



Sunday 6th June 2021



We meet at The Salvation Army Hall Sunday 10.00 am.

Also Sunday worship on is on  YouTube

The easiest way to find the link to the YouTube meeting each Sunday is to find the link on the Corps web page. Type.....

www.salvationarmy.org.uk/ramsgate and select **Church on YouTube**

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/8651865167>

Ramsgate ZOOM 8651865167

AND DVDs of the service are available for those who would like them



What's happening at Ramsgate Salvation Army?

Sunday 6th **10.00 am** Prayer at the Hall (Join by **ZOOM**)
Sunday 6th **10.15 am** **WORSHIP at Salvation Army Hall**
Sunday 6th **11.30 am** ZOOM fellowship
Sunday 6th 12.00 noon Sunday School
Sunday 6th 4.30 pm ZOOM Children's Church Kids Club
(up to 11 years)
Monday to Friday (6.30am-9am) Breakfast Drop-in (street homeless only)

Monday 7th



Little Fishes

Little Fishes Toddler
Group 9.30am – 11am

Monday 7th 7.30pm

ZOOM APEST

Tuesday 8th 7.00pm

ZOOM Bible study



Led by Captain Ian Standley. Please read the book of Esther in preparation.

Wednesday 9th 10.30 am

Believe in Thanet LITTER PICK (meet at hall)

Wednesday 9th 7.00pm

NO ZOOM Fellowship

Friday 11th (10am - 12 noon)

War Cry Ministry Ramsgate

Friday 11th (10am - 12 noon)

Food Bank

Sunday 13th 5pm

Youth Fellowship at HALL



There is a full day of activities on Fortress Radio. <https://www.fortressradio.online/listen-now.html>

And don't forget Songs of Praise Sunday at 13.15pm



Maggie is available with the constant prayer line where you can call or text for prayer. You can contact her on 07840 753 603



Daily Hope offers music, prayers and reflections as well as full worship services from the Church of England at the end of a telephone line.



We say thank you again to Ilona for this week's flowers.

Birthdays

George Moses	Saturday 5th June
Matthew Milne	Tuesday 8th June
Norman Barth	Wednesday 9th June
Richard Smith	Wednesday 9th June
Doreen Dyer	Saturday 12th June

Prayers please for

Jean Spearing and Meg waiting for medical tests, we continue to remember **Ilona** and **David** following loss of loved ones. For **Jean Mayton, Chris**, a friend of Gay, **Sam**, step mum to Hollie, **Grant** and **Al** and **David** and **John** McCairn all waiting for medical treatment. For Tracy. For **Archie**, Lisa and Scott.

For all those suffering from **Long Covid** – which include some in our church family

On Friday 4th June 81 years ago, the Dunkirk evacuation in World War II – also known as the **Miracle of Dunkirk** – was completed, saving over 300,000 troops. Today we're going to reflect on these events and how we pray in seemingly impossible situations.

During May 1940, months after the beginning of World War II, large numbers of British, Belgian and French allied troops became trapped and surrounded by Nazi troops in mainland Europe. The decision was made to evacuate the allied troops,

and the French seaport Dunkirk was determined to be the best place to attempt the rescue.

A covert operation, codenamed Operation Dynamo, was set in motion, but officials estimated that only a small number of the total troops – around 30,000 - would be able to be rescued.

Ahead of the unfolding operation, King George VI called the people of Great Britain to a National Day of Prayer to take place across the nation, on Sunday 26th May 1940.

News coverage of the National Day of Prayer stated: ‘It is well for us to show the world that we still believe in divine guidance [and] in the laws of Christianity; may we find inspiration and faith from this solemn day.’*



That very day, the evacuation began. Hundreds of boats set out across the English Channel in a rescue attempt, vulnerable to attack - but unseasonal storms meant the Nazi air force were grounded and unable to fly. Additionally, Hitler had ordered his ground forces to halt, and they didn't move for

three days. This combination of events meant that the evacuations were able to take place largely uninterrupted for three days, leading to over 338,000 men being rescued – ten times the expected number!

The British prime minister Winston Churchill called it a ‘miracle of deliverance’.**

In the midst of crisis, where do I turn? Like King George VI, and the hope-filled news reports from 1940, am I eager to trust in the divine guidance of the Lord in my challenges? Or do I feel less faith-filled; in need of the fresh inspiration and truth of God's power?

God, today, remind me that You can do immeasurably more than all I can ask or imagine (Eph 3:20).

I think of the situations in my community, town, or even my nation where there are challenges and battles to overcome. Who might God be calling me to intercede in prayer with?

