

May Jun 99

# Newsletter

The Bethel  
Christadelphian



## In Focus – The Annual Gathering

The Gathering takes place every May bank holiday, this year the 30<sup>th</sup> April to 3<sup>rd</sup> May. Every year the weekend takes up a different theme from the Bible, the theme for this year is **Daniel, God's Man in Babylon**. About 150 people from around the country will come and take over a local school for the weekend. The weekend is an opportunity for everyone there to come closer to our Heavenly Father and the Lord Jesus and to share fellowship with people of the same faith. We share meals together and listen to Bible talks and worship together, singing songs, usually with many instruments taking part. There are workshops geared towards tackling the many issues with being a modern day disciple of Jesus. There is also a lot of coffee drinking and general chatting!



## Thought – “What shall I wear?”

To describe "The Kingdom of God", Jesus once told a story about a certain wedding (read it for yourself in Matthew's gospel, chapter 22 verses 1 to 14). An interesting detail of this story is that a man, upon being found wearing the 'wrong' clothes, is thrown out! Don't we find it strange that the loving Almighty God, who is the host in this story, is casting someone out just because of their dress sense? Surely it is God who looks on the heart and not on appearances.

In Jesus' day, guests at a wedding would all be given the same 'wedding garment' to put on. Whoever you were, rich or poor, you would all be dressed in the same clothes, there wouldn't be any place for showing off. Maybe you would resent not being allowed to do your own thing, maybe that's what this man in the story was doing, maybe we are guilty of delighting in our own glory and our own ways, rather than those of God?

The Bible talks a lot in parables and symbols, and often these are about clothing. But it's not about the latest trainers (or sandals), or the latest tracksuit (or loin cloth). We are told to 'clothe' ourselves with compassion and humility, with kindness, gentleness and patience. In a sense, we 'put on' those things that are from God and so on the day when his Son returns, to the wedding feast, we are not dressed 'inappropriately', we are not naked, but fully clothed in those wedding garments, able to stand before Him as his honoured guests.



## What's On?

(At Henrietta St. unless otherwise stated)

Sunday evening Services at 6:00...

DATE	SUBJECT	SPEAKER(S)
May 2	The wise will shine (6:00 at Whalley Range High School)	Ben Downer & Martyn Ramsden
May 9	This Green Earth – What is its future?	Hamilton Wilson
May 16	Behold the Man	Richard Leng
May 23	The Purpose of Failure	Andrew Mitton
May 30	<b>The Designer Label – In the Stars</b>	John Downer
Jun 6	<b>How to – Get a life</b>	Andrew Campion
Jun 13	What do we learn – From Mary Magdalene	Charles Crawford & Neil Brighthouse
Jun 20	What if Jesus came Tomorrow?	Mike Riley
Jun 27	<i>Our Awesome God (Praise Evening)</i>	Jack Fitzgibbon

### Regulars:

Sunday

- Breaking of Bread Service 10:30
- Sunday Bible School 2:45 (From Kids aged 4, up to Adult Discussion Group)
- Evening Service 6:00

Tuesday

- Junior Youth club 6:45
- “Learn to Read and understand the Bible” night class 7:15 at Chorlton Adult education centre ☎(0161) 286 6471.

Wednesday

- “Learning to Read and understand the Bible” reading group 7:15
- Young Peoples Bible reading Group 8:00 (Held at Various homes)

Thursday

- Bible Class 8:00

Friday

- Senior Youth club 7:30

It's about a year since we sent out the first newsletter. We hope you enjoy reading it. The aim of our newsletter is for everyone who lives around about Old Trafford to get a picture of what we do at our church. We also hope to give you a spiritual message (brief as it is!) which is relevant to all our lives. Finally please take this newsletter as a warm invitation to come along and find out *in detail* what we're all about, we'd love to see you.

For more details...



OTChristadelphians@bigfoot.com



Freepost NWW 1240, Manchester, M16 1SA