



17. Ambitions that Last

Philippians 3:10-11

- What are your ambitions? Will they last? Will they fulfil? Forever?

1. To know Christ

- *“I want to know him”* - Not just head knowledge, but relationship.
- Christianity isn't just about a transaction, but about a person to live for
- Our great desire should be to know the one who saved us
- How? Regular contact. Information. Response. Delight. Together.

2. To be like Christ

- 2 aspects – admiration transforms & Christ transforms
- Link v9 & 10 – Christianity isn't just a clean slate, but a changing heart
- God's goal isn't forgiveness, but Christ-likeness. 2 tools God uses:

a) Through Sin-defeating Power

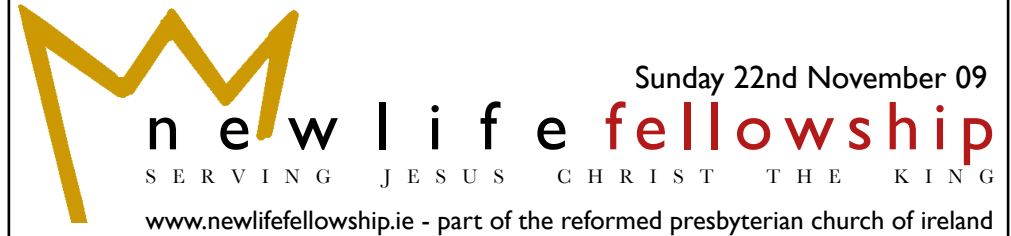
- *“I want to know... the power of his resurrection”*
- The power at which shattered grasp of Satan, sin and death.
- Power to break sinful habits, to grow in Christ-likeness
- Eph 1:18, Col 1:10-11, Col 1:29
- We are not powerless, our sins are beatable
- Challenge – what sins are you seeking to defeat?

b) Through Purposeful Suffering

- *“I want to know... the fellowship of sharing in his suffering”*
- Suffering isn't alien to the Christian life.
- Persecution for Christ's sake, Growing pains, Satan's temptations
- Route to Christ-likeness – *“becoming like him in his death”* – (Phil 2:5-8), becoming an obedient servant, not counting cost
- Route to Christ-nearness – *“the fellowship”* – Christ draws near his people when they suffer for him
- If you are suffering, look for Him, not away from Him
- He will not take you where his power will not sustain you, or his presence be with you

3. To be with Christ

- *“... to attain to the resurrection from the dead”*
- Paul not looking down, but forward. Keeps the prize in view
- The resurrection changes how we view everything
- Death for Christian = soul with Christ
- Resurrection = soul reunited with a glorified body to enjoy being with Christ
- *“somehow”* – Not doubt about resurrection, but about the route there
- These are ambitions that last, that nothing can take away, that will not disappoint.



Sunday 22nd November 09

n e w l i f e f e l l o w s h i p

S E R V I N G J E S U S C H R I S T T H E K I N G

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

Notices

Sun	Evening service at Day Centre Prayer time	8pm
Tues	Bible Study at Mark & Judith's	8pm
Sun 29 th	Church lunch after the service	
Tues 1st	Romania Report - Sam Thompson Faughan Church	7.30pm

Mission Team to Nantes (France)

The Nantes 2010 Go Team will take place from 27th March to 5th April. Anyone wishing to be part of the team should contact Rev Andrew Kerr - 048 9070 1721 or andrew@andrewkerr5.wanadoo.co.uk

getting to know the WIDER CHURCH

Congregation: Ballylaggan
Location: Near Coleraine
Presbytery: Northern
Pastor: No pastor at present
Attendance: about 70



Prayer points:

- Give thanks for John George, who has been preaching in the congregation over the last year. Pray that God will give them wisdom as they look for a new pastor.
- Give thanks for the good attendance at the youth group. Pray that these young people will be eager to learn more about Christ.
- Pray for those in the congregation who are passing through times of prolonged illness.

Sunday 29th - Phillipians 3:12-16

Opening Psalm: 107:7-12

Pastor: Mark Loughridge Tel: 074 9123961 email: mark@newlifefellowship.ie
Oversight elders: William Lynch 048 7139 8002 Robert Tait 9101668 Colin Tait 9147352