


Jul-Sep 2007

Newsletter



 **Thought** - "Is it Time for a New Leader?"

With this month's election of Gordon Brown as the new labour party leader this country has a new leader. The members' party made the decision and presumably they looked at all the options and decided that he was the best person around to look after the future of their party and this country.

The direction that this country will take has been decided by a small number of people and until the next general election at least, there is nothing that we can do about it.

But decisions about the directions our lives go don't only come around every 5 years. And there are some decisions can never be made for us by anyone else. We must all decide for ourselves on what is going to be the driving force behind our lives and what or who will give us direction. For all of us the future is staked on the decisions we make - so if we're choosing to follow someone then we must choose carefully.

As a Christian I believe that my life should be heading in the direction of God, and the best person to lead me there is Jesus. Although that may sound like just a sound-bite, I do know that the best guides can see the bigger picture. They are familiar with the surroundings and know the best route to take. Who better to guide us through life than the creator of life himself?

"If the LORD delights in a man's way, he makes his steps firm; though he stumble, he will not fall, for the LORD upholds him with his hand."

Psalm 37 verses 23-24

Who better to help us through trouble than one who has experienced it all before?

"Jesus has been tempted in every way, just as we are - yet was without sin. Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need."

Hebrews 4 verses 15-16

I have chosen Jesus as my leader because I believe that the best way to live my life is close to God. I want to get to know God and there is no-one better to help me with that than Jesus. Who is looking after your future?

1 minute interview ... with Richard, a new member

Q: What made you decide to become a Christian?

"Although I was brought up in a Christian family I came to realise that living a good life wasn't enough. I understood - head and heart - that Jesus was calling me to commit my life to him. Since then I've found freedom from guilt over past failings, the transforming power of God in my life in the present, and a real hope of a perfected life in God's future kingdom."

Q: Why do you come to the Bethel?

"My wife Becky and I decided to move from London to Manchester to escape 'the big smoke' and to be nearer to friends and family. Playing an active role in a church is an important part of our Christian lives. We knew that The Bethel would give us a warm welcome and opportunities to be a part of the church's work."

Q: Can you tell us what your first impressions were of the Church?

"The Bethel is a big church with people of all ages and backgrounds. This can make it a vibrant and exciting place to be...but also a bit scary if, like me, you sometimes

 **What's On?** (At Henrietta St. unless otherwise stated)

find large groups of people overwhelming"

Sunday evening Services at 2:45 1st Sunday of the month and 6:00 pm at other times.

DATE	SUBJECT	DATE	SUBJECT
1-Jul	What does God really say about... Celebrities (2:45 pm)	19-Aug	How the Bible came into being - part 2 (6:00 pm)
8-Jul	Guest Speaker (6:00 pm)	26-Aug	Church Jargon Buster: "Grace and Mercy" (6:00 pm)
15-Jul	Guest Speaker (6:00 pm)	2-Sep	Samuel's story part 1: God hears prayers (2:45 pm)
22-Jul	Church Jargon buster: "Redemption & Salvation" (6:00 pm)	9-Sep	Samuel's story part 2: Listening to God (6:00 pm)
29-Jul	Guest Speaker (6:00 pm)	16-Sep	Samuel's story part 3 (6:00 pm)
5-Aug	Why do we believe the Bible? ... Fulfilled Prophecies (2:45 pm)	23-Sep	Samuel's story part 4 (6:00 pm)
12-Aug	How the Bible came into being - part 1 (6:00 pm)	30-Sep	An evening of Praise (6:00 pm)

"A Prayer for Peace" – Classical Choral Concert, Fri 6th Jul at 8pm

Regulars:

- Sunday
 - Breaking of Bread Service 10:30 a.m.
 - Sunday School 2:45 p.m. (From Kids aged 3 up to Adult Discussion Group)
 - Evening Service 2:45 p.m. or 6:00 p.m. (See above for details)
- Tuesday
 - Junior Youth club 6:45 p.m.
 - "The Bible Course" 7:15 p.m. at Chorlton Adult Education Centre.
- Thursday
 - "Playtime" Parent & Toddler group 10am-12pm (Term time only)
 - Bible Class 8:00 p.m.
- Friday
 - Senior Youth Club 7:30 p.m.