

Weekly Prayers, News and Thoughts

Wednesday Community Days

- Whilst we are constantly aware of the dangers of Covid we are now open both inside and out in the garden. Lunch is available from 11:30am to eat in or take away.
- Volunteers to help are welcome as are gardeners too.

Church Services

- We are holding fortnightly services in church and continue to use online services in the intervening weeks.
- Next services are:
19th Sep..... YouTube Service.
26th Sep..... Harvest Festival Service followed by Lunch - Preacher: Tony Taylor.
3rd Oct..... YouTube Service.
- In-church services will need a mask - sanitiser will be available and we will be socially distancing.

Bible Study

- Next meeting is:
Tuesday 21st September.

Sharing God's Comfort

- If you know of anyone you feel would benefit from our online offerings please feel free to share our website at www.bishopbaptists.co.uk with others so they too can enjoy our weekly online service (also available on our YouTube Channel), newsletters, blog and other items of prayer and interest.

Prayers

Please keep in your prayers all local churches and remember those still suffering from the virus plus those whose finances are compromised.

Please continue to pray for:

- All in Bishop Auckland Hospital including Rev David Etherington, Hospital Chaplain.
- Berkeley Grove, Lumley Grove, Durham Street, Carlisle Grove, Barnard Avenue, Newlands Avenue, Walmer Terrace, Tivoli Street.

Please give thanks for:

- The organisations and people who contribute food, clothing, and books for us to distribute to others including FareShare (via Asda), Feeding Families, The Auckland Project, Local Donations.

NBA Prayers

We are asked to pray this week for: **Marske Community Church**

Thanksgiving

- 1st birthday celebration on 29th August 2021.
- For the welcome we have received from Marske Methodist Church, where we now meet.
- For those involved in leading the church.
- For the Baptist Insurance grant which has helped enormously with our starting up costs.

Prayers

- For the 7,000 invitations going out in the next week or so, that there will be those who come to join us.
- For the Alpha course starting on 22nd September 2021.
- For the continuing development of a website for the church.
- For those in the fellowship suffering from cancer.

(Mike Cross -NBA Prayer Requests Co-ordinator)

Save The Dates

- Sat 2nd Oct 2021Rev Hayley Young Induction (3:00pm)
- Sun 14th Nov 2021Remembrance Sunday
- Sun 3rd July 2022BABC 150th Anniversary (All Day)

The Baptist Missionary Society Birthday Scheme

The BMS Birthday Scheme supports medical work and health ministries across the world.

In the unlikely event of raising excess funds, any additional gifts will be used to support other areas of urgent need such as development projects that promote positive health by providing clean drinking water and alleviating hunger.

This is How it Works:

- 1) A Birthday Scheme is set up in individual churches, and it is looked after by a volunteer appointed by your church to be your church's Scheme Secretary.
- 2) If you are willing, then your Scheme Secretary will send you a Birthday Card, supplied by the BMS, to you on your Birthday, along with News Bulletin and a Gift Envelope in the card.
- 3) You make a gift, using the envelope (or online) and the Secretary sends the gift envelope on to the BMS.

Every year, Birthday Scheme members donate over £250,000!

These gifts are having a huge impact saving and transforming lives in countries across the world.

Some examples:

- Your birthday can help medics in Chad keep vulnerable mothers and babies safe in childbirth.
- It can support children with disabilities in Thailand, providing them with a loving home in a society which often rejects them.
- And it can help struggling people in Uganda access speech therapy, giving them the opportunity to communicate with the world around them.

If you would like to support the scheme then our Birthday Scheme Secretary is Pam, who would be delighted to add you to the scheme. Have a chat with her! (If you pay tax then BMS World Mission can claim back the tax on your gift via Gift Aid).

Thoughts For Students

Don't lose sight of your goals

Psalm 112:8 NKJV: *'His heart is established; he will not be afraid.'*

To achieve success in life there are three obstacles you'll have to be aware of and overcome:

1. Weariness

Racehorses run at approximately the same speed; sometimes the difference between winning and losing the race comes down to their 'heart' to win. So, look into your heart today and see if you are truly committed.

