



finder

Jesus said,
"I am the
way..."

A publication of *Bailiesmills* Reformed Presbyterian Church

Summer 2014

TAKE UP and READ

An invitation and a challenge to open the Bible

THIS EDITION of *ROUTE finder* comes to you with an invitation and a challenge. The challenge is simple, specific and achievable – to read the whole of the New Testament in 8 weeks. Before we come to the invitation, let me give you three reasons why you should take up this challenge.

Somebody Speaking

First of all, the Bible is Somebody speaking. It makes this claim again and again. It is

true that the Bible was written by different human authors. But their writings aren't the result of philosophical speculation. Take Elijah for example. What came to him on a remote mountainside wasn't "enlightenment about the nature of being". What, or rather Who came to him was God speaking about the history of Israel and its neighbours. In the Bible God spoke, and continues to speak about ordinary, daily life.



The Voice of a Low Whisper

But God doesn't force himself on you. When he revealed himself to Elijah on the mountainside, it wasn't in the energy of a gale, or an earthquake, or a firestorm – it was in the voice of a low whisper. Like a skilful teacher God's lowers his voice to gain our attention. Perhaps you would prefer a spectacular demonstration: "God, show me through a sign who you are and what you want!" But God has chosen to speak to us through something as frail as words on paper. He wants us to *give* him our attention.

An Encounter with God

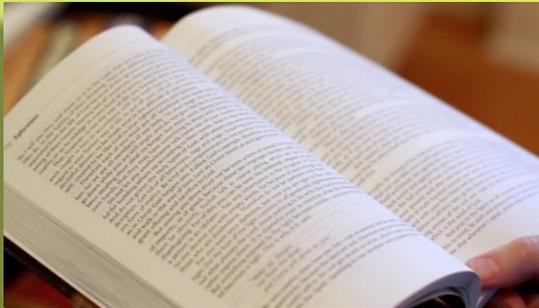
And as a result, when you read the Bible you are courting an encounter with the true and living God – like Elijah on the mountain, wrapping his cloak around his face, and stepping

out of the shelter of a cave to hear what God would say. What he heard set the course for the rest of his life – what will it do for you?

Bible reading isn't safe! In the low whisper of the written word we are encountered by God, and who knows what he may demand of us. Hence the challenge.

Take Up and Read

So what of the invitation? It is this: to read the Bible with me. I will make myself available



once a week for 8 weeks to help you read your way through the New Testament.

It won't be a Bible study. It will just be you and me (and any others who care to join us) reading the New Testament with a view to understanding it better.

If you want to "take up and read" contact me (John) on 9263 9684.

The reading scheme I am offering is called “the Community Bible Experience”. It will take you through the New Testament in 8 weeks, and encourages you to ask 5 simple questions:

1. What did I notice for the first time?
2. What questions did the reading raise?
3. What bothered me?
4. What did I learn about loving God?
5. What did I learn about loving others?



To learn more phone John Watterson (9263 9684) or visit the church web site, bailiesmills.rpc.org/cbe.

What else is on at Bailiesmills?

Minor

PROPHETS

with a MAJOR

Message

Evening guest services.

7 PM on the 3rd Sunday of each month.

How Shall We sing the LORD'S Song?

Join us for a series of Psalm explanations,
7 PM, first Lord's Day of each month



CHILDREN'S WORK

The **Winter Bible Club** (Primary School) is held from 6.30 PM to 8.15 PM on the last Saturday of the month.

The **Youth Club** (Secondary School) lasts from from 7.00 PM to 8.30 PM on the second Saturday of the month.

Both clubs run **September to March**.

Bailiesmills runs a Sunday School from September to June for children aged 4 to 18 years. We meet in



the church at 10.30 AM and classes run for about 45 minutes. Parents are welcome to attend the Adult Bible Class.



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...is a publication of **Bailiesmills** Reformed Presbyterian Church. It aims to provide a **Reformed Outlook** on life.

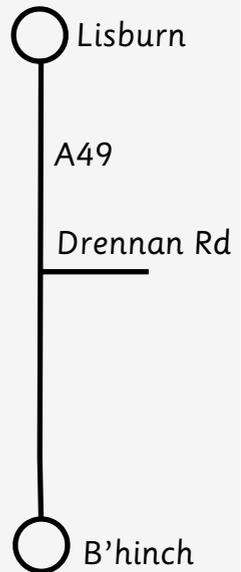
The Reformed outlook endeavours to apply the Bible to every area of life. Its goal is to put into practice the Christian's confession that "Jesus Christ is Lord."

Bailiesmills is a Bible-based, confessional and evangelical congregation of the *Reformed Presbyterian Church of Ireland*.

We meet for worship at 11.30 AM each Lord's Day and at 7 PM on the first and third Sunday of the month.

The church building is at 15 Drennan Road, Lisburn, BT27 6UT.

Drennan Road is on the A49, 4.0 miles from Lisburn, and 4.7 miles from Ballynahinch.



For more information contact our minister, John Watterson, on (028) 9263 9684, or check out the congregational website, bailiesmills.rpc.org.

