



Growing Faith

28 - Summer | 22 April 2025

Have You Seen the News

Written by Daniel Ley, Upper Sixth

I wonder if you've seen the news... about how Ronaldo is coming to play for Accrington Stanley!

Well maybe not... but that would be crazy. Why would anyone leave such a well-paid job, at the top of their sport, to play with a team that don't really win anything for a teeny amount of money? He would have to really care about Accrington Stanley.

It's similar with Jesus. Jesus must have really cared about us to give up his place in heaven to come to earth, to live and to die on a cross. It seems crazy, but he did it all to make a way for us to know him, because he loves us.

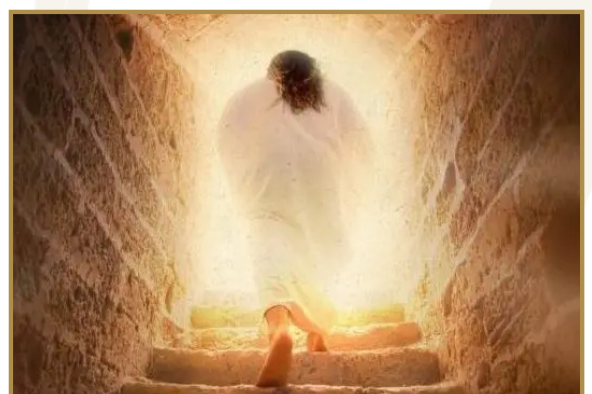
In Jesus time, Jews worshipped in the temple but they couldn't go anywhere they wanted in the temple. Like with magnets, when they repel, God's perfectness and our imperfectness can't be together, so in the temple were some giant curtains to separate the spaces where God was from the places where people could go. When Jesus dies, this giant curtain in the temple is completely torn in two, not by a human, not by someone standing there with giant scissors, it just tore. It tore because there was no longer any need for a barrier between humans and God. Through Jesus' life and death, he made a way to God. Jesus showed us a pattern of how to live and he experienced the complete separation from God that we deserve, so now we can get to know God.

When a guard sees how Jesus dies, he says, "Surely this man must be the son of God." The reason Jesus came, lived and died was so that me and you have a chance to make that same decision now too. Just like the Roman soldier. What do you believe about Jesus? Do you believe Jesus is God?

We have all done things wrong, we lie, we hurt other people, and so we can't be near God. But Jesus came to earth because he loved me and you more than we can ever imagine.

Jesus died, so that if we choose to trust in him, we can get to know the God who created us, and be set free from the things that hold us back. We can live a life that has purpose and meaning, because we know we are chosen and cared for.

Jesus came to set you free, to give you peace, and to give you hope for the future. The maker of the universe, Jesus, decided to give up the perfection he had in heaven to come and make a way for you to get to know him, and that's something I think is definitely worth looking into.



Youth Church Update

(Every Wednesday, 3:30-4:15pm).

Our youth church continues to thrive.

Recently, we have been following the 'Bread of Life' course at our youth church small groups, and we have been struck by some research that states that pupils at church schools who experience two things during their time at school are statistically more than twice as likely to be going strong in their walk with God up into their adult lives than their peers who have not experienced these two things. The two things may surprise you:

- 1) High quality special educational needs provision.
- 2) Others-centred community action.

We believe that number one speaks of the love of God for all His children. When the most vulnerable are well cared for, this sends a strong signal to all about the reality of God's life-changing love for them. We do our very best in this area at St Christopher's and shall continue to do so, especially in the light of this research.

Number two underlines the importance of Jesus' teaching to love our neighbours as ourselves. In the light of this, we are going to renew our efforts to serve our local community, supporting local food and cancer banks, raising money through sponsored events and making a visible impact through litter-picking etc. into the new term.

Parents are always more than welcome at our public worship services every first and third (& fifth) Wednesday of each month. We hope to see you there.

A Prayer

By Isabel Branders, Year 7

Dear God,

During the holy Easter season, please help us to not forget the pain and suffering you went through to take away the sins of the world, and please help us to also remember your Resurrection on Easter Sunday. Please may you guide us on the path of righteousness. And please may you also help us show the Christian values just like Jesus did.

Please may you help everyone who is suffering and help to heal them. Please can you make peace in all the wars that are going on in the world like Russia and Ukraine, Israel and Palestine and many more. Please may you help anyone who has lost their homes to the wars and protect them.

Thank you for sending your only Son, Jesus, down to earth,

Amen

Song for reflection



Hillsong Worship

What A Beautiful Name

Church Support

Church Services

Every Friday night from 7-9pm we have a Brave Youth Group (free of charge) for ages 11-16. We have fun, play games, chill and have some free hot chocolate whilst listening to a short message about life from a Christian perspective!

To find us at: Brave Church, Watson St, Oswaldtwistle, Lancashire, BB5 3HH, UK.

Please visit these church websites to see when their services are taking place:

Great Harwood Christian Fellowship: [Website](#)

St John's and St Augustine's Church, Huncoat: [YouTube channel](#)

St Peter and St Paul's Church, Rishton: [Facebook Page](#)

St. John's Church, Baxenden: [Website](#)

Peel Street Baptist Church: [Website](#)

Ernest Street Baptist Church: [Website](#)

All Saints Church, Clayton-le-Moors: [Facebook Page](#)

St James' Church, Clitheroe: [Website](#)

Burnley Life Church: [Website](#)

St Mary Magdalen's Church, Accrington: [Website](#)

St Andrew's Church, Accrington: [Website](#)

St Peter's Church, Accrington: [Website](#)

Brave Church: [Website](#)

Trinity Church, Great Harwood: [Website](#)



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