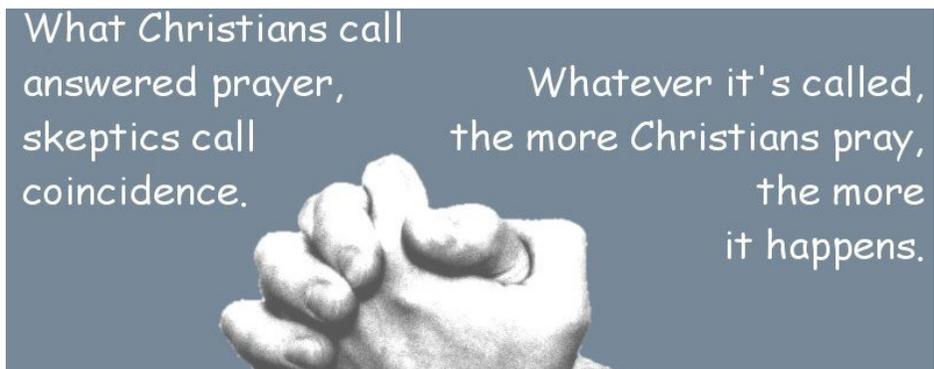
Lord, I invite You to show me what to pray, how to pray, and who I can pray with.

In his chapter on intercession in *How to Pray*, Pete Greig writes: 'It is without doubt that a series of critical elements in the success of the Dunkirk evacuations lay so far beyond the hand of the allied powers, that they must either be labelled as luck on a quite extraordinary scale, or answers to the unprecedented, concerted prayers of an entire nation which ascended to heaven on the day it all began.' ***

The miracle of Dunkirk was not defined as a miracle by everyone; some say it was a series of coincidences that helped to save more lives. But as Archbishop William Temple is credited as saying: 'When I pray coincidences happen; when I don't, they don't.'

Today, God, I often struggle to believe for the big stuff. It can feel overwhelming to pray for national crises. I recommit myself to partnering with You in prayer to seek Your kingdom. Give me fresh faith; equip me as I pray for miracles, today.

(From Lectio 365 – Friday 4th June 2021)



It's a Sin not to Bin!

Join the Mayor of Ramsgate for the Ramsgate Town Centre Spring Clean Up.



Wednesday 9 June at 10.30am

The Salvation Army, 167A High Street, Ramsgate.

Take this opportunity to:

- ✚ Collect a free litter picker donated by the Mayor, Cllr Raushan Ara
- ✚ Socialise
- ✚ Be active.
- ✚ Care for our Town.

Covid safety rules will be briefed and hand gloves, hand sanitizer and face covering will be provided.



Advance Notices

An Online Women's Event
Saturday and Sunday
26th - 27th JUNE

STOLEN
Women and God
2021

Guest Speakers:



Bekah Legg
CEO Restored



Jenine Main Colonel
Territorial Secretary for
Leader Development



Lou Fellingham
International Worship
Leader and speaker

Come and join us in
Worship and the Word

Register your interest now! This event is free...
https://www.salvationarmy.org.uk/womenandgodweekend2021



welcoming the stranger

THE ETHICS OF MIGRATION



Host: Lieut-Colonel Dean Pallant

Panel: Dr Lucy Kanya | Rev Israel Oluwale Olofinjana | Nicola Thomas | Representatives from Sutton Salvation Army

With stories from: Captains Dafne de Castro e Lemos and Josh Sefte (Keighley) | Major Nick Coke (THQ) | Victor Mondal (Bangladesh)

Wednesday 16 June | 7.30pm | Webinar
Register: [salvationarmy.org.uk/welcomingthestranger](https://www.salvationarmy.org.uk/welcomingthestranger)

To register for this free event

Go to

<https://www.salvationarmy.org.uk/events/women-and-god-weekend-2021>

We are planning a Craft Fair
and Mini Market on.....



Saturday 3rd July 10am and to 1pm

We need

Baked goods (cakes, pastries etc.) for sale and to eat for lunch

New items for sale

Hand Made Craft Items

Good quality – as new – gift items

A logo for the craft fair

Volunteers (please see Jacqueline)

Thoughts from Major John

Springs that water the earth

Let us know, let us press on to know the Lord;
his appearing is as sure as the dawn;
he will come to us like the showers,
like the spring rains that water the earth.
(Hosea 6.3)

The above beautiful verse appeared on day four in the 'Thy Kingdom Come' prayer journal we used in the build up to Pentecost. It reminded me of another beautiful verse, this time from the song book. (424 v2)

I heard the voice of Jesus say:
Behold, I freely give
The living water; thirsty one,
Stoop down and drink and live.
I came to Jesus and I drank
Of that life giving stream;
My thirst was quenched, my soul revived,
And now I live in him.

