

# The thought for the month

## AUCKLAND DEAF CHRISTIAN CHURCH

March 2020 – No. 23

Church Service 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays of each month at Rosebank Peninsula Church, 1 Orchard Road, Avondale

### Committee meeting decisions

ADCF received a grant for the purchase of bibles that are written for the Deaf. These bibles come from overseas. We have a limited number of these bibles available free. Please let me (Michelle) know if you would like one.

Coronavirus or COVID-19 is really bad news and is causing a lot of problems in the world. News updates every day. Please see the notice in this newsletter about what we are doing for Coronavirus. The Committee is keeping up to date with new development and will let you know if there are any changes to our services.

### CORONAVIRUS

See Poster in this newsletter for some changes. We are changing more in our services

1 There is NO CONTACT when we meet people.

This means

- No Hugging
- No hand shaking

2 Special gloves must be worn when touching food – like organising afternoon tea or preparing or serving communion

If you have any questions, please ask a committee member

### Birthdays coming up

Tom Gibling – 27 March

Sandra Gibbons – 31 March

Terry Moss – 4 April



### Bible Quiz

Book of Esther

1 Esther had a Jewish name. What was it and why did she use the name Esther?

2 How did Esther become Queen?

3 Esther's Uncle, Mordecai, learns of an evil plan by the Palace Officers. What was that plan?

4 Mordecai asked Esther to go and see the king about the Haman's plan to kill all the Jews. What did Esther ask Mordecai and all the Jews in Susa to do before she went to see the King?

5 After Esther told the King about Haman's plan to kill all the Jews. What did the King do to Haman?

Meaning. God raises people to certain positions because he has a plan for them and he will use them to help his people in future

### Notice about CFFD Camp

The next Christian Fellowship for Disabled (CFFD) camp in Auckland will be 3 – 5 April 2020 at 397 Henderson Valley Road, Waitakere. You can stay for the whole weekend or part of it.

There will be NZSL Interpreter for the whole camp. The close off date for applications to go to this camp was 15 March 2020.

**THIS HAS BEEN CANCELLED  
BECAUSE OF CORONAVIRUS**

## Dates for your diary

**5 April** - Sunday at 2.15pm ACDF service with communion at Avondale.

**19 April** - Sunday at 2.15pm ACDF service. A committee meeting after.

**3 May** - Sunday at 2.15pm ACDF service with communion at Avondale.

**17 May** - Sunday at 2.15pm. A committee meeting after.

## Easter Dates

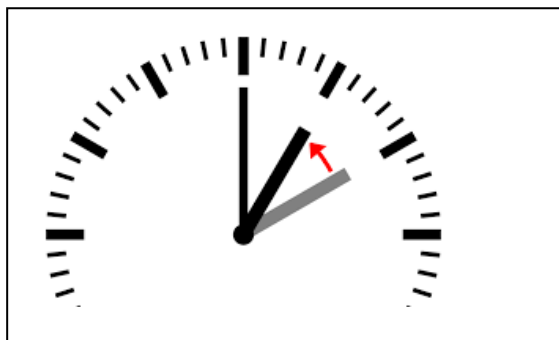
**5 April 2020** – Palm Sunday or Passion Sunday

**9 April 2020** – Maundy Thursday (day of the Last Supper)

**10 April 2020** – Good Friday

**11 April 2020** – Holy Saturday

**12 April 2020** – Easter Sunday



**DAYLIGHT SAVING ENDS ON SUNDAY 5  
APRIL 2020**

**PUT CLOCKS BACK 1 HOUR ON  
SATURDAY NIGHT BEFORE BED**

**Please  
pray  
for**



Pray for God's blessings on these people

Mavis, Barry and Elsa, June W, Bev J and Phyllis (in care homes)

Barbara – Her daughter Brenda is living with cancer. She now has more pain.

Wendy – pray for her health.

Des – Doctors found and removed skin cancer from his face. Pray that all the cancer has all gone.

Michelle – Her father recently had a triple bypass. Please pray for healing.

Johanna – Please pray for continued healing

Fiona There are 3 special needs people in Fiona's family. Please pray that all their needs can be taken care of at home.

If anybody has any prayer requests, please contact Michelle or any one of the Committee members and this will be added to the newsletter

## Bible Quiz answers

1 Esther's Jewish name is Hadassah and Jewish people were slaves in the Kingdom. Her Uncle, Mordecai said not to tell anyone.

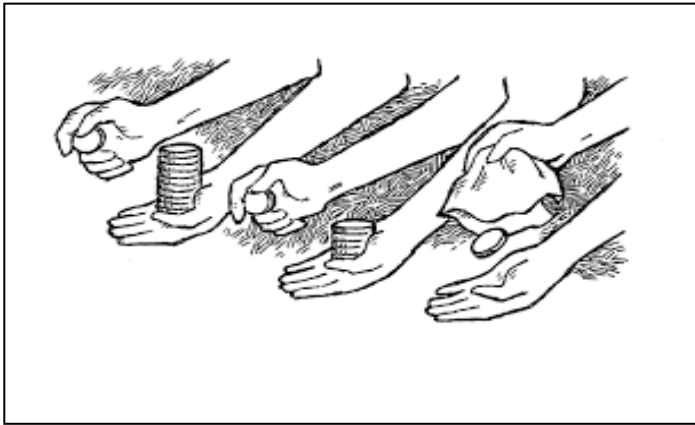
2 The King ordered people to find young beautiful virgins in his Kingdom, they were given beauty treatments for a year and then shown to the King. If he liked the girl, he made her his Queen. Esther made the King very happy.

