



ISSUE: 01 | APRIL 2011

Welcome to our new regular newsletter...

We are planning to send this out at the beginning of each month to keep you better informed about all that is happening at Capernwray. We will seek to focus on different areas of the ministry and keep you up to date with changes as they happen, as well as hopefully giving more insight into what the Lord continues to do in our lives. In later issues we would like to introduce a focus called 'where are they now?' and we'll give opportunity for you to share something of your journey with the Lord. The more we can do to build one another up and, more importantly, lift Jesus higher, the better!

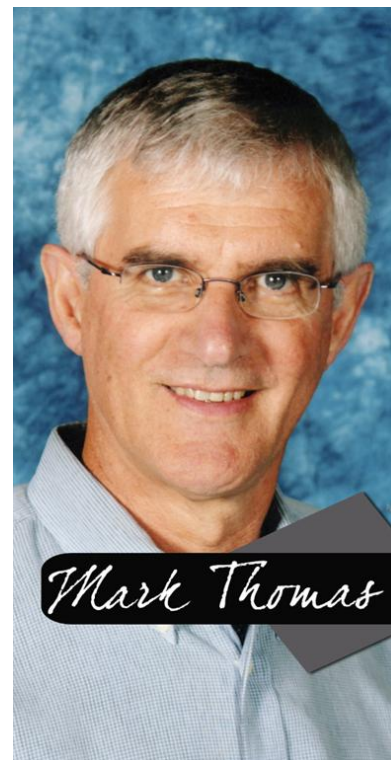
This month we're looking at Bible School – those of you familiar with the year's programme will know that Winter School has just concluded. So we have some reports from students who have recently been on outreach, as well as reflections from Ian Ellershaw, the Dean of Students.

Keeping the Calendar

A calendar is not needed to know what time of the year it is. Go to the shops look at what cards are on sale or what is hung out to grab your attention. Large orange lanterns and black caped witches and it will soon be October 31st Halloween, very little to do with the saints but more to do with ghosts and goblins! The red-robed, white-bearded, reindeer-rider waves to shoppers who will make the tills ring and December 25th is round the corner but the Saviour of the world plays second fiddle to "Jingle Bells."

We now see the chocolate eggs and rabbits that invade the celebration of the moveable Easter Feast, but there is very little acknowledgement of sin that put Christ on the Cross. But then who wants to be reminded of their sin? It will soon be April 22nd, Easter weekend will be upon us, and what a wonderful reminder those days will bring. Our sin has been dealt with, a Saviour has lived up to His name and we have become His saints, living ones at that!

The roots of our Easter joy are in the Passover feast that figures prominently in Israel's calendar, and we know that their diary is filled with all things Jehovah but sadly neglected or in fulfilment mostly rejected. Paul of Benjamin's tribe declares, "Christ our Passover lamb has been sacrificed," 1 Corinthians 5:7, while John the Baptist introduced Jesus as "the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world," John 1:29. To truly keep that in the calendar is to follow Paul's instructions to the Corinthian church by also keeping the Feast of Unleavened Bread so closely linked to Passover. That means for us taking the practical steps of getting rid of the "stuff" in our lives that contradicts God's character on the basis of Christ's finished work and the presence and power of His indwelling Holy Spirit.



Easter Day and an empty tomb are critical since the bodily resurrection of Jesus is vital. Without the resurrection of Christ we are "still in our sins," those "who have fallen asleep (died) in Christ" have just plain had it and "we are to be pitied more than all men." That's how Paul puts it in 1 Cor 15:17-19. The unleavened "Bread of Heaven" could not be kept in the grave and if He is our "Living Bread" nor can we. I like the suggestion that Joseph of Arimathea responded to those who could not believe that he would give up such an expensive tomb for the crucified Man by saying "O, He only needed it for the weekend."

Keep the real Easter in your personal diary - it should apply daily.



Tales from Winter Bible School 2010/11

Winter School Review

The end of March sees the end of winter school and just as the changing of the seasons reminds us of God's faithfulness, so we at Capernwray are thanking the Lord for faithfully leading us through another school term. Once again the Lord enabled us to welcome over 170 students representing over 15 different countries. It has been our honour to serve these young men and women over the last six months. It is a joy to lead those who are seeking out their Heavenly Father and searching out what it looks like to live in relationship with Him.

As you could imagine spending six months with over

10 Day Outreach - Disley

During the ten days my outreach team went to Disley, Manchester, where we worked with three different churches and were involved in the schools and community. Although it was a busy week for our team of four, it was an incredible week where we felt God stretch and grow us.

