



# The Chronicle

A Publication of The Church of God (England)

January to March 2021, Volume 16, Issue 1

## Hearers of the Word and Doers of the Word

Philip C. Bennett

Jesus, during His sermon on the mount gave us a parable of two types of individuals. We know that a parable is an earthly story with a heavenly or spiritual meaning. In this parable, the hearers of Christ's Word are divided into two categories; those that hear and act upon what they have heard; others that hear and do not: *"Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven. Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity."*

(St. Matthew 7:21-23)

We have to do all that God asks us to do. Jesus asked the question: *"And why call ye me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say?"* (St. Luke 6:46) If Jesus is not Lord of everything then He is not Lord at all.

In the above Scripture, when Jesus said *"I never knew you"* it does not mean He never knew they existed or He wasn't aware of the work they were doing.

The word *"knew"* is an intimate term used many times in the Bible to depict the intimate relationship - normally between a husband and wife (See Genesis 4:1; Genesis 4:17; Genesis 4:25; 1 Samuel 1:19). Jesus was saying I did not have any personal relationship with you. You just did your own thing: *"Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock: And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon a rock. And every one that heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them not, shall be likened unto a foolish man, which built his house upon the sand: And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell: and great was the fall of it."* (St. Matthew 7:24-27)

Jesus on another occasion stated: *"...for he maketh his sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust."* (St. Matthew 5:45) This indicates that there are circumstances and conditions that will face all of us during our lives whether we are saved or unsaved.

Both of these houses and house builders faced the identical conditions but the resulting outcome could not have been more different. What was the reason for the different outcome? The wise man built his house upon a rock. He dug deep and built strong. The foolish man did not pay too much attention to the foundation and built on the sand. If we know anything about the nature of sand, we know that it is unstable and is liable to give way when pressure is exerted on it. To the natural eye, there may not have been much difference in the appearance of the two houses after they were built. The time of testing was to come.

The rain descended from above, the floods came from beneath and the winds blew from the sides. When the onslaught was over, the house that was built upon the rock was still standing. However, the house built upon the sand was nowhere to be found. A few years ago, the Sunday School children used to sing a song:

*Don't build your house on the sandy-land,  
Don't build it too near the shore,  
Well, it may look kind of nice  
But you'll have to build it twice,  
Oh, you'll have to build your house once more.*

*You better build your house upon the rock,  
Make a good foundation on a solid spot.  
And though the storms may come and go,  
The peace of God you will know.*

The moral of the story is, let us make sure that we are building on the truth of God's Word. If our foundations are defective, our spiritual houses will not withstand the storms which will face us.

All the sayings of Christ, not only the laws that are recorded in the Bible, but the truths He has revealed to us, must be obeyed. Some people feel that if we cannot show it to them in the Bible, then they do not need to obey it. However, not everything is in the Bible.

It is not enough to simply hear Christ's sayings, and understand them; to hear them, and remember them; to hear them and talk of them or repeat them. We must hear them and do them. Our adversary the Devil is very cunning and is able to deceive us if we are not watchful. He will allow us to think that all is well, even when we are not doing God's will. We are warned in the Scripture: ***"Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall."*** (1 Corinthians 10:12)

Just as we check our literal houses for cracks and defects, we need to check our spiritual houses for the same. As believers, we are encouraged in our Advice to Members to: ***"Examine yourself occasionally and see if you are in the faith."*** We do not want to be like the man the Apostle James wrote about: ***"But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves. For if any be a hearer of the word, and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass: For he beholdeth himself, and goeth his way, and straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was. But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed."*** (James 1:22-25)

Sometimes, God reveals our short comings to us and we are convicted at the time but we do nothing about it. After a while, we revert back to our old ways. We need to examine ourselves daily. There's an old song that says: ***"I can tell you the time and I can take you to the place, where the Lord saved me by His wonderful grace."***

But the question is, are we still saved today? Are we still sanctified today? Are we still filled with the Holy Ghost today? When we fail God and lose the Holy Ghost, do we fall back to a sanctified state or do we also lose our sanctification? Do you need to go back to the altar and seek the experience of sanctification again? This is a personal question that only you as an individual know the answer to.

