



EDITORIAL

Anne Middleton

This is the second of our special two-part edition about 'living the faith' in a contemporary society, which aims to get us thinking about and discussing important and sometimes difficult topics. This edition is so packed that we decided to produce the AGM reports in a separate document which should have arrived with your copy of MET Connexion.

I have been very excited whilst working on this edition. As the articles have come in, I have felt a sense of 'God being on the move.' Then, a member of my church shared a vision she had during a service (see Good News Stories) - of Aslan in C. S. Lewis' Narnia - and this was further confirmation...

As I have worked with the articles, I have also felt very proud to be a part of MET. I am a bit wary of the 'e' word - I am aware, sadly, that it can have negative connotations for some people, of 'right-wing', cold, 'closed doors' Christianity. This edition hopefully breaks through any misconceptions that you may have about MET.

Ian Rutherford challenges the church to prioritise social justice. Nick Holt demonstrates that the most important thing we can share as Christians, is the Father-heart of God. Paul Smith reminds us that our faith in Jesus is based on truth. Ashley Cooper urges us to surrender to the Holy Spirit and to have hearts ablaze for Christ. Gill Newton reflects on the momentous event of the death of Jesus. William Porter describes how End Time revival will transform the church to meet social needs and provide for the poor and broken in ways never seen before. Paul Wilson reveals how God comes to us in our place of struggle and brokenness, to repent and be renewed, to move in the power of the Spirit to fruitful mission and ministry. Stephen Skuce looks to the story of the magi to show how God reveals himself to all people. And finally - aptly written just before the death of one of the most eminent scientists, Professor Stephen Hawking - David Wilkinson explains why a scientific explanation of the universe is no threat to Christianity.

This edition is packed with brilliant thought - none of it limits the God of the universe. In fact, this edition breaks God out of the boxes that we can sometimes put him in and reveals him to be very much on the move...

Despite all this - living the faith today can be a struggle. The Revd Louise Gough has shared a Bible Study to encourage anyone who is struggling with ministry or faith, that God's roots of love are deeper and stronger than anything else.

I would just like to say a special thank you to Marine de Villepin for sharing so many of her photos for this edition. Not many photos were submitted with articles, so I had a huge task on my hands! For more information about this Christian photographer, do visit: www.esprit-photographie.com

I hope that you have found these editions helpful and that you will be inspired to follow the lead of the Spirit and to get on board with all that God is doing at this time...

The Editor welcomes articles and Good News stories for future issues. The theme for the Autumn edition will be mental health and spiritual care. The deadline for submission is 4th June, but please do let the editor know well in advance if you would like to submit an article for a specific issue, to ensure space is reserved. To submit or to ask permission to reproduce anything, please email: editor@methodistevangelicals.org.uk

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