

- Intro to 1 John
 - Written between AD90-100, to churches in Asia Minor
 - False teachers have caused uncertainty amongst believers
 - Key words – “We know” “Anyone/everyone/whoever/no-one”
- 1. The Problem of Counterfeit Christianity**
- False teachers troubling Christians in 3 areas:
 - Theological – Claiming Jesus wasn’t really God (2:22)
– Claiming a deeper understanding (4:2)
 - Moral – Claiming sinlessness/Redefining sinfulness (1:8, 2:4)
 - Relational – They scorned the Christians (2:9)
- John writes to *expose* the false teachers and *comfort* the Christians
- 2. Real Christianity is based on a Real Jesus as revealed in the Bible (1:1-4)**
- Real Christianity is unashamedly historical – v1,2
- Real Christianity is not about feelings and experience, but about facts
- If we want fellowship with God we need to come to the Jesus the apostles teach us about v3
- There are no mystic ways to God – fellowship is through Jesus
- 3. Real Christianity has 3 birthmarks**
- 3 themes keep appearing to show up false Christianity, and prove true Christianity
 - a) **Real Christianity has Right Beliefs about Christ**
 - 1:1-4, 2:18-27, 4:1-6, 5:6-12 - Faith
 - b) **Real Christianity has Right Attitudes to Sin**
 - 1:5-8, 2:3-6, 3:4-10, 5:1-5 – Repentance
 - c) **Real Christianity has Right Relationships to other Christians**
 - 2:7-11, 3:11-18, 4:7-12 – Love
- The three strands of one rope – not three options
- 4. Knowing Real Christianity brings blessings**
- What will we gain from 1 John?
 - You will have fellowship with God and his people – 1:3
 - You will have joy – 1:4
 - You will be encouraged in your fight against sin – 2:1
 - You will be kept from false teaching – 2:26
 - You will have confidence in your salvation – 5:13

Only a real relationship with the real Jesus of 1:1-4 can bring all these.



new life fellowship

SERVING JESUS CHRIST THE KING

www.newlifefellowship.ie - part of the reformed presbyterian church of ireland

Sabbath 16th March 08

Notices

- | | | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|
| Sab | Evening meeting at Mark & Judith's home | 8pm |
| Tues | Study 19 in I Corinthians @ _____ | 8pm |
| Sabbath 23rd Mark will be away on holiday - Rev Stewart McMahon preaching
If you require a pastor contact Stewart 074 9139468 | | |
| 25-27th | Christ in the Psalms - Stephen Rippon (USA)
Letterkenny Bible Week - run by the Baptist Church
Port Road Christian Centre | 8pm |
| Sat 29th | 'Turning Pain Into Gain' - WMU Spring Conference
Speaker: Mrs Catherine Campbell
Bready RPC @ 2:00pm | |
| 4-6th April | Western & Southern Presbytery youth weekend
Rev Andrew Kerr speaking on Heaven
Application forms available - need to be in by 29th March | |

Denomination News

Robert Robb - Marathon Man!

Rev Robert Robb, minister in Limavady RP Church is planning to run 6 marathons on 6 consecutive days in the 6 counties of Northern Ireland in May. He is doing it to raise money for the Alzheimer's Society and Macmillan Cancer Support. Sponsorship forms are available.

Warren & Ruth Peel's book on Relationships

Rev Warren Peel and his wife Ruth's new book on relationships is available at €5. This is an expansion of their articles in the Messenger magazine.

Sabbath 30th: I John 1:5-2:6

Opening Psalm: 73:1-6

Pastor: Mark Loughridge Tel: 074 9123961 email: mark@newlifefellowship.ie
Oversight elders: Graham Fallows 048 7130 1641 William Lynch 048 7139 8002