

St. John's, Lindow

INTOUCH

Winter 2016

Science & Faith: do we have to choose?

*Great are the works of the LORD; they are pondered
by all who delight in them.*

Psalm 111:2

SIMON'S SCRAWL

Simon Gales

'There's no use trying', said Alice 'one can't believe impossible things'. 'I dare say you haven't had much practice' said the Queen. 'When I was your age, I always did it for half an hour a day. Why, sometimes I've believed as many as six impossible things before breakfast.'

Lewis Carroll 'Through the Looking Glass'

Lewis Carroll is commenting, in his deceptively childish style, on the enigma of faith. Why is it that some people manage to believe things which other people find utterly incredible? In the upside-down world of the White Queen it seems that faith is just a matter of effort. 'Hold your breath and shut your eyes' she advises, 'you can believe anything if only you try hard enough'.

The Christmas story contains supernatural events which in the cold light of reason appear quite extraordinary - God becomes man and walks about on earth! How is it that Christians believe stuff like that? Is it just gullibility? No doubt there are Christians who are naïve and credulous, but it's (hopefully) not fair to portray us all as dupes and dimwits!

Perhaps you're someone who finds the supernatural nature of the Christmas story hard to swallow. Maybe you're prepared to accept Jesus as a great teacher but you struggle with the idea of a virgin birth and God becoming flesh. Hopefully there is much in this magazine with its theme of science and faith which will help you, but let me just say

this. If you accept that there is (or even that there might be) a God, a supreme being, then surely He would be capable of entering his universe? In fact, wouldn't it be strange if God had brought this universe into being but then never bothered to communicate with us? Isn't it exactly the thing we might expect him to do? God taking on human flesh is a mystery that we will never fully understand, but not being able to understand **how** God became one of us is no proof that he didn't! When you stop to think, is it any surprise that God's ways are sometimes mysterious and inexplicable to us?



Christmas is unavoidably supernatural because it's God's action, but it's also history, unrepeatable history. Heaven was breaking into earth as never before. Here is the answer to the human condition, the solution to our separation from God. God bridged the gap by coming from heaven to earth. This is how much the mighty God cares about us - being born as one of us, so that he might die instead of us, taking the separation upon himself. So don't let the supernatural be a barrier to belief - it's exactly what we need!

May you know the joy of Christmas
Simon



"The vicar's chemistry illustration needed a bit more practice..."

Ben Hollinshead

VIEW FROM THE PEW

George & Gill Brown

Gareth: So, you're two of the longer standing members of St. John's we've interviewed so far, not sure we'll fit everything in!

Gill: Well one thing must go in: we can't thank the church family enough for all the help they've given us in the last year whilst I've been ill. We've had so much help and support it's been wonderful.

Gareth: That's great to hear; it's a significant part of church family life. Now although, you've been a part of St. John's for many years, tell us about life before that.

Gill: I was born in Stockport, but we moved lots with my dad's job. We ended up in Hertfordshire and went to the local Anglican church. I stayed there until I married George, who I had met at a dance at a hotel in Richmond Surrey.

George: We hadn't met before that day but got on well and started meeting up in central London each week. Eventually, we got married in Gill's church in Hertfordshire and then to cut a long story short ended up in Wilmslow in 1970 when I got a job at Alderley Park.

OK so as this magazine has a focus on science and faith, let's briefly track your career George.

Well, it's a very complicated story! I graduated in Chemistry in 1962 and went to work at Guys and then St. Mary's medical schools in London, researching in steroid biochemistry. I went on to Brunel to study Steroid Hormone Chemistry, but the funding then dried up and so I got a job with Twyford's labs which was owned by Guinness while carrying on with part time study.

The Brewery?!

Yes, I had to walk through the Brewery each day to the labs! But after 6 years Guinness closed it down and so I looked for another job and I got a job with ICI up here.

And what was your focus with ICI?

Well I moved around a lot within different research area. At first I worked on animal health drugs (preventing animal disease), but then moved into: diabetes, obesity, preventative cardiovascular medicines and towards the end, rheumatoid arthritis and transplantation drugs.



