## **SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **PASTORAL CARE**

Pastoral Care is a vital part of Gateway family life and we want to be there for you. Your first point of contact will always be your Life Group Leaders.

Life Groups are held in our homes where we come together as a church family to learn, to grow, to fellowship and to share.



If you are not part of a Life Group and would like to know more, please contact the church office for more details.



## CARERS' SUPPORT

#### Carers

If you have any issues you would like to discuss, need help, advice, assistance with completion of Benefit forms and Appeals or support at Tribunals please contact David and Denise through the Church Office (01454 322616 option 0) and we will do our best to help you.

We are also available to pray with you and "just to listen" and will respect your privacy.

David and Denise











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A Branch of The Elim Foursquare Gospel Alliance Registered Charity No. 251549



# To the Gateway family.

2 Samuel 12 tells the story of King David being confronted, rebuked, corrected and restored by the Lord. King David had taken the wife of another man to be his own. He'd orchestrated the man's death to cover up his infidelity and her pregnancy. Time had lapsed, his indiscretion been put to the back of his mind ....... but God in his love had not forgotten.

The prophet Nathan comes to David with a story, a story of treachery and deceit which incites righteous anger in the King ...... Little did the King know that he was the protagonist in the story!

In the book of Leviticus, I've been reading the sacrifices that needed to be brought to God if the priests sinned and didn't realise, but once they did, then this was the procedure – to bring a blood sacrifice. I was reading something similar for the people too!

Leviticus goes into so much detail of what to do, to prepare a sacrifice acceptable to God for the forgiveness of sins. Part of me thought wow, they really had so much to do to get themselves right before God.

Sin, getting it wrong in God's eyes, falling short of what he designed or asked of us! Praise God for Jesus, Praise God that Jesus is the lamb of God, spotless, without fault, who came and died in your/my place that I do not have to pay the penalty of death for my sins, Hallelujah!

But Jesus' approach to sin was just as radical as the Father's ...... if your hand causes you to sin cut it off! (Jesus wasn't being literal). Often we can get complacent about sin, we can be a little like David, sweep it under the carpet and not address the growing pile!

The consequences of sin are still death, spiritual death, separation in relationship between God and man. God says if you have been forgiven by Him and refuse to forgive others who sin against you, then He will not forgive you! Wow, that is very strong language! But God isn't joking, He is most serious because of His love, all sin must be addressed!

We are at an exciting time where God is calling the church Globally to Advance, Step-up in Him. All those things holding us back...... God wants to address.

Let's be careful how we position ourselves before him.

God bless

Pastors Marty & Rebeca