

Central Baptist Church News

April 2018 – Edition 753

Lord Jesus, give me the grace to remain confident in your ability to protect and lead me through the journey of life. Amen.

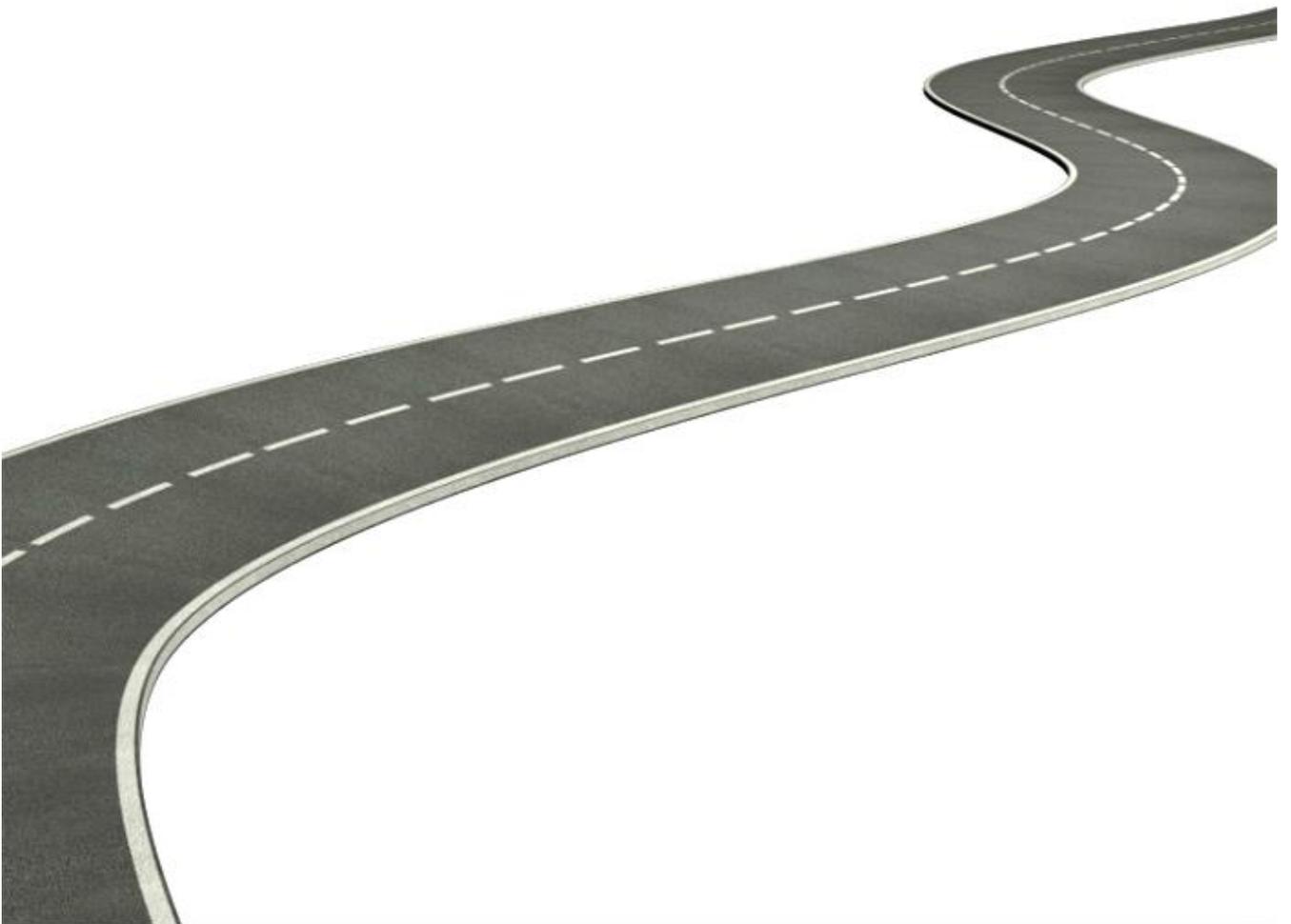
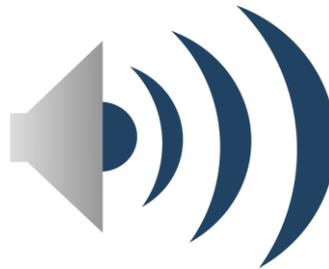