Wow! That's quite a range and didn't I hear you had a side-line which included collaborating with Nobel Prize Winning Chemist?

Yes, Sir Fraser Stoddart, would send some PhD students (from Sheffield Uni) for me to supervise the industrial side of their research. In 1991 he sent a student who was working with him on the area of research for which he won the 2016 Nobel Prize; it was quite exciting to have been a part of that.

And tell me how you see the relationship between science and faith in terms of the existence of a creator God?

Some people consider the existence of lots of chemicals, such as DNA, sugars, vitamins, hormones etc., as giving the need for a creator. I don't see the diversity of chemical structures as pointing so clearly towards a creator. Few people realise the extent and complexity of chemical substances throughout the planet from those in flora, fauna, fungi and marine organisms for example.

Everything I see in chemical structures is so complex that, for me, it doesn't provide clear evidence for God. I'm happy with the idea of God being the origin, but less so with the idea of him being in control of all of the processes.

So, would you describe yourself as a Deist, someone who believes God started the universe but then stepped back from involvement since then?

George: No, I wouldn't be comfortable with that concept. If you accept Deism, there is no Bible, prayer or hope at the end.

CAN WE BELIEVE IN MIRACLES IN AN AGE OF SCIENCE?

Simon Gales

There is little doubt, historically speaking, that Jesus was famous as a miracle worker. The many stories of his miracles are spread throughout the four Gospels and even Josephus, a Jewish historian, records that Jesus was known for his 'wonderful deeds'. But can we as modern people believe that these miracles really happened? Can we accept that the laws of nature were supposedly 'broken' or 'suspended' so that Jesus could walk on water?

Many people today assume that the world is like a complex machine with millions of interlocking parts, which runs along under its own steam. Science has discovered how many of these parts work and it's formulated laws and principles by which we can predict how 'the machine' will operate. If there is a 'God' then he might have been responsible for designing the world and even setting it running but that's all. A miracle would mean that he was suddenly poking his finger into the machine!

The Bible views the world very differently - not as an independently operating machine but as something that God has made and sustains. By his great power and wisdom he keeps everything going. Because he's in charge of everything he can change his normal way of doing things and act in an unusual way if it suits him. A miracle is not God sticking his finger into the works of the machine so as to prove his existence, but simply God working outside his normal pattern.

Some say that because 1st century people were primitive and did not understand science they were prepared to believe anything, but that is hardly reasonable! They, like us, knew that dead people stayed dead. They knew that people who had been paralysed for 30 years didn't suddenly get up and start walking - which is precisely why they called it a miracle when Jesus did that sort of thing! Another argument used against miracles is that they are so unlikely that we should dismiss such claims as being inherently unreliable. According to this argument it's much more likely that those

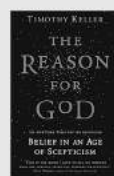
involved were mistaken or deceived, so we should not trust what they say. But by that line of reasoning we would rule out all unusual events. Yet extraordinary things do happen - they just don't happen very often, which is what makes them extraordinary! To say that the miracles of Jesus could not have happened simply because they are beyond our normal experience is to prejudge the question. It is to make up our minds without looking at the evidence. It's like someone who lives on the equator refusing to believe in snow simply because they've never seen it!

If the God of the Bible is real then the occurrence of miracles is quite reasonable. Miracles are simply the extraordinary (as opposed to the ordinary) workings of God in a world that he made and continues to rule. If Jesus is God's representative then it would seem reasonable for him to be able to perform what we would call 'miraculous' deeds. Indeed such miracles are almost to be expected!

If you would like to read more about this topic, there have been a number of excellent books published on the topic:



Miracles by C. S. Lewis
An all time classic!