One of the commandments given to Abraham was that all new born males were to be circumcised eight days after birth. Now we know that circumcision is a type and shadow of the sanctification of the heart. After a forty-year journey in the wilderness from Egypt, the Children of Israel crossed over the river Jordan by God's miraculous power and were confronted by the mighty walled city of Jericho. The city was surrounded by two thirty-foot high walls running parallel to each other. The inner wall was from eleven to twelve feet thick and the outer wall was about six feet thick. The space between the two walls varied from twelve to twenty-seven feet: *"And it came to pass, when all the kings of the Amorites, which were on the side of Jordan westward, and all the kings of the Canaanites, which were by the sea, heard that the LORD had dried up the waters of Jordan from before the children of Israel, until we were passed over, that their heart melted, neither was there spirit in them any more, because of the children of Israel. At that time the LORD said unto Joshua, Make thee sharp knives, and circumcise again the children of Israel the second time. And Joshua made him sharp knives, and circumcised the children of Israel at the hill of the foreskins. And this is the cause why Joshua did circumcise: All the people that came out of Egypt, that were males, even all the men of war, died in the wilderness by the way, after they came out of Egypt. Now all the people that came out were circumcised: but all the people that were born in the wilderness by the way as they came forth out of Egypt, them they had not circumcised."* (Joshua 5:1-5)

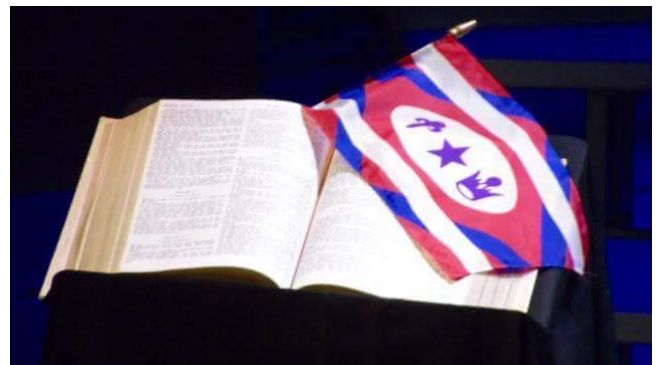
From verse 1, we read that the surrounding nations were already afraid of the Children of Israel. One would think this would be a good time to attack Jericho, but this battle was not going to be won by the arms of flesh. During their wandering in the wilderness for 40 years, this ordinance of circumcision was overlooked. Before Israel could think about conquering Jericho, God instructed Joshua to gather all the men together and circumcise them before they could proceed any further.

Some may have thought, why not attack and defeat Jericho first (strike while the iron is hot) and then circumcise the men later (as circumcision was something that would take them days to recover from). However, without circumcision there would be no victory. God had decided that He was not going any further with them until they were all circumcised.

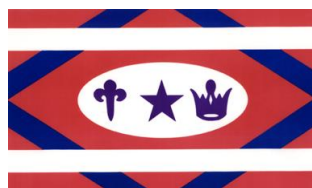
**When they were obedient to God's command, His presence with them was manifested by Joshua's encounter with the captain of the host of the LORD (verses 13-15) and with his help, they were victorious in the battle against Jericho.**

There are storms coming our way such as we've never seen before that are going to try what we are built on and what we are made of. Let us make sure we are living in a constant state of sanctification: *"See that ye refuse not him that speaketh. For if they escaped not who refused him that spake on earth, much more shall not we escape, if we turn away from him that speaketh from heaven: Whose voice then shook the earth: but now he hath promised, saying, Yet once more I shake not the earth only, but also heaven. And this word, Yet once more, signifieth the removing of those things that are shaken, as of things that are made, that those things which cannot be shaken may remain."* (Hebrews 12:25-27)

If our foundation is defective, our house will not stand. **Let us not just be hearers of the Word but also doers of the Word.** 📖



## General Headquarters address



P.O. Box 450  
Charleston, TN 37310 USA.  
Telephone: **001-423 339 8264**  
Fax: **001-423 339 8268**

Website: [www.thechurchofgod.org](http://www.thechurchofgod.org)

Email: [info@thechurchofgod.org](mailto:info@thechurchofgod.org)

The Evening Light subscriptions:

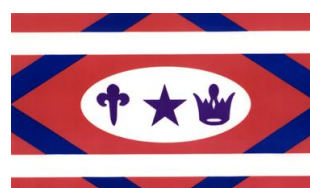
Telephone: **001-423 339 8264 ext. 211**

SS literature and merchandise enquiries:

Email: [jtalley@thechurchofgod.org](mailto:jtalley@thechurchofgod.org)

Telephone: **001-423 339 8264 ext. 232**

## National Office address



Philip C. Bennett  
The Church of God, Long Lane,  
Halesowen, West Midlands, B62 9LL.  
Home telephone: **0121-551 0119**

Mobile phone: **07963 36 05 13**

Website: [www.churchofgoduk.org](http://www.churchofgoduk.org)

Email: [enquiries@thechurchofgoduk.org](mailto:enquiries@thechurchofgoduk.org)

Registered Charity No. 1132804  
Registered Company No. 07015215

## National Administration

<b>Oscar Pimentel</b>	General Overseer
<b>Philip C. Bennett</b>	National Overseer/Pastor, Long Lane
<b>Angela Clarke</b>	Pastor, Druids Heath/National Treasurer/National Choir Director
<b>Beverley Anderson</b>	Pastor, Handsworth/National Women's Missionary Band/ National Ladies Retreat Co-ordinator
<b>George Wilson</b>	Pastor, London/National Family Camp Co-ordinator
<b>Cynthia Opoku</b>	National Assembly Band Movement Co-ordinator
<b>Stuart Brown</b>	National Church of Prophecy Marker Association/ Bible Training Institute Co-ordinator
<b>Claudine Brown</b>	National Evangelism Co-ordinator/National Choir Director
<b>Jennifer Thompson</b>	National Sunday School Co-ordinator
<b>James Mwila</b>	National Victory Leaders Band Co-ordinator
<b>Rikki Prince</b>	National Family Camp Co-ordinator/National Music Director
<b>Justin Clarke</b>	National Men's Retreat Co-ordinator
<b>Beverley Wilson</b>	National Reporter
<b>Karen Richards</b>	Assistant Editor of <i>The Chronicle</i>



## From the Overseer's Desk

In these difficult, trying and changing times, it is reassuring to know that there is one eternal constant; *"Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and today, and for ever."* (Hebrews 13:8)

Events are moving at an alarming rate as we witness the prophecies being fulfilled before our eyes. While the unsaved world is in confusion, we need to have an understanding of the times in which we are living. Concerning the end times, the prophet Daniel wrote: *"Many shall be purified, and made white, and tried; but the wicked shall do wickedly: and none of the wicked shall understand; but the wise shall understand."* (Daniel 12:10)

It is time for us as the children of God to stand on the promises that God has made us. He has told us in His words: *"I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee."* (Hebrews 13:5)

We are saddened by the passing of our beloved Sister Elouise Whitter and Sister Wilhelmina Brown but we are comforted with the assurance that though they may be absent from the body, they are now present with the Lord. The Apostle John further assured us: *"And I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, Write, Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours; and their works do follow them."* (Revelation 14:13)

Our condolences also go out to Sister Kelly Maxwell, whose husband passed away suddenly and Sister Cherelle Brown whose father passed away after a long period of ill health. May the peace of God comfort these families in their time of grief.

If ever a time we need to demonstrate and not just articulate the saying to "live one day at a time," it is now - but be assured:

***"The LORD of hosts is with us; ...  
the God of Jacob is our refuge."***

(Psalm 46:7 and 11)

### **Upcoming Events:**

- National Ladies Retreat - Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> to Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2021
- National Men's Retreat - Friday 11<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> June 2021
- National Convention - Friday 9<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> July 2021



## **ABM BOOST**

**Cynthia Opoku - National Assembly Band Movement Co-ordinator**

The general Assembly Band Movement theme for the assembly year 2020-2021 is:  
**'Feed the Flock, Protect the Flock, Build the Flock'**

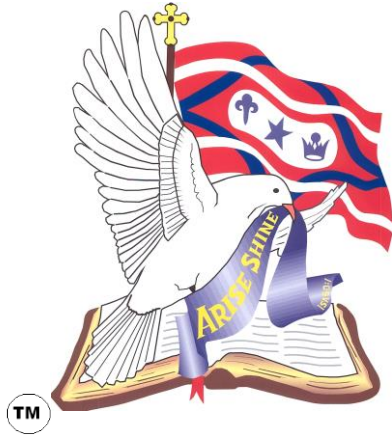
Greetings my dear brethren in Jesus' name! In the secular and religious world, many things are occurring, but we know God is the Keeper of our lives and souls.

