

Hello everyone,

How are you doing?

Are you getting weary? I know I am! My bible tells me from Isaiah 40:29-31 "He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak. Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall; but those who **hope in the Lord will renew their strength**. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary; they will walk and not be faint." Or some versions have "those who wait on the Lord".

Neither waiting nor hoping are easy when you are just wanting something to change! But I'm praying for all of us that we can trust God and wait patiently for him to get us through this season looking forward to the new thing he is doing in us and through us in the process.

The service this week is brought to you by Peter and Kate Mancey (and family!) and you can find it on YouTube.

https://youtu.be/wp1EYsGznUg Just click PLAY ALL on the link for May 17.

Rhoda has also posted the children's and young people's services on the children's YouTube channel.

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCuxgARly413TNTpGOPPzYyA And there are worksheets for each of the groups too!

Childrens Service - 17 May - Adventure.pdf Childrens Service - 17 May - Discover and Explore.pdf Youth Service - 17 May - Connect and Encounter.pdf

One of the resources I have found very helpful in the last few years is the **Renovaré Podcast** which I receive by email. This latest one is especially helpful during the Coronavirus lockdown when we seem to be suffering the loss of so many things. It speaks of dealing with these as griefs.

https://renovare.org/podcast/fil-anderson-grief

Fil Anderson chats with Nathan Foster about how to recognize — rather than minimize — what we've lost and bring it to Jesus so that we can heal.

And finally, this is for you biblical scholars out there! There's lots of teaching out there at the moment commenting on what God is doing in these times of shaking/disruption etc and how the church should react but this teaching (37 minutes) from Mike Bickle of IHOPKC (International House of Prayer Kansas City) is exceptional if you can spare the time.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NpzQ4fnyD8w

In my opinion he's one of the best bible teachers around (I have followed him and his ministry for years) so I would recommend you have a look at this in terms of putting what is happening in a biblical perspective. We haven't talked much about how what is happening might fit into the "end times" scenario but this talk sets out the biblical evidence to explain God's plans and purposes and where things might go from here and how we should prepare as a church and as individuals.

As usual, please let me have your comments or feedback on the Sunday services or any other aspect of church life at the momentsecretary@oakhambaptist.org.uk. Every blessing

Julie