



# FAST TRACKED TO A NEW LIFE

Meet the biker who found freedom in the fast lane by Chris Eyte

**THERE'S something different about the motorbike as it roars down the racetrack and spectators glimpse the rider kicking out a gear to accelerate into the fast lane.**



Michael's bike has a Bible verse daubed on the side

A big inscription has been daubed across the side of the bike: 'Acts 20:24'. Anyone could fumble through a Bible to look up the verse: "However, I consider my life worth nothing to me; my only aim is to finish the race and complete the task the Lord Jesus has given me – the task of testifying to the good news of God's grace."

For this motorcyclist, the race echoes a far more important challenge: the race of life. That's why Michael Jackson, 38, has inscribed his bike as a reminder:

The software engineer from Bridlington, Yorkshire, is serious about combining his passion for motorcycling with his far greater desire to share the love of Jesus Christ with other riders.

**"I gave my life to Christ"**

It wasn't always that way, however. "Having grown up in a Christian family, I had a lot of the knowledge of Christ but it didn't stop me from exploring my own path," he says. "In my late teens and early 20s, I went looking for other answers

elsewhere but through that, God kept his hand on me.

"During some quiet time on a family holiday, I finally decided I knew which way I wanted my life to go and gave it to Christ. I've had a lot of ups and downs since then, but all the stand-out moments of my life involve God's immense blessing and encouragement."

Knowing Jesus has made a "difference" for Michael, who appreciates God's "leading and direction in my life".

**"Without Jesus, I would have struggled to cope with life's pressures"**

He added: "I try to follow where he leads and that takes a lot of the pressure away from trying to do everything perfect or 'as it should be done'."

"I'm sure without Jesus, I would have struggled to cope with life's pressures of career, materialism and false hope. With him, I have an eternal hope, forgiveness of sin and a



Michael Jackson wants to follow God's path for his life

guide that means I'm able to follow [God's] path.

"The outcome God has for us in this life on earth isn't always good if judged by the laws of the world, but God has greater things in store."

**Faith fuels his racing**

Michael had loved car racing since boyhood, but his interest in motorcycling began when he went on a work trip to Australia. He enjoyed a Formula 1 weekend in Melbourne and felt inspired to compete in motor sports, especially motorcycling.

"I passed my bike test in 2012 and took a track day at my local track, Cadwell Park in Lincolnshire – and never looked back. To me the learning curve of bike riding was steeper and more rewarding than car driving and I always like the bigger challenges of life.

**He ended up cartwheeling through a gravel trap**

"Not long after, I attained my race licence and so I entered my first ever race on Easter Monday 2014."

Things didn't "exactly go as planned" on his first race when he ended up cartwheeling through a gravel trap on the last lap.

But he kept racing at local hill climb events and then stumbled across a Christian motorcycling group called the Faith Fueled (sic) Racing team in 2016 (faith-fueledracing.co.uk).

