

**'A fool thinks himself to be
wise, but a wise man knows
himself to be a fool.'**
(William Shakespeare)



Called to be fools!

Paul Hardingham considers foolishness and wisdom...

April Fool's Day is the traditional way to begin this month. In medieval times the fool (or jester) was not just there for amusement. He had an influential role in the court, because he could speak the truth in ways others couldn't. As Christians we are also called to be fools; Paul described himself as a 'fool for Christ' (1 Corinthians 4:10). In what ways is this an appropriate description of a Christian? In his letter Paul expands on this theme.

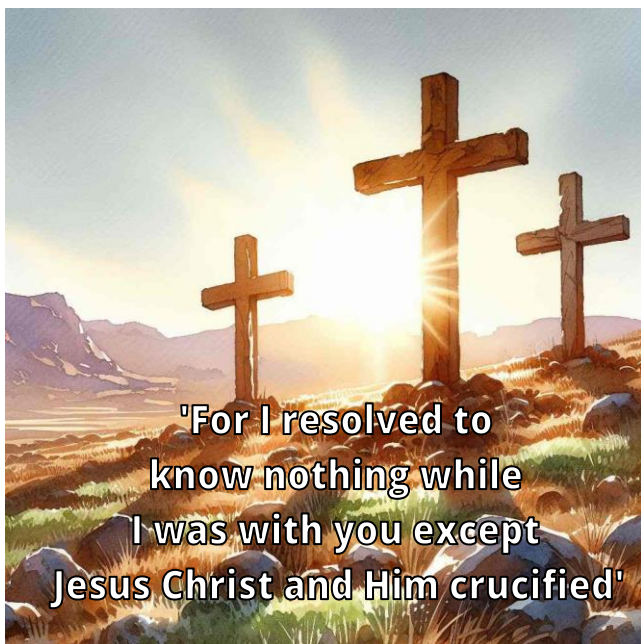
A foolish message:
'For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being

saved it is the power of God.' (1 Cor 1:18). The heart of the Gospel does not focus on clever ideas, but on the Cross of Jesus Christ. This message of foolishness and weakness is both God's wisdom and power for our lives.

A foolish community:
'But God chose the foolish things of the world to shame the wise; God chose the weak things of the world to shame the strong.' (1:27). The church in Corinth consisted of slaves, rather than the rich and successful. God calls the weak and vulnerable to follow Him, in order to shame those who think they don't need God.

A foolish ministry:
'My message and my preaching were not with wise and persuasive words, but with a demonstration of the Spirit's power, for I resolved to know nothing while I was with you except Jesus Christ and him crucified, so that your faith might not rest on human wisdom, but on God's power.' (2:4,5). Paul's ministry didn't rest on human wisdom, but on the power of the Holy Spirit. For us, this power is often displayed when we are at our weakest.

'A fool thinks himself to be wise, but a wise man knows himself to be a fool.'
(William Shakespeare)



'For I resolved to know nothing while I was with you except Jesus Christ and Him crucified'



Alpha at Chorley

WHAT IS ALPHA?

The Alpha course is open to everyone interested in discovering what the Bible is about. It's a place where people can come and relax, eat, share thoughts and explore the meaning of life.

WHO IS ALPHA FOR?

The Alpha course is designed primarily for people who would like to know more about the Bible and is open to anyone who would like to attend.

ALPHA COURSE WEEKLY FORMAT

The Alpha course will last for several weeks, and each session

begins with a meal or refreshments, then a short talk looking at a different aspect of the Bible each week. This is followed by a time of discussion, when anyone can ask questions and contribute their opinions.

**Starts
Sunday
5th of May
at 2.00 pm**
**it is totally free
and Everyone
is Very Welcome**

The Easter Glow

The road to Emmaus

For three years Jesus had held the tiny band together, through journeyings, storms and opposition. And now – following a public trial and execution – He was gone.

Take away the dominant figure, and an organisation can quickly crumble. Take Theudas, an earlier messianic claimant. Once killed, his 400 devotees melted away. Then there was Judas the Galilean. When he, too, was removed, the movement scattered.

Now, it was Easter Day. Here were two disciples walking to Emmaus. As far as they were concerned, their leader was dead. The ‘scattering’ process had already begun. It had started on that fateful Thursday evening of Christ’s arrest, when Jesus had quoted to His

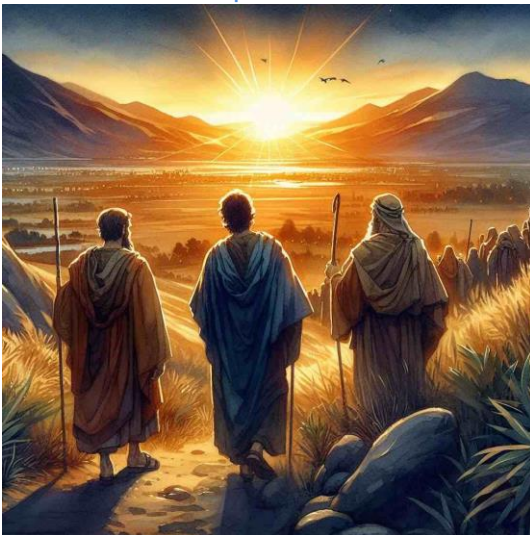
disciples from the prophet Zechariah: “It is written ‘I will strike the shepherd and the sheep of the flock will be scattered’” (Matthew 26:31).

The dream was over. “Let’s go home - back to Emmaus.” Yet Luke 24 is the glowing account of the entire re-building of a worldview. As the apparent Stranger joins the two, it was like the uncorking of a bottle; the story pours out. Surely crucifixion and the future Redeemer of Israel had nothing to do with each other!

Then began a fascinating Bible study on the road. Evidently in their studies, the two had skipped the passages that spoke of a suffering Messiah. The Stranger says, “Let me fill in those bits for you.” Now the figures of a Conquering King and a Suffering Servant begin to coalesce into a single photo fit. Then, at supper with the two, comes the familiar action of the breaking of bread, and – Why.... *it’s Jesus.*

The disciples rush the seven miles back to Jerusalem. They can’t keep the glowing news of the risen Christ to themselves!

If Jesus had not been bodily raised from the grave, the demoralised movement – like those of Theudas and Judas the Galilean - would have folded within days. And you and I would never have heard of Him!



The Treasure of Easter

Paul Hardingham considers what Easter has given us

It's amazing what treasure can be unearthed with metal detectors! In this season of Easter, let's rediscover the greatest unburied treasure of the Resurrection.

The Apostle Peter reminds us that God **'has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade.'** (1 Peter 1: 3,4). What does he say about this treasure?

On the one hand, it is the reason for hope. Peter was writing to Christians in Asia Minor (modern

day Turkey) who faced persecution under the Emperor Nero. In an uncertain world we know that Jesus suffered, but by His resurrection has secured eternal life for us. This inheritance not only guarantees life now, but also for eternity, as it *'is kept in heaven for you'* (4). Do we share this confidence? D.L. Moody, the 19th Century evangelist, spoke of the time when people would read his obituary: *'Don't believe a word of it! At that moment I shall be more alive than I am now'*.

On the other hand, this treasure is a source of joy. This unburied treasure fills us *'with an inexpressible and glorious joy, for you are receiving the end result of your faith, the salvation of your souls.'* (8,9). We face all kinds of trials in our lives, but God uses them to refine our faith and character, *'These have come so that the proven genuineness of your faith – of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire – may result in praise, glory and honour when Jesus Christ is revealed.'* (7).

We reflect this treasure by developing the Jesus' character and becoming more holy, obedient and loving.

'Christmas is the promise, and Easter is the proof!'





Foodbank

As the spring months open up, we would like to thank everyone who helps with the foodbank and also helping to put together the bags to give out to the homeless in our city.

As you may know we have this small foodbank, so as to have non perishable groceries permanently available for people in our community.

We would like to thank everyone who have so kindly contributed to the community foodbank. If you would like to continue helping this winter, and of course during the rest of the year by contributing, please bring non perishable groceries such as tins and long life cartons etc. and hand them to Roger.

