

"The Cross"

Two arms open wide
Two sinners on each side
Two eyes tearing
One heart grieving
One grandiose plan
One innocent man
Nailed was He
To a tree
He suffered and bled

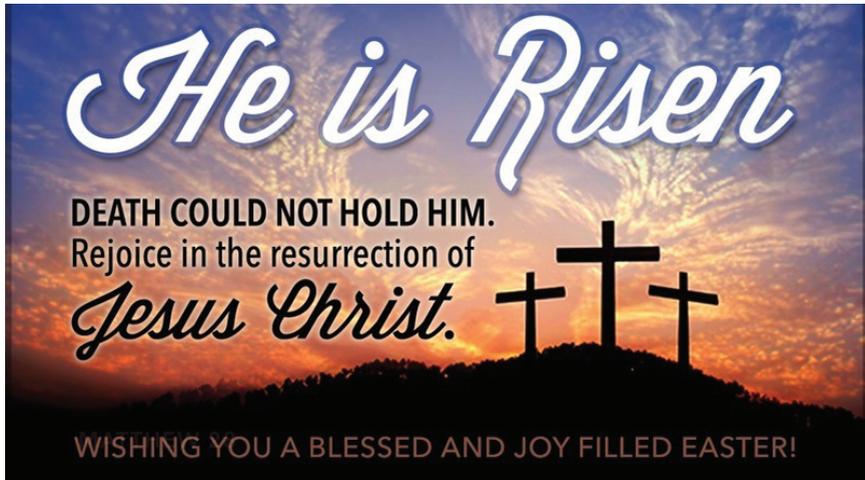
So we would no longer be dead

The King of Kings and Lord of Lords were just two of the names given to Him by many who believed that He was!
For the true Son of God, the Christ came to deliver us all and He showed us the love that He did and still does!

He died for us for God did allow
Oh how grateful we all are now
All this Love He now leaves us
For this blessed hope in Jesus
To abide in His ways for sure
To believe in faith that's pure
To sacrifice His Life for all
Was the greatest gift of all
On this very truth and fact
Only with faith can you act
Faith in Him as Holy Lord
With the Bible as your sword
His death on the cross is a key
For every man's life in eternity
He gave so much and healed all
His work on the cross was a call
A call to each and everyone here
To see the love he had so dear
Love one another as also He,
Loved all of us, you and me!
Which way should we all go
He set an example to show
We need to yell and shout
So now we must go out
To tell the whole earth
Of our Savior's worth
And the joy of Him
Does not grow dim
Only one chance
So take a stance
Come to know
His Sorrow
Don't cease
Seek peace
God Bless
Pray yes!
I do warn
Be born
Again
Amen

Greyfriars
Free Church
April 2018

Meeting with the risen Jesus



Today is Easter Sunday, and all over the world millions of Christians will celebrate the fact of the resurrection of Jesus. It is amazing to think that Jesus knows each one of them.

The number is very different from those who met him on the first Easter Sunday. Initially, he met one person, Mary Magdalene, and assured her in the midst of her confusion that he was alive. Discovering that truth changed her for the rest of her life, and she has been with him in heaven since her time here ended.

Later on that first Easter Sunday, Jesus met others of his followers and gave to all of them

his peace. He even had time for Peter who had denied him so strongly. That must have been a precious time for Peter, and for Jesus as the Saviour. All these interactions tell us the priorities of Jesus concerning his people.

Jesus is the same yesterday, today and forever. This means at least that he wants us to know his blessings of assurance, peace and forgiveness. While we cannot yet meet with him physically we can make contact through the Spirit. Indeed he was given by Jesus in order to take his things and reveal them to us. In that regard, saying Happy Easter is much more real than saying Happy Christmas.

