

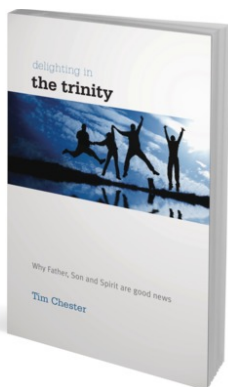
As the days grow shorter and you feel a chill time in the air, you know the year is coming to a close. We want to finish the year in the best way possible. We have an exciting Christmas programme and lots to look forward to. One new initiative that we would like feedback on is Ladies who lunch. An occasional opportunity for the women of the church to meet for lunch. As the days darken remember Jesus is the light of the world, he has called you to shine!

New teaching and preaching series for Sunday's and midweek 2017

Sunday

God delivered The Hebrews from captivity in Egypt and led them step by step through the wilderness to the Promised Land. The experiences of the Hebrews in Exodus teach us the keys to successfully journeying through life.

Thursday's



Many of us find the doctrine of the Trinity – that God is three persons sharing one nature – difficult to get our heads round, and maybe a bit embarrassing. We seem to get by without thinking about it. In fact the Trinity is at the heart of all that we believe. It gives shape to all Christian truth, and to the gospel that we believe and proclaim.

Using Tim Chester's book, "Delighting in the Trinity" as a guide we will discover, discuss and delight in what the Bible teaches. How the doctrine of the trinity developed and what it means practically to us today. A unique opportunity to understand and apply the doctrine of the Trinity

Tuesday's

Drawing from the book of Mark in the Bible the book explores who Jesus was, what his aims were, and what it means to follow him.

Concise, and honest, this course an ideal guide to both Jesus' life and of Christianity. Whether you are familiar with the Christian faith or just interested, you will find this course challenging, interesting and stimulating



Christmas decoration. Carols on the car park Christmas Eve & Day

Christmas 2016

Start off the week
before Christmas
with our popular
Carol's on the
carpark

Sunday 18th
December

Festive atmosphere
Candles festive lights
and decorations

Carols on the car park

Your favourite top ten
carols

Special Christmas
songs by Grace Mary
Primary choir

Seasonal refreshments



Santa dash
Saturday
10th December

Great fun
Join team
Oakham

£5 registration
gets you a medal
and Santa suit



We need
your help
To decorate
the church
for
Christmas

Saturday
26th
November
9 AM

Wanted
This year we want to
create a Christmas tree
wood! If you have any
old or unwanted
Christmas trees we
could make good use of
them. If you can help
create this lovely tree
wood please see Pete



