



**NEWTOWNBREA
GOSPEL HALL**

A magazine to teach, inform, challenge and encourage

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Issue 3

A wise man will hear, and will increase learning;
and a man of understanding shall attain unto wise counsels:
Proverbs 1:5



Welcome to Life & Light magazine!

Produced by Christians who meet in Newtownbreda Gospel Hall.

But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear 1 Peter 3:15

Where does all the rain come from?

There is a passage in the Bible in the book of Job beginning at chapter 32 where God asks Job 70 questions. One of these is in verse 28: "Has the rain a father?" This along with the other questions all reveal how little Job understood after all. Job wisely responded to the questions: "Behold, I am vile; what shall I answer thee? I will lay mine hand upon my mouth" (Job 40:4).

With Job, we recognize that it is impossible with our finite minds to understand the omniscience of God. In our smallness we are only allowed to look through a glass darkly on the ways of God in nature, yet we also realize God has not left Himself without witness in nature. By these questions, God demonstrated to Job and to us, many facets of His creative power and sustaining influence. Take a little time to read Job chapters 32-42

**Everyone wants happiness
no one wants pain
but you cannot make a rainbow
without a little rain**

*To every thing there is a season,
and a time to every purpose under the heaven
Ecclesiastes 3:1*

JESUS CHRIST IS LORD.

Philippians 2:11

Getting to know us!

My name is Gordon and my wife's name is Valerie. We were married 40 years ago and have lived, ever since, in the Newtownbreda area. Our early life was much different: to start with we were both born on the other side of the world, in Japan.

Both our parents were missionaries who had left employment and had gone to serve God to take the Christian message of salvation to the people of Japan.

Valerie's parents, from London, went first to China where they were married. It was very tough for them there as the Communists were at that time taking control of the country. Because things became difficult for them and the Chinese Christian believers, they decided to move to Japan.

I was born in the city of Tokyo but when I was about three our family moved 100 miles north to a small town on the foothills of a dormant volcano. Our lifestyle was quite basic but we enjoyed a very happy family life. Every day, as a family, we read the Bible and also enjoyed singing hymns. My Dad also put tunes to Bible verses so that the Japanese could sing them and get to know the message of the gospel. One of my Dad's favourite Bible phrases was "God is Love". He was greatly impressed by God's love and wanted others to know about it so he wrote GOD IS LOVE in Japanese on a big sign. My parents had left Ireland to go to Japan because they loved the Japanese and wanted them to know about God's love for them. Many people at that time thought that the Japanese were very cruel. The Bible tells us that it was while we were sinners that Christ died for us. God demonstrated His love in sending His Son into this world in order that He would die on our behalf because, as the Bible says, "The wages of sin is death". God's love is truly great. The same verse in the Bible says "The gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord". Romans 6:23

I knew, while still young, that although my parents loved God and served him faithfully that did not change the fact that I had sinned against God and would be punished for my own sins. I came to appreciate the love of God for me and the love of the Lord Jesus who had come to die on the cross for me. As a little boy I appreciated this and thanked God for such a wonderful gift that He had given to me. I hope that you too will appreciate God's love and put your trust in the Lord Jesus.



What path will you take this year?

Jesus said:

I am the light of the world:

he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness

but shall have the light of life. John8v12



I said to the man who stood at the gate of the year:

“Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown.”

and he replied:

“Go out into the darkness and put your hand into the Hand of God.

That shall be to you better than light and safer than a known way.”

So I went forth, and finding the Hand of God, trod gladly into the night.

and He led me towards the hills and the breaking of day in the lone East.

Minnie Louise Haskins

What
Happens
Next?

Sometimes on a book cover you will get the words highlighted: “**Based on a true story**” but did you know the Bible is full of the most exciting stories and all of them are true stories?

Here is a story in the Bible that we would encourage you to read to find out what happens next

