



## Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> July 2020: Worship at Home

Welcome to this week's edition.

If you can get online join us

<b>Sunday 10.00am</b>	ZOOM Sunday Worship with HYTHE CORPS
Sunday 12 noon	ZOOM Youth (11+)
Sunday 4pm	ZOOM Kidz Club (5 -12 years)
Tuesday 7pm	ZOOM Bible study this evening
Wednesday 7pm	ZOOM Quiz
Saturday 4pm	Merge -Youth Zoom (14 years plus)

### PLEASE NOTE

Carl and Heather are away this weekend – celebrating the marriage of Joel and Emily.

We encourage you to join with Captain Callum and Berri McKenna from Hythe Corps **STARTING AT 10am**

The codes for Hythe Zoom are; Meeting ID 7101390487.

The Password is 1066

FACEBOOK:<https://www.facebook.com/groups/HytheSAOnlineCorps/>

And you can **ring into Zoom by phone!** If you ring 02034815240, followed by **7101390487#** then you will hear the meeting! Calls charged at the normal UK rate.

Or if people prefer not to be 'seen' they can watch the livestream of the Zoom in the Private Facebook Group (they'll have to 'request' to join so maybe don't leave it until Sunday morning just in case..)

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/HytheSAOnlineCorps/>

For Ramsgate's other Corps ZOOMs the number remains 8651865167

### Merge

Please pray for all our older young people who meet on Saturdays and Sundays on zoom and their leaders and those youth who are unable to connect in this way.

	<p>The Salvation Army United Kingdom Territory with the Republic of Ireland Coronavirus task force response document <b>Covid-19 Public Worship Risk Assessment</b></p>	<p>Issued: July 2020 By Safe Mission Review by July 2021</p>
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The Corps Council met on Wednesday to work through the risk assessment which we must complete before we can plan to return to worship.

We were unanimous that there is still too much we need to do to comply. We will not be ready to even make a request to DHQ for permission until September. We will write in more detail next week but felt it important that you should know that re-opening plan is still some time away



**"Clear lots of ground for your tents! Make your tents large. Spread out! Think big! Use plenty of rope, drive the tent pegs deep. Isaiah 54:2**

**Will you read this verse and pray this prayer regularly?**

The God of heaven Himself will help us succeed; therefore, we will arise and build! We will trust His Word and believe in the Sovereign Lord who always keeps His promises. Nehemiah 2:20

Father, we thank You for Your faithful love for us that never ends and Your mercy which never ceases. They are new every morning; great is Your faithfulness. Lord, You are God. You created the heavens and earth and put everything in place. You made the world to be lived in, not to be a place of empty chaos. You are the Lord and there is no other. You publicly proclaim bold promises; You do not whisper obscurities in dark corners. We thank You for giving us the vision to build. We pray for the permission and the resources for us to build. Thank You, Father, for being a wall of fire and protection around our corps, our families and our community and all those involved in the planning of this new building.

**Maggie** is available with the constant prayer line where you can call or text for prayer. You can contact her on 07840 753 603

Daily Hope offers music, prayers and reflections as well as full worship services from the Church of England at the end of a telephone line.



**Sunday on the BBC:**

**Sunday Worship – Radio 4 – 8.10am** A Word for All Seasons

A service celebrating the Catholic Church's 'Year of the Word' and the importance of scripture from the Diocese of Leeds.

## **Songs of Praise – BBC 1 – 13.15 - Eyam**

Rev Kate Bottley finds out about the village vicars of Eyam, Derbyshire, who initiated lockdown 355 years ago to protect the rest of northern England from the bubonic plague.

### **Birthdays**

Beryl Furlong	18-Jul
Grant James	20-Jul
Gwen Wren	20-Jul
Rodney O'Wilkening	23-Jul
Mary Mishell	25-Jul

### **Prayers please for**

Please continue to pray for Maurice who is very unwell at this time.

Continue to remember Val, David and Al.

For Tom – getting better but still in need of prayer.

Sally's aunt Helen and also for Debbie Smith recovering with family after her hospital treatment.

For Ellis – Doreen's nephew whose recovery has slowed. Pray for a new healing.

