

Jesus

The Life that Changes the World

He was born in an obscure village, the child of a peasant woman. He grew up in yet another village, where he worked in a carpenter's shop till he was thirty. Then for three years he was an itinerant preacher.

He never wrote a book. He never held an office. He never had a family or owned a house. He didn't go to University. He never travelled more than 200 miles from the place where he was born. He did none of the things that the world usually associates with greatness. He had no credentials but himself.

He was only thirty three when the tide of public opinion turned against him. His friends ran away. He was nailed to a cross between two thieves. While he was dying, his executioners gambled for his clothing, the only property he had on earth.

Centuries have come and gone and today he is the central figure of the human race. All the armies that ever marched, all the navies that ever sailed, all the parliaments that ever sat, all the kings that ever reigned, put together, have not affected the life of people on this earth as much as that one solitary life.

Anon

World Events

Use the news as a source of prayer pointers. Pray for:

- Those seeking peace in Syria.
- Theresa May and those starting the Brexit negotiations.
- Aid to flow, and just government to arise in the famine-hit areas of East Africa.
- The voices of Godly wisdom to be heard and heeded in the corridors of political power around the world.
- An increasing sensitivity to the millions of refugees still seeking a home in Europe.

Salvation

Please pray this month for:

- Specific individuals on your frontline.
- Any non-Christian husband or wife of a church friend that you know.
- Those attending Coffee Shop and our community outreach events.
- Dads who attended the Dads' and Kids' morning in March.
- Someone you could invite to the Easter services.
- Members of the church football team who are coming to TBC at the start of May.

April 2017



Frontline Mission

As a church we recognise that God is interested in our whole lives. Each month we feature and pray for a different 'frontline' - the places where TBC members spend their Monday- Saturday lives. This month we feature those who work in Information Technology.

As a software contractor I go from company to company spending 6 months in one and 9 months or a year in another. While I enjoy the variety and the new challenges, I'm often seen as a temporary fixture and therefore not someone to become long-term friends with.

Many of the people I work with are very intelligent and often combine that with the confidence of youth. This can mean very few are open to spiritual matters, and some are very antagonistic. I tend to feel my best witness is to work diligently, be friendly and help my colleagues rather than getting into arguments about faith which no-one is going to win.

My family consists of my wife Alina and children Natalie, 8, and Tommy, 6. Tommy regularly asks about my day at work. When I answer, "I wrote some .Net code," he always gives a little cheer! Please pray for

- an openness among my colleagues to faith
- confidence not to be intimidated by those who are opposed to faith
- all those working in an IT environment



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following the way of Jesus

loving God, one another
and the world



Community Mission

Two by Two, our toddler group, continues to flourish with about 60 registered with us over the two sessions on Monday and Wednesday mornings. We also have about 15 on the waiting list.

Please pray for:

- The helpers interacting with both children and parent/grandparents/carers, that they will show the love of Jesus in action through their words and deeds;
- Wisdom as how to engage with families when they leave to encourage a continued connection with the church;
- A number of our current helpers will be stepping down in the summer, so please pray for others to take their place (if you could be the answer to that prayer, please speak to Nicky Phipps or Sally Heath!)



All of our mission partners are listed under the 'mission' tab on our church website, so do search there for more information. Many also have their own websites, and you will find those links in their listing on the church website.

UK Mission Partners

Nik and Tiffany Strode, and their daughter Beth, live and work in Bransholme, a very deprived area of Hull. They head up Bridges, a Christian charity that runs a range of community-based programmes that all stem from 'The Pennine', a revamped pub that is now a community centre, and home to a small but growing church.

- Give thanks that 'The Pennine' is going well with 20-25 adults plus kids from North Bransholme.
- Give thanks for funding provision from the council.
- Nik and Tiff re their journey to becoming foster parents
- Beth who is part of a very small CU at school and juggles her friendships, clubs, schoolwork and music
- The link between Bodmin church and Pennine, and wisdom for Nik and Tiff to know their role within this.
- The young people who benefit from the programmes, some of which are showing a lot of interest in faith, and others who are very demanding and have huge pastoral needs and require a large amount of time and support.
- Energy for Nik and Tiff as they juggle home life with the demands of the charity and those who use the various programmes

Mission Partners

SIFT, is a Christian based charity that has been working in Nicaragua since 2000 and became a registered UK charity and N.G.O in 2002. TBC members Dave and Heather Staley are heavily involved in overseeing the work. Pray for:



- Valeria, (who runs Casa Rahab a centre for abused young women) is unwell and is moving house. Pray for her full recovery and that the house will go through.
- Dr. Sandra, as she is training to use the new ultra sound scanner, plan the women's Christian conference for the autumn and run the three health clinics.
- For Juilita, Gabby and Max who provide weekly meals and bible teaching for forty-five children, and regular bible study for some of their parents.
- Margaret, recovering from an operation. For the four new students going to university sponsored by SIFT, and for the churches and staff that run the schools where our 76 sponsored children attend.
- Jacobo, (husband of Valeria) doing the administrative work in Nicaragua, and planning new young adult vocational courses in connection with his local church.

Children & Young People

Please pray for:

- Those who are bullied at school for their faith, that they would be supported and stay strong.
- For those Children and Youth in TBC who are struggling with their faith and doubt that God is real.
- Those on the *Getting Your Kids Through Church* course, that it will be a help in how to love, nurture and disciple children in Christian families.

Personal Renewal

Use the words of this worship song (based on Psalm 42) as your own prayer for renewal this month:

As the deer pants for the water
So my soul longs after you
You alone are my heart's desire
And I long to worship you

*You alone are my strength,
my shield
To you alone will my spirit yield
You alone are my heart's desire
And I long to worship you*

I want you more than gold or silver
Only you can satisfy
You alone are the real joy giver
And the apple of my eye

You're my friend and you are
my brother,
Even though you are my King
I love you more than any other
So much more than anything