

Joanna's Jottings—What God has shown me over

recent months

The Elephant and the Mouse

(by Jesus Culture Writer on January 7, 2015)

Elephants are notorious for their ability to stampede and cause damage. Standing 13ft tall and an average of 10,360—13,330 pounds. Elephants are the largest living land mammals. Coming toe-to-toe with a creature that weighs equivalent to seven VW Beetles would be absolutely terrifying. With so much power, there is no way the elephant would fear anything ... yet this is not the case. The famous tale of the mouse scaring the elephant has been told for generations and used in many stories. The idea of a giant elephant being afraid of a mouse logically makes no sense, yet it has been proven that the mouse does in fact win the confrontation.

Like the elephant you really have far more strength than you realise!

God has given us nature to reveal Himself to us, and the elephant and the mouse is a perfect picture of who God has created us to be. We are elephants. Now before you laugh this off take a moment to reflect on a time when you know you had power over a situation, yet for some reason you felt afraid and powerless. You knew the truth, you knew you had power, you know what you could do, but you felt paralyzed. I am writing to encourage you that you do in fact have power through Christ to overcome, and like the elephant you really have far more strength that you realise.

You, dear children, are from God and have overcome them, because the one who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world.—1 John 4v4.

It is not a fight any longer, although it may feel like one. God has already won, He has already conquered, and He is the one and only true King. When the elephant and the mouse go toe to toe it is not a battle of strength, but a battle of the mind. Who will win in strength is obvious so it is with us. When you face this trial, remember that it is not a battle of power because, "He who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world". Jesus died to give us life and life abundantly! Today I challenge you to ask the Lord to show you His perspective on your situation. Although you may feel like the mouse God views it far differently and as your perspective aligns with God so will your actions. Together let us reclaim what has been stolen and live in the power we have been given!

Be Blessed and remember to be a blessing :-)

Joanna



Hollybush Newsletter
November - December 2016



Jim's Jottings



We are approaching the dark, dank, short days of what we call the winter, but praise the Lord, we are still alive and keep looking forward, still in faith and trusting in Jesus Christ, our Wonderful Saviour!

We are able to relax and catch up with things still not yet done through our busy summer months of church activity. But it has been very much worth it to serve and host God's people plus their friends. There has been much good seed sown of the Precious Word of God and we have been able to witness the results of declaring the whole counsel of God, with many people of all ages groups making commitments to become Disciples of our Saviour. We have this assurance of The Lords's words in the Parable of the sower. "But some seed fell in good ground, and brought forth—some thirty, some sixty and some one hundred fold". So though the shops are full of Christmas knick-nacks let us be thankful that Jesus Himself sought and found us. May we endeavour to shine brightly for our best friend and Saviour of the world—Jesus Christ—King of Kings and Lord of Lord's—forever.

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Programme: Nov—Dec 2016

November

Friday 4th	7.30pm, Peter Conroy—Eaglescliffe
Friday 11th	7.30pm, Janine Stellatos—Navasha, Kenya
Friday 18th	7.30pm, Robert Baggley—Hesketh Bank
Friday 25th	7.30pm, Helen Conroy

December

Friday 2nd	7.30pm, John Greenow—Exel Church, Newton Aycliffe
Friday 9th	7.30pm, Speaker to be arranged
Friday 16th	7.30pm, Pastor Steven Redman—The Ark Church, York
Sunday 18th	10.30am—Carols (Worship Service) and 6.15pm Carols (Celebration Service)
Saturday 31st	7.15pm onwards Fellowship & Watch Night Service.
Sunday 1st Jan 2017	2.30pm—5.00pm Thanksgiving for a new season of serving The Lord

Please note: There will be no meetings from Tuesday 20th December until the Watchnight Service on Saturday 31st December.

Prayer Meetings & Sunday Services

Prayer every Tuesday Evening at 7.30pm - Come believing!
Sunday Services 10.30am and 6.15pm

Notice about Sunday Evening Meetings

The clocks change on Saturday night 29th October. The Trustees wish to make it known that Sunday Evening Meetings will be in the small church for over winter. Refreshments will be available after each meeting

Gift Aid

Please make sure that you are paying income tax levels that cover your giving.

Upcoming Events

Hollybush Fellowship Christmas Dinner



Members invitations are out! You are warmly invited to have Christmas Dinner at Hollybush on Thursday the 15th December at 7—7.30pm.

Please ensure you return your completed menu choices slip to Joanna by Sunday 4th December.

Fellowship and Watchnight Service



Fellowship for all friends to gather in the large hall from 7.15pm onwards. Please bring food, games and fun. Food at 9.00pm and 10.00pm till midnight the watchnight service to praise and give thanks for a new year.

Rememberance and Prayer



As another 11th November comes can I ask that you take a few minutes in your busy lives. Please can you pray for all ex-servicemen and women and their families, also for those serving now, that God would reveal himself in a way they would recognise him speaking to them as an individual about his love to them. Please pray for the families who have lost loved ones. Also for those caring for family members who have completely changed physically and emotionally as a result of injury or because of what they have seen or been told to do.

Thank you for taking the time to pray for these people.

God bless