



CHORLEY NEWS

August 2025



See how the wild flowers grow! They don't work to earn, or craft their own clothes, but even King Solomon with all his wealth was not dressed as well as they are. Lk 12:27-28

Transfiguration

By Paul Hardingham

'There Must Be More to Life Than This'. These words from Freddie Mercury of Queen will resonate with many of us, when we are looking to get more out of life, even as Christians. At a deeper level, we want to see and hear more clearly what God is doing in our circumstances. The Transfiguration of Jesus, which we remember this month, helps us to consider this issue (Luke 9:28-36).

Jesus was transfigured alongside Moses and Elijah, 'As He was praying, the appearance of His face changed, and His clothes became as bright as a flash of lightning.' (29). To understand our circumstances, firstly we need to see Jesus as God wants us to see Him. The disciples' eyes were opened to see Jesus' divinity. The presence of Moses and Elijah confirmed Him as God's promised Messiah. By helping us to grasp who Jesus really is, this event powerfully calls us to entrust our lives into Jesus' hands to experience His presence and power.

Secondly, if we are to make sense of our circumstances, we need to hear what God says about His Son. A cloud covered them and 'a voice came from the cloud, saying, 'This is my Son, whom I have chosen; listen to Him.'" (35). God affirmed His love and call on Jesus as His beloved and chosen Son. Do we hear God speaking these same words to us? When we know that we too are loved and accepted by God, this transforms our understanding of our lives.

Whatever our circumstances, they can be transformed by what we see and hear. Open your eyes to see a transfigured world. Open your ears to hear a transfiguring voice. Open your heart to become a transfigured life.

'No one who meets Jesus ever stays the same.' (Philip Yancey)



Make Room For Fellowship

By Alan Smith

"Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts." (Acts 2:46)

A new preacher once loaded up his car with his large family and drove out to visit an old deacon on his farm. After the friendly introductions were made, things got a little awkward. The family looked around the living room and noticed only two chairs.

Trying to break the silence, the preacher smiled and said, "Brother, I don't believe you have enough chairs."

The old man grunted, "That ain't it I've got plenty of chairs. Just too much company!"

That story acknowledges something we've all probably seen before. Some folks, even within the church, prefer to keep their distance. Whether it's shyness, busyness, or just not wanting to be bothered, the result is the same fellowship takes a back seat.

But God didn't design the Christian life to be lived solo. We need each other. Life is hard, and it's always harder when we try to go it alone. That's why God gave us the church not just a building or a Sunday schedule, but a family.



The early church understood this. Acts 2:46 tells us they met *every day*, shared meals, and worshiped together with joyful, sincere hearts. They leaned on each other, laughed together, prayed for one another, and walked side by side in faith.

Fellowship isn't just a warm, fuzzy idea. It's a lifeline. When you're discouraged, a fellow Christian's word can lift you. When you're doubting, someone's testimony can rekindle your faith. When you're rejoicing, it's sweeter to share it with people who understand why. God knew we would need that kind of community.

So maybe it's time to ask: Do I make room for others in my life?

Am I carving out space, not just in my calendar, but in my heart, for my brothers and sisters in Christ?

You don't have to host a banquet. Start small. Send a text. Share a meal. Offer a listening ear or a word of encouragement. And yes, make sure you've got enough chairs ready, just in case.

An Introduction to 1 Corinthians

By Paul Hardingham

'When people become Christians, they don't at the same moment become nice.

This always comes as something of a surprise' (Eugene Peterson).

After founding the church in Corinth Paul spent a year and a half with them, showing them how to live out this new life as a community of believers. Corinth was a major commercial centre in Greece and a crossroads for travellers and traders across the Empire. Its people placed a high premium on wisdom, but Corinth was also known for its immorality. Little wonder that the church was plagued with so many problems! However, after Paul left the church factions developed, immorality was rife, and worship had become a selfish grabbing for the supernatural. Paul's letter, written around AD 55 in Ephesus, is a response to these problems.

It is clear that, although the church was gifted (1:4–7), it was immature and unspiritual (3:1–4). Paul's purpose for writing was to: instruct and restore the church in its areas of weakness, correcting erroneous practices such as divisions (1:10—4:21), immorality (ch. 5; 6:12–20), litigation in pagan

courts (6:1–8) and the abuse of the Lord's Supper (11:17–34). correct false teaching concerning the resurrection (ch. 15).

This letter is very relevant for us today, as we are also powerfully influenced by our cultural environment. Many of the questions and problems that confronted the church at Corinth are still with us. Yet despite the problems, Paul's focus remained on knowing Christ in His life and trusting in the power of the cross:



***For I resolved to know nothing
'while I was with you except
Jesus Christ and Him crucified.'
(1 Corinthians 2:2).***

THE COFFEE BEAN

B U I L D I N G C O M M U N I T I E S

From September we will be starting a new initiative called **The Coffee Bean**. Its purpose will be to help and support our local community by training and teaching asylum seekers and refugees to become Baristas, while at the same time also teaching them English.