Time to smile

A vicar visits a zoo and accidentally falls into the tiger's enclosure. Seeing a hungry tiger approaching him, the vicar puts his hands together to pray. To his surprise the tiger does the same thing. 'This is a miracle!' breathes the vicar. 'I thought you were going to eat me, but instead you're saying your prayers!' 'Yes', says the tiger, 'I'm saying grace.'

A man and his wife are on holiday, when the wife suddenly gasps in alarm. 'I just remembered I left the oven on! The house will catch fire.' 'Don't worry,' replies her husband, 'I just remembered I left the tap running.'

A snail is crossing the road when it is run over by a tortoise. The unconscious snail is rushed to hospital for several days before recovering. The doctors ask him what happened, but the snail can only shake his head: 'I don't know, it all happened so fast.

A newspaper ran a story about an out of work contortionist who said that sadly he can no longer make ends meet.

Quiz

- 1.Which cat is recognised as the fastest land based mammal on the planet?
- 2.What is the only man made structure visible from space?
- 3.Which famous tea clipper was damaged in a fire at Greenwich?
- 4.In which city did Jesse Owens win four gold medals in 1936?
- 5.Inspector Clouseau was the main character in which series of movies?

Food and Drink

- 1.Aspartame is an alternative to what when added to food?
- 2.Which fruit is also called the Chinese gooseberry?
- 3.What sort of food is macadamia?
- 4.Caraway is related to which family of vegetables?
- 5.Which flavour is traditionally used in Earl Gray tea?

Anagram. What is the only English anagram of NECTARINES?

Answers
Quiz 1.The Cheetah 2.The Great Wall of China 3.The Cutty Sark 4.Berlin 5.Pink Panther
Food and Drink 1.Sugar 2.Kiwi Fruit 3.Nut 4.Carrot 5.Bergamot
Anagram The only English anagram of NECTARINES is TRANSIENCE.

Sunday 6th June 2021

What would our church look like if we kept the Holy Spirit out?

What would our church look like if we let the Holy Spirit in?

Acts 2: 46 The church should be a place of 'celebration, exuberant and joyful' (v.46, MSG).

We, as church, should be the most positive people in the world – constantly celebrating Jesus and the victory of God. Are we?

What would I be like without the Holy Spirit?

What would I be like with the Holy Spirit empowering me?

We start a new preaching theme this week entitled EMPOWERED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT.

We will be looking at the early church and how it grew and spread to the ends of the earth because the first Christians allowed the Holy Spirit to transform, move and act in a mighty way.

It started with Peter who was empowered to preach about Jesus.

'When the people heard this, they were cut to the heart and ...Peter said to them, "Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is for you and for your children and for all who are far off, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to himself" (Acts 2: 37-39)

God used Peter in a miraculous way to bring over 3000 to the Lord.

This same power is a gift promised to all who are called to follow Jesus. It is a gift promised to us.

This series is to teach us why we need to be empowered, how to be empowered and to understand what being empowered by the Holy Spirit means for us as individuals and as a church community,

Call to worship

Adapted from Psalm 51:10-12

Leader: Create in us clean hearts, O God, and put new and right spirits within us.

People: Do not cast us away from your presence, and do not take your Holy Spirit from us.

Leader: Restore to us the joy of your salvation

People: and sustain in us a willing spirit.

All: Let us worship God!

Song Number 378

Lord, I come before your throne of grace;
I find rest in your presence and fullness of joy.
In worship and wonder I behold your face,
Singing, 'What a faithful God have I'.

*What a faithful God have I,
What a faithful God.
What a faithful God have I,
Faithful in every way.*

2 Lord of mercy, you have heard my cry;
Through the storm you're the beacon, my song in the night.
In the shelter of your wings, hear my heart's reply,
Singing, 'What a faithful God have I'.

3 Lord, all sovereign, granting peace from Heaven,
Let me comfort those who suffer with the comfort you have given.
I will tell of your great love for as long as I live,
Singing, 'What a faithful God have I'.

Robert and Dawn Critchley

Father God

We give you thanks

for all the ways that you bless our lives:
the beauty and abundance of nature,
the love of family and friends,
the joy of knowing you and hearing your word.

Send Your Spirit during this time of worship
so that we might dream your dreams
and see visions of the world as you created it to be.
Guide our thoughts and actions.
Bring us closer to you so that we might do your will
and dwell in your house forever. Amen.

I'm writing this without knowing if I will be able to do what I am about to describe.

What I want to do is to go into the middle of the High Street in Ramsgate and to preach the best sermon ever given.

You may be reading this and be a bit puzzled – if you do the maths – you might calculate that I have done over 400 sermons – and wonder how on earth I will be able to choose the best one.

So much to choose from - I hope you are all saying – how could I possibly select?

Well, that's kind of you, if that's what you've been thinking.

But back to the challenge – If I make it to the High Street I want to see the response – if I preach this sermon what will happen?

