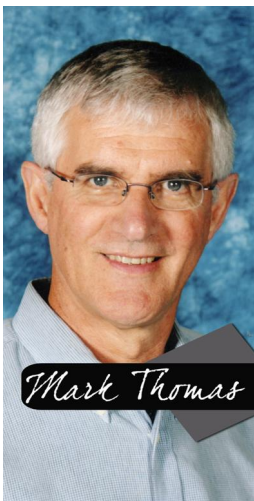




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Mark Thomas

## Exposed but not embarrassed...

How easily are you embarrassed? Most, if not all of us may well have been asked what our most embarrassing moments have been, and very often we are willing to make ourselves vulnerable to laughter because frankly such incidents are often quite funny. I would be willing to relate one of my own but space will not allow! However, there are times when my embarrassment is linked to someone else exposing what I am or what I have done to others and it is then that the laughter may be one-sided, the derision painful or the shame unbearable. To be exposed in such a way may well be more than embarrassing and with a hard recovery.

Out of the pages of the great Book, its arrival we celebrate into English 400 years ago, steps One who can do no other than expose us because of the character of His life, though His intention is not to embarrass. Whatever God says, and the Lord Jesus is His final Word, will always expose. What does bright sunlight do to our windows at home besides embarrass my wife? It reveals their condition. When Jesus sat down and asked for water from the woman at that well at noon His intentions were not to embarrass her but to liberate her. Was she ever joyful when she ran back to town! (John 4:1-42)

When the Lord exposes my impatience, my anger, my selfishness, my frustrations, my pain, my hurts, my inadequacy and my failure it is not to embarrass but to expose Himself to those things in my life. That's liberating.

The Book gives us accounts of those who have gone before us and the exposures recorded are revealing. Adam and Eve had their rebellion exposed. David had his immorality exposed. Peter had his inadequacy exposed. The rich young ruler had his weakness exposed and Zacchaeus had his character exposed, and the Lord was prepared to expose Himself to each situation or condition for their ultimate good whatever it took.

Hebrews 4:12 could, at first reading, be some scary verses, but in seeing the context of that portion of Scripture the intention of God for the active work of His Word is to ensure that His people enter into His rest. That's liberating. We are frequently challenged, and rightly so, to study God's Word but perhaps I can also put out the challenge to let His Word study us. James uses a mirror image and exhorts us to "look intently into the perfect law that gives freedom." (James 1:22-25) We don't need to stay embarrassed when examined by God's mirror – that's liberating.

We soon begin another Bible School year here at Capernwray. We ask that you pray that in the coming months

we will all be exposed to the Living Word .

# MY CAPERNWRAY EXPERIENCE

While at Spring school this year God has transformed my heart. Prior to coming to Capernwray I was trying to obey all the things I thought I was supposed to, but the desire to do it wasn't there. I was trying to do it on my own instead of letting God work through me.

When I first arrived in April I was scared and given the opportunity to walk right back out the front door, I probably would have taken it. Fortunately nobody offered me that option and I experienced the most faith-building two months of my life. I was immersed in Bible teaching and reading. Outreach into the community was eye opening and encouraging, and about a month into the term I felt God telling me that I needed to stay longer to continue the growth He is doing in my life. It is really amazing to see how blessed people are after being given the opportunity to come here and focus on God away from the distractions of regular routine. Once again I have extended my stay and will be attending Winter school this year. I am excited for what God has planned to teach me in these next few months at Capernwray.



I am looking forward to studying more of God's word and learning areas where I can practically apply it to my life. I am really excited to see the growth in my relationship with Jesus at the end of my time here and how God will use that for his glory when I leave.

I decided to volunteer for the summer and it gave me the opportunity to use the gifts he has blessed me with for his work. I have been working on the housekeeping team as well as in the Beehive allowing me to interact with the guests. Some of my favourite times over the summer have been listening to the work God has done in the lives of the guests after being at Capernwray for such a short time.



To purchase a copy of the calendar or to browse our other items please visit our shop at: [www.capernwray.org.uk/Store.php](http://www.capernwray.org.uk/Store.php)



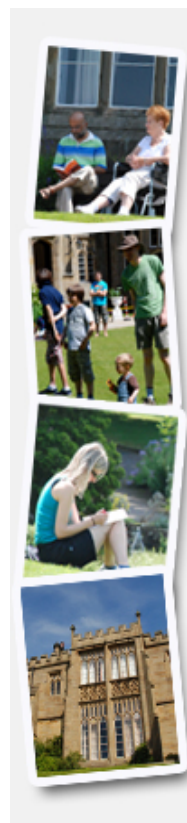
**Thank you for praying with us.**

**Here are some answers to prayer...**

- **Holidays** – We've had a good summer with a lot of positive feedback. A number have invited Jesus to be their Lord and Saviour and many others have been challenged and encouraged
- **New Cook** - Corey Twyman joins us as cook on 5th September – a real answer to prayer

**... and some requests**

- **Bible School** – Students as they prepare to join us for Bible School which starts on 24th September (still a couple of spaces left for British or European students).
- **Holidays** – the remaining holiday weeks this summer (Summer Studies and Men's Weekend – a few spaces still left!)
- **Staff** - as they conclude a busy summer and then have to readjust to the challenges of Bible School



*Thanks for reading, until next month...*

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**Capernwray Hall**, Carnforth, Lancashire, LA6 1AG  
**Telephone:** +44 01524 733908  
**Email:** info@capernwray.org.uk

**Websites**

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