

## Thursday Evening 8pm-9.30pm

The Alpha Course is a series of sessions exploring the Christian faith. Each session looks at a different question around faith and is designed to create conversation.

If you would like to know more contact  
Simon Law on 01702 204326  
or email [simon@ashingdonelim.co.uk](mailto:simon@ashingdonelim.co.uk)

Alpha

# Sunday<sup>2</sup>Sunday

@ Ashingdon, Rayleigh & Southend Elim

## YOU DON'T HAVE TO HAVE IT ALL WORKED OUT!

*Just come as you are. Are you tired? Worn out? Burned out on religion? Come to Me. Get away with Me and you'll recover your life. I'll show you how to take a real rest. Walk with Me and work with Me — watch how I do it. Learn the unforced rhythms of grace. I won't lay anything heavy or ill-fitting on you. Keep company with Me and you'll learn to live freely and lightly.* Matthew 11:28-30 (The Message)

All you need to do is come to Him. If you're thinking, I have nothing to give or nothing to offer Jesus right now, that's exactly where He wants you. You don't have to clean yourself up to come to Jesus. You come to Jesus, and He cleans you up.

I don't know what you are going through right now – trials, suffering, heartache, pain. But I do know, whatever it is, it's not too big for God. His grace is sufficient, your heart can be made new. You might feel far from God right now but He is with you.

I heard a story about some friends who went swimming in a river. It was spring, and the glacier runoff had made the river pretty dangerous. Nonetheless one of the guys jumped in, got caught in the current, and was taken to the dangerous part of the rapids. One of his friends on the shore was a lifeguard, and all the other friends looked at him to do something. He just stood there, though, not moving, just staring at his friend. The others began to panic and yell at him and tell him to go save his friend! Still nothing. They looked out into the river and saw their friend struggling desperately.

In an instant, the struggle stopped. He could no longer fight and began to drown. When that happened, the lifeguard jumped in and with a few swift strokes rescued the friend and brought him to shore. With the adrenaline wearing off, the group yelled at the lifeguard, "Why didn't you jump in earlier? He could have died!"

The lifeguard calmly looked at them and said, "I had to wait until he fully gave up. Unless he stopped fighting, he would have dragged me under and drowned me with him. But the minute he gave up, I could save him."

That's what it's like with Jesus. He wants us to surrender, and when we do, He comes and saves us. The waves might be crashing overhead, but in that moment, when it looks like there is no hope, His grace scoops us up and brings us life. When we stop struggling and surrender to God, we know it was Him who did all the saving.

Will you surrender? Jesus has a better plan for your life than you do. He is your Lord and your Saviour. There is hope found here: Jesus knows you, loves you and He is willing and able to rescue you.

Pastor Dean



## 8pm-9pm Monday 9 April 2018 at Ashingdon Elim UNITED HOUR OF PRAYER

An opportunity for all members, regulars and visitors from across our group of churches to meet together and to pray together.

**ARE YOU A TAX PAYER?** Did you know by joining the Gift Aid Scheme, at zero extra cost to you, you can increase your tithe and offerings to the Church by 25%? If you donate via Gift Aid for every £1 you give, the tax man will give us an extra 25p - *But only if you fill in a Gift Aid form!* Ask Brian James, John Spurling or Julie O'Connor for a form.

**CAN WE PRAY FOR YOU?** If you have a prayer request we would be happy to pray for you. Speak to **Andrea James** or email [aj@ashingdonelim.co.uk](mailto:aj@ashingdonelim.co.uk) and your request will be prayed for by the people who participate in the Estuary Elim Prayer Chain.

### YOUR MINISTRY TEAM

|                               |              |                           |
|-------------------------------|--------------|---------------------------|
| David Redbond (Senior Pastor) | 01702 548438 | dave@ashingdonelim.co.uk  |
| Andy Knight (Rayleigh)        | 07747 330068 | andy@rayleighelim.co.uk   |
| Dean Courtier                 | 07886 924099 | dean@estuaryelim.co.uk    |
| Keith Maynard (Chaplaincy)    | 01702 544922 | keith@ashingdonelim.co.uk |
| Paul Aldridge (Southend)      | 01702 322472 | paul@southendelim.co.uk   |
| Simon Law                     | 01702 204326 | simon@ashingdonelim.co.uk |
| Tony Tween                    | 01245 600138 | tony@ashingdonelim.co.uk  |

### VISIT OUR WEBSITE

[www.estuaryelim.church](http://www.estuaryelim.church)