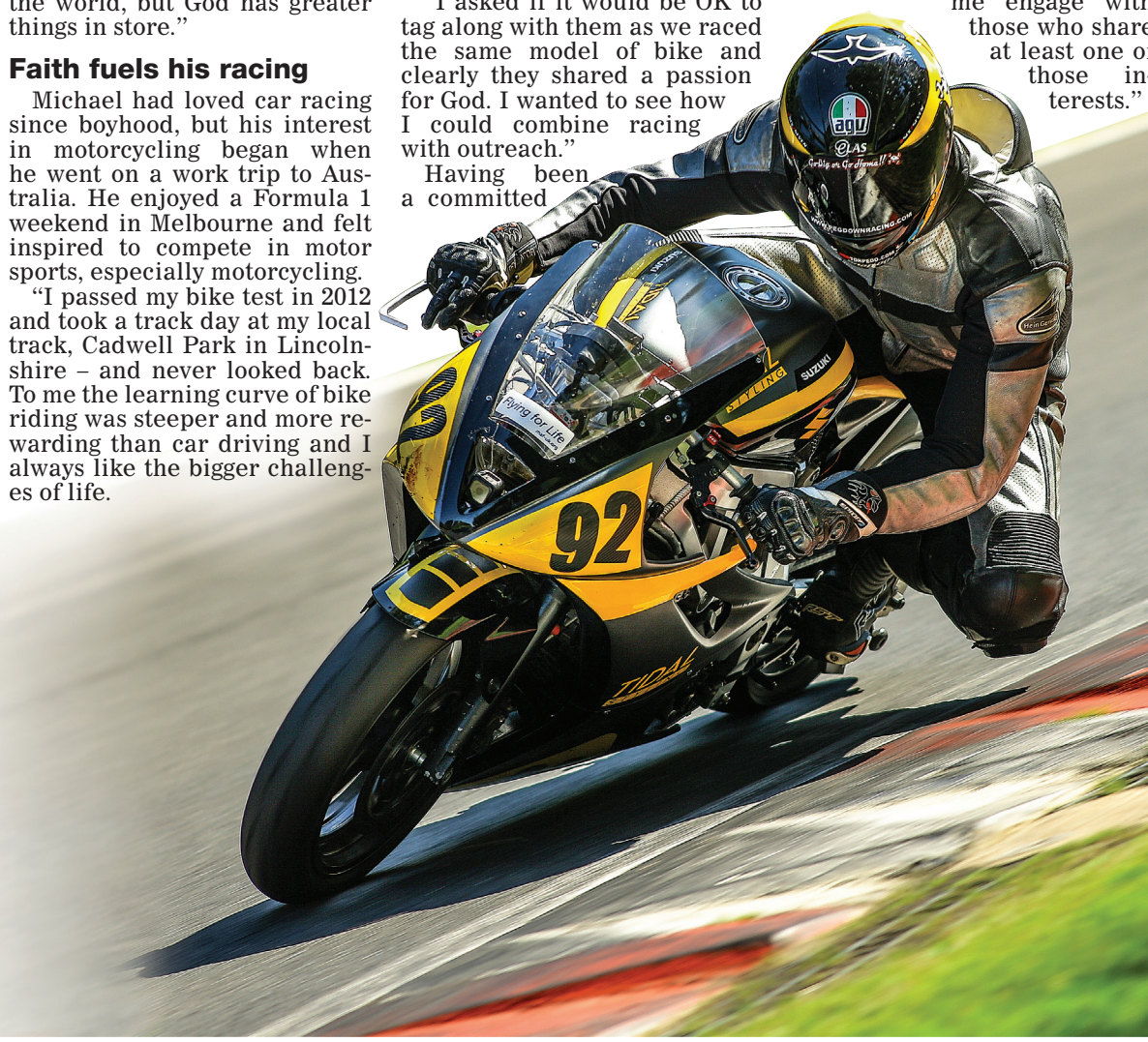
"I asked if it would be OK to tag along with them as we raced the same model of bike and clearly they shared a passion for God. I wanted to see how I could combine racing with outreach."

Having been a committed

member of the group for several years, Michael is now headed for new horizons – his bike is up for sale as he sets his sights on racing with four wheels again.

**"I want to share the love of God with others"**

But no matter what the vehicle, he continues to find racing a natural way to share his faith: "I want to share the love of God with others, but I find that hard to do in the usual ways. Using the racing helps me, because the fun and excitement I have for both aspects of my life helps me engage with those who share at least one of those interests."







## A prayer of protection

He who dwells in the secret place of the Most High

Shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty. I will say of the Lord, "He is my refuge and my fortress;

My God, in him I will trust." Surely he shall deliver you from the snare of the fowler

And from the perilous pestilence. He shall cover you with his feathers, And under his wings you shall take refuge; His truth shall be your shield and buckler. You shall not be afraid of the terror by night, Nor of the arrow that flies by day, Nor of the pestilence that walks in darkness, Nor of the destruction that lays waste at noonday.

A thousand may fall at your side, And ten thousand at your right hand; But it shall not come near you. Only with your eyes shall you look, And see the reward of the wicked.

Because you have made the Lord, who is my refuge, Even the Most High, your dwelling place, No evil shall befall you, Nor shall any plague come near your dwelling;

For he shall give his angels charge over you, To keep you in all your ways. In their hands they shall bear you up, Lest you dash your foot against a stone. You shall tread upon the lion and the cobra, The young lion and the serpent you shall trample underfoot.

