

# Keeping in Touch K.I.T.

Our Aim: To know Christ and make him known No 81: Spring 2015



## THE WEDDING CUP

**MAYBE** the question we should start with is why John, in his gospel, chose the setting of a Jewish wedding to introduce us to the ministry of Jesus Christ?

In New Testament times if a man wanted to marry someone, he first had to discuss the matter with the potential father-in-law. The conversation between the bride's father and the groom would revolve around at least two things.

Typically the groom and the bride would come from similar status groups. However if one of them came from a higher status group, then the person with the higher status group would lose status and the lower person's group would gain status.

The second point of discussion would be the dowry or price paid for the bride. Throughout the New Testament Jesus is described as the Groom and we know that he paid a dowry for His bride, that's you and me. And unlike other grooms who typically attempted to negotiate the price down, Jesus paid the highest price possible – His own life.

The groom had to make his intentions known to the future bride in front of other people. This often took place in the form of a meal between the two families, and he would pass her a cup of wine. This gesture represented the question, *Will you marry me?* If she took the cup and drank from it that meant she accepted the proposal and that would signal a permanent commitment to their relationship.

God invited Jesus to pay the dowry by sacrificing His life for us by using the same marriage imagery of the drinking of the cup. Notice how it is put in Matthew 26:42: ***He went away again the second time and prayed, saying, "My Father, if this cup may not pass away from Me unless I drink it, Your will be done."***

Suddenly 1 Corinthians 10:21 also makes sense. Notice what it says: ***You cannot drink the cup of the Lord and the cup of demons; you cannot be partakers of the Lord's Table and of a table of demons.***

So Jesus is making the statement here that you have to make a choice between whose cup you are going to drink from, because you can only drink from one. You cannot be betrothed to two grooms at the same time. You cannot celebrate a consummated wedding at the wedding tables of two different grooms.

At this table today, is an invitation to accept the cup from Christ who admits that when you drink from this cup you will share wholly in his life, in his suffering and joy, in his faithfulness and in his kindness, in his goodness and gentleness. And it is the table where when your number comes up, Christ your groom steps up and says, *Father I paid the dowry for him. Father, I paid the dowry for her.* So will you take the cup this morning?

Once the cup has been accepted and drunk from they were betrothed and betrothal was much stronger than today's engagements. It could not be broken and the only way out was through divorce.

The young women could also reject the proposal by not taking the wine, resulting in an end to the relationship, so in order to seal the betrothal not only did the future bride have to take the cup, but she had to drink the wine and the future groom had to pay the dowry. Then the preparations for the wedding day began and they had to live separately during this time while the groom would go and prepare their living quarters, typically a room or rooms in his father's house. The person who determined when the room or rooms were satisfactory, and the bride could be fetched for the wedding day, was the father of the groom.

It makes perfect sense then when Jesus said in John 14:2-3: <sup>2</sup> ***In My Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you.*** <sup>3</sup> ***And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also.***

Suddenly Jesus' words in Matthew 24:36 also makes sense when he said: ***But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, but My Father only.*** Dear friends the cup is on the table, will you take it today? In Matthew 26:29 Jesus is making a pledge to you and me that if we take the cup today He would be faithful by not drinking of the cup until the wedding feast in heaven: ***But I say unto you, I will not drink henceforth of this fruit of the vine, until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom.***

Taken from a sermon by Pastor Jacques Venter

### ***KIT Puzzle*** - Who wrote this?

**WHY** will you do without Him?  
Is He not kind indeed?  
Did He not die to save you?  
Is He not all you need?  
Do you not want a Saviour?  
Do you not want a Friend -  
One who will love you faithfully  
And love you to the end?

Why will you do without Him?  
The Word of God is true.  
The world is passing to its doom,  
And you are passing too;  
There may be no tomorrow  
Shall dawn for you or me,  
Why, will you run the awful risk,  
Of all eternity?

If you know who wrote this thought-provoking poem, please let one of us know.

