



CONNECT

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Trust in the Lord with all your heart
Proverbs 3:5

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Dear Friends,

Sometimes people ask me why I moved into ministry, and it is a question which I have pondered and for which I have a variety of answers. I would like to tell you about Annie. When I first moved to my previous church in Bradford-on-Avon there was a dear lady, Annie, who was terminally ill with only a few months to live. I visited her and she would ask me questions about heaven: what would it be like, what would it feel like to be free of pain and disease? I would sit her at her bedside, and we would talk about God for half an hour or so and then the next nurse would come in to give her another treatment.

It brought home to me the expectant joy which the believer has, but also the grinding day to day challenges of dying. At a recent service, I spoke about influencers, and I asked the question: "Who has influenced you in your life?" If you get the chance, it would be good to hear your reflections on my question, and I could add them to a forthcoming article.

Anyway, one of my responses to that question would be the people I have met who have known truth through suffering. Suffering is horrible and I would not wish it on anyone, but almost exclusively the most honest and profoundest conversations I have with others are with those who are suffering, whether it is through mental or physical ill health or occasionally through spiritual trauma.

It appears that all the stuff which we normally concern ourselves with are driven away and the sufferer focuses on what is truly important. The apostle Paul makes it clear in his letter to the Romans: "Together with Christ we are heirs of God's glory. But if we are to share His glory, we must also share His suffering." As Jesus declared: "The servant is not greater than the Master."

Dear friend, may Christ become your all in all, David.

BUILDING WHAT LASTS Genesis 11 v 4

When I was a young boy, we lived near several construction sites. Inspired by them, my friends and I gathered leftover scraps to build a fort. Borrowing tools from our parents, we hauled wood and spent days trying to make our material serve our purposes. It was fun, but our attempts were poor reflections of the well-constructed buildings around us. They didn't last long.

In Genesis 11, we encounter a major building construction project. "Let us build ourselves a city," said the people, "with a tower that reaches to the heavens" (v4). A big problem with this effort was that the people did it to "make a name for ourselves" (v4).

This has been a recurring issue for humans; we build monuments to ourselves and our achievements. Later in the biblical narrative, this story is contrasted with Solomon's motivation for building God's temple: "I intend, therefore, to build a temple for the Name of the Lord my God" (1 Kings 5:5). Solomon understood that what he built needed to point to God and not himself. This was such an important lesson that he even wrote a Psalm about it. Psalm 127 opens with "unless the Lord builds the house, the builders labour in vain" (v.1).

Like my childhood fort-building, what we build will not last, but God's name and what we do for Him has lasting significance.

Father, please forgive me for the times I've focused on myself and not on what You're doing in the world

Source : Our Daily Bread

Consent Form

If you haven't already completed and returned to Sally your consent form relating to the Data Privacy Statement, then please do so as soon as possible. Thank you

If you ever get carried away with a sense of guilt this short poem is by James Thornton 1700/1748.

Once in a saintly passion
I cried with desperate grief
O Lord my heart is black with guile
Of sinners I am chief
Then stooped my guardian angel
And whispered from behind
Vanity my little friend
You're nothing of the kind.

The URC daily devotions

The URC daily devotions can be accessed via devotions.urc.org.uk These are approximately 5 minutes long.
The Sunday service can be accessed from the same site.

Communion Offering for June

St Peter's Hospice

St Peter's Hospice provides specialist palliative care to adults in the wider Bristol area with life-limiting illnesses, including support to their relatives, friends and professional carers.



All Hospice services are free of charge to everyone

CHURCH EVENTS DIARY – JUNE 2025		
SUNDAY 1ST	SUNDAY WORSHIP with Revd. David Jewell	11.00AM
SUNDAY 8TH	SUNDAY WORSHIP with Revd. Sam Hackett	11.00AM
SUNDAY 15TH	COMMUNION SUNDAY WORSHIP with Revd. David Jewell	11.00AM
SUNDAY 22ND	SUNDAY WORSHIP with Revd Jim Thornicroft	11.00AM
SUNDAY 29TH	SUNDAY WORSHIP with Mr Angus Gregson	11.00AM
SUNDAY 6TH	SUNDAY WORSHIP with Our Worship Team	11.00AM

Flowers

June 1st

John F

June 8th

John B

June 15th

Esmond & Patricia

June 22nd

Flower Fund

June 29th

Sally

July 6th

Readers

Sally

Jane

Jill

Philip

Patricia

Peter

Thank you to all who donate to our outreach causes

If you are willing to make a small donation to church flowers at any time of the year please let me know as I put into Connect a month ahead eg. anniversaries, birthdays that can be celebrated with flowers which are then given to those of our congregation or friends who will appreciate the thought, as we offer mission outreach. Weekly date list will be on notice board in the corridor.

Reasons why the English language is hard to learn

The bandage was wound around the wound
The farm was used to produce produce
The dump was so full that it had to refuse more refuse
We must polish the Polish furniture
He could lead if he could get the lead out
The soldier decided to desert his dessert in the desert
Since there is no time like the present he thought it was
time to present the present
When shot at the dove dove into the bushes
I did not object to the object
The insurance was invalid for the invalid
They were too close to the door to close it
The buck does funny things when the does are present
The wind was too strong to wind the sail
After a number of injections my jaw got number
Upon seeing the tear in the painting I shed a tear
I had to subject the subject to a series of tests

Instructions:

First: Cross out all words that are days of the week.

Second: Cross out all words that are colours.

Third: Cross out all words that are names of animals.

Fourth: Cross out all words that are numbers.

THREE	BLESSED	LION	GOLD	EIGHT	HORSE
FOUR	RED	TUESDAY	OF	PURPLE	FIVE
THEY	ELEPHANT	BLUE	MONDAY	SHALL	THIRTEEN
GREEN	FOR	THURSDAY	NINETEEN	WEDNESDAY	THE
PEACE-MAKERS	MONKEY	SATURDAY	SQUIRREL	GOD	SUNDAY
TIGER	PINK	CHILDREN	YELLOW	CAT	THE
FRIDAY	DOG	FIVE	CALLED	THREE	ORANGE
SUNDAY	BROWN	BE	SEVEN	PIG	ARE

What do the remaining words say? Please rearrange the remaining words to reveal a well-known phrase from the Bible.
