

## Word Puzzle - Romans 5:1-15

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

Therefore, since we have **been justified** through **faith**, we have **peace** with God through our **Lord Jesus Christ**, through whom we have **gained access** by **faith** into this **grace** in which we now stand. And we **rejoice** in the **hope** of the **glory** of God. Not **only** so, but we **also rejoice** in our **sufferings**, **because** we **know** that **suffering** produces **perseverance**; **perseverance**, **character**; and **character**, **hope**. And **hope** does not **disappoint** us, **because** God has **poured** out his **love** into our **hearts** by the **Holy** Spirit, whom he has **given** us. You see, at just the right time, when we were **still** powerless, **Christ** died for the ungodly. Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous man, though for a good man someone might possibly dare to die. But God demonstrates his own **love** for us in this: While we were **still** sinners, **Christ** died for us.

International Version (Anglicised)

# NTCOG NEWS

July 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

Let Me lead you forward  
Do not go your own way which leads to destruction  
Follow Me – I give you life  
To live to the full in My Name  
Heed My still small voice correcting you as you stray  
Showing you the right path along the way  
Until you come to Heaven's door  
Eternal Life in store

Joan Macintosh

## Romans

In our Bible Study, we are currently working our way through the Book of Romans. Orlando E. Costas says this about Romans:

*Paul's letter to Roman Christians has played a central role in nearly every reformation in the life of the church. This is understandable, given man's persistent inclination toward self-help patterns of religion. Romans stands as a frontal challenge to all such forms of self-righteousness. Its central teaching is justification by faith alone. This is the heart of the gospel. Luther therefore calls Romans 'the most important document in the New Testament, the gospel in its purest expression: ... in essence it is a brilliant light, almost enough to illumine the whole Bible' (Preface to Romans).*

### **Evangelical Review of Theology: Volume 11**

Romans is probably the most written about book in the Bible which leads us to ask the question what is so special about this book. One of the common observations about Romans is that it is Paul's Gospel. John Stott notes that there are six truths that make up the Gospel and that these six truths are the backbone of Romans:

*To sum up, here are six fundamental truths about the gospel. Its origin is God the Father and its substance Jesus Christ his*

*Son. Its attestation is Old Testament Scripture and its scope all the nations. Our immediate purpose in proclaiming it is to bring people to the obedience of faith, but our ultimate goal is the greater glory of the name of Jesus Christ. Or, to simplify these truths by the use of six prepositions, we can say that the good news is the gospel of God, about Christ, according to Scripture, for the nations, unto the obedience of faith, and for the sake of the Name. **The Message of Romans***

In the second century, Origen of Alexander wrote the following about Romans 5:1 (Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ (NASB)):

*It is obvious from this that the apostle is inviting everyone who has understood that he is justified by faith and not by works to that "peace which passes all understanding," in which the height of perfection consists. But let us investigate further in order to see what the apostle means when he talks about peace, and especially about that peace which is through our Lord Jesus Christ. Peace reigns when nobody complains, nobody disagrees, nobody is hostile and nobody misbehaves. Therefore, we who once were enemies of God, following the devil, that great enemy and tyrant, now, if we have thrown down his weapons and in their place taken up the sign of Christ and the standard of his cross, have peace with God. But this is through our Lord Jesus Christ, who has reconciled us to God through the offering of his blood. **Ancient Christian Commentary on Scripture***

Join us on Tuesdays as we explore this fantastic book to understand what God is saying to us today through it.

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.