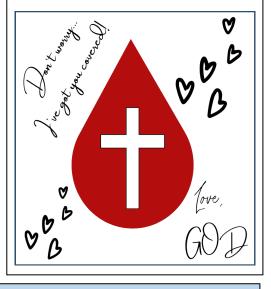
#### To link in to todays theme.....

We cannot fully comprehend the selfless LOVE of Christ, who willing left His royal position in Heaven to be born of a woman in the form of man. ministered for three and a half years revealing the love of God to all, and willingly offered Himself to die in our place for sin penalties never attributed to Him. He purchased our lives physically and spiritually, and the good news is, ALL our sins are covered by His holy, pure, unblemished blood. You are covered by the blood of Jesus! Most of us are familiar with the following verses, but its worth remembering. Isa.53 describes the work of the Messiah. Jesus. **v4** says, He bore our illnesses and carried our sorrows. v 5 tells us. He was wounded for our transgressions, bruised for our iniquities..., and by His stripes we are healed! This clearly describes the work of our Eternal Blood Donor. .

He gave all of Himself to purchase all He wants us to be. When we accept His precious gift, His blood covers our earthen vessels just as the blood of the Lamb in Egypt covered the Hebrews who faithfully applied it to their dwellings.

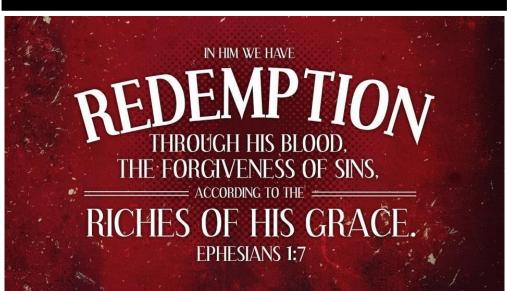
John 15 paints a great picture of being covered by the Blood of Jesus. Jesus confirms the power of His shed blood when He says in **v 13**, "Greater love has no man than this: that a man lay down his life for his friends." And yes, in **v14**, He says, "You are my friends if you do what I command you." Jesus calls us friends, He says He no longer calls us servants because we know what our Master does. Jesus shared everything He heard from His Father with His disciples, with us. We are God's family! Take a

moment to thank God we are covered by the Blood of Jesus!



## **Whitchurch Baptist Church**

# Sunday January 9th 2022



No 2 in the series on 1 Peter. 'Born again life'. Jack Walker 1 Peter 1 v 13-25



Minister: Rev Jack Walker. Secretary: June McCaughren Treasurer: Laura Ivey Leadership Team: Adam Stacey. John McCaughren. John Hadley.

#### What's on this week:-

Monday 10.30am Ladies Bible Study Tues 10am Mens Study Group Wednesday 8pm Mid week study group [All on Zoom] Please note: From Monday 10th the Hall is being used by the local Brownies Group on a weekly basis, so you will understand if you see the lights on!! Sunday January 16th. No 3 in 1 Peter. 'Licorice All Sorts' Sunday Jan 23rd No 4 in 1 Peter 'When is it right to protest?' Sunday Jan 30th 'All Age Service' led by Jack & Jill

#### Dates for your diary:

January 23rd 'Churches Together' United Service here at WBC 10.30am. Speaker Jack Walker. This will take the form of an open air service in the Car Park so we can facilitate as many people as possible within the sensible confines of Covid etc.

Thursday Jan 27th 8pm Church Members Mtg. Issues you feel need addressing let June know in good time so it can be added to the Agenda.



### <u>A thousand more children will</u> receive Scriptures this Christmas

On Giving Tuesday this year, 164 supporters of Bible mission made a collection of £6,810. A further £2,000 was collected in the days before and after. This generous giving means more children will experience God's word in crisis-hit Lebanon this Christmas.

Lebanon is in desperate crisis. This multicultural country in the Middle East is experiencing economic collapse and a severe shortage of basic goods. This Christmas, we've shown the children of Lebanon that God loves them and that we're with them in this struggle.

Bible work in Lebanon focuses on children, who are facing a dark future in these circumstances. Local teams were asking for help to bring the hope of the Bible to schools and refugee camps. We have an amazing opportunity to kick-start their big plans for 2022.

£25 reaches five children with the life-changing hope of God's word. With this support, mission workers can open up the power of Bible stories through a unique clown and puppet show.



How the Bible speaks today I recently received a diagnosis of cancer. The scripture I read then was John 17.13, where Jesus prayed for his disciples that "they might have my joy in their hearts in all its fullness". Also, a friend prayed that I would experience "peace, power and joy as I walk this stage of my eternal life with God". 'I think God had warned me just before the blood tests, so it wasn't a shock, but it was a surprise it happened so guickly after I'd heard that still, small voice. I thought, if God's warned me, he knows. 'I have asymptomatic myeloma, and I have a treatment plan that could start next year or the year after. It's a bit like a sword of Damocles hanging over me; I'm trying to wait wisely. When I do start, it will be six to eight months of chemotherapy, three weeks on and one week off, then in all probability it will be a month in hospital for a stem cell transplant, which is quite aggressive. So you know this is coming.

'My first concern was for family, and for my husband. I lost two sisters to cancer, one aged 39 and another aged 65, so I've watched this and I know what it is. And you think, "O, I'm used to praying for other people, and now it's me." 'For my husband I think it is a hard call. It's harder for your loved ones. As a Christian who's been born again, we've already died and risen with Christ – that hit me quite forcibly the other week. But the impact is on those left behind. 'I've been given warning that I'm not going to feel very well for a year or so at least, so I'm trying to make it easy for everyone. By staying positive and knowing the joy of the Lord I think it makes it easier for them.

'I'm going to be walking a difficult path, unless God changes that. But another friend said she was amazed at the joy she saw in me. It is a joy not because of or under the circumstances, but in and through them with my immortal, heavenly Father holding me.'



#### Pray and support those needing it!

There are folk in our fellowship who would appreciate our love and support as they face things we can only imagine! You may receive updates and news on a Sunday morning and there may well be those who not everyone is aware of! Nevertheless put some quality time aside to bring them before our Heavenly Father. What we don't know, He most certainly does! and is eager to share our concerns, so please pray for Sue Vears, Rita Warwick, *[in hospital on Wed]* Alan Healey, Sandra Jackman. There may well be others not mentioned who you are aware of, remember them as you are prompted!