

### Preaching Dates

**12 May 2018**

**George Hunter** is celebrating a military wedding at the Golden Lion Hotel, Stirling.  
**Marilyn MacArthur and Irene Campbell** are preaching at the Westwood Baptist Church women's retreat.

**13 May 2018**

**David Mitchell** (am) at  
Abbeyhill Baptist Church, Edinburgh  
**Ian Stephen** (am) at  
Borders General Hospital  
**Dawn Martindale** (am) at  
Leslie Baptist Church  
**Phill March** (am) at  
Clydebank Central Methodist Church  
**David Andrew** (am) at  
St. Mungo's Church of Scotland, Alloa  
**Charles Sommerville** (am) at  
Kelty Evangelical Church, Fife  
**John Bingham** (am) at  
Maryhill Evangelical Church, Glasgow  
**Glen Cartwright** (am) at  
Fusion, Newton Mearns Baptist Church  
**Andrew Swanson** (am) at  
Campbeltown Baptist Church  
**Charles Sommerville** (pm) at  
Shettleston Baptist Church  
**Jim O'Hara** (pm) at Airdrie Baptist Church

**16 May 2018**

**Florence MacKenzie** (am) at  
Aberdeen Christian Fellowship;  
**Florence MacKenzie** (pm) at  
Portlethen Christian Fellowship



**"Grace"**

**By Kay Leishman**

Sometimes a single word can convey meaning that, if written out, would fill many pages. The word *grace*, for the Christian, has meaning enough to fill, not just pages of a book, but whole libraries of books. One familiar definition of grace is, 'the free and unmerited favour of God'. Grace is at the very heart of the gospel message. As Paul tells us, it is by grace we have been saved, through faith (Eph.2:8,9). None of us have what it takes to make ourselves right with God; we can never earn salvation and we can never deserve God's forgiveness. Without the mercy and the grace of God we are fallen sinners in the hands of a holy and just God; a terrifying place to be. But in the grace of God, Jesus Christ the righteous One took our place, died our death, and offered us his robes of righteousness in place of the torn and dirty rags of a life lived apart from God. Grace is truly transformative.

Each of us has experienced, at first hand, the grace of God in our own life, and it is by his grace that we have the privilege of sharing the Word of God with others. The hallmark of our lives, then, must surely increasingly be grace towards others. Grace that chooses to think the best of another, even when weaknesses are showing. Grace that is quick to forgive, remembering how much Christ has forgiven us. Grace that looks at another through the eyes of a God who loves them enough to die for them. Of course, this is difficult to do, if not impossible, if we do not see ourselves through the eyes of the God of all grace. Which brings us back to the gospel. God so loved the world, including you, including me, that he sent his only Son....

As we go about our daily lives, may each one of us allow the wonder of what Jesus has done for us to impact us afresh. May we truly experience, at a deeper level, the grace of the God who loves us. And may we be enabled by Holy Spirit to reflect that grace to our fellow believers and to the world around us.

*From his fullness, we have all received grace upon grace*  
(Jn.1:16)