Officers and their families who moved on Thursday – especially Ian and Keeley with Niamh and Matthew and Glenn and Sharen with Bethany and Luke.

Prayers for Madeleine and Bernard who attend Maidstone Salvation Army, for themselves, their daughter Marie and grandson Steven. Steven is 20 and has been battling leukaemia for many years. His latest battle is not going so well and urgent prayers are requested for a miracle of healing.

TURN YOUR **TALENTS** INTO  
**TRANSFORMING LIVES'**  
 WITH A CAREER IN  
 THE SALVATION ARMY

**RECRUITING NOW FOR**  
**Winter Shelter**  
**Project Manager**

Ramsgate Salvation Army, High Street, CT11 9TT

**THE SALVATION ARMY**

**JOIN OUR TEAM...**

Thanet Winter Shelter is a coalition of churches working in collaboration with The Salvation Army Ramsgate, offering evening hospitality and overnight shelter to homeless people in Thanet through the coldest period in winter for 19 weeks from Monday 16 November 2020 to 28 March 2021.

You will ensure that between the hosting churches, cover is in place every evening and night of the week through this period. This project is supported by Thanet District Council, local agencies and charities.

**Key Responsibilities:**

You will be responsible for the set up; delivery and sustainability of achieving the aims of the project to provide evening hospitality and overnight shelter for homeless people in Thanet using a suitable venue (s) and volunteers through the colder period of the winter. To manage paid staff and engage volunteers with some of the most vulnerable people in Thanet without discrimination, expressing Christian compassion in building supportive relationships. To work with other partners to help homeless people move on to appropriate accommodation, reducing dependency on the shelter and to establish the funding and administrative support necessary to enable the provision of such a shelter to continue in future years.

To be successful in this role, it is essential that you will have experience of multi-agency partnership working and management of projects, particularly with initiating funding; logistics; data collection and reporting; leading and working closely with volunteers.

**SALARY:**

£25,917 per annum

**WORKING HOURS:**

38 hours per week including working evenings, weekends and national bank holidays e.g. Christmas day

**DETAILS:**

25 days annual leave + bank holidays; a contributory pension scheme; season ticket leave; an employee assistance programme

**CONTRACT:**

Permanent

**CLOSING DATE:**

19 July 2020

**INTERVIEW DATE:**

TBC

If you want to know more about the role, please send an email to Care Whitewood: [carl.whitehead@salvationarmy.org.uk](mailto:carl.whitehead@salvationarmy.org.uk)

Prayers for the appointment of the new winter shelter manager.

Prayers for the provision of shelter for this coming winter.

The government have said the dormitory style accommodation (i.e. church floors) will not be acceptable during the Covid pandemic.

## Prayers at our hall

The hall will be open Monday, Wednesday and Saturday between 10 am and 12 noon (other times by arrangement)



Please call or text to let us know you are coming (where necessary we may ask you to delay your visit to stop

overcrowding)

Tables and chairs have been placed around the hall to ensure distancing. Prayer material will be available at each station – which you can use and then take away.

If you are in the high risk (shielded group) please talk to us before you plan to come and we will ensure there is no one else in the hall.

Any question please call or text Carl on 07900497326

GUEST  
CONTRIBUTOR  
Anne Howard



We are looking for 600 words. A testimony, a poem, a reminiscence, a comment, a dream or vision, a prayer.....

I recently had a "significant" birthday (2 fat ladies minus 1 fat lady - appropriate huh?!), and to mark it my son formulated and introduced a DVD in which all the family made a visual contribution - son and daughter plus their other halves; grandchildren and their other halves, and even the two great-grand-children. Many embarrassing events in my life were dragged up, of course, (that's what families do after all) plus loving thoughts and touching words, To finish it off in what I felt was a beautiful way my son (who is a trombonist) played the melody over scrolling words of A Clare Benediction. I found these words uplifting, challenging, and accepted them as a loving gift: from the family.

Read the words slowly; and let them speak to you of the love of a wonderful and gracious God whose care is all-sufficient.