**Thank You
For Your Support**



Hi there, I'm Scot. Having experienced homelessness and overcome substance abuse, I've developed a deep empathy for those often overlooked by society—both in their spiritual and physical needs. Personally acquainted with all the homeless individuals in my neighbourhood, I engage with them on a personal level.

Recently, while talking to one of them before Christmas, I felt a calling from God to organise a sponsored 'sleep-out.' The purpose is twofold: to raise funds and generate awareness about this critical issue that holds a special place in my heart.

For a period of SEVEN consecutive nights, I'll be sleeping outdoors, all to support The Salvation Army's Homelessness services. Life can be unexpectedly harsh for anyone, and we all find ourselves in need of a helping hand at some point. Join me in making a difference and shining a light on the importance of compassion and support for those facing homelessness. Your contribution will go a long way in making a positive impact on the lives of those who need it most.

Thank you,

Scot

https://www.justgiving.com/page/scotts_sleepout

Don't be afraid of clouds

Have you ever sat and watched the clouds drift by? Some of them are vast, towering up and up into the sky.

There can be clouds of discouragement and suffering in our lives as well, circumstances that temporarily blot out the sunlight of God's love for us. You may have such a cloud hanging over your life right now. You may be in a hospital bed, or suffering discouragement, fear, despair or bereavement.

Have you ever noticed that sometimes, when you board a plane, the sky is like a thick grey ceiling? It looks impenetrable. But the plane does not hesitate - it climbs steadily onward and upward straight into the cloud. And what happens? Nothing! The cloud cannot block your progress, it must give way before you.

The simple truth is, you may not be able to see through clouds, but you can go through them. The plane uses navigational aids for

guidance, and we have the Holy Spirit to guide us through the darkest times. And finally, we emerge through the cloudbank, and there before us is a sun-drenched sky of blue and golden glory, far above the dismal and disappointing things far below.

Whatever cloud is hanging over you at present, whether suffering, discouragement, fear, there IS something you can do about it NOW. Pray – pour out your heart to the Lord about it. He has promised that His grace will be sufficient for anything that we encounter in this life.

And – look up. Look towards heaven, think beyond those clouds, and remember His promise that the sufferings we may be undergoing here are nothing compared to the glory that God has prepared for us there.

The Bible assures us: 'The Lord God is a sun and shield: the Lord will give grace and glory: no good thing will He withhold from those who walk uprightly. O Lord Almighty, blessed is the man that trusts in you.' **Psalm 84: 11-12**



Speed Cameras and Moses

David Pickup, a solicitor, considers driving...

I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men; for kings, and for all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty.

(1 Timothy 2:2)

It is not often you get Moses and the local police popping up in the same sermon. I was thinking about the Bible passage that has Moses' second attempt at the Ten Commandments, one of God's greatest gifts to the world.

God had given Moses the laws, but he broke them in disgust when he found the people were behaving so



badly. God asked him up to the mountain again and then gave him a second set. "Keep taking the tablets"!

I was walking in my village and wondered why the traffic was driving so peacefully and slowly. When I got to the lay-by to catch a bus into town, I saw the explanation. There was a police van fitted with a speed camera. The cars were driving slowly, well within the 20mph limit. I nearly went up to the officer to thank them, and to ask if they could come every day.

It was a good illustration for the sermon I was preparing. We do not want to get caught ourselves! We expect everyone else to obey the law, but often find exceptions when we are late or have an important appointment. We repeatedly make mistakes but have a loving and gracious God.

As Christians we should be good drivers, and in my case a good pedestrian and road user. We should take an interest in local affairs and find out how local councils deal with these issues. We should pray for people in authority and the police-officer who spent a long Saturday morning looking at slow traffic!



The Outreach Team
Will be going out
visiting the local
community on
Monday Mornings
If you would like to
join them, please
contact Roger

On Monday mornings we go and visit people who are unable to come on Sundays and also go and visit people who may not have heard the Good News about Jesus.

