

CONTACT

Autumn 2016

Two
men
walk
into
a . . .



.. temple

The first man was sure of himself. He knew what his life was. He knew where he was going. He had everything under control. And he'd tell anyone who would listen.

The second man was unsure. He was successful, rich even. But he no longer knew where he was going. Life seemed out of control. And the pain of it ached secretly inside him.

The first man had come to the temple to boast. Careful with his charitable giving and his disciplined ways, he knew he was leading a good life. Certainly better than others and that's what counted.

The second man had come to the temple to search his heart. Greed, exploitation, theft, selfishness had been his life. He knew he had gone down a bad path and it had trapped him.

Both men prayed. The first had expectations: he felt God was on his side. The second almost despaired: he felt God hated what he was and he wondered if he could be forgiven.

But what did God make of them both?

The first man didn't impress. He was always comparing himself with others and coming out well, without finding out if that's really the way to test a life. It isn't. God has a much higher standard.

The second man was different, however. He only looked at himself. He saw he had hurt others. He saw his life had failed. God looked at him and saw a humble man, wanting to change.

The time came to leave. The first went home smiling, but further away from God than he'd ever been. The second went home forgiven and closer to God than he'd ever been.

This story isn't mine; it's Jesus'. He used it to challenge those he met. Some thought they knew God well, when in fact they didn't even know themselves. None of us really does. But Jesus can show us the truth. It's not an easy lesson because much is wrong in us: we're sinners. But seeing that is the first step back to God.

David Last
Pastor at Forest Baptist Church

Would you like to hear more about Jesus' story of the two men and what it tells us about our lives? Here are some suggestions for you:

Read

The original story is found in the Bible, in Luke's gospel chapter 18. You can read it online in English, right now, by simply going to the Bible Gateway website using this address:

<https://goo.gl/dW5iti>

If you're not first language English then there are other translations available on the website, or on this one instead: bible.com

Listen

On **Sunday 18th September** our **5.00pm** service will include a talk on the story of the two men at the temple, given by our pastor, David Last. Even if you do not usually go to church, we would be glad to have you with us. The service will include some singing and praying, as well as reading from the Bible. However, feel free to come along simply to listen and observe.

Discuss

Following the afternoon service on **Sunday 18th September**, our pastor will be leading a discussion about Jesus' story. This interactive Bible study should start at around **5.45pm**. Even if you're not able to be at the 5.00pm service itself (see above), you're still welcome to attend this event.

Other events

Can't be with us on the evening of the 18th? Then why not come to one of our regular services to learn more about God from the Bible? We've also got two special events when we'd be glad to see you:

Sunday 4th Sept - 5.30pm - Bible talk

Come and hear more about how Jesus can save us. The talk is followed by free refreshments at 6.00pm.

Sunday 18th Sept - 10.30am - Harvest service

Join us to give thanks to God for all he has made.



Forest Baptist Church

Welsh Chapel Hall, 881 High Road,
Leytonstone, E11 1HR

☎ 020 0222 6801

📱 07986 115735 (text/whatsapp only)

✉ contact@forestbaptist.org.uk

🌐 forestbaptist.org.uk

To contact our pastor, David Last, just use the details above.



Sunday Services

Morning : 10.30am
Evening : 5.00pm

Friday Club - for ages 5-11

Term Time * 3.30-5.00pm * FREE

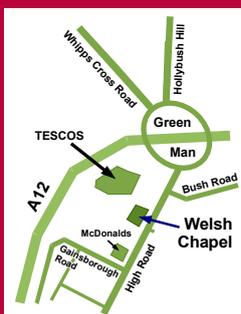
For details ring Gill on 020 8556 2893

Justtalk

Come and converse

Just Talk is an informal group which gets together in Leytonstone every couple of weeks. You can come to meet others, discuss an issue, seek advice or, even, simply practise your English. We don't mind. Just come and talk about life. To find out more, visit:

forestbaptist.org.uk/justtalk



Forest Baptist uses the Welsh Chapel on the High Road in Leytonstone, halfway between McDonald's and the Green Man Roundabout. Buses 66, 145, 257, W13, W14 and W19 all stop outside. The Tube station is just over half a kilometre away. A few car parking spaces are available on the site. Some of our activities occur in other locations. Please get in touch to find out times and places.