

## Word Puzzle - 1 Samuel 15:10–23

D H P A L T H O U G H O  
 G R E M O C E B N V J T  
 Y A O A N O I N T E D R  
 Y R P L D K N K I N G I  
 O Y L E T E L P M O C B  
 R R E K S V O U N I G E  
 T E C I F I R C A S N S  
 S T J T R L E A R S I Y  
 E T U E Y E S C A I Y E  
 D E E S C D H M N M A V  
 O B E Y I T U D A U S R  
 P N M A K E E K I L O D  
 T Y S P L U N D E R L P

Samuel said, “Although you were **once small** in your own **eyes**, did you not **become** the **head** of the **tribes** of **Israel**? The **LORD** **anointed** you **king** over **Israel**. And he **sent** you on a **mission**, **saying**, ‘Go and **completely destroy** those wicked **people**, the **Amalekites**; **make** war on them until you have wiped them out.’ Why did you not **obey** the **LORD**? Why did you **pounce** on the **plunder** and do **evil** in the **eyes** of the **LORD**?” “But I did **obey** the **LORD**,” **Saul** said. “I went on the **mission** the **LORD** assigned me. I **completely destroyed** the **Amalekites** and brought back **Agag** their **king**. The soldiers took sheep and cattle from the **plunder**, the best of what was devoted to God, in order to **sacrifice** them to the **LORD** your God at **Gilgal**.” But **Samuel** replied: “Does the **LORD** delight in burnt offerings and **sacrifices** as much as in **obeying** the voice of the **LORD**? To **obey** is **better** than **sacrifice**, and to heed is **better** than the fat of rams. For rebellion is **like** the sin of divination, and arrogance **like** the **evil** of idolatry. Because you have **rejected** the word of the **LORD**, he has **rejected** you as **king**.”

International Version (Anglicised)

# NTCOG NEWS

June 2011

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

## Weekly Meetings

### SUNDAY WORSHIP

10:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon.

Popley Fields Community Centre

Carpenters Down

Popley

RG24 9AE

Monday Prayer Meeting

7:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Tuesday Bible Study

8:00 p.m.

Thursday – Open Door

10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon

## 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.

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## Poet's Corner

### Praise

Penitence

Restoration

Assurance

Inner Peace

Salutation

Exaltation

### Praise the Lord

Joan Macintosh

### Obedience

"If you love Me, you will keep My commandments." John 14:15 (NASB)

Jesus taught His disciples the importance of obedience and it remains a quality that every Christian must exhibit. Living in a world that encourages self centeredness can make the idea of obedience seem out dated. That is why we need to remind ourselves that our faith is built on the enduring truth of God's word not the current social fashion. Thomas à Kempis (1379 to 1471) wrote these words in the classic "The Imitation of Christ":

#### **The Obedience of One Humbly Subject To the Example of Jesus Christ**

##### **The Voice of Christ**

*MY CHILD, he who attempts to escape obeying withdraws himself from grace. Likewise he who seeks private benefits for himself loses those which are common to all. He who does not submit himself freely and willingly to his superior, shows that his flesh is not yet perfectly obedient but that it often rebels and murmurs against him.*

*Learn quickly, then, to submit yourself to your superior if you wish to conquer your own flesh. For the exterior enemy is more quickly overcome if the inner man is not laid waste.*

*There is no more troublesome, no worse enemy of the soul than you yourself, if you are not in harmony with the spirit. It is absolutely necessary that you conceive a true contempt for yourself if you wish to be victorious over flesh and blood.*

*Because you still love yourself too inordinately, you are afraid to resign yourself wholly to the will of others. Is it such a great matter if you, who are but dust and nothingness, subject yourself to man for the sake of God, when I, the All-Powerful, the Most High, Who created all things out of nothing, humbly subjected Myself to man for your sake? I became the most humble and the lowest of all men that you might overcome your pride with My humility.*

*Learn to obey, you who are but dust! Learn to humble yourself, you who are but earth and clay, and bow down under the foot of every man! Learn to break your own will, to submit to all subjection! Be zealous against yourself! Allow no pride to dwell in you, but prove yourself so humble and lowly that all may walk over you and trample upon you as dust in the streets!*

*What have you, vain man, to complain of? What answer can you make, vile sinner, to those who accuse you, you who have so often offended God and so many times deserved hell? But My eye has spared you because your soul was precious in My sight, so that you might know My love and always be thankful for My benefits, so that you might give yourself continually to true subjection and humility, and might patiently endure contempt. (Thomas à Kempis)*

Remember - Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. Hebrews 13:8 (NASB)

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.