We also go to Ridley market and local places like Newington Green and local public spaces like Gillett Square and of course we have a table of free books and Bibles, New Testaments and other portions of scripture in many different languages. We put this table out on the junction of Balls Pond Road and King Henry's Walk.

If you would like any of this literature for yourself or to give to a friend in all different languages, come along and help yourself. But of course we would also love if you could come and help to look after the table, even if only for half an hour.

Spring (2024)

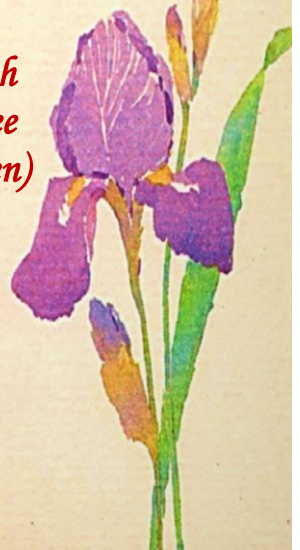
*Spring
And I'm no longer
Dancing on ice for fun,
No longer needing
To chase the sun.*

*The breeze
Like a long lost friends
Embrace,
With me stepping out
At a slower pace*

*Finding fruit
In every tree,
My imagination
Running free.*

*For this poet's heart
Finds words to spare
And dreams the dreams
That all can share.*

© *Kenneth
Lee
(AKA Ken)*



April @ Chorley

27.04.24 Saturday BBQ Intro. To Alpha 5.00 pm
Fellowship Day
From 12.00 Noon
(All Day)



Sunday Sunday Service 12.00 – 1.30 pm

Monday Outreach 10.30 – 12.00 pm.
To the Community

Tuesday Wise-Owls 11.00 – 2.00 pm
For the over 50's

Youth 6.30 – 8.00 pm

Wednesday English (ESOL) 5.00 – 6.00 pm

Bible Study 7.00 – 8.30 pm

Friday Outreach 11.00 – 12.00 pm

Time of Prayer 6.00 – 7.00 pm

13.04.24 Sat. Ladies Meeting 12.00 – 2.00 pm

18.04.24 Thurs. Men's Meeting 7.00 – 9.00 pm

27.04.24 Sat. Fellowship Day 12.00 (All Day)

DAY OF FELLOWSHIP



NEXT DAY OF FELLOWSHIP Saturday 27th of April

Starts midday onwards and finishes with a film in the evening... more details to follow.



Barbecue

**Saturday
27th April
5.00 pm**

**Come and
join us,
invite your
friends.
Everyone
is very
Welcome.**

Jesus at the right hand of the Father

Glory to the Lamb
The Prince of Peace,
Come and sit with His Majesty,
Now and forever more.

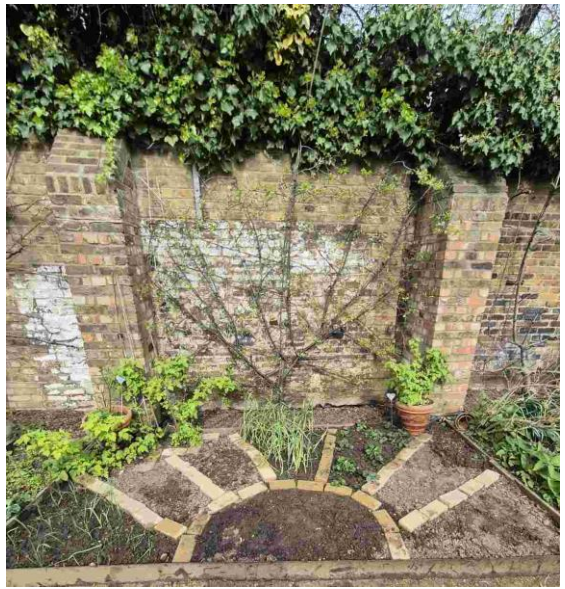
Taste the sweet honey,
That comes from His throne,
And admire the Glory of God,
Like a thousand suns
All shining at once.

Bow your knee before the Lamb,
And He will give you peace
Forever more.
No more darkness,
No more misery.

