

Today's Stewards: AM Paul Sadler PM Paul Sadler.

Abbey Diary

Sunday: **After Hours** - 7.45-9pm. Please speak to Iain or Krista for more details.

Monday: **Abbey Toddlers**. At Abbey. 10am.

Wednesday: **Abbey mission prayer meeting**. 7.45pm at Abbey.

Thursday: **Abbey Coffee Morning** at Station House. 10.30 am.

Kickstart. 6pm.

Friday: **Abbey kids, 11up, Reboot**.

Cleaning

Saturday - Dan and Carol Bryant; Daniel and Ruth Gandolfo; Josh Sayers; Edwin & Salome.

GBM Annual Mission Day

GBM Annual Mission Day is on Sat 28th October. If you have never been before, see the leaflet or GBM Herald magazine for details. It is a great day out in London where you will learn a lot about world mission. Main preacher: Matt Gamston. See Jim and Helen Sayers for details.

11Up needs your cardboard tubes!

11Up are collecting cardboard tubes and other suitable recycling for building a marble run later this term. Please save what you can and give it to one of the leaders. Thank you!

Welcome to Abbey Baptist Church!

Our morning service is led by Simon Hutton, Simon will be preaching from **Genesis 17 - Everlasting covenant**.

There is a staffed crèche for children aged 0-2.

Venturers for children aged 3-10 takes place during the service.

Our evening service is led by Simon and Clive Boucher will starting new series to mark the **500th anniversary of the reformation**.

Tea and Coffee are served after each service.

There is a loop system installed and printed copies of the songs are available.

- Our **Connect Groups** meet in local homes. All are welcome to join a group. For more information please see Simon.
- As we are in the process of becoming a new charity, members are being asked to **reaffirm their membership**. Forms are available from Simon. If you are currently not a member and would like to find out more about membership, **please see Simon**. Copies of our new constitution and church handbook are now available.
- There will be an **All Age Service** on Sunday morning on 5th November.
- 5th-12th November is the **Week of Prayer** - more details coming soon.



When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the Lord appeared to him and said, 'I am God Almighty; walk before me faithfully and be blameless.' v1

Introduction: God's Family of Faith. Recap: learning to count.

Covenant time – everlasting

- Abram's timeline (v1, 12v4, 16v6, 21v5, 25v7)
- An 'everlasting' commitment to 'be your God' (v7-8)
 - Fulfilled in the New Creation (Revelation 21v1-7)
 - So: 'walk faithfully', 'live blamelessly' (v1)
 - Three examples: Enoch (5v24), Noah (6v9), Abraham (Hebrews 11v5-16)

Covenant line – the promised Son

- Abraham became the father of many nations (v4-6, v20, 25v1-4)
- The covenant will be *established* through Isaac (v19-21)
 - The chosen channel of promise → Jesus (Matthew 1v1)
 - Chosen to spread the blessing to all nations (12v2-3, Matthew 28v20)

Covenant sign – circumcision

- Promises made (ch12), ratified by covenant (ch15), confirmed (ch17)
 - 'A sign and seal of the righteousness that came by faith' (Rom 4v11-12)
- Showing our willingness to keep the covenant (v9)
- An external act symbolising an internal cleansing (Deut 10v16; Col 2v11)
 - Baptism: visible entry into God's covenant community (family of faith)

Conclusion: If you have faith in Jesus Christ, you need to consciously know that 'God Almighty' has willingly entered into a covenant with you to 'be your God', promising you a glorious heavenly city as your inheritance. Your baptism shows both your willingness to be a living and active part of God's covenant community, and your desire to faithfully live a life that blameless before God through the help of his Spirit.



In these last days he has spoken to us by his Son...through whom he made the universe (Hebrews 1:2).

Introduction

- Why do we want to look carefully at the Reformation? ... It sent people back to the Bible, and so back to the heart of the Gospel, bringing re-formation/ new life.
- How would you design/ write a back cover to recommend the Bible?

Scripture is ... Written by the Creator God (Hebrews 1:1-3)

- Both Old Testament and New Testament are God's words written down for us
- God reveals himself supremely through Jesus, the Son
- Christianity is all about relationship with God ... we need to hear from Him

Scripture is ... The Supreme Authority for Life & Salvation (Hebrews 4:6-16)

- Scripture has unique authority because it carries God's own authority (4:12, 13)
- Today, as you hear the majestic voice of his Spirit, do not turn your back, but go to this generous King Jesus for friendship and help (4:16)

Scripture is ... All About Jesus Christ (John 5:37-47)

- Are we going back to the Bible, again and again, so that we can go personally, again and again, to Jesus, the only source of true life?
- It is, tragically, possible to hold Scripture in high regard, to believe it contains words of life, but to refuse to come to and relate to the Christ who is Life (5:39, 40).



Coffee Cup Question:

How will what God has said to you Today, through these Scriptures, help you to make good, life-giving choices and to know his Son better?