

# The Watford Word

[www.watfordchurchofchrist.org](http://www.watfordchurchofchrist.org)

## What's on

**Sunday** 21 January - 10:30AM. Stefan speaking on Abraham

**Sunday** 28 January - 10:30AM. Malcolm speaking on Rahab

**Sunday** 04 February - 10:30AM. Church service.

**Sunday** 11 February - 10:30AM. Archie Higgin speaking on the Apostle Peter

**Sunday** 18 February - 10:30AM.

**Sunday** 25 February - 10:30AM.

ADVANCED NOTICE

**Pentecost Sunday** 19 May - 10:30AM.

International Sunday with food from around the world. Would someone like to volunteer to coordinate the food?

## Elijah's New Thing

*"Do not remember the former things, or consider the things of old. I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert." (Isaiah 43:18-19 NRSU)*



Today we are focussed on God doing a new thing in the life of Elijah.

Elijah had a terrific, yet troubled past (1 Kings 17-19). His present was convicting and inspiring. What of his future?

[thewatfordchurch@gmail.com](mailto:thewatfordchurch@gmail.com)

## Go back

"The LORD said to him, "Go back the way you came..." (1 Kings 19:15 NIV11)

Sometimes the way back is the way forward. Not so much that we should repeat the past, but that we can go back to friends, church, family group, prayer, evangelism and serving with a spirit renewed by God. Is God calling you to go back to something — so as to do a new thing?

## Work with my people

"The LORD said to him, "Go back the way you came, and go to the Desert of Damascus. When you get there, anoint Hazael king over Aram. Also, anoint Jehu son of Nimshi king over Israel, and anoint Elisha son of Shaphat from Abel Meholah to succeed you as prophet. Jehu will put to death any who escape the sword of Hazael, and Elisha will put to death any who escape the sword of Jehu." (1 Kings 19:15-17 NIV11)

Elijah was commissioned to empower people in various roles. Some were in leadership, and one, Elisha, was to be his successor. Our future is always, at least to some extent, an investment in the next generation. Is there someone God is calling you to mentor in the faith?

"And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable people who will also be qualified to teach others." (2 Timothy 2:2 NIV11)

This is not only applicable to the Apostle Paul and his protege Timothy. It encapsulates a principle that is part of what it means to be a disciple of Jesus. You have valuable things that need to be passed on. No, you may not be an expert in Scripture, theology or some technical

[www.watfordchurchofchrist.org](http://www.watfordchurchofchrist.org)

aspects of the Christian life. But, you have the Spirit and he has been working on you all of your Christian life. Events of your past and your present have prepared you for a new thing, and part of that is preparing the next generation for whatever new thing God will do with them.

### For Reflection

Our future may not be revealed to us as specifically as Elijah's was, but by reflecting on our past and present, and as we pray for insight, God will provide the guidance we need to make decisions of faith.

God bless, Malcolm



Daily devotional podcasts accompany the 'A New Thing' teaching and preaching series. You can find them in the Watford podcast feed (below) or my personal podcast — RSS feed: <https://audioboom.com/channels/4909728.rss>

### Future Speakers

In addition to speakers within this congregation I am inviting people from further afield to preach for us. Already on the list are Archie Higgin, Andy Boakye and Douglas Jacoby. Is there anyone you would like me to invite? Malcolm

---

## AIM – Spiritual Life

---

The next AIM module is 'spiritual life'. What's this all about? The course explores the ways in which God enables us to draw closer and closer to him as our life on this earth progresses, and how to live in a way that pleases him and has an impact on the world around us.

Topics include: Personal spiritual growth; men and women of the word; personal righteousness; prayer; fasting; biblical meditation; spiritual disciplines; creative spirituality; spiritual reading; spirituality and suffering; finances; time management and more.

If this is something of interest to you, please book the date:

**23 March 2024**

The course will begin with a day of teaching here at our venue involving myself, Douglas Jacoby and Andy Boakye. In an attempt to make the course more affordable, we have changed our pricing structure. Anyone who would like to attend on the day, without taking the rest of the course can do so for £20.

More details will go on the website shortly (<https://aimukandireland.com/>). In the meantime if you'd like more information contact us on:

[courses@aimukandireland.com](mailto:courses@aimukandireland.com)

---

## Watford Media

---

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCj9Qa8D9zumJZdoAtARDUww>

Podcast: <https://www.podbean.com/pu/pbblog-aiinq-raef9o>