

Sunday 26th June 2022



Jesus replied: “‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbour as yourself.’ All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments.” **Matthew 22:37-40**

Today

10.30am **Johnny Pang** will be continuing our series on **A New Kingdom!**

Activities this week

MONDAY	1.00pm – 3.00pm	Ladies’ Bible Study (Oasis café – see separate notice)
	3.00pm – 4.00pm	Prayer Team (Prayer room – see separate notice)
TUESDAY	10.00am – 3.00pm	Oasis café (Board Games Club 10am-12pm)
WEDNESDAY	9.00am – 10.30am	Incredible Edible volunteer session (see separate notice)
	10.00am – 3.00pm	Oasis café (Crochet Club 10am-12pm)
THURSDAY	10.00am – 3.00pm	Oasis café (Craft Club from 10.30am-12.30pm)
	2.00pm – 4.00pm	Thursday Afternoon Club (Oasis Café – see separate notice)
FRIDAY	7.00pm – 8.00pm	Prayer Team (Prayer room – see separate notice)

Next Sunday, 3rd July 2022

10.30am **Josh Kindness** will be continuing our series on **A New Kingdom!**

Pastor’s Desk

From Johnny Pang:

When the Lord Jesus was summoned, Pilate asked him a fundamental question that still needs addressing to this day, “What is truth?”

Those who do not believe in a higher authority (or indeed any authority!) will tend to have a hard time accepting that there is an ultimate truth – thinking along the lines of, “Your truth is no more valid than my truth.” But since when has truth become so subjective? Good & evil, right & wrong, has become a matter of opinion! So much so, it now sounds pompous or bigoted to suggest that The Bible is true. This causes offence when it discredits the truth of the individual’s “lived experience”.

If humanity's standards are set by The Bible, then our moral moorings have drifted dramatically. Indeed, it sets a standard that is impossible for us to reach! None of us like the idea of failing, but the good news is that Jesus meets all the requirements of God's law for us. He also shared our lived experience – with all its trials and temptations. We can therefore approach him with confidence, for “everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.” This wonderful truth has changed my life, and it can change your life too!

Jesus didn't answer Pilate's question; but whilst praying to God his father among his closest friends, Jesus stated, “Your word is truth.”

So, if you stand by this truth, the enduring truth of The Bible, then wear the pompous bigot badge with pride!

Update - Rediscovering Jesus Bible Study:

A number of you have started your journey through the Gospels using the Discovery Bible Study method. Please remember that the most important thing is not to be regimented but to spend the time searching the Scripture and listening to what the Holy Spirit is speaking to you. If you only get through a few verses a week that's absolutely fine – it'll just take longer to get through. The most important thing is that we engage with the words and ways of Jesus! If you want a quick overview check out the YouTube video we made... <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aOQ7J9ifDZs&t=3s>



Restrictions:

A huge thanks to our teams who have worked tirelessly to keep us all safe at our in-person gatherings and to livestream everything over the past 24 months+! Whilst you no longer need to wear a face covering, you are welcome to wear one when attending church, should you wish. We can still sing and worship in the usual way and we are keeping some social distancing between rows of chairs etc.

Weekly messages:

We are still livestreaming our Sunday morning service each week at 10.30am. This can be accessed via the Bethel Church Facebook page. **It's easy to join in with any online sessions simply go to www.facebook.com/bethelchurchcoventry you don't even need a Facebook account. If you're unable to join in the live sessions then don't worry, just go to the 'Videos' section of the Bethel Facebook page and they are all saved there.** Please see separate notice with regards to how we can encourage those not online/connected.

Prayer & Praise:

The Prayer Room is now Open!! While we can pray anywhere, there is something special about a space dedicated to prayer and where prayer of others have been continually offered. Going to another place specifically for prayer is also an act of intention as we proactively seek to come before our God.

To book your slot visit - <https://pray.24-7prayer.com/signup/35c169> or scan the QR code below;



The Prayer Room is literally open 24 hours a day and once you sign up, you'll get instructions on how to access etc – let's get praying!

"A prayer room is first and foremost a living room—a place where the Father waits for his children to come and climb into his arms." – Pete Greig

Please continue to pray for; Lindsey Pearce, Rosemary Sparkes, Paul & Ruth Longhurst, Frank & Merci Pryor all who are battling ongoing health problems. Pray that the Lord our miraculous, miracle working God will heal and also that He may use them as light in the darkness to those around them.

