

paid? One such is 'Stewardship' which passes money to the designated recipient plus the reclaimed tax, but there are others. Please pray for people to sign up to tax efficient giving.

Saturday 27th

Please remember preachers and leaders preparing for Sunday services, Roger Grafton, Jonathan Bugg, itinerant preachers, musicians, Sunday School teachers and others. Please pray for those who lead in the church.

Sunday 28th

A team from Tabs will conduct a service at Bethel House at Hebron Hall today. Please pray for all those involved giving and receiving.

Monday 29th

Please remember the church prayer meetings held on Monday nights. Think of a good reason why you should attend and then ask whether Jesus would approve of you not going.

Tuesday 30th

Please pray for those who cannot get to a small group because of infirmity or old age.

Contributions for the prayer diary should be sent to john.stansfield5@btinternet.com or left in the pigeonhole in the foyer by 7th of the month.

THOUGHT OF THE MONTH

Before Lent in the morning services there was a series about living the holy life and all the practical consequences which come from trying to avoid sin. Each aspect of the practise of holiness was examined, but the main requirement is a mental attitude based on the idea of living a holy life. When on holiday there are ruins of ancient Abbey Churches to visit, built by people who set out to be holy. On the other hand there are cartoon take offs of jolly friars with red noses from too much homebrew. All these have a caricature of the holy life as their basis.

In the twenty first century how does living a holy life, in an urban setting, come to be a valid way to live? All around there is decadence, lack of ethical and moral direction and purpose, and blatant sin even in the church. If you decide to try and be holy how can you avoid being labelled a 'Holy Joe', 'Snooty So and So' or something similar? The answer as always in this paper is to pray that God will show you the way to achieve a holy lifestyle. There is plenty you can do for yourself to get started, stop sinning is the first requirement. Decide to use opportunities which present themselves to help others, avoid being nosey. Look at the resources you can use, tithe your income, whether salary, wage, pension, pocket money or whatever. In other words set out to show God you are honouring His name and commands. The rest will just follow naturally.

John Stansfield

tabernacle : penarth

purpose : to reflect God's love in
our church, community and world

prayer diary : april 2013

"We are fools for Christ's sake."

1 Corinthians 4:10

John Wimber used to tell a story of a man he used to often see near his workplace before he became a Christian - John was the keyboard player with the band "The Righteous Brothers" and his workplace was a nightclub! The man used to walk up and down with a sandwich board which said on it, "I'm a fool for Christ". Wimber often used to laugh at the man, until one day as he passed him he took the effort to glance back to see what was written on the back of the board. It asked, "...But whose fool are you?" It had a profound effect on John not just at the time, but subsequently throughout his ministry. He resolved never to avoid sharing the Gospel just because of the risk of looking foolish. So, in the month of April Fool's day, let me ask you — whose fool are you and are you willing to risk looking foolish for the sake of Christ?

Roger Grafton

Monday 1st (Easter Monday), (All Fools Day).

As spring gets underway, let us give thanks to God for all the many good things which He gives us. Remember in particular what Christ did for everyone who believes on His name.

Tuesday 2nd

The Fair Trade movement is a win-win situation for all: producers, traders, exporters and customers. It creates social, economic and environmental development for people. Pray for all engaged in promoting fair trade

Wednesday 3rd

Today the Leadership Council will meet, please pray for them as they meet .

Thursday 4th

Pray today about how you could adopt a holy lifestyle. What would you need to do, and could you keep it up? See article at the end.

Friday 5th

Please pray for the volunteers at Tools With A Mission, (TWAM), headquarters in Ipswich: Warehouse Manager Graham Hart, Executive Director Martin Humphries and office staff: Cindy Scott, Diane Giddings, Pat Hicks and Ann Richardson, (John Haggitt).

Saturday 6th

Today there is a Men's Ministry day at Tabs. Please pray for those speaking at this event.