### ***The Cup that really Cheers*** - Richard J B Willis MA, MSc, FRSPH

**MANY** euphemisms for the experiences of life involve the word cup: the cup that cheers; cups of kindness, bitterness, indignation, and so forth; the devil's brew, etc. Most refer to short passing events whether they be noted as *highs* or *lows* in one's life. Since many cups of beverages, wines and spirits contain mood-altering drugs and system's-changing chemicals there is obviously a close link between the substance drunk and the vessel in which it is conveyed to the body. Additionally, there is a psychological association -- sharing and good times bring back memories of people and places.

There are harmless alternatives, such as herbal infusions or fruit juices. A close reading, for example, of the original words for wine show that the Bible is not supportive of an alcoholic lifestyle since many of them refer simply to new wine or grape juice (freshly-pressed). To keep the wine safe and non-fermented to drink whilst travelling, the grape juice could be transported in well-sealed jars, or rendered to a syrup to be reconstituted when required by the addition of clean water. Bearing in mind the physiological and psychological associations already referred to, we might, in the words of the poet Robert Browning, say, *My times be in Thy hand, perfect the cup as planned*, The shared cup in the Kingdom really is the cup that cheers.

## **KIT Flashbacks to 2014**

**ON NOVEMBER 23**, eight talented music students gathered near Hyde Park for the *Austrian Cultural Forum* competing for the judges' prize for their piano playing and also the Audience Prize. Our **Minyoung Bae** was one of them and she not only won second prize from the judges, but also the Audience Prize. We congratulate Minyoung on her success. The photo of Minyoung was taken by June Coombs.



We lost four of our number in 2014. **Damaris Huzzey** died on October 31 after a brave struggle against cancer. We were so sad to lose such a lively young woman.

**Amanda Powell's mother Audrey** passed away peacefully on Sunday, December 14.

**Eric Colledge**, who used to worship with us, died on December 20 at the grand age of 94. **Olive Archer** a much loved member of the church died on December 30. We send our sympathy to all those who will miss them dearly.

On December 6, in another way, we lost **Sheila Sinclair** to Crieff Church. Other transfers were more cheerful. We added **Richard and Doreen Gayle** from North Wembley Community Church; **Beatrice Dan** from Castellon, Spain and **Harriet Cudjoe** from New Life Church in London. We say a sad farewell to Sheila and welcome to all our new members.

The Prize Giving for our second *Co-operative Food Stores Annual Primary Schools' Christmas Art Competition* took place on December 15. Children from nine schools took part. There were three winners aged 4-7 years old, and three aged 8-11 years old.

## **THE TOY SERVICE** (taken from an article by June Coombs)

Back in the mid-1950s **Lionel Davison**, the head elder at Ealing church suggested to his church members that they should donate toys for needy local children at Christmas time. This started the annual toy service at that church..... The baton was passed through **Alf Kelly** to our church, where the event has been an annual fixture in the church calendar for more than half a century.... Since his death, the tradition has been continued by his daughter **Pat (Walton)**.

The current elected **Mayor of Watford, Dorothy Thornhill**, has attended many of these services. ..This past year braving a bad cold and the frost outside, she told how for her the event always marks the beginning of Christmas, *It is not a civic duty but a pleasure*, she said.

Maintaining the connection with Lionel Davison, his widow **Marjorie** was present on December 13 along with their son **Brian**, three grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren, who are all regular worshippers in what is now their *home church*.

In the first picture, Dorothy Thornhill is shown with Pat and some of the church's children. In the second picture, Marjorie is seated in front of Brian. To his right are his daughter **Emma Stickland** and her son **Luke** and daughter **Sara**. To his left are Brian's son **Ben** and daughter **Estelle Elias** and her son **Benjamin**. In front of Ben Davison are his daughter **Abigail** and **Estelle's daughter Eleanor** and in front of them, Abigail's brothers **Christopher** and **Zachary**. Dan Sabatier took both photos. Sadly, on March 14 we heard Marjorie had died. I'm sure her family will treasure the time she spent living closer to them all.



