

Pastors Comment ...



Arthur Blessitt is world renown, not because he is anyone special, but because he walked around the globe in 40 years with a 12ft wooden cross proclaiming the Good News of Jesus Christ. Last Thursday we watched a video of his testimony of amazing stories and incredible challenges from clawing his way through the impenetrable Darien jungle to being caught up in a revolution in Spain. However, as Arthur explained, it wasn't so much of what Arthur did with the cross, but rather what the cross did with Arthur. He learned that the most important thing we can do is the 'next thing' that God wants us to do ... that obedience is everything ... there is no turning back, no stopping and no 'skipping' the journey. There was a destination that God wanted him to achieve against all odds and God brought him through it all. Arthur was clubbed to the ground, threatened at gunpoint, endured freezing sleet or scorching heat. He experienced heart break, rejection, solitude, pain, despair but also great joy and peace. Like Paul in chains for Christ, Arthur endured for the Cross—literally! If you would like to be encouraged and challenged, I would highly recommend watching this video. Please let me know.

Several people also need encouragement and strength in our prayers: Please remember Sandra, Doris, Ros, Mal & Keren and Sarah (Bryan & Janice's daughter).
Blessings—Pastor Tim.

Services

July
3rd Miss. A. Edgecombe
10th Rev. Tim Skillman
17th Rev. Tim Skillman
24th Collective Worship
31st Mr. R. Sanders
August
7th Mr. D. King

Door Stewards

July
3rd Kate
10th Peggy
17th Peggy
24th Ann
31st Mark
August
7th Ann

Flowers

July
3rd Mrs D Laphorn
10th Ms J Brown
17th Mrs P Discombe
24th Mrs G Sterry
31st Mrs M Hallsworth
August
7th Mrs S Jones



Hoovering (week ending...)

July
2nd Mr H. Jones
9th Mrs J Tucker
16th Mrs K King
23rd Mrs G Sterry
30th Mrs S Jones
August
6th Ms J Brown



MALBOROUGH
BAPTIST
CHURCH

MINISTER
REV TIM SKILLMAN

Fellowship News

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Morning Service 10:30 am Communion service held on the first Sunday of the month.

When I think of Eden, I have several questions. How long did the age of innocence last? What was it like to talk to God, one on one, in person? What was it like to work for a purpose without having to worry about making a living? What was sexual knowledge like in total innocence? What was it like not to age? What is it like to have no need of hospitals, policemen, or funeral homes? Why did Adam & Eve make the choice to eat of the forbidden tree? Did they not know that paradise could not be improved? What would it take to satisfy human nature? When would enough be enough?

Human nature is endowed with curiosity. It is always searching, probing, and discovering. This curiosity implanted by God makes it possible for us to discover our world and have dominion over it. This curiosity is a wonderful thing if channelled in the right direction. But when it is directed in the wrong direction it becomes extremely self-destructive. We live in an age when we ask the question: "How far is too far?" "How much is too much?" "When does 'no' mean 'NO'?" These questions arise in areas of science, law, life and human relations. Curiosity easily becomes exploitation for self-gratification.

How many times have we craved to turn the clock back to an age of innocence? The further we go the tougher the decisions. The choices made move us in one direction or the other. At times the movement is in such small increments that movement is not perceptible. The result may not be known until decades later. After we discover the movement we wish "we didn't know now, what we didn't know then."



The Greatest Power On Earth Lies Within You

God placed the most powerful thing in the world God in our hands in Eden. The power of choice!!! The gates of Hell itself cannot prevail against our choice (Matthew 16:18; Romans 8:37-39). In a very real sense Heaven cannot prevail over that choice!!! It is choice that hurtles us toward self-gratification, self-destruction or the abundant life in Jesus Christ. That powerful weapon is given to each of us every day. It is the first thing we use when we arise each morning and the last thing we use when we pillow our head at night. And that power of choice is the only thing that will move us toward the abundant life in Christ.

We must ever be aware of the choices we make and the power of God through his Spirit that will enable each of us to make the right choices. Which direction are our choices taking us? Adam could have never imagined the direction his choice would lead. As we look back we must understand that we will never be all wise in making our decisions but we can listen to God.

James R. Davis (Focus on God website)

³⁷ No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸ For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, ³⁹ neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Romans 8:37-39

¹⁸ And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it.

Matthew 16:18



For you to colour in, cut out and stick on the wall to remind you.

On the 24th of July we will once again be having a Collective Worship. Please can you bring any hymns, readings or ideas that you have to Enid Parsons by the 17th of July

Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the LORD your God goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you.

Deuteronomy 31:6