We will be running these classes separately to help them with their English and bringing them up to ESOL level by also having English Conversation Classes.

As Prepared By Our
Resident Barista, Scot



If you would like to help and assist in any way, or just generally volunteer and help in any of the ministries at the Church please contact Joe.



Many Hands Make Light Work

This programme is being run with the help and support of Islington Council as part of their Borough of Sanctuary (BOS)



Foodbank

As the summer 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 nonperishable 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 summer, and of course during the rest of the year by contributing, please bring nonperishable groceries such as tins and long life cartons etc. and hand them to Roger.

**Thank You
For Your Support**

*Lord where you lead
I will go,
For you teach me Lord
All I need to know.*

*For you are worthy
And over all
Taking the sting
Out of man's great fall*

*Lord none can compare
To the love you give
For the power you have
To forgive*

*For the things you do
Are for all
For those who answer
To your call*

*So Lord
Never let me feel the need
To hide*

*Let me not wander
From your side*

*For Lord you are
Over all
And when I walk your way
Them I'm walking tall.*

© Kenneth Lee
(AKA Ken)



August @ Chorley

| | | |
|-----------|-----------------------------------|------------------|
| Sunday | Sunday Service | 12.00 – 1.30 pm |
| Monday | Outreach | 10.30 – 12.30 pm |
| Tuesday | Wise-Owls For the over 50's | 11.00 – 2.00 pm |
| Wednesday | No - Chorley Cafe | 3.30 Opens |
| | NO - ECC | 5.00 – 6.00 pm |
| | Bible Study | 7.00 – 8.30 pm |
| | Bible Study (Basics Of The Bible) | 7.00 – 8.30 pm |
| Friday | Outreach | 11.00 – 12.00 pm |
| | Time of Prayer | 6.00 – 7.00 pm |

| | | | |
|------|-----------|--------------------------|-----------------|
| Sat. | 30.08.25 | Fellowship Day | 12.00 (All Day) |
| | (12.00pm) | Light Lunch | |
| | (1.00pm) | Women & Men's Fellowship | |
| | | (meeting separately) | |
| | (3.00pm) | How to write poetry | |
| | | Workshop (by Ken Lee) | |
| | (5.30pm) | Food and Fellowship | |
| | (7.00pm) | Film Night | |

You're Welcome Here!



Are your sunglasses good enough?

They may look trendy, but when you bought them, did they have the official UKCA or CE markings on them?



If not, your eyes may NOT be protected from the sun's dangerous rays. So says the Office for Product Safety and Standards, which is part of the Department for Business and Trade.

It warns that not all sunglasses can block the ultraviolet rays from the

sun, but only the ones with the official UKCA or CE markings. And without protection, your eyes will be under long-term increased risk of developing cataracts, macular degeneration, photokeratitis and even solar retinopathy.

In praise of olive oil

Olive oil is surprisingly good for you. It has been found to be able to ward off chronic disease and to boost your brain health. So, when those ancient Greeks praised it as an aid to staying young and healthy, it seems they were right.

While the Mediterranean diet can include up to four tablespoons of olive oil per day, a recent study at Harvard has found that even just half a tablespoon of olive oil per day helps protect your heart and brain from disease. It may even slash your risk of Parkinson's or Alzheimer's by 29 per cent, and cancer by 17 per cent.

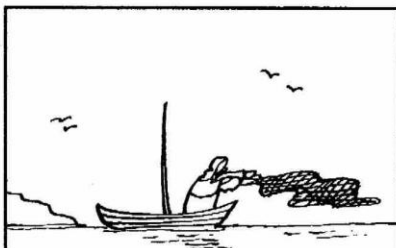
Olive oil is packed with monounsaturated fats, and even has anti-inflammatory properties, which have been compared to Ibuprofen. The best way to eat it? Add it as a dressing to your salads. Frying with it can degrade some of its properties.

The parable of the Fish and the Nets

JESUS OFTEN TOLD
STORIES WITH
HIDDEN MEANINGS



ONCE JESUS SAID THE KINGDOM
OF HEAVEN WAS A BIT LIKE
CATCHING FISH!

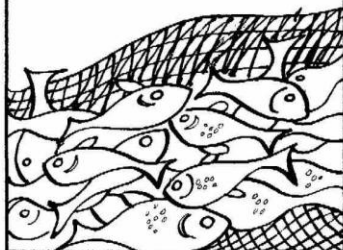


WHEN PEOPLE GO FISHING
THEY THROW THEIR NETS
INTO THE LAKE...

