

RIVERSIDE QUARTERly



Issue

01.

Spring 2022

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Welcome

Welcome to the first edition of Riverside Quarterly. This short newsletter comes to you from Riverside Christian Assembly, an established church which has moved to the Mugiemoss area late last year.

We hope to connect with you every few months through this publication and trust you will find the items helpful and thought-provoking.

We would love you to come and see us in person and we suggest that our Bible for All service (Sundays 11:30am) is a good place to start. If you would like to get in touch, please see our website and social media details on the back cover.



Whats on?

Sunday

- 9:30am Breaking of Bread
- Coffee @11:15am

**BIBLE
FOR
ALL**

11:30am

Creche available

- 4:00pm Bible Teaching
- 4:00pm Sunday school

Monday

- 8:00pm Prayer Meeting

Wednesday

- 6:30pm Kids Club
- 8:00pm Bible Teaching

Thursday

- 10:00am Toddlers

In addition to these we run bi-weekly studies for young people, monthly mens study breakfast and other regular activities. Please contact us for more information.

4 things God wants you to know



You need to be saved from sin's penalty

All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way.
Isaiah 53:6

For all have sinned, and fall short of the glory of God.
Romans 3:23

The wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.
Romans 6:23

You cannot save yourself

Unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God.
John 3:3

Jesus said, "I am the Way, and the Truth, and the Life. No one comes to the Father except through me"
John 14:6

He saved us, not because of works done by us... but according to His own mercy.
Titus 3:5

Jesus Christ has provided for your salvation

There is one God, and one Mediator between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus.
1 Timothy 2:5

Christ suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that He might bring us to God.
1 Peter 3:18

God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.
John 3:16

You can be saved today

Whoever hears My word and believes has passed from death to life.
John 5:24

Behold, now is the... time; behold, now is the day of salvation.
2 Corinthians 6:2

Seek the Lord while He may be found, call upon Him while He is near.
Isaiah 55:6

Hope in an Uncertain World

Having entered 2022 after more or less 2 years of the Covid pandemic, there was a palpable sense of optimism as spring drew closer. Perhaps the prospect of some sunshine in warmer climates, the chance to see loved ones in different places or just the consistency of everyday routine being unhindered. We then awoke towards the end of February to a different world again. Not an unseen virus wreaking havoc this time, but war, real war in Europe. Surely those days were consigned to history. Memories for an older generation, stories and history lessons for those younger. Yes, there had been war, seemingly as a constant in our world, but often in far flung places and often out of our consciousness. This was very different. Maybe two hours away by plane and we could see the devastating effects of the modern military machine as buildings were ravaged, cities and lives and families never to be the same again.

It is in that context, or indeed at any time of uncertainty or an outpouring of evil that rightly horrifies us, that thoughts are turned to God. These thoughts are usually negative, and framed around questions such as “Why does God allow suffering like this,” “Why doesn’t God intervene,” “Can God really exist and let this happen?”

It may be that during the challenges of recent years and the current uncertain situation that these kinds of questions have arisen in your mind. As Christians, it is not that we never have questions about events in the world around us. We cannot claim that we understand everything that is going on or wonder at the extent of suffering faced by individuals or communities or indeed countries. However, because we believe that the bible is the Word of God, and that the God of the universe has unfolded His purpose to us, we have a context and a hope that is unaltered by present circumstances. That is not a hope that is a bit like wishful thinking, or that better days lie ahead to coin a common phrase, but a hope that is sure and certain because God is revealed to us as one who is immutable, which simply means that He does not change.

*God is not man, that he should lie
or a son of man, that he should change his mind.
Has he said, and will he not do it?
Or has he spoken, and will he not fulfill it?*
Numbers 23v19 (the bible, ESV)

Because of the character of God, we can be sure that what He has said is true, and what He has said will come to pass. As Christians, that means we trust that God is able to rescue us from our fallen condition because He has said that if we trust Him, He will deliver us.

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.

John 3v16 (the bible, ESV)

He is able to reach right into our circumstances and provide hope where all human hopes seem to have evaporated. That does not mean He will end our difficulties and remove us from conflict or trial, but it means He will be our anchor and immovable rock.

God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble

Psalms 46v1 (the bible, ESV)

But that does not answer the questions that arise in the mind at such a time as this. What we see every day is evidence of the unrighteousness of mankind, or to use a bible expression, sin. The fact that we recoil as we see such horrors or indeed experience such difficulties in our own lives should tell us that the world is not ok. Something is wrong. Something is broken. Far from being a conclusive sign that God cannot possibly exist, it is only because He exists that our outrage at these things has meaning. The bible also shows us that God is not an idle bystander.

