



March 2016

The very best friend...

As a boy I sang a song about a friend... Now I appreciate its truth far more than then. *The best friend to have is Jesus...* For many years I have enjoyed this friend's company and am so grateful for all He has done for me.

It was Jesus who said: *Greater love has no man than this that a man lay down his life for his friends.* Similarly, on another occasion He said *I am the Good Shepherd - the Good Shepherd lays down His life for the sheep...*

In the Battle of Britain 544 pilots died defending our country. The sacrifice of "The Few" and thousands of other military personnel will never be forgotten. We are grateful!

Throughout the year all of us who truly believe on the Lord Jesus remember with profound gratitude the Friend who died for us. This is the very heart of the Christian message. The Bible says it was necessary for the eternal Son of God, the Lord Jesus Christ, to come to earth to die. The Apostle Paul sums it up in just a few words:

I declare to you the gospel which I preached to you... by which also you are saved... that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures...

It was to save His friends that Jesus died on the day we call Good Friday. Our sins had to be punished - and the Bible teaches us that as Jesus suffered on the cross the sins of everyone who truly believes in Him were laid on Him. He died so that their sins could be forgiven. The following Sunday God raised His Son from the dead, showing that the Great Sacrifice had been accepted. Those who believe in Him because of His death and trust Him to be their Saviour, want to serve Him as their Lord.

There is no other friend like **Jesus!**

Sincerely, **George Rabey (Pastor)**

*My song is love unknown,
My Saviour's love to me,
Love to the loveless shown,
That they might lovely be.
O who am I, that for my sake
My Lord should take frail flesh, and die?*

*He came from His blest throne,
Salvation to bestow:
But men made strange,
And none the longed for Christ would know.
But O, my friend! My friend indeed,
Who at my need His life did spend!*

*Here might I stay and sing,
No story so divine;
Never was love, dear King,
Never was grief like Thine!
This is my friend, in whose sweet praise
I all my days could gladly spend.*



Five Ash Down Chapel Services

Sunday services are at 11.00 a.m. and 2.30 p.m.

Sundays 11.00 a.m. to 12 noon Good News Group
(Children 3 years and over)

Thursdays 7.30 p.m. Bible Study and Prayer Meeting

Good Friday Service

25th March

11.00 a.m.

Easter Sunday Services

27th March

11.00 a.m. & 3.00 p.m.

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