

It's All About Jesus by John Fischer

"When I came to you ... I did not come with eloquence or superior wisdom as I proclaimed to you the testimony about God. For I resolved to know nothing while I was with you except Jesus Christ and him crucified." (1 Corinthians 2:1-2 NIV)

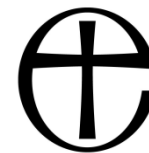
The Gospel message has gotten a little foggy these days with all the attention being paid to politics, family values, and culture wars, and a lot of folks have lost track of the fact that it's all about Jesus. Ask the man on the street what a Christian is today and you're likely to ask a long time until you hear anything about Jesus or the cross. Our message, from beginning to end, is Jesus – who he was, what he said, and what he did.

The last recognized revival in this country was a movement primarily among baby boom youth in the early 1970s that was quickly dubbed the Jesus movement. It got that name because everything was focused around Jesus. When you think about it, Jesus was the ultimate hippie – he wore long hair, sandals, and he was against the establishment – and a generation of ideological kids embraced Christ, even while they rejected religion and the institutional church. Jesus was the central figure in all of this.

Our message is all about a person, and our mission is to share that person with the world. God made us to belong to him; we wandered away; Jesus is the way back. A whole generation of young people found that out 30 years ago and nothing's really changed about the heart of the message. It's a personal message. It's non-threatening. It's all about a meaningful relationship with God that comes to someone by way of a meaningful relationship with them. There's not a lot of baggage here. Our main concern is to introduce ourselves to people and in doing so, to introduce them to Jesus, because, as far as we're concerned, that's who it's all about.

Jesus came to save us, unite us, and teach us to love one another. We've added a lot of other stuff to this and I'm not so sure it's helping us do what we're supposed to be doing. If it makes us more loving to our neighbour, then it's probably a good thing. If it makes us our neighbour's enemy, then it's probably not. If it's all about Jesus, then it's definitely "right on!"

Bincombe with Broadway Upwey and Buckland Ripers



Welcome to Church today

As we have opportunity, let us do good to all people

Please take these notes away with you

July 4th

Broadway

Fifth Sunday after Trinity

10.30am

Family Worship (Vicky Piggott-Genge)

Bincombe

9.15am

Holy Communion (Rector)

Upwey

10.30am

Family Worship (Rector)

Buckland

6.00pm

Evening Service (Rector)

Isaiah 66:10-14; Galatians 6:1-6; Luke 10:1-11, 16-20 pp 932ff

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The Prayer for Today

Almighty and everlasting God,
by whose Spirit the whole body of the Church
is governed and sanctified:

U-R-4-Given

hear our prayer which we offer for all your faithful people,
that in their vocation and ministry
they may serve you in holiness and truth to the glory of your name;
through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ,

Introduction to the Peace

We are all one in Christ Jesus. We belong to him through faith,
heirs of the promise of the Spirit of peace.
The peace of the Risen Lord be always with you.
and also with you.

COMMUNION We welcome all who are members of their own Churches to receive the sacrament at any of our Communion Services.

Today's Gospel Luke 10.1-11,16-20

The Lord appointed seventy-two others and sent them two by two ahead of him to every town and place where he was about to go. He told them, "The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field. Go! I am sending you out like lambs among wolves. Do not take a purse or bag or sandals; and do not greet anyone on the road.

"When you enter a house, first say, 'Peace to this house.' If a man of peace is there, your peace will rest on him; if not, it will return to you. Stay in that house, eating and drinking whatever they give you, for the worker deserves his wages. Do not move around from house to house. "When you enter a town and are welcomed, eat what is set before you. Heal the sick who are there and tell them, 'The kingdom of God is near you.' But when you enter a town and are not welcomed, go into its streets and say, 'Even the dust of your town that sticks to our feet we wipe off against you. Yet be sure of this: The kingdom of God is near.' "He who listens to you listens to me; he who rejects you rejects me; but he who rejects me rejects him who sent me."

The seventy-two returned with joy and said, "Lord, even the demons submit to us in your name."

He replied, "I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven. I have given you authority to trample on snakes and scorpions and to overcome all the power of the enemy; nothing will harm you. However, do not rejoice that the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven."

EU may ban religious symbols in state schools

Italy's appeal against a European Court of Human Rights ruling forbidding crucifixes in state schools could backfire, the *Telegraph* reports. The court's decision last November angered Italian government ministers who saw it as an attack on the country's Christian values. But if the court upholds the ban when it makes its decision in three months' time, it would mean that state-run schools across the EU would be required to remove crosses and other religious symbols. The original case was brought by a Finnish woman living in Italy, who complained that her children's school near Venice had a crucifix in each classroom.

Notices

Tuesday	10.00am	Holy Communion – St Laurence Upwey
Thursday	10.30am	Holy Communion at St Nicholas Broadway
Saturday	12.30pm	Wedding at St Laurence Upwey Victoria Rees and Richard Parker
Saturday	2.00pm	Dorset Organists Association Meet at St Laurence Upwey
Saturday	4.30pm	Wedding at St Laurence Upwey Lucy Saunt and Robin Canniford

11th

Broadwey	10.30am	Family Worship (Rector)
Bincombe	9.15am	Morning Service (Terry Landsbert)
Upwey	10.30am	Parish Communion (Revd Pat Jones)
Buckland	9.15am	Holy Communion (Rector)

Deuteronomy 30:9-14; Colossians 1:1-14; Luke 10:25-37 pp 938ff

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The Upwey Society : OPEN GARDENS

Saturday and Sunday, 10th and 11th July, 2.00 - 6.00pm

More than 20 gardens around the village

Art Exhibition, Sculpture Trail, Pottery Demonstrations

Teas and light refreshments

Parking in field at bottom of Elwell Street, programmes £3.50,

Accompanied children free.

A church that is not growing is a church which is dying - maybe not today, maybe not tomorrow, but somewhere down the road, when the last three members close the doors for the last time, and say, "Maybe we should have thought about evangelism after all". When we start to evangelize, we will know God's pleasure. Why? Because God is an evangelizing God, a disciple-making God, and when we do the things that God cares about, and our heart is beginning to beat with the heart of God, we will know God's pleasure.