### TWITTER

[www.twitter.com/EstuaryElim](https://twitter.com/EstuaryElim) #EstuaryElim

### FACEBOOK

[www.facebook.com/EstuaryElim](https://www.facebook.com/EstuaryElim)  
[www.facebook.com/AshingdonElim](https://www.facebook.com/AshingdonElim)  
[www.facebook.com/RayleighElim](https://www.facebook.com/RayleighElim)  
[www.facebook.com/SouthendElim](https://www.facebook.com/SouthendElim)  
[www.facebook.com/TwistoffaithEstuaryElim](https://www.facebook.com/TwistoffaithEstuaryElim)

|                                     |   |                |   |
|-------------------------------------|---|----------------|---|
| <b>SUNDAY<br/>18 MARCH</b>          | 10.30am   | Memorial Hall  | Morning Service – Tony Tween                    |
|                                     | 10.30am   | Rayleigh Elim  | Morning Service – Andy Knight                   |
|                                     | 10.30am   | Southend Elim  | Morning Service – Paul Aldridge                 |
|                                     | 11.00am   | Ashingdon Elim | Ekids (4-11) – Samantha Murphy / Jean Guiver    |
|                                     | 11.00am   | Memorial Hall  | Impact! Bible Class (12-16) – Simon Law         |
|                                     | 11.00am   | Rayleigh Elim  | Junior Church – Diane Spurling                  |
|                                     | 6.30pm  | Ashingdon Elim | Encouragement Night – Dean Courtier             |
| <b>MONDAY<br/>19 MARCH</b>          | 10.00am   | Meet & Mix     | Maureen's Meanderers – Maureen Redbond          |
|                                     | 1.30pm  | Rayleigh Elim  | Games Club – Diane Spurling / Wally King        |
|                                     | 7.00pm  | Rayleigh Elim  | Prayer Meeting – John & Diane Spurling          |
| <b>TUESDAY<br/>20 MARCH</b>         | 7.30pm  | Meet & Mix     | Dave & Maureen's Meet & Mix Group               |
| <b>WEDNESDAY<br/>21 MARCH</b>       | 1.30pm  | Ashingdon Elim | Afternoon Bible Study – Anne O'Brien            |
|                                     | 7.00pm  | Rayleigh Elim  | Art & Craft Club – Anne O'Brien                 |
|                                     | 8.00pm  | Ashingdon Elim | Music Team Practice – Simon Law                 |
| <b>THURSDAY<br/>22 MARCH</b>        | 7.30pm  | Meet & Mix     | Exploring Bible Themes – Keith & Daphne's       |
|                                     | 8.00pm  | Meet & Mix     | <b>The Alpha Course (Session 6) – Simon Law</b> |
| <b>FRIDAY<br/>23 MARCH</b>          | 7.30pm  | Ashingdon Elim | 4 Real Youth – Alison Iley                      |
| <b>SATURDAY<br/>24 MARCH</b>        | <b>The UK swaps to British Summer Time on Sunday, March 25 at 1am, remember to put your clock forward an hour tonight before you go to sleep!</b> |                |   |
| <b>PALM<br/>SUNDAY<br/>25 MARCH</b> | 10.30am   | Memorial Hall  | Morning Service – Dave Redbond                  |
|                                     | 10.30am   | Rayleigh Elim  | Morning Service – Tony Tween                    |
|                                     | 10.30am   | Southend Elim  | Morning Service – Simon Law                     |
|                                     | 11.00am   | Ashingdon Elim | Ekids (4-11) – Maddy Amey / Marilene Vobeto     |
|                                     | 11.00am   | Memorial Hall  | Impact! Bible Class (12-16) – Dean Courtier     |
|                                     | 11.00am   | Rayleigh Elim  | Junior Church – Diane Spurling                  |
|                                     | 6.30pm  | Ashingdon Elim | Guest Speaker Night – Dave Evans (Harlow Elim)  |
| <b>MONDAY<br/>26 MARCH</b>          | 10.00am   | Meet & Mix     | Maureen's Meanderers – Maureen Redbond          |
|                                     | 1.30pm  | Rayleigh Elim  | Games Club – Diane Spurling / Wally King        |
|                                     | 7.00pm  | Rayleigh Elim  | Prayer Meeting – John & Diane Spurling          |
|                                     | 8.00pm  | Meet & Mix     | Estuary Elim Men's Night Out – Dave Redbond     |
| <b>TUESDAY<br/>27 MARCH</b>         | 7.30pm  | Meet & Mix     | Dave & Maureen's Meet & Mix Group               |
|                                     | 7.30pm  | Rayleigh Elim  | 20:20 Bible Study – Dean Courtier               |
| <b>WEDNESDAY<br/>28 MARCH</b>       | 1.30pm  | Ashingdon Elim | Afternoon Bible Study – Anne O'Brien            |
|                                     | 7.00pm  | Rayleigh Elim  | Art & Craft Club – Anne O'Brien                 |