Malcolm Maclean

Checklist

	Reference	Verse
<input type="checkbox"/>	A Proverbs 15:1	A gentle answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger.
<input type="checkbox"/>	B Luke 6:27-28	But I say to you who hear, love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you.
<input type="checkbox"/>	C Ephesians 6:1	Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right.
<input type="checkbox"/>	D John 14:27b	Do not let your heart be troubled, nor let it be fearful.
<input type="checkbox"/>	E Proverbs 20:11	Even a child is known by his doings, whether his work be pure, and whether it be right.
<input type="checkbox"/>	F Romans 10:17	Faith comes from hearing, and hearing by the word of Christ.
<input type="checkbox"/>	G Mark 16:15	Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation.
<input type="checkbox"/>	H Deuteronomy 5:16	Honor your father and your mother, as the Lord your God has commanded you.
<input type="checkbox"/>	I Proverbs 3:6	In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make your paths straight
<input type="checkbox"/>	J Hebrews 13:8	Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.
<input type="checkbox"/>	K Psalm 34:13	Keep your tongue from evil and your lips from telling lies.
<input type="checkbox"/>	L 1 John 4:7	Let us love one another for love comes from God.
<input type="checkbox"/>	M Matthew 4:4	Man shall not live on bread alone, but one every word that comes from the mouth of God.
<input type="checkbox"/>	N 1 Corinthians 2:9	No eye has seen, no ear has heard, and no mind has imagined what God has prepared for those who love Him.
<input type="checkbox"/>	O Psalm 63:1	O God, You are my God; I shall seek You earnestly.
<input type="checkbox"/>	P Psalm 106:1	Praise the Lord. Give thanks to the Lord for He is good; His love endures forever.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Q James 1:19	Everyone should be Q uick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to become angry.
<input type="checkbox"/>	R Philippians 4:4	Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice!
<input type="checkbox"/>	S Matthew 6:33	Seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.
<input type="checkbox"/>	T Psalm 119:105	Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.
<input type="checkbox"/>	U Proverbs 16:22	Understanding is a fountain of life to one who has it.
<input type="checkbox"/>	V Ecclesiastes 1:2	Vanity of vanities! All is vanity!
<input type="checkbox"/>	W Philippians 4:8	Whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable-if anything is excellent or praiseworthy-think about such things.
<input type="checkbox"/>	X Lamentations 3:40	Let us e X amine our ways and test them, and let us return to the Lord.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Y Matthew 5:14	You are the light of the world-like a city on a hilltop cannot be hidden.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Z Luke 19:5	Zacchaeus, come down immediately. I must stay at your house today.

Welcoming first-comers

I read an article the other day about how to welcome first-time visitors into a church building. The writer observed that normally there is a warm welcome for individuals and families whom people in his church already know. The visitors the writer had in mind were those who come to his church for the first time. He wondered what such visitors think when they see others getting a warm welcome and very few, perhaps no-one, speaking to them when they enter the church for the first time.

He pointed out an obvious detail, which is that very few of us, if any, know what it is like to be in the shoes of a first-time visitor. In order to help deal with such, he mentioned the following details to consider.

One is that churches have very few signs indicating where the sanctuary is, where



the Sunday School classes are held, or where the crèche is. Apparently, this lack of visible information is one of the factors that prevents a first-time visitor having a positive experience of a church. Moreover, if the visitors are parents with young



children, they want to see details of the security that the church provides, and it should be somewhere visible in large print.

A second problem is vague instructions. The writer used the illustration of going to a new restaurant and having to wait for a member of staff coming to show him where to go. Such a person is very different from an individual who frequents the restaurant and knows what to do. The waiter could say to the second person, 'Just sit anywhere,' but what would such an instruction mean to the one there for the first time? If we told someone new to the church to sit anywhere, what do we do if they sit where they shouldn't?

A third suggestion is the provision of a gift to encourage visitors to come back. The writer suggested that one way of doing this is to have a welcome pack containing material that gives



information about the church and a couple of suitable booklets about what the church believes and practices.

The fourth suggestion concerns the way church members look at visitors. They do notice if people are staring at them without speaking to them. Seekers for Jesus may look very different from us and dress very differently. That will change when they get converted. But God in his providence guides them to a church where he expects his people to speak to them by putting themselves into their shoes. After all, is that not what he did when he came to earth to be their Saviour?

