

Feltham Evangelical Church *Newsletter: May 2026*

A Bible-based church making known the Christian Faith

Calendar

w/c 26th April

Sun 26th 9.30.am. - Lord's Supper. (Paul Biddle)
Sun 26th 10.20.am. - Grace Kids (Rachel and Paula)
Sun 26th 10.20.am. - Grace Youth (Philip and Paulina)
Sun 26th 11.00.am. - Morning Worship; (Philip Venables)
Sun 26th 5.15.pm. - Equip;"What about the 'genocide' of the Cananites in Joshua?"
Tues 28th 9.30.am. - Prayer Meeting. (on zoom)
Wed 29th 7.30.pm. - Prayer / Bible Study (James 2:14-26)
Thurs 30th 6.30 am. - Prayer Meeting (on zoom)
Fri 1st 9.15.am. - Prayer Meeting
Fri 1st 10.00.am to midday - The Way Cafe
Sat 2nd 8.00.am. - Saturday Morning Studies for Men
Sat 2nd 10.30.am. - Evangelism
Sat 2nd 1.00.pm. - Grace Girls
Sat 2nd 9:00.pm. - Prayer Meeting (on zoom)

w/c 3rd May

Sun 3rd 9.30.am. - Lord's Supper (Philip Venables)
Sun 3rd 10.20.am. - Grace Kids (Paula and Andrew)
Sun 3rd 10.20.am. - Grace Youth (Mark and Natalia)
Sun 3rd 11.00.am. - Morning Worship (Philip Venables)
Sun 3rd 5.15.pm. - Together
Tues 5th 9.30.am. - Prayer Meeting (on zoom)
Wed 6th 7.30.pm. - Prayer / Bible Study (James 3:1-12)
Thurs 7th 6.30.am. - Prayer Meeting (on zoom)
Fri 8th 9.15.am. - Prayer Meeting
Fri 8th 10.00.am to midday - The Way Cafe
Sat 9th 10.30.am. - Evangelism
Sat 9th 9.00.pm. - Prayer Meeting (on zoom)

w/c 10th May

Sun 10th 9.30.am. - Lord's Supper. (Andrew Heron)
Sun 10th 11.00.am. - Morning Worship. (Paul Biddle)
Sun 10th 1.00.pm. - Fellowship Lunch
Tues 12th 9.30.am. - Prayer Meeting (on zoom)
Wed 13th 7.30.pm. - Prayer / Report / Bible Study (Gerald Yuen)
Thurs 14th 6.30.am. - Prayer Meeting (on zoom)
Fri 15th 9.15.am. - Prayer Meeting
Fri 15th 10.00.am to midday - The Way Cafe
Sat 17th 10.30.am. - Evangelism
Sat 17th 9.00.pm. - Prayer Meeting (on zoom)

w/c 17th May

Sun 17th 9.30.am. - Time to Study (Psalms)
Sun 17th 10.20.am. - Grace Kids (Rachel and Uju)
Sun 17th 10.20.am. - Grace Youth (Mark and Natalia)
Sun 17th 11.00.am. - Morning Worship. (Philip Venables)
Sun 17th 5.15.pm. - Lord's Supper (Philip Venables)
Tues 19th 9.30.am. - Prayer Meeting (on zoom).
Wed 20th 7.30.pm. - Gospel Partner Prayer / Bible Study (James 3:13-18)
Thurs 21st 6.30.am. - Prayer Meeting (on zoom)
Fri 22nd 9.15.am. - Prayer Meeting
Fri 22nd 10.00.am to midday - The Way Cafe
Sat 23rd 10.30.am. - Evangelism
Sat 23rd 9.00.pm. - Prayer Meeting (on zoom)

w/c 24th May

Sun 24th 9.30.am. - Lord's Supper. (Paul Biddle)
Sun 24th 10.20.am. - Grace Kids (Andrew and Paula)
Sun 24th 10.20.am. - Grace Youth (Philip and Paulina)
Sun 24th 11.00.am. - Morning Worship; (Philip Venables)
Sun 24th 5.15.pm. - Equip;"William Tyndale: The Man Who Gave Us The English Bible"
Mon 25th 9.00.am - Church Outing to Littlehampton
Tues 26th 9.30.am. - Prayer Meeting. (on zoom)
Wed 27th 7.30.pm. - Prayer / Report / Bible Study (Simon Doyle)
Thurs 28th 6.30 am. - Prayer Meeting (on zoom)
Fri 29th 9.15.am. - Prayer Meeting
Fri 29th 10.00.am to midday - The Way Cafe
Sat 30th 10.30.am. - Evangelism (THE BIG ONE)
Sat 30th 9:00.pm. - Prayer Meeting (on zoom)

w/c 31st May

Sun 31st 9.30.am. - Lord's Supper. (Gianluca Di Monaco)
Sun 31st 10.20.am. - Grace Kids (Rachel and Uju)
Sun 31st 11.00.am. - Morning Worship; (Philip Venables)
Tues 2nd (June) 9.30.am. - Prayer Meeting. (on zoom)
Wed 3rd 7.30.pm. - Prayer / Bible Study (James 4:1-6)
Thurs 4th 6.30 am. - Prayer Meeting (on zoom)
Fri 5th 9.15.am. - Prayer Meeting
Fri 5th 10.00.am to midday - The Way Cafe
Sat 6th 8.00.am. - Saturday Morning Studies for Men
Sat 6th 10.30.am. - Evangelism
Sat 6th 9:00.pm. - Prayer Meeting (on zoom)

News

Vasile and Olguta Ghimici and Anna Neville have moved to new homes. Vasile and Olguta are in Hounslow West and Anna in Sunbury.