During our week we helped with two morning church services by leading worship, doing skits, and telling stories, and we also led an evening service by ourselves where we had a time of worship, meditation and reflection where the congregation could come and spend some time

10 Day Outreach - Kenya

A team of thirteen Capernwray students set out under the leadership of Andy Thomas for a two week outreach mission to Kenya. After two long flights the team arrived in Nairobi, stopping over at the Word of Life Bible School, where we were joined by former Capernwray student Belinda from Zimbabwe. After an early start the following day we journeyed on to Chwele in the north of Kenya, to be welcomed with a traditional African supper of chapatis and delicious local fruits!

170 students and over 30 staff brings with it many blessings as well as many challenges. As part of the community of people who have called Capernwray home over the last 6 months, we have learned that our God is still in the business of changing lives. We have watched on as the Lord has been refining the work He has begun in His children through the study of the Bible, through the teachers and staff at Capernwray and through the students challenging and supporting each other.

We have had some new challenges through this winter school as we implemented the new accredited course. This, we believe, will certainly improve our course and give students the opportunity to process and reflect even more upon what the Lord is teaching them through His Word. The Lord has been faithful in leading us through this course for the first time with great success and I believe He has used this to reveal Himself to the students in a new and deeper way.

So, as we anticipate the beginning of Spring and the new growth we will see in the countryside, I am looking forward to watching on as the Lord continues to grow the students who have left Capernwray. I look forward in faith to see the glorious fruit that will be produced as these young lives are given over to their Creator and Saviour to be used in a lifetime of His service. For unlike the daffodils that flower and then wither in only a matter of days, I pray that as the students' faith takes root, they will go on to produce fruit that will last for eternity through Christ's enabling power.

Ian Ellershaw (Dean of Students)

with God and get away from the busyness of daily life. We took three school assemblies where we told the story of Jonah and the children were able to interact with us by answering questions and accompany the story with hand-motions, and then sang a song about the story.

We held two big events over the week; one for the elderly and one for families. We also were involved in several Mums and Toddlers groups and also in some different youth groups. All in all, we had an amazing week and were able to work with all ages and gain a lot of experience as we adapted to various situations.

I feel that through our time in Disley, God was really able to work in us as a team. During the week, three out of the four of us were feeling under the weather and were having a hard time keeping our energy up. However, God provided the energy for us to get through each day with enthusiasm.

During my time in Disley, God taught me that I needed to get my strength from Him, and that I needed to stop relying on myself to get through the day. He taught me that although sometimes things did not go according to the way I was hoping they would go, that He can still use those times and use them for His glory and honour. One of my favorite things during these ten days was that I was able to see God work through our lives as a team, the lives of members of the churches, and the lives of people in the community.

Tara Goddard (Oregon, USA)

Over the course of two weeks the team split their time between Chwele and Lumacanda in northern Kenya, staying with two Pastors and their families. The main focus of our mission was school work, with a typical day involving explaining the gospel through assemblies, puppet shows, children's Bible stories, drama and sport. The team even had its own Gospel choir and were able to perform several times during the trip.

We also had the opportunity to hold workshops with adults, teachers and church leaders. On Sundays, the team split off into pairs and headed off to local churches around Chwele and Lumucanda, having the opportunity to preach and share testimonies, which were powerful in illustrating how God has been working in each of their lives during their time at Capernwray.

Particular highlights included the enthusiasm of the school children and seeing many come to Christ every day. In fact, it was incredible to see just how receptive the people of Kenya are to hearing the Gospel and their completely uninhibited passion for worship.

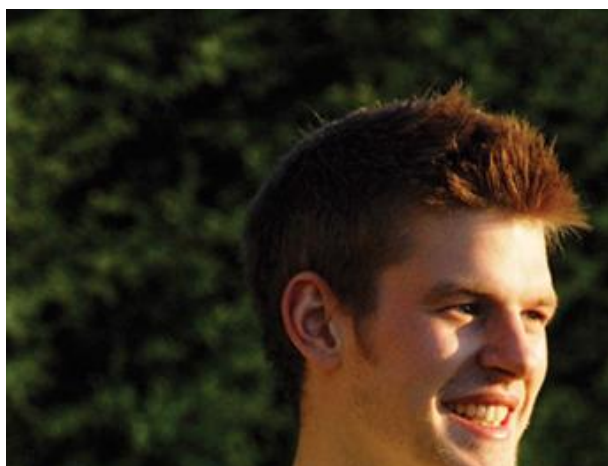
There were several challenges too. Yet it was amazing to witness the Holy Spirit working in the midst of our weaknesses. Any problems were far outweighed by the privilege of being in this beautiful country and witnessing the enthusiasm people here have for proclaiming and receiving the Gospel.

Rachel Aston (England)



At the Capernwray Ladies Conference 2011 Jill Briscoe, using Paul's letter to the Phillipians, uncovered the 'spiritual arts' that Christians are called to practice regularly... practices we need to learn if we are to live as God intended - full of great joy, deeper intimacy with God, and an exciting impact in the lives of others.

