

### Preaching Dates

**19 May 2019**

**Alastair Crockett** (am) at  
St Monans FIEC Church, Fife .

**Jim Ewing** (a.m.) at  
Maryhill Evangelical Church

**Neil Fisher** (am) at  
Dingwall Baptist Church

**William Henry** (am) at Vale of Leven  
Baptist Church, Alexandria

**Douglas Inglis** (am) at  
Cambuslang Baptist Church

**Aubrey Jamieson** (am) at Skerries  
Parish Church, Shetland Islands

**Eric Macarthur** (am) at  
Mull Baptist Church

**Alistair Mackay** (am) at McCarthy-  
Stone retirement home, Dumfries

**Alex Ramsay** (am) at Banton  
Independent Baptist Church, Kilsyth

**Charles Sommerville** (am) at  
Cumbernauld Baptist Church

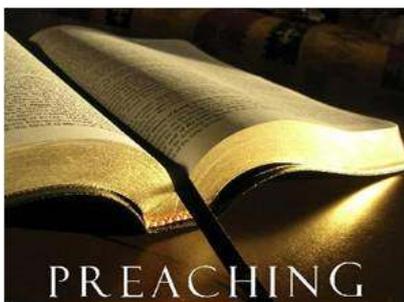
**Ian Stephen** (am) at  
Borders General Hospital

**Arthur Jones** (pm) at  
South Beach Baptist Church

**Charles Sommerville** (pm) at  
Shettleston Baptist Church

**24 May**

**Jim Ewing** (am) at  
Glasgow University Chapel



### “Thought for the Day”

**By Allan Fraser**

**John 10:27**

*My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me:*

As our church contemplates whether God wants us to take on the lease of a local shop, from which to serve Him, I'm challenged by this verse. How do we know what is the right choice, or God's will for us? If only God had a voice, someone said to me recently. Why couldn't God make this so much easier for me?

It clearly says in John 10:27 God does have a voice. The challenge is, are we listening? Are we tuned into the right frequency? Sometimes, we don't really want to hear His voice. Why? Because we're worried what He's going to say to us – or maybe demand of us.

Walking in faith is never easy. I am at Gatwick airport, having flown from Edinburgh, and awaiting my next flight. I wouldn't say I love or hate flying – it gets me from A to B. However, when the turbulence begins my hands begin to sweat and I feel a lack of control. I want to ask the pilot “is everything okay” or at least see their face relaxed, imparting confidence to me.

We feel the same with our lives sometimes. We want to be in control. We don't enjoy the turbulence, when things don't go as smoothly as we would like. We want to be in control, we want to set the direction, we want to look into the pilot's face and see the confidence.

But we do have a pilot. Better than that, we have a good shepherd. A shepherd who loves us so much that He died for our sins, so that we could have a loving relationship with Him. He will never leave us nor forsake us. The Bible says ‘He knows the plans He has for you, plans to prosper you and not to harm you (Jeremiah 29:11).

We should have every confidence in Jesus, our pilot and good shepherd. We need not fear any turbulence or even worse, in the road prepared before us. Being a Christian is never smooth; you are different from the world, you will meet opposition but you will thrive if you trust in Jesus.

The next time you have a decision to make, seek Jesus. Immerse yourself in His word, and in prayer. When a relative or friend phones us we recognise their voice without the need for introduction. Why? Because we know them, we have a relationship with them. In the same way, if you have a relationship with Jesus you will recognise his voice.

Don't fear tomorrow, but rather be excited about what lies ahead. Jesus is. He has a plan for you. All you have to do is believe it and trust in Him. I'm excited about God's plan for our church. We are going to move forward in faith, listening to his voice and being directed by it. We know that if that shop is right for our church, to serve Him in our community, then nothing will stop us.

Bless you and enjoy your flight; the bumps are to be expected and not to be feared if you trust in the pilot.

Amen