

October/November
2020

CONNECT



tunbridge wells
christian fellowship

WELCOME

We are so glad that you have taken the time to read this!

During this unusual time you can stay connected to church via Life Groups, Sunday Services or have a cd posted to you.

Help, a listening ear, or food is available
office@twcf.org or 01892 521320

The church is alive and well on Zoom, Youtube, twcf.org and available to stream direct to your home.

SUNDAYS

Zoom 1

09:20 Prayer Meeting
10:00 Sunday Service
11:00 Coffee Time using
Zoom Breakout rooms

*This service is live streamed to
TWCF YouTube*

Zoom 2

11:00 Family Service
An interactive service
for Primary School
children & their families
Older children are
involved in leading

*This service is only
available once*

Zoom 3

11:00am This is for private prayer.
A prayer team member will call you
from the waiting room.

First Sunday of the month

6:30pm Prayer & Worship Evening
in person and online

If you miss the Sunday Service
recordings are available from
twcf.org/media/onlinechurch
or TWCF YouTube

WHAT IS THAT?

Early on in the bible there is a story in which a man called Moses encountered God at a place where a bush was burning. Reading the story we learn that the whole moment was set up by God so that he could speak with Moses and call him to lead the people of Israel out of their slavery in Egypt.

Moses' task would involve him needing to convince all the Israelites that God wanted them to leave Egypt, whilst at the same time also convincing Pharaoh to let them go. Neither set of conversations was going to be easy, and must have seemed impossible to Moses at the time.

After years of oppression, the Israelites may have longed to leave Egypt, but their hope of achieving this almost evaporated, and they seemed to think that the risks involved were too great. They might trust Moses if God was really with him, but how could he prove it?

Given that by this stage the Israelites were a vast unpaid labour force in Egypt, Moses' conversations with Pharaoh were not going to be any easier. How could Moses possibly convince Egypt's ruler that the people of Israel should be released? The answer to both questions was already in Moses' hand.

Moses asked God "What if they don't believe me or listen to me and say 'The Lord did not appear to you?'" (Exodus 4:1). It seems like a fair question, doesn't it? Any of us who have experienced anxiety, and know the kind of catastrophic thinking that accompanies anxious thoughts, are sympathetic to Moses' thoughts and questions. Yet God's answer is simple, profound and revealing.

God's response is to ask, "What is that in your hand?" (Exodus 4:2). If you know the story, you'll know that the answer to God's question is 'a staff'. God then instructed Moses to throw the staff on the ground, and it became a snake. Moses was then told to grasp the snake by the tail, and it again became his staff. There are a few simple things to note from this life changing encounter with God, which can encourage us today - especially when we are facing problems which are too big for us to resolve, or when facing our own questions and anxieties:

(a) It is so easy to fall into the trap of saying, 'if only I had....' Moses had been trying to do that, and God showed him that what his resources he had were already enough. We already have the resources we need.

(b) God didn't need to ask, he already knew what it was. Yet Moses did need God to point out to him the resource that he already had. Sometimes we forget what God has done in the past, the battles he has won for us, and the inheritance we already have. We also too quickly write off the gifts, talents, skills and abilities that God has already given.

Despite the fact that Moses already had the staff, acting on his own wouldn't get him anywhere, but acting in God's strength and in line with God's calling would guarantee success.

What is it that you are facing today? Is it too big for you?

Moses' problems were far too big for him, yet in this encounter with God he was reminded that God had already provided all that he needed, and that God could use what he had to bring about a good result.

In one story which is similar to today's one, Gideon is called by God to fight a battle with impossible odds. At his commissioning, the angel of the Lord tells the cowering and frightened Gideon to 'Go in the strength you have!'

What strength has God already given us, that we may be overlooking or minimising today?

Time and again, whether with a young boy's lunch being used to feed 5000, or with a widow's last meal sustaining God's prophet Elijah for months, throughout the bible we read of times when God is able to accomplish much with the little we have when we give it in faith and obedience.

Today, whatever you are facing, come before God, your Father, and hear him remind you of the resources he has already given, the strength that is already yours, and the wonders he can do as you give all that you have for him and his glory.



Stuart Mayho

What is that in your hand?



Join the answers to the questions

How many horsemen of the
Apocalypse are in Revelation?

4

How many loaves and fishes did
Jesus bless?

150

How old was Methuselah?

8

During the flood how many people
were on the ark?

969

How many shekels of silver was
Joseph sold for?

30

How much was Jesus
exchanged for?

20

How many psalms in the book
of Psalms?

14

NO TRICKS, ONLY TREATS

**HALF TERM FUN
WEDNESDAY 28TH OCTOBER
10-11AM
STORIES, CRAFTS AND GAMES**

FOR PRIMARY SCHOOL KIDS. SPACES COULD GO FAST SO BOOK EARLY!

**Youth Event
Saturday 24th
October 4:30pm
TWCF South site**

Movie & pizza

Book a place on-line at
www.twcf.org/youthevents
Booking closes 11:55pm 23rd October



QUIZ TIME

Let's put your knowledge to the test!

October 17th 7:30pm

Individual booking required.

<https://twcf.org/octoberquiz>

Zoom 1



tearfund

14th November
7:30pm
zoom
£5 per booking
to help end
poverty
Go to
twcf.org/bigquiz

LIFE GROUPS

tunbridge wells
christian fellowship 

WWW.TWCF.ORG/LIFEGROUPS

tunbridge wells
christian fellowship 

OR CONTACT
LIFEGROUPS@TWCF.ORG

tunbridge wells
christian fellowship 

TUESDAYS AND THURSDAYS 8AM-8:30AM

Morning Prayer

ONLINE ON ZOOM

MEETING ID 768 109 1028

PASSWORD 01892

Christmas Fun opportunities:

We will be looking for people to play parts in our Christmas performances. The script is being written, and the plans are coming together, but to make it all work we need you!

If you are open to reading out a part (in character) to camera, and helping us have fun whilst seeing another side to the amazing Christmas story, please apply to rosemarie@twcf.org



Hobbies

connecting us to God



Bill builds boats



Bill is building a 177th scale copy of the HMS Victory. It will take him years to complete and will be 4ft tall! He says that God gives him the patience, endurance and skill to do this. If you like this hobby too contact me and I'll put you in touch with Bill.



Magda upcycles old items and using decoupage transforms them into beautiful creations. She likens this to God's treatment of us.



She also crochets and is making Christmas Baubles to give to those in hospital at Christmas. If you would like to supply wool or sweets or crochet please contact helen.nevison@twcf.org and I'll put you in touch with Magda.

THANK YOU FOR GIVING

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use the TWCF
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podcast/twcf-church-talks

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