"Because he has set his love upon me, therefore I will deliver him; I will set him on high, because he has known my name.

He shall call upon me, and I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble; I will deliver him and honour him.

With long life I will satisfy him, And show him my salvation."

Psalm 91

## "DON'T GIVE IN TO FEAR," says cancer survivor Michael Bushby



In 2013 I was diagnosed with stage 4 cancer and today I am alive! So I'm saying as Jesus said to the devil, "Coronavirus, get thee behind me!"

Take strength from the Bible! Read Psalm 91 (on this page) and make it your prayer. You may also like to read these comforting words from the prophet Jeremiah:

**For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the LORD, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope. Then you will call upon me and go and pray to me, and I will listen to you. And you will seek me and find me, when you search for me with all your heart. I will be found by you, says the LORD, and I will bring you back from your captivity.**

(Jeremiah 29:11-14)

Michael Bushby's account of healing can be read at [www.heartpublications.co.uk](http://www.heartpublications.co.uk)

Promotion

# THE PILGRIM'S PROGRESS

Director: Robert Fernandez

Stars: David Thorpe, John Rhys-Davies, Kristyn Getty  
DVD/Blu Ray – available now



**D**ragons, giants, dangerous swamps, dark foreboding castles, creepy characters and a deep threatening river of death! No, not elements of a new Harry Potter novel but features of a 17th century classic English novel – which has been brought to life in a new animated movie.

Published in 1678 and written while in prison for "illegal preaching," John Bunyan's classic is still regarded as one of the greatest works of English literature.

The story is simple. A man named Christian is living in the City of Destruction and realises that both he and his family need to get out before it's too late. Meeting a character called Evangelist, he sets off on a path which will eventually lead him to the Celestial City.

The journey, however is more difficult than Christian can ever imagine. His route takes him, via the cross of Jesus through Vanity Fair, down into the valley of Death and eventually to that foreboding river of death.

This new film brings Bunyan's story vividly to life with stunning animation that puts you right into the heart of the action. The film is a colourful, spectacular, wonderful retelling of the story with a terrific cast and a lovely music score by Kristyn Getty.

Thoroughly recommended for all ages.

■ By Andy Godfrey

'The Pilgrim's Progress' has recently been released on DVD and Blu-Ray.

Order from [www.ao.vision/product](http://www.ao.vision/product) for £12.99

## God knows

God knows who and where you are right now. In fact, Jesus said that even the hairs on your head are numbered. Why not look up all the healings that Jesus and his disciples did in the gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John and the book of Acts?

## How do I become a Christian?

**BEING A CHRISTIAN** is about a relationship with Jesus Christ, the only Son of the living God, who died in our place, to pay the price for our sin. He desires to welcome you into God's family here on earth and into heaven when you die.

To start this relationship, simply pray the prayer opposite; if you mean it, he'll respond, because the Bible says that God looks at our hearts.

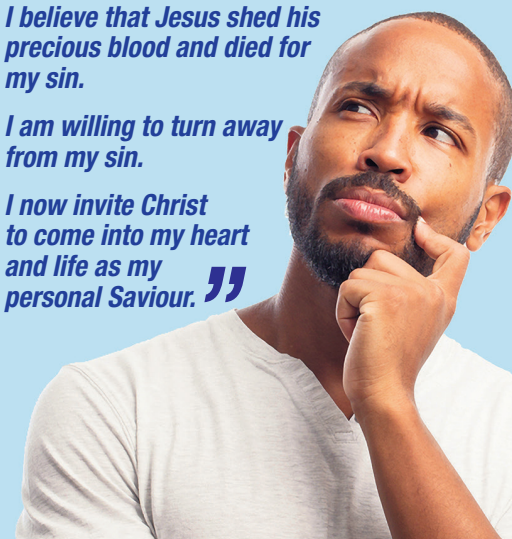
The churches featured in this paper will be happy to welcome you and explain the importance of daily Bible reading, daily prayer, baptism, being part of a congregation where the Bible is preached and believed, and telling others about what Jesus has done for you.

“ Dear God, I am a sinner and need forgiveness.