The Reason for God - belief in an of scepticism by Tim Keller
A more general book by Tim Keller, with a very helpful chapter on science & miracles



Rebuilding the Matrix by Denis Alexander
A substantial book, with a helpful chapter taking a critical look at miracles, ancient & modern

BOOK REVIEW

Science and God - Scott Petty

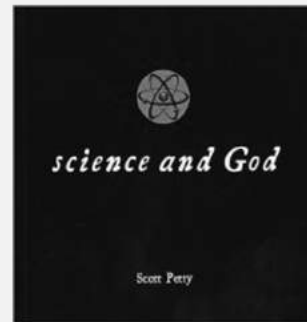
Abbie Goddard

The seeming conflict between Christian faith and scientific reasoning can prove a stumbling block for people seeking the truth about the origins of our world. Those with a non-scientific background can feel insufficiently informed to deal with peoples queries in this area. Written to combat the claims of the New Atheists, this short, informative book provides a sound basis for investigating the interaction between science and God and is written in a simple, engaging way that is as accessible for non-scientists as it is for scientists.

The book discusses the historical relationship between science and God as well as dealing with big questions relating to the origin of the planet, the emergence of life and the creation of man. Though the size of the book makes it impossible to cover all these in great detail, the chapters provide a good foundation for research into these questions and

give references to other books discussing the matters further.

This book would be a helpful read for anyone looking into the relationship between science and God for the first time or wishing to find a good starting point for discussing the perceived conflict with people who feel the incompatibility between science and God prevents them from believing the Christian faith.



This book is available from the St John's bookshop or online at www.100ofthose.com.

TV REVIEW

Forces of Nature - Brian Cox

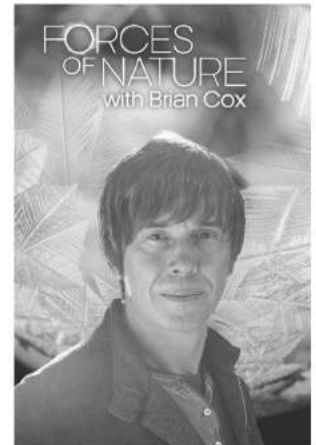
Duncan Howsley

The four-part series, Forces of Nature, sees particle physicist Brian Cox introducing and explaining the four fundamental forces and how they shape the world around us. We journey with him from the snowy, frozen north to the banks of the Amazon in Brazil; from the foothills of the Himalaya to the Philippines, all to demonstrate the effect these forces have on the world around us.

The first episode of Forces of Nature opens with Cox musing on the inner workings of our world and the scientific laws that underpin it, suggesting that "this seemingly infinite complexity is just a shadow of something deeper: the underlying laws of nature." Indeed, Cox continues in his now characteristic style that "the world is beautiful to look at, but even more beautiful to understand."

As a Christian, I felt that these statements really resonated with me and my personal faith (although perhaps with a slightly different reading

than Cox intended) - indeed, as David Watts argues in his article on page 8 of this issue of In Touch, science depends on the reliability of God, and the fundamental forces Cox is describing in this series share the same predictable and unchanging nature that characterises the God of the Bible.



Forces of Nature is a beautifully written and filmed TV series and would be an excellent place to start a discussion with friends and family about why the world might be the way it is. Knowledge and understanding of a God who created the universe and the laws of physics, and who wants to be in relationship with his people certainly does make the world even more beautiful.

MEET THE SCIENTIST

Abbie Goddard

I studied biology at St Andrews University, graduating in May 2016. My main area of study was evolutionary biology and my dissertation looked into ways that new species may evolve. I investigated two strains of fruit flies taken from opposite sides of the world. The males of one strain were reluctant to court females of the other which could ultimately lead to total separation between the two strains.



God is responsible for both creation and His word in scripture so we can be confident that no scientific discovery should cause us to question the truth of His word. For me scientific investigation is an attempt to better understand the intricacies of God's creation and the pattern of complex mechanisms at work in creation strengthen my faith in a Creator God.

Hazel Brooks

I clearly remember an experiment I did at St Andrews university in my final year project where I said "Wow!", out loud, to the amusement of my supervisor, and from then on I was hooked and realised that I wanted to go on discovering more about molecular mechanisms in cells. Nearly 30 years later, having worked primarily in the pharmaceutical sector, I have had a career that was never boring, often frustrating when our ideas proved to be wrong, but privileged to work with others to help discover potential new cancer treatments. Although scientific research has taken us a long way, there is so much we still don't understand; the complexity of even simple cells is breath-taking, which speaks to me of a creator God who brought this into being rather than random events or chance. As scientists we can begin to understand how the world works (or doesn't in some situations!) but only God's word tells me the reason and purpose behind it.