Malcolm Maclean

HE FOUND ME

When I was lost in the dark He found me
When I was deep in despair He found me
When my faith had all gone He found me
When my anger was strong He found me
 When I felt all alone He found me
When I was wounded and sore He found me
 When I trusted no one He found me
 But I will be strong and tall once again
 Now that He has found me



*The righteous cry out and the Lord hears them,
He delivers them from all their troubles.
The Lord is close to the broken hearted
and saves those who are crushed in spirit.*

Psalm 34: 17-18

Written and Contributed by Jess MacLennan

Below is the little prayer that Joan Hamilton referred to in her talk at the ladies meal ...

*Jesus tender shepherd hear me,
 Bless thy little lamb tonight
Through the darkness be Thou near me
 Keep me safe till morning light*

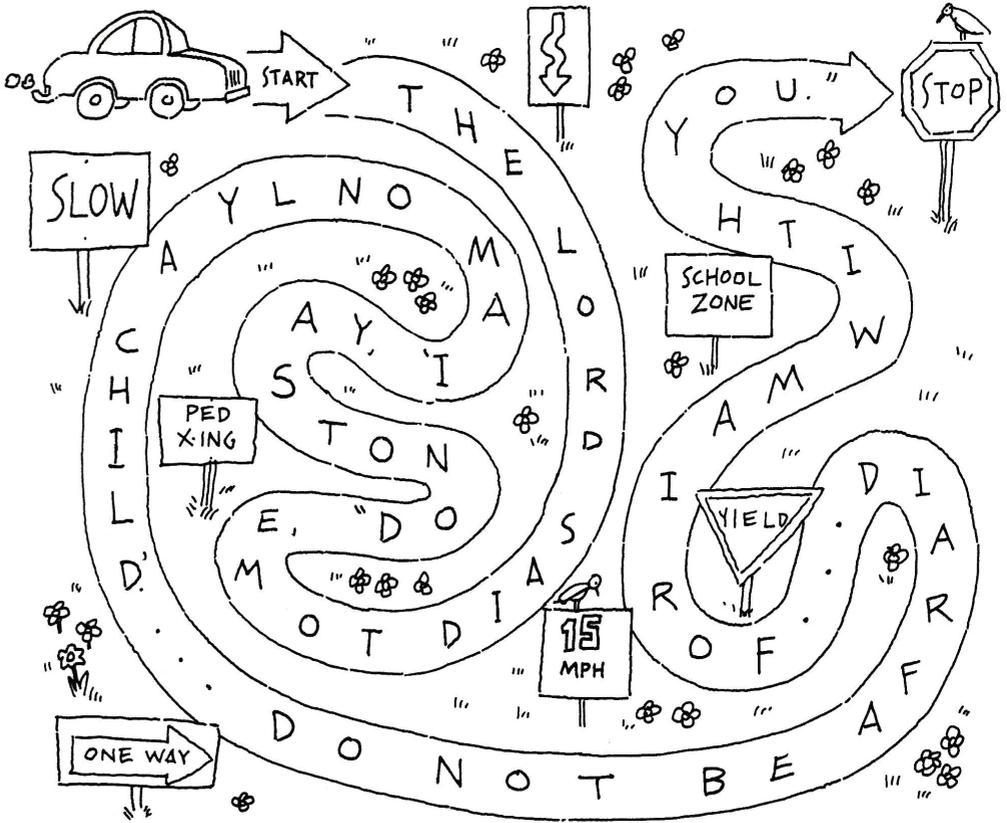
Kidzone Puzzle Page

Jeremiah (Jeremiah 1:4-10)

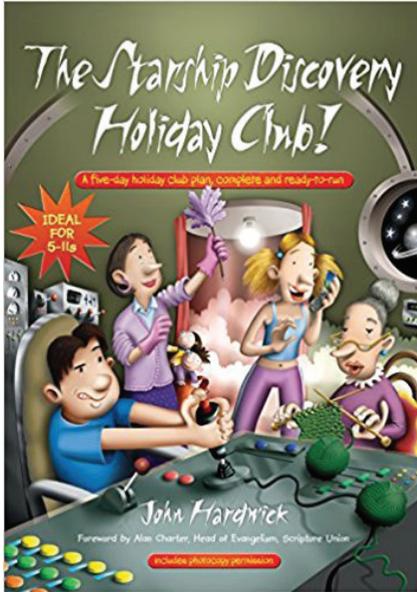
Calling Jeremiah! The Lord called Jeremiah to be a prophet while he was still young. He might have been a teenager or even younger!

