



Rehoboth Baptist Church

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**Newsletter
March 2007**



Imitate those who
through faith and
patience inherit
what has been
promised.

Hebrews 6: 12

Visit our Website -
www.rehoboth.org.uk

Penalty or Patience

£60 and 3 points on your licence is a lot to pay for just saying, 'Hi, it's me. How are you?' on your mobile while driving. It's tempting, when the phone rings in the car, to just quickly answer it, isn't it? Or, if a text comes through, to just check it. After all, we tell ourselves, it may be important. More important, of course, is the risk we place ourselves and other road users under in those few moments – never mind the £60 threat.

I suppose the problem many of us have, not just in the car but elsewhere too, is impatience. Impatience causes us to do or say things we hope we wouldn't, normally. It prompts us to take short cuts – another car incident:- I remember seeing in one of those Police documentaries on drivers' habits, this guy sitting in his car in a queue approaching a junction in a busy street. He suddenly revs up and drives up the kerb and along the pavement amongst the pedestrians, round the corner and back onto the road again, before steaming off. Amazingly, I think, no one hurt. But impatience is dangerous – I know it; you know it.

A verse in Hebrews 10 translates in the King James version; Ye have need of patience, that after ye have done the will of God, ye might receive the promise.

The American writer, John Piper, states that 'impatience is a form of unbelief. It's what we begin to feel when we start to doubt the wisdom of God's timing or the goodness of God's guidance.' He says, 'It springs up in our hearts when our plan is interrupted or shattered. It may be prompted by a long wait at the checkout line or a sudden blow that knocks out half our dreams. The opposite of

impatience is not a glib denial of loss. It's a deepening, ripening, peaceful willingness to wait for God in the unplanned place of obedience, and to walk with God at the unplanned pace of obedience – to wait in his place, and go at his pace.' (Future Grace p171 IVP 1995).

I know that I am in need of more patience – not so much with others as with myself; patience to persevere when idle temptations threaten to throw me off course; patience to quietly trust in the sure knowledge that God has his hand on my life and my circumstances, however difficult. My dear Delia had forty years of exercising patience with me, right back to when she settled in her mind in our early days of courtship that I was always going to be a good half hour later arriving to see her than I said! (I say that to my shame). But the patience she exercised in that last year in her waiting on the Lord, knowing that her life was nearing the end, was an example of a patience I, and probably we all need. It was, as Piper says, a deepening, ripening, peaceful willingness to wait on God in the unplanned place of obedience. Some will remember that her daily prayer was, 'Lord, this is a hard path you have called me to walk; please help me to walk it well and to your glory.'

None of us know if or when we may have to face such an experience, but we can and should be seeking the Lord for that spirit of patience, acceptance and endurance in our day to day frustrations, irritations, worries and uncertainties. The more we practice, by God's grace, that divine patience – a fruit of the Spirit – the more ready we may be for when our plans or aspirations are interrupted or shattered.

Steve Piggott

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Fellowship news - It has been a difficult period for Trevor and Hazel Smith, and Trevor's family over the week leading in to March. His father, Ron in Southend, suffered a massive stroke on the 24th February and at the time of going to press is still unconscious in hospital. Please pray for his wife, Audrey and the family in this time of waiting. May they know the Lord's comfort and strengthening in the coming days.

Please continue to pray for Gill Beadle's father, who is still very poorly and remember also the whole family in their time of uncertainty.

A number in our Fellowship have been laid low over the past few weeks with various 'bugs'. Please pray for full recovery and renewed strength.

Work has commenced in the grave yard to remove the stones in readiness for preparing the area for the construction of the car park. Please pray for agreement to be reached with Saxon weald regarding a reasonable payment for access rights.

Preaching out this month
(as advised by 25.02.07)

March 11th: David Ansell—Charlwood PM



Praying and caring for the Community

May we continue to pray for those living in the roads and streets around us at Rehoboth.

During March, we are focusing prayer on

Livingstone Road (11 homes),

including **Page Court** (41 flats) and **Rhodes Court** (6 flats);
and

Park Terrace East (approx. 47 homes).

In your hearts set apart Christ as Lord
1 Peter 3:15

Two Lives, One Name, One Illness, Two Deaths, Two Futures?

Within a period of less than a week I recently attended two funerals. Although there was a forty-five year age gap, the funerals were for two men who shared the same name and had both died of cancer, but this is where the similarities ended.

The first funeral was for a man who had had a distinguished career in the diplomatic service, a good linguist and to all intents and purposes a thoroughly "nice chap with a twinkle in his eye". What was not said at the funeral was that he had been unfaithful to his wife on a number of occasions and had a mistress right up to last summer. Dying at seventy-three he had had a full life but ultimately an empty one. The funeral was pleasant and reflected his musical tastes, but there was no hope for eternity.

The second funeral was for a twenty-eight year old man - a short life. He had had a good job, he was well liked, a kind and thoughtful person, whilst also liking his fast motor bikes and cars. He was a loving husband, as his father said they were a well balanced couple; he was the calming influence and his wife gave him the "kick up the back side" to get things done. Theirs was a partnership based on their love for the Lord Jesus Christ and service for Him. His life, death and funeral spoke of hope (a sure confidence) and eternity in Heaven.

Yes the latter funeral was very sad, but it was the funeral that I came away from praising God, for God's great love for the one who had died and for his life.

As his wife has written:

"He was ready to go from this life to the next. He knew and understood what was happening and in God's mercy he did not endure a long period of knowing his death was imminent. Between last Friday and Tuesday morning his family and I were able to say goodbye. He left this world knowing he was very loved. He died peacefully and without pain in his sleep."

