

Wordsearch
NAMES AND TITLES OF JESUS

R U O I V A S N S M T K R P M
 V L F Z J T Y O A E E V A O R
 O M G Y V O N T N Z I C B X K
 Y D N Y M O E N U V A N B O A
 D L O V F H T C T S I R I X R
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 T S W K F T Y A J I O Q S L E
 L I I O N A M F O N O S A H R
 V N N Q Z Y K V A D E J M V R
 G O J E S U S E M M A N U E L
 S V B G G W T Z T P B Q J F E

CHRIST
 EMMANUEL
 JESUS
 KING
 LAMB
 LIGHT
 LORD
 MASTER
 NAZARENE
 RABBI
 REDEEMER
 SAVIOUR
 SON OF DAVID
 SON OF GOD
 SON OF MAN



Calling all young artists—We'd like to invite the children to draw or paint a picture for the December magazine. Something illustrating Christmas of your choice eg a nativity scene, the 3 wise men, a star, Mary on a donkey, the crib.... Send by post or take a photo and send by email to susan@msbye.co.uk or by text or WhatsApp to 07814 138265.



A big "thank you" to all contributors this month. To continue monthly we need YOUR news, YOUR pictures, YOUR poem, YOUR story, any articles of interest to others. Please send by email to susan@msbye.co.uk, or phone Sharon Joddrell or Susan Bye and dictate, or by post, to arrive by **15th November** for the combined December & January edition.

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M R B C

CHURCH MAGAZINE—NOVEMBER 2020



Mansfield Road Baptist Church

Message for November from Neelam Sidhu

Friend and Fellowship

This epidemic has taught me a lot. I want to share my feelings with you. I have seen and heard much and feel that we are all one social fellowship. This world is a very big crowd. We are part of the same group but we are still ourselves in search of good people. In this lockdown, many of us have adopted many methods of finding out how people are. The one who was alone and the one whose loved ones left them. We sent our prayers through cards, flowers, audios and videos. But... who makes us do things like this?



Then I started thinking deeply about how good and beautiful He is. He wants us to take care of each other, worry about each other, comfort each other and stand with each other. Just like a friend who lives around us and shows us the way. The world is shaking, but this true friend assured me that for those who are loyal to him, he can help anyone in trouble. This friend of mine makes my soul happy. He lets me experience good things every day. Through the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, I know the name of this friend.



His name is JESUS.

So, if you will also keep your fellowship with this real friend, then you are an army, even when you are alone. The participation of the Holy Spirit remains with us all together forever and ever.

AMEN

An extract from the October prayer letter of our link BMS World Mission Workers— Pippa and Toby Vokuhl



The last 2 months have been probably the most unsettling for us as a family so far. Our plans to transition to Kathmandu were frustrated by lockdown rules, visa problems and travel restrictions. So, we are currently in Germany and we are preparing to transfer shortly to the UK. We expect to return to Nepal next year to be based in Kathmandu for schooling reasons and to continue supporting our local partner organisation INF from there. Now briefly based in wealthy Germany, the poverty evident in Nepal seems all the more stark. One memory is of Bijay and Shusma, a couple in their 50s, supplying hand cut vegetation



These 'human bushes' are Bijay and Shusma who we regularly saw walking through our compound

to our local farmer for a small wage. They live near the animals in a shed. Their teenage son recently stole a bike from us. The police got involved and the bike was recovered. However, although we would have wanted it to the contrary, given the 'shame and honour' culture, the son was beaten and sent away to another village, which will have impacted on his future prospects. We would love him to know that he's forgiven, and pray that God will bless this young man.

Reflecting back on work, Toby spent most of his time on projects for Green Pastures Hospital. It has been wonderful to see the improvements with new

pathways, a new chapel, a refurbished biomedical workshop and completion of a 16-bed unit for palliative care. It is wonderful to leave Pokhara in the knowledge that buildings and infrastructure remain, and will enable new key services to be provided there for years to come. INF has requested that Toby will continue to input into the development of the Green Pastures site and project manage more projects there.

We would value your prayers for: 1) The INF team and remaining ex-pat staff in Pokhara. 2) Bijay and Shusma, their son, and many others who live 'hand to mouth' in Nepal. Would God reveal himself to many and may churches continue to reach out to the needy. 3) Pray that God will direct our paths while in the UK and lead us back to Nepal. 4) Pray for Jakey, Ella and Millie who are continuing their schooling in changing locations, and for Pippa who is their main learning support.

We close with Isaiah 43:19—*See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland.* Maybe you, like us, are challenged by unforeseen circumstances. Let us together trust God that through all changes He is doing a new, good thing, and we are part of it.

End to End

This September I completed a long-held ambition of cycling from Land's End to John O'Groats, one end of the country to the other 1,200 miles with a lot of ups and downs in between. I started in June 2019 so I am not claiming any world records for this and without my support team (Anne) I would never have been able to do it. I was going to tell you about my journey, but along the way I heard a story about another cyclist, true as far as I know, and I thought you would like to hear it.

This cyclist was doing something similar to me, taking a long journey through England to the far North. He arrived in Carlisle in the North of England and in the city lost his way. He saw a lady by the roadside, stopped and asked her for directions. She helped him and said "I live just there. Why don't you come in for a cup of tea? You look thirsty." The man agreed not being sure of what he was letting himself in for. Over the refreshments, the lady started to tell him how her son had died the previous year, went into all the details and wept, and wept,,,,, and wept. The man stayed for an hour and a half just listening feeling powerless in

the face of such grief. But the time came for him to leave so he bid the lady farewell and resumed his journey.

