

## Diary

Every Day 1:00 p.m.	Pray for one person for one minute at one o'clock.
Saturday 1 <sup>st</sup> August	Fasting – Please pray that God will continue to pour out His Spirit on us and that we will start to respond by boldly presenting the good news of Jesus Christ to those we meet.
Saturday 1 <sup>st</sup> August 5:30 p.m.	Pastor Cummins Induction Aldershot
Sunday 2 <sup>nd</sup> August 10:30 a.m. Popley Fields	We will be Breaking Bread. After the service, we will continue with a meal.
Saturday 8 <sup>th</sup> August 9:30 a.m.	Ladies Breakfast
Saturday 22 <sup>nd</sup> August 9:30 a.m.	Mens Breakfast
Saturday 22 <sup>nd</sup> August	District Youth Fun Day Farnborough
Saturday 5 <sup>th</sup> September	Fasting
Sunday 6 <sup>th</sup> September	First Sunday
Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> to Sunday 13 <sup>th</sup> September	District Youth Convention

### Special Note:

There will be no Open Door Coffee Morning during August. Please pray during August that when Open Door restarts in September that the dedication and perseverance of those involved will be rewarded and that people from Popley will start to attend.

Please make a special effort to attend as many of our meetings as you can especially the Prayer Meeting and Bible Studies. Sharing time together in Fellowship is important and helps us all to Grow Spiritually.

“We who had sweet fellowship together” Psalm 55:14

# NTCOG NEWS

August 2009

*Please read this newsletter carefully, make a note of the regular meetings, the special dates and make every effort to attend.*

## Our Mission

**To present the Gospel of Jesus Christ to the local community in a powerful, practical and relevant way.**

**To encourage every member of the Church to develop their God given ministry and to fulfil their potential.**

## Weekly Meetings

**SUNDAY WORSHIP**  
10:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon.  
Popley Fields Community Centre  
Carpenters Down  
Popley  
RG24 9AE

**Monday – Hour of Power**  
7:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

**Home Groups**  
Tuesday and Wednesday  
7:30 pm

**[www.ntcog.org.uk](http://www.ntcog.org.uk)**  
**[info@ntcog.co.uk](mailto:info@ntcog.co.uk)**

## **Sermon on the Mount**

The preaching series for the Sermon on the Mount has now started, I believe that this is an important word not just to our local Church but to all Christians in what is now truly the Post Christian Era.

For the purpose of our study together we are looking at the Sermon in 7 sections with an introduction and summary giving 9 sessions as follows:

1. Introduction to Sermon on the Mount
2. Character - Matthew 5:3-12
3. Influence - Matthew 5:14-16
4. Righteousness - Matthew 5:17-48
5. Attitude - Matthew 6:1-18
6. Ambition - Matthew 6:19-34
7. Relationships - Matthew 7:1-20
8. Commitment - Matthew 21-27
9. Final Thoughts on the Sermon on the Mount

This Sunday, 26<sup>th</sup> July, we will be looking at what Jesus had to say about the way that Christian's should influence society.

### **What makes the Sermon on the Mount so important?**

From the Early Church Fathers through the Reformation to the modern day hundreds maybe even thousands of book covering millions of pages have been written in an attempt to answer this question. I would like to offer two reasons that I think make the Sermon vitally important for the Church today and explain why it cannot be ignored:

1. The Sermon on the Mount is the Theology of Jesus
2. The Sermon on the Mount was the Theology of the Early Church

### **Theology of Jesus**

To be effective in fulfilling the mission that God has given us we need to be building on the right foundation. Today we have more Theologies than we know what to do with in fact there is probably a Theology to cover every situation we can think of.

Achieving God's purpose means knowing His will and there is no greater demonstration of the will of God for a man or woman than the life of Jesus here on earth. In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus articulates His Theology as He interprets the Word of God, the Law and the Prophets and tells His

followers how they are to apply the truth of God's Word in their daily lives.

To be effective the Church must abandon man made Theology and whole heartedly embrace the Theology of Jesus. The truth of this statement can be found in the second reason...

### **Theology of the Early Church**

The early Church not only survived but it flourished in the Pre Christian Era. Just like the Post Christian Era that we now find ourselves in the Pre Christian Era was characterised by multiple faiths, moral decadence and pluralism. The parallels are clear and we ignore them at our peril.

The early Church was successful because they had a Theology that was relevant and that enabled the Church to engage with society at a practical level whilst standing apart spiritually and morally. It was a Theology that was transformational in both nature and effect. This Theology can be found in the Sermon on the Mount because the Theology of the Early Church was the Theology of Jesus and it is this Theology we need today.

### **Our Mission**

If you take time to read the Mission Statement on the front of this newsletter you will see that the mission that we have adopted is identical to the mission that Jesus gave His Disciples (see Matthew 28:18-20).

So we find ourselves today with the same Mission as the Early Church facing the same challenges from society as they faced. The Theological response of many Christians today has been an attempt to transform their Theology to match the demands of society. They have a Transformed rather than Transformational Theology.

Studying the Sermon on the Mount offers us a chance to embrace the Theology of Jesus a Theology that will, if we let it, transform us as individuals and empower the Church to transform society. My prayer is that as we study together, we will be transformed.

Pastor Graham

### **Gift Aid**

If you are a UK Tax Payers then the Government will give us 25 pence for every pound that you give so please consider using the Gift Aid envelopes for your tithe and offering.