

But Jesus also said in John 10:14f: *'I am the good shepherd; and I know my sheep, and am known by my own. As the Father knows me, even so I know the Father; and I lay down my life for the sheep. And other sheep I have which are not of this fold; them also I must bring, and they will hear my voice; and there will be one flock and one shepherd'*. In this time when celebrities are the idols of the modern age, it is so easy to be tempted away and deceived but look to the shepherd and invest time in your relationship with Him. As Isaiah said in 2:22 *'Stop trusting in mere humans, who have but breath in their nostrils. Why hold them in esteem?'*

New Year is an opportunity to recommit to getting to know our masters voice. To develop a deeper relationship with Him so we cannot be deceived, we can stand strong during these times and show the light in the darkness so that others may also find their way to the Truth and the Life that is Jesus Christ.



PLEASE PRAY FOR:

- A number of people in our church family who are undergoing myriads of tests or having had a diagnosis facing uncertainty, surgery and post op recovery.
- Winter Shelter – WBC is asking if anyone is interested in volunteering to support Winter Shelters for homeless in our community.

HAPPY NEW YEAR

Whatever this year holds for you and whatever the last year did to you we are called to -

'Forget the former things;
do not dwell on the past.

See, I am doing a new thing!

Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?

I am making a way in the wilderness
and streams in the wasteland.

Isaiah 43:18-19

...And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy that was set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. Consider him who endured such opposition from sinners, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.

Hebrews 12:1-3

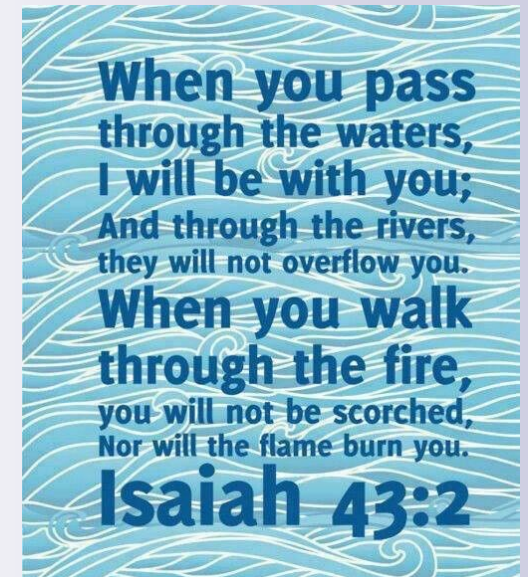


Hythe Road, Willesborough, Ashford, Kent
TN24 0QR.

www.wbc-ashford.org.uk. Charity Registration Number 1127593



Prayer Focus January 2016



Prayer Chain

Remember to send any prayer requests to:
prayer@wbc-ashford.org.uk

We would like to get together a group of people willing to go out and pray with people in their own homes. If you would like to offer this or if you would like someone to pray with you about a specific issue, please email the prayer chain or speak to one of the Paulas.

Prayer for Our World

NORTH UK FLOODING



Our prayers continue to be focussed on the people affected

by the flooding in the north of the UK.

Please keep the communities in your prayers as they recover from the devastation of the recent flooding. Although out of the media headlines the families affected will still be struggling to dry out their homes and start again. With the current weather conditions there is an ongoing threat of further flooding so please continue to pray that flood defences will hold and that water will recede soon.

WEDNESDAY PRAYER EVENT

We will be meeting at 7:45pm on Wednesday 20th January to pray together. Please join us as we are very informal and start with a cuppa before praying however the Holy Spirit directs us. This is one opportunity for our church family to come together in friendship and pray. This time we will begin by focusing on Isaiah 40:31

Yet those who wait for the LORD will gain new strength; they will mount up with wings like eagles, they will run and not get tired, they will walk and not become weary.

MENTAL HEALTH PROBLEMS

affect the way we think, feel and behave. They are problems that can be diagnosed by a doctor, not personal weaknesses. About a quarter of the population experience some kind of mental health problem in any one year.

Anxiety and depression are the most common problems, with around 1 in 10 people affected at any one time. Anxiety and depression can be severe and long-lasting and have a big impact on people's ability to get on with life. Between 1 and 2 in every 100 people experience a severe mental illness, such as bi-polar disorder or schizophrenia, and have periods when they lose touch with reality.

Although certain symptoms are common in specific mental health problems, no two people behave in exactly the same way when they are unwell.

Many people who live with a mental health problem or are developing one try to keep their feelings hidden because they are afraid of other people's reactions.

Mental Health Foundation www.mentalhealth.org.uk

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

- We will all know people who are suffering with Mental Health Issues or be going through this ourselves. This time of year can be particularly challenging with the dark, cold, short days. Please pray God's power and presence with everyone.

Church Family

DO NOT BE DECEIVED

When we look at what is happening in the world around us, it seems we are indeed living in the end times with people running across the face of the earth and disasters both natural and unnatural a daily occurrence. Yes the Lord said to many of his prophets that he will shake the earth (Isaiah 2:12-22, Haggai 2:6-7, Hebrews 12:26f) and even in our comfortable, safe country we are beginning to feel the affects of being shaken, but he also told us not to be afraid for He will stay with us. He is our sovereign God and nothing is out of His control.

This has all been long foretold. We need to look to our relationship with Him in these troubled times, ensuring that our walk is so close to Him that our feet are covered with the dust kicked up by his so that when we hear His voice, we will recognise Him and not be deceived. For in Matthew 24, Jesus speaks of the end times and in that passage he cautions us: *'For false messiahs and false prophets will appear and perform great signs and wonders to deceive, if possible even the elect.'*

