitefield College, Ballymena, Magherafelt, Mourne and Lisburn came together to praise God. After each choir had contributed two items, the Men's Conference Choir joined in to bring three further pieces.

The Mission Board is grateful to all of these brethren for participating in the evening and to the preacher, College Principal Rev G Ferguson. Special thanks also are due to Rev R McKee for directing the choirs and helping to organise the evening. Joseph Greer and Mark Linton were on hand to

record the live singing, and to enable the production of a CD. We deeply appreciate their input.

The profits from this recording will help fund the United Children's Camp here in N Ireland, and the Children's Ministry of Miss Joanne Greer in Liberia. The CD can be obtained from your local congregation or by contacting the Mission Board Office. May you enjoy listening and be encouraged that your purchase is helping to further the Gospel among boys and girls at home and abroad!

∴ Rev Ian Harris

# BEULAH CHRISTIAN LITERATURE



**M**ission Board Chairman Rev Harris writes.... It gives me great pleasure to introduce a new literature ministry outreach in Kakamega. We are thankful to the Lord for enabling us to open this venture under our own Free Presbyterian Mission Society Africa registration.

Rev Malcolm Patterson did much research into locating new premises and promoting the project. Miss Kathy Walker will manage the centre. This has meant her relocation to Kakamega. Please remember her in prayer as she labours there, and as she adapts to a new area.

**Kathy writes...**Premises have been located in a mall on the main road into town. Many contacts are being made weekly and there seems to be a good interest in the ministry. The county of Kakamega is the second most populous county after Nairobi. The people are mostly of the Luhya tribe. Farming and fishing are the main sources of income. Kakamega serves as the headquarters of Kenya's largest sugar producing firm. A local university is close by, and the bookshop is being promoted by advertising with the FM station at the University.

The bookshop will provide Bibles (English and Swahili), new and used books, booklets, tracts, preaching and music CDs and DVDs, gift items and scripture plaques. Free literature is available to local pastors for use in evangelism. Please remember the work. We would like to see weekly meetings for prayer, Bible study, and perhaps musical training. Do pray that the Lord would lead us each step of the way and give tokens for good from His gracious hand.

# CHILDREN'S TRACTS



**W**e have produced five themed tracts that present the gospel message in a way that children will find engaging and easy to understand. These tracts are ideal for children's meetings, five-day Bible clubs and other child evangelism events throughout the year. The titles are:

- » The Book of Books
- » Jesus is my Saviour
- » The Greatest Gift of All
- » A Very Important Question
- » A Wonderful God

As we look to the year ahead, let us be mindful of the words of D.L. Moody, "If I had my life to live over, I would give all my time to children." These tracts are 4p each, with one set of tracts free when you purchase a complete set of all 5 designs. Have your tracts personalised to your church and local children's work (prices available on request).

If you wish to place an order, or seek further information, please contact Rev James Porter at:  
Tel: 07596145779 or 02837551623;  
or email [James.Porter@FreePresbyterian.org](mailto:James.Porter@FreePresbyterian.org).

Copies of the booklet "Starting the Christian Race" (12 pages A5 size) are also available at 50p. This is an excellent help for any young child who has professed faith in Christ.

**MISSION BOARD'S  
UNITED CHILDREN'S CAMP**  
**GREENHILL YMCA, NEWCASTLE**  
**1<sup>ST</sup> - 5<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2016**

Price: £120 Booking Forms downloaded from: [www.fpcmission.org](http://www.fpcmission.org)





# DATES FOR THE DIARY

## JANUARY

**3<sup>rd</sup> CROSSGAR,  
NEW YEAR CONFERENCE**  
Time: Sunday, 7.00pm

**8<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> BALLYMONEY,  
MISSIONARY CONVENTION**  
Time: Friday, 8.00pm  
Saturday, 7.30pm  
Sunday, 12.00 & 7.00pm  
Speakers: Revs W Graham,  
M Patterson,  
D McMillan,  
K Elliott  
& Others

**29<sup>th</sup> SIXMILECROSS,  
YOUTH FOCUS RALLY**  
Time: Friday, 8.00pm  
Speaker: Rev R McKee

## FEBRUARY

**27<sup>th</sup> MOURNE, SUNDAY SCHOOL  
TEACHERS' CONFERENCE**  
Time: Saturday, 7.30pm  
Speaker: Rev D Stewart

## MARCH

**11<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> LADIES' RESIDENTIAL WEEKEND  
LODGE HOTEL, COLERAINE**  
Speakers: Mrs M Beattie,  
Mrs V Dawson,  
Mrs T McLeod  
Details: Linda Harris (Annalong)  
028 4376 8040

**13<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> CROSSGAR,  
FOUNDATIONS CONFERENCE**  
Time: Sunday, 7.00pm  
Monday – Friday, 8.00pm  
Speaker: Dr R Johnstone  
Theme: The High Priest's Garments

**25<sup>th</sup>+28<sup>th</sup> MARTYRS' MEMORIAL,  
FP EASTER CONVENTION**  
Time: Friday, 8.00pm  
Monday, 3.30pm & 7.00pm  
Various Speakers & Reports

## APRIL

**22<sup>nd</sup>-24<sup>th</sup> GARDENSTOWN,  
SPRING CONFERENCE**  
Time: Friday & Saturday, 7.00pm,  
Sunday, 11.30am and 6.00pm  
Speaker: Rev N Smyth