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WEEKLY LETTER –16 OCTOBER 2022

Luke 18.1-8

Prayers need gutsiness

This is another intriguing parable in which the writer Luke explains its meaning: ‘always pray and do not lose heart’ verse 1.

In some ways this parable appears to be a little mischievous, as you are encouraged to be persistent and resolute like a lover who is desperate that he or she knows that you love them with all your heart.

In the same way if you know what you are asking of God is true, then constantly knock on his door. Perhaps you feel that if you are too demanding, or expect too much, you are either being ‘rude’, or because you know because God is wholly good. He naturally knows what you need. Jesus is still saying, never, never give up speaking to God your loving Father, because if you don’t ask, you never know what is possible. Jesus is also, and understandably so, concerned that you may at times lose faith in your prayers, because life can be difficult and for long periods. Perhaps we can learn from Tigger, who keeps bouncing back! For sure, God inevitably knows what is good for us, but more importantly He desires to hear from you.

One way of praying is to remember that when you lay before God your requests, you again follow Jesus’ perfect ending to His prayers – ‘Your will be done’. Perhaps just like the Lord’s Prayer given to us by God’s Son, we can also learn how to end all our prayers, “Not what I will, but what you will”. Luke 22.42.

Stephen

Sunday Morning Worship in Christ Well, and on Zoom, at 10.30 am will be led by Mrs Ruth Smith.

Bible Reading: Isaiah 6.1-8

Cycle of Prayer in the Swansea Region – we will pray for Temple, Gowerton.

Harvest Gifts – 9th October.

Thank you for the generous response to the request for donations for the Food Bank at our Harvest Celebration. 14 large carrier bags were filled very quickly at the end of Morning Service, and were delivered to St John's on Tuesday morning.

After the lunch in Christ Well on 2nd October, there was a surplus of £32 after all expenses were covered which has also been donated to the Food Bank.

Reform

it's that time of year again when we have to think about subscriptions to 'REFORM' Magazine.

This magazine contains interesting articles and keeps us in touch with the wider URC family.

If you think you would like to receive 'REFORM', delivered to your home, please contact Ros Bevan.

I would happily lend you copies to look at to help you decide. A subscription for 10 copies costs £29.50 for next year.

MANSELTON WELSH BAPTIST CHAPEL

Cecil Street, Manselton

CENTENARY CYMANFA GANU

SUNDAY, 30th OCTOBER, 2022 at 6 pm

Everyone welcome



Half a century

Lord Jesus,
we pray for the United Reformed Church on this
anniversary year.

From early years standing on two shaky legs
trying to co-ordinate both to move as one.
Childhood dreams of endless possibilities
of what growing up would entail.
The independence of adulthood, finding
a way in the world and defining who we are.
Heady days of romance, finding partners
to grow and work with, building lasting relationships.
Parenthood and bringing new life into the world, that
would in turn grow and become independent.
Mid life crisis, unsure that the right decisions have been made
and mourning the death of childhood dreams.

And what of the future?

The wisdom brought by failures and successes.
The humility to recognise our weakness and to accept help
and hospitality from others.
The peace that comes from acceptance that we can
only do so much, and the rest is in the hands of God.

Julian Sanders (URC Prayer Handbook 2022)

