

Today's Stewards: AM Beth Rolfe PM Nigel Barker.

Sunday: **After Hours** - 7.45-9pm. Please speak to Iain or Krista for more details.

Monday: **Abbey Toddlers**. At Abbey. 10am.

Tuesday: **Ladies' Prayer Circle** at 10am. All ladies welcome. See Mary for details.

Thursday: **Kickstart**. 6pm. Preston Road Community centre.

Friday: **Abbey kids, 11up, Reboot**.

Saturday: **Cleaning** - Nigel and Ruth Barker; Steve and Steph Mayo; Caroline Whitehead.

Looking Ahead

Joint prayer meeting for the nation, Hanney War Memorial Hall, OX12 0JL.

Saturday 7th July at 10:30am.

Pilgrims' Friends Society - Framland - Garden Party. Sat 14th July 12-4 pm.

Quarterly Members Meeting Wed 18th July 7.45pm.

Abbey Prayer Breakfast 22nd July 9am.

Summer evening meeting schedule

29/7 - Shared service at Hanney Chapel, led by Simon.

5/8 - Shared service at Hanney Chapel.

12/8 - Informal prayer and praise gathering at Abbey led by Clive.

19/8 - Shared service at Hanney Chapel.

26/8 - Shared service at Hanney Chapel, led by Clive.

Lawrence and Felicity would value prayers for **the Crowborough Camp** 4th-11th August.

Please note, there will be no services here on Sunday September 2nd, due to the church weekend away.

Sunday 1st July 2018

Abbey

Welcome to Abbey Baptist Church!

Our morning service is led by Simon Hutton and Simon will be preaching from **Matthew 6:19-34 - Kingdom heart and life**.

There is a staffed crèche for children aged 0-2 in the chapel lounge.

Venturers for children aged 3-10 takes place during the service.

Our evening service is led by Dan Bryant and John Lipp will be preaching from **Psalms 7 - Faith when slandered**.

Tea and Coffee are served after each service.

There is a loop system installed and printed copies of the songs are available.

- Please continue to pray for the **Reboot weekend away** this weekend.
- **David and Ivy** are joining us next Sunday morning. We look forward to renewing fellowship with them and hearing an update on their work.
- We are looking forward to **Hudson's baptismal service** next Sunday 8/7 at 6pm. If you would like to contribute to the refreshments after the baptism service please let Carol know.
- **Lord's Supper** - During the service this morning we will be celebrating the Lord's supper (communion). This is a time for those of us who have put our faith in God to remember together Jesus' death as the means of our salvation from sin. In conjunction with baptism and commitment to a local church fellowship it is an important biblical response and expression of our love for the Lord.
- The **Church Family Weekend** is from 31/8 - 2/9. Simon has more information.





Seek first God's kingdom and his righteousness (v33)

Introduction: society: be homogenous. Jesus: be positively different, salt & light

- The key to kingdom life is grasping God's Fatherhood through Jesus

Kingdom heart – 'seek first' (v33)

- Where do you store your treasure? Invest your life? (v19-21)
- How do you see the world around you? (v22-23)
- Who, or what, do you serve as your master/guiding principle? (v24)

Kingdom life – living the reality of God's kingdom and righteousness (v33)

- God's kingdom = justice
- Loving our neighbours as ourselves... horizontal relationships
 - Kingdom investments – making a difference in society (v19-21)
 - Seeing opportunities to be generous (v22-23)
 - Treat money is a good servant but a poor master (v24)
 - Avoiding material worry, mirroring God's generous fatherhood (v28-34)
- God's righteousness
- Loving God with all our heart... vertical relationship with our heavenly Father
 - Seeking purity and faithfulness in our personal lives – ethically different
 - Living each day in growing dependence upon God (v34)

Through faith in Jesus' sacrifice we are set free from our slavery to selfishness.

We need no longer live as if material possessions were of 'first' importance

We are free to practise self-sacrifice – to give of ourselves – without worry

We are free to enjoy a relationship with God as his children, accepted and loved

Questions to consider:

- How can we apply these principles in a capitalist society?
- To what extent does the welfare state shift the shape of our activity?
- Which aspects of this are personal and which are more communal?



I will give thanks to the Lord because of his righteousness (v17)

David's concern (v1-5)

- predicament (v1-2)
- appeal of innocence (v3-5)

David's court case (v6-16)

- God the righteous judge (v6-9)
- God the deliverer of justice (v10-16)
- Evil schemes return on their creator. Consider: Daniel, Haaman, Ahab.

David's composure (v17)

- Confident in God as righteous judge (v17).

Christ reflected

- God was slandered in Eden. The accuser continues his hateful work.
- Jesus faced: jealousy, slander, murder
- Jesus responded in love - laying down his life for his enemy
- Whatever our concerns, we can appeal to God, confident that he is our righteous judge who has dealt with our sin.

To consider:

"I shake, but my rock does not move". Often when faced with accusations, we feel ashamed.

- In light of Psalm 7 what would be a better response?
- How does knowing that God is the righteous judge affect you?
- How are you affected knowing that Jesus showed extreme love for you despite what you are?