|                                      |         |                 |   |
|--------------------------------------|---------|-----------------|---|
| <b>MAUNDY THURSDAY<br/>29 MARCH</b>  | 7.30pm  | Southend Elim   | Maundy Thursday Communion – Andy Knight   |
| <b>GOOD FRIDAY<br/>30 MARCH</b>      | 10.30am | Rayleigh Elim   | Good Friday Service – Rev David Campbell  |
| <b>EASTER<br/>SUNDAY<br/>1 APRIL</b> | 10.30am | Memorial Hall   | Estuary Elim Group Easter Celebration Service with Guest Speaker Rev David Campbell |
|                                      | N/A     | Rayleigh Elim   | United service at Ashingdon Memorial Hall   |
|                                      | N/A     | Southend Elim   | United service at Ashingdon Memorial Hall   |
|                                      | 11.00am | Ashingdon Elim  | Ekids (4-11) – Samantha Murphy / Andrea James                                       |
|                                      | 3.00pm  | St. Lukes Place | Afternoon Service – Keith Maynard   |
|                                      | 6.30pm  | Ashingdon Elim  | Easter Celebration Service with Guest Speaker Rev David Campbell                    |
| <b>MONDAY<br/>2 APRIL</b>            | 10.00am | Meet & Mix      | Maureen's Meanderers – Maureen Redbond  |
| <b>TUESDAY<br/>3 APRIL</b>           | 7.30pm  | Meet & Mix      | Dave & Maureen's Meet & Mix Group   |
| <b>WEDNESDAY<br/>4 APRIL</b>         | 12.00pm | Memorial Hall   | Lunch Bunch – Kevin Holmes  |
|                                      | 1.30pm  | Ashingdon Elim  | Afternoon Bible Study – Anne O'Brien  |
|                                      | 7.00pm  | Rayleigh Elim   | Art & Craft Club – Anne O'Brien   |
| <b>THURSDAY<br/>5 APRIL</b>          | 7.30pm  | Meet & Mix      | Exploring Bible Themes – Keith & Daphne's   |
| <b>FRIDAY<br/>6 APRIL</b>            | 7.30pm  | Rayleigh Elim   | Coffee & Lite Bites   |
| <b>SUNDAY<br/>8 APRIL</b>            | 10.30am | Ashingdon Elim  | Family Service – Simon Law  |
|                                      | 10.30am | Rayleigh Elim   | Morning Service – Andy Knight   |
|                                      | 10.30am | Southend Elim   | Encounter Service – Paul Aldridge   |
|                                      | 11.00am | Rayleigh Elim   | Junior Church – Gleisi Knight   |
|                                      | 6.30pm  | Ashingdon Elim  | Evening Service – Keith Maynard   |
|                                      |         | 10.00am         | Meet & Mix  |
| <b>MONDAY<br/>9 APRIL</b>            | 1.30pm  | Rayleigh Elim   | Games Club – Diane Spurling / Wally King  |
|                                      | 8.00pm  | Ashingdon Elim  | <b>Estuary Elim Group United Hour of Prayer</b>                                     |
|                                      | 9.00pm  | Ashingdon Elim  | Estuary Elim Group Board Meeting  |
| <b>TUESDAY<br/>10 APRIL</b>          | 7.30pm  | Meet & Mix      | Dave & Maureen's Meet & Mix Group   |
|                                      | 7.30pm  | Rayleigh Elim   | 20:20 Bible Study – Dean Courtier   |
| <b>WEDNESDAY<br/>11 APRIL</b>        | 1.30pm  | Ashingdon Elim  | Afternoon Bible Study – Anne O'Brien  |
|                                      | 7.00pm  | Rayleigh Elim   | Art & Craft Club – Anne O'Brien   |

Most of our sermons are recorded & available online at [www.estuaryelim.church/podcast.htm](http://www.estuaryelim.church/podcast.htm)