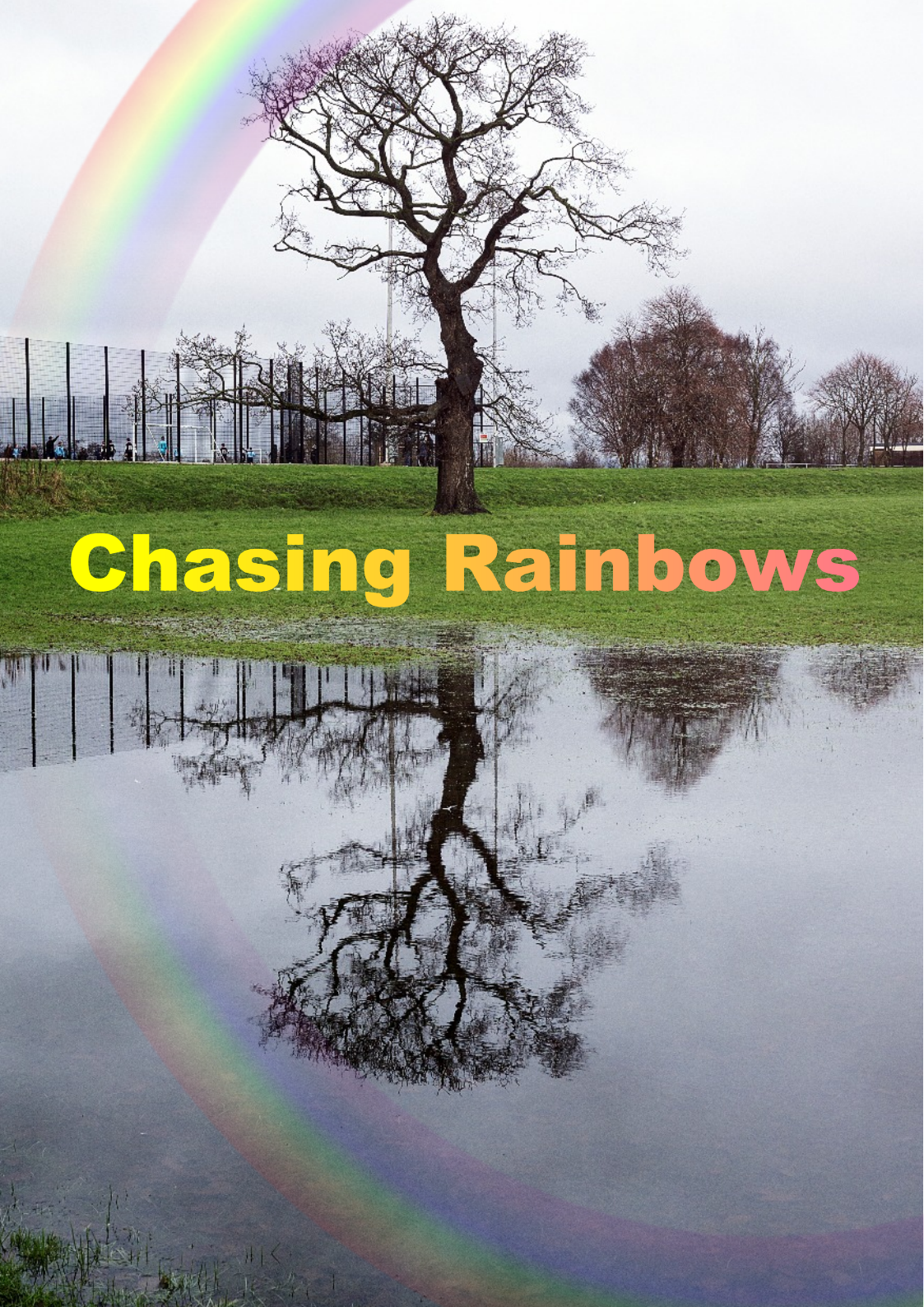
There is the account in the Gospels of a woman who was not a Jew coming to the Lord and crying after him to have mercy on her daughter who was sick. When Jesus told her that he was not sent but to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. She said “Yes I know it is true, but even the dogs (and she used a word which meant: ‘little puppies’) get crumbs which fall from their master’s tables.” Look up Matthew 15 v22-29 and read the whole story.

There are many lessons we can learn from God’s creatures



Things you can learn me!

Have a great attitude
Greet everyone with enthusiasm
Loyalty is a virtue
Protect those you love
Love unconditionally
Be thankful for even the smallest morsel
Be faithful to those you love



Chasing Rainbows

Are you Superstitious?

The most familiar superstition about the rainbow is that some little Irish leprechauns guard a pot of gold at the end of a rainbow and if you chase the rainbow and reach the end of it, there is some kind of treasure that these leprechauns will grant you that involves everything you could ever hope for or want; if you can just get to the end of the rainbow... which you can't.

Yet some people like chasing rainbows even though they know they can never reach their goal.

In the Bible in Genesis 9v9-17 God tells us that He created the rainbow in the cloud as a sign of His promise that He will never again destroy the Earth with a flood as He had just done in the days of Noah because of the sin and wickedness of the people.

Instead of chasing rainbows to find a pot of Gold listen to what the Bible says about following God's Word: Psalm 19:

The law of the LORD is perfect, converting the soul:
The testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple.
The statutes of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart:
The commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes.
The fear of the LORD is clean, enduring for ever:
The judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.
More to be desired are they than gold, yea, than much fine gold:
Sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb.
Moreover by them is thy servant warned:
and in keeping of them there is great reward. (v7-11)

Spiritual Sudoku

The goal of this Sudoku is to fill in a 9x9 grid with letters so that each column, row, and 3x3 section contain only the 9 letters in the phrase:

God with us

Memory Verse
Matthew 1v23
Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us.

