

# Noticeboard

**THIS Wed 8th Feb at 7.30pm, here at Emmanuel John Wilson (Sue is unable to come)**

will tell us something about God's heart for the continent. He will share exciting news about the growth of the Gospel in France and talk about the many opportunities they are facing.

**Our next Church Members Meeting** will take place on Tues Feb 28th. At this meeting we need to appoint a new treasurer following Justin's stepping down due to work commitments. Jeff Mount who has been acting as interim treasurer is willing to be nominated for the role of deacon/treasurer, but of course other nominations are welcome by Sunday 19th Feb

**Foodbank needs are:**

- \* Tinned Corned Beef
- \* Savoury snacks such as crisps
- \* Long Life cartoned milk
- \* Toilet Rolls
- \* Washing up liquid

**Craftea are Meeting again**  
**THIS** Tues afternoon 7th Feb 2-4pm in the front foyer area of the church.

**Food for Thought** This Thurs 9th Feb at 2.30pm. Guest Speaker is PC Matt Cummins (Community Police Officer)

**Create Station**

Wed 15th Feb  
10-12pm Crafts, Ball games etc. Refreshments  
£1 per child

**If you see any Health & Safety issues** or any repairs needed around the church building, please let the church office know or contact Rick Cookman roderick@cookman.me.uk

## Sunday 12th February

**10.30am Coming together to praise, learn and encourage.**

**Main Door** Dave Ball

**Inner Door** Chris & Wendy Tabb

**Easy Worship** Gill Lister

**Coffees Before Service** Karen Campbell & Kye Childs

**After Service** Carrie Holmes & Mary Jones

## Sunday 5th February 2017

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**10.30am Coming together to praise, learn and encourage.**  
A warm welcome to you all. We would love to get to know each other better, so please introduce yourself. If you can, join us for refreshments after the service.

**11am Children and youth groups leave**  
**Parent and Baby Room** available with a visual link to the service.  
**Nippers:** Age 2-4 (Parents please collect your children at 12:00).  
**Buzz:** Reception to Year 6  
**Salt:** Year 7 and up (meets in the Power House)

### Prayer Ministry

Members of the Prayer Ministry Team wear ministry badges. Please speak to one of them if you would like prayer for any reason.

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### The Church office

Open Monday-Friday, 9.30am-12.30pm

**Telephone** 01326 315249

**Email** mail@emmanuelbaptist.co.uk

**Website** www.emmanuelbaptist.co.uk

**Minister** Rev'd Charles Blizzard

**Sermon outline notes: Submission to Governing Authorities**  
**Romans 13: 1 –7**  
**(See also 1 Peter 2:13-17 & Titus 3: 1-2)**

**Introduction**

Several answers have been given to the question why did Paul write this passage? Was it because:

- 1) it followed naturally from 12:17 –21 which dealt with individual relationships to the question of relationship to the state authorities.
- 2) a wrong understanding of how Christians should behave and act towards the authorities between the first and second coming of Jesus.
- 3) the Jews in Rome had rioted against the authorities and consequently were expelled. Paul did not want Christians in any way do this and thereby lose a missionary opportunity.

Whatever the motivation or reason for writing these particular verses, we have here teaching about how Christians respond to the pagan governing authorities!

- 1) A summing up!  
'Ruling authorities are what they are because God wants order in the present world. God is not going to allow chaos to reign even in the present evil age..... God desires that even in the present time, even in a world that has not yet confessed Jesus as Lord there should be a measure of justice and rule and that comes by having ruling authorities.' N.T. Wright.
- 2) God's intent is that through the government authorities described as God's servants, evil acts are punished (13:4), evil acts are restrained through fear of punishment (13:3) and the good is promoted and encouraged (13:3).
- 3) The ruling authorities are God's servants whether they realise that or not, and they are accountable to God whether they realise it or not for the way they govern.

- 4) Are there any 'exceptions to what Paul says in verse 1? Can Christians exercise what today we call civil disobedience? I think there are two exceptions:
  - 1) We refuse to submit when the ruling authorities forbid us to do what God commands us to do. *Example*—Acts 5: 27 –42
  - 2) We refuse to submit when the ruling authorities command us to do that which God has forbidden us to do. *Example*— Christians in the early centuries refused to worship Caesar.

**In preparation for our next study please look at Romans 13 ; 8– 14.**  
**Think about the following points:**

- 1) How do you understand Paul's idea of debt in verse 8? (see also 1:14 and 8: 12)
- 2) 'Love does no harm to its neighbour' There has been considerable debate about financial debts/loans between rich and poor countries. Should we in the UK be charging no interest/ small interest or forgiving past loans with poor countries?
- 3) Put into your own words verse 11– 14. What is Paul essentially saying here?
- 4) Verse 14 'Clothe yourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ'. What does Paul mean?

