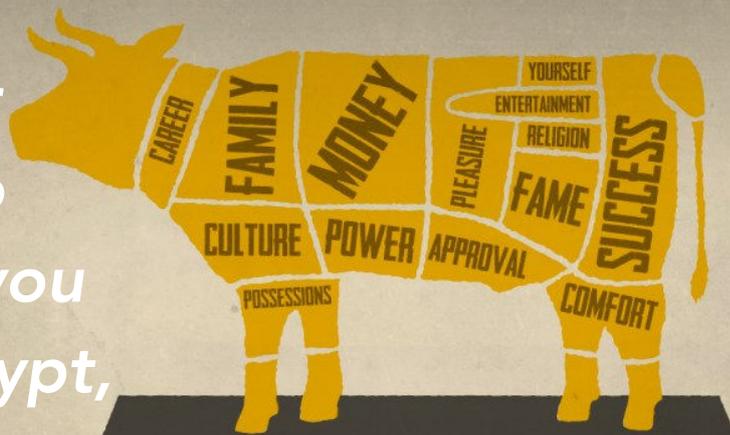


# Outlook

*"I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery."*



*"You shall have no other gods before me..."*

*...make no idols."*

from Exodus 20:1-4

Last Sunday we began new series of studies on **the 10 Commandments**. Here's a very brief reminder of some of what we said. The 10 commandments were given whilst the Israelites were on their way to the Promised Land in the story of The Exodus, which is descriptive of the Christian life:

- >>> **Egypt** represents our old life without faith in Christ;
- >>> crossing the **Red Sea** is a picture of baptism and beginning in faith;
- >>> the **Promised Land** is symbolic of the Christian life - facing the many enemies it contains whilst simultaneously trusting in Christ.

The 10 Commandments don't save us, but they are like a:

-  **Magnifying Glass** through which we can see God's true character more clearly;
-  **Mirror** that gives us a clear reflection of our true nature - that we need a saviour, and;
-  **Megaphone** through which God declares loud-and-clear things that are of prime importance to him, not least of all the seriousness of sin.

God in his grace saved his people out of slavery; the 10 Commandments show us how to live in the Promised Land of the Christian life.



## A Collect for this Week

*Eternal Lord, our beginning and our end: bring us with the whole creation to your glory, hidden through past ages and made known in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

### Exodus 20:1-21

1 And God spoke all these words:  
2 'I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery. 3 'You shall have no other gods before me.  
4 'You shall not make for yourself an image in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below. 5 You

shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God, punishing the children for the sin of the parents to the third and fourth generation of those who hate me, 6 but showing love to a thousand generations of those who love me and keep my commandments.

### John 1:29-42

29 The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him and said, "Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world! 30 This is the one I meant when I said, 'A man who comes after me has surpassed me because he was before me.' 31 I myself did not know him, but the reason I came baptising with water was that he might be revealed to Israel."

32 Then John gave this testimony: "I saw the Spirit come down from heaven as a dove and remain on him. 33 And I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptise with water told me, 'The man on whom you see the Spirit come down and remain is the one who will baptise with the Holy Spirit.' 34 I have seen and I testify that this is God's Chosen One."

### 1John 5:19-21

19 We know that we are children of God, and that the whole world is under the control of the evil one.  
20 We know also that the Son of God has come and has given us understanding, so that we may know

him who is true. And we are in him who is true by being in his Son Jesus Christ. He is the true God and eternal life.  
21 Dear children, keep yourselves from idols.

## Churches Together in Eastleigh: Reading the WHOLE of the Bible in 1 Week!



2026 marks the 500th anniversary of the publishing of William Tyndale's English New Testament. To mark this special landmark CTiE plan to read aloud the whole of the Bible from Genesis to Revelation during the international 'Week of Prayer for Christian Unity'.

To help make this happen, CTiE are hoping to recruit an army of volunteers who will each read a small section of the Bible. Most of the reading will take place in Wells Place (home of Eastleigh Baptist Church) from **8am to 9pm Monday 19th to Friday 23rd January 2026**. You can book a reading slot by [clicking this link](#) - and you can of course go along to hear the Bible being read all week. (*Ian plans to be there 3-7pm on Tues 20th - might you join him?*)

And then... from 10am to 2pm on Saturday 24th January the final section - the 4 Gospels - will be read aloud in public in the town centre, right next to the Railwayman statue.

### When You Pray...



*"Continue steadfastly in prayer, being watchful in it with thanksgiving." (Colossians 4:2)*

It's vital that we keep on praying for the **spiritual life** of this church... but might you also ask God to help with some **very practical things** too? Here are a range of prayer points to take to the Lord:

- For those struggling with illness, especially Oliver B, Wendy I, Dave S & Julie S;
- That many new people would serve in the **Treasurer, Maintenance & Hospitality** teams/roles (*Speak to Ian/Sue for more info if this might be you*);
- That the **Lent Course** (Christianity Explored) would be well attended and a real blessing to this church;
- Thank God for **Naomi** and her ministry amongst us. Pray it would flourish, and that whole families would come to know and trust Jesus Christ;
- For our **9:30 choir** and **those who lead worship** at 11 o'clock and other times - that they would lead us into spirit-filled worship that glorifies God;
- Give thanks for the **many guests** who attended our Christmas services - and pray that they would come to a saving faith in Christ, and;
- For **each church member** to become a fruitful disciple of Jesus.

## Supporting the Persecuted and Suffering Church

 Barnabas Aid are hosting a candlelit prayer evening here in All Saints' at 7pm on Saturday 31st January. [Click here](#) to reserve a seat or visit [BarnabasAid.org/events](https://BarnabasAid.org/events). **Everyone** is warmly invited to attend.

## Lent Course 2026



We plan to run a Lent Course this year. The same material will be repeated on Tuesday evenings and Wednesday afternoons through Lent (so you only need to attend one or the other). Might you join us? And who might you invite?

EASTLEIGH  
PARISH



## CHRISTIANITY|EXPLORED

WHAT'S THE BEST NEWS  
YOU'VE EVER HEARD?

A 7-week course for Lent 2026. Reading the Gospel of Mark we will see who Jesus says he is and why his death & resurrection are so important.

**7:30pm Tuesdays 17<sup>th</sup> Feb - 31<sup>st</sup> March**

**1:45pm Wednesdays 18<sup>th</sup> Feb - 1<sup>st</sup> April**

*(same material both sessions - attend either Tues eve or Weds afternoon)*

More info via [ChristianityExplored.org](https://ChristianityExplored.org) & 07809 668 118

## Keep in Touch



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