So welcome
To the kingdom of heaven my child.
A place of perfect harmony and joy,
A new adventure awaits for you.

Now let us sing for joy,
And be close to Jesus as
His Glorious Bride,
Now and forever more, Amen.

Sam Lee



As you may know we look after a small plot next to the Church, the Wise Owls and the Youth go there and help, and enjoy this beautiful garden, an oasis in the middle of our city. We want to thank Scot for looking after the garden plot and also for looking after all the plants in our garden and in the Church. Thank you Scot.



Looking At You



The government wants to improve your teeth

Fluoride is to be added to more of our drinking water, to help improve the nation's teeth. It is part of the new NHS Dental Recovery Plan, the biggest expansion of the health measure since the 1980s.

At present, only five water companies add fluoride to water in the UK. They are mainly in the North-East and West Midlands, and less than 10 per cent of Britons. The initial expansion will provide fluoride to 1.6 million more people, in areas including Northumberland, Teesside, Durham and South Tyneside.

Fluoride is a naturally occurring mineral found in water. It has been proven to make teeth stronger and reduce decay. Sir Chris Whitty, the Chief Medical Officer for England, has claimed that adding fluoride to water supplies could reduce

cavities by 17 per cent among the richest and by 28 per cent among the poorest.

Strict bedtimes could make children's brains 'bigger and healthier'

A family routine and a strict bedtime could help your child develop a healthier, bigger brain.

On the other hand, a disruptive family life with poor sleep patterns could mean your child has slower brain development, poorer cognitive function, and below average academic achievement. Those are the findings of a new study from Colorado State



University. It found that children thrive when the family has a weekly 'family time' together, when homework is done at the same time every day, the family eats dinner together every night, the

child is expected to carry out regular household chores, and when bedtime is at a consistent time, accompanied by a bedtime story or similar calming ritual.

The underlying need is for the child to get enough regular and deep sleep. Children with disrupted families get disrupted sleep, and therefore are more likely to have thinner regions of the brain in the amygdala as well as parts of the left and right frontal cortex. These areas control skills related to language, behaviour, sensory perception, and emotional processing.

Don't hesitate to use hearing aids

Here is something you didn't expect: using hearing aids if you are a bit deaf can be of great benefit to your overall health.

Crystal Rolfe, director of health at the Royal National Institute for Deaf People (RNID) said: "Hearing aids bring enormous benefits for people with hearing loss. Research shows that wearing hearing aids may reduce the risk of cognitive decline, and it is well known that they have positive effects on physical, social, emotional, and mental wellbeing.

According to hearing loss charity RNID, 12 million adults in the UK are deaf, have hearing loss or

tinnitus and an estimated seven million people could benefit from hearing aids, but only about two million use them.

The researchers hope the findings, published in *The Lancet Healthy Longevity* journal, will encourage more people to wear hearing aids. As one doctor said: "If you have hearing loss, get hearing aids. The benefits could be limitless."



Do you remember your PIN number?

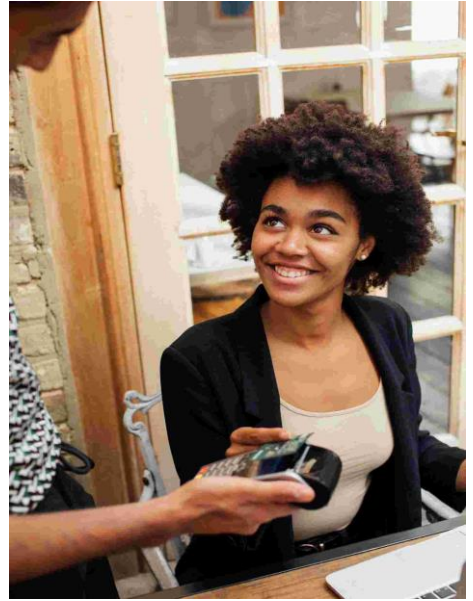
Nearly one in five of us can't. We are so used to paying by contactless that when we have to withdraw cash or type our PIN into a card reader, our minds go blank.

'Contactless' payments hit a record high last year. A staggering 93.4 per cent of all in-store card transactions up to £100 was made

using contactless, rather than cash or PIN and card reader.

According to Barclays, we now depend on contactless payments and smartphone technology so much that more than a fifth of young people now leave their wallets at home when they go shopping.

Contactless technology was first introduced by Barclaycard 17 years ago. It had a spending limit of £10. The limit was increased during the pandemic, to reduce physical contact in shops, rising to its current £100 limit.



YOUTH HUB

We are launching a new hub for youth!
It's a space for teens to hang out and play video games!

Mondays 3:30pm-5:30pm
Chorley Community Church
9 King Henry's Walk

[CONTACT US](#)

07391074984 @YOUTHATCHORLEY_



Chorley Youth

**Every Tuesday from
6.30pm to 8.00pm**

**All children from
5 - 12 years of age
are very welcome.
We meet every Tuesday
from 6.30pm to 8.00pm
including school holidays
but not bank holidays.**

**Come and enjoy a place to have fun and relax with others.
A place to participate in activities that you enjoy**

**Table Tennis - Arts and crafts - Pottery - Badminton
Pool - Foosball - Board Games - And Free Refreshments**

**The Youth Club is completely free.
If you would like further information
just come along or contact us on:**

**Tel. 020 7254 6835
info@chorleyyouth.org
www.chorleyyouth.org**



Chorley Community Church, 9, King Henry's walk, N1 4NX

The
Tale of the
**TWO
BUILDERS**



**JESUS OFTEN TOLD
STORIES WITH
HIDDEN MEANINGS**



**ONE WAS ABOUT TWO MEN WHO
BUILT THEIR OWN HOUSES**

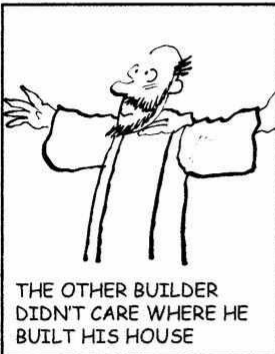


**THE FIRST BUILDER SEARCHED HIGH
AND LOW FOR A GOOD SOLID ROCK ON
WHICH TO BUILD HIS HIS HOME.**

**AT LONG, LONG LAST HE
FOUND THE IDEAL SPOT.**



SO HE BEGAN TO BUILD.

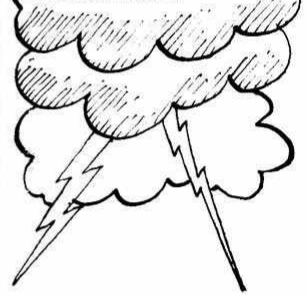


**THE OTHER BUILDER
DIDN'T CARE WHERE HE
BUILT HIS HOUSE**

**HE THOUGHT SOME NICE FLAT SAND
WOULD BE AN EASY PLACE TO BUILD.**



**BUT ONE DAY THE
STORM CAME...**

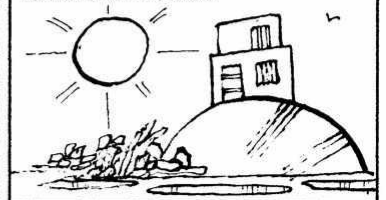


**...AND THE WIND BLEW....AND
THE RAIN FELL....**

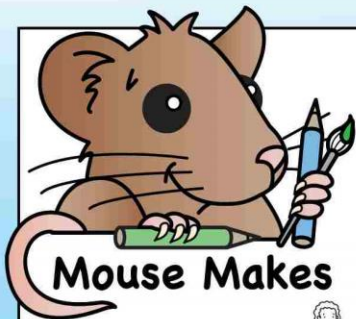


**...AND THE HOUSE ON
THE SAND COLLAPSED!**

**BUT THE HOUSE ON THE
ROCK STOOD FIRM.**



**JESUS EXPLAINED -
IT'S IMPORTANT OUR LIVES HAVE
A FIRM FOUNDATION.**



Mouse Makes

Some time after Jesus had risen a few of His disciples met together to go fishing. They fished all night but caught nothing. As the sun rose a man on the shore asked; "Have you caught anything?" "Not a thing" they answered.



