



finder

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

A publication of *Bailiesmills* Reformed Presbyterian Church

Winter 2014

A Fresh Start



EVERY year, the first day of January holds out the hope of

a new beginning: a change in diet, a new fitness regime, a better attitude to work, a new love. But (usually) it's just an illusion. Soon we fall back on old habits.

But real change, and change for the better, is possible. Let me take you to the opening words of the New Testament: "The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham."

A new story

This "book" is about a new story. Now, like your life, this new story is rooted in the past. And the past is an old story filled with failure and disappointment. But the new story about Jesus Christ brings resolution to the old story and the certainty of a good ending.

A new family

An important element of the past that lies behind Jesus' new story is the story of an old family, the family of Abraham. And what a disappointment it proved! Jealousies and infighting

and lack of brotherly love hurt and damaged Abraham's family.

But God is faithful. He sent his Son, and Jesus came to establish the old family on a new footing. The new story tells us about the family Jesus built – a family characterised by forgiveness, grace and unity.

A new king

The old story also tells us about a king – that's what David was. He was Israel's greatest king. But what a failure his dynasty was! David himself failed to fulfil his potential, and under his sons the land of Judah was filled with injustice, oppression and immorality. Eventually the Babylonian empire swept down on Judah and David's royal

dynasty disappeared like water running into sand.

But Jesus came, a descendant of David, as a new king – the true King. He rules with justice and mercy. And he has power to deliver his people from their past failures. He is able to secure his people through their present struggles.

A new beginning

The opening words of the New Testament speak to you about a new beginning – a new king to save you; a new family of which to be a member. And this new beginning is offered to you today. It makes no

difference whether or not "today" is the first day of the year. Today is the day the offer comes to you. Today is the day for you to make a fresh start.



What's on in Bailiesmills?

Sunday morning

Sunday School 10.30 AM
Adult Bible Class 10.45 AM
Worship 11.30 AM

Thursday meeting for fellowship, 8.00 PM each week, September to June

Women's Fellowship, 10.30 AM, on the third Saturday of the month, September to May.

Youth Club for young people in Year 8 and above, 7.00 to 8.30 PM, on the second Saturday of the month, September to March.

Winter Bible Club for children in P1 to P7, 6.30 to 8.15 PM, on the fourth Saturday of the month, September to March.

Minor

PROPHETS

with a MAJOR

Message

A series of evening guest services, at 7 PM on the 3rd Sunday of each month, beginning on 16th March



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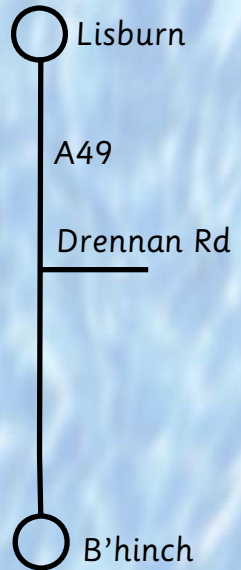
Bailiesmills Reformed Presbyterian Church. It aims to provide a **Reformed Outlook** on life.

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.

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) 92639684, or check out the congregational website, bailiesmills.rpc.org.