"But, Lord," Jeremiah said. "Surely there's a mistake! I'm only a child. How can I do anything for You?"

Follow the road to see how God answered Jeremiah. And remember: God can use anyone, no matter how young or how old you are!



Jeremiah 1:7-8 (NIV)



Holiday
Club
2018
6th - 10th
August
10:30 - 12:15

Please remember this event in prayer and consider if you are able to come along and help out at this year's Holiday Club. If you have children, please support this by sending them along and invite their friends and neighbours too.

*Congratulations to Ali
and Lucy who married on
Friday (30th March)
We look forward to
welcoming Lucy into our
church family.*



Points for prayer in April

Worship Services

Pray for God's blessing on the regular preaching on Sundays and Wednesdays.

Young People

Remember the various young people's activities.

Community

Pray for those who come to Kidz and Co and Connect.

Youth Camps

Pray for the Lord's blessing and protection on all those involved with this year's Free Church Youth Camps.

Church Courts

Pray for the Kirk Session and Deacons Court as they discuss matters connected to the congregation from time to time.

Congregational News

Study Groups

The Bible Study groups led by the minister and Ian Alastair MacDonald will meet on the third Monday (16th April) in the manse at 7pm. Study questions will be available on the preceding Wednesday. If participants would prefer to receive them by email, let the minister know. These study groups will meet on the third Monday of the month.

Wedding

Marina MacDonald and Rev Andy Longwe get married on April 20th. Pray that the Lord would bless them in their lives together.

Conference

The minister is one of the speakers at the annual Harris Conference, and we should pray that his messages, along with the messages of Rev. Calum Ian Macleod (Back) would be blessed by the Lord.

Congregational Vacancies

1. We would like to distribute round the area quarterly a card reminding the community of our services and other activities. This would involve a couple of people spending an afternoon doing this. It would be a total of two or three days a year.
2. We would like an individual or two people to take over the arranging of the monthly Congregational Fellowships. At the moment, five of them make use of the visiting minister at communions and in December we have a Christmas event. This leaves six events to be arranged for.
3. A few years ago, the Twenties and Thirties was expanded to include those in their Forties. The group used to meet monthly. We need a couple of church members to run this, preferably from within the age group.

Book Review and Discussion?

Mark Jones (2017)

Jesus Christ

Christian Focus

80 pages

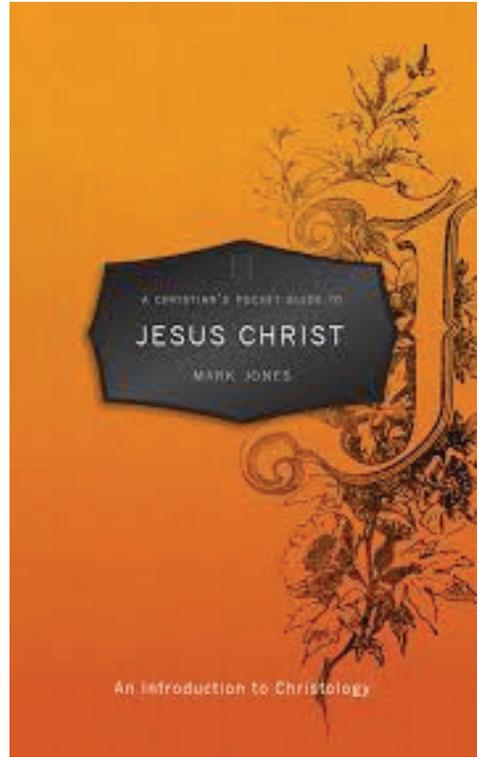
Many of us wonder if we can appreciate to any extent who Jesus is. It sounds very complicated to speak about there being two natures in his person. And we may not be helped when we see very large volumes devoted to this subject. Nevertheless, we are meant to know something about him.

