



Prayer
Network



Coronavirus prayer resources / helps:

Some selected prayer points:

(Provided by Captain Gary Lacey, Divisional Prayer Coordinator Central North (Adapted))

Scripture suggestion: Psalm 46: God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in times of trouble.

- Michael Gove says, “lockdown measures will be in place for ‘significant’ period. Pray that all of us will be able to prepare ourselves physically, spiritually and mentally for this.
- Pray for those who have the virus, especially those who are critically ill. Pray healing through the love of Christ on them.
- Pray for those loved ones of people who have succumbed to this virus in death and continue to pray for the healing and restoration of those now carrying the virus.
- Pray that testing kits, all the safety equipment needed by front line medical staff and respirators will be made available by human effort and the Lord’s divine intervention.
- Thank God for the volunteers which have now reached 750000 to help the NHS.
- As people generously applauded the NHS last week, please remember to pray for all NHS staff, remember all the other services and agencies such as funeral directors and their staff, fire and police, frontline key workers and all those who equally bear the brunt of this virus, and keep praying for them.
- Thank God for the ability to connect, share and be encouraged by the hundreds of messages and words on the internet especially amongst the Christian community. Iron sharpens iron!
- Continue, and maybe intensify, our prayers on pushing back the virus from our world. Pray that we will see a peak and a diminishment in cases and deaths very soon.
- Pray for our own headquarters staff territorial and divisional who are taking the lead in navigating the Salvation Army through these difficult times. Pray for corps officers under pressure and also local leadership, may the Lord uphold and strengthen them as they seek to find new ways to serve, give strength, wisdom and rest.

Keep praying and keep fighting as the scripture reminds us we are engaging with the one who is ever-present in all of this, and the one who is infinitely more powerful than any virus! For regular prayer points from Gary see -

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

Written prayers -

Shared by Captain Christa Beeldman, Divisional Prayer Coordinator, South East Division

Lord Jesus Christ,
you taught us to love our neighbour,
and to care for those in need
as if we were caring for you.
In this time of anxiety, give us strength
to comfort the fearful, to tend the sick,
and to assure the isolated
of our love, and your love,
for your name's sake.
Amen

God of compassion,
be close to those who are ill, afraid or in isolation.
In their loneliness, be their consolation;
in their anxiety, be their hope;
in their darkness, be their light;
through him who suffered alone on the cross,
but reigns with you in glory,
Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

For those who are ill:
Merciful God,
we entrust to your tender care
those who are ill or in pain,
knowing that whenever danger threatens
your everlasting arms are there to hold them safe.
Comfort and heal them,
and restore them to health and strength;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen

For hospital staff and medical researchers:
Gracious God,
give skill, sympathy and resilience
to all who are caring for the sick,
and your wisdom to those searching for a cure.
Strengthen them with your Spirit,
that through their work many will be restored to health;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

For the Christian community -
We are not people of fear:
we are people of courage.

We are not people who protect our own safety:
we are people who protect our neighbours' safety.
We are not people of greed:
we are people of generosity.
We are your people God,
giving and loving,
wherever we are,
whatever it costs
For as long as it takes
wherever you call us.
Amen.

Spiritual Food for Isolation - John's Gospel 01 (in a series of 10)

1) **Aperitif:** What a Friend we have in Jesus: [Click me for words/music](#)

2) **Prayer/Grace:** Our Father in heaven, we thank You this day for all the many blessings You have given us. Please forgive us for the times we have taken Your goodness for granted. We thank You for this opportunity to read through the Apostle John's record of the life and ministry of Jesus Christ, knowing that even during this period of isolation, we are together as Your children, Your followers, and Your Church, and that we have Your presence with us. Holy Spirit, speak to us and help us to respond, for we pray in the name of our wonderful Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.

3) **Our main course;** the Gospel of Jesus Christ according to the Apostle John, chapter 1: [Click me for online Bible](#)

4) **Chewing it over;** after reading today's chapter, take your time to think through the following:

- v1 What does the opening phrase of this Gospel remind you of ('In the beginning...')?
- v14 Who is the Word, that 'became flesh'?... (do not guess, but find the answer in the text!)
- v1 Is the Word also God?
- Do you believe that Jesus is God? ...Why, or why not?
- What are the deeper implications for the rest of the Gospel you are reading if Jesus was not God in the flesh?
- What are your feelings about God sending someone other than Himself in the flesh to die as a sacrifice for our sin?... would sending someone else be the most loving thing to do?
- v12 who has the right to become 'children of God'?... are we comfortable with that?
- If we are unable to understand a truth, or uncomfortable with it, does that make it any less true?
- v23 compare this verse with Isaiah 40:3, and consider the differences in punctuation, what can we learn from this?

Is John the Baptist the one spoken of in Malachi 3:1?

- v29, Why do you think John the Baptist called Jesus 'the Lamb of God'?
- v29-34 John's baptism was of 'repentance for the forgiveness of sins' (Mark 1:4). Did Jesus need forgiveness?...or was Jesus' baptism for a different reason?...
- v33 does baptism in the Holy Spirit appear to be different to baptism in water? (see also Luke 3:16, Mk 1:8, Mt 3:11)
- v40 Andrew was a disciple of John the Baptist (just an interesting observation!)
- v44-46 Philip told others about Jesus and said 'come and see'. There are people in our lives who may need your invitation to 'come and see' Jesus for themselves, are you praying that God might use you to reach them in some way? If not, why not? Would you agree that if we love others, we will want them to meet Jesus and be safe for eternity? In what ways can you introduce someone to Jesus?

5) **Digestif:** Aaron Shust - 'This I know': [Click me](#) and then press 'f' for full screen :-)

6) **Snacks:** Are you a disciple? [Click me](#)

7) **Supper:** Livings Waters video with encouragement to share our faith: [Click me](#)

8) **Midnight Feast!** Is God trying to speak to you? [Click me](#)

But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. 1 Peter 3:15

This is provided as an example. For further studies in this series, contact Major Phil Layton to receive direct to your inbox - philip.layton@salvationarmy.org.uk

Links to scripture based reflective prayer sites / apps:

Lectio 365: A new 24/7 Prayer devotional resource - <https://www.24-7prayer.com/dailydevotional>

Taketime: Audible Ignatian Meditations on the words of Jesus - <https://taketime.org.uk/>

Live From Rest: Rooted in the way of Jesus - <https://www.livefromrest.com/>

Sacred Space - <https://www.sacredspace.ie/>

Pray as you go - <https://pray-as-you-go.org/prayer%20tools/>

24/7 Prayer - follow the link to download this responsive scripture based prayer for deliverance from Covid-19 - https://www.24-7prayer.com/downloads/coronavirus_prayer_print_version.pdf