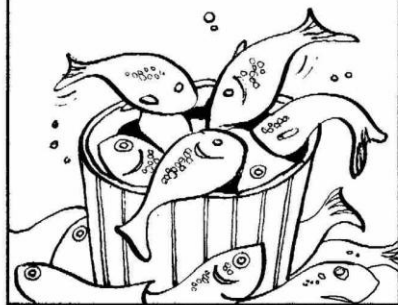


...WHEN THE NETS ARE FULL,
THEY PULL THEM TO SHORE

ONCE ON SHORE THE FISH
HAVE TO BE SORTED OUT.

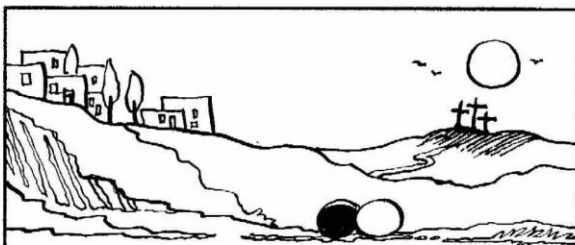


THE GOOD FISH GO INTO BUCKETS

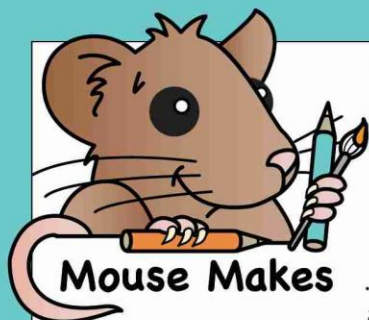


THE BAD FISH GET THROWN AWAY!

JESUS EXPLAINED THAT WE TOO WILL
BE SORTED LIKE THE FISH. WE CAN
CHOOSE TO DO GOOD OR BAD THINGS
WITH OUR LIVES.



BUT EVEN IF WE MAKE TERRIBLE MISTAKES - WE CAN
ALWAYS BE FORGIVEN - THAT'S JESUS' PROMISE.



Mouse Makes

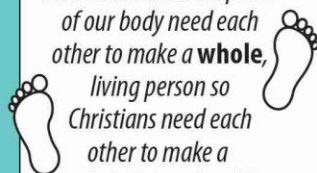
"Just as a **body**, though **one**, has **many** parts, but all its many **parts** form one body, so it is with **Christ**. For we were all baptised by one **Spirit** so as to form one body... Even so, the body is not made up of one part but of many..."

...Now you are the body of Christ, and **each** one of you is part of it."

from 1 Corinthians 12:12-27



Just as the different parts of our body need each other to make a **whole**, living person so Christians need each other to make a whole living church!



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

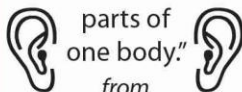
Look in the Bible verses for the words written in **bold** then look for these words too!

GOD • TOGETHER • EQUAL • ALL • EVERY
HEAD • EYES • EARS • MOUTH • TONGUE
TEETH • NOSE • ARMS • HANDS • FINGERS
LEGS • KNEES • FEET • TOES • GIFTS



"Though we are many, we are one body in **union** with Christ, and we are **joined** to each other as **different** parts of one body."

from Romans 12:1-7



Now Here's a Thought:



Drama

"Did the play have an unhappy ending?"

"Oh no – everyone was glad when it was over."



Spelling

Teacher: Donald, how do you spell crocodile?

Donald: K-R-O-K-O-D-I-A-L

Teacher: No, that's incorrect.

Donald: Maybe it is, but you asked me how I spell it.



I believe you should live each day as if it is your last, which is why I don't have any clean laundry because, come on, who wants to wash clothes on the last day of their life?



A man entered a pet shop, wanting to buy a parrot. The shop owner pointed out three identical parrots on a perch and said, "The parrot to the left costs £500."

"Why does that parrot cost so much?" the man wondered.

The owner replied, "Well, it knows how to use a computer."

The man asked about the next parrot on the perch.

"That one costs £1,000 because it can do everything the other parrot



can do, plus it knows how to build websites."

Naturally, the startled customer asked about the third parrot.

"That one costs £2,000."

"And what does that one do?" the man asked.

The owner replied, "To be honest, I've never seen him do a thing, but the other two call him boss."



I made a huge to-do list today. I just can't figure out who's going to do it.

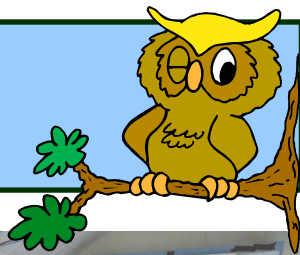


I went to the paint store to get thinner. It didn't work.



You know you're getting old when the candles cost more than the cake.

Wise Owls



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

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



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Thanks to Shirley Ostrander

01-15-2004

HOW COME THE WAITRESS GETS 15% AND
GOD ONLY GETS 10%?

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.**



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Charity Registration No. 264570