Would it work again – would 3000 people hear this and cry out “what must we do?”

Or would I be ridiculed or ignored. I hope we can see.

Song Number 861

In Christ alone my hope is found,
He is my light, my strength, my song;
This Cornerstone, this solid ground,
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
What heights of love, what depths of peace,
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease!
My Comforter, my all in all,
Here in the love of Christ I stand.

2 In Christ alone - who took on flesh,
Fullness of God in helpless babe!
This gift of love and righteousness,
Scorned by the ones he came to save:
Till on that cross as Jesus died,
The wrath of God was satisfied,
For every sin on him was laid;
Here in the death of Christ I live.

3 There in the ground his body lay,
Light of the World by darkness slain:
Then bursting forth in glorious day,
Up from the grave he rose again!
And as he stands in victory
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me,
For I am his and he is mine -
Bought with the precious blood of Christ.

Stuart Townend and Keith Getty

Acts 2 Peter Addresses the Crowd

¹⁴ Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd: “Fellow Jews and all of you who live in Jerusalem, let me explain this to you; listen carefully to what I say. ¹⁵ These people are not drunk, as you suppose. It’s only nine in the morning! ¹⁶ No, this is what was spoken by the prophet Joel:

¹⁷ “In the last days, God says,
I will pour out my Spirit on all people.
Your sons and daughters will prophesy,
your young men will see visions,
your old men will dream dreams.

¹⁸ Even on my servants, both men and women,
I will pour out my Spirit in those days,
and they will prophesy.

¹⁹ I will show wonders in the heavens above
and signs on the earth below,
blood and fire and billows of smoke.

²⁰ The sun will be turned to darkness
and the moon to blood
before the coming of the great and glorious day of the Lord.

²¹ And everyone who calls
on the name of the Lord will be saved.’

²² “Fellow Israelites, listen to this: Jesus of Nazareth was a man accredited by God to you by miracles, wonders and signs, which God did among you through him, as you yourselves know. ²³ This man was handed over to you by God’s deliberate plan and foreknowledge; and you, with the help of wicked men,^[d] put him to death by nailing him to the cross. ²⁴ But God raised him from the dead, freeing him from the agony of death, because it was impossible for death to keep its hold on him. ²⁵ David said about him:

“I saw the Lord always before me.
Because he is at my right hand,
I will not be shaken.

²⁶ Therefore my heart is glad and my tongue rejoices;
my body also will rest in hope,

²⁷ because you will not abandon me to the realm of the dead,
you will not let your holy one see decay.

²⁸ You have made known to me the paths of life;
you will fill me with joy in your presence.'

²⁹ "Fellow Israelites, I can tell you confidently that the patriarch David died and was buried, and his tomb is here to this day. ³⁰ But he was a prophet and knew that God had promised him on oath that he would place one of his descendants on his throne. ³¹ Seeing what was to come, he spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, that he was not abandoned to the realm of the dead, nor did his body see decay. ³² God has raised this Jesus to life, and we are all witnesses of it. ³³ Exalted to the right hand of God, he has received from the Father the promised Holy Spirit and has poured out what you now see and hear. ³⁴ For David did not ascend to heaven, and yet he said,

"The Lord said to my Lord:
"Sit at my right hand
³⁵ until I make your enemies
a footstool for your feet."

³⁶ "Therefore let all Israel be assured of this: God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Messiah."

³⁷ When the people heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the other apostles, "Brothers, what shall we do?"

³⁸ Peter replied, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. ³⁹ The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off—for all whom the Lord our God will call."

⁴⁰ With many other words he warned them; and he pleaded with them, "Save yourselves from this corrupt generation." ⁴¹ Those who accepted his message were baptized, and about three thousand were added to their number that day.

Song Number 311

Spirit divine, come as of old
With healing in thy train;
Come, as thou did'st, to sanctify;
Let naught of sin remain.

*Come, great Spirit, come,
Make each heart thy home;
Enter every longing soul;
Come, great Spirit, come.*

2 Spirit divine, purge thou our hearts,
Make us to understand
Thy blessed will concerning us,
And teach us love's command.

3 Spirit divine, cleanse thou our souls
With pentecostal flood;
Breathe into us the life that shows
The Father-love of God.

Brindley Boon (1913-2009)

I know what it is to be heckled when I have preached. I remember one Good Friday in the High Street when we led the service someone thought it would be funny to throw insults – but I had a microphone and I could make more noise – so that was OK

But here in the hall there have been several occasions you may also remember - when visitors have stood up and shared their thoughts – and it was quite difficult to get them to quieten down - and of course I miss Isobel who could always be counted on to make a funny comment.