One way to solve the problem would be to have a short book, accurate in content, and written by a competent person. Mark Jones, an American pastor and theological teacher, is competent and this book by him is both short and accurate.

The book only has three chapters: the first discusses the deity of Jesus; the second considers the humanity of Jesus; and the third looks at the work of Jesus. Jones does not deal with every issue connected to the person of Christ, but he does explain the core so that we will appreciate the wonderful person of our Saviour.

When a couple get married, one of the joys for both is to discover who the other one really is. In a far higher sense, believers find that Jesus is incredible, beautiful and good, and their love for him grows and grows. This short book can help to that end.

If a sufficient number read this book, then I can arrange a discussion about it on a Sunday evening after the service, later in the year. I will put a sheet on the table for any who wish to sign up to read it. If got through me, the book costs £2.50 (usually it costs £5). It is also available on Kindle, but the price there depends on the day.



What is On in April 2018

Tuesday

14:00 *Ladies Prayer Meeting* (Monthly - 17th April)

19:30 - 21:00 *Mission In Need* (Monthly - 3rd April)

19:30 - 21:00 *Gaelic Service* (Monthly - 24th April)

Wednesday

10:00 - 11:30 *Kidz & Co* - Carer and Toddler group - Weekly from 18th April

12:30 - 14:00 *Connect* - Weekly from 18th April

19:30 - 20:45 *Bible Study & Prayer Meeting* - Weekly

Thursday

09:30 - 11:00 *Come Thirsty* - Bible Study Group (Creche available) -
Weekly from 19th April

Saturday

19:00 - Prayer Meeting (Monthly - 28th April)

Sunday

11:00 - 12:15 *Morning Service*

18:00 - 19:15 *Evening Service*

19:30 - 21:00 *Youth Fellowship*

19:30 - 21:00 *Monthly Congregational Fellowship* - 29th April

Point of Contact for ...

Minister - Malcolm Maclean
- macleanmalcolmm@outlook.com

Unwell / In hospital - Norrie MacDonald
- norman.macdonald@orangehome.co.uk

Weekly Notices - Kirsti Paterson
- kirsti.paterson@btopenworld.com

Home Groups - Murray Graham
- murrayg1977@yahoo.co.uk

Come Thirsty - Heather MacAskill
- hmacaskill@uwclub.net

Sunday School - Kenny MacVicar
- kennymacvicar@yahoo.co.uk

**Kidz & Co / Connect / Bookings
/ Together Tuesday / Kidzone/**

Monthly Newsletter -Joan MacQueen
- macqueengreyfriars@outlook.com

Preaching Schedule for April 2018

Date	Time	Preacher
Sunday 1st	Morning 11am	<i>M. Maclean 1 Corinthians 15</i>
	Evening 6pm	<i>M. M. - Studies in Matthew</i>
Wednesday 4th	Prayer Meeting 7:30pm	<i>Malcolm Maclean. Zechariah</i>
Sunday 8th	Baptism 11am	<i>Rev. William Heenan</i>
	Evening 6pm	<i>M. M. - Studies in Matthew</i>
Wednesday 11th	Prayer Meeting 7:30pm	<i>Malcolm Maclean. Zechariah</i>
Sunday 15th	Morning 11am	<i>M. Maclean 1 Corinthians 15</i>
	Evening 6pm	<i>M. M. - Studies in Matthew</i>
Wednesday 18th	Prayer Meeting 7:30pm	<i>Angus MacDonald</i>
Sunday 22nd	Morning 11am	<i>Ronnie Phillips</i>
	Evening 6pm	<i>Ronnie Phillips</i>
Wednesday 25th	Prayer Meeting 7:30pm	<i>Elders</i>
Sunday 29th	Morning 11am	<i>M. Maclean 1 Corinthians 15</i>
	Evening 6pm	<i>M. M. - Studies in Matthew</i>
	Fellowship 7:30pm	<i>Congregational Fellowship</i>

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- Creche available during the morning service for children under 3 years
 - Sunday school and Bible class meet during the morning service for children aged 3-14 years during term-time.
 - Youth fellowship meets immediately after the evening service for young people in secondary school during term-time (unless there is a congregational fellowship).