

# 24-7 PRAYER WEEK 19-26 July 2020

## Friday to Saturday

### ❖ FRIDAY EVENING SESSION:

- **To walk humbly...**

Pray for those in authority

-World leaders & governments – to put the needs of the many over the needs of the few

- Environmental leaders
- World Health Organisation
- International Monetary Fund

Place Christians into these areas of influence for God's light to shine through!

Pray for those who need a voice globally

- Black lives matter
- Discrimination of all kinds
- Slave trades
- Oppression in communist countries

Amos 5 v 24: But let justice roll on like a river, righteousness like a never-failing stream!

- **To love mercy...**

Pray for those globally who need mercy at this time

- Famine
- Natural disasters
- Those affected by Covid, especially the poor
- War
- Terrorism
- Persecution

Our God is a God of miracles – Praise Him for what He is going to do!

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### ❖ SATURDAY MORNING SESSION:

We listened to 'Simplicity' by Rend Collective and reflected on a simple but powerful painting of the three crosses on a deep red hill with bright light shining from behind the main cross.

- Prayers of gratitude to God and the sacrifice Jesus made. \*\* 'You laid aside your majesty...I really want to worship you my Lord, you have won my heart and I am yours'. \*\* 'Love so amazing, so divine, demands my soul, my life, my all'
- Martin Luther saw the cross as a candle which gives enough light for the next step. Called to walk with the candle of light and hope, trusting in Christ. Cross is the centre of hope and trust.
- Isaiah 1v18 'Though your sins are like scarlet...' – cleansing work of the cross

- Prayer for those living in the darkness
- Victory in Jesus – ‘no weapon forged against you will prevail’ – Is 54v17
- Psalm 119v169-176 (The Message). Face the future with realism but hope – Jesus is greater than our difficulties.
- 2 Kings 6v15-17 Open our eyes to see beyond the enemies which surround us and the people, to see the heavenly armies who will fight for us.
- Psalm 119v105 ‘Your Word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path’
- The Lord has put up boundaries to protect us
- Listened to the hymn ‘Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine...This is my story, this is my song, Praising my Saviour all the day long’
- God just *shows* us what is just and right, not *demand*s. *This* is what I give you – justice and mercy at the cross

❖ SATURDAY LUNCHTIME SESSION:

Began with James 4:7 & 10 and a reminder of our key verse Micah 6:8

Tommy introduced us to a hymn written by George Mattheson who was blinded at the age of 20. He wrote this hymn, “O love that will not let me go,” in the pit of loneliness. After a time of silence Tommy read Ps 27:4 and then Ps 145. We then spent time praying prayers of praise using the words of Psalm 145 to shape our prayers. A number of threads came out of this time:

- God’s unceasing faithfulness
  - V18 - God is near to all who call on Him
  - God’s kindness and generosity; help us to be generous and compassionate ourselves.
  - Praise for an increasing emphasis on prayer, and establishing rhythms of prayer.
- Prayer for a culture where we can’t help BUT pray....

Listened to “I surrender”

- Prayed for us to grasp the opportunities that Covid has opened up.
- Prayed for UV leadership
- Phil 4:4-7
- Prayer for unity across the churches in the Bay and not duplication.

❖ The passage we received during prayer for our church was Exodus 23: “the laws of justice and mercy.

We felt there is more for us to do in the town, even at practical and political levels.

Our geographic location lends itself to be more active and present.

At a personal level, we recognise that humility is a journey we still travel.

Many thanks for organising this week of prayer.

God bless you all. - **Valérie and Shaun**

❖ I had an image during my time of prayer. I'm finding it difficult to put into words . . .

The image was of pancakes which are nice and are enjoyed by many people. I then had the image of the same batter being used, but after being cooked differently at a high heat it produced massive Yorkshire puddings with a wow factor.

I felt was God saying that we had something really good at Upton Vale before coronavirus. However even though we are the same people the impact of the disruption to our normal lives by coronavirus has changed us and the way we now need to do things. This is going to make us look different. Although we are the same people others will see an Upton Vale differently ... with a wow factor. - **M**