

RIVERSIDE QUARTERly



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Issue

07.

Autumn 2023



Welcome

Welcome to the autumn edition of the Riverside Quarterly. Changing seasons bring a new calendar of activities, and we are excited to renew existing friendships and connect with more of our neighbours in the coming weeks.

In this issue, we're examining issues of equality and morality, and finding that the Bible has remarkable answers for us. Lastly, and most significantly, we're asking a personal question – **Why should you become a Christian?**

What we believe about...

Prayer

Inclusive: Everyone can pray. God made you with this ability and has promised to hear (Acts 17:27)

Individual: Prayer is personal. God hears your words and understands your heart. Prayer should involve worship, confession, thanksgiving and requests.

Intimate: When a person becomes a Christian, the barrier of sin and guilt is removed, enabling a new relationship. Christians can speak to God in prayer as their own heavenly Father.

Impactful: Prayer is an essential privilege for Christians serving together in the local church. Every time we're together, we pray together!

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

- 10:00am Toddlers
- 8:00pm Prayer Meeting

WEDNESDAY

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

THURSDAY

- 10:00am Toddlers

We also run a number of other regular activities. Please contact us for more information.

BIBLE FOR ALL



Sundays
11:15am

Coffee

Bible
Message

Creche

Year
Round



Available to watch on YouTube

COMMUNITY LUNCH



Fourth Friday of every month

12:30 - 2:00pm

Soup &
Dessert

Friendly
faces

Free of
charge

All
welcome

Next up:
27th Oct
24th Nov



Why Should I Become A *Christian?*

Our lives are defined by the decisions we make. From everyday decisions, like getting out of bed, to major life choices, the person you become is a result of the choices you make.

WRITTEN BY
JOEL HAWTHORNE

FOR
UNDERSTANDINGTHEGOSPEL.ORG

But the biggest decision you will ever make relates to Jesus Christ – will you follow Him and become a Christian?

Why you don't want to

Christianity can seem dull and dreary – lots of rules and regulations about things you just aren't interested in. In the minds of many, God is like a cosmic spoilsport, looking down to see who is enjoying themselves and trying to put a stop to it.

But the reality could not be further from the truth! God loves you and wants the best for you. Everything He does and says is for your ultimate good.

Why you should want to

We all have a deep longing to be free and to find significance in life. But we are enslaved by our selfish desires. We enjoy fulfilling them at the time, but the lack of lasting satisfaction they bring always makes us miserable in the end.

Because God loves us, He wants to set us free from ourselves – no matter what the cost is to Him. So in Christ, He “gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from every lawless deed and purify for Himself His own special people” (Titus 2:14).

Jesus' death on the cross alone sets us free. Becoming a follower of Jesus – a Christian – is freedom! It allows us to become the people we were truly meant to be.

Why you need to

Our sinful actions don't just ruin our lives now, they will separate us from God eternally. If we are not prepared to admit that we need Jesus to save us, we face banishment from God's presence forever: “He who believes in the Son has everlasting life; and he who does not believe the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God abides on him” (John 3:36).

Do you want to have a life that is truly meaningful? Do you want to find your purpose and fulfil it? Only in Jesus, by trusting and following Him, can you experience true freedom and true joy.

The

Commandments

1

YOU SHALL
HAVE
**NO OTHER
GODS**
BEFORE ME



4

REMEMBER THE
SABBATH
DAY
**KEEP IT
HOLY**



2

YOU SHALL
NOT
**MAKE OR
WORSHIP**
IDOLS



5

HONOUR
YOUR
**FATHER
AND
MOTHER**



3

YOU SHALL
NOT TAKE
THE LORD'S
NAME
IN VAIN



6

YOU SHALL
NOT
MURDER





EXODUS CH. *twenty* : THE BIBLE

TIMELESS UNIVERSAL

**REFLECTING THE UNRIVALLED
GOODNESS AND GLORY OF THEIR
AUTHOR; GOD.**

The commandments define a good life, but are not a way to earn God's favour. Instead, they point us to Jesus Christ for forgiveness. Only then is a new kind of life possible in God's strength.



EQUALITY

WRITTEN BY DAN BENNETT - RIVERSIDE CHRISTIAN ASSEMBLY

“We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal...”