But rather than being afraid or annoyed at the interruptions I need to hear them – because it was ridicule that kick-started the church. When people make fun of us – they are paying attention – and this gives us the best chance to truly hear what they have to say.

Peter took the jibes head on

We are not drunk – its only 9am in the morning

Now for those of you who help out at homeless breakfast you know that drinking can start much earlier than 9am in the morning – but the crowd that were accusing the disciples of being inebriated would have realised what Peter was saying. Drinking was always associated with eating- you did not just binge drink when you fancied – if you did have too much – it was always with a meal. And

this was a festival day – and the first hours after sunrise would be spend in fasting and prayer. No one would eat – or drink until at least 10am

So now he has their attention – and so begins the most powerful sermon ever given.

What can it tell us? And how can we be empowered?

Spirit of the Living God by Audrey Assad

O Spirit of the living God, thou Light and Fire Divine
Descend upon Thy Church once more and make it truly Thine
Fill it with love and joy and power, with righteousness and peace
Till Christ shall dwell in human hearts, and sin and sorrow cease.

Blow, wind of God, with wisdom blow until our minds are free
From mists of error, clouds of doubt, which blind our eyes to Thee
Burn, winged fire, inspire our lips with flaming love and zeal
To preach to all Thy great good news, God's glorious commonweal.

So shall we know the power of Christ, who came this world to save
So shall we rise with Him to life which soars beyond the grave
And earth shall win true holiness which makes Thy children whole
Till, perfected by Thee, we reach creation's glorious goal.

Do you think these last 15 months have been the worst times for many generations? Covid has led to lock down, shortages, loneliness, ill health, uncertainty, unemployment, depression, domestic violence, poverty, loss of schooling, unimaginable debt....I could go on.....and of course death....130 000 deaths in the UK and nearly 4 millions deaths world wide.....and so many more who are living with the effects of long-covid and do not know if they will ever recover.

Right at the beginning of his epic sermon Peter quotes the prophet Joel – and this is where the contemporary significance is so poignant

Joel is writing to a people who have suffered a monumental plague – their crops have been devastated – agriculture is in ruins, there is no food and no possibility

there will be food – they face a national disaster – economic collapse – starvation.

And to these people what does the prophet say – actually its going to get worse – there will be blood and fire – and billows of smoke –

If you think things are bad now – just wait – even the sun will be turned to darkness and the moon to blood.

So have I made it to Ramsgate High Street with my revised sermon?

Clearly no one will have heard about the prophet Joel to I need to be contemporary

The last 15 months – you call that suffering – we have seen nothing yet. You think this has been hard just wait and see what happens next. There will be shortages like we have never known, sickness like you can't imagine, poverty that will be your worst nightmare, despair that will be a living hell.

That is the context of Peter's sermon. That is what the people would have understood – and I think that as I stand in Ramsgate High Street – people won't ignore me – but probably want to throw stones at me or kill me.

But wait, I will say

Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved

Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved

And now I have your attention – and so did Peter.

So where does the sermon go next?

And I think it is quite right to carry on thinking about Britain and Covid in 2021.

I have the attention of the people in Ramsgate High Street

They are not ignoring me – and they don't want to kill me

They want to know what we can give them.

This has been national volunteers week – so watch this

VIDEO

Praise is rising,
eyes are turning to you,
we turn to you.
Hope is stirring,
hearts are yearning for you,
we long for you.

'Cause when we see you, we find strength to face the day;
in your presence all our fears are washed away,
washed away.

*Hosanna, hosanna,
you are the God who saves us,
worthy of all our praises.
Hosanna, hosanna,
come, have your way among us;
we welcome you here, Lord Jesus.*

2 Hear the sound of
hearts returning to you,
We turn to you.
In your kingdom
broken lives are made new,
you make all things new.

Paul Baloche (born 1962) and Brenton Brown

This can not form part of the best sermon ever told.

Peter's model definitely does not include comforting stories about all the help you might get at a time of crisis.

It's tempting of course to talk about our church in this way.

Yes the Salvation Army helps with food, and electric, they will give you clothes, or bedding, or a kitchen pack when you move to a new home. They run activities for young people, for old people, they do meals, they help the homeless, they visit people in prison, they do gifts and meals at Christmas; they are always there when you are in trouble – where there's a need – there's the Salvation Army

People will praise us

We can feel good about what we are doing

Its non -confrontational

And it's what people expect to hear – and especially at a time of crisis find very assuring.

Peter definitely did not say this

Let me remind you of the context. Things are bad – and they are going to get worse. What did Peter say to comfort the people?