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LISTEN ONLINE

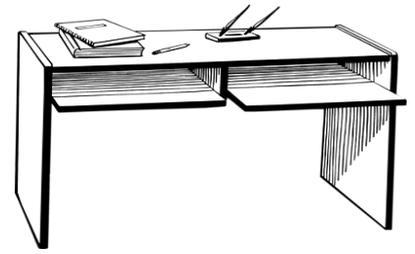


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New series on Joshua now online

Central News Articles for the **May 2018 Edition.**
Please submit items by **10th April or earlier to:**
e-mail address: cbcnews@live.com.

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

By Pastor Dele Oke



From Sarai to Sarah

Terah took his son Abram, his grandson Lot, who was the son of Haran, and his daughter-in-law Sarai, Abram's wife, and with them he left the city of Ur in Babylonia to go to the land of Canaan. They went as far as Haran and settled there. Terah died there at the age of 205. Genesis 11:31-32 (GNB)

A few weeks ago we were remembering Mothering Sunday. The true history and origin of this day has been blurred with time, but in this contemporary era in which we live it is used to remember and celebrate our mothers.

Let's take a brief look at the life of one mother who has had a great impact on all of us.

She started out being called Sarai (meaning my Princess). She was married to Abram although they were both related.

Sarai's life mirrors a journey that many ladies (and indeed men) can identify with. In Genesis 11 we witness her set out on a journey with her family to the land of Canaan. This land of Canaan is the same land that God was to promise the children of Israel (yet to be born). Indeed, it is the same land where Israel as a modern day nation is settled right now.

The life of Sarai gives us a physical picture of the spiritual journey we are all taking. Sarai's initial journey was cut short because Terah, her father in-law, and head of the family who was organising the journey died before they could get to Canaan. The first part of Sarai life is under a shadow because there were other people influencing her life. She had no clear say in what she did or where she went. Yet God was always in control of her life.

This is a clear mirror of the early life of many of us. Our parents, guardians or other relative or carer dictated where we went and to a certain degree what we did.

Then in Genesis 12 things take a drastic change. Abram, her husband, picks up the headship of the family and continues the journey to Canaan (Genesis 12:4-5). The only problem is that Abram makes a very unfortunate detour to Egypt because of famine in the land of Canaan. Sarai almost certainly had no say in the matter and followed him along faithfully. And here is where she had her first encounter with the grace of God.

Rightfully fearing for his life, Abram implores Sarai to hide the true nature of their relationship and introduce herself as his sister when they get to Egypt. As a particularly beautiful woman Abram expects that the powers in Egypt will want to take her as a wife and his life would be cut short if they know he is the husband (Genesis 12:10-16). Abram's fears are fulfilled and his plan to hide his true identity does save his life. But let's focus on Sarai for a moment.

She faced a terrible dilemma – She either had to lie about her true relationship with Abram and face being 'taken advantage of by strange men', or refuse Abram's advise, tell the truth about her relationship, and face the certain death of her husband. What would you have done?

Life is full of choices we have to make and sometimes the choices we find before us are not palatable. Yet in the mist of these difficult choices God can still fulfil His plan and purpose for our life. Sarai discovers the secret of this later (*to be continued*).

Prayer: Lord Jesus, give me the grace to remain confident in your ability to protect and lead me through the journey of life that I am taking - Amen.

APRIL DIARY 2018 AT GLANCE



Deacon on Duty: Steve Cooper

DATE	EVENTS & PEOPLE	TIME
1st Sunday each month	COMMUNION	Evening
Wednesday: 4th, 11th, 18th, 25th	Bible Study & Prayer Time (7.30pm Teas & Coffees) Starts at 7.45pm	7.30pm- 9.00pm
Every Saturday	Praise & Worship Practice	5.30pm