May the Lord shower His Mercy upon you;

May the light of His Presence be your guide;

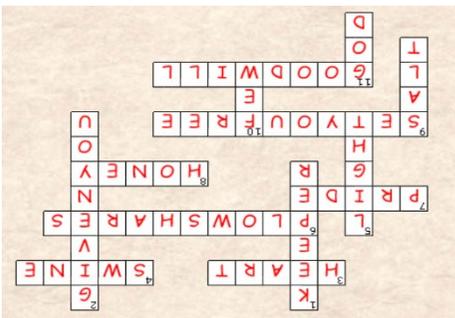
May He guard you and uphold you;

May His Spirit be ever by your side.

When you sleep may His angels watch over you:

When you wake may He fill you with His Grace:  
 May you love Him and serve Him all your days  
 Then in Heaven may you see His Face.  
 May the Lord's loving kindness surround you:  
 Keep you safe as you journey on your way:  
 May He lead you and inspire you  
 As He grants you the gift of each new day.  
 May He bless all your loved ones and cherish them:  
 Every friend, every stranger at your door;  
 In the name of His Son our Saviour Christ  
 May God bless you now and evermore.

Anne Howard



## ELLINGTON PARK

The park consists of twelve and a half acres of land and cost £12,400 in addition something over £1,000 was paid to Messrs Cheal & Son, the landscape gardeners, for the laying out and planting. Now there are numerous shrubs and flower beds, a miniature lake, with a rustic bridge and goldfish. A fountain in the basin below there are more goldfish. There are terraces, shady arbours, and cosy seats. There is a band stand from which at stated times, the Town Band discourses excellent music. (So said the Town Guide).



Thanks again to David Richards for this contribution.

## Monday 20<sup>th</sup> July How to Wait

### Psalm 27:1–3, 7–14

Frustrated and disappointed with church, seventeen-year-old Trevor began a years-long quest for answers. But nothing he explored seemed to satisfy his longings or answer his questions.

His journey did draw him closer to his parents. Still, he had problems with Christianity. During one discussion, he exclaimed bitterly, “The Bible is full of empty promises.”

Another man faced disappointment and hardship that fuelled his doubts. But as David fled from enemies who sought to kill him, his response was not to run from God but to praise Him. “Though war break out against me, even then I will be confident,” he sang (Psalm 27:3).

Yet David’s poem still hints at doubt. His cry, “Be merciful to me and answer me” (v. 7), sounds like a man with fears and questions. “Do not hide your face from me,” David pleaded. “Do not reject me or forsake me” (v. 9).

David didn’t let his doubts paralyze him, however. Even in those doubts, he declared, “I will see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living” (v. 13). Then he addressed his readers: you, me, and the Trevors of this world. “Wait for the Lord; be strong and take heart and wait for the Lord” (v. 14).

We won’t find fast, simple answers to our huge questions. But we will find—when we wait for Him—a God who can be trusted.

### Reflect & Pray

*What do you do with your big questions? Where have you seen answers “in the land of the living” (Psalm 27:13), and where are you still waiting for answers?*

*Father, melt my heart along with my fears and my anger..*

# Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> July. A Royal Role

## John 1:9–14

The closer someone in a royal family is to the throne, the more the public hears about him or her. Others are almost forgotten. The British royal family has a line of succession that includes nearly sixty people. One of them is Lord Frederick Windsor, who's forty-ninth in line for the throne. Instead of being in the limelight, he quietly goes about his life. Though he works as a financial analyst, he's not considered a "working royal"—one of the important family members who are paid for representing the family.

David's son Nathan (2 Samuel 5:14) is another royal who lived outside the limelight. Very little is known about him. But while the genealogy of Jesus in Matthew mentions his son Solomon (tracing Joseph's line, Matthew 1:6), Luke's genealogy, which many scholars believe is Mary's family line, mentions Nathan (Luke 3:31). Though Nathan didn't hold a scepter, he still had a role in God's forever kingdom.

As believers in Christ, we're also royalty. The apostle John wrote that God gave us "the right to become children of God" (John 1:12). Though we may not be in the spotlight, we're children of the King! God considers each of us important enough to represent Him here on earth and to one day reign with Him (2 Timothy 2:11–13). Like Nathan, we may not wear an earthly crown, but we still have a part to play in God's kingdom.

