



IN STEP

TOGETHER, FOREVER WITH CHRIST

ANCHORED IN GOD'S WORD

Danger of drift

Ships use different anchors depending on the type of seabed it is floating above. The purpose being, that an anchor is designed to bury itself deep enough in order to find something firm to grip. A part of the sea floor which is stable assured. A part or an area in which the ship's captain can trust the anchor won't

give way. Something he can rely on to stop the ship from drifting.

In many ways, a church is like a big ship parked up for

the night, or longer. A group of people arrive in a building - maybe a new destination. They want to establish that group as a recognisable body of people - a

church. They want to take hold of a position they have settled on. Like and a ship parked up for the night.

But what will stop the church drifting away? What is it, that will keep the people rooted firmly in what the church stands for? Ultimately - what will stop the church from assimilating into the world?

Dipping into Hebrews - This term's sermon series by Peter Harvey, gets us talking about God's unfailing, unchangeable, eternal word.

What will allow the church to separate truth from falsehood - two things that are treated like

tides in the world? What can the church anchor into, that is like the bed rock under the sea - and to grab firmly onto it - to be assured and trusting?

Prayer Highlights

- Give thanks for our Christmas outreach services
- Give thanks for visitors from the village and pray they will meet Jesus
- Pray for our Easter Fun Day, Easter Saturday and service on Easter Sunday
- Please pray for our presence to be more widely known
- Please pray for more opportunities to invite people and to run events
- Give thanks for the relationships formed already and that these will grow into gospel convictions

The answer is God's word.

God's unfailing, unchangeable, eternal word. If the church wants any stability, any assurance, any confidence it won't drift – drift from truth – then it must be anchored in God's word.

But to be anchored in God's word is not just about preventing drift. Of course – as with a ship – storms whip up and beat against the church – as it would with a ship anchored out in sea.

The question is - what keeps the church stable and sure when storms whip up? When the current is stronger than just nightly movement.

Because, when the world attacks truth, it attacks the church. When the world attacks God's decrees – what he has established as good - it attacks the church. When the world is weighed down by its own guilt - it blames the church.

What allows the church to sit firm and resist attacks from the world? What keeps the church in its secure position, its secure belief, and its secure future?

It's being anchored in God's word.

Not man-made wisdom, which changes like the shadows (James 1:17). Not culture, which just follows

consensus (2 Timothy 4:3). Not fear, which drives appeasement and compromise (2 Timothy 1:8).

God's infallible and perfect word (Psalm 18:30).

The same word that became flesh to save us (John 1:14). The same word that introduces us to the person of truth Himself – Jesus (John 14:6).

If a church is not anchored in God's word, which means all of it – even the parts the world finds offensive - then one must ask: what or who is it holding onto?

Peter Harvey

GIVE US THIS DAY OUR DAILY BREAD

Thank you for your ongoing prayers and financial support. We are grateful to God for your partnership in the gospel - extending God's kingdom in Cliffsend and beyond.

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If you have any queries please get in touch with Trevor Mason by email at: trevor.mason3@gmail.com

Our motto, 'Anchored in God's Word', which Peter has written of, gives us plenty to consider. Are we paying careful attention to the gospel so that we do not drift away? (Hebrews 2: 1). Psalm 133 says, 'How good and how pleasant it is when brothers and sisters gather together in unity... For there the Lord bestows his blessing, even life evermore.'

Real growth happens when we meet together. It would be a great joy to join a home group for that. If you would like to be part of one, please feel free to email Peter.

Sunday Services
@10.30am
Come for tea/coffee
and chat from 9.45am
Cliffsend Village Hall

Redeemer Church is the first Anglican Mission in England (AMiE) church in Thanet. We are followers of the Lord Jesus who long to see the gospel faithfully proclaimed and for more people to share in the blessings of knowing Jesus as Lord and Saviour.

You can learn more about who we are and our basis of faith by visiting our website:

www.redeemerchurchthanet.co.uk Email: info.redeemer.ramsgate@gmail.com

"Anchored in God's Word"