

Time to Reflect

Here's an awkward but entirely understandable contemporary word; "weaponize". It means to turn something that has one particular common use into a tool to use against others. We see examples with regard to Outer Space, the availability of healthcare, and migration. And, in church circles, we do the same with the bible. We select verses which support our viewpoint, back up and give 'divine voice' to our opinion. When we do that, we often point to our New Testament reading today as justification for our handling scripture in this way. When we do this, we misunderstand what the bible is there for.

Paul says that scripture has two functions and a purpose. Its function is to 'teach' and to 'train in righteousness'. The 'teaching' bit is about handing over the stories, the insights into God, the whole narrative of God's love for his creation. The 'training' is about exposing our lives to a daily, living, encounter with the Lord, something that comes from the discipline of regular scripture reading.

Scripture, says Paul, has a purpose. It is to enable those who nourish their lives in scripture to be '*proficient, equipped for every good work*'. In other words when we immerse ourselves in the bible, what we are doing is not learning the stories, the lists of things to do and to avoid, the poetry and the sayings and so on for their own sake. Something else is going on. We are slowly learning to breath in the oxygen of a God-soaked worldview so that we breath out, act out, live out, a God-soaked life. Which begs a question of each of us; do I immerse myself in the scriptures? Do I expose myself to the Lord in this way? Do I read the bible between Sundays? If not, why not? What would encourage me to do so?

Worship and Activities this week

Today	12.30pm	Baptism of Evan James Abel & David Abel
	5.00pm	Office Hour
	6.30pm	Choral Evensong
Mon	1.00pm	"In-house" @ House on t'Rock
	7.30pm	Youth Central @ Church Hall
	7.30pm	Worship Committee @ Ashton
Wed	11.00am	Holy Communion
	7.00pm	Study Group @ Ashton Room The Common Good—week 2
	7.00pm	Wardens' Meeting
Thurs	9.30am	Morning Prayer
	10.00am	Tiddlers @ Church House
	10.00am	Sponsored Bible Read begins
	12.45pm	Holy Communion (All Saints)
	7.30pm	PCC @ Ashton Room
Fri	8.00am	Dust Busters
	9.30am	Morning Prayer
	12.30pm	Lunchtime concert with Robert -John Edwards (Baritone) and Sara Wilander (Piano)
	4.00pm	Junior Choir
	6.30pm	Light Party @ Church House
	7.00pm	Full Choir Practice
Sat	9.30am	Morning Prayer

Next Week: All Saints' Sunday 4 Nov

8.00am	Said Holy Communion
10.00am	Parish Eucharist and Sunday School with refreshments following the service
5.00pm	Office Hour
6.30pm	All Souls' Service

Baptisms, Blessings, Weddings.

Speak to any of the clergy after the service. They will be at the back of church. Spot the dog collar! Our monthly Parish Magazine has a full list of contact details for clergy and organisations on the inside of the back page. For inclusion on the weekly pew sheet: please email: bpc.office@tiscali.co.uk by Wednesday.

Bible Sunday
28th October 2018
www.buryparishchurch.com



We welcome you and hope you enjoy being with us. If you're not familiar with our services, don't worry. We follow a written order of service and at times will tell you which page we're on.

We also welcome children in church. If your child gets restive in church, don't be afraid to get up and move around if this helps. There is a toilet at the back of church. There is a children's area at the back of Church.

8.00am Said Holy Communion
President: Julian Heaton, Rector

10.00am Parish Eucharist and
Sunday School

President: Rhiannon Jones, Assoc Rtr
Preaching: Sheila Beattie, Curate
Hymns: 619; 267; 584; 321; 626
Motet:

Giuseppe Pitoni: Cantate Domino
William Harris: Holy is the true light

6.30pm Evensong

Minister: Sheila Beattie, Curate
Preaching: Rhiannon Jones, Assoc Rtr
Hymns: 583; 461; 472
Psalm: 119. 1—16 (pg. 516)
2 Kings 22 (pg. 316—317)
Colossians 3. 12—17 (pg. 988)
Anthem: Ernest Bullock:
Give us the wings of faith

Cornerstone

Serving Bury, deepening our faith, caring for the marginalised, sharing the Good News of Jesus.

Today's Readings

The Collect

Blessed Lord,
who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: help us so to hear them,
to read, mark, learn and inwardly digest them
that, through patience, and the comfort of your holy word, we may embrace and for ever hold fast
the hope of everlasting life, which you have given us
in our Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen**

A reading from the second letter of Paul to Timothy (2 Timothy 3.14 – 4.5)

Continue in what you have learned and firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it, and how from childhood you have known the sacred writings that are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, so that everyone who belongs to God may be proficient, equipped for every good work. In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I solemnly urge you: proclaim the message; be persistent whether the time is favourable or unfavourable; convince, rebuke, and encourage, with the utmost patience in teaching. For the time is coming when people will not put up with sound doctrine, but having itching ears, they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own desires, and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander away to myths. As for you, always be sober, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, carry out your ministry fully.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John (John 5.36-47)

Glory to You, O Lord

Jesus said to the Jews: "I have a testimony greater than John's. The works that the Father has given me to complete, the very works that I am doing, testify on my behalf that the Father has sent me. And the Father who sent me has himself testified on my behalf. You have never heard his voice or seen his form, and you do not have his word abiding in you, because you do not believe him whom he has sent. You search the scriptures because you think that in them you have eternal life; and it is they that testify on my behalf. Yet you refuse to come to me to have life. I do not accept glory from human beings. But I know that you do not have the love of God in you. I have come in my Father's name, and you do not accept me; if another comes in his own name, you will accept him. How can you believe when you accept glory from one another and do not seek the glory that comes from the one who alone is God? Do not think that I will accuse you before the Father; your accuser is Moses, on whom you have set your hope. If you believed Moses, you would believe me, for he wrote about me. But if you do not believe what he wrote, how will you believe what I say?"

This is the Gospel of the Lord

Praise to You, O Christ

Diocesan Finance Survey

Each October we are asked to complete an anonymous income survey for the Diocese. This is used to calculate our Parish Share. Each regular member of the congregation, over the age of 16, is asked to complete this form once during the month. For more information, chat to Pat Uden.

Falafels and More

Ghassan and Siham are a Christian family from Syria, refugees to this country but settled in Bury. We can support them to become financially independent. They have the food stall on the market. They need £800 towards initial costs. There is to be a **sponsored reading of a part of the Bible, beginning with the story of Ruth and Naomi**, the refugees who find a home and future among the people of Bethlehem. There is a **sponsored Bible read on All Saints Day, Nov 1st, in the Parish Church from 10.00am till 4.30pm**

Do come and hear the stories read – something we seldom do today.

All Souls' Day Service

Our commemoration of the Faithful Departed takes place on **Sunday 4th November at 6.30pm**. If you wish a loved-one to be remembered at this service, please add their names to the list provided at the back of church. We do hope that you will not only add names but come to the service too!

Come and Sing

The Armed Man

10 November at 7.30pm

Come and Sing Karl Jenkin's

The Armed Man.

Rehearsal in the afternoon and evening performance.

Flyers at the back of church.



Collects from *Common Worship: Services and Prayers for the Church of England; Common Worship: Pastoral Services; The Christian Year: Calendar, Lectionary and Collects 2000*

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