## Reflect & Pray

*How does knowing you're royalty—God's child—make you feel? As a child of the King, what do you see as your responsibilities to the people around you?*

*Heavenly Father, I'm grateful that You adopted me into Your forever family.*

# Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> July A Wide, Sweeping Grace

## Isaiah 44:21–23

Alexa, Amazon’s voice-controlled device, has an interesting feature: it can erase everything you say. Whatever you’ve asked Alexa to do, whatever information you’ve asked Alexa to retrieve, one simple sentence (“Delete everything I said today”) sweeps it all clean, as if it never happened. It’s too bad that the rest of our life doesn’t have this capability. Every misspoken word, every disgraceful act, every moment we wish we could erase—we’d just speak the command, and the entire mess would disappear.

There’s good news, though. God does offer each of us a clean start. Only, He goes far deeper than merely deleting our mistakes or bad behavior. God provides redemption, a deep healing that transforms us and makes us new. “Return to me,” He says, “I have redeemed you” (Isaiah 44:22). Even though Israel rebelled and disobeyed, God reached out to them with lavish mercy. He “swept away [their] offenses like a cloud, [their] sins like the morning mist” (v. 22). He gathered all their shame and failures and washed them away with His wide, sweeping grace.

God will do the same with our sin and blunders. There’s no mistake He can’t mend, no wound He can’t heal. God’s mercy heals and redeems the most painful places in our soul—even the ones we’ve hidden for so very long. His mercy sweeps away all our guilt, washes away every regret.

## Reflect & Pray

*Where are you most aware of your failures? How does the image of God sweeping away all your mistakes give you hope?*

*So many regrets, so many things I’d do differently. God, You tell me that You can forgive and heal me. Thank You for Your mercy and grace.*

# Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> July. A Glimmer on the Sea

## Ephesians 2:1–5, 11–13

“I lay on my bed full of stale liquor and despair,” wrote journalist Malcolm Muggeridge of a particularly dismal evening during his work as a World War II spy. “Alone in the universe, in eternity, with no glimmer of light.”

In such a condition, he did the only thing he thought sensible; he tried to drown himself. Driving to the nearby Madagascar coast, he began the long swim into the ocean until he grew exhausted. Looking back, he glimpsed the distant coastal lights. For no reason clear to him at the time, he started swimming back toward the lights. Despite his fatigue, he recalls “an overwhelming joy.”

Muggeridge didn’t know exactly how, but he knew God had reached him in that dark moment, infusing him with a hope that could only be supernatural. The apostle Paul wrote often about such hope. In Ephesians he noted that, before knowing Christ, each of us is “dead in [our] transgressions and sins . . . without hope and without God in the world” (2:1, 12). But “God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead” (vv. 4–5).

This world tries to drag us into the depths, but there’s no reason to succumb to despair. As Muggeridge said about his swim in the sea, “It became clear to me that there was no darkness, only the possibility of losing sight of a light which shone eternally.”

## Reflect & Pray

*What has been your darkest moment? In what places have you glimpsed the “light that shines eternally”?*

*Father, You’re the source of all my genuine hope. Fill me with Your light and joy.*

# Friday 24<sup>th</sup> July Light in the Dark

## John 20:24–29

After my conversation with Grady, it occurred to me why his preferred greeting was a “fist bump” not a handshake. A handshake would’ve exposed the scars on his wrist—the result of his attempts to do himself harm. It’s not uncommon for us to hide our wounds—external or internal—caused by others or self-inflicted.

In the wake of my interaction with Grady, I thought about Jesus’ physical scars, the wounds caused by nails pounded into His hands and feet and a spear thrust into His side. Rather than hiding His scars, Christ called attention to them.

After Thomas initially doubted that Jesus had risen from the dead, He said to him, “Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe” (John 20:27). When Thomas saw those scars for himself and heard Christ’s amazing words, he was convinced that it was Jesus. He exclaimed in belief, “My Lord and my God!” (v. 28). Jesus then pronounced a special blessing for those who haven’t seen Him or His physical wounds but still believe in Him: “Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed” (v. 29).

