



Church in September 2020

A CHALLENGE FOR SEPTEMBER- PRAY THE PROVERBS

We live in a day where wisdom is greatly needed, but not often pursued. The Book of Proverbs is filled with God's wisdom. The 900 proverbs cover most of life's situations. Learning from Proverbs and praying through this incredible book leads to wisdom and the opportunity to have our characters moulded by God. God's wisdom and knowledge keeps us stable and secure with a heart at rest. He is our shield and the guard on our path.

Biblical wisdom is what is best for our character and is based on the character of God. Wisdom is actually practicing God's presence in every area of life. Proverbs is a practical book that deals with the art of living and is based on the fear of the Lord, reverence of God being the path to life and security. It describes life as it really is in all aspects, It tells us how to live wisely in the situations we face by showing contrasts such as wisdom and folly, pride and humility, love and lust, work and leisure, wealth and poverty, and life and death.

Proverbs is an amazing book that gives an appropriate word that fits the situation as it is written as a general observation on life. It's easy to remember what's written within because the proverbs are poetic with a unique rhythm of thought, containing parallelism where one line relates to the other and where the first line is repeated, contrasted, or advanced in the second. The entire book being presented as a father's advice to a beloved child.

It's wise to pray through the Book of Proverbs. When we bring Proverbs to God in prayer, he changes our character in the process and shows us how to really live. He instils his wisdom into our hearts and helps us in our practical life decisions and choices. We learn the art of living wisely day-by-day and hour-by-hour as we walk in God's ways and obey His commands more fully.

- ***Take a chapter a day and begin by asking God for wisdom and guidance as you read and pray***
- ***Read the chapter slowly and take time to quietly meditate on it.***
- ***Write down any insights God gives you regarding those verses.***
- ***Write a short "Prayer for Wisdom", thanking God for what you have learned from the chapter, ask for his help to live with wisdom in response.***
- ***Read the chapter once more.***

***Let love and faithfulness never leave you;
bind them around your neck,
write them on the tablet of your heart.
Then you will win favour and a good name
in the sight of God and man.
Trust in the Lord with all your heart
and lean not on your own understanding;
in all your ways submit to him,
and he will make your paths straight.***

Proverbs ch3 v3-6

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHURCH IN SEPTEMBER

At Cregagh we want to create an environment that is both welcoming and safe. While we would actively encourage you to come back to worship, believing it safe to do so with the measures we have taken, we also want to say that no one should come to services if they have any symptoms.

As we continue to move forward towards something more like normal it is imperative that we do so by insuring that ***all actions must be in line with current guidelines and restrictions***. With no changes to PCI guidelines regarding 2m social distance the same arrangements for services that are currently in place will continue for the month of September, continuing to provide a ***service at 10am and 12noon, accommodating up to 60 people*** on each occasion. Doors will be opened at 9:30am and 11:30am so that folk can be guided and seated. ***The wearing of face coverings, while still not mandatory, has now been formally advised and strongly encouraged by PCI.***

Members are still being asked to register, due to 'contact tracing', by contacting Michael on email: michaelgraham112@gmail.com or phone: 07548635075, indicating which Sunday(s), how many are 'in their bubble' and attending with them, as well as which time slot(s). As before those who have registered will be asked to inform Michael if for whatever reason someone cannot attend so that the register will be as accurate as possible.

The services themselves will continue to be slightly shorter than normal and present arrangements regarding offering will remain in place for the month of September. While still respecting concerns surrounding congregational singing we still wish to continue moving forward towards something more like normal. The plan is to continue incorporating live singing ***to*** the congregation and, ***now with the added addition of face coverings to alleviate concerns, members will be gently encouraged, to softly sing along, while seated, to the two praise items played as part of the service.***

It is encouraging that KidZone continues to go well, Karen and Jim are happy to carry on covering the month of September. Unfortunately the restrictions are still extremely tight regarding crèche so it will not be available for the time being. However babies are very welcome at our services!

The issue of offering lifts to church continues to be a difficult one but the official position in terms of the guidelines is that folk should still not offer nor provide lifts to anyone outside of their bubble. Unfortunately pastoral visitation is still limited to emergencies and bereavements.

Some form of weekly news sheet will be made available, being placed online and for individuals to collect from 20th September. It would be anticipated that all practices would be reviewed on Monday 21st September.

CHURCH FLOWERS IN SEPTEMBER

PEDESTAL

6th. Mrs A Watson, Orby Gardens
(In Memory)

13th Mrs D Sleith, Mrs H Scott
and Mr S Flanagan
(In Memory of Mummy and Daddy)

20th Mrs Wendy Cairnduff
(In Memory of Des and Berta)

27th Irwin, Day and Feely Families
(Family Memories)

SANCTUARY

Mrs M Rodgers, Oberon Street

Mrs D Pollock, Rochester Road
(Cherished Memories)

Anon
(In Memory of Mum and Dad)

Mrs Esme Allen, Orby Drive
(In Memory)

OPEN CHURCH

The church building will be open on Fridays 10am-12noon for private prayer. A one-way system, social distancing and hygiene procedures will be in effect. The facility to drop off church envelopes is also available during this time.

PRAYER

The Prayer Link will once again be sent out fortnightly, if you have any prayer requests please pass them on, if you do not receive the Prayer Link but would like to via email or printed copy please let me know.

MORNING WATCH

Morning Watch starts back on Tue 8th and 22nd September at 10:45am.

ZOOM BIBLE STUDY

If you would be interested in joining the zoom bible study, please get in touch.

OFFICE HOUR

'Office hour' will begin again on Thursday evenings, 6:30-8pm, from 10th September. For the time being, if you wish to pop in, please ring ahead and make an appointment.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Kirk Session- Tue 15th 7:45pm, Business Committee 7:30pm

Congregational Committee- Mon 7th 7:45pm, Finance Committee 7:15pm

BLOBS

After a long absence it would be great to get the 'Blobs' group up and running again. This is not a Bible Study or Prayer Meeting but a group that meets to talk about devotional life and explore Christian books together. The group is open to all and can meet at a time to suit those who are interested. In fact, there is nothing preventing a few 'Blobs' group starting up a different times. If you are interested please get it touch.

YOUTH BIBLE CLASS

We hope to kick off the bible class again, on Sundays 11:15-11:45am, starting 20th September. All P7s and up are invited!

YOUTH BIG NIGHT

It is hoped to start back with the youth 'Big Night' on Saturday 26th September. All P7s and up are invited! Save the date, more info will follow!

VOLUNTEERS REQUESTED

Would you be available the odd Friday morning to help cover Open Church? Or would you be able to deliver flowers on the odd Sunday after church? If you would be willing to help please speak to Michael so you may be added to the rota.

GET IN TOUCH

Please do not hesitate to get in touch