So although we mourn, and I will cry more than you all, it is a real comfort to share memories of him and to remember that it is we who are missing out on him, not the other way round, because he is somewhere amazing."

Could the same be said of you?

By Rachel Cooke

Joe Mason

Joe Mason has been taking part in triathlon for a year now, having completed the Blenheim Palace sprint triathlon last May and the London Olympic triathlon last August. Now he is hoping to undertake the ultimate challenge in triathlon which is the Ironman.

It takes place in Port Elizabeth, South Africa on 18th March and involves a 2 and a half mile swim, 112 mile cycle and 26 mile run and has to be completed in a maximum of 17 hours. March 18th is also Joe's 18th birthday.

Please remember Joe as he takes on this challenge and pray for him on the day.

He is hoping to raise money for Kidney Research UK and would be grateful for any sponsors.

By Bethan Mason

Friends and Heroes—www.friendsandheroes.com

Over the past few years Alison & I have been working hard on a Children's TV Series called "Friends and Heroes". It is an action-and-adventure animation story which introduces stories from the Old and New Testaments to ages 6-10.

After many months of negotiation, we are delighted that the **first Series of 13 episodes is to be broadcast on the CBBC channel on weekdays 12-23 March!**

Would you be able to help us in any way to get the word out, please? Any suggestions you can give us will be most gratefully received - and, as you'll see on the web site, we already have lots of exciting material ready to go! The very best way you can help is of course, to pass on this news to everyone you know.

Sunday Morning themes January—Easter

We continue this month our examination of the last week leading up to Christ's death and triumphant resurrection.

4th March	Mark 14 1-31	<i>The Lords Supper</i>
18th March	Mark 14 32-52	<i>Forsaking the Master</i>
25th March	Mark 14 53-72	<i>Farce and Failure</i>
1 April	Mark 15 1-20	<i>Mockery & Murder</i>
6 April (Good Friday)	Mark 15 21-47	<i>Crucifixion</i>
8 April	Mark 16	<i>Resurrection & Commission</i>

MARCH CALENDAR

Friday	2nd	10.00am 8.00pm	WAM Bible Study : 8 Uppark Gardens Pathfinders
Saturday	3rd	8.30am	Early Prayer Meeting : Rehoboth
SUNDAY	4th	10.30am 6.30pm 6.30pm	Steve Piggott + Communion Youth Service led by Nigel Steere Bryce Lodge Service
Tuesday	6th	2.30pm	Tuesday Fellowship : Christina Willis
Wednesday	7th	8.00pm	Prayer & Bible Study : Littlehaven Cottage, Rusper Road
Thursday	8th	10.00—12.30	OPEN HOUSE : Rehoboth
Friday	9th	10.00am 8.00pm	WAM Bible Coffee : 18 Swan Close, Southwater Pathfinders & HighWay
Saturday	10th	8.30am	Early Prayer Meeting : Rehoboth
SUNDAY	11th	10.30am 6.30pm	David Steere (Fressingfield) David Steere
Wednesday	14th	10.30am 8.00pm	Gillett House Service Prayer & Bible Study : 65 Tanbridge Park
Thursday	15th	10.00-12.30	OPEN HOUSE : Rehoboth
Friday	16th	10.00am 8.00pm	WAM Bible Study : 20 Downsview Road Pathfinders
Saturday	17th	8.30am	Early Prayer Meeting : Rehoboth
SUNDAY	18th	10.30am 6.30pm	Kevin Borrett Paul Phillips + Communion
Monday	19th	7.45pm	AGBC(SE) District Committee Mtg—Epsom
Tuesday	20th	2.30pm	Tuesday Fellowship : Steve Piggott
Wednesday	21st	8.00pm	Prayer & Bible Study : 186 New Street
Thursday	22nd	10.00-12.30	OPEN HOUSE : Rehoboth

Friday	23rd	10.00am 8.00pm	WAM Coffee : 40 Heron Way Pathfinders & HighWay
Saturday	24th	8.30am	Early Prayer Meeting : Rehoboth
SUNDAY	25th	10.30am 6.30pm	Stuart Beadle Steve Piggott
Wednesday	28th	8.00pm	Prayer & Bible Study : 16 Little Bridges Close, Southwater
Thursday	29th	10.00-12.30	OPEN HOUSE : Rehoboth
Friday	30th	10.00am 11.00am 8.00pm	WAM Bible Study : 9 Macleod Road Page Court Service Pathfinders
Saturday	31st	8.30am	Early Prayer Meeting : Rehoboth
SUNDAY	April 1st	10.30am 6.30pm	David Ansell + Communion Rick Warner

CHURCHES ON THE ASSOCIATION PRAYER DIARY

4th March — WEST HAM (R Danladi) Pray that Newham Council will approve our church plan for a new building. Pray for physical and spiritual growth of West Ham Baptist Tabernacle.

11th March — GRACE BAPTIST WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

Please pray for:

- ◆ regular outreach by and mutual care of women in every church
- ◆ vacancies on national council to be filled
- ◆ planning of weekend conference in November.

18th March — HOMERTON (S Richards)

25th March — LEYTON (D Bass) We ask prayer for:

- ◆ the health and well being of our more senior members
- ◆ for those who work so diligently running the various groups year after year
- ◆ Please pray for the Lord's increase at Hainault Rd Baptist Church
- ◆ We give thanks and praise to Him for His grace over the last year.