**The Pearl of Great Price** also quoted by Pastor Venter.

**ONE OF THE** shortest recorded parables told by Jesus is found in Matthew 13:45-46.

***45 Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant seeking beautiful pearls, 46 who, when he had found one pearl of great price, went and sold all that he had and bought it.***

This is what Ellen White in Christ's Object Lessons has to say about this parable on p. 118:

**The parable of the merchantman seeking goodly pearls has a double significance: it applies not only to men as seeking the kingdom of heaven, but to Christ as seeking His lost inheritance. Christ, the heavenly merchantman seeking goodly pearls, saw in lost humanity the pearl of price. In man, defiled and ruined by sin, He saw the possibilities of redemption. Hearts that have been the battleground for the conflict with Satan, and that have been rescued by the power of love, are more precious to the Redeemer than are those who have never fallen. God looked upon humanity, not as vile and worthless; He looked upon it in Christ, saw it as it might become through redeeming love. He collected all the riches of the universe, and laid them down in order to buy the pearl. And Jesus, having found it, resets it in His own diadem.**

## **NEWS, NEWS, NEWS!**



**ON JANUARY 10**, we celebrated the dedication of a beautiful baby girl, by **Pastor Paul Clee**. **Hana Rebekah Swain** is the daughter of **Joanna and Carl** shown with her in the photo by **Dan Sabatier** who also took the pictures of the Toy Service and the Pathfinders.

Usually KIT, with pages meant for younger readers, is produced by a team of about eight of us. If you want to know who we are, often our names appear at the end of the newsletter. We are ably supported by the pastor who writes the editorial, Frank Blewitt who unscrambles any problems I encounter; **June Coombs**; **Billie Dragojevic**, **Gwen Olney and Sheila Stickland**. Lately, the BUC News editor **Victor Hulbert** congratulated June, writing that she was *the most prolific Adventist contributor to local news media in the UK*. June's articles have also appeared in world Adventist magazines and frequently in *Messenger*. Often she takes the pictures that accompany the articles. As far as KIT is concerned, it would be hard to produce it without June's help.

January ended on a high note with an Indian Meal and Auction, organized by **Kish Poddar**. It raised £2000 for S.T.O.P. - Save The Orphans Please - and supported projects at four orphanages. The volunteer waitresses were photographed by June Coombs.



The Pathfinder and Adventurer Investiture made February 7 a delightful Sabbath. What made it very special for me was that they sang *The King is Coming* an old favourite of mine. On Sabbath, January 10, our Pathfinder Club gave God the praise and glory after they were judged to be the best Area 7 team in the Pathfinder Bible Experience. Breaking news! Yesterday, February 7, the team were judged the best in the conference. Our congratulations to their director, **Florence Allen**, and of course the team.

Cupid's been busy as we have two new engaged couples in the church. **Faith Karin Allen and Joseph Ngondo** hope to marry on August 30 at our church. Hopefully we'll find out the plans of **Charlotte Rashleigh and Matthew Marshall** by the next KIT.

The Soup Run needs blankets, sleeping bags and man's clothing. The Welfare Department needs tins of soup, vegetables and fruit, plus pasta and pasta sauce. Please contact **Pat Walton** on 01923 672500 if you can help. These days times are hard for many - even in Watford.

In the next KIT we hope to have a photo of **Jared de Bruyn** our current student volunteer. Jared hails from South Africa and will be here until early next year.

Hopefully you'll get KIT in time for Easter. If so, please remember the wedding cup Jesus drank for each one of us.

## HAVE A LOVELY EASTER

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# TEEN PAGE

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## SPRING KIT 2015



Are you still singing 'Let it Go' and driving your family mad? Apparently a lot of people are! Or maybe the other way round, your dad is driving you crazy still trying to get a million hits on youtube? Frozen was the biggest Film animation earner ever making \$400 million worldwide.

The snow glows white on the mountain tonight,  
not a footprint to be seen.

