

PRAYER DIARY

February 2010

***“Joyful are people of integrity,
who follow the instructions
of the Lord.”***

Psalm 119:1 (NLT)

This month we're going to be taking verses from the longest chapter in the Bible – Psalm 119 – as the basis of our prayers for ourselves, our church, the community around us and world-wide issues. This Psalm is all about meditating on God's Word and living His way. The comments are designed as suggestions – ask the Holy Spirit to guide and direct you as you pray and that God's purposes will prevail.

You'll also see there is a letter against some of the days – this is to indicate the surnames of the people in the church that it would be good to pray for.

Unless indicated Bible references are taken from New International Version – UK

Seeking God & Trusting His Word

1 February – Monday

A

"Blessed are they whose ways are blameless, who walk according to the law of the LORD" – Psalm

119:1. This is the NIVUK version of the verse on the front cover. Notice how it fits in with our Sunday morning teaching theme on The Beatitudes. Ask God for His help to live in integrity as this working week starts

2 February – Tuesday

Ba-Bi

"You bless all of those who follow your commands from deep in their hearts and who never do wrong or turn from you" – Psalm 119:2-3 (CEV). It follows that if we obey God's Word we'll receive God's blessing

on our lives. Pray for God's strength as you seek to follow Him today

3 February – Wednesday

Bi-Bu

"I seek you with all my heart; do not let me stray from your commands. I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you" – Psalm 119:10-11. What one verse from the Bible is a "life verse" for

you? It may be a promise that you claim or a motivation statement. Pray it over your life today.

4 February – Thursday

C

"Open my eyes to see the wonderful truths in your instructions" – Psalm 119:18 (NLT). As you read the

Bible today, ask the Holy Spirit to show you something new that you can claim for yourself and for the ability to live it out effectively

5 February – Friday

D

"Your promises have been thoroughly tested; that is why I love them so much" – Psalm 119:140 (NLT). We don't

have "blind faith" – we believe because God has revealed Himself to us and proved Himself. Thank Him today for something that has happened in your life where you have seen His power in action. It's good to remember these events and thank Him for His loving kindness to us

6 February – Saturday

E/F

"I have sought your face with all my heart; be gracious to me according to your promise" – Psalm 119:58. Here's

a challenge for today – how much time am I prepared to invest in finding out about God's ways? Whatever time you normally spend seeking God add an extra 15 minutes to it and specifically ask for the Holy Spirit's inspiration and guidance during that time. Write down what you hear so you can refer to it at a later date

7 February – Sunday

G

"Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path" – Psalm 119:108. One of the most famous

verses in the Bible which we can all claim as both a promise and a reality. Thank God that He reveals His purposes to us through the Bible and through our experience. Pray that as we meet together today He will reveal even more to all of us – old and young alike

Resting in God's salvation and provision

8 February – Monday

H

"May your unfailing love come to me, O LORD, your salvation according to your promise" – Psalm

119:41. What God promises, He fulfils. He has promised us salvation so thank and praise Him for all He has done!

9 February – Tuesday

J/K

"Remember your word to your servant, for you have given me hope" – Psalm 119: 49. We have an

eternal hope (see Titus 1:2 & 3:7). This is our inheritance so it's worth thanking Jesus again for His love to us

10 February – Wednesday

L

"Your faithfulness extends to every generation, as enduring as the earth you created" – Psalm 119:91 (NLT). Generations come and go but God's faithfulness reaches across them. Thank Jesus that His mercy and grace know no ends and trust Him that He is able to save completely because He intercedes on our behalf (Hebrews 7:25)

11 February – Thursday

M

"You are my refuge and my shield; I have put my hope in your word" – Psalm 119:114. Whatever comes of way today, we know we can rely on God's protection. Commit this day to Him; ask the Holy Spirit to lead and guide you and expect to be a blessing to everyone you meet

12 February – Friday

N/P

"Turn to me and have mercy on me, as you always do to those who love your name" – Psalm 119:132. We need to thank God daily for our salvation – not because He needs it but because we need to remember and rejoice in our salvation. Take some time today to acknowledge and confess any sin and be thankful for His forgiveness

13 February – Saturday

R

"Let me live that I may praise you" – Psalm 119:175a. Worshipping and loving God is our greatest privilege and needs to be the primary focus of our lives. And because it will be for the rest of eternity we might as well get some practice in today! Think of at least one thing you can praise God for that's happened to you this week

14 February – Sunday

"I choose as my friends everyone who worships you and follows your teachings." – Psalm 119:63 (CEV). Each Sunday we choose to meet with others who love God and want to follow Him. Today as we meet in Jesus name pray that we will all hear God's Word to us – our children, young people and adults. Pray for Jon Turner and the Saltmine Drama Team, sharing with us on Valentine's Day, and for those leading Refresh tonight

Trusting when times are hard

15 February – Monday

Sa-Se

"Great peace have they who love your law, and nothing can make them stumble" – Psalm 119:165. If you have been finding life tough take great heart from this promise. We can experience God's peace when we trust Him and His word and as we do we'll neither stumble or fall (Isaiah 40:30)

16 February – Tuesday

Sh-Sw

"Remember what you said to me, your servant—I hang on to these words for dear life! These words hold me up in bad times; yes, your promises rejuvenate me." – Psalm 119:49-50 (The Message). We all have times of uncertainty, doubt and difficulty where we need to cling on. What are the promises you can recall that God has given you in times of trouble? Claim them today!

