

Grasping grace

“Lord, if it’s you,” Peter says, “tell me to come to you on the water” (Matthew 14:28).

Peter is not testing Jesus; he is pleading with Jesus. Stepping onto a stormy sea is not a move of logic; it’s a move of desperation. Peter grabs the edge of the boat. Throws out one leg...follows with the other. Several steps are taken. It’s as if an invisible ridge of rocks runs beneath his feet. At the end of the ridge is the glowing face of a never-say-die friend. We do that same, don’t we? We come to Christ in an hour of deep need. We abandon the boat of good works. We realize, like Moses, that human strength won’t save us. So we look to God in desperation. We realise, like Peter, that spanning the gap between us and Jesus is a feat too great for our feet.

So we beg for help. Hear his voice. And step out in fear, hoping that our little faith will be enough.

Faith is not born at the negotiating table where we barter our gifts in exchange for God’s goodness. Faith is not an award given to the most learned. It’s not a prize given to the most disciplined. It’s not a title bequeathed to the most religious.

Faith is a desperate dive out of the sinking boat of human effort and a prayer that God will be there to pull us out of the water. The apostle Paul wrote about this kind of faith:

“For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith – and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God – not by works, so that no one can boast”(Ephesians 2:8-9).

The supreme force in salvation is God’s grace. Not our works. Not our talents. Not our feelings. Not our strength.

Grace is God’s sudden, calming presence during the stormy seas of our lives. We hear his voice; we take the step.

Why? Because we are great sinners and we need a great Saviour.

We, like Peter, are aware of two facts: We are going down and God is standing up. So we scramble out. We leave behind the titanic of self-righteousness and stand on the solid path of God’s grace.

And, surprisingly, we are able to walk on water. Death is disarmed. Failures are forgivable.

Life has real purpose. And God is not only within sight, he is within reach.

- Max Lucado. *The Gift for all people*.

ARE YOU A VISITOR OR WITH US FOR THE FIRST TIME OR WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE THE MINISTER OR A LEADER? PERHAPS YOU HAVE A PRAYER REQUEST?

(kindly complete this form, tear it off and place it in the collection plate)

Name & Surname.....

Residential address/ Prayer Requests

Tel:

Kindly mark where applicable:

- I am new and would like more info
- I would like to see the Minister or a Leader
- I would like to join
- Your prayers would be welcomed



46 Tin Road, Bromhof, Randburg

011-792 2133

A Church for the whole community

4th August 2019



PRESBYTERIAN-METHODIST-CONGREGATIONAL

Our goal:

"To please Him (Jesus) in every way" Colossians 1:10.

Serving you this week

Serving you 11th August

Looking ahead

Duty	08h00	09h30
Preacher:	Rev. John Gordon	
Service Steward:	Julia S	Duncan F
Door duty:	Jess M Collette H	Dave S Anne S Eleanor W Barbara J
Tea:	Anne K, June R	

Duty	08h00	09h30
Preacher:	Rev. John Gordon	
Service Steward:	Trevor F	Giel N
Door duty:	Cheryl C Janice G	Andy OC Carol O C Ian K Sue K
Tea:	Pat E, Daphne P	

Event	Date	Time	Venue
New Members Welcome	4 th August	08h00 & 09h30, RRU Church	
Car Wash	4 th August	08h00 & 09h30, RRU Church	
Contemplation Service	18 th August	18h00, RRU Church	
Ladies Fellowship	20 th August	09h30, RRU Church	
Threshold Craft Market	31 st August	09h00 – 15h00, RRU Church	

Scripture Readings: Psalm 107:1-3, Hosea 11:1-11, Colossians 3:1-11.

General

Staff contact numbers

For Generosity Giving

Minister: Rev. John Gordon - 073 227 2545
Council Secretary: Angela Smith - 082 677 0202
Pastoral Asst.: Derek Weston - 082 444 9321
Office Manager: Bee Thomas - 082 829 3971
Bookkeeper: Belinda Fraser - 082 458 5371
Caretaker: Gladman Jafta - 083 605 8237
Receptionist: Hlengiwe Mtshali – 062 043 6738

Bank:
ABSA
Account number:
01005881508
Branch number:
515005

Happy Birthday!

If it's your birthday this week, please take a card in the foyer ☺

Date	Name	Number
4 th August	Hugh Gibson	-
5 th August	Jeanette Van Rensburg	081 374 7155
6 th August	Annwen Crompton	15 years old!
	Michael Paterson	082 255 6527
7 th August	Colin Rogers	079 180 2853
8 th August	Trystan Dames	082 445 7489
	Cameron Fraser	076 599 3504
9 th August	Sylvia Wilmot	072 227 1950
10 th August	Lindal Cressy	083 311 6041
	Marc Van Heerden	083 459 6453

WALK TO EMMAUS (MEN'S WALK): Will be on 29th August 2019 – 1st September 2019. If you're a member of RRUC and have been a Pilgrim in the past, please consider sponsoring a new Pilgrim for this weekend of growth in love, grace and servant-hood in the Body of Christ. Forms are in the foyer and up on the website (www.rchurch.co.za). Contact Hans Drok (073 775 3951) for more information.

The **THRESHOLD FARM** would like some SUCCULENT PLANTS for the garden. Any donations can be brought to the office. Thank you.

A PRAM has been donated to the church and is at the office. If you or anyone you know desperately needs one, please let us know.

TEA: If you can join a Sunday morning team to serve tea and wash up afterwards, please let the office know.

VEGETABLE SALES: Fresh Veggies are on sale on Sunday's after the services. If you can help to sell veggies please let the office know

MENTOR DADDIES NEEDED URGENTLY: We are desperately seeking men to mentor young fatherless boys in the direct community. This would mean a weekly meeting of 1 – 1.5 hours to play a mentor/ fathering role in their lives. Training will be provided for such mentors with The Character Company (<https://www.thecharactercompany.co.za/>) before such mentoring will take place. We believe that such mentors will play a vital part in the life of the boys as well as the church. For more information speak to John, information pamphlets are in the foyer.

CRAFT MARKET We will start taking bookings from now. All stalls will be R200. (R100 for church members). Please don't just EFT, we need to give you a ref number to use so we can allocate your funds. Contact Nick (074 105 4689) for your reference number. The next market is on 31 August 9am-3pm