Community
Pantomime

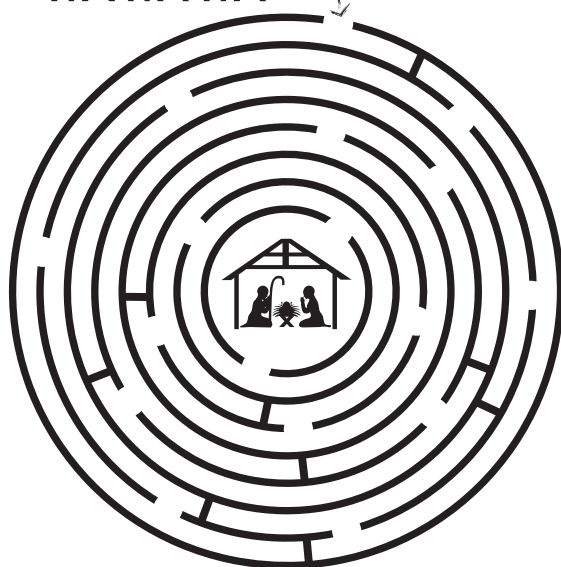
Shrek

16- 17th
December

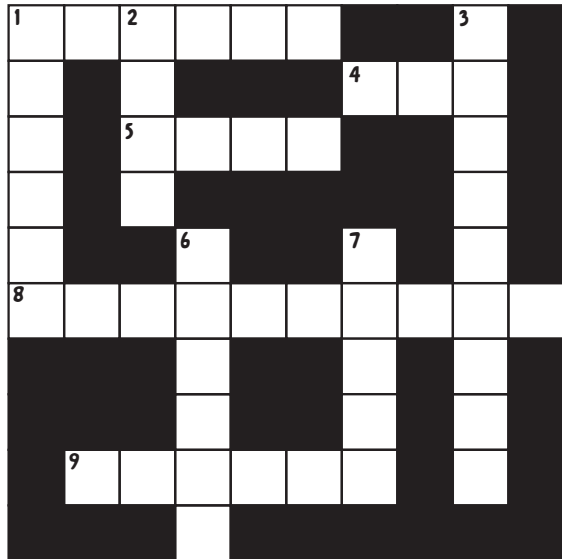
Christmas
2016

Maze

Can you be a star
and guide the wise men to Jesus?



Crossword



Across

1. Hark! the herald _____ sing
4. The day before Christmas is called Christmas ____
5. _____, Peace and Joy
8. Who gave gifts to Jesus? (3-4-3)
9. Once, in Royal _____ City

Down

1. Type of calendar we open before Christmas
2. One of the gifts the Wise Men gave Jesus
3. The town where Jesus was born
6. How many days of Christmas are there?
7. Who was born at Christmas?

Word search

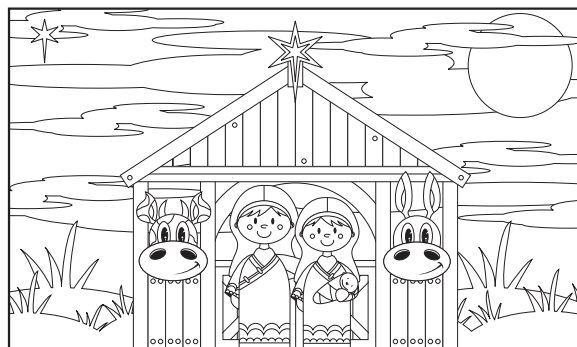
Can you find these Christmas words?

BETHLEHEM	JOSEPH	SHEEP	CARD
STAR	ANGEL	CHRISTMAS	TURKEY
KING	GOLD	PRESENT	SNOW
JESUS	FRANKINCENSE	CRACKER	CAROLS
MARY	MYRRH	TREE	DONKEY

A V C T Q O C K L I B N W R F
D E F R A N K I N C E N S E K
Q S L E R A O N E T T H T Q X
J O S E P H D G Q C H K A E V
G G H O I P K M A T L I R G V
M Q R S W C R A C K E R U V Y
W Y Y J S G E J A Z H T T P C
T O R S E R A T R F E M U R H
U R C R K S M N O O M A R Y R
R S A T H U U W L L N S K S I
S A R E M K A S S F E G E E S
H I D O N K E Y N O P O Y N T
E S E U V W R E X Y Z L E T M
E C D P R E S E N T R D Y M A
P J A N G E L K L S N O W I S

Spot the difference

Can you spot 11 differences between the pictures?



Delighting in the Trinity

For many Christians the doctrine of the Trinity is something we believe, do not understand and rarely mention. This winter we will be exploring the doctrine of the Trinity in a lively and very practical way. I hope to pass on both the wonder and excitement I find in this great doctrine and explore how very practical it is to our lives.



The doctrine of the Trinity is some absurd obscure irrelevant teaching, it is a window not who God is, how he operates and even who we are. The Trinity is not some type of puzzle or mathematical trick. It is not even an idea to grapple with and master. To understand and appreciate the Trinity is to see who God is and who he is to us. Something to experience each day!

As we study, discover and discuss the Trinity we will be using Tim Chesters well written and challenging book "Delighting in the Trinity" as a resource and general guide. I am looking forward to great discussions, stimulating questions and life changing answers.



Apple's lessons for discipleship . Worth a read

Apple is in the disciple-making business, but it has nothing to do with the mission of the church. The eternal significance of Apple—or any tech company—is zilch apart from Christ, that's for sure.

