



CHRISTCHURCH

Programme

April - July

2024



Men's G R O U P

The Men's Group in its current form began about 23 years ago. It developed out of a Men's Alpha which engendered a hunger to study God's Word.

There are several aspects to the Men's Group. We strive to include all men of all ages in all of our activities. Some men participate in some aspects; some participate in all aspects; some participate in none. You are free to come and go as you choose.

Study

Up to about 12 of us meet every Sunday night during school term between 7.30pm – 8.30pm in order to study the Bible. Most often we study a book in the Bible, but we also study themes and topical questions. In the last few years we have studied, Ezekiel, the Gospel of Luke, Nehemiah, Hebrews, John's Gospel, 2 Peter & Jude, 1 and 2 Corinthians, Ecclesiastes, and "What's so Amazing about Grace".

As part of the 500th anniversary of the Reformation, we have viewed a DVD series on key figures and their theology much of which remains relevant today. In previous years we examined together the earliest and most important manuscript evidence of Jesus of Nazareth, including the writings of Josephus and Tacitus, the apostle Paul and the controversial Gnostic Gospels through a documentary called 'The Christ Files'.

Social

We also meet socially, both as a means of getting to know each other better and as a means of including new men in the life of Christ Church.

There are regular monthly dinners, sometimes with a short talk or discussion. A group of us meet for coffee on Tuesday mornings. From time to time we host events with a speaker, and arrange walks.

Service

Men like action, and we are not exceptional in this regard. We like to be of service to the Christ Church community and beyond. Most years, some of us take part in the Guildford-wide 'Ready-4-Action' weekend; in past years a group of us refurbished the upstairs of Church House; most years we endeavour to do a Besom project in the community. We also help with the gardening, DIY and other church activities.

Support

We have a desire more efficiently to provide support to the men of Christ Church and beyond and this is an area we would like to develop further. Unrealised ideas include prayer triplets, support groups and mentoring.

In past years one of us has arranged a quiet half-day, involving study, quiet reflection and prayer which has been well received. Every few years we host an Alpha or Christianity Explored course purely for men.

Thessalonians : How Can I Be Sure?

Do you ever wonder whether you will be with Jesus when you die?

In the midst of suffering, do you wonder if God has forgotten you?

The church in Thessalonica struggled with many of the same anxieties and insecurities that we wrestle with today. The two letters that Paul wrote to the Thessalonians help us to find an assurance and certainty in our faith.

Join us in working through Paul's letters and discussing the implications both for those who lived in Paul's times and for us today: a model for ministry, a vision for the local church and an affirmation of our faith. All in all, a positive message for us in an age where we are accustomed to hearing a constant diet of bad news through the various media.

There are ten sessions covering the two letters in the study guide we will be using.

When and where?

Sunday nights, at the start time of 19.30 to 20.30 sharp, at Acre Holt, One Tree Hill Road.

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28 April 2024	Acts 17:1-15 - How Can I Be Sure of My Beliefs?
5 May 2024	1 Thessalonians 1 – How Can I Be Sure of My Purpose?
12 May 2024	No meeting – Half Term week
19 May 2024	1 Thessalonians 2:1-16 – How Can I Be Sure of My Message?
26 May 2024	1 Thessalonians 2:17 – 3:13 - How Can I Be Sure I Am Loved?
2 June 2024	1 Thessalonians 4:1-12 – How Can I Be Sure of God's Approval?
9 June 2024	1 Thessalonians 4:13 – 5:11 – How Can I Be Sure Christ will Return?
16 June 2024	1 Thessalonians 5:12 – 28 – How Can I Be Sure of God's People?
23 June 2024	2 Thessalonians 1 – How Can I Be Sure that I will Go to Heaven?
30 June 2024	2 Thessalonians 2 – How Can I Be Sure of God's Power?
7 July 2024	2 Thessalonians 3 – How Can I Be Sure that I Am Doing My Part?
14 July 2024	General Discussion: update on General Synod

Social

Special Events this term:

Dinners / BBQ.

You would be most welcome to join us at one or more of our regular dinners. If you would like to attend, please let **Ray Bell** know (07960 494834 or rgbbp2002@yahoo.co.uk) by the Tuesday preceding the dinner.

Please also feel free to bring a friend.

Friday 26 April 2024

Host John Steynor.

Friday 31 May 2024

Host Ray Bell.

Friday 28 June 2024

Host Richard Algeo.

Friday 26 July 2024

BBQ hosted by Stephen Hofmeyr.

Coffee Mornings

Each Tuesday at The Hideaway Café in Allen House Grounds, near Eastgate Gardens, at 10.30am. When it is Prayer Central (the first Tuesday in the month) coffee is in Church House after prayer.

Church Family Walk

Saturday 18th May 2024 at 10.30 am. Further details to be confirmed. Contact **Mike Rigby** (01483 613658) or **Julian Knopf** (07968 730546) for more information.

Mowing Team

Join our mowing team and mow and trim the Christ Church lawns once each year! Please offer your services to **Nick Nicolaou** (01483 673512).

Contact

If you have any questions in relation to any of the above, please do not hesitate to contact **Ray Bell** (07960 494834), **Richard Algeo** (07954 117243) or **Mike Rigby** (01483 613658).



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Christ Church, 23 Waterden Road, Guildford GU1 2AZ