

1) If you listen to God's words...

(1-4)

1) Palmers on the move!

As announced last Sunday, Andy Palmer has been appointed Senior Minister at Christ Church, Balham, which means that the Palmers will be leaving us in the next few months although the precise details are yet to be sorted. We will have a proper chance to say goodbye but, meanwhile, do be praying for them, for Christ Church Balham, and for St John's as we all make adjustments and new starts in the coming months.

2) New Baby Congratulations

Congratulations to Christine and Calum Gruer on the birth of Annabel Grace, born Friday 12th January, weighing in at a cuddly 8lb13! Mother and baby are doing well!

3) Lunar New Year Dinner (Saturday, 17th February, 5:30 to 8:00pm)

COME for a fun, food-filled, family friendly celebration to see in the year of the dog. INVITE your friends, colleagues and neighbours (invitations available at the back of church) HELP us before, during and after. Email Lydia (leelydia@hotmail.com) if you can help at all.

2) You will know how to live wisely...

(5-11)

4) Life Explored

We are planning to run 'Life Explored' over three weeks beginning on 19th February. Venue tbc but we will meet at 7:30pm for a meal followed by a short film and discussion. If you (or a friend) are interested in finding out more, please email Andy Palmer (andy@sjdh.org) or visit our website at: www.sjdh.org for more details.

3) And you will be kept from falling away

(12-22)

For further discussion

- What distracts in you in your life?
- How does the listening in v1-4 compare with the way we often read the Bible? How much does distraction affect that?
- In what sense is it true that God always protects those who trust him (v6-8)? What would you say to someone who is experiencing suffering or hardship as a Christian?
- Why does wisdom need to enter our hearts (v9-11)? Why is this promise such good news?
- It is the words of the wicked men and the adulteress that initially attract the foolish (v12, 16). What kind of things might be said by their kind today? What kind of promises would they make?
- What is the link between the covenant breaking of the adulteress in v17 and the cutting off from the land in v22? How does this help us understand why the Bible's view of sex and relationships is not arbitrary but points to the heart of the gospel?
- According to this chapter, what is the best remedy for temptation? How can that help us when we are tempted?