You killed Jesus

You killed Jesus

Yes, that right, the man who you saw doing miracles and signs and wonders,

Yes, the man you know God had sent

Yes, the man you know God trusted –

You knew all this – and yet you killed him

The preacher R Stedman gives this illustration:

“Imagine that you were on your way to a job interview and you have a car accident. The other driver gets out of his car, and you beat him, curse him, and kick him. Then you get back into your car, drive to the interview, and arrive at the

manager’s office—only to find yourself ushered into the presence of the man you have just cursed and beaten!”

Maybe that gives you a small taste of what the crowd must have felt as they heard Peter preach and were confronted with the truth that they had crucified their Saviour. They had killed the one who would save them.

So this was the third part of this sermon

The first part is that things are bad – and getting worse – the end times are coming

Then the good news.

Jesus will save you.

Its going to be all right.

But then the hammer blow

Yet you killed him.

Song Number 220

Great is the darkness that covers the earth,
Oppression, injustice and pain.
Nations are slipping in hopeless despair,
Though many have come in your name.
Watching while sanity dies,
Touched by the madness and lies.

Come, Lord Jesus, come, Lord Jesus,

Pour out your Spirit we pray.

Come, Lord Jesus, come, Lord Jesus,

Pour out your Spirit on us today.

2 May now your Church rise with power and love,

This glorious gospel proclaim.

In every nation salvation will come

To those who believe in your name.

Help us bring light to this world
That we might speed your return.

3 Great celebrations on that final day
When out of the heavens you come.
Darkness will vanish, all sorrow will end,
And rulers will bow at your throne.
Our great commission complete,
Then face-to-face we shall meet.
Noel Richards and Gerald Coates

Peter preached Jesus. Peter did not spend time engaging in theological speculation about tongues and the Spirit, he went straight to preach about the one whom God had made “both Lord and Messiah” (2.36).

He preached in such a way that people had to respond – either positively or negatively – to the cross and resurrection of Jesus.

He wanted to see people’s lives changed – indeed, he wanted to see people change their lives – so he preached for a verdict.

One of my favourite authors for a while was Garrison Keillor. I have not read his works for a long time but here are some quotes I remember

Cats are intended to teach us that not everything has a purpose

Anyone who thinks sitting in church can make you a Christian must also think that sitting in a garage can make you a car

They say such nice things about people at their funeral that it makes me sad that I will miss mine by just a few days

He also wrote this “I’ve heard a lot of sermons in the past ten years or so that make me want to get up and walk out. They’re secular, psychological, self-help sermons. Friendly, but of no use. They didn’t make you want to straighten up. They didn’t give you anything hard. At some point and in some way, a sermon has

to direct people to the death of Christ and to the campaign God has waged over the centuries to get our attention”.

And this was what Peter did. He preached about the death of Christ and how God wants to get their attention.

And so what happened?

Well verse 37 says

When the people heard this they were cut to the heart

What shall we do?

Peter says its three things

Repent, believe, receive

“Repent”—the word word is ‘metanoeo’ and means to turn around

Real repentance is more than feeling sorry for sin.

It is not simply remorse, neither is it regret or reform.

Repentance is a change of mind that leads to a change of behaviour. It is both inward and outward.

Do you know what it is to truly repent?

It’s a hard question – but you will know the answer.

Because the thing you said you would never do again - You do

The thought and attitude you promised never to have – it comes to your mind again.

The action you said you would take to help another – well you still haven’t done it.

You know what true repentance is – and if you have failed him its because you have never allowed the spirit of God to rule your heart

Confess your sin now – and ask God to change your life.

A prayer of Confession

Almighty God,
you poured your Spirit upon gathered disciples creating bold tongues, open ears,
and a new community of faith.

We confess that we hold back the force of your Spirit among us. We do not listen
for your word of grace, speak the good news of your love or live as a people
made one in Christ.

Have mercy on us, O God.

Transform our timid lives by the power of your Spirit, and fill us with a flaming
desire to be your faithful people, doing your will for the sake of Jesus Christ our
Lord.

Amen

Lord, we pray for a fresh outpouring of the Holy Spirit. May the fire of God
descend upon us and on the church again with power, passion and purity. We
pray that you will add to this fellowship those who are being saved. We ask this in
the name of Jesus.

Amen

Song Number 317

Burning, burning, brightly burning,
Brightly burning fire divine,
Satisfy my spirit's yearning.
Fill this empty soul of mine.

Burning, burning, always burning,
Holy Spirit, stay with me;
To your will my will is turning,
What you will I want to be.

2 Burning, burning, deeply burning,
Deeply burning holy fire,
Now, your perfect plan discerning,
Your design is my desire.

3 Burning, burning, gently burning,
Gently burning fire within,
From your love my love is learning,
Now I feel your work begin.

John Gowans (1934-2012)

So if I'm still in Ramsgate High Street I wonder what will happen next.

When I cry out that people need to repent, to turn away from their sin, to walk a new path – whatever metaphor I use

What will I hear in response?