Althea Wilkinson

I did natural sciences (physics) at Cambridge, then did my PhD in Astronomy at Jodrell Bank. My husband's work then took us to California, where I started working on galaxies using an optical telescope. After a few years I returned to Manchester, and I have been working on computer simulations, the dark matter and how individual stars moving within galaxies. After a career break and two children, I returned to work on the microwave background (CMB) research. I was the Project Manager of the group constructing the back end and front end modules for the Low Frequency Array Satellite, a European Space Agency mission. After that I moved to become the Project Manager of the CMB. After that I moved to become the Project Manager of the timing of the networks for the Square Kilometre Array. Especially during the cosmology work, it is reassuring that these missions are just discovering the universe that God has in fact created the universe, and that his works through our scientific endeavours. The tension between God's word and his works is a constant self revelation, and that helps me with my faith in the Bible.

Julian Matthews

I am a senior lecturer in imaging science at the University of Manchester where I am involved in developing medical imaging research and with others their application to research and clinical practice. As a Christian the work can be very challenging, for instance working in areas such as cancer and dementia where the suffering is all too apparent, and progress is slow. Nevertheless, as a scientist, the work is a constant revelation of the instrumentation to the complexity of the world, which is apparent and humbling as our understanding grows.

St John's has an amazing range of people in its congregation from all walks of life, including a number of scientists. Here, some of those scientists reflect on whether there is a conflict between their work and their faith in God.

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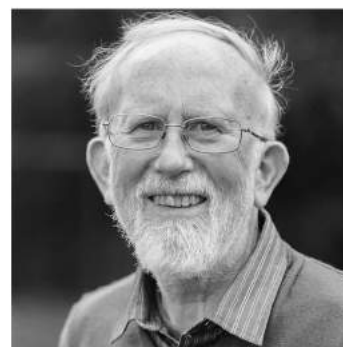
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Ed Walker

I'm retired now of course, but I worked for 30 years in drug discovery at Alderley Park. My particular field was the autoimmune disease rheumatoid arthritis, and I was lucky enough to have a fantastically interesting job trying to find new, more effective treatments. The drugs at that time were quite poor and there was certainly no



cure! Our immune system plays an absolutely pivotal role in keeping us alive by eliminating invading organisms that would otherwise kill us, while leaving our bodies to flourish and grow. Rheumatoid arthritis occurs when, in error, the immune system begins to attack our joints and my work involved finding new drugs to stop this happening.

I've never felt that there is a conflict between science and belief in God. On the contrary, I find the elegance and exquisite selectivity of immune-biology to be truly awe-inspiring and this in fact strengthens my belief in a loving, creator God. I see beauty in the biological systems that He has created just as we all see beauty and wonder in many other areas of the natural world.

Luckily my daughter Lucy, who is an academic immunologist, keeps me in touch with the latest wonders of science in the area.

Martin Haywood

At AstraZeneca I had the responsibility with a senior clinician to provide a comprehensive literature review of the olaparib drug mechanism for US regulatory authorities enabling progression from Phase 1 to Phase 3 clinical trials for ovarian cancer. This successful drug is now also in trials for pancreatic, prostate and gastric cancers.



I see enormous benefits for human health as a consequence of our intended diligent, orderly, honest exploration of our world using the capabilities God has enabled mankind to develop. Christian belief in human dignity and value is a great motivator, as is love for God, our Creator and Redeemer of all who trust in him.

SCIENCE DEPENDS ON THE RELIABILITY OF GOD

David Watts

The 'self-made' man or woman typically denies indebtedness to anyone. But most of us are glad to acknowledge the support of parents, friends, colleagues and employers. Scientists, likewise, come to appreciate the insights and achievements of pioneer researchers in their field who have battled against indifference and opposition based upon the prevailing conventional wisdom – whether scientific or otherwise.

