

KEY VERSE:

**“So encourage each other and give each other strength,
just as you are doing now” 1 Thessalonians 5:11**



FOUNDATION CAFÉ SERVICE

29th January, 2017

The Brilliant Bible Letters



THE PARISH OF CHALFONT ST PETER
Encounter God, Encourage Others, Engage our World
Charity Number: 1146043



www.CSP-Parish.org.uk



**CHALFONT
ST. PETER
PARISH CHURCHES**

KNOW WHAT:

- Today we are continuing our series on the different types of writing in the Bible. All of them teach different things about who God is and our relationship with him.
- We've looked at stories, and the history section, the Psalms and this week we'll be thinking about letters.
- The end of the New Testament is full of letters from people who follow Jesus to other people who follow Jesus. They are full of encouragement, advice and challenge.
- Three of the very last letters were written by someone called John who was one of Jesus' best friends. In them he encourages people to be sure what they believe and to live in a way that shows who God is.

SO WHAT:

- The Bible is a great book with complex characters and a wonderful storyline.
- One of the great things about being part of the church is being able to support and encourage each other in our lives.

NOW WHAT:

- Let's make time to read the Bible and hear the story it tells.
- Let's allow the Bible to help us think about what we do and say.

LUKE'S LETTERS

Last week our staff team took a day out of our normal routine to plan for the year and set ourselves some objectives. It was a long, tiring day but some really good things came out of it. One the objectives that I set myself for the year is to spend more time finding ways to encourage people in their faith. Whether it's the first time you've come to church and you have mostly questions or if you've been going to church for years and you're looking to get to grips with some trickier bits of the Bible, I want to make space for you to explore.

There are lots of different ways to do this, from reading books to listening to podcasts, to events and conferences. One of the things that I'm most excited about, though, is finding ways to get people who are in similar stages of faith talking to each other. This might be through regular home groups or courses, it might be more informal things like going for dinner or getting a pint. We've already had one group of people from Foundation and the 9:31 come together in the last week to start talking about God together.

If you're looking for a space to be able to ask questions or dig into parts of the Bible, then please let me know and I can start finding opportunities to do just that. You aren't making a commitment to any particular thing and I won't put you on the spot, but it's a good way to build friendship too.