DATE	EVENTS & PEOPLE	TIME
Sunday 1st Morning	Prayer Time in Prayer Room Lead: Tex Reynolds	10.25am- 10.55am
Sunday 1st Morning	EASTER SUNDAY FAMILY SERVICE Lead: Vivienne Oke Preach: Pastor Dele Oke	11.00am- 1.00pm
Sunday 1st Evening	NO EVENING SERVICE	6.30pm- 7.30pm
Friday 6th Evening	Prayer Focus	8.00pm- 9.30pm
Sunday 8th Morning	Prayer Time in Prayer Room Lead: Mercy Edionsere	10.25am- 10.55am
Sunday 8th Morning	Women's Team leading Service Lead: Jane Young Preach: Pastor Dele Oke	11.00am- 1.00pm
	Men's Meeting after Service	1.15pm- 2.00pm
Sunday 8th Evening	Lead: Jane Young Preach: Nab Mills-Robertson	6.30pm- 7.30pm

DATE	EVENTS & PEOPLE	TIME
Sunday 15th Morning	Prayer Time in Prayer Room Lead: Anthony Ogbeifun	10.25am- 10.55am
Sunday 15th Morning	COMMUNION Lead: Suzanne Gudgeon Preach: Pastor Dele Oke Women's Fellowship after Service	11.00am- 1.00pm 1.15pm- 2.00pm
Sunday 15th Evening	Lead: Suzanne Gudgeon Preach: Esther Madu-Issahaku	6.30pm- 7.30pm
Thursday 19th Evening	Deacon's Meeting	8.00pm- 10.00pm
Saturday 21st Afternoon	Junior Church Teachers Altogether	14:00pm- 16:00pm
Sunday 22nd Morning	Prayer Time in Prayer Room Lead: Grace Adedeji	10.25am- 10.55am
Sunday 22nd Morning	Lead: Tex Reynolds Preach: Sam Nair 13+ Stay in Church	11.00am- 1.00pm
Sunday 22nd Evening	Lead: Steve Cooper Preach: Michael Conteh	6.30pm- 7.30pm
Friday 27th Evening	FRIDAY NIGHT PRAYER 8.00pm Magdalene Ogbeifun 9.00pm Harriet Mills-Robertson 10.00pm Pastor Dele Oke	8.00pm- 11.00pm
Sunday 29th Morning	Prayer Time in Prayer Room Lead: Patricia Antoine-Ramsey	10.25am- 10.55am
Sunday 29th Morning	Lead: Benson Adedeji Preach: Pastor Dele Oke	11.00am- 1.00pm
Sunday 29th Evening	Lead: Suzanne Gudgeon Preach: Anthony Ogbeifun	6.30pm- 7.30pm
Monday 30th Afternoon	Over 60's Club	12.00pm- 2.00pm

FROM THE CHURCH SECRETARY'S PEN

By Algi Dyer



My Brothers & Sisters in Christ

I pray that all is well with you. He came He died...

The Death of Jesus (John 19 28-30 GNT)

28. Jesus knew that by now everything had been completed; and in order to make the scripture come true, he said, "I am thirsty."

29. A bowl was there, full of cheap wine; so a sponge was soaked in the wine, put on a stalk of hyssop, and lifted up to his lips.

30. Jesus drank the wine and said, "It is finished!." Then he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

THERE IS A GREEN HILL

- 1 There is a green hill far away
without a city wall, where the dear
Lord was crucified,
who died to save us all.
- 2 We may not know, we cannot tell
what pains He had to bear;
but we believe it was for us
He hung and suffered there.
- 3 He died that we might be forgiven,
He died to make us good,
that we might go at last to heaven,
saved by His precious blood.
- 4 There was no other good enough
to pay the price of sin;
He only could unlock the gate
of heaven, and let us in.
- 5 O dearly, dearly has He loved,
and we must love Him too,
and trust in His redeeming blood,
and try His works to do.

...and He is risen...

The Empty Tomb (John 20 1-2 GNT).

1. Early on Sunday morning, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene went to the tomb and saw that the stone had been taken away from the entrance.

2. She went running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, whom Jesus loved, and told them, "They have taken the Lord from the tomb, and we don't know where they have put him!"

Bless His holy name

Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and all that is within me
bless His holy name.

He has done great things,
He has done great things,
He has done great things,
bless His holy name.

Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and all that is within me
bless His holy name.

May the Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with us all, always.

Amen

REPORTS

Reports from across the Church



PRAYER

By Vivienne Oke

But when you pray, go to your room, close the door and pray to your Father who is unseen. And your Father who sees what you do in private will reward you (Matthew 6:6). I hope you will agree with me that Matthew 6:6 – is a very interesting verse. This intriguing passage states that our God who is **unseen** – has eyes to **see** the things we **do** and **say** in private. In short, our Heavenly Father is watching and will reward us accordingly.