Although there are significant variations in the methods used across the range of scientific disciplines, a common goal is discovery of regular patterns of behaviour – whether in developmental biology, astronomy, organic chemistry or condensed matter physics.

Such regularities imply the existence of scientific laws. These, in turn, call for explanation via causal 'mechanisms' or chains of cause and effect. For example, why is the sky - viewed from earth - blue in colour? Causal explanation of this involves the nature of light, the phenomenon of scattering and the perception of colour in the eye and brain; thus a variety of disciplines from fundamental physics to neurology.

In addition to obvious and familiar regularities, like the rising and setting of the sun, even apparently chaotic phenomena such as weather patterns and lightning strikes exhibit hidden regularities. Moreover there is a subtle balance between order and disorder apparent in much molecular behavior, where the movements of individual molecules are unpredictable, but the combined effect of multiple billions can be predicted by statistical mechanics.

The chain of causes can be extended backwards towards the most basic and general scientific laws. But why do these laws exist? And is there a lawgiver or a final (ultimate) cause? The philosopher Immanuel Kant suggested that our mental categories impose regularity upon an intrinsically non-regular universe. But working

scientists invariably disagree with this non-realist outlook and have faith in intrinsic regularities "out there" awaiting discovery. This is supported by the Proverbs of Solomon, the philosopher-king of Israel ca. 970-931 BC, who wrote: *"It is the glory of God to conceal a matter / To search out a matter is the glory of Kings"* (Proverbs 25:2).

The classic biography of Albert Einstein is titled: *Subtle is the Lord* – based upon his often-stated conviction that God's ways are subtle, but not malicious! Christian belief affords a ringing endorsement of this outlook, maintaining that the Ultimate Cause is an infinite-personal divine Being.

Especially in the biblical Wisdom Literature – including Psalms and the book of Job – the reliability of what we now call physical and scientific law is attributed to the reliability of God: Maker of Heaven and Earth. The God of the Bible is said to be a Covenant-keeping God: One who keeps His promises. Remarkably, in the prophetic book of Jeremiah, the future security of the people of God is directly guaranteed on the basis of the reliable divine maintenance of the "fixed order" of the physical laws of nature, (Jeremiah 31: 35f; 33: 25f). Moreover, the New Testament affirms that: *"All the promises of God find their Yes in Jesus"* – God incarnate as a human being (2 Corinthians 1: 20)!

Accordingly, scientists – perhaps above all people – are dependent upon the covenant faithfulness or reliability of God. If we have suppressed this knowledge of God's eternal power, apparent in the created universe, we should acknowledge our indebtedness to God and show our gratitude and worship towards Him.

RECENT HIGHLIGHTS

Denis Alexander speaks at the Guild



A lovely day, hosted by Philip & Brenda, when Keith shared the gospel with Chinese scholars



Youth Weekend Away

GatBB is an initiative to high school students to get them to rethink their attitudes to science and faith (the administrator is Steph Bryant, who was a student at Wilmslow High School, before studying biology at Cambridge). The target was to reach 200 schools round the country.

The format is a whole day, starting with a questionnaire on attitudes to science and faith. This is followed by a keynote speech from an established scientist who is a Christian (I have done a few), talking about one's work, and how it is compatible with faith. The rest of the day is taken up with workshops, run by young (Christian) scientists. They may be evolutionary biologists (with lots of fossils to play with and evolutionary tree puzzles to sort out), geophysicists (building earthquake proof buildings out of spaghetti and marshmallows), and a magician (what you believe and what you see aren't necessarily reliable), or other areas, but they are all good, solid hands-on science, delivered by young people of established Christian faith. The last event of the day is a Q&A session, with all of us at the front, fielding anything that comes, and being that age group, the questions are always challenging and direct. At the end they

fill in the same questionnaire as in the morning. The changes suggest that most people have been caused to significantly rethink their standard culturally-shaped opinions from the start of the day.

I have done several keynote speeches now, and have seen more and less responsive schools. The attitudes of the teachers are very important – when you visit a school and the head teacher doesn't bother to turn up to greet you, and staff use it as an opportunity to get on with their marking, it is never as constructive. If we change opinions of a single year of students, that is good, but if we change the teachers, we can reach a generation. So although the first grant runs out in March, Michael Harvey is applying for new funding to continue, with emphasis on reaching teachers.