All six lectures for just **£15**
order online at www.capernwray.org.uk/store



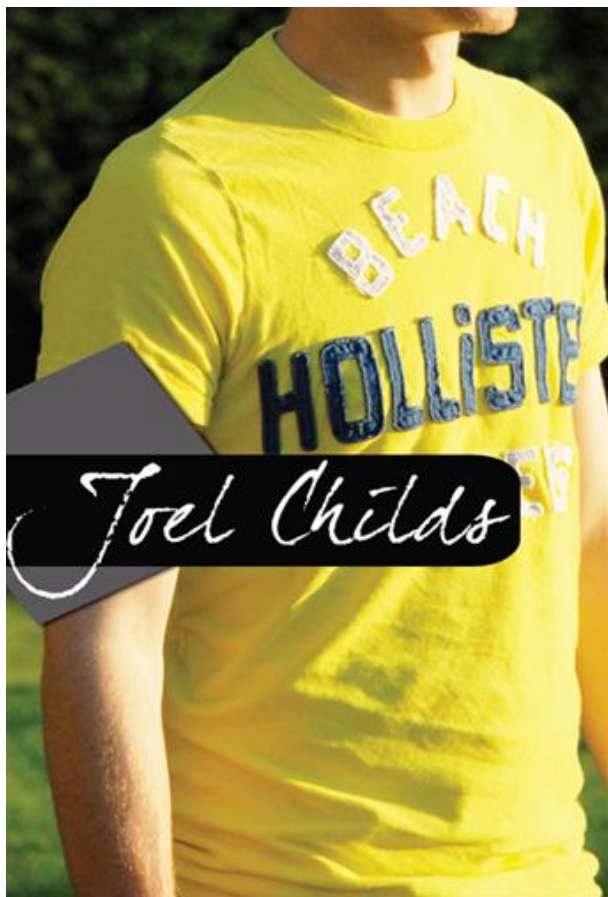
The ear tests words

as the tongue tastes food **Job 34:4**

I remember first arriving at Capernwray back in 2009 and feeling convinced this is where God wanted me, and the excitement of leaving home and doing something else.

I had just finished working as a chef at the Marriott Hotel and felt that I needed to be in a Christian environment to strengthen myself again, as working in a hotel had very much killed my moral standards and eventually it got so bad that I tried to kill myself. I knew that I had to get out.

So working at Capernwray is not like working at a hotel and I



prefer working at Capernwray! My first year was really hard. I know that the kitchen staff struggled with me but I had just left a non-Christian environment with 'Gordon Ramsay wannabes' to come to a Christian environment. So I struggled a lot just being in this different environment.

Then really through events at Capernwray, God used people to help strengthen me. The first year was God breaking me, then the second year God really started to work in me. I never liked reading, but my time here has given me time to learn to like reading, especially my Bible. Although Capernwray is in many ways a bubble, it is what I needed and God used that. To tell you all that God has done in my life while I've been here would take a long time.

I've seen God change other people as well while I've been here. Mark Thomas said to me that I had to work here to want to really study the Bible. So after here I will be going to Bible School in Canada to continue to grow. I don't want to be a chef, I don't want to work in hotels, I just want to tell people about Christ and tell them about the hope that he has given me, and how God has changed me.

He reconciled friendships, family, colleagues and thanks to Him now my identity is rooted in Him and I continue to look forward to the adventure that my life will be by His side.

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We're grateful to so many who regularly pray for Capernwray and hopefully as we seek to send out newsletters more regularly, we can give a clearer focus for those prayers.

Praise God for:

All those students who have recently completed Winter School and the impact the Lord Jesus has had in their lives during their time here and those who have already booked for this year's holidays and conferences

Please pray for:

- Andy Thomas and team of students who are in Kenya from 1st -16th April (keep up to date with their progress by accessing the blog at www.capernwrayafrica.co.cc)
- The right people to come to join staff as gardener (to replace Rachel) and cook (to replace Joel)

- Those thinking about applying for Holidays and Bible School next year
- Students preparing to come to Spring School (starts on 16th April)



FIRE

MENS WEEKEND | 9-11 SEPTEMBER

The Bible uses the Word 'fire' 437 times. Amongst other things 'fire' in Scripture is a metaphor for judgement, holiness, passion, worship, Holy Spirit and the Gospel. Taking 'fire' as the theme - we will explore catching, guarding and passing the fire.

Guests will join the guys who live and work at Capernwray along with others from around the country for a memorable couple of days. Receive practical and relevant teaching. We will fill the days with activities, great laughs and worship, as well as excellent teaching from Simon Ladd.

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