Sunday 7th

Today is the annual memorial service held each year to honour those people associated with Tabs who have died in the previous year. Please pray for those families and individuals who are bereaved.

Monday 8th

Please pray for Jon Dickerson and Jon Birch as they face the SWBA Ministerial Recognition Committee, and consider their options towards training for full time ministry.

Tuesday 9th

In Aleppo, Syria the Christian church has suffered much in the fighting between opposing factions. Please pray for the people, and particularly the Christians, as Syria goes down the plughole of despair.

Wednesday 10th

Please pray for Peter Stevenson as Principal and other members of faculty and students at the South Wales Baptist College. Ask God to direct their studies and life as a College.

Thursday 11th

Praying for revival is not everyone's favourite occupation, so remember those who do meet regularly to pray for it, and pray for the church to be more open to God's leading.

Friday 12th

BMS missionary Margaret Swires works in Peru in the capital Lima and the coastal town of Chincha about 50 km south of Lima. Please remember all the BMS team in Peru.

Saturday 13th

Please pray for those who are sick, some have minor troubles, others more serious like cancer and heart conditions. A suitable list is published in the weekly newsletter.

Sunday 14th

Sam Hackett has been training for ministry at the Baptist College for some time. Another Tabs member in preparation for ministry is Christine Haggitt in Glasgow. Please pray for these folk regularly.

Monday 15th

Please remember new members who joined Tabs recently: Steve & Helen Lock, Jonathan Green, Nick Tsitsinakis, and Josephine Harris. Ask God to bless them as they seek to serve Him in Tabs.

Tuesday 16th

Backsliding is not something that those in "good standing" would want to do, but some people do fall from grace. Pray for someone who may be having a crisis of faith particularly anyone you may know.

Wednesday 17th

Judy Cook lives and works at the Hope Home, Chiang Mai, Thailand. Judy and her parents were in Tabernacle before she went to Thailand. She reports staff shortages and sickness, as well as new arrivals to work in the

home. These folk are Paul and Jeannie from Australia, please pray for Judy and all the staff and children cared for at Hope Home.

Thursday 18th

The South Wales Baptist Association employs Nick Bradshaw, (an ex Tabs boy), Jackie Godding and Andy Hughes. Please pray for Nick, Andy and Jackie as they seek to serve the Baptist churches of South Wales in ministry and mission.

Friday 19th

Please pray for young people and leaders involved with Xtreme, Beyond Xtreme and After 9. These are outreach events to young people. Remember in particular to pray for adequate, quality leaders, without which such events will not happen.

Saturday 20th

Please pray for the staff employed by Tabs: Roger Grafton, Jonathan Bugg, Gemma Humphreys, and Jayne Neadley. Also remember Claire Grafton and Jan Booker at Home Access.

Sunday 21st

Please pray for all who contribute to the quality and variety of worship in Tabs. The list is long and the church needs to give thanks for the collective contribution of lots of people.

Monday 22nd

Please pray for the Playgroup who meet every morning to cater for the needs of very young people. Please pray for Mums, children and helpers.

Tuesday 23rd

Dorcas group, Ladies Evening Fellowship, and Men's Christian Club all meet on Tuesdays. Please uphold those who attend these events.

Wednesday 24th

In the middle of the week most people concentrate on work, school, social events etc and have little time for God. Please pray for those for whom God is likely to be a very real event in the very near future as they prepare to meet their maker. Pray for the sick and dying especially anyone you know.

Thursday 25th

Today is ANZAC day in the antipodes. Please remember those who have served in the armed forces of Australia and New Zealand alongside British troops in many conflicts up to and including the present day. Also remember current service personnel in Afghanistan and other theatres around the world. Pray for the relatives and families of deceased soldiers, sailors and airmen of all nations involved in current conflicts.

Friday 26th

Please think of your support for those full time workers who are supported by Tabs. Could you increase your effective giving by using a scheme which will claim back the tax already