...  
Let it go, let it go!  
Can't hold it back any more.  
Let it go, let it go!  
Turn away and slam the door.  
I don't care what they're going to say.  
Let the storm rage on.  
The cold never bothered me anyway.

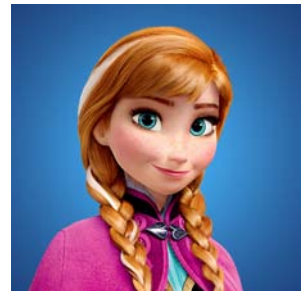
...  
It's time to see what I can do,  
to test the limits and break through.  
No right, no wrong, no rules for me.  
I'm free! **Where did that come from!**



Poor lonely Elsa all by herself

Poor Elsa, she thought she would be free but it turned out to be a very lonely, lonely place, the place where there is no right or wrong. Shut away in her ice palace without a friend things looked hopeless. But luckily someone back home was not in so much trouble.

Someone who would not let her go, who loved her, the real heroine. The girl who could control her powers: **Anna**, she had the power of love.



She does not look so angry either!

# Anna's Story



Poor Anna, she does not know why her older sister Elsa keeps rejecting her but during all the troubles she goes through to find her she does not give up on her. She does not know that Elsa is pushing her away to save her from being harmed by her icy powers.

When Anna eventually finds Elsa with the help of Kristoff (the boy) there are even more really bad troubles and arguments but Anna still does not give up on Elsa.

When Elsa is attacked by her enemies with a knife Anna throws herself in front of her saving her life. The knife shatters because her heart has finally frozen and fails and she apparently dies.

Seeing Anna turned to ice, Elsa breaks down in tears, hugging her sister. No one is sure what to say. Anna's icy form begins to change and regain colour with the warmth of Elsa's hug, and she returns to normal! Anna has broken her own spell with an act of pure love by sacrificing herself for Elsa.

Elsa's love for her sister makes her realize that love can give the warmth that enables her to control her icy power and she decides to use her new-found love to control her powers to dissipate the ice and snow and end winter. So summer returns to the kingdom and she can go home again. Olaf the goofy snowman is found and before he can melt Elsa creates a perpetual snow flurry above his head, which lets him survive the summer heat.



Anna looks happy and Elsa doesn't look quite so cross.

# THE SNOW QUEEN



FROZEN was inspired by the story of The Snow Queen by Hans Christian Andersen. He was always writing great stories for teenagers (and kids). The Snow Queen tells the story of a girl searching to rescue a boy. It portrays the struggle between good and evil (good won). Hans Christian Andersen knew it is often the younger one that has to remind the older one how to have pure love.

You cannot get happiness just by getting what you want. Sometimes getting what you want causes loneliness. The way to be happy is by giving, not getting, like a child giving up their favourite toy at Christmas or sometimes like Anna who gave up everything (her life) to protect Elsa. Sacrifice is the truest demonstration of love. Learn how to love - see the back page.

At the end of The Snow Queen, the grandma reads a passage from the Bible: "And he (Jesus) said: "Truly I tell you, unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven." (Matthew 18:3).✓

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## Things Jesus did not say

Beauty is in the eye of the beholder.  
Don't do to others what you don't want them to do to you.  
God helps those who help themselves.  
Every cloud has a silver lining.  
Seeing is believing.  
Always look on the bright side of life.  
Fools rush in where angels fear to tread.  
If you want to be my disciples

you must wear modest clothes.  
I am the Lord of the dance.  
Love is never having to say you're sorry.  
Enjoy life now, it's not a rehearsal.  
Love is all you need.  
I have no need to be baptized.  
Follow me and I will make you fishermen.  
Every time I drink this wine I will think of you.



Melt the Ice

# LEARN TO LOVE

## Love in Action

Give freely to anyone in need, never begrudging a meal or a place to stay to those who need them.

And as for those who try to make your life a misery, wish them happiness. Don't curse, bless.

Share in the happiness of those who are happy, the sorrow of those who are sad.