Our general ABM theme for this assembly year is very deep. It speaks of the responsibility on leaders to nourish the flock with God's Word and protect them through encouragement to abstain from worldliness and sin. Leaders are also encouraged to build the flock through admonishment to grow closer to God.

In turn, the sheep will feel safe and secure, knowing the Great Shepherd will keep them from danger.

May Almighty God help to keep all of us humble as His sheep. Please may we all do well to pay our Emergency Dollars. God bless you.





## CPMA/BTI BOOST

Stuart Brown - National CPMA/BTI Co-ordinator

The general Church of Prophecy Marker Association theme for the assembly year 2020-2021 is:  
**'Still Standing - No Compromise'**

The general Bible Training Institute theme for the assembly year 2020-2021 is:  
**'Nevertheless at Thy Word'**  
(St. Luke 5:5)

Greetings in the mighty name of Jesus! I pray you are well and are still striving to be living markers for Jesus and His Church. We must always remember this instruction from Jesus: ***"Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven."*** (St. Matthew 5:16)

The general CPMA theme for this Assembly year is **"Still Standing - No Compromise"**. In order to keep standing firm in God, we need to endure to the end. How can we stand? 2 Timothy 1:13-14 states: ***"Hold fast the form of sound words, which thou hast heard of me, in faith and love which is in Christ Jesus. That good thing which was committed unto thee keep by the Holy Ghost which dwelleth in us."*** We stand in God by holding on to the doctrine of the Bible. We stand by keeping God's commandments and by allowing the Holy Ghost to direct our lives.

I have been able to visit the local churches and my hope is that I have been an encouragement to you all in boosting the general themes. I would like to remind each local CPMA/BTI leader to continue to plan inspired, edifying services. Seek the Lord for what He would have you to do. I am here if you need to share any resources or materials to use in our services.

The CPMA and BTI auxiliaries are still proving to be great tools to educate, edify and encourage our brethren. Our goal is that these helps will ***"...make you perfect, stablish, strengthen, settle you."*** (1 Peter 5:10)

I would like to boost the use of our National and International Youtube channels and Vimeo platforms, for video content. There are past and present content to re-watch, share and even use as topics of discussions in the home and services. An example of use within a service could be: watch a past General Assembly for 25 minutes, pause and open for discussion. We then can find the relevant Scriptures referenced in the Assembly clip to help with understanding and make notes.

In this setting, everyone can get involved and one video can be used in two or even three services. We can go deep, and dig into the resources for edification! This is not an academic exercise, and must always be backed by prayer, spiritual discernment and a willingness to hear what the Spirit is still saying to us today. Our messages, Assemblies, National and Ministers' Conventions etc, contain good, sound doctrine that will benefit us spiritually. Take time out and be blessed.



EVANGELISM  
DEPARTMENT

## EVANGELISM BOOST

Claudine Brown - National Evangelism Co-ordinator

The general Evangelism theme for the assembly year 2020-2021 is:

**'Ready, Set, Go!'**

(St. Matthew 28:19)

### How do I know what to tell them?

Evangelism  
2020 - 2021



Greetings to *The Chronicle* readers in the precious name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ! In seeking inspiration for the Evangelism department of The Church of God in England recently, it was laid on my heart firmly, and unshakeably - *'if you want to know what to tell them, read what I have said...'* To be effective Evangelists, we need to study God's Word. The Bible is a treasure trove

with so many layers. It is the undisputed truth and acts as a GPS for our lives. After telling a precious soul that Jesus loves them, we will need to present the truth and encourage them to live a life for Christ. Jesus said the Holy Ghost ***"shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you"***. (St. John 14:26)

In order to remember the Word of God, we would have to either have heard it taught/preached, or read it for ourselves. When communicating with a soul, we are going to need those words to flood into our memory via the Holy Ghost. Our own testimonies are undoubtedly a wonderful tool in encouraging a soul to the Lord, but at some point, the gospel truth in the words that God has spoken will become necessary in the leading of that soul to Christ.