I believe that Jesus shed his precious blood and died for my sin.

I am willing to turn away from my sin.

I now invite Christ to come into my heart and life as my personal Saviour. ”





For my neighbour - you are not forgotten!



# HE'S GOD, NOT GOOGLE!

Ultimately, we WILL be given answers. Faith is trusting God when he speaks and when he doesn't, says Canon J John

**W**hile some are scrambling to unravel the mystery of Covid-19, popular Christian speaker J John has gently challenged us to remember that "God isn't Google"!

**"God wants to be known as our heavenly Father, not simply as the answer to everything that puzzles us"**

"We often turn to [God] and ask for answers, but the fact is God wants to be known as our heavenly Father, not simply as the answer to everything that puzzles us," he wrote in a recent blog post.

**"This pandemic is an alarm call over our beliefs and behaviour"**

Many, he said, are looking for a 'Poirot moment' to explain why the coronavirus is happening: "Is man, nature or God responsible? If it's God, what is he doing and why? Is it a judgement? A warning? A test? A shaking up of the world?"

The evangelist, whose 'Just One' events at stadiums in London and Kent have seen hundreds make a commitment to follow Jesus, declares that Covid-19 is primarily a warning. "I believe God is sovereign and controls the universe and is certainly in charge of matters. I believe that this pandemic is an alarm call over our beliefs and behaviour, our attitudes and actions.

"I believe that God can give the wisdom to a scientist to find the vaccination or to just totally eradicate the virus. I believe God wants to get our attention and wants us to repent of our sins, starting with the Church - we have rejected God and ignored his commandments."

He added: "I also wonder if it might be a good reminder to look again at some of the Old Testament verses - until very recently much ridiculed - that say things like: 'Thou shalt not eat

bats' (Leviticus 11:19)."

Speaking of Jesus washing his disciples' feet the night before his crucifixion, he commented: "When Jesus, taking the role of a servant, begins to start washing, Peter protests, only to receive the reply, 'You don't understand now what I am doing, but someday you will' (John 13:7, NLT)."

J John believes this story gives three helpful lessons for today:

## 1. Trust God's timing

"We must accept that we may not be given answers to our questions now. Jesus didn't answer Peter's curiosity and left him short of an answer. In fact, I think God frequently does that... he is God, not Google. Faith is trusting God when he speaks and when he doesn't."

## 2. One day we will get answers

"We can be confident that, ultimately, we will be given answers. Jesus promises Peter that someday he will know why he is washing the disciples' feet. In our instant age, patience is not exactly a popular virtue, but it's what we need.

"St Paul, whose towering intellect must have found unanswered questions frustrating, could write, 'For now we see only a reflection as in a mirror; then we shall see face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I am fully known' (1 Corinthians 13:12, NIV)."

## 3. Actions first, questions later

"We mustn't let questions distract us from doing what we need to do. As Jesus talks about what he is

doing for the disciples, he says, 'I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you' (John 13:15, NIV). At times like this our priority should not be questions but actions."

Ultimately, says J John, the pandemic is a chance to find peace with God before it's too late. "What is far more important than getting answers about this global crisis is the opportunity for us, while we are still alive, to repent and get right with God, and to put things right by taking him and his commandments seriously."

He added: "Let us do what we are instructed to do in Micah 6:8: 'The Lord has told you what is good, and this is what he requires of you: to do what is right, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God' (NLT)."

*NLT is the New Living Translation of the Bible; NIV is the New International Version*

*Original article: <https://canonjjohn.com/2020/05/12/solving-the-mystery/>*



Canon J John

## COPPER GETS A NEW SHINE

Policeman finds faith after asking virtual assistant a surprising question



### "HOW CAN I GET SAVED?"

**T**his was the question a policeman asked his virtual assistant, Siri, while awaiting test results for Covid-19.

Quarantined at home and feeling anxious and unwell, David's\* internet search brought up a website run by the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association (BGEA).

Soon, the 20-year law enforcement veteran was talking with a volunteer at the 'Search for Jesus' site.

"I'm struggling with faith, and with everything going on... even more so," David typed.