- Pray for our Children who are currently away at University or in the workplace. (Leon, Shade, Abigail, Zac and Andrew, Rachael, Halima, Osazi, Nenyi and Melanie, Halima, Victory, John, Kenneth, Marjorie, Reece). Pray that they will grow in Christ and that they will not be led into temptation
- Pray for all our Children in Central Baptist Church Stratford. Your prayers will go - where you cannot go.
- Pray for Tonji Gorodnicenko.
- Thank God for David Ramsey (God is good).
- Please pray for the Pastor, Diaconate and Team Leaders.
- Please pray that God will grant favour in the workplace, particularly those seeking to be released on Sundays.
- Pray for CBC Stratford. God's will be done and God's Kingdom come. Pray that we will be one and that the Holy Spirit will continue to be honoured in our midst.
- Continue to pray for the Worship, Stewards and Visitation Team.
- Continue to pray for Marriages and for those seeking Life Partners.
- Please pray that God will add on Families to the Church at CBC.
- Please pray for Stratford/London and the Newham area. Peace on our streets.
- Pray for the Brexit negotiation.
- Pray that God will bless our outreach in the area.
- Please pray for those seeking a financial breakthrough.

Your prayer is vital and will bring the supply of God's Spirit in the various situations we encounter.

Thanksgiving & Prayer Requests

By Visiting Team (25/02/18)

- Ethlyn Salmon – She was very cheerful at the last visit and joined in the hymns, prayers and communion. She was especially joyful by the gathering of her family and the gifts she received on Mother's Day. Yet she still wishes to have more visits from her friends at Central.
- Doreen Waterman – Her last heart appointment 26th February didn't result in a solution for the leaking valve and another one has been arranged for 16th March. Please uphold her in your prayers.
- Myrtle & Frank Smith – Praise God they both continue in good health and enjoying great times of fellowship sharing in worship, reading and discussing God's word regularly on a Monday evening in their home.
- Icilda May – She had a cold which developed into a chest infection which caused her to spend a day in hospital but we give God thanks that her health is improving and her spirit is ever strong as she joined in her favourite hymns, read two chapters of revelations and offered prayers for others in the fellowship.
- May Gardner – She looked well at our last visit in spite of pain in back and legs. She continues with a regular exercise clinic to manage this pain. It was her wish to see Doris & Icilda and included them in the time of prayer that followed.
- Moses Williams – To God be the glory that he continues in good health and care. Your prayers for his family would be very much appreciated.
- Doris Francis – Her son Carl was present when we visited on 24th February and a neighbour called in later. There is a real sense of community, with the elderly looking out for each other in her residential home. She is supported by friends and family and is making progress, going out locally on her own for the first during the week we visited, since December. Please pray for increased strength for her.

CHURCH EVENTS

Coffee Morning

By the Over 60's Group

CoffeeMorning

Saturday 28th April
10.30am to 12.30pm



We need your support as we reach out to the community – so please come along and share in this wonderful ministry.

If you are in the area around this time please drop in and offer your support, we would appreciate your help.

Thank you – Over 60's Group



Over 60's Club

By Jackie Trotman/Rose Tucker

Monday 30th March - Our speaker for our meeting will be Tracy Gunn from the Metropolitan Police.

Please make every effort to attend, as a warm welcome will be extended to all. God bless.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Birthdays and Anniversaries

By Leadership/Central News Team

To help us keep our birthday / anniversary list up to date and celebrate with you – please let us know if you are not mentioned below or would like to be included in the month of your Birthday, or Wedding Anniversary. Please inform Algi ☺ or send an email to cbcnews@live.com. Thank you.