So begins possibly the most famous sentence ever written, as the newly formed United States of America set out its Declaration of Independence. This fundamental principle of human equality became the foundation of the infant nation, which today holds itself up as the bastion of human rights.

Yet this concept was not created by the founding fathers. It is one of the fundamental truths of the Bible, established in its very first chapter.

EQUALLY VALUABLE

The Bible gives us the account of the beginning of the human race. It describes how God made man distinctly different to the rest of creation:

So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them. Genesis 1:27

God did something He had not done before, He created someone that reflected Him, that was made in His likeness. An astounding thought! From that point on, every person who has ever lived has borne the same the image of God. It is why every human life is of immeasurable intrinsic value and why every person should be treated with dignity and respect.

EQUALLY GUILTY

It might be difficult to believe that today. After all none of the goodness, mercy, love and justice of God seem to characterise the human race, let alone indicate we are all made in God's image. Yet that problem lies at our door, not God's. The Bible describes how God also made us with a Will to choose; and each one of us has chosen to go our own way and not God's. It describes this rebellion as sin, and makes it clear there are no exceptions:

"None is righteous, no, not one; no one understands; no one seeks for God. Romans 3:11-12

It reads as a chilling indictment of the human race. Not a generalisation but true of every individual, calling us to look at our own hearts to see the truth of what the Bible says. That just as we are all equally valuable before God, we are also all equally guilty.

EQUALLY LOVED

At the very top of the Old Bailey in London stands Lady Justice, looking out over the city blindfolded, carrying a sword in one hand and a set of scales in the other. It is a reminder that justice does not allow for favouritism or partiality, it treats all people equally.

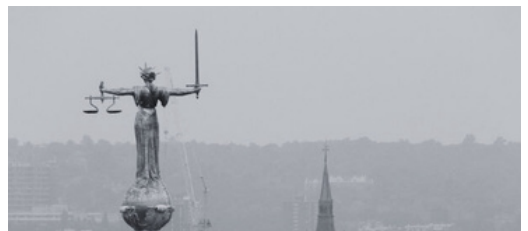
God knows our guilt and He knows the eternal consequences we rightly face because of it. After all, He will be the Judge before whom everyone will stand one day.

Yet He is also the God who loves. Not because we deserve it, but despite the fact we don't. The most well known verse in the Bible tells us how God demonstrated that love;

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

The message of the Bible is the message of equality. It tells us that we are all equally guilty and yet all equally loved. To the extent that God sent His own Son, Jesus Christ, to die in our place on the cross.

So that if anyone, from any race, any gender, any class, any background, turns in faith to Him, their sins will be forgiven and they will have eternal life.



Reflecting on...

HOLIDAY BIBLE CLUB



We were delighted to see the hall packed for the prize giving evening and there was much excitement about the announcement of the winning team!

The children were all able to recite the memory verse which you will see on the back of this issue - Romans ch 10 v9.

We look forward to running something similar in the future.



We had a great week during the summer at our holiday club 'Riverside Explorers'. The children enjoyed games, crafts and messages from the Bible around the theme of rivers. It was good to meet new families from the area and reconnect with familiar faces.



We continue to run a club for P1-7 children on a Wednesday evening 6:30-7:30pm. This runs on a similar format and there is something for everyone to enjoy!

Contact us:



kids.rca@yahoo.com

Sign up for our
weekly Kids
Club here



WHAT CAN WE DO FOR YOU?

Get in touch if you would like

- a free Bible
- a study course
- to find out more

VISIT OUR UPDATED WEBSITE



Where you can



Find out more about us and what we believe



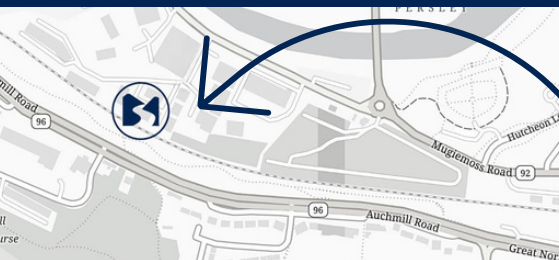
Learn more about what's on



View previous Quarterlys and sign up to our mailing list



www.theriverside.church



Unit 20
Spires Business Park
Mugiemoss Road
AB21 9BG



[riversidechristianassemblyaberdeens](https://www.facebook.com/riversidechristianassemblyaberdeens)



