

Daily Prayer Guide

Sunday

Give thanks for the generous provision of the Lord's people that has enabled us to continue for another year.

Monday

Please pray for all the volunteer workers that God will keep them in good health so that the work can progress.

Tuesday

Please pray for new opportunities to recruit more new students and give thanks for an increase over the past year.

Wednesday

Pray for the new courses that are being produced that they will really prove useful to the Lord's people. Why not consider using them yourself to help others?

Thursday

Give thanks for the active support we receive from prison chaplains and pray that they would be encouraged in their testing ministry.

Friday

Please pray for the Emmaus conference—for the speakers and delegates that all will be richly blessed by the Lord.

Saturday

Please pray for the Trustees and the Director that they may be given wisdom in their plans.

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We were deeply saddened and yet encouraged recently when we heard from one of our prison students. He had become a Christian in prison and was using our courses to grow in the faith. However he has been threatened by his family that they will kill him once he is released for bringing shame upon them. This is not because of his previous criminal activity but because he has since become a Christian! He is adamant that God is able to help him—both to grow while he serves the rest of his sentence and to face whatever may lie ahead once he is released. I am challenged by this as to how real my faith is!

By the Way

Emmaus Bible School April 2017

News : Prayer Points : Items of Interest



“That in the ages to come he might show the exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.

For by grace you have been saved” Ephesians 2:7,8

The story of Mephibosheth in 2 Samuel chapter 9 is a wonderful example of the way in which grace operates. It is the totally unmerited favour of one individual towards another. It is also a great example of the way in which God has dealt with each one of us. Mephibosheth fell as a young child and was lame in his feet. We were born as fallen individuals and unable to do anything to improve ourselves in God's eyes. But he comes to the attention of king David, as we have been noticed by the Lord Jesus. David wanted to show the kindness of God to Mephibosheth and we have been shown the kindness of God, who sent His well beloved Son into this world to become the Saviour of the world. The grace shown to Mephibosheth was for Jonathan's sake who was much loved by David. We are “accepted in the beloved”, loved by God with the same kind of love that He has for His Son. Mephibosheth was to eat at the king's table continually whilst full provision was made for his inheritance. We, as believers on the Lord Jesus Christ, have an incorruptible inheritance, guaranteed to us by the Holy Spirit of God, and have full access into the presence of God the Father.

Wonderful, amazing grace! And yet I think that many of us have a problem accepting this grace. We instinctively feel that there is something we can do to merit the favour of God. We think that by right living or faithful service we will be more acceptable to Him. We might not say that we can earn our salvation by good works but surely we can earn God's acceptance by those good works. We need to realise that there is nothing that we can do to make ourselves more right in God's eyes.

In the words of the parable Jesus told in Luke 7 we have been “freely forgiven” a debt we could not pay. We are right before God because He sees us as in Christ. So let us really live out the grace of God in our lives, rejoicing in the totally unmerited favour of God. Let us live up to the challenge of behaving in a way that matches the position we have been brought into. And let us show to others the grace of God that has had such a profound effect upon our lives.

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Emmaus Conference

In the last issue of *By the Way* we gave early news that there would be an Emmaus conference again this year. Our last conference was in 2015 at the Hayes Conference Centre and we will be returning to the Hayes again this year. The conference will start on Monday afternoon 25th September and finish on Wednesday afternoon 27th September.

We are very pleased that Stephen Gillham and Paul Young have agreed to lead the Bible Teaching programme. Stephen has been involved with Postal Bible School and Paul with Echoes for many years.

Reports of ministry using Emmaus study courses will also be given as well as an update of how the Lord is working within the prison service. There will be time for good fellowship, good food and enjoying the good Derbyshire countryside.

Places are limited on a first come first served basis so please return the booking application form as soon as possible with your deposit of £20 to secure your place.

Full details of the programme will be sent upon receipt of booking. Please pray that the Lord will use this time to instruct and encourage all those attending, and please do consider joining us.

Hot off the Press

We are very pleased to introduce three new titles to our list of study courses. God willing these are the first three in a series of titles under the heading “Problems Christians Face”. This series will deal with very practical issues that most, if not all, Christians are likely to face at some point in their lives. They are written to offer practical advice with thought provoking questions. They avoid the trap of becoming just another “self help” guide, offering examples from the Bible of those who faced similar issues.

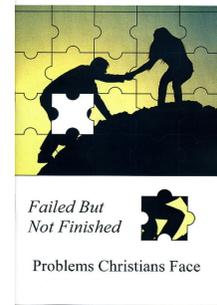
Bitterness



Poisoned Soul
The Deadly Effects of
Bitterness
Problems Christians Face

“Bitterness is an attitude of resentment, hostility, irritation and even hatred towards a person or persons. Hebrews 12:15 warns against any ‘root of bitterness springing up’ and causing trouble. The effects of bitterness are deadly.

In this study we consider the Causes of Bitterness, the Consequences of Bitterness, the Cure for Bitterness and the Conquest of Bitterness. Many examples are given from the Bible and elsewhere of those who had every reason to feel bitter but with God’s help overcame it.”



*Failed But
Not Finished*
Problems Christians Face

Failed But Not Finished

“In Jeremiah chapter 18 we read of a skilled potter who was shaping a pot from clay. For some reason the pot was marred. The potter did not throw it away as useless, he took the clay and formed it into another one that was useful and pleasing to him.

In this study we consider a number of Bible characters who ‘failed’ but in the hands of the Master Potter were not ‘finished’. We may have failed but God has not finished with us. He is ready and willing to remake us and enable us once more to live lives that glorify Him.

Aspects of Loneliness

Loneliness is something that each of us will experience at some time. Mother Theresa of Calcutta said that “loneliness and the feeling of being unwanted is the most terrible poverty” and William Cowper, the great hymn writer, tells us that “absence from those we love is worse than death”.

In this study we consider men and women in the Bible who for different reasons faced loneliness and how they found the antidote to loneliness in the God Who says “Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you.”

Further titles will be added to the “Problems” series during the course of 2017 and 2018. Please pray that God will use these new courses to help those who are going through these testing times. Why not use these courses yourself to give to those you know who are struggling with these issues?



*Aspects of
Loneliness*
Problems Christians Face

Students’ comments

Marek. ‘I was on drugs when God appeared to me through the book of revelation. I realised that He spoke to me and I repented immediately. Next day I was totally different’.

Marek is growing very fast in faith and understanding. 18 months ago he was a completely ‘unchurched’ drug addict, now he wants to go to Bible College!

Gillian. ‘I have thoroughly enjoyed my first course, and learnt a lot and discovered more about Bible books that I didn’t read very often, and about the Prophets lives as well as their missions. Thank you .’ (Old Testament Poetry and Prophecy).