

It is never pleasant to get critical feedback, but often it is for the best. Sometimes we need a boost up and encouragement. Sometimes we need a kick in the pants.

When you pray, what do you normally ask God for? If you're like me, it's often encouragement and strength. How often do you ask for critical feedback from God. In other words, when you pray to be more Christ-like, do you ever pray to be convicted of sin?

This is one thing Jesus taught about the Holy Spirit:

"And when he comes, he will convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment: concerning sin, because they do not believe in me..." (John 16:8-9, ESV)

If you've been a Christian for a while, when you survey your life, you might observe that things are pretty OK. That is, if you take the squint and look approach, making a quick pass.

But Jesus promises that the Holy Spirit will make clear to the world, who will then become Christians, their sin. Not just the sin which is seen by that person, but the sin God observes.

It may be an unnerving thing to ask, but we can ask God to show us our faults confident in him. For he loves us, and Jesus' death and resurrection covers all our sin. Likewise, he has granted his Holy Spirit to change those who follow him.

So if you ever pray that God's will be done on earth as it is in heaven, pray that the Spirit would show where that is not the case in your life, and pray he would move your to change.

- Sam Pursell

Prayers

CURRENT PRAYERS

Church people who are unwell

Bob Abrahams, Margaret Abrahams, Marlene Arthur, Jean Beetles, Olga Covetz, Jan Crook, Peter Evans, Raija Hannam, Robert Hannam, Erin Hick, Pauline Kirby, Joy Meyer, James Mills, Charlie October, David Paduch, Allan Quinn, Merv Sercombe, Sue Simpson, Hanno Stanojevic, Eileen Stokes, Mary Straughan, Betty Uren, Susan Vickery, Chris Wilson.

Afghanistan

Pray God will comfort the families fleeing for their lives and provide a safe home, that God would bring His miraculous peace and stability over Afghanistan through its leaders.

Pray for protection over Afghan believers and the strength to follow Jesus, no matter the cost.

For those who are mourning

Continue to uphold the family of Bruce Smith as they mourn his passing. Pray for those within our church family who lost loved ones in the past year.

Pray that they would trust God and know his love in this difficult time.

Recent illnesses

Pray for all those who have recently been hospitalised or unwell.

Pray for healing and comfort for them and their families.

COVID-19

Pray for health & safety and be conscious of our freedom as restrictions change, that we would act in a way that keep all safe, especially those more vulnerable.

Continue to pray that the rollout of the vaccine will go smoothly and speedily.

REGULAR PRAYERS (CYCLE 1 OF 4)

Government:

Our Queen, The United Nations, other major governments.

World Focus:

The continent of Africa. The persecuted church.

Mission Partners:

Adrian and Anita Lovell, training Christian leaders in Bolivia.

Grahame and Patty Scarratt, providing distance training for Word ministers in Latin America.

Organisations We Support:

Church Missionary Society (CMS).

Word Ministry Training:

Moore Theological College.

Staff and Senior Leadership:

Our Minister Sam Pursell, his wife Susan and their kids Ed, Mary and Angela.

Children's and Youth Ministry:

TOTS, our playgroup for toddlers.

Adult Ministries:

Our Prime Time ministry to seniors, and the ministry at Warrigal.

Local Evangelism:

Our schools ministry - scripture (SRE).

Special Needs:

Those who are poor and needy. The growth of the gospel among our Indigenous communities.

Other Regular Matters:

For more Word ministers, here at Oak Flats and in all the world.

James 2 True Religion: Listen and Do

James 1:19-27

Sam Pursell • 22nd August 2021

1. Listen (19-21)

2. Do (22-25)

3. Examples of true religion (26-27)

Church News

GATHERING TOGETHER ONLINE

Due to recent office changes, we are looking for help with the **oversight of the prayer bookmark**, and also with **producing the presentation slides** for the Sunday service.

If you wish to contribute in either of these matters, with full training provided, please contact the office or speak to Sam/Val.

OFFICE HOURS

A reminder that office hours are now **Monday and Friday, from 9am to 5pm**.

KIDