

Noticeboard

Thanksgiving Service

The Thanksgiving service for the life of Phil Misselbrook will take place at Emmanuel Baptist Church on Friday 24th June at 2pm. Please continue to pray for Sue, Mark, Kathy and the grandchildren.

Grill the Pastor

Monday evenings 7.30 in the Portable cabin. At this meeting you can come and ask any question.

Foodbank needs are:

- ◇ Orange juice
- ◇ Orange and Blackcurrant Squash
- ◇ Packet Rice that goes in the microwave
- ◇ Sweet Treats
- ◇ Toiletries

Tribute for Phil

Tony and Mel are making short film tribute for Phil's Thanksgiving service on the 24th June.

They will be filming at the church today from 3pm-5pm We are looking for simple, short, poignant/ funny stories and memories that best describe Phil which we can edit together to create a fitting tribute. So come along if you would like to contribute and share.

Food for Thought

This Thursday
June 16th 2.30pm
Guest Speaker is
Andrew Chapple

Sunday 19th June 2016

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.

Sunday 26th June

10.30am **Coming together to praise, learn and encourage.**
Main Door Bryan Parr
Inner Door Dennis Bennett & Sara Short
Easy Worship Gill Lister
Coffees Before Service Hazel Evans & Amy Growcott-Smith
After Service Bryan & Hazel Green

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: The attempt to bring Jesus down! John Chapter 8vv 1-11

Introduction

This story opens up at John 7 vv 37–38. Jesus makes a startling claim (probably based on Isaiah 55 vv 1-3). The religious leaders are so angered that they order the arrest of Jesus, but fail in this. They then plot to set a trap with the aim of discrediting Jesus.

1) The Trap

The game plan— to pose a question of interpretation of the law, a question so clever that whatever way Jesus answered he would destroy himself.

They arrest a woman whom they claimed was caught in the act of adultery.

2) The Stage

Jesus is teaching the crowds. The religious authorities turn up, interrupt Jesus teaching, bringing the woman with them. Note that they do not bring in the man involved in the adultery.

3) The dilemma for Jesus

The religious leader quote Moses and then directly challenge Jesus in public to agree or disagree with Moses, the great law giver.

Jesus could say “Yes, let’s stone her”, but such a ruling would have resulted in Jesus’ arrest by the Roman authorities on incitement, exactly what the religious authorities wanted!

Jesus’ other option was to say we have to play by Roman rules and ignore the law of Moses. By doing this he would have been accused of cowardice, unwilling to pay the price of following God!

4) Justice

All through the rest of the story I think Jesus is subtly debating the nature of justice. Is justice primarily a strict application of law? Or ??

5) What does Jesus write in the dust?

The version I like best states that he wrote ‘death or kill her or stone her’ The words following presuppose that he decreed the death penalty. But having done that, Jesus then announced the method of execution: “let him who is without sin among you be first to throw a stone at her” What is Jesus doing here? Two things: He is asking each individual to acknowledge responsibility in the act of stoning and then asking each individual to consider whether they are prepared to step out and claim to be sinless.

Notice that a second time Jesus writes in the dust—he chooses not to watch the public humiliation of his opponents!

Observations

- 1) The Scribes and Pharisees—these men demonstrate the corrupting influences that are always potentially present in organised religion. The law matters, people do not.
- 2) The woman—as with many of the stories from and about Jesus, in a sense, the ending is missing. How did the woman respond?
- 3) Jesus presents a call for reformation of life to both the religious leaders and to the woman.

Points to ponder

- 1) What part of the sermon spoke to you the most? Why?
- 2) Is justice simply the application of the law?
- 3) Why did the ‘older ones’ leave first?
- 4) How does Jesus’ response, to the woman exemplify grace and truth (see John 1 v 17).