

Focus May 2021



Northall Baptist Church – 200 years and still going.

A little Church with strong local links.

Miraculous Healing

Over the last year we have seen so many examples of those who have recovered from Covid-19. Some of those have seemed miraculous. I have just seen the story of a 104 year old Colombian woman who has recovered from Coronavirus twice! We hear regularly about those who have died from the virus but very little about those who have recovered. Those leaving hospital after a long illness and recovery period are often clapped on their way out of the hospital, back towards their home and their loving family. Who has healed them? What do you think? Was it just chance? Was it the doctors and nurses? Was it the medication? There's no doubt that the loving care and expertise of the medical staff all help but life and death is in the hand of a higher power.

There are many stories of the healing that Jesus did when here on earth. There were blind people, lepers, lame people, the woman with a blood disease, mental illness and other examples. Some healing was done by Jesus touch, some by his command, some at a distance and some by the touch of his clothes.



Modern day leprosy



We have been hearing about the healing work of the Leprosy Mission in Mozambique. What, these days, is so curable is often still causing so many disabilities and death. Listening to accounts of the current suffering from leprosy is distressing and unnecessary. Those bringing hope to leprosy sufferers today are doing God's work.

I was brought up with the Bible story in 2 Kings 5 of Naaman, a Syrian Commander in the army, but had leprosy. The Syrians had invaded Israel and Naaman had taken a young Israelite girl captive. A young girl, but we do not know her name, got a mention in our Bibles because she knew that Naaman could be cured by a prophet, Elisha in Samaria. Naaman wasn't keen on this but after some persuasion from others, gave it a go. Elisha was none too pleased either to be visited by a leper. Elisha didn't even come out to see Naaman but passed a message telling Naaman to wash seven times in the river Jordan. Naaman was again unimpressed by this but eventually gave it a go. He was healed. Was it the water? Was it Elisha? Was it God's healing. Well Naaman thought so, accepting the God of Israel as the one true God. Give it some thought.

We are continuing our Sunday services on Zoom for the foreseeable future at 11 am. If you would like to join in the worship, music and song, you'll get a very warm welcome. Please ring the number below or contact us via our website.

For those interested in the history of Northall Baptist Church, a free copy of the booklet, Rebels in Green Pastures can be supplied or downloaded from our website: <http://northallbaptistchurch.org/>