The volunteer, Gloria, replied: "Where do you look for peace in uncertain times?" David said that he looked within himself.

"I can understand that," Gloria replied. "The catch with that, though, is that our inner selves can be really disturbed by what we see and hear. That can lead to anxiety, as you know."

She went on to suggest that he could find peace in a relationship with Jesus Christ.

### "I'm not ready to go yet"

"I'm not ready to go yet," David typed. "I'm only 48... I still feel I have things left to do."

When David admitted that he was terrified of catching Covid-19 and that he was afraid of dying, Gloria replied that he was "realising the truth of God's Word, that 'the result of sin is death'", quoting the Bible verse Romans 6:23.

"That is why you are so scared," she said.

"Well, thanks for pointing that out," David answered sarcastically. "Now I'm even more scared!"

### "God knows that you cannot reach him through your own efforts"

But Gloria responded: "That verse continues, 'But the gift of

God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.' The really, really good news is that God knows that you cannot reach him through your own efforts. So he provided the way for you to do that.

"He loves you that much, David."

Gloria then invited David to put his trust in Jesus: "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life" (John 3:16). The verse was familiar to David; he had seen it on signs people held up at American football games.

She added: "God sent his own Son, Jesus, to earth. Jesus lived a life without sin but died a terrible death. He took all of our sins upon himself, all of our punishment upon himself."

"But what am I supposed to do?" David asked.

"Believe," Gloria typed. "I can't give you a sales pitch on that. It has to come from your heart."

David then confirmed that he had already prayed the prayer of salvation found on the website.

Gloria expressed utter joy at the news, then explained: "The words of the prayer are not magical. The important thing is the attitude of your heart."

She encouraged David to take the next step in his new relationship with God by signing up for the free 'Know Jesus' discipleship course online (courses.goingfarther.net/know-jesus).

A BGEA spokesperson commented: "As David began a two-week quarantine, God had given him a gift he hadn't been looking for - the gift of time. The Lord had once again used a temporary crisis to lead one of his children to eternal life.

"In this time of uncertainty, it's one more reason to believe God's Word is always true."

*\*Name changed to protect the policeman's identity.*

For more inspiring stories like this one, go to [www.premierchristian.news](http://www.premierchristian.news) or tune in to Premier Christian Radio, AM 1332 (London).



# FRIENDLY CHURCHES NEAR YOU

We can't guarantee when they'll be holding meetings, but do call them for a chat and say you found out about them in this paper.



## EAST & WEST SUSSEX

### ANGMERING

- **Angmering Baptist Church**  
Sundays 10.30am, 6.30pm
- **Immanuel Church**  
Meeting in St Margaret's School at 10.30am, Arundel Road, Angmering West Sussex BN16 4LP  
[www.immanuelchurch.org.uk](http://www.immanuelchurch.org.uk)

### ARUNDEL

- **King's Church**  
07956 789 112  
Sundays 10.30am  
10 Tarrant Street BN18 9DG

### BATTLE

- **Battle Baptist Church**  
01424 774825  
Mount Street, Battle, East Sussex TN33 0EG  
[office@battlebaptistchurch.org.uk](mailto:office@battlebaptistchurch.org.uk)  
[www.battlebaptistchurch.org.uk](http://www.battlebaptistchurch.org.uk)

### BOGNOR REGIS

- **The King's Gate Church**  
07594 780515
- **Our Lady of Sorrows Church**  
01243 823619

### BRIGHTON

- **Brighton Elim Church**  
07523 849646  
The Fountain Centre, Braybon Ave, Patcham, East Sussex, BN1 8HG  
[christy@brightonelim.org.uk](mailto:christy@brightonelim.org.uk)  
[www.brightonelim.org.uk](http://www.brightonelim.org.uk)

### HAYWARDS HEATH

- **Lindfield Evangelical Free Church**  
01444 483576
- **Ruwach Christian Church**
- **The Joy of All Souls**  
0800 093 8766  
Redwood Activity Centre, Perrymount Road, Haywards Heath, RH16 3DN  
[info@thejoyoffallsouls.org](mailto:info@thejoyoffallsouls.org)  
[www.thejoyoffallsouls.org](http://www.thejoyoffallsouls.org)

