

# NTCOG NEWS

August 2010

*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  
7:30 pm

**Thursday – Open Door**  
10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon

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

## Diary

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| Every Day<br>1:00 p.m.                                       | Pray for one person for one minute at one o'clock.   |
| Saturday 31 <sup>st</sup> July<br>12:00 to 4:00 p.m.         | Youth of Peace Picnic and Sports Day at Hatch Warren Community Centre.<br><b>Note:</b> the Special Teaching planned for this date has been cancelled.                  |
| Sunday 1 <sup>st</sup> August                                | First Sunday – we will be Breaking Bread together and sharing testimonies so come prepared.<br>We will be meeting for lunch after this meeting.                        |
| Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> to<br>Sunday 15 <sup>th</sup> August | District Youth Convention – Aldershot  |
| Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> to<br>Sunday 22 <sup>nd</sup> August | National Convention – see details and registration at <a href="http://www.ntcg.org.uk">www.ntcg.org.uk</a> .   |
| Sunday 22 <sup>nd</sup> August                               | <b>No Service</b> as Popley Fields Community Centre is not available.  |
| Saturday 28 <sup>th</sup> August                             | Men's Breakfast  |
| Saturday 4 <sup>th</sup> September                           | Fasting  |
| Sunday 5 <sup>th</sup> September                             | First Sunday – this will be a special occasion as Phil and Emily will be dedicating Ruby.<br>We will not be Breaking Break but there will be lunch after this meeting. |
| Saturday 11 <sup>th</sup> September                          | Women's Breakfast  |
| Saturday 25 <sup>th</sup> September                          | Men's Breakfast  |

## Remember

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

## More Like Jesus

The desire to be more like Jesus is expressed in numerous hymns and songs and has been the subject of many books. The Apostle John promises us that we will be like Him when we get to Heaven:

...We know that, when He appears, we shall be like Him, because we shall see Him just as He is. 1 John 3:2b (NASB)

The challenge for every Christian is to be more like Jesus while we are here on earth. We know that Jesus was “holy” so in expressing a desire to become like Him we are expressing a desire to become holy. The theological term for making something holy is sanctification.

Sanctification is first mentioned in the Old Testament when God sanctified the 7<sup>th</sup> day and later required that the objects used for sacrifice and worship be sanctified. In both the Old and New Testament the term sanctified is also applied to people.

In 2 Corinthians the Apostle Paul uses the analogy of looking in the mirror to help us better understand that the result of sanctification in the Christians life is that we become more like Jesus.

But we all, with unveiled face beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as from the Lord, the Spirit. 2 Corinthians 3:18 (NASB)

The sixth statement of our Basis of Faith covers sanctification and reads:

**In sanctification subsequent to the New Birth,  
through faith in the blood in Christ through  
the word and by the Holy Ghost.**

The phrase “subsequent to the New Birth” helps us to understand that becoming like Jesus takes time, prayer, commitment and study. Whilst being “Born Again” marks the start of our new life it can take us some time to learn how to effectively live our new life.

In understanding sanctification it is important that we understand that sanctification, like salvation, is an act of God’s grace and that it is only possible because Jesus shed His Blood on Calvary for us. To become holy we must be freed from sin and our freedom from sin was purchased by Jesus on the Cross with His Blood. This fact can never be over emphasised and is central to the Christian Faith.

And according to the Law, one may almost say, all things are cleansed with blood, and without shedding of blood there is no forgiveness. Hebrews 9:22 (NASB)

In the context of sanctification “faith in the blood” indicates that the Christian has a deeper knowledge of, and assurance in, the power of the blood of Jesus. The knowledge that through His blood we are first saved and then transformed. Saved from our old lives and transformed to be like Him.

We also need to understand the role that God’s Word plays in the helping us become more like Jesus. It is through the Bible that God has chosen to reveal Himself and so if we really want to know Him we must read and study His Word. In today’s society we are bombarded with word and messages from every corner, from the TV, Radio, Newspapers, eMail, Google, etc. We must spend time in God’s Word to cleanse and renew our minds.

Your word I have treasured in my heart, that I may not sin against You. Psalm 119:11 (NASB95)

Finally, we must never underestimate the power of the Holy Spirit working within us to achieve God’s purposes in our lives. It is only when God the Holy Spirit is active in our lives that we are equipped to overcome our sinful nature to live more like Jesus

...and hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out within our hearts through the Holy Spirit who was given to us. Romans 5:5 (NASB95)

In many ways the Doctrine of Sanctification is one of the least understood, and neglected, doctrines in Christianity. It stands at odds with the simple undemanding Gospel that seems to have become the norm.

It is also a doctrine that demands we take our faith seriously, live our lives with integrity and commit ourselves totally to a Holy God. It is a doctrine that we must embrace if we want to experience the fullness of God.

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.*