Live in harmony with each other. Don't become snobbish but take a real interest in ordinary people. Don't become set in your own opinions.

Don't pay back a bad turn by a bad turn, to anyone. Don't say "it doesn't matter what people think", but see that your public behaviour is above criticism.

As far as your responsibility goes, live at peace with everyone.

Never take vengeance into your own hands, my dear friends: stand back and let God punish if he will... these are God's words: 'Therefore if your enemy hungers, feed him; if he thirsts, give him a drink; for in so doing you will heap coals of fire on his head'. Don't allow yourself to be overpowered with evil. Take the initiative - overpower evil by good!

Base your happiness on your hope in Christ. When trials come endure them patiently, steadfastly maintain the habit of prayer.

*Bits of Romans 12*

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## Things Jesus did say

Love your enemies.

Pray for those who bully you

I am the way, the truth, and the life:

no man comes to the Father, but

by me.

Forgive and you will be forgiven.

The first will be last and the last first.

If you follow me you carry a cross.

When someone hits you on the

cheek offer the other as well.

When someone takes your coat let

him have your shirt too.

For what shall it profit a man, if he

gain the whole world and lose his

soul.

But seek first the kingdom of God,

and His righteousness; and all these

things shall be added unto you.

You are the salt of the earth, if salt

loses its saltiness what will you

season it with?

# Junior Kit

Jesus wants me to honour Him in all that I do



Remember Jesus loves you He died to save you.



For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son that whoever BELIEVES in Him shall not perish but have ETERNAL LIFE.

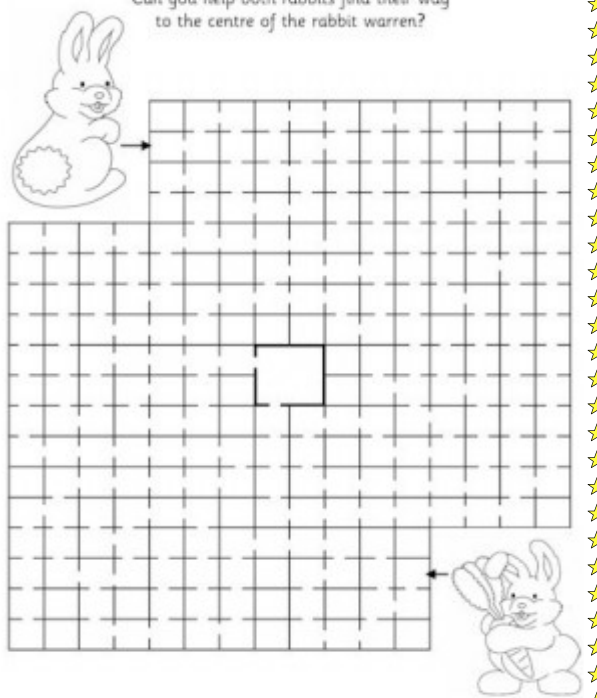
## Some colouring for you to do

### Easter Word Search Puzzle



### Rabbit Warren!

Can you help both rabbits find their way to the centre of the rabbit warren?

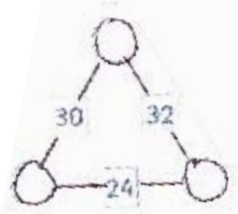
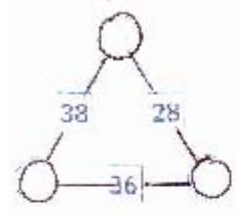


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## Here are your word search words

- Resurrection
- Lily
- April
- Church
- March
- Christian
- Bunny
- Colored eggs
- Spring
- Candles
- Crucifixion
- Hot cross buns
- Celebration
- Egg
- hunt
- Basket
- Chocolate
- Good
- Friday
- Holiday

Sorry about the American spelling in the word search!!



Now these might prove to be more of a challenge. Have a go or see if Mum and Dad can do them! The number in the square is always the sum of the two numbers in the circles at the end of the line. If you like maths you'll be ok!!