It is no surprise that the Christian is often distracted from reading and studying the Bible. Life has become so busy, moving so fast and it feels like there is so much to cram into the time we have. Even sleep and rest itself feels like a rushed activity. But this is a distraction that the Evangelist must overcome. The time we spend in the Word of God will pay dividends and take us to new heights as we get to know the Lord through the words He has already spoken.



I have been completely inspired by the above and as a result, God willing we will hold a virtual Evangelism Bible Study marathon. All who wish to partake will be given an hour slot to study Scriptures around the topic of evangelism. We will then pool what we have learnt to create a resource that can be referred to in learning more about the work, ethic and heart of an evangelist. Please listen out for announcements in your local churches for this virtual event.

Finally, many of you will be aware, The Church of God in England now has a YouTube channel. During this pandemic, we have not been able to distribute tracts or evangelise face-to-face in the way that we are used to. We now live in a very different world and only God knows the full direction of travel of this season. In the meantime, evangelism must continue and God has enabled us to use technology to the advantage of continuing on in His work. The Evangelism department has created two 'digital tracts'; they are animated video presentations of two of our published tracts, '**How to be saved to the Uttermost**' and '**Sanctification**'. The presentations include Bible references that enable those watching to do further reading should they choose. Giving out a tract can now be done at the touch of a button and can be shared worldwide.

Here are the links you will need in order to distribute these digital tracts:

**How to be saved to the Uttermost:** <https://youtu.be/cyfgsmLfDVO>

**Sanctification:** <https://youtu.be/MSHIHpVWPH4>

Please share these presentations via your social media accounts, and messaging services. You may never know what happens with the seed that is planted but you will have done the work of an evangelist (2 Timothy 4:5) in sharing the gospel. May God bless you as you continue to work for Him.

If you are reading this, and you are not yet saved (Saved: To be forgiven of your sins, delivered from the penalty of sin and to experience new birth through Christ), Jesus is standing at the door of your heart, ready to save you at this very moment. Jesus said:

***“I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.”***

(St. John 14:6)

**Why not give Him a chance in your life today?**

**If you would like more information about how to go about this and to know where you can find our local churches, please see our website here: <http://thechurchofgoduk.org/>.**

Sunday School Department



**The Church of God**

## **SUNDAY SCHOOL BOOST**

**Jennifer Thompson - National Sunday School Co-ordinator**

The general Sunday School theme for the assembly year 2020-2021 is:

**‘Gather’**

(Deuteronomy 4:10)

The Apostle Paul said mankind are ***“Ever learning, and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth.”*** (2 Timothy 3:7) Mankind is always learning and they learn to do good or evil deeds daily. When it comes to the knowledge of the truth of God’s Word, they come up short of knowing. Mankind is ever learning to attain knowledge but some will not accept or believe in God’s truth. In 1 Timothy 2:4, the Bible states:

***“Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth.”***

The truth of God’s Word surpasses man’s wisdom and is profitable to feed our souls.

### **Testimony from Sister Cherelle Brown, Druids Heath Church concerning Sunday School:**

A lesson that blessed me is taken from the Treasures of Truth ‘Go Ye’ quarter July-December 2020, lesson 13. We learnt of the Gadarene: God’s surprising missionary. Wow... how great is our God! The Lord can/will reach the ‘lost’ and ‘unreachable’ - one songwriter says ‘don’t give up on God, ‘cause He won’t give up on you, He’s able’. Hallelujah. This lesson just proves that point. The Golden Truth was St. Matthew 19:26: ***“But Jesus beheld them, and said unto them, With men this is impossible; but with God all things are possible.”***

The lesson focused on how God used those who we may deem unusable or unreachable. The Gadarene was possessed with not just one but a multitude of devils (he was the epitome of the unreachable in my mind) but not so for our great God. He is always open for business and healing is still in His artillery. Glory to God!