3. Bigthana and Teresh were Palace Offices that guarded the doorway. They planned to kill the King.

4 Esther asked Mordecai and all the Jews in Susa to fast for 3 days and nights (no drink and no food).

5 Esther told the King about Haman's plan to kill all the Jews. The King's servants killed Haman and hung him on a pole 75 feet high that Haman built near his house.

There is not enough space to put the list of parables we have looked at for the last few months. This will be in a future newsletter



## Parable (story) of the Nobleman's Servants

Also known as the Parable of the Seed

From Holy Bible, English Version for the Deaf

Luke 19 v 11-27

<sup>11</sup> Jesus travelled closer to Jerusalem. Some people thought that God's kingdom would come soon. <sup>12</sup> Jesus knew the people thought this, so he told them this story. "A very important man was preparing to go to a country far away to be made king. Then the man planned to return home and rule his people. <sup>13</sup> So he called 10 of his servants together, He gave a bag of money to each servant. The man said "do business with this money until I come back"."

<sup>14</sup> But the people in the kingdom hated the man. So the people sent a group to follow the man into another country. In the other country, this group said "We don't want that man to be our king".

<sup>15</sup> But the man became king. When he come home, he said "Call those servants that have my money. I want to know how much more they have earned with it" <sup>16</sup> The 1<sup>st</sup> servant came and said "I have earned 10 bags of money with the 1 bag of money you gave me" <sup>17</sup> The king said to the servant "Fine! You are a good servant. I see I can trust you with small things. So now I will let you rule over 10 of my cities!" <sup>18</sup> The 2<sup>nd</sup> servant said "Sir, with your 1 bag of money I earned 5 bags". <sup>19</sup> The king said to his servant, "You can rule over 5 cities!" <sup>20</sup> Then another servant came in. The servant said to the king "Sir, here is your bag of money. I wrapped it in a piece of cloth and hid it. <sup>21</sup> I was afraid of you because you are powerful. I know you are a hard man. You even take money you didn't earn and gather food you didn't grow. <sup>22</sup> Then the king said to the servant, "you bad servant! I will use your own words to condemn you. You said that I am a hard man. You said that I even take money that I did not earn and gather food that I did not grow. <sup>23</sup> If that is true, you should have put my money in the bank. Then, when I came back, my money would have earned some interest." <sup>24</sup> The king said to the men that were watching. "Take the bag of money away and give it to the servant that earned 10 bags of money" <sup>25</sup> The men said to the king, "But sir, that servant already has 10 bags of money!" <sup>26</sup> The King "The person that uses what he has will get more. But the person that does not use what he has will have everything taken away from him. <sup>27</sup> Now where are my enemies? Where are the people that did not want me to be king? Bring my enemies here and kill them. I will watch them die!"

## **Study notes from New Living Translation (adapted by Michelle Smith and helped by Rev Peter Williamson)**

In parables, Jesus teaches us what we need to do to be ready for his return and how to live until he comes. A parable describes one part of the whole picture.

This parable is seen as similar to the parable of the Loaned Money, which we looked at in September 2018, although it is not after this parable in the Bible.

In this parable is about service and obedience.

The people alive at that time hoped for a Saviour who rid them of the Roman empire, Jesus' story tells us that his kingdom would not happen right away. First, he would go away for a while and he will come back later (like the king in this story). Jesus' followers would need to be faithful while he was away and keep working for God's kingdom. Even though it is now 2020, we are those people because we are waiting for Jesus to return so we need to be faithful and keep working for God's kingdom. Jesus expects us to use the talents or gifts and resources we have been given by God to increase God's kingdom. Jesus will ask each of us how we used the gifts that we have been given (judgement day at the end of the world).

Why was the king so hard on the man who had not increased his money, He did not use the talents or gifts he had to use the money wisely.

- 1) He did not share his master's interest in the kingdom.
- 2) He did not trust his master's intentions.
- 3) His only concern was for himself.
- 4) He did nothing with the money

## **Other thoughts about this Parable**

Some things are the same as Jesus – he is going away and he will return. Then he will ask each person what they have done with their gifts or talents to increase God's kingdom (judgement day).

But I don't see he is really like the man in the story because the nobleman/king was a harsh man and watched his enemies be killed. The nobleman went away to apply to be king. Jesus is not like these things. Is this more like Herod or his son?

There are 10 servants given money and the story is about 3. I see it as 3 groups of servants

- increase to 10 bags (full use of talents gifted by God)
- increase to 5 bags (some use of talents gifted by God)
- no increase (no use of talents gifted by God). At least by putting it in the bank, someone else would increase the money (using someone else's talents to increase God's kingdom).

This is a great story/Parable about using the talents we have been given. What talents has God given you?

Are you willing to use these gifts to grow God's kingdom?

If unsure that your talents are because everyone has them and they are all different, pray and ask God.

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Please contact me with news or if you no longer wish to receive this newsletter

# Tom's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration



Tom Gibling with Barbara Cunliffe behind



Left to right - Glenn Schischka, Val Jillings, Michelle Smith, Tom Gibling, Peter Musgrave, Wendy Sedon, Rhona Gibling, Barbara Cunliffe and Des Marett (seated) Taking the photo is Johanna Brens



# Protect

yourself and others against

# COVID-19

Cover your coughs or sneezes with tissues or your elbow



Put your used tissue in the rubbish bin or in a plastic bag



Wash and dry your hands often, especially after coughing or sneezing – use soap or hand sanitiser



Stay away from others if you're unwell



**COVID-19**  
**HEALTH ADVICE**  
0800 358 5453

[health.govt.nz/COVID-19](https://health.govt.nz/COVID-19)

Protect your family/whānau from COVID-19 (coronavirus)