

“All those who lived in Lydia and Sharon saw him and turned to the Lord...”

Acts 9:35

In preparing for this week’s sermon on Acts 9:32-43, I was struck in the verse above by the phrase ‘turned to the Lord’ and the later phrase in v42 ‘many people believed in the Lord’.

These sentences make my heart rejoice. Whenever I hear of people turning to Jesus, believing in him, having their lives transformed, I want to give a loud shout of excitement, cry happy tears and throw a party.

So, what caused the people mentioned here to turn to the Lord? It was through the witness of other followers of Jesus, who by living lives obedient to Jesus showed them His power and love.

We are told that Dorcas was a disciple, a follower of Jesus, who cared for the poor and had provided clothes for the people who were mourning her. She had demonstrated Jesus’ love to the poor and the miracle of her coming back to life made many believe. Just as it had to those who heard of the healing of Aeneas in v35. Those that saw the power of Jesus at work through the faithfulness of His people turned and believed.

How we live our lives is seen by those around us and can be a powerful witness to those yet to believe in Jesus. Even in the day to day loving and caring for those around us. So, let’s be conscious and aware of how we can make the most of showing in word and action the power and love of Jesus, that we too see people turn to Jesus and believe.

Claire Coleman

This Sunday’s Services on livestream:

[Sunday 8th May](#)

Click the above link to access the livestream for this week’s service. You can also use the link to watch the service at a later time.

Dick and Caroline Seed visit – This Tuesday, 10:30am

Join us at the vicarage to meet Dick and Caroline who are presently on a break in the UK. This is a great chance to meet and hear about their work in encouraging Theological Education (training Bible teachers) in Africa. Please let Paul know if you are planning to come.

Can You Trust the Gospels? – Starts this Week!

Tuesdays, 7:30pm, Salvation Army, High Street, with Robin Plant

A Churches Together in Ramsgate Course

Almost everything we know about Jesus comes from the Gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. But how can we be sure that what they tell us is reliable? Where did they get their information from? And why should we prefer these four Gospels to others that never made it into the Bible?

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| 10 th May | What in the (ancient) world is a Gospel? |
| 17 th May | Chinese whispers or eyewitness testimony? |
| 24 th May | Have the texts been tampered with? |
| 31 st May | The Fab Four: What makes them special? |

Weekly Calendar

Saturday 7th

Churches Together in Ramsgate Prayer Breakfast (St. Mark's Church), 9:00-10:00am

Sunday 8th

Family Service (St. Luke's Church), Acts 9:32-43 - 11:00am-12:00pm

Youth Initiative (St. Luke's Church), 5:00pm-7:30pm

Christianity Explored (Dorothy Drive), 5:30pm-7:00pm

Monday 9th

Daily Prayer (St. Luke's Church) - 9:30-10:00am

Tuesday 10th

Daily Prayer (St. George's Church) - 9:30-10:00am

Dick and Caroline Seed Visit (St. Luke's Church) - 10:30-12:00pm

Can You Trust the Gospels? (Salvation Army, Ramsgate High Street)
- 7:30-9:00pm

Thursday 12th

Daily Prayer (St. Luke's Church) - 9:30-10:00am

Cafe4All (St. Luke's Church), Coffee and Chat for all - 10:00-11:30am.

Platinum Jubilee Planning (St. Luke's Vicarage) - 7:30pm

Friday 13th

Play and Praise (St. Luke's Church Hall) – 10:00-11:30am

Gather, Women's Drop-In (St. Luke's Church) - 12:30-2:30am

Saturday 14th

Daily Prayer (St. George's Church) - 9:30-10:00am

Sunday 15th

Family Communion (St. Luke's Church), Acts 11:1-18 - 11:00am-12:00pm

Youth Initiative (St. Luke's Church), 5:00pm-7:30pm

Prayer Requests

Be assured I will do my best to check that people are happy for the requests to be shared before including them. Please pray for...