Well maybe I won't make it – and maybe shouting at people in the High Street that they are sinners and must repent is not the way for people to see their need to change.

What if instead I told you that God saved you to make a 'preacher' out of you?

It's true.

Not all of us may preach in a formal sense, but every single one of us have opportunity to 'preach' Christ to those we meet.

Your effectiveness as a witness is not the eloquence with which you speak.

It is not whether or not you have a dynamic personality. Real effectiveness involves you being filled with the Spirit and faithfully sharing what Christ has done to save sinners.

It means you rely upon the truth of God's Word as you share Christ in the power of the Holy Spirit, and then trust God with the results.

God's saves men and women, puts His Spirit within them, and opens up their mouth to declare to others the saving message of Jesus Christ. In Romans 10:13, Paul says that same thing that Peter does in Acts 4:21—"For everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved." But then Paul asks the question:

Romans 10:14-17—"How then will they call on Him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in Him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching? And how are they to preach unless they are sent? As it is written, 'How beautiful are the feet of those who preach good news!'...So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ."

How will they ever hear without a preacher? The words of Spurgeon are ever so appropriate:

"If Jesus is precious to you, you will not be able to keep your good news to yourself; you will be whispering it into your child's ear; you will be telling it to your husband; you will be earnestly imparting it to your friend; without the charms of eloquence you will be more than eloquent; your heart will speak, and your eyes will flash as you talk of His sweet love.

Every Christian here is either a missionary or an imposter.

You either try to spread abroad the kingdom of Christ, or else you do not love Him at all.

It cannot be that there is a high appreciation of Jesus and a totally silent tongue about Him...

If you really know Christ, you are like one that has found honey; you will call others to taste of its sweetness; you are like the beggar who has discovered an endless supply of food: you must go tell the hungry crowd that you have found Jesus, and you are anxious that they should find Him too."

Holy Spirit, fill us up.
Give us strength, give us power.
Holy Spirit, fill us up.
Make us one, sisters and brothers.
Holy Spirit, fill us up.
Give us strength to share your truth.
Holy Spirit, fill us up.
Send us out, to live for you. Amen.

Song 645

He leadeth me! O blessèd thought!
O words with heavenly comfort fraught!
Whate'er I do, where'er I be,
Still 'tis God's hand that leadeth me.

*He leadeth me, he leadeth me!
By his own hand he leadeth me;
His faithful follower I will be,
For by his hand he leadeth me.*

2 Sometimes 'mid scenes of deepest gloom,
Sometimes where Eden's bowers bloom,
By waters still, o'er troubled sea,
Still 'tis his hand that leadeth me.

3 Lord, I would clasp thy hand in mine,
Nor ever murmur or repine,
Content, whatever lot I see,
Since 'tis my God that leadeth me.

4 And when my task on earth is done,
When by thy grace the victory's won,
E'en death's cold wave I will not flee,
Since God through Jordan leadeth me.
Joseph Henry Gilmore (1834-1918)

Benediction: Psalm 16
As you go from here, remember:

God is always with you.
No matter what you face,
no matters what trials or hardships come your way,
He is with you, guiding and directing your path.
So do not live in fear, but in joy,
Be empowered to celebrate God's presence and sing God's praise.

**The Holy Spirit can
rejuvenate a tired
Christian, captivate an
indifferent believer, and
empower a dry church.**

Billy Graham

Bethlehem was God with us, Calvary
was God for us, and Pentecost is
God in us.

— *Robert Baer* —

WHEN WE ALLOW THE

Holy Spirit

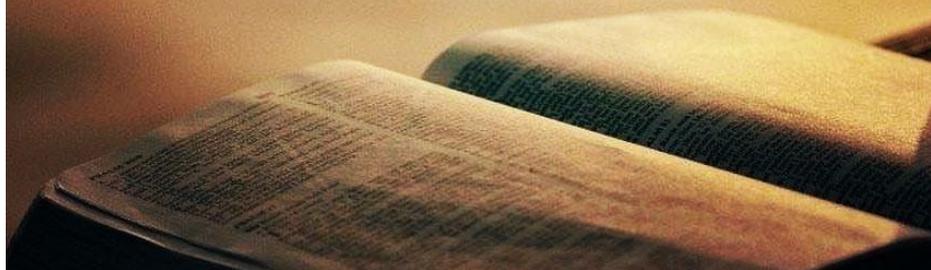
TO GUIDE AND

empower OUR LIVES,

OUR SELFISH DESIRES

HAVE NO CHOICE

BUT TO **SUBMIT.**



H G P Y J G E N A M E O F T H E L O R D W N Q D
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addresses
calls
darkness
earth below
great
moon
Peter
prophet Joel
signs
Spirit
visions

all people
coming
day of the Lord
everyone
heavens above
name of the Lord
pour
saved
smoke
spoken
wonders