I		U		D	O			S
	D				I	U		O
D		G	O			H		
	H	O		I		T	S	
		T			G	W		D
O		I	H				T	
W			T	O		D		U

Answers found on www.newtownbredagospelhall.com/magazine

Great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifest in the flesh (1Tim 3v16) explaining how we have the name Emmanuel: meaning God with us. What a wonderful truth that the Holy God himself became a man not only to come and visit sinners but to save sinners from their sins. The Bible proclaims in 1 Timothy 1v15: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners.

Newtownbreda Gospel Hall

Sunday School

September-June 3-3:45pm

Bible Lessons

Memory Verses

Choruses

Bible Magazine
BK Cards

calling all boys & girls



Belvoir Bus route:



Castleward

Grays Park

Castlehume

Belvoir Drive

Drumart

Milltown

For pickup & drop off call Lawrence on 9064 9432



Does God really have a plan?

By Stephen Mullan

Maybe you have never been to a Bible class before, or don't think it is worth your time. Well, let me encourage you by sharing three priceless things you will find at Bible Class:

1. **Answers:**

Life can be confusing can't it!? Whenever I was a teenager (which wasn't very long ago) I would often look up at the night sky, my mind full of questions... "What is life all about?", "Where did we come from?", "Is there really a God?", "Is the Bible really true?" Bible Class is great place to ask questions, discuss your thoughts and discover the truth about life, the past and the future.

2. **The Bible:**

The Bible is the single most important book you can read in your entire life. It is a book like no other; made up of 66 books, written by around 40 authors, over the course of approximately 1600 years. Most of all, the Bible claims to be the revealed words of the Living God and if God's Word is true, then your life will not be the same again. This year, we are taking a riveting journey through the Bible, exploring together God's big plan for man.

3. **Christ:**

The Bible shows us that Jesus Christ is at the very centre of God's plan for mankind. Everything was created by Him, through Him, and for Him (Col 1v16). Christ should be at the very centre of our faith and life, for He is the only way to God (John 14v6, 1 Timothy 2v5). Only through Christ, God can save us, forgive us, adopt us as children and bless us with every spiritual blessing. We ask hard questions (was He really God? did He really rise again?) and we seek to answer important questions (how can I become a Christian? how can I follow in His steps?).

Bible Class is held every Sunday at 3pm We'd love to see you.

Wonders of Creation

Blood Moon



The term 'blood moon' has come to mean the combination of a super moon – when the moon's orbit is closest to the Earth and appears up to 8% bigger – and a full lunar eclipse, when the Earth's shadow obscures the moon.

During a total lunar eclipse, the Earth, sun and moon are almost exactly in line, with the moon on the opposite side of the Earth from the sun. As the moon was full when it moved into the shadow of the Earth it dimmed markedly, but remained visible because of the sunlight passing through the Earth's atmosphere.

Although there are many different ideas on how and when the moon formed, no scientist was there at the time. So we should rely on the witness of One who was there (Job 38v4), and who has revealed the truth in Genesis 1v14–18:

And God said, Let there be lights in the firmament of the heaven to divide the day from the night; and let them be for signs, and for seasons, and for days, and years:

And let them be for lights in the firmament of the heaven to give light upon the earth: and it was so. And God made two great lights; the greater light to rule the day, and the lesser light to rule the night: he made the stars also.

This passage clearly states that God made the moon on the same day as the sun and stars - the fourth day of Creation Week. It was also created one day after the plants. This order of events makes it impossible to reconcile with the theory of evolution.

Gospel Truths

Who are we?

We are a group of born-again Christians who consider the Bible to be the inspired and infallible Word of God. We endeavour to follow the New Testament example of gathering to the name of the Lord Jesus Christ. We come from different nationalities and walks of life, with the common bond of having a personal knowledge of Jesus Christ as Saviour and Lord.

Times of our regular meetings:

Sunday:

- 11.00 am Breaking of Bread (weekly)
- 3.00 pm Sunday School & Bible Class (Sep-June)
- 6.30 pm Prayer Meeting (weekly)
- 7.00 pm Gospel Meeting (weekly)

Monday:

- 7.00 pm Young People's Meeting (Oct-March)

Tuesday:

- 7.30 pm Purdysburn Gospel Hour (in Purdysburn Village)
(Alternate Tuesdays, Oct-April)

Thursday:

- 7.45 pm Prayer meeting & Bible Reading (weekly)

Visit us: www.newtownbredagospelhall.com

- God created us for His glory.
Isaiah 43:5-7
- Every human should live for God's glory.
1 Corinthians 10:31
- We have all sinned and come short of God's glory.
Romans 3:23
- We all deserve eternal punishment.
Romans 6:23
- In His great mercy, God sent forth His only Son Jesus Christ to provide for sinners the way of eternal life.
John 3:16