He said to them "Throw your net out onto the right side of the boat and you will catch some." So they did and they and they caught so many fish they could not pull in the net.

Then John recognised the man, "It is the Lord!"



READ

the story in
John 21

How many times had the risen Jesus revealed himself to the disciples before this?

Read
John 21:14



How many disciples were there? Who were they?

Read John 21: 11

How many fish did they catch?

Read John 21: 11



DISCIPLES • TIBERIAS • SEA • SIMON PETER • THOMAS • NATHANAEL • JOHN • DAY FISHING • BOAT • NIGHT • CAUGHT • NOTHING • WATER • SHORE • FISH • CAST • NET RIGHT • FIND • HAUL • LORD • FULL • LAND • FIRE • BREAD • BREAKFAST • JESUS

Colour in all the fish

Apr24© deborah noble • parishpump.co.uk

Now Here's a Thought:



Problem

I don't have a problem with caffeine. I do have a problem without it. [SEP]



Beyond

I'm living so far beyond my income that we may almost be said to be living apart. [SEP]



What am I?

I'm not old. I woke up, I lifted my arms, I moved my knees, I turned my neck. Everything made the same noise:
Crrrrraaaaaaacccccckkkk! So I've come to the conclusion that I'm not old, I'm crispy!



Cosmetics: A woman's way of keeping a man from reading between the lines. - Anon



Do not believe in miracles...rely on them. - Anon



Each of us is a mixture of dust and deity. - Anon



Every day is a gift; that's why they call it the present. - Anon

It turns out when you're asked who your favourite child is, you're expected to pick one of your own.



Someone said, "Nothing rhymes with orange." I said, "No, it doesn't."



Live a good, honorable life. Then when you get older and think back, you'll be able to enjoy it a second time.



The fastest land mammal is a toddler who's been asked what's in their mouth.



Don't worry about getting older, you're still gonna do dumb stuff, just slower.

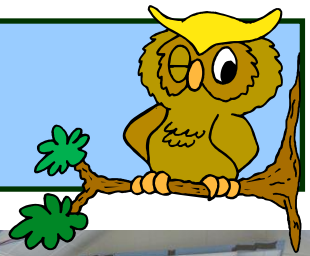


This chef on TV just said, "Where there's fat, there's flavor." I know he was talking about food, but I still took it as a compliment.



Some people can't tell a lie, others can't tell the truth, and others can't tell the difference.

Wise Owls

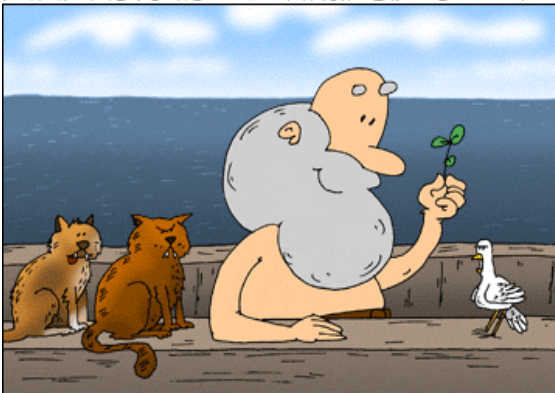


**Every
Tuesday
From
11 am to 2 pm**

The Wise Owls is for the over 50'ish...we normally meet on Tuesdays from 11 am to 2 pm.



REVERENDFUN.COM COPYRIGHT BIBLE GATEWAY



(See Genesis 6-8)

09-16-2011

YOU THROW THE CATS OVERBOARD AND I'LL
TELL YOU WHERE I FOUND THE BRANCH

At the Wise Owls we also have a light meal at lunch time, around 1.00pm.

Come and meet with other people for coffee, light lunch, games, knitting, gardening, internet access (with a little help), and of course fellowship, or just a friendly chat.

**Come and join us,
it's free and everyone
is very welcome.**



Chorley Community Church
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(020) 7254 6835

www.chorleycommunitychurch.org
e-mail: info@chorleycommunitychurch.org

Charity Registration No. 264570