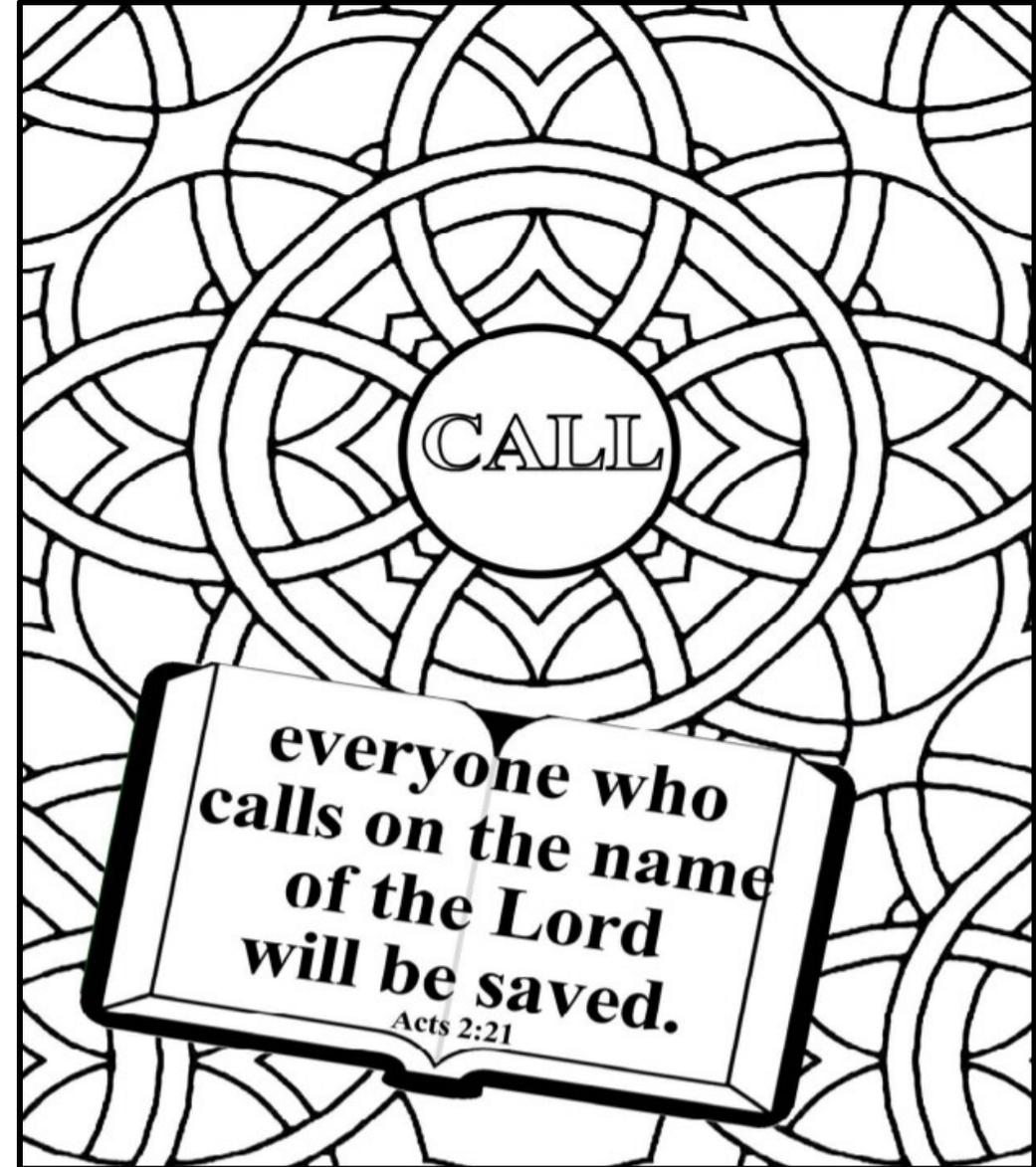
blood and fire
crowd
dreams
glorious
last days
old men
prophecy
servants
sons and daughters
sun
young men

Acts 2: 16-21 Peter Addresses the Crowd

¹⁶This is what was spoken by the prophet Joel: ¹⁷“In the last days, God says, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your young men will see visions, your old men will dream dreams. ¹⁸Even on my servants, both men and women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days, and they will prophesy.

¹⁹I will show wonders in the heavens above and signs on the earth below, blood and fire and billows of smoke. ²⁰The sun will be turned to darkness and the moon to blood before the coming of the great and glorious day of the Lord.

²¹And everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.”



CALL



**everyone who
calls on the name
of the Lord
will be saved.**

Acts 2:21



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