



St Margaret's Church

Together we aim to:

Worship God, Proclaim Jesus, Grow in the Spirit
And Serve the World

In Contact

The Work of the Spirit

John 15: 26, 16: 15

24th May 2020



Next week is Pentecost when we celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit. Today we are going to look at the work of the Holy Spirit, what He does, and how He affects our lives.

The Holy Spirit is described as **an advocate**, he testifies on behalf of Jesus, and we are a bit like the jury. He helps us to understand who Jesus is, and what Jesus has done for us so that we know the truth about Him. In verse 27 Jesus says that this is what the disciples (and we) will also do when we come to know Jesus, we will testify to the truth about Jesus to others, with the help of the Holy Spirit.

The Holy Spirit **convicts us of our sin** by comparing our lives, not with very good or very bad people...but with the perfect life of Christ. We see the sin in our lives and we realise that we have no redeeming features, there is nothing good about us in comparison to Jesus and as we look at Jesus we see that He has no sin...no faults...in fact, he's perfect.

These verses also say that the Spirit **convicts us of righteousness**, that is how to have a right relationship with God. The world tends to confuse righteousness with doing good deeds. Doing good deeds is commendable but doing good deeds will not bring about righteousness. The only way we can be right with God is by having a relationship with Jesus.

The Holy Spirit will **teach us about judgement**. Some people say that there will be no final judgement from God. Some because they don't believe in God and others because they don't believe that their version of God would ever bring about a judgement of the guilty. But the Bible is clear that '*the wages of sin is death*'. However, Christian believers can hold on to the first verse of **Romans 8: There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus**. Because we believe in Jesus, we are freed from that condemnation: God will look on us and see only Jesus.

The Holy Spirit will **guide us into all truth**. 'All truth' is everything to do with God. He is always with us, He will never leave us. He is always there pointing towards Jesus, ready to guide us back to where we should be.

The Holy Spirit will glorify Christ. To glorify means to praise and honour to the highest degree. This may automatically get us thinking of our worship in church but we can glorify God in everything we do, even everyday tasks and activities.



Peter Miller

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Bible Verse for 2020:

I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know Him better. Ephesians 1: 17



Daily Hope is a free phone line which offers music, prayers and reflections as well as full worship services from the Church of England at the end of a telephone line.

Children and Family Worker

The PCC met on-line this week and decide we should follow this timetable.

Early June- advertise the post and receive applications.

Early July- shortlist and interview (most probably on-line)

September- new person starts, depending on how things develop with the Pandemic
Please hold this process in your prayers. Days of prayer will be announced at a later date.

Praying for the Persecuted Church: Somalia

Islam is a major pillar of Somali national identity. Somalia's provisional 2012 constitution declares Islam to be the state religion, with the Quran and Sunna (the life, customs, and examples of Muhammed) as the basic sources of law, which no legislation must contradict. Promoting any religion apart from Islam is illegal. Despite this there is a tiny Christian community in Somalia, made up almost entirely of converts from Islam. They face all sorts of pressure and the possibility of violence. Many have been murdered for apostasy by family, community members or Al Shabaab jihadists. A 'more inclusive' constitution, that politicians say will address voting and other rights issues, is expected to be made permanent this year. Pray for the protection of Somali Christians who are persecuted for their faith in Jesus. Pray that the new constitution will usher in greater religious freedoms, helping to restore peace and stability.

May 24th to 30th Please Pray for:

- ◆ People living in Hydefold Close, Church Row, Bibby Lane, Pearn Road & Pearn Avenue.
- ◆ Diocesan church leaders as they prepare for the future.
- ◆ Message Trust finances to be healthy despite any COVID problems.
- ◆ Protection of courageous believers in Somalia from Islamic extremists.
- ◆ All to have opportunities to worship during present crisis.
- ◆ Support for those who are lonely & unable to use modern technology.

Television & Radio this week:

BBC 1: Sunday Worship- Sunday after Ascension from Bangor Cathedral at 11.45am
1.15pm Songs of Praise looks at stories of faith from Islands around our coastline

BBC Radio 4: 8.10am Sunday Worship: Catherine Fox and her husband the Bishop of Sheffield
Pete Wilcox reflect on living well during this time of continued hoping and uncertainty.

TV FreeView- Channel 725 or DAB Digital Radio: Premier Christian Radio-
Big Sunday Worship from 10am:

TV Freeview Channel 65 – TBNUK: Sunday worship at 11.30am

Sunday Evening 8 o'clock: Light a candle and break bread when others from our St. Margaret's family are doing the same



Help is available if you need it: **Call 0800 234 6123**



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