But what would it look like if Apple, all of the sudden, turned their innovation toward making real Jesus-following disciples? What would their process look like? How would it be different. It's more of a fun question than a serious endeavour. I don't expect to come up with die-hard strategies to transfer to the church, but I think there's value in the exercise.

Why?

Because the church is (or should be, depending on your perspective) the most innovative institution on the planet. We have the very Holy Spirit who raised Jesus from the dead living in us. The same Spirit who hovered over the waters of creation. The same Spirit who is working in and through the church to bring heaven to earth. And the work we're doing is the most important work in the history of mankind. So, here are 7 leadership thoughts about making disciples with the passion and innovation of Apple. Each of these thoughts comes complete with a Steve Jobs quote. For starters—Apple wouldn't do it like everyone else.

If Apple stays consistent with their passion for innovation they would ignore current discipleship trends. Apple would likely start from the ground up (Matthew 28; Acts 2) and envision a new way to

connect people to Christ in a language this generation understands. Simple, back to the basics but packed with strategy and purpose.

Who knows what Apple would venture to try—Facebook churches, an app that mentors you with a Jesus hologram? A directions app that points you to new mission fields? Snapchat churches? I don't know, but one thing's for sure, it would be different.

"We're gambling on our vision, and we would rather do that than make 'me too' products. Let some other companies do that. For us, it's always the next dream." – Steve Jobs

Apple would pour a ton of energy into backend design.

Apple would expect their staff to stay up nights, work long days (and weekends)—not out of duty, but out of passion. The energy, initially, would be poured into the backend experience. Making sure that every tiny detail of the mission was effective, efficient and uniquely valuable to the user.

"I'm convinced that about half of what separates the successful entrepreneurs from the non-successful ones is pure perseverance." – Steve Jobs

Apple would have a high-quality ministry filter.

Apple would encourage creativity and new ideas within their staff, but they would also have a tough ministry filter. Apple would say "No" to a thousand ideas and "Yes" to only a few. Apple wouldn't collect ineffective ministries or suffer inefficient models.

"I'm as proud of the products that we have not done as the ones we have done." – Steve Jobs

Apple would cast a big vision.

For certain, Apple would create a new vision meant to inspire a disciple-making movement that would probably break most (if not all) the current discipleship rules and principles. Information, growth, and transformation would all be redesigned and simplified to create clear and consistent ways to connect people to Christ. "Being the richest man in the cemetery doesn't matter to me... Going to bed saying we've done something wonderful...that's what matters to me." – Steve Jobs

Apple would hire/partner with the best.

Apple would look for smart, creative leaders, but more than anything, they would hire leaders with a prophetic passion. And with all the ruthlessness of the Apostle Paul, Apple would likely cut ties quickly with team leads who lost the vision.

"When I hire somebody really senior, competence is the ante. They have to be really smart. But the real issue for me is, are they going to fall in love with Apple? Because if they fall in love with Apple, everything else will take care of itself." – Steve Jobs

Apple would innovate out of a slump.

When things weren't working out, Apple wouldn't necessarily ask for more money or shrink the budget to keep the church or ministry afloat. Instead, they would use prayer (the ancient-new innovation?) to create an alternate path out of a declining ministry.

"The cure for Apple is not cost-cutting. The cure for Apple is to innovate its way out of its current predicament." – Steve Jobs

Apple would know when to pass the torch.

"I have always said if there ever came a day when I could no longer meet my duties and expectations as Apple's CEO, I would be the first to let you know."

Steve Jobs spent years making Mac disciples—working tirelessly to come up with the next revolutionary tech invention. There's a lot we can learn from a man—and a company—with an uncompromising vision. We don't need to break all the rules to be successful—that's not the point—but we do need an undying commitment to the cause of Christ and a radical desire to see God work in and through his Church. Besides, our job to make "real" disciples carries much more weight, and the power behind it, well, is truly capable of making today's church...revolutionary.