He hadn't gone far before he stopped and thought to himself "I've finished my journey", turned around and went home.

I wonder if the Good Samaritan felt the same way after he had tended to the injured man? Certainly, those who passed by believed that their journey was incomplete until they had achieved the goals they had set themselves – work or family commitments and all the many other things that filled their lives.

How good are we at recognising that

sometimes we have missed God's purpose for us or indeed, that we have completed it without realising?

On my long journeys I have learned to ask myself "What was God's point in bringing me to this place?" Perhaps He wanted me to see this, to meet this person, to offer help in this situation or just to be there. Probably many of you think this way already, but I am a bit of a slow learner as well as being a slow cyclist.

Fortunately, God hasn't given up on me yet.

Alan Davies



DIARY FOR NOVEMBER

Currently with the situation of the pandemic here in Nottingham, there are no Sunday services. It is not anticipated that this will change quickly and so it is being planned that the earliest start date for services will be Sunday 10th January 2021.

There will be a **pre-recorded service** available from Saturday morning on the church website each weekend.

Wednesday 18th November at 7.30pm

Church Members Meeting through the WhatsApp group, MRBCmembers (More details from the Church Office)

Sundays 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd and 29th at 3pm – Young Disciples

This is a ZOOM session with Meeting ID 7032705653 and password mrbc

CHRISTMAS:

As a church family we will be celebrating Christmas in new ways together. Please share ideas and thoughts of how to do this with one of the deacons.



If you don't have internet access, then maybe someone in your family would be able to do this for you?

CHRISTMAS SHOEBOXES

As a church we have for many years supported "Operation Christmas Child" by packing shoeboxes for the Samaritan's Purse charity. Due to current restrictions we are not able to do this but instead we are invited to pack a shoebox "online".

If you have internet access the link is:
<https://shoebonline.samaritans-purse.org.uk/>

GOOD NEWS. GREAT JOY.

EACH SHOEBOX GIFT BECOMES A TANGIBLE EXPRESSION OF GOD'S LOVE FOR A CHILD IN REAL NEED.

"Let the little children come to me ... for of such is the kingdom of God"
Luke 18:16

Lockdown experiences from our Youth Group

After returning to church in September, the youth group was asked to speak about lockdown and the impact it had on them individually. One thing that was common with most of them is that it was fun at first because they did not have to go to school or college but when this prolonged then things changed.

Their leader, Diana Palmer-Fritz asked them: *How did lockdown affect you?*

Dominique: It made me realise not to take anything or anyone for granted. Be grateful for everything. I used this time to speak to God more, reading the bible and worshipping through songs.

Danae: I found new hobbies such as baking, sewing, barbering, as I was not able to train for any swimming competition as pools were all closed. I took time out to facetime my friends and family members to make sure they were safe. I was always very aware of how blessed and fortunate I was. Just another thing to show that God is real.

Ellie: As lockdown lengthened I tried to focus on things I could do at home instead of what I could not do. I was thankful for phone calls from friends. I am very grateful to God for keeping my family and my friends family safe. I am very thankful to God for everything He has done for me and the opportunities that He has given to me.

Robin: School was a handful even though I didn't have to go in. I think I have grown physically and spiritually. I am praying more and happy to talk about my faith.

Ria: My mind was all over the place. I couldn't focus on any one thing but I got a bit closer to God.

Moses: I had more time to do family devotions. Praying and learning about the bible with my family.

Miriam: It has been a roller coaster for me. I had some days of doubt but God picked me up and welcomed me home every time. I was worried about the future then I remembered that Almighty God has His plan for my life. This has brought me closer to Him, praying and giving thanks as much as I can.

Ethan: When I reflected on lockdown, I am thankful. I was forced to spend time with my thoughts and finding my character. I looked at the world we live in and its many flaws. I am determined to make a purposeful change with my life and to do something special and meaningful in the world.

Diana writes: For many of us Lockdown brought us back to basics and allowed us to slowdown and as the saying goes, to stop and smell the roses. It made us realise that, yes, God is in control.

Psalm 46:10 Be still and know that I am God.

The Young Disciples

When we were plunged into lockdown in March, we were concerned about the children not having contact with church. We sent letters and activities and one discussion we engaged the children with was thinking of a name to call their group. There were several great suggestions but the name chosen was "The Young Disciples" which was proposed by Princess.

At the end of the summer holidays, Jenny Saunders and I began a Zoom meeting on Sunday afternoons. Ten children (and sometimes their carers) have attended the meetings. We began by studying Joshua. We saw how Joshua faced a new and difficult situation as he led the Israelites into the promised land and we related this to the children's apprehension about returning to school after such a long break, with the virus still at large. We learned the verse Joshua 1:9 *'Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.'*

It has been very enjoyable in the group. We don't have to wear masks, we don't have to socially distance, and we can sing! We have been quite adventurous and the children have done a number of activities; made trumpets when studying the battle of Jericho, packed a 'virtual shoebox' online for the shoe box appeal and even made a tent learning about the Tabernacle.

Please encourage children you know of up to secondary school age to join our group. All are welcome.

Zoom meeting 3 pm on Sundays Meeting ID 7032705653 Passcode mrbc

Mary Wilson