The best news ever is that His scars were for our sins—our sins against others or ourselves. The death of Jesus is for the forgiveness of the sins of all who believe in Him and confess with Thomas, “My Lord and my God!”

## Reflect & Pray

*What circumstances led you to believe that Jesus' scars were for you? If you haven't believed in Him for the forgiveness of your sins, what keeps you from trusting Him today?*

*Father, I believe that Christ's scars were for my sin. I'm grateful!*

# Saturday 25th July. Plod On!

## Judges 6:7–16

God loves to use people the world might overlook. William Carey was raised in a tiny village in the 1700s and had little formal education. He had limited success in his chosen trade and lived in poverty. But God gave him a passion for sharing the good news and called him to be a missionary. Carey learned Greek, Hebrew, and Latin and eventually translated the first New Testament into the Bengali language. Today he is regarded as a “father of modern missions,” but in a letter to his nephew he offered this humble assessment of his abilities: “I can plod. I can persevere.”

When God calls us to a task, He also gives us strength to accomplish it regardless of our limitations. In Judges 6:12 the angel of the Lord appeared to Gideon and said, “The Lord is with you, mighty warrior.” The angel then told him to rescue Israel from the Midianites who were raiding their towns and crops. But Gideon, who hadn’t earned the title of “mighty warrior,” humbly responded, “How can I save Israel? . . . I am the least in my family” (v. 15). Still, God used Gideon to set His people free.

The key to Gideon’s success was in the words, “the Lord is with you” (v. 12). As we humbly walk with our Saviour and rely on His strength, He will empower us to accomplish what’s only possible through Him.

## Reflect & Pray

What’s God calling you to do that you can’t do in your own strength? How can you rely on His power today?

Thank You for empowering me, my Saviour and my strength! Please help me to follow You closely.

## **From Major John      Sabbath Rest**

### **Permission to rest and renew.**

God's gift of the Sabbath is for our enriching.

Our resources are replenished for the six days that lie ahead.

Our deepest restoration and refreshing is found in the presence of God who wishes to enjoy our company, now and in eternity.

It is time to discern God's voice and to distinguish this voice from the many voices that call to us.

'Take delight in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of you heart' Psalm 37v4.

'Be still before the Lord and wait patiently for him' Psalm 37v7.

O Sabbath rest by Galilee!

O calm of hills above,

Where Jesus knelt to share with thee

The silence of eternity,

Interpreted by love!

Song 456 SASB verse3.

### **Time to smile**

Early one morning, a mother went in to wake up her son. 'Wake up, it's time to go to school!' 'But why, 'Mum? I don't want to go.' 'Give me two good reasons why you don't want to go.' 'Well, the kids don't like me for one, and the teachers don't like me either!' 'Oh that's no reason not to go to school. Come on now and get ready.' 'Give me two reasons why I should go to

school.' 'Well, for one you're 52 years old, and for another you're the headmaster!,

Two dogs go into the Wigmore Hall and one wants to buy tickets for a classical concert. The ticket seller says, 'But you're dogs! What could you possibly know about classical music?' 'The dog replies, are you joking! He Bach and I Offenbach!,

### **Should have gone to Specsavers!**

An old snake goes to see his doctor. 'Doctor, I need something for my eyes...I can't see very well these days. The doctor gives him a pair of glasses and tells him to come back in two weeks.

The snake goes back after two weeks and tells the doctor he's now very depressed. 'What seems to be the problem?' says the doctor 'didn't the glasses help you.' 'The glasses are fine, but I've discovered I've been living with an old hosepipe for the past two years!'

### **Quiz**

- 1.In the Old Testament which book directly follow Psalms?
- 2.Which doctor was in love with Lara Antipova?
- 3.In which county is the fictional town of Ambridge in?
- 4.Which area of Spain did Don Quixote come from?
- 5.Who was the heroine in the 30's version of King Kong?

### **Sitcoms**

- 1.What is the name of the Vicar of Dibley?
- 2.What was Steptoe and Son's horse called?
- 3.Which character did Ronnie Corbett play in 'Sorry'?
- 4.Which actor played the 'stupid boy' in 'Dad's Army'?
- 5.What were Fletcher's two first names in 'Porridge'?

