



Pans Post

Prestongrange Church Summer 2018

Dear friends,

How can we make our lives count for God? How can we live in a way that will please Him and in a way that God will be pleased to own us and to use us for His glory?

Jesus said: "I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing." (John 15.5). Jesus calls us to a life of trust and dependency, knowing that although we can do many things without Him, nothing will count for eternity if we simply busy ourselves with our own work and activities and fail to lean upon Him for what He

would have us do. The branch doesn't need to do much in order to bear fruit. It must simply continue to be attached to the vine in a vital relationship with it, so that it can draw from the vine all that it needs to remain useful and fruitful. Fruit is inevitable when the branches are in good health and are serving the purposes that they are meant to serve.

It makes us think about the church and its relationship with its Master. What can hinder our growth and productiveness?

If a vine or any plant or tree is denied essential watering and feeding, it would certainly wither and die. Similarly, if we were to detach the branches from the stem or trunk, withering and death will ensue ("such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned"—v.6).

That is why we stress the need for the feeding of the word and prayerful watering of the seed of God's word.

A bible believing, Christ centred, Holy Spirit filled and prayerful church is the only church that we are called to be. And if that be so, we cannot fail but to flourish and grow. We can be so caught up in our buildings, programmes, traditions and personal agendas that we get distracted from keeping our eyes fixed on the Lord and on our commission to go and make disciples of all nations (East Lothian and Scotland included!). We each have our privileged and glorious part to play in the service of the Lord and we look to Him for the growth we long for. Paul says: "I planted the seed, Apollos watered it, but God has been making it grow. So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God, who makes things grow. The one who plants and the one who waters have one purpose, and they each will be rewarded according to their own labour. For we are fellow workers in God's service; you are God's field, God's building."

(2 Corinthians 3.6-8). Let's pray that the Lord may move among us in great power and bring many to living faith as he builds his church.

Yours in the harvest field.

Kenneth Donald



CLOCK TOWER

We are pleased to say that the automation of the clock will soon take place thanks to the generosity of :

The Civic Pride Fund,
The Community Council
Scotmid
and Church donors.

We are very grateful for the support of all in funding this project to the sum of £5,326.80

Christian Aid Week

Our thanks to all. £265 donated.

Marriage

Christopher Givan & Tammy
Bathgate

Funerals Jesus: "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die." (John 11.25).

Jeanette Porter

Norma Thomson

Frank Neilson

Lizzie Walker (who was our oldest member of the church).

Fabric Convener We are looking for someone who can keep an eye on our properties and organise tradesmen to carry out repairs where necessary. Interested? See Jane for more details.

Lend a hand We have various jobs that need done and we hope to organise a work party for external paintwork at the church, hall and manse. There is also gardening work that needs some attention at the church hall and manse. Interested in giving a few hours in the afternoon or evening? Phone the manse: 813643.



Come along and discover the Story of Joseph this summer and explore who the God he follows is and what that means to you!

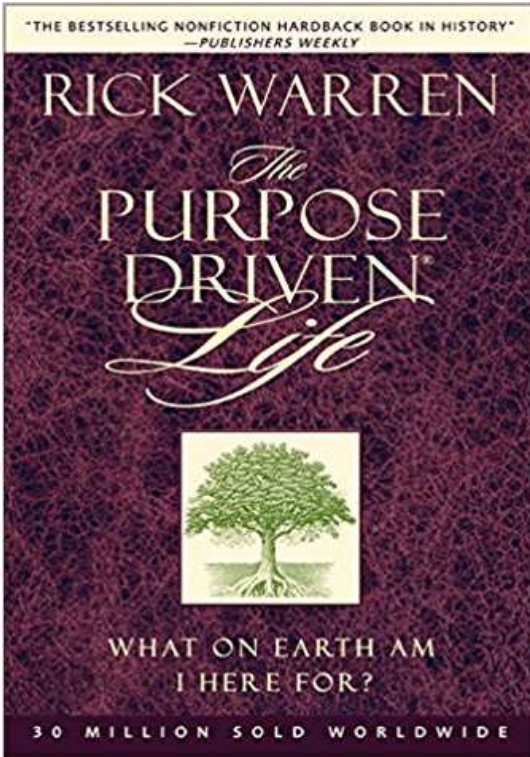
30th July - 3rd August Salvation Army Hall 10-3pm P1-S1 Cost = Free!

Registration forms available soon. For more information contact Lindsay 07515516217. **New: Little monkeys—0-5 years 10-11.30 each day**

In church hall.

For S2-S6 X-Mark returns : Monday 30th July, Wednesday 1st August, Saturday 4th August. Lighthouse Community Hub 7-9.30pm

Join us for challenges, games, crafts, mocktails and to explore the Christian faith. We will be looking at the bible and using it to Discover who God is and His message for us.



For those who want to know more or are new Christians and for those who are growing Christians—a 40 day course where you read an average of 5 pages of “Purpose driven Life” every day (or catch up for the week). We will then meet at the manse or church for 6-7 weeks to share our discoveries. Interested? (Perhaps a Wed. or Thurs. eve. Or a Sunday afternoon or evening?)

Phone the manse: 813643

Theme: What on earth am I here for?

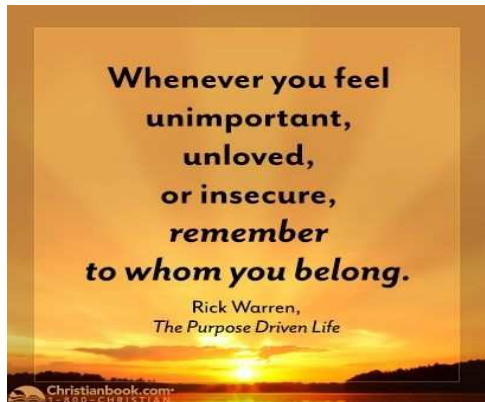
Purpose 1: You were planned for God’s pleasure

Purpose 2: You were formed for God’s family

Purpose 3: You were created to become like Christ:

Purpose 4 : You were shaped for serving God

Purpose 5: You were made for a mission.



Our new data protection co-ordinator is Janice McLeish. Email: jan2.mcleish@btinternet.com. Our new data privacy policy is on the church notice board and on our website: www.prestongrange-church.org.uk