Andrew Heron is due to be preaching away from FEC on the mornings of May 17th (Muswell Hill Baptist Church), 24th (United Reformed Church, Hounslow) and 31st (Berrymede Chapel, Acton).

Notes

Equip On April 26th "What about the 'genocide' of the Cananites in Joshua?" is our topic for study. Then on May 24th we have Stephane Simonin with us from Ealing Road Baptist Church in Brentford to speak on "William Tyndale: The Man Who Gave Us The English Bible"

Time to Study On May 17th we continue our series giving overviews of each book of the Bible. This month we reach Psalms.

Evangelism takes place on a regular basis at 10.30.am on each Saturday. However, as a special effort we have bi-monthly, what we call "The BIG ONE". The next one is due to be on May 30th, meeting for prayer at 10.30.am. at the church building.

Polling Station On May 7th the church premises is due to be used for the local LB Hounslow local elections.

The Church Outing to Littlehampton is due on Spring Bank Holiday Monday, May 25th. We plan to go by coach and leave the church premises at 9.00.am.

The Polish Heritage Festival takes place at The Patch at Hobbledown, Hounslow Heath on May 16th from 2.00.pm. We plan to have a stall there between 2.00.pm and 5.00.pm.

Food Hygiene The Food Standards Agency have granted us a 5 star rating for supplying food to the public.

Zoom <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88986370463?pwd=MjdwdHZwZTB6L29VVV1VFUVBVWkRBZz09> is the link for the zoom prayer meetings.

Fellowship Lunch On Sunday 10th May we intend to have a bring-and-share fellowship lunch together.

Spiritual Notes Divorce, Remarriage and the Heart

The source of the problem, in so many situations in life, is the heart and that includes “my heart”. When our sinful hearts become involved, a mess is very soon created. In Matthew 5:17-47, our Lord Jesus deals with various situations in which ruin is brought about by sinful hearts.

In verse 20, our Lord reminds His disciples that their righteousness must exceed that of the scribes and the Pharisees. The righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees is an external righteousness; true righteousness comes through a transformed heart.

One example of how a corrupt heart worsens situations is that of divorce and remarriage, which is addressed in vv 31-32. In Deuteronomy 24:1-4, there is a regulation introduced by God in His law so as to limit the harm caused by casual and careless divorce. We read in verse 1: **“When a man takes a wife and marries her, if then she finds no favour in his eyes because he has found some indecency in her, and he writes her a certificate of divorce and puts it in her hand and sends her out of his house, and she departs out of his house...”** Elsewhere, our Lord states that such a provision was made because of the hardness of people’s hearts (see Matt. 19:8). Men were ending relationships for selfish reasons, and great harm was caused as a result particularly to the estranged wife. This injunction from the Lord was His gracious provision to hinder the harm.

Alas, in Matthew 5:31-32, we see how the Pharisees took this regulation and manipulated it for their, and others, supposed benefit. They operated on the basis that, as long as they provided a certificate of divorce, anything was acceptable. If challenged, they could claim they had acted properly by giving the rejected woman the appropriate document. In effect, this provided a cover for their hard hearts, which simply wanted their own way. They wished to dismiss women as they pleased, according to their own desires. “Hire them and fire them” was their motto for such relationships and just so long as they had given the relevant document all was fine.

The outcome of this was the creation of a very vulnerable group within society. Divorced women were often left destitute. There was no welfare state at that time, and they frequently had no one to care for them. As a result, they were often compelled to seek remarriage simply to survive. Children, who needed care and refuge, were likely involved as well. Thus, these women were forced into remarriage due to the selfish misuse of the law by their former husbands. Of course, if a woman had committed sexual immorality herself and broken the marriage covenant, then she had to accept the consequences of her infidelity. In such cases, responsibility for divorce and her ensuing plight rested with her. However, this was the exception. Universally, otherwise, men were called to love their wives selflessly, to care for them, and not to discard them on a whim.

The result was a complete mess. We read in verse: **But I say to you that everyone who divorces his wife, except on the ground of sexual immorality, makes her commit adultery, and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery.** When we reflect on this statement, we see how confused the situation had become. A couple here are married, and yet adultery is taking place on account of the sexual union within that marriage. A man had, no doubt through a mix of love and pity, taken in the divorced woman and they were married, properly married. But still there was a sense in which adultery was taking place because the wife should have been with her first husband. Through the original rejection and divorcing of the wife a chain of events took place which led to great disorder. For a man and woman to be married and yet, in a sense, committing adultery is a contradiction and can only be described as a tragic disorder.

This outcome is striking, given that the original law in Deuteronomy 24 was intended to prevent such disorder and to limit the damage caused by human hardness of heart in human relationships. Yet the human heart, including our own, is endlessly inventive in pursuing self-interest. When such self-seeking takes hold, as it did with the scribes and Pharisees in Matthew 5:31-32, the result is again chaos. And that which initiated the mess was the heart of those following the teaching brought in by the Pharisees and scribes. Well did Jeremiah observe: **The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately sick; who can understand it?** (Jeremiah 17:9)

It is significant that the primary victims of this disorder were the more vulnerable; namely, the women. It is a grave injustice when men misuse their strength and authority at the expense of others, especially their wives.

We conclude by warning ourselves about the capacity of the human heart to venture into sin. The harm that can result when it is left unchecked is immense. Even when dealing with the law of God, we can distort it and create great harm. Therefore, we cry out: “O Lord, save us from ourselves. Create in me a clean heart, that I may please You in all my ways.”