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

Date		Date	
5th	Tex Reynolds	22nd	Yasmin Horrabin-Newman
10th	Magdalene Ogbeifun	23rd	Blessing Nwabuzor
10th	Mary Mwambazi	23rd	Favour Nwabuzor
11th	Gabrielle Owoh	25th	Esther Madu-Issahaku
12th	Jacqueline Trotman	26th	Merle Nickie
12th	Yvonne Thomas	27th	Cleo Brown
12th	Frank Smith	27th	Kevin M Nziramasanga
20th	Jeff Augustine	27th	Ansel McLeod
22nd	Damian Burke		

APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

Date		Years
16th	Pat & Sylvester Turner	30

EARLY MAY BIRTHDAYS

Date		Date	
1st	Dele Olajide	2nd	Doris Francis
1st	Allen Olatuja	3rd	Terry Newman

EARLY MAY ANNIVERSARIES

Date		Years
2nd	Harriet & Nab Mills-Robertson	31
4th	Kofi & Vanessa Owusu-Kyereko	5

**BEST WISHES TO YOU ALL FROM ALL OF US AT
CENTRAL BAPTIST CHURCH**

Ministry of Flowers

By Suzanne Gudgeon



The flowers are being provided by the following:

Date	Provided by
1st	Easter Sunday - Irene Gudgeon
8th	Free Date
15th	Claudette Ramsay (in memory of Arnold)
22nd	Suzanne & Irene Gudgeon (in memory of Rene Oxley)
29th	Damian Burke

This ministry is a wonderful way to celebrate a special day whether it is a birthday, anniversary or another special occasion or to remember someone who has passed away, where you can provide flowers in the church. Once you have selected your date, please put your contribution in an envelope with your name and the date you are providing flowers, and place it in the collection at least two weeks before the date you have selected.

A list for 2018 is now available at the back of the Church – please have a look to see what dates are available. If you want to know more about how you take part in the ministry of flowers, then please speak to me. Thank you to all who support this wonderful ministry. Every blessing.



Other Events

'Sponsored' Walk 2018

By Pat Reynolds

Hi all

I am unable to take part in the walk this year. However Troy will be doing the sponsored walk this year on Saturday 28th April 2018. If you would like to sponsor him there is a form at the back of the Church to fill in your details. A map of the route is also at the back of the Church.

You are also welcome to join him. This year's walk is to raise money for Unlock's Christian work in deprived urban areas across the U.K. is in 'Tottenham'. The walk is approximately 7.5 miles long and there are 7 check points Churches of various denominations. Thank you for your support. God bless

OUTREACH

By Nab Mills-Robertson

❖ **Food Bank** – Please continue to support this work by bringing your non-perishable items and leaving them in CBC kitchen in the container labelled Food Bank. Thank you to all who are already doing this.

❖ **Teen Challenge** – **Stratford Drop-In:** The number of people visiting is still down but we want to thank God for His goodness to this ministry over many years.

Bus Outreach every Saturday: 8.30pm – 11.30pm.
'Drop In' at CBC every Monday: 3.00pm – 5.00pm.
Anyone interested in helping should speak to Nab.



NEWS FROM CORNWALL

Ron Meloy (9th March 2018)

My mother used to say that she loved to see snow as long as it was only on Christmas cards. This year even Cornwall experienced the effects of snow with schools closing, icy roads etc. yesterday was beautiful and today it is raining. However at the end of this month British Summer Time begins and we all know what that means!!!

Unfortunately I was unable to make a contribution in time for last month. This was because we were going on holiday to South Africa from 22nd January to 9th February. It was a wonderful experience and you can imagine that our cameras are still cooling down. Since moving to Cornwall in 2006 we are now used to seeing sheep and cows but elephants, lions, rhinos black and white, hyena, springbok, zebras and many more close up is another matter. You may be old enough like me to remember a song which included the words "and I think to myself what a wonderful world" made popular by Louis Armstrong. As my mother also said there was nothing wrong in the world it was the people in it that caused the problems. Food for thought and our prayers.

I continue to assist in the twice weekly 'Thought for the Day' meetings at the Church on Tuesday mornings. Recently we considered 'What would our Church do without volunteers between the time the doors were opened and closed'? As we get older physically we have to accept we cannot do what we once did. Thinking about that led me to reading Romans 12. I also discovered that in the Bible there are around 600 references to help and helped and only 40 to helpless.

An elderly couple informed the police that their car had been broken into and the steering wheel, brake pedal and even the accelerator had been stolen. A policeman arrived and reported back that everything was okay. They had just got in the backseat by mistake.

A PRAYER: Give us wisdom, Lord to know your will and courage to do it. May our words declare your love and may our compassion give substance to our words. Amen.