# RIVERSIDE QUARTER





Issue **08.**Winter 23/24

How Can I Know God? Page 4 The Gospel Changes Lives



### Welcome

Welcome to the winter issue of Riverside Quarterly. This time our theme is Knowing God, which is wonderfully possible through Jesus Christ, His death on the cross and His resurrection.

We are glad to be able to share this good news with you. If you have questions, or would like to find out more, we would be delighted to help. See the back for contact details.

### What we believe about...

### Worship

We don't have a formal worship program, but we do worship. Here is some of what the Bible says on the subject (see Rom 12:1-2).

Worship is an **appropriate response** to the greatness, holiness and grace of God. Those who have been saved and had their sins forgiven respond by extolling God.

Worship is a **spiritual activity** which comes from understanding more of God, and resolving in the heart to give Him His rightful place. This is expressed through singing, acts of service, sacrifice and obedience.

Worship is **good** because it fulfils our purpose and directs our adoration to God who alone is worthy. It brings pleasure to God as our Maker and Saviour (see John 4:23)

'Oh, magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt His name together' (Psalm 34:3)

### Whats on?

#### SUNDAY

• 9:30am Breaking of Bread

Coffee @11:15am



<u>11:30am</u>

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. AND THIS IS

# ETERNAL LIFE,

THAT THEY KNOW YOU

# THE ONLY TRUE GOD

JESUS CHRIST WHO YOU HAVE SENT



### **HOW CAN I KNOW**

# GOD?

It is a strange fact that, although in the modern western world we live in an era of unprecedented comfort and security, there is so much dissatisfaction

This is true at both societal and personal levels. While our privileges are at an all-time high, so is our unhappiness.

The reason for this is simple – we do not know God.

### We need God

Nothing this world has to offer can ever truly satisfy us. The Bible tells us, "man shall not live by bread alone; but man lives by every word that proceeds from the mouth of the Lord" (Deuteronomy 8:3).

This demonstrates the dignity of all human beings – we were made to have a purpose that transcends this world. We were made to worship God and live in fellowship with Him forever.

If we stray from fulfilling our purpose, we experience spiritual death which ruins our whole being. As a tree is meant to live in the earth, and a fish is meant to live in water, so we are meant to live in relationship with God.

### We are far from God

But we are not naturally in a relationship with God – by our own choice. The prophet Isaiah said, "your iniquities [sins] have separated you from your God" (Isaiah 59:2).

When we do something that is wrong, we are not just hurting ourselves or other people, we are refusing God's rule in our lives. We are rejecting and rebelling against our Creator.

By doing this, we are wilfully separating ourselves from the One who can give us the unconditional love and everlasting peace that we need. A life without God is a life without joy.

### God loves us

In spite of our sinfulness and rebellion against God, He still loves us. He still wants a relationship with us.

To make this possible, He has given us the ultimate demonstration of His love: "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). Jesus did not come primarily as an example, but as a saviour. He did not come merely to show us how to live. He came to die for us so we could have eternal life: "the Lord has laid on Him the iniquity of us all" (Isaiah 53:6).

Through faith in God's Son, and His death for our sin on the cross, our broken relationship with God can be fixed. There is freedom and forgiveness through trusting in Jesus.

### **SEARCHING...**

The Bible has been providing the most profound answers to our deepest questions for thousands of years, long before the recent advent of Google. The real question is,

Google What are we searching for?

### The Bible



HEROES

Most searched athlete:
Christiano Ronaldo







ACHIEVEMENTS
Most searched step:
Moon Landing

HIS DEATH FOR SINS Calvary





**POSESSIONS**Most searched toy:
Barbie

THE GREATEST GIFT Eternal Life





**DISCOVERIES** 

Most searched breakthrough:
Nuclear Fusion

FREEDOM FROM GUILT Forgiveness

Forgiveriess





**TRAGEDIES** 

Most searched moment of silence: COVID 19 Victims

PERSONAL EXPERIENCE Lasting Peace

Romans ch5 v1



SEEK FIRST THE KINGDOM OF GOD AND HIS RIGHTOUSNESS

Matthew Ch 6 v 33

## THE GOSPEL CHANGES LIVES

The Gospel [good news] is all about forgiveness of sins and peace with God, made possible through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

This message surged across the world in the months and years following the events which unfolded in Jerusalem at the beginning of the first century. Countless Old Testament predictions had crystallized and been indisputably fulfilled in a single historical figure; Jesus of Nazareth. With great publicity He had died, been buried and rose again from the dead, before appearing to hundreds of eyewitnesses across dozens of occasions.

Lives were radically and permanently changed in Jerusalem; even hardened skeptics and opponents were convinced and converted. Meanwhile, as the political mood changed many of these new Christians were driven from Jerusalem, and the message of good news surged across the world in the months and years that followed.

The New Testament book of Acts records biographical records of men and women who encountered this message during that early period, and how their lives were forever changed as they responded to God's invitation in repentance and faith.

Whatever our circumstances and disposition, we can find a great deal to identify with. The gospel speaks to the most profound needs of all; whether religious or irreligious, whether suffering ill health and poverty or enjoying affluence and power, whether searching or sceptical. This timeless message is also for you.



### WHAT CAN WE DO FOR YOU?

### Get in touch if you would like

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



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Visit our website where you can



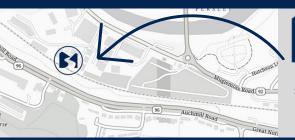
**?** Find out more about us and what we believe



Learn more about what's on



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