He looked beyond the evil, the rudeness and saw the need for this tormented soul to be delivered. The possession of the evil spirits had driven this man to insanity. The songwriter said *'He looked beyond my faults and saw my need,'* hallelujah! This certainly challenged me. How many times have I overlooked someone by how they are presented, or judged someone because of their appearance? Countless. This Sunday School lesson was a WAKE UP call. We all count one...we all COUNT. Hallelujah! Jesus did not bypass the Gadarene in need of being healed, but reached out and touched that 'forgotten' soul. Bless the Lord.

This miraculous healing meant this man was free to tell everyone Jesus saves...Jesus heals...glory to God. The Bible tells us he did not waste time but ...***"began to publish in Decapolis how great things Jesus had done for him: and all men did marvel."*** (St. Mark 5:20)

This reminds me that Jesus Himself was rejected. Psalm 118:22: ***"The stone which the builders refused is become the head stone of the corner."*** The Gadarene man to me represented 'the refused' and 'untouchables'. But we are reminded each person is a soul...Our job is to see that soul...see that need and tell them!! This lesson shows the Lord can use anyone and anything at any time. In St. Luke 19:40, we learn that God is able to use the very stones. Today, I am reminded that I was created to worship the Lord. I was born (again) to fulfil what is known as The Great Commission. The Gadarene wasted no time in doing his duty. We learned that although Jesus was expelled from Gadara by a frightened and unappreciative mob of people, the Gadarene man was left there to continue the work. Glory to God!

I thank Almighty God He has blessed us in the Adults Sunday School class with a very special teacher. Our lessons are peppered with soul searching questions, not necessarily featured in the lesson but Holy Ghost led. Our Sunday School lessons are Holy Ghost rich and ready to receive more scholars. St. Matthew 11:29:

***"Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls."***

We are inspired to learn and to do. We know faith without works is dead. We desire to do the work of the Lord and what is acceptable unto God. Bless the Lord!



Today once again, I thank the Lord for this lesson. If you are reading this article and do not know the Lord as your personal Friend and Saviour, why not give Him a chance in your life? You will never regret it - the Gadarene man didn't. Torment and uncertainty does not have to be your portion today. Bless the Lord!



# VICTORY LEADERS BAND BOOST

James Mwila -  
National Victory Leaders Band Co-ordinator

The general Victory Leaders Band theme for  
the assembly year 2020-2021 is:

**'My Road Trip'**

Greetings in the wonderful name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ! I bring greetings to you from the VLB department. I would like to thank you all for your prayers towards the Victory Leaders Band. God is still working on our VLBs. Please pray for the VLB department and all the leaders in their local churches. Our desire is to see that all the youth in the Church and around us are saved and living for Christ.

I am glad to say that the Lord has enabled me to visit all churches here in England. It's always a blessing to be with our brethren and I thank the Lord for that. I have been able to share and encourage the youth and the Church at large on the general theme for this year – **'My Road Trip'**.

We are on a journey from earth to heaven and the choices we make now will affect our journey. I pray we all choose Jesus. He has already walked this journey from earth and is seated on the right hand of the Father in heaven! So who else but Jesus to lead me/you on my/your road trip?

Please enjoy a PowerPoint presentation on the theme from Sister Bria Anderson. I really enjoyed this during one of our VLB prayer meeting. As it blessed me so much, I hope it blesses you too.

## Be an Overcomer

**1. Be an overcomer, only cowards yield  
When the foe they meet on the battlefield;  
We are blood-bought princes of the royal host  
And must falter not, nor desert our post.**

### **Chorus:**

**Never yield a step in the hottest fight  
God will send you help from the realms of light  
In Jehovah's might put the foe to flight  
And the victors crown you shall wear at last**

## Matthew 6:24

**No man can serve two masters:  
for either he will hate the one,  
and love the other; or else he  
will hold to the one, and despise  
the other. Ye cannot serve God  
and mammon.**

## 2 Corinthians 13:5

**Examine yourselves, whether ye  
be in the faith; prove your own  
selves. Know ye not your own  
selves, how that Jesus Christ is  
in you, except ye be reprobates?**

## COMPLACENT

**A complacent person feels that  
they do not need to do anything  
about a situation, even though  
the situation may be uncertain  
or dangerous.**

**YOU ARE THE DRIVER.**

**DESTINATION?**

**Matthew 7:13-14**

13 Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: 14 Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it.