As part of our "Scientists in Congregations" initiative we wanted to take GatBB to Wilmslow High School. The negotiations have been quite protracted, and may not conclude before March, but I know the team are sufficiently dedicated that they will come together again just for WHS if we can get permission. Who could resist that offer?

ENGAGE SCIENCE EVENTS AT COSTA COFFEE, WILMSLOW

Following up on our recent lectures arranged at the Wilmslow Guild and in the Church Rooms, a series of six weekly events are planned around March 2017. These will be in the informal setting of Costa Coffee, Wilmslow and will be held on Monday evenings, starting at 7:30 pm.

Each session will commence with a 30-35 minute illustrated presentation followed by an informal Q&A discussion session.

The proposed schedule is as follows, but may be subject to some re-arrangement:

27 February - Prof David Watts.

The Laws of Physics and the Reliability of God.

6 March - Dr Althea Wilkinson.

The Fine Tuning of Physical Constants for Intelligent Life.

13 March - Prof Steve Furber, FRS.

Understanding Minds, Brains & Artificial Intelligence.

20 March - Prof David Watts.

Creation and the Building Blocks of Organic Life.

27 March - Mr David Land

Has Science made God Redundant?

3 April - Dr Henk Alting

Understanding the Argument from Design

THEOLOGY CORNER

IS SCIENCE WORSHIP?

David Land

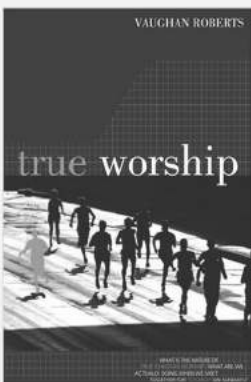
When someone says “worship”, my first thoughts are usually to do with singing in church, or perhaps times when I’ve witnessed the outstanding natural beauty of the world and how “the heaven’s declare the glory of God”. But I would also think of the hours I spent at university, sitting in lectures listening to learned men and women teach me amazing things about God’s creation. I remember learning the intricate details of how a living cell works or deriving the laws and equations that govern our universe and each time realising that God’s handiwork was more beautiful, elegant and ingenious than I had ever realised before. The more I learned about how complex and wonderful creation was, the more I appreciated how brilliant the God who made it must be and the more incredible it seemed that this same God should love me and even die for me (I think King David felt similarly when he wrote Psalm 8).

This experience wasn’t unique to me. Every day, I and my fellow students would walk through the main entrance of the Cavendish Laboratories underneath an inscription of Psalm 111:2, “Great are the works of the LORD, studied by all who delight in them.” These words were insisted upon by James Clerk Maxwell, the first head professor of the labs. He, like many of the greatest scientists in history, understood their science as a the natural outflowing of their delight in God’s work. Centuries earlier, Copernicus explains “To know the mighty works of God, to comprehend His wisdom and majesty and power; to appreciate, in degree, the

wonderful workings of His laws, surely all this must be a pleasing and acceptable mode of worship to the Most High, to whom ignorance cannot be more grateful than knowledge.”

Copernicus’ and Maxwell’s understanding of worship is thoroughly Biblical. In English, the word “worship” is literally “worth-ship” i.e. to acknowledge and show God’s worth. The Biblical pattern of worship is to show God’s worth by delighting in and telling of His character and the things He has done. Isaiah says, “I will tell of the kindness of the LORD, the deeds for which he is to be praised, according to all the LORD has done for us...” This is what we are doing when we sing in church. Our songs often tell of God’s greatest work: our salvation. The pictures of worship in heaven in Revelation 5 proclaim “Worthy is the lamb, who was slain...” and re-tell the story of God’s work in rescuing us. Other songs tell of God’s faithfulness through history, or His love, or the beauty of creation, but they are all telling of who God is and what He has done.