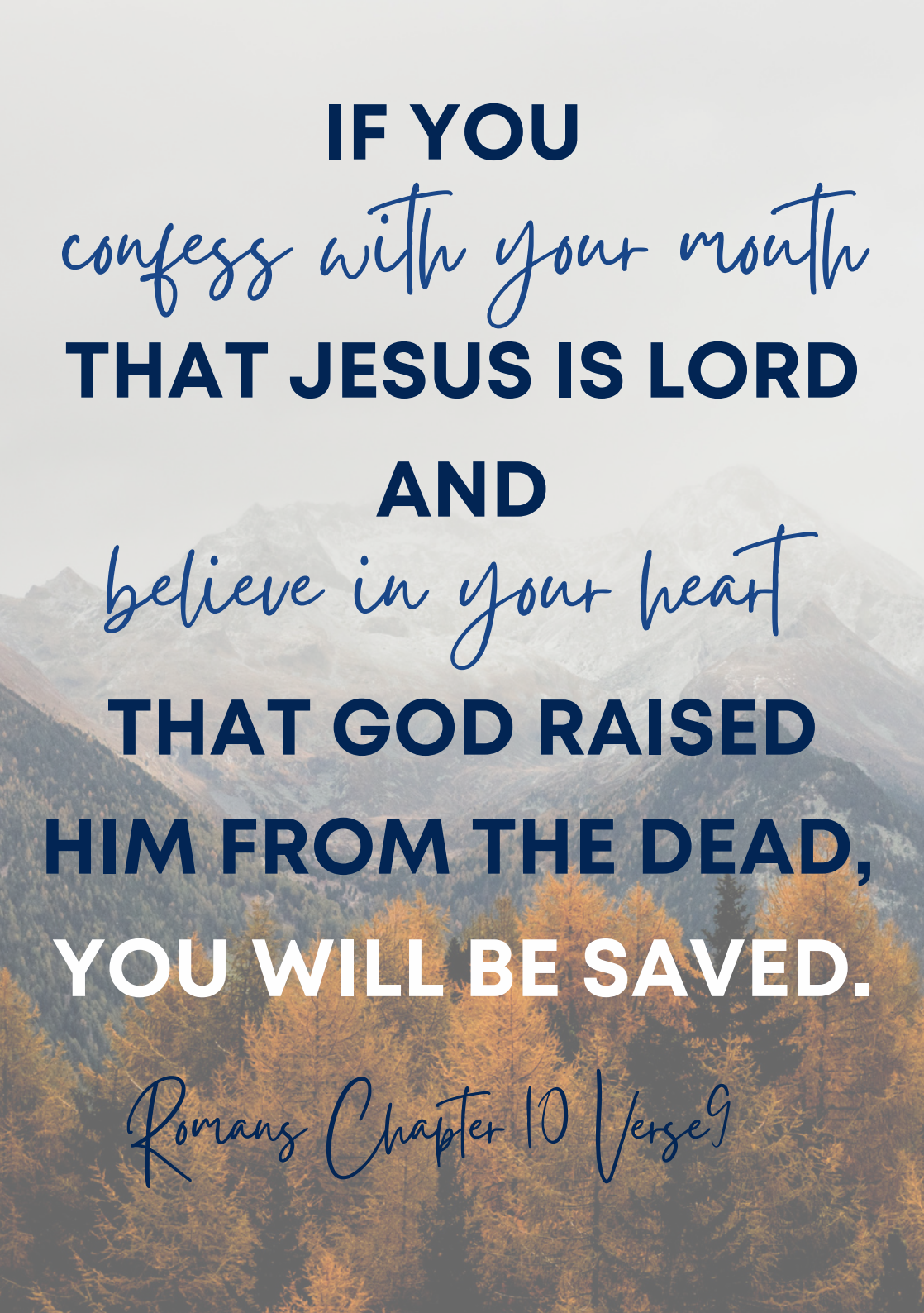
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IF YOU
confess with your mouth
THAT JESUS IS LORD
AND
believe in your heart
THAT GOD RAISED
HIM FROM THE DEAD,
YOU WILL BE SAVED.

Romans Chapter 10 Verse 9