**NAVIGATION**

**Proverbs 3:5-6**

5 Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. 6 In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

**MAINTENANCE**

**Mark 8: 35-37**

35 For whosoever will save his life shall lose it; but whosoever shall lose his life for my sake and the gospel's, the same shall save it. 36 For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? 37 Or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?

**DEAD  
END**



## WMB BOOST

**Beverley Anderson - National Women's Missionary Band Co-ordinator**

The general Women's Missionary Band theme for the assembly year 2020-2021 is:

**'Sonlight'**

(St. Matthew 5:16)

**The Sonlight gives us, 'A faith that stagger's not'**



According to history, God called Abraham in 1921 BC and told him to go to a land that He would show him. Abraham was to leave his father's house and kindred in Haran and go. Genesis 12:1:

***"Now the LORD had said unto Abram, Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father's house, unto a land that I will shew thee:"***

Prior to Abraham's call, his father Terah had left Ur of the Chaldees to go into the land of Canaan. Genesis 11:31-32: ***"And Terah took Abram his son, and Lot the son of Haran his son's son, and Sarai his daughter in law, his son Abram's wife; and they went forth with them from Ur of the Chaldees, to go into the land of Canaan; and they came unto Haran, and dwelt there. And the days of Terah were two hundred and five years: and Terah died in Haran."***

Abraham was 75 when he left Haran. Eight years later, God promised Abraham that he would be the father of many nations. (I am not sure if this is all religions, but I do believe that the known religions hold Abraham as their father or as one of their prophets). But the nation God was speaking about was the spiritual nation. We could say this has literally happened as there are many nations who follow the Islamic faith. However, God was looking at His children who would come from Abraham's seed through his son Isaac.

Abraham believed God, and even though Sarah his wife and himself were old, he knew that God could do anything and give him a child in his old age. His faith in God was strong. Romans 4:18-19:

***"Who against hope believed in hope, that he might become the father of many nations, according to that which was spoken, So shall thy seed be. And being not weak in faith, he considered not his own body now dead, when he was about an hundred years old, neither yet the deadness of Sarah's womb:"***

We see through Abraham's faith a sovereign God, with absolute power and a Mighty Stay (anchor) to faith in practice when all other dependencies sink. Even when all the arguments of sense and reason, were naturally against him, Abraham's faith in God did not waver.

Abraham was fully persuaded that God was able to perform what He had promised. Do we have this faith in our Sonlight? God sees such faith as an attribute to righteousness. Romans 4:20-22:

***“He staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief;  
but was strong in faith, giving glory to God;  
And being fully persuaded that, what he had promised,  
he was able also to perform.  
And therefore it was imputed to him for righteousness.”***

God considered Abraham to be righteous because he believed, even though he had not proven what was promised. We are living in a time when man has turned away from the promises of God (even some Christians). Why? This is because so many generations have passed and the promise cannot be seen, so many are staggering and falling away.

Now is the time to let the light of faith shine in us, and take God at His Word. Now is the time to move away from the world and grow closer to God. Why? 1 John 2:17:

***“And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof:  
but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever.”***

Let your faith reflect the Sonlight. God bless.

## **What's happening at Long Lane Church?**

Since the global pandemic started in 2020, we have witnessed a change in mind sets, how we live our lives, communicate and even how we come together for worship. It has been challenging for a lot of us, but also a time to reflect and make changes.

Here at Long Lane Church, we have managed to maintain our local Church services, Bible studies and meetings online. The church building is still utilised for our main services and was used for two home going services.

As people deal with sickness and loss, I pray we are not blown over with negativity for our hope and security is in Christ Jesus. Let us continue to keep one another in prayer as we navigate through these times together. God bless.

**Sister Keshia Toolsee - Reporter  
Long Lane Church**

**Special Note:**

*The Chronicle* is an official publication of The Church of God (England) with Philip C. Bennett National Overseer and Editor. Articles intended for publication in the next issue of *The Chronicle* should be received **before 31st May 2021**. These submissions will be for the April to June 2021 issue. Please send to: Karen Richards, 12 Cherhill Covert, Druids Heath, Birmingham, B14 5YB. Email: [kazgirl\\_uk@yahoo.com](mailto:kazgirl_uk@yahoo.com)

Registered Charity No. 1132804

Registered Company No. 07015215