The only English anagram of PRETTINESS is **PERSISTENT**.

- Quiz**  
1.Proverbs 2.Dr Zhivago 3.Borsetshire 4.La Mancha  
5.Fay Wray
- Sit Coms**  
1.Geraldine Granger 2.Hercules 3.Timothy Lumsden  
4.Ian Lavender 5.Norman Stanley

### Children's Church at home

Please pray for our families as 32 children's activity sheets/packs go out each week and praise God that we have been asked to send more!

As part of the series on Faith. Daniel made a centurion and we thought about a mighty faith. Leah and Matthew demonstrated a growing faith. Yummy!

We have now started a new theme on Love. As we remembered God loves everyone, we looked at the story of Zacchaeus and Leah made a tree. We have looked at the story of the Prodigal Son and this week the good Samaritan.

Please pray for children's zoom Sundays at 4pm.



# Worship at Home: Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> July

With Captain Callum and Berri McKenna

Hythe Salvation Army 19th July 2020

## **Ephesians (Part 3): Still Standing (Ephesians 6:10-18)**

*This Sunday we continue our journey through the book of Ephesians. The Church in Ephesus was a fledgling church, trying to figure out its identity and purpose in the world. As we read it together, we'll be inspired to also consider our own identity and purpose – as individuals and as a Church- in the world today. This resource is intended to help you to be able to worship at home, knowing that other members of our Church family are following a similar pattern of worship.*

*You may wish to start by setting aside a quiet time and lighting a candle or playing some reflective music.*

## **Praise & Thanksgiving**

Reflect on these words from Nehemiah Chapter 9:5-10.

They form the start of a prayer the people made as they turned back to God- let our prayers echo theirs as we turn back to God today:

*And the Levites [...] said: “Stand up and praise the Lord your God, who is from everlasting to everlasting: “Blessed be your glorious name, and may it be exalted above all blessing and praise. You alone are the Lord. You made the heavens, even the highest heavens, and all their starry host, the earth and all that is on it, the seas and all that is in them. You give life to everything, and the multitudes of heaven worship you. “You are the Lord God, who chose Abram and brought him out of Ur of the Chaldeans and named him Abraham. You found his heart faithful to you, and you made a covenant with him to give to his descendants the*

*land of the Canaanites, Hittites, Amorites, Perizzites, Jebusites and Girgashites. You have kept your promise because you are righteous. "You saw the suffering of our ancestors in Egypt; you heard their cry at the Red Sea. You sent signs and wonders against Pharaoh, against all his officials and all the people of his land, for you knew how arrogantly the Egyptians treated them. You made a name for yourself, which remains to this day.*

As you reflect on this hymn of praise, may you be drawn to worship God too:

Stand up and bless the Lord,  
Ye people of His choice;  
Stand up and bless the Lord your God  
With heart and soul and voice.

*Praise ye the Lord, hallelujah!*

Though high above all praise,  
Above all blessing high,  
Who would not fear His holy name  
And laud and magnify?

O for the living flame  
From His own altar brought,  
To touch our lips, our minds inspire,  
And wing to Heaven our thought!

God is our strength and song,  
And His salvation ours;  
Then be His love in Christ proclaimed  
With all our ransomed powers.

Stand up and bless the Lord,

The Lord your God adore;  
Stand up and bless His glorious name  
Henceforth forevermore.

*James Montgomery*

### **A Prayer**

This world is yours, planned in eternity, created in a moment of sheer exuberance, permeated with love, well made.

This place is yours, in its simplicity, blue sky and countryside, pure creativity, painted with care, well made.

This day is yours, pure generosity, given for moments of gentle reflection, in the bustle of a day, well made.

This moment is yours in its entirety, a drop of time in an ocean of history, gifted with joy, well made.

John Birch

[https://www.faithandworship.com/prayers\\_Praise.htm#gsc.tab=0](https://www.faithandworship.com/prayers_Praise.htm#gsc.tab=0)

### **Pause for Reflection**

If you have access to the internet you might like to listen to The Canadian Staff Band playing the piece, 'O Church, Arise'

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=flroh-dg6UI>

The piece is based on the hymn by Stuart Townend and Keith Getty, the words of which say:

O church, arise and put your armour on;  
Hear the call of Christ our captain;  
For now the weak can say that they are strong  
In the strength that God has given.  
With shield of faith and belt of truth  
We'll stand against the devil's lies;  
An army bold whose battle cry is "Love!"  
Reaching out to those in darkness.