### HORSHAM

- **RCCG Living Faith Assembly**  
07878 108989  
Holbrook Community Centre, Holbrook, RH12 5PP  
[www.rccglfa.org.uk](http://www.rccglfa.org.uk)  
[info@rccglfa.org.uk](mailto:info@rccglfa.org.uk)

### PEVENSEY

- **Ellel Ministries**  
01323 440440

### SOUTHWICK

- **Christian Community Church**  
01273 870103  
Sundays 10.30am  
1-5 Roman Crescent, Southwick BN42 4TY  
[info@southwickchurch.org.uk](mailto:info@southwickchurch.org.uk)  
[www.southwickchurch.org.uk](http://www.southwickchurch.org.uk)

### WALBERTON

- **Walberton Baptist Church**  
01243 584435  
Sundays 10.30am and 6.30 pm  
The Street, Walberton BN18 0PH
- **St Mary's Church**

### WESTERGATE

- **Westergate Christian Fellowship**  
01243 263821  
Sundays 10.30am at Eastergate Village Hall  
[davegwenlan@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:davegwenlan@tiscali.co.uk)  
[www.westergatefellowship.co.uk](http://www.westergatefellowship.co.uk)

### WORTHING

- **Coastlands Church**  
01903 600584  
Sundays 10.30am, 6.30pm  
Sidney Walter Centre, Worthing, BN11 1DS  
[office@coastlands.church](mailto:office@coastlands.church)  
[www.coastlands.church](http://www.coastlands.church)
- **Highdown Church, Durrington**  
Contact: 07871 195572  
[www.highdownchurch.org.uk](http://www.highdownchurch.org.uk)

## BRISTOL

### HARTCLIFFE

- **River of Life**  
[www.riverlife.co.uk](http://www.riverlife.co.uk)

## CORNWALL

### PENRYN

- **Stirring of the Water Ministries**  
07968 080258  
[enquiries@stirringofthewater.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@stirringofthewater.org.uk)

### TORPOINT

- **Grace Community Church**

## DORSET

### BOURNEMOUTH

- **Discover Church**

## GLOUCESTERSHIRE

### FAIRFORD

- **Fairford Christian Fellowship**  
07900 190190

## HAMPSHIRE

### FAREHAM

- **Living Word Church**  
Henry Cort Community College, Hillson Drive, Fareham, PO15 6PH  
Sundays 10.30am.  
01329 841619  
[www.livingwordchurchnetwork.uk](http://www.livingwordchurchnetwork.uk)

### SOUTHBOURNE

- **Southbourne Free Church**

## KENT

### FOLKESTONE

- **Cheriton Pentecostal Church**  
Sundays 10.30am, 6.30pm  
5 Park Road, Cheriton, Folkestone, Kent, CT19 4DG  
[cheritonpentecostalchurch.co.uk](http://cheritonpentecostalchurch.co.uk)

### KNOCKHOLT

- **Knockholt Evangelical Church**  
01959 534732

## LANCASHIRE

### ROSSENDALE

- **Menorah Faith International Congregation**  
01706 218683

## LEICESTERSHIRE

### LEICESTER

- **Cropston Evangelical Free Church**  
Sundays 10.30am and 6.00pm

## LONDON

### WESTMINSTER

- **Emmanuel Centre & Church**  
020 7222 9191  
9-23 Marsham St, Westminster, SW1P 3DW  
[www.emmanuelcentre.com](http://www.emmanuelcentre.com)  
[enquiry@emmanuelcentre.com](mailto:enquiry@emmanuelcentre.com)

## SURREY

### GUILDFORD

- **Bethel Christian Assembly**  
01483 898083  
Sundays 10am  
Shalford Village Hall, Kings Road, Shalford, GU4 8JU  
[office@bethelchristian.org.uk](mailto:office@bethelchristian.org.uk)  
[www.bethelchristian.org.uk](http://www.bethelchristian.org.uk)

- **New Hope Church**  
[www.newhopeguildford.org](http://www.newhopeguildford.org)

## WALES

### LLANDUDNO

- **Emmanuel Church**

### VALE OF GLAMORGAN

- **Rhoose Village Church**