
Rutherford House

NEWSLETTER

AUTUMN 2006



'The Person
of Christ'

12th

Edinburgh

Dogmatics

Conference

Please make a note

in your diary

27-30 August 2007

Free Church College,

Edinburgh

Letter from the Director

Dear Friends

Often people ask me what my job is and I thought it would be useful to set out the main things that I do. I also thought it would be helpful to do so in terms of what was specified in the job description I was sent when I was exploring the possibility of working here. Some of these have been modified in the light of circumstances and developments but the basic elements remain the same.

The first requirement was the encouragement and support of ministers, also students, elders and other church leaders. This I have tried to do in three ways: (i) As in all ministry, there are one to one meetings, telephone conversations and email contacts. That is strictly confidential and no more need or can be said about that. (ii) The main way is in helping and

encouraging people in the fundamental task of preaching. One way of doing this is in preaching classes and workshops. Recently such sessions have been held in Skye, Plains, Broughty Ferry and here in Rutherford House. These are never simply teaching occasions but are times of sharing and encouraging. Every week I spend a day at Cornhill Scotland in Glasgow and this is another example of encouraging students to study and teach the Bible. Related to these are other speaking engagements: I was the main speaker at The Scottish UF Church Conference in Dunblane and will be spending a day with East Belfast Presbytery. I have taken part in Charlotte Chapel's training programme for young leaders. All of this requires study time and a lot of travelling. Let me emphasise

again that I am very willing to do such sessions anywhere so if I can help, please be in touch. I also spoke at Lancaster CU and will be the main speaker at St Andrews CU House Party in December. Next summer I shall be giving five lectures at the International Fellowship of Evangelical Students Conference in Austria. The evening classes are also designed to help people to read and communicate the Bible. The recent SMA is the flagship event and was a significant and profitable time. Preaching remains at the heart of my ministry and this is also part of encouraging ministers. I preach often at Holyrood Abbey and St George's-Tron and in recent months have also preached at Kirkcaldy, Stevenston, Greenview Evangelical Church, Glasgow, St Thomas Episcopal Church, Edinburgh and St