Our call to war, to love the captive soul,

But to rage against the captor;  
And with the sword that makes the wounded whole  
We will fight with faith and valour.  
When faced with trials on ev'ry side,  
We know the outcome is secure,  
And Christ will have the prize for which He died—  
An inheritance of nations.

Come, see the cross where love and mercy meet,  
As the Son of God is stricken;  
Then see His foes lie crushed beneath His feet,  
For the Conqueror has risen!  
And as the stone is rolled away,  
And Christ emerges from the grave,  
This vict'ry march continues till the day  
Ev'ry eye and heart shall see Him.

So Spirit, come, put strength in ev'ry stride,  
Give grace for ev'ry hurdle,  
That we may run with faith to win the prize  
Of a servant good and faithful.  
As saints of old still line the way,  
Retelling triumphs of His grace,  
We hear their calls and hunger for the day  
When, with Christ, we stand in glory.

### **To Think About...**

'If you don't stand for something, then you'll fall for anything'  
-Anonymous

### **Prayers of Intercession**

*A time of prayer – please make your own prayers for specific people, places and situations in the spaces.*

Ever-present God,

I join my prayer with all those who pray in the name of Jesus today:  
We pray for your church that you grant us patience as we continue to do the work we need to do to prepare for future gatherings together. For those who are anxious about the future and those who see only threat in the days to come.

For those who are estranged from loved ones and feel they are unable to do anything to bring about reconciliation.

For those who wrestle in the night with trouble and distress of body, mind and soul.

I pray especially for ...

Holy God,

help us to show others that you are present in the midst of their struggles, that together we might demonstrate your great love and concern for your world.

In Jesus' name we pray.

Amen.

Our Father .....

<https://www.methodist.org.uk/media/17658/29-june-worship-if-you-areunable-to-attend-church.pdf>

*Take a few moments to read Ephesians 6:10-18.*

### ***The armour of God***

*<sup>10</sup> Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. <sup>11</sup> Put on the full armour of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. <sup>12</sup> For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly*

realms. <sup>13</sup> Therefore put on the full armour of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. <sup>14</sup> Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled round your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, <sup>15</sup> and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. <sup>16</sup> In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. <sup>17</sup> Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

<sup>18</sup> And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people.

### **Ministry from the Word**

In 1983, Elton John declared that following a failed relationship, and despite the doubts of others, *'I'm still standing'*. It's a bit of an earworm, but Elton raises a good question: what is it to stay standing when life throws all kinds of storms at us?

This is something which is addressed in the sixth Chapter of Ephesians. These are the the closing statement made by the writer to the Church and he reminds them that life won't always be easy: we're reminded of a struggle which is 'not against flesh and blood' but against 'powers and principalities'. If the fledgling church of Ephesus would be under any illusion that the Christian life would be easy, they're given the stark reminder that they'll have to face the 'fiery arrows of the evil one' I guess, for many of us, we're under no illusions about the struggles and strains that life will hold. Worries about our families, our health, our world, our security, our finances can all feel like fiery arrows.

There's plenty that might try to derail and discourage us. How can we 'stay standing'?

The answers offered by Ephesians are perhaps surprising.

They're not about learning to fight or become aggressive or exert our power over others.

They call us to arm ourselves with righteousness: that we may be able to stand upright and firm even when it would be easier to compromise our values

They call us to wrap truth around our waist that we'd stand secure against the falsehoods and lies about who we are and who God is that might seek to cause us to tumble.

They call us to dig our heels in and stand our ground with the gospel of peace at our feet: bringing reconciliation and wholeness to a world of fragmentation and despair.

This, according to Ephesians, is how 'when the day of evil comes, we may be able to stand our ground, and after you have done everything, to stand' some more (Eph 6:13)

It mightn't always be easy, in fact it certainly always won't, but Ephesians also reminds us that we're to be strong *in the Lord* not in our own strength. He gives us more power than we could ever imagine. We're able to stand, by first, being able to kneel before God.

Callum

### **Sending Out**

In the army of Jesus we've taken our stand

To fight 'gainst the forces of sin,

To the rescue we go,

Satan's power to o'erthrow,

And his captives to Jesus we'll win.

*I'll stand for Christ, for Christ alone  
Amid the tempest and the storm.  
Where Jesus leads I'll follow on;  
I'll stand, I'll stand for Christ alone.*

We go forth not to fight 'gainst the sinner, but sin;  
The lost and the outcast we love;  
And the claims of our king we before them will bring  
As we urge them His mercy to prove.

Jesus pitied our case, and He died for our race,  
To save a lost world He was slain;  
But He rose and now lives, and His pardon He gives  
Unto all who will call on His name.

Though our trials be great and God's enemies strong,  
To battle undaunted we go,  
For our warfare's the Lord's and to Him we belong,  
In His strength we shall conquer the foe.

*Charles Fry*

**A Benediction:**

Eternal God and Father,  
by whose power we are created and by whose love we are redeemed:  
guide and strengthen us by your Spirit, that we may give ourselves to  
your service, and live this day in love to one another and to you;  
through Jesus Christ your Son,  
our Lord.  
Amen.

# The Armour of God

Ephesians 6 : 10-18

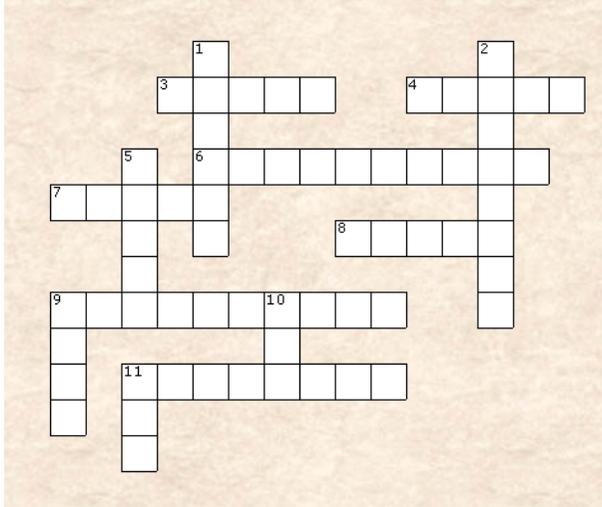


ARMOUR  
BE ALERT  
BELT OF TRUTH  
BREASTPLATE OF  
RIGHTEOUSNESS

GOSPEL OF PEACE.  
HELMET OF SALVATION  
MIGHTY POWER  
PRAY  
SHIELD OF FAITH

STAND FIRM  
STRONG  
SWORD OF THE SPIRIT  
WORD OF GOD.

## Bible Quotes II



### ACROSS

3 For where your treasure is, there your \_\_\_ will be also

4 Do not throw your pearls before \_\_\_

6 They will beat their swords into \_\_\_ and their spears into pruning hooks. Nation will not take up sword against nation, nor will they train for war anymore

7 \_\_\_ goes before destruction, a haughty spirit

before a fall  
8 A land flowing with milk and \_\_\_

9 Then you will know the truth, and the truth will \_\_\_

11 Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, \_\_\_ toward men

### DOWN

1 Am I my brother's \_\_\_?

2 Ask, and it shall be \_\_\_

5 You are the \_\_\_ of the world. A city on a hill

cannot be hidden  
9 But Lot's wife looked back, and she became a pillar of \_\_\_  
10 The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are \_\_\_  
11 You cannot serve both \_\_\_ and money

Ephesians 6:11-18,

Put on the whole armor of God that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.

... For we do not wrestle against flesh & blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places...

Therefore take up the whole armor of God... to withstand in the evil day...

& having done all, to stand.

... and take the helmet of salvation...

stand therefore having girded your waist with truth, having put on the breastplate of righteousness...

... above all taking the shield of faith with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one.

... and the sword of the Spirit which is the word of God...

praying always with all prayer & supplication in the Spirit...

being watchful to this end with all perseverance & supplication for all the Saints...

... and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace...