- Nicky Galer after the death of her mum, Jean recently.
- Joy Smithers who is now home, but not feeling too good.
- Willow's friend Stavs fell and broke her arm & leg. She is in lot of pain.
- David Perkins with a broken ankle.
- Michelle (Terry De Vere's wife) starting chemotherapy.
- David Gill whose cancer has now spread to his throat.
- Mitch Styles that he will receive the help he needs.
- Ken Tipler that the pain from his bone cancer can be kept under control.

Please also continue to pray for: Flo Baldock, Jean Hann, Shirley Crabb, Joy Smithers, Nathan Court, Pauline Emptage, Collette Judge, Barb (Gloria's daughter's friend), Rita Ryan.

Platinum Jubilee Planning

It is now around one month until the Platinum Jubilee celebrations. We are planning a joint service at St. George's that day followed by a Big Lunch in the church grounds. We would love to make this a really special occasion and there is potential for funding to help us do that.

If you would like to join a team planning for the event, then please come to St. Luke's vicarage on **Thursday 12th May, 7:30pm** for a planning meeting.

Youth Initiative Services

Our Youth Initiative (a group for school aged children, year 6 upwards who meet Sunday evenings in term time) did a fantastic job of leading their service on Easter Sunday evening. It was a service open to all ages and was a great time of praise and reflection on how much we are loved by God and the importance of remembering Jesus sacrifice on the cross and his resurrection.

The plan is to have a Youth Initiative led service every term. The next two dates for your diaries will be **Sunday 29th May** and **Sunday 17th July**. The services start at 6pm and aim to last 45 minutes followed by refreshments afterwards.

Claire's Ordination

Claire our curate has been with us for nearly a year now and on **Saturday 2nd July, 5:30pm** at Canterbury Cathedral will be ordained priest. Please add the date to your diary, so you can plan to support her!

Annual Meeting, Sunday 22nd May, 12:30pm

It is now only three weeks until our Annual Meeting, which this year we will be holding on a Sunday in church after the service. Everyone is welcome to attend, whether you are on the electoral roll or not (if you are not on the electoral roll, then you won't be able to vote). It is a great chance to reflect together on what God has been doing amongst us over the last year and share some of the hopes, challenges and **vision for St. Luke's** in the coming year.

We will also be **electing** two new church wardens and three other people to join the Parochial Church Council, which acts as the main governing body and trustees of St. Luke's. Please be praying for the right people to be elected and do talk to Paul if you want to consider standing or suggest anyone to be asked to stand.

After the meeting we will join together for **lunch in the church**. There will be a sign-up sheet at the back of church for people to offer to bring contributions for the lunch. We can also put a video on for the children in the vestry if parents want to attend, but their children are too young to join in the Annual Meeting.

Book to see the vicar:

If you would like to arrange to see Paul the vicar about anything, then please use this following link to book an appointment: <https://calendly.com/worledge/meet-with-paul>

Links to Share:

Last Sunday's Sermon:

[Calling an Enemy to Life \(Acts 9:1-19\)](#)

In this account of the conversion of Saul a number of different labels are used for Christians. As we think of the meaning behind each label and how it relates to this conversion account we find some deep insight as to what it means to be a Christian.

Comedy Night, 21st May, St. Mary Bredin, Canterbury

If you only know one thing about Jesus, it's that he turned water into wine. Ever wondered why? Find out in Water into Wine, in which you'll also discover why he fed the five thousand and walked on water. With jokes. The tickets are £10 each and there'll be a bar. It promises to be a great night and all are welcome. Get your tickets for the comedy night here. [Buy tickets](#)

Which Spiritual Practices help for the Whole of Life?

We are called to be Christians for the whole of our lives, not just on a Sunday. So, how can we be shaped more into the kind of people Jesus wants us to be? This blog explores some research on Spiritual Disciplines to see what is most effective today. [Read more.](#)

A new worship song for Whole Life Disciples

Check out this animated video and new worship song called, "Not made for the Harbour." [Watch the video...](#)

Finally, let's continue to pray and work to see more people 'turn to the Lord.'

Yours in Christ,

Paul Worledge
(Vicar, St. Luke's Ramsgate)