Science today is often done in way that neither acknowledges nor glorifies God. But when a Christian studies science, and their work is framed by the understanding that they are studying God’s works, then it brings glory to the Creator as we see the goodness of His creation. As David says in Psalm 8, “you have set your glory in the heavens” and the more we study the heavens, the more we’ll see of God’s glory.



FURTHER READING: Vaughan Roberts brings readers back to the Bible in order to answer questions such as 'What is the nature of true Christian worship?' and 'What are we actually doing when we meet together for 'church' on Sunday?' He helpfully suggests that true worship is more than singing on a Sunday morning - it encompasses the whole of life. This book challenges us to worship God every day of the week, with all our heart, mind, soul and strength (*available on the church bookstall*).

SPRING PROGRAMME

Sundays	10am Lord's Supper on third Sunday	6.30pm Lord's Supper on first Sunday	Small Groups
Jan 1	New Years Day service Matthew 28:18,19		<p>As part of a strategy review we are meeting in small groups, aiming for every member of St John's to be involved. We'll be considering God's strategy and the exciting part he has for each one of us. Our regular homegroups will then be meeting as follows:</p> <hr/> <p>TRUE SPIRITUALITY</p> <p>March 2nd <i>Love more than knowledge</i> 1 Corinthians 8:1-13</p> <p>March 9th <i>Gospel more than rights</i> 1 Corinthians 9:1-27</p> <p>March 16th <i>Spiritual health more than freedom</i> 1 Corinthians 10: 1 - 11:1</p> <p>March 23rd <i>Gender differences affirmed</i> 1 Corinthians 11:2-16</p> <p>March 30th <i>Social divisions demolished</i></p> <hr/> <p>MONTHLY PRAYER BREAKFASTS Jan 7, Feb 11, March 11, April 8 Saturday mornings 8.30-9.45am Church Rooms</p>
Jan 8	God's Big Plan for the World God's Mission Revelation 7:9-17	God's Big Plan for the World God's Mission Revelation 7:9-17	
Jan 15	God's Mission: Proclamation 1 Thess 1:1-10	God's Mission: Proclamation 1 Thess 1:1-10	
Jan 22	God's Mission: Prayer 1 Cor 3:1-9	God's Mission: Prayer 1 Cor 3:1-9	
Jan 29	God's Mission: People Ephesians 4:7-16	God's Mission: People Ephesians 4:7-16	
Feb 5	The good, the bad and the ugly Generation degeneration Judges 1:1-3:6	The Way that divides A Disappointed Prophet Matthew 11:1-19	
Feb 12	The Right Stuff Ehud - Judges 3:7-31 (All Age)	The offer is still open Matthew 11:20-30	
Feb 19	A Smashing salvation Deborah & Barak - Judges 4 & 5	Liberty or Legalism? Matthew 12:1-15	
Feb 26	Whose kingdom? Gideon - Judges 6, 7, 8	For or Against? Matthew 12:16-45	
Mar 5	Nightmare on Shechem St Abimelech - Judges 9 - 10:5	Family Traits Matthew 12:46-50	
Mar 12	Despised and Rejected by Men Jephthah - Judges 10, 11, 12 (All Age)	Mixed Response Matthew 13:1-23	
Mar 19	No more heroes! Samson - Judges 1:1-3:6	Present realities/Future certainty Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43	
Mar 26	Full Circle Judges 17 - 21	Irrepressible growth Matthew 13:31-35	
Apr 2	Mark 14:1-11	Solid Joy and Lasting Treasure Matthew 13:44-46	
Apr 9	Mark 14:12-26	Guidance and the voice of God	
Apr 14	Easter All Age	Easter Praise	

Special Events

Jan 15	Bring & share lunch A Flavour of a PhD, Church Rooms	Feb 27	Science Cafe - Costa Coffee Wilmslow Weekly, 7.30pm
Jan 21	Men's Breakfast Alderley Edge Golf Club, 8.15am	Mar 18	Youth & Childrens Leaders Training Day Knutsford
Jan 27-28	NWP Annual Conference St Andrew's Leyland	Mar 31- Apr 2	Church Weekend Away The Quinta, Shropshire
Feb 4	Who let the dads out? Church Rooms, 10am		