



# NEWSLETTER



*A weekly news letter produced by Brixworth Community Church Pastor Andy Lloyd-Williams and Community Worker Mark Palmer. Its purpose is to encourage you with a short thought and inform your prayers and your diary.*

I have been moved this week by the story of Pete Reed. Pete Reed, 38, an Oxford graduate, won gold at rowing in three successive Olympic Games - Beijing 2008, London 2012 and Rio 2016. He had retired last year to pursue a career as Lieutenant Commander in the Royal Marines. However, on 3 September this year, Pete walked into his local hospital, with pain in his chest and legs feeling numb. Three days later the pain suddenly got much worse. "I could slowly feel it coming up through the legs and up to my chest," he said. "Within about 45 minutes the pain had gone and I couldn't move." He had suffered a spinal stroke and is now paralysed from the chest down.

This tragedy reminded me in some ways of the story of Job. Job after all was a hugely successful man who had so much going for him. Then, in a few moments his home, family, health and wealth was taken from him. Job, like Reed, had everything, then after a few desperate moments, had nothing.

What does one do or say in such situations? Where was God for Job? Where is God for Pete Reed? In many ways, we don't know. These are no easy matters. It is one thing to theorise, but it is quite another to experience such a thing yourself.

Of course, I have prayed for Pete Reed that God would find him personally, heal him and the Spirit of God would strengthen him for the difficult days ahead. However, the lesson from Job is that Job could not see or hear the conversation between God and the devil about himself and the wider purpose his shocking suffering would serve. What he could see and could know was that God was with him in his suffering, just as God is with us in all our difficulties whatever they maybe.

As the key verse in the entire book of Job says, 'But He knows the way that I take; *When* He has tested me, then I shall come forth as gold.' (Job 23:10)

Many blessings

*Andy*

## Please Pray

For Lynne Tophams sister Margo and others who are struggling with health and life challenges at this time.

For Christianity Explored that those attending would grow in faith in Jesus Christ.

For up and coming events such as the Christmas Services, Pensioners Christmas Lunch, Outdoor Nativity etc.

A few people in the village have suffered loss recently please pray for them.

## What's Happening

**Mon** 7:30pm Prayer Meeting at the OB

**Tue** 7:30pm TNT

**Wed** 12pm Pensioners Lunch-  
1:30pm and 7:30pm Home Groups-  
7pm Christianity Explored

**Thurs** 10am Olive Shoots –  
7:45pm Home Group

**Fri** 5-7:15pm Dynamites



November 2019							
Week	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
44					1	2	3
45	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
46	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
47	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
48	25	26	27	28	29	30	

**Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die. John 11 v25**