But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

Romans 5v8 (the bible, KJV)

God intervened in this world for you and me by making it possible for our broken relationship with Him to be restored. He did this before we ever thought of Him. That is why there is hope in an uncertain world, because God has moved first.



Focus on...

KIDS CLUB

RCA
KIDS



- Every Wednesday
- 6:30-7:30pm
- Term Time Only
- Upstairs in our Kids Rooms

WHEN & WHERE?

WHAT IS IT?

Kids Club is a fun filled hour for Primary School aged children. Every week we start with craft, baking and activities such as table tennis, video games, air hockey and more! After a snack, we come together to hear a Bible story, memory verse and quick quiz.



Our Kids Club Team are a group of parents, students and young people from our church who are enthusiastic about sharing the good news of the Bible. We aim to provide a safe and fun environment where children can enjoy time with their friends and learn more about God.

WHO ARE WE?



@kids.rca



kids.rca@yahoo.com

**SCAN TO
REGISTER**





A MATTER OF LIFE AND DEATH

The Easter period is a time of reflecting on the death and resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ.

He lived to die

The reason the Lord Jesus came from heaven and lived as a man amongst His creation was that He might die. The human race stands guilty before God, and God's justice demands our condemnation, but God's love desires our salvation. How could the demands of God's justice and the desire of His love both be met? The answer is the death of Christ.

The Lord Jesus came to be the great sacrifice for sin in fulfilment of the Old Testament prophecies:

Surely He has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed Him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; the chastisement for our peace was upon Him, and by His stripes we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned, every one, to his own way; and the Lord has laid on Him the iniquity of us all (Isaiah 53:4-6).

His death on the cross wasn't an unforeseen tragedy. It was the purpose for Him coming into the world. He lived to die.

He died to live

Christ entered into death to pay sin's penalty. Because the demands of God's justice were fully satisfied, death couldn't hold Him, the grave couldn't keep Him, and He rose, never to die again. He said:

"Therefore My Father loves Me, because I lay down My life that I may take it again. No one takes it from Me, but I lay it down of Myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again" (John 10:17-18).

He is on the other side of God's judgment, and if you shelter in the one who died and rose, there is no judgment for you (Romans 8:1).

When we think of every other person in the history of the world, we can say they lived and died, but when we think of Jesus Christ, He is the only one of whom we can say He died and lives.

Written by Paul McCauley
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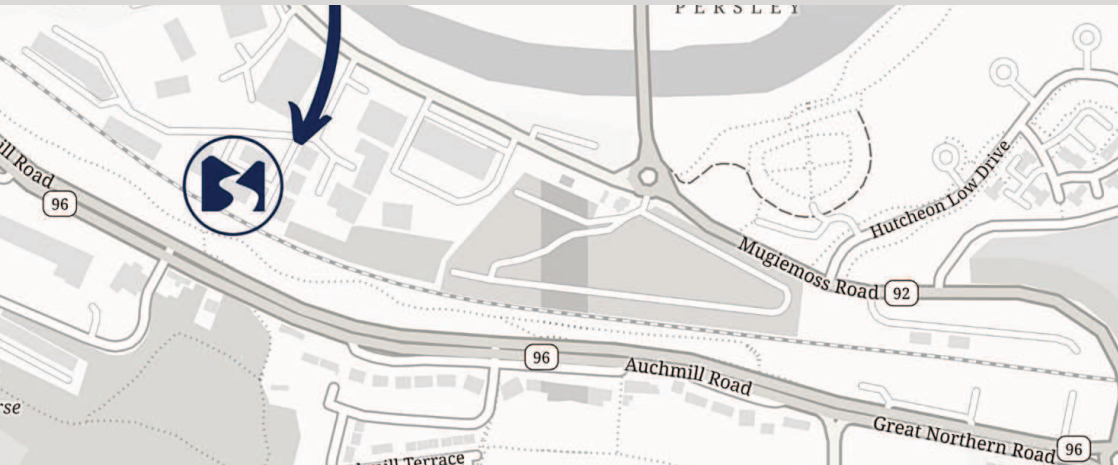
What can we do for you?

Please get in touch via the 'Contact Us' section of our website if you would like us to

- send you a free Bible
- pray for you
- meet with you to discuss what we believe

Thank you
for reading

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www.theriverside.church



Riverside Christian Assembly