'Do not cast away your confidence, which has great reward. For you have need of endurance, so that after you have done the will of God, you may receive the promise' (Hebrews 10:35-36 NKJV).

2. Fear

When it comes to commitment, there are four kinds of people.

- a) "Cop-outs": people who have no goals and who don't commit.
- b) "Hold-outs": people who don't know if they can reach their goals so they're afraid to commit.
- c) "Drop-outs": people who start towards a goal but give up when the going gets tough.
- d) "All-outs": people who set goals, commit to them, and pay the price to reach them.

Which one of the four are you? Fear and faith will always be present in your life, and the one you choose will determine whether you succeed or fail.

3. Complacency

Successful businessman Ray Kroc said, 'As long as you're green, you're growing. As soon as you're ripe, you start to rot.' If you're wise, you'll take regular rest periods to refresh, renew, and refocus. But you must not settle for yesterday's successes, or coast on today's momentum.

Be like Paul: 'I focus on this one thing: Forgetting the past and looking forward to what lies ahead, I press on to reach the end of the race' (Philippians 3:13-14 NLT).

(Bob and Debby Gass - UCB WORD FOR TODAY, 12/09/2021)

Proverbs 9:10-12 - *"The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, and knowledge of the Holy One is understanding. For through wisdom your days will be many, and years will be added to your life. If you are wise, your wisdom will reward you; if you are a mocker, you alone will suffer."*

Motivational Bible verses for students, and in fact for any young person, are spread throughout the book of Proverbs, but these in Proverbs 9 ring especially true and are worth remembering.

In the pursuit of knowledge, a student cannot overlook the importance of wisdom. But before we can ever claim to be wise, we have to acknowledge the One who is the author of wisdom. The wisest thing you can ever do is to recognize that:

1. There is a God	2. You are not Him
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This simple thought will bring relief to stress, douse your pride with humility, and force you to prioritize the things that matter over those that do not.

Living this way may not guarantee you a long life, but it is the life most worth living.

Many other bible verses guide our behaviour, and they can benefit everyone who tries to follow them.

Philippians 4:8- 9 - *"Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable- if anything is excellent or praiseworthy- think about such things. Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me or seen in me- put it into practice. And the God of peace will be with you."*

When you are of school age, or moving on to university/college, the people around you are often talking about and doing inappropriate things, being unkind to others, or engaging in behaviour that is not recommended.

Sadly, this can also be the case for grownups. Instead of doing what is acceptable to the world, we should be doing those things which are called good by our Heavenly Father. Focus on that which meets the criteria found in Philippians verse 8, but that's only part of the command.

We are also to meant to live out these teachings and impact those around us for the gospel.

Best wishes to all of you who are moving on to a new season in your life.

May the Lord bless you and keep you safe.

Closing Prayer

May God the Father prepare your journey,
Jesus the Son guide your footsteps,
The Spirit of Life strengthen your body,
The Three in One watch over you, on every road that you may follow.
Amen

Online Prayer

- Bishop Auckland Baptist Church Service
<https://www.bishopbaptists.co.uk/babc-sunday-service/>
- Northern Baptist Association Service
<https://www.bishopbaptists.co.uk/nba-sunday-service/>
- Influence Church Service (Services streamed Sundays at 11.00am and 5.00pm)
<http://www.influencechurch.co.uk>

Helpful Links

- **BABC Sunday Service** <https://www.bishopbaptists.co.uk/babc-sunday-service/>
- **BABC Newsletter** <https://www.bishopbaptists.co.uk/newsletter/>
- **BABC Garden Blog** <https://www.bishopbaptists.co.uk/church-garden-blog/>
- **NBA Sunday Service** <https://www.bishopbaptists.co.uk/nba-sunday-service/>
- **BABC Main Website** www.bishopbaptists.co.uk

Please feel free to explore the website and subscribe to [our YouTube channel](#) and those of our contributors to encourage them to continue to provide the valuable content from which we all benefit.