

Real-life stories demonstrating the power of God's word.

My name is Debbie and I am a Sister at Tameside Hospital on an Acute Admissions Unit, usually a very busy, organised unit. Patients arrive here acutely unwell. We stabilise them and move them onto relevant wards or discharge them home. In March last year everything changed. We became an Acute Covid ward. Patients were admitted for high levels of oxygen and ventilation.

In spite of this patients were not getting better, deteriorating very quickly and often dying.

This was very new to everyone, even the consultants and anaesthetists were baffled at patients not responding to treatment. Some of these patients were very young and none of them had any loved ones present. This was distressing for the patients and the staff as normally we see relatives as very important when their loved ones are dying. Nurses were now sitting holding patients hands when they were dying.

We were having to contact relatives by 'phone to inform them that their loved had died. Our work became frightening, emotionally and physically draining. For me trying to support and encourage staff and comfort them when they were broken and afraid after a busy twelve hour shift was exhausting. I was also very fearful of taking this virus home to my husband. As I called out to the Lord on many occasions, He gave me many comforting words of Scripture, especially Psalm 46 – 'be still and know that I am God'. This Psalm I read over and over again from my Bible which I

carry in my pocket at work. Prior to Covid I read the Psalms to patients who are dying alone or had no relatives, So it was natural for me to reach for these Bibles again at this time and read to my patients who were dying alone.

Other members of staff heard me reading to patients and remarked 'what lovely poems they were'. I had many opportunities to witness to staff and some of them read these Psalms to patients and also carried these Bibles in their scrubs pockets. I began to feel a sense of real calm and peace on our unit.

We had no church ministers available in the hospital so the Bibles have been a real blessing and light in this dark situation.

'Good News for you' [formerly Gideons] place free Bibles in hospitals throughout the UK.



Monday May 30th

[See Jayne Burford for details]

Andover Foodbank

Tinned fish. Tinned Fruit. L/L Fruit Juice. Biscuits. Custard [Tins/Pkts]

Toothpaste. Shower Gel. Shampoo. Deodorant. Laundry products. Drop your donations into the box and they will be delivered.

Minister: Rev Jack Walker.

Secretary: June McCaughren

Treasurer: Laura Ivey

Leadership Team: Adam Stacey. John McCaughren. John Hadley.

Whitchurch Baptist Church

Sunday May 29th 2022

***Long my imprisoned spirit lay,
Fast bound in sin and natures night
Mine eye diffused a quickening ray,
I woke, the dungeon filled with light.
My chains fell off, my heart was free,
I rose went forth and followed thee.***

Charles Wesley

No 5 in series on Acts

Speaker: Rev Jack Walker

'Paul and Silas in Jail!'

Acts 16.

Welcome!

What's on this and next week:-

Monday 30th 12.30 Jubilee Lunch

[see Notice]

2pm Churches Together Committee

Wed June 1st 8pm Mid week Study

Sunday 5th Service at Millennium

Meadow 10.30am followed by Picnic

[hosted by All Hallows.]

[No service at WBC]

Celebration of the Queen's Platinum Anniversary.

Monday 6th Ladies Coffee

Wed 8th Church Members Mtg. 8pm

June 12th 10.30am Morning worship

We begin a new series on Romans through the lens of Romans 12.

No 1 is 'Who influences who?'

Updates for Prayer Support

Continue to pray for those suffering from life threatening medical issues.

Dare to ask for a demonstration of God's miraculous intervention. Pray for an incredible sense of peace and security to be experienced by those suffering. Give thanks for news of good progress for those we know and pray for continued grace and blessings.

Give some thought and prayer to the future of WBC with the anticipated changes in the Autumn. Give thanks for the past and commend the future plans and programmes to God and pray He makes us ready for any changes!

'My Bible—My story'

The verse that means a great deal to me is Ephesians 4.2, "Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love." I came across this years ago, when I was proud, angry and worrying. I was young, over-confident and thought I knew it all.

'It started when my husband and I had four small children. Life was very busy. We had a small house and we were falling over the children. We were on the landing and the kids had put out a train set and I was falling over it and discontent rose up in that moment. It felt like we had too many kids and not enough space. My husband said, "Are you never content?" It pierced me to my heart. 'I found that verse and I thought that I wasn't those things. I was determined and judging and knew what was right and was cross all of the time. You have to slow down to be patient. I had to learn to be content and not worry about what I hadn't got. 'I took that verse and put it on a plaque on the side and read it regularly. It slowed me down and made me recognise that God takes away my worries. That was a milestone for me. It made me realise that I didn't have to prove myself all of the time. Just be patient and things will happen.'



I could have pulled the trigger Pt 2.

My friend asked me if I'd seen the guy sitting in the corner of the room and I said I hadn't really been paying attention. He said he saw what looked like the butt end of a machine gun sticking out of his jacket. An automatic weapon designed to spray and kill. His job that day was to kill me or anyone else in that room that tried to take from them what was theirs. This was my world!

Another time the guy I was selling for told me a gang had given him a kicking outside a shop and we needed to go and prove to them who was the boss. I found myself in a flat, with a firearm, making sure it was locked and loaded. I filled my nose with as much cocaine as possible – this is where I found my identity, this is where my confidence was. I was trying to keep up appearances but being the little boy lost at school.

I found myself driving around in the car, looking for these individuals. I am so grateful I never found them that day because I would have pulled the trigger. I would have aimed to kill because I was still that scared little boy trying to find my place in the

world.

I found myself in prison where I deserved to be.

But when in prison, the most incredible thing took place.....

Part 2 of a real-life story as related in a testimony in 'Good News for You' magazine.

Part 3 and the amazing ending June 12th!!

Christian student stoned to death.

Deborah Samuel, a Christian student, was beaten and stoned to death in an appalling incident at a college in Sokoto State, Nigeria. Deborah's alleged crime was to have insulted Muhammad, the prophet of Islam, in a WhatsApp message.



There is no evidence that Deborah did as alleged, but the accusation alone was enough to seal her fate. Even if she had, her murder at the hands of a Muslim mob was not deserved.

A fellow student reports that Deborah's last words to her attackers were, "What do you hope to achieve with this?"

Remember that the Lord told His disciples, "If the world hates you, keep in mind that it hated me first. If they persecuted me, they will persecute you also" (John 15:18,20). But the enemies of Christ can never defeat Him or His Church, nor rid the world of His Gospel message.

Source: Barnabasfund