

PREACHER'S PATCH



'OBSTRUCTIONS'

As I took a walk one day, I observed a sign which informed people of forthcoming 'road resurfacing' which was to be carried out. The dates were notified, so cars could be off-road in preparation. A few weeks later, the large machinery and work-force arrived. As work commenced another notice was put up reading – 'TEMPORARILY OBSTRUCTED.'

This made me think of those times and incidents in life when our plans have to be halted or cancelled, when circumstances block our dreams, and other demands get in the way of us completing everyday tasks.

Life is full of obstructions and disruptions. For most of these – we can find a 'plan b or c' – which will enable us to find a way through changing or difficult situations. Time and time again in the Bible, we can read about how 'nothing can thwart God's plan for our lives' – when we look to Him and seek His way.

Some disruptions in life we can do nothing about. When we cannot change the circumstances – God will enable and strengthen us to 'change our attitude' towards the problem, which brings us peace and perspective as we trust Him with the final outcome. The prophet Isaiah said, *"For the LORD Almighty has purposed, and who can thwart Him? His hand is stretched out, and who can turn it back?"* (Isaiah 14:27)

At times, obstructions may come our way because we have not acknowledged God or we have disobeyed His word to us. However; God is faithful, and in His love and mercy – He can redirect us on another route to accomplish His will in our lives.

After Job had experienced all his suffering and trials – in the last chapter of the book he responds to the Lord by saying, *"I know that You can do all things; no plan of yours can be thwarted."* (Job 42:2) If you face an obstruction in your schedule this week or a disruption to your plans – remember that *"God can make a way in the desert and streams in the wasteland."* (See Isaiah 43:19b).

Jim Collins

THIMAR, LEBANON
The Syrian Refugee Crisis

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Refresh



LADIES DAY

APRIL 26 • 10.00-15.00

A day of teaching, ministry, friendship, crafts and of course delicious food! All for £15 per head.

For more information contact Louise on 07958-570624. Register at paigntonbaptistchurch.org.uk



Paignton Baptist Church
Winner Street
Paignton
TQ3 3LN



ABIDE

KNOW YOUR BIBLE

SATURDAY 14TH JUNE 2025 10.30AM-3.00PM

ST MARY MAGDALENE CHURCH, TORQUAY. TQ1 4BX

£10 TO INCLUDE REFRESHMENTS

An event for women. Join us and chill out in God's presence as Rev. Emily Twigg leads us through God's Word.



Emily is a Baptist Minister, currently serving as the pastor of Totnes United Free Church. Initially God called Emily to youth ministry, but over recent years this has broadened to include all ages. Emily loves using creative ways to share the Gospel and is most at home with God when by the sea.

To book, or for further details please email
kybtorquay@gmail.com or tel Mary on 01803 329526

As well as teaching from Emily there will be opportunity for quiet reflection, craft, meeting others, prayer and relaxing together. Please bring a packed lunch.



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transforming women's lives
through the power of God's Word

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