Praise God that in spite of our circumstances He is always with us and walks alongside us in our pain and suffering.

A call to Prayer...

We are organising a **NEW Prayer Team**, who plan to meet in the Prayer Room each week on **Mondays at 3pm and Fridays at 7pm**. Speak to Paul & Ruth Longhurst if you'd like to be involved and for more details.

Ladies' Bible Study

The ladies' Bible study takes place each week on Mondays from 1pm - 3pm at the Oasis Community Hub and Café.

The Bible studies will follow the Sunday sermons on 'A New Kingdom!' The first 45 minutes or so will be a time to eat lunch together (packed lunch from home), chat and then pray. For more information, please speak to Jeanette Fowler, Jane Magan or Karen Sprouse.

New Series – A New Kingdom!

What's been your biggest challenge so far? How have you felt the Spirit speaking to you as we discover the words and ways of Jesus through the Sermon the Mount? Our series continues through the summer – hold on tight it's going to be exciting!



Incredible Edible Spon End

Incredible Edible's next volunteer session is on **Wednesday 29th June, 9.00-10.30am**. We hope to continue with the planting, weather permitting, followed by a cuppa at Oasis café. We will meet outside the church and tools will be provided.

All are welcome but any children must be supervised by an adult.
For more information, please speak to Beth Hall.



Thursday Afternoon Club – Oasis Café

In addition to the Oasis café opening times and activities, the **Thursday Afternoon Club** is up and running from 2pm - 4pm. The club is aimed at over 55s who would like to meet up for a cup of coffee/tea, a slice of cake and, if they are in the mood, a board game or a game of dominoes. The session includes a short and simple Bible message to inspire questions and sow seeds and is open to anyone over 55, Christian or not. There is a charge of £1 per person. Our aim is to make Oasis Community Hub and Café an enjoyable and creative community space. For more information, please speak with Paul and Ruth Longhurst.

Life Group List

Please note the updated life group list. If you notice anything that's not right, please advise Gordon or Karen Sprouse and we will update it as soon as possible.

If you are not part of a life group, please feel free to speak to Gordon, Karen or any of the house group leaders to find one that is right for you.

Group	Host / Leader	Where	When	Time
Ladies' Bible Study	Karen, Jane & Jeanette	Oasis Café	Mondays	1.00 pm
Derek Seedhouse	Manohar & Derek	Coundon	Alt Tuesdays	7.45 pm
Liz & Dave	Liz & Dave	Allesley Park	Tuesdays	8.00 pm
Eric & Jane	Eric & Jane	Chapelfields	Alt Tuesdays	8.00 pm
Dave & Jenny	Dave & Jenny	Whoberley	Alt Wednesdays	6.00 pm
Gordon & Karen	Gordon & Karen	Tile Hill	Thursdays	7.30 pm
Gareth & Yolande	Gareth & Yolande	Whitmore Park	Alt Thursdays	7.30 pm
Young adult group	Joshua Kindness	Church Lounge	Alt Sundays	6.30 pm

Bethel podcasts!

We are continuing to upload our sermons to Spotify!

We will be adding the other sermons from 2021 onto Spotify, YouTube and other streaming platforms (give Bethel Church Coventry a search on your chosen podcast service) so keep an eye out for those in the coming weeks. We hope you will enjoy them and that they will provide you with encouragement – go to your Spotify account and search or click here to listen:

<https://open.spotify.com/show/6hBbiCYgT3ppj41XybSfcG> or to visit our YouTube page click <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCIYmHZLNbo6PLC2Y2ejFoHA>

Bethel Online & beyond!

These challenging days cause us to be inventive in the ways we gather and communicate. Please be on the lookout for various ways and means you can stay connected and help others to connect too:

- If you are on social media, sign up to the church Facebook page where regular updates and videos/messages will appear;
- Sign up to our daily info/prayer chain to receive email updates and links to videos etc. Email the prayer chain team on: prayerchain@bethelcoventry.org.uk;
- If you are a Life Group leader, keep connecting with your group members. Maybe form a WhatsApp group to exchange encouragements and ideas, or simply telephone or send a card to those without technology;
- Visit the church website to see ways in which you can carry on giving to the work amongst us: www.bethelcoventry.org.uk
- The Bethel News appears on the church website each week; keep checking in each week. If you know someone who would like a paper copy, let us know;
- Please adhere to the government guidelines for self-isolation and social distancing;
- If you feel unwell and are symptomatic, check the guidelines on the NHS website.