

Today is **Education Sunday**. As you pray, remember all those who teach in schools, colleges and universities, as well as those who are studying. Please also pray for **Open the Book**, the Bible Society project to share Bible stories in primary schools across England and Wales. Pray that children will be blessed and encounter the Bible for themselves as this work continues within government guideline. Pray for **Julie and team** who are filming episodes and sending videos to Dover Park and other primary schools on the island.

Father, we gather in your presence in prayer and praise.

We thank you for our health and happiness, for forgiveness and healing, for our talents, and for our friends.

We thank you for the wonderful world you have given us to explore and to use to your greater glory.

We thank you for the gift of Jesus Christ, your Son, who died that we might have life and live it to the full.

Send your Spirit to accompany us on our daily journey.

Give us wisdom that we may find you in all things.

Give us understanding that we may learn our lessons well.

Give us compassion that we may show your face to those we meet.

Give us generosity that we may share the gifts you have given us.

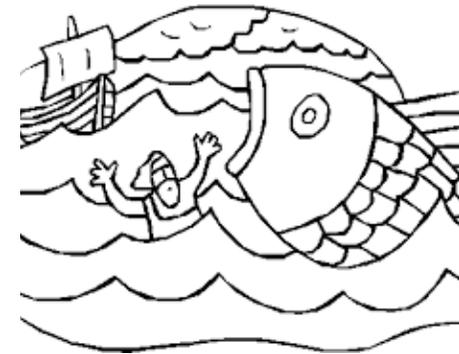
Give us faith that we may have confidence in ourselves.

Above all give us love that we may bring joy into the lives of those around us.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

7/52 @ RBC

13 September 2020



Now the LORD provided a huge fish to swallow Jonah, and Jonah was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights.

Contacts:

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All Deacons available by ☎ if needed.

Please note! Items for 7/52 should be given to **Sally** by **midnight THURSDAY** on 641305 or email: ian.pratt5@btopenworld.com

Check out our website at **www.rydebaptist.org** for general updates.

Sermon notes and suggestions for reading and study are on **<https://www.rydebaptist.xyz>** —

the Sunday supplement.



What's On

Worship at home with Premier Radio **10 am Sunday**.

BBC1 10.45 am Sunday morning live; Songs of Praise **1.15 pm**
Pam Rhodes on Premier Radio for Sunday Live at 6 pm, followed by Prayer of Hope from Churches Together at 7 pm. Pam Rhodes also leads a lunchtime singalong every weekday at 1 pm on Premier Radio.



Prayer broadcast with BU General Secretary Lynn Green at **7 pm** this Sunday. Prayers at 7 pm on Wednesdays.

All available at https://www.baptist.org.uk/Groups/338268/Prayer_broadcasts.aspx

Please contact **Alison** on alison.ridout@btinternet.com/by phone for the link to the Thursday Zoom coffee morning.

We may be in the same storm but we are in very different boats. The pandemic highlights unease about unfair global resource distribution, and the disproportionate impact on poorer communities. What can we do?

1. Buy fair trade – order a box of Essentials from <https://www.traidcraftshop.co.uk/> or <http://tropicalwholefoods.com/>
2. Support <https://shared-interest.com/gb> by lending to sustainable small businesses
3. First Toilet Twinning, then Tap Twinning, in response to the Covid-19 pandemic. Now Bin Twinning – see more at <https://www.bintwinning.org/> and twin your bin with a community-led social enterprise that is collecting household rubbish and selling recycled waste.
4. Check out <https://www.tearfund.org/2020/08/everyday-ways-to-tackle-climate-change/>
5. Find information about fragile ecosystems where BMS is working, pray for the workers and try the new carbon calculator to offset your carbon usage! See <https://www.bmsworldmission.org/news/calling-all-stewards/>

'In the walking retreats I lead, we visit a copse of hazels to reflect on the ancient, sustainable practice of coppicing. The trees are harvested every eight years, and *every* bit is used; for charcoal, for river-bank defences, fencing, all sorts. Nothing – not a twig – is wasted. When sunlight floods back into the newly cleared woodland floor, dormant seeds spring to life, returning colourful carpets of wildflowers and butterflies.

Sometimes, life needs a clearing. The apostle Paul said: 'in all things God works for the good of those who love him', but it can be hard to believe for those of us with seemingly wasted years, or studies, or talents, or relationships ...

Paul was writing in the decades following the biggest apparent waste of a life ever. What must it have been like for the disciples in the immediate aftermath of Jesus' death? All their hard work, and their master's, for ... nothing? *What was the point?*

But the life Jesus brings is an outpouring, not a benchmark of 'success'. We don't access God's grace as if we deserve something to show for the hours we put in.

This new term will be a start like no other. Perhaps it is less about *what* we learn this year, as much as *how*. In our Covid clearings, what if nothing *were* wasted? And on the woodland floor of this coming season, a myriad dormant flowers were preparing to bloom?'

Brian Draper



'Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.'

Margaret Mead

<https://www.premierchristianity.com/Blog/Tim-Farron-Slashing-foreign-aid-to-pay-for-Covid-19-is-disgusting-and-unbiblical?> See what a Christian politician thinks about plans to cut foreign aid

Thank you for your continued financial support of the work of the Church. If you are able to give by standing order, PLEASE do so!

**RBC Barclays current account number 20731102
sort code 20-60-55**

*If you usually give by cash or cheque, contact **Jim** on **810991** to arrange delivery or collection*

**We are currently running at a deficit as follows:
- £9423.73. This is mainly due to the loss of letting fees
for the GSC**