17 February – Wednesday

T

"My soul is weary with sorrow; strengthen me according to your word" – Psalm 119:28. Today is Ash Wednesday – the start of the beginning of Lent. In Matthew 26:38 Jesus said, ***"My soul is overwhelmed with sorrow to the point of death."*** He even experienced the pain of separation from God on the Cross. As we begin the period of preparation in the lead-up to Easter let's thank Him for His willingness to do all this for us

18 February – Thursday

V-Wh

"May your hand be ready to help me, for I have chosen your precepts" – Psalm 119:173. Disappointments, sorrow, bereavement, unfulfilled hopes and dreams can all bring us down. Pray for anyone you know today (including yourself) who may be going through adversity. Ask God's blessing on them and for a renewed sense of hope for the future

19 February – Friday

Wi-Wo

"Hear my cry to you, Lord. Let your word help me understand. Listen to my prayer; save me as you promised" – Psalm 119:169-170. God longs to help us – but we have to ask Him. That's one of the reasons for prayer. Although God already knows our needs He desires relationship with us so speak to Him today about any concerns you may have for yourself or others you know

20 February – Saturday

"Look upon my suffering and deliver me, for I have not forgotten your law. Defend my cause and redeem me; preserve my life according to your promise" – Psalm 119:153-154. Today our focus is on those who are suffering around the world. Natural disasters, such as Haiti, and man-made catastrophes, poverty, persecution, political oppression, etc. all bring suffering. Every day there is something in the news that needs our prayer and possibly our intervention. Ask God to show you today something you can pray about and continue to pray for

21 February – Sunday

"Direct my footsteps according to your word; let no sin rule over me" – Psalm 119:133. We meet today to share communion together – a corporate experience but one which has at its heart an intensely personal application. Communion reminds us of our need of a personal Saviour to save us from our sin. Ask that God will create in us all a clean, pure heart and that He will guide our lives in line with His word to us

Growing in wisdom and understanding

22 February – Monday

"How can a young person stay pure? By obeying your word" – Psalm 119:9. Pray today for our children and young people. Yesterday at they would have heard more about Jesus' love for them – pray that each one would receive Him as their personal Saviour and would go on to become true followers of Him all their lives

23 February – Tuesday

"The unfolding of your words gives light; it gives understanding to the simple" – Psalm 119:130. Simple in this context doesn't mean stupid! Rather it means those who are open to God, willing to be instructed, ready to learn. Ask the Holy Spirit to give you a teachable heart and an eagerness to hear and obey

24 February – Wednesday

"God, teach me lessons for living so I can stay the course. Give me insight so I can do what you tell me – my whole life one long, obedient response" – Psalm 119:33-34 (The Message). Proverbs 3:5 advises that we should not ***"lean on our own understanding"*** but rather to ***"trust the Lord"***. It's good advice – we need God's wisdom, insight, discernment to live so ask for it today

25 February – Thursday

"Turn my heart towards your statutes and not towards selfish gain. Turn my eyes away from worthless things; preserve my life according to your word" – Psalm 119:36-37. It's all too easy to be sidetracked from God's purposes and to live for ourselves rather than His glory. Ask for the strength to focus on His ways and purposes

26 February – Friday

"Teach me knowledge and good judgment, for I believe in your commands" – Psalm 119:66. Proverbs 1:7 says that the fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom. Wisdom involves understanding situations and making sound decisions. Ask that the Holy Spirit will give wisdom to those we support in Mission & Evangelism – John & Jenny Home and the Willowdene Team; Thompson & Glenda Nwosu; Patrick & Deb Bryan; Ian & Elaine Campbell and BU Home Mission and especially for Maarten & Elodie Fontein as they consider their future

27 February – Saturday

"May your unfailing love be my comfort, according to your promise to your servant. Let your compassion come to me that I may live, for your law is my delight" – Psalm 119:76-77. The first line of Chris Tomlin's song, *"Unfailing Love"* says, *"You have my heart and I am yours forever"*. Make this your prayer today; ask God to give you compassion and grace that you might live the abundant life you have been promised in Christ

28 February – Sunday

"You created me and put me together. Make me wise enough to learn what you have commanded" – Psalm 119:73 (CEV). Whilst each of us is different it is possible to come together and spiritually hear what God is saying to us. Pray that in our Morning Service we will learn, grow deeper and stronger and that as Church Members meet tonight they will make wise decisions for the future direction and strategy for this church