

# CHALK FARM CORPS SUNDAY NEWSLETTER



**Jabez cried out to the God of Israel, “Oh, that you would bless me and enlarge my territory! Let your hand be with me, and keep me from harm so that I will be free from pain.” And God granted his request.  
(1 Chronicles 4: 10, NIV)**

I read with some amusement of an incident that recently took place in Belgium. The BBC article was entitled; ‘Belgium farmer accidentally moves French border’. The farmer was annoyed by a stone which got in the way of his tractor and so moved it. The stone was in fact the official border marker for Belgium since 1820! Inadvertently the farmer had enlarged Belgium and reduced the size of France.

Standing outside the school gate in my Salvation Army uniform a 93 year old gentleman approached me to ask if The Salvation Army was still in Queen Victoria Street – of course it is still there as our International Headquarters. He thought we might have ‘shut up shop’ so to speak and faded away. It was wonderful to tell him that The Salvation Army is in fact larger than ever in its history and just weeks ago opened up the work in Bulgaria. He was a Christian who felt keenly the decline of the Church in the UK. He felt that his territory was shrinking when in actual fact around the world God’s territory is expanding so to speak (the world is the Lords and everything in it’ Psalm 24: 1).

The prayer of Jabez is one which resonates with many Christians today. The prayer is bold and perhaps if making it we should consider the territory we ask for the Lord to expand. It can be the growth of the Church – that is a new converts to Christ. It may also be to expand our spiritual territory in a personal way.

May we endeavour to grow as Christians and shine for the Lord just where He has placed us. Our physical territory may not expand so we can see it but our spiritual influence can. So think carefully about what it means to pray; ‘Lord bless me and expand my territory’.

The prayer continues: *Let your hand be with me, and keep me from harm so that I will be free from pain.* May we each have eyes to see how God is expanding our territory in these days and see His hand guiding us and keeping us from harm.

A tent or a cottage, why should I care?  
They’re building a palace for me over there;  
Though exiled from home yet still I may sing:  
All glory to God, I’m the child of a King.

*I'm the child of a King:  
I'm the child of a King;  
With Jesus my Saviour,  
I'm the child of a King!*

Harriet Eugenia Peck Buell (1834-1910) SASB 877

God bless you,  
Captain Michael J Kinnear, Commanding Officer



## Thy Kingdom Come, 13-23 May

Thy Kingdom Come is a global prayer movement that invites Christians around the world to pray from Ascension to Pentecost for more people to come to know Jesus.

Everyone is encouraged to choose 5 people they know, and pray for them throughout the 11 days and beyond.

There are so many ways you can pray for your 5. You can use a band and tie 5 knots, each one representing one of your 5. Or maybe each time you drink a cup of tea or coffee, you could remember to pray? You could write their names on your bathroom mirror. Or perhaps you could pray during your daily exercise such as running or walking.

Find out more at [www.thykingdomcome.global](http://www.thykingdomcome.global).

## Song of the week

What can I say to cheer a world of  
sorrow?  
How bring back hope where men have  
sorely failed?  
Just where I am I'll speak the word of  
comfort,  
Tell how for me Christ's sacrifice availed.

*Just where he needs me, my Lord has placed  
me,  
Just where he needs me, there would I be!  
And since he found me, by love he's bound me  
To serve him joyfully.*

What can I do to ease life's heavy  
burdens?  
What can I do to help mankind in need?  
Just where I am I'll share my neighbour's  
hardship,  
Lighten his load, and prove a friend  
indeed.

What can I do to justify my living?  
What can I be to worthwhile?  
I'll be a voice to call men to the Saviour,  
Just where I am, and win my Father's  
smile.

Miriam Mary Richards (1921-1989)  
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## On the radio

**Sunday at 8.10am, BBC Radio 4**  
Sunday Worship: the Archbishop of  
York explores how to pray and the  
Lord's Prayer.

**Thursday 8pm, BBC Radio 4**  
A Celebration for Ascension Day live  
from St Martin-in-the-Fields, London.  
The preacher is the chief executive of  
Christian Aid, Amanda Khozi Mukwashi.

## Galatians 4: 4-7

But when the set time had fully come,  
God sent his Son, born of a woman, born  
under the law, to redeem those under the  
law, that we might receive adoption to  
sonship.

Because you are his sons, God sent the  
Spirit of his Son into our hearts, the Spirit  
who calls out, 'Abba, Father.' So you are  
no longer a slave, but God's child; and  
since you are his child, God has made you  
also an heir.

## On the television

**Sunday at 1.15pm, BBC Two**  
Songs of Praise: Brenda Edwards visits  
Swansea to explore the Welsh Revival of  
1904.

## Thy Kingdom Come Prayer

Almighty God, your ascended son has  
sent us into the world to preach the  
good news of your kingdom: inspire us  
with your Spirit and fill our hearts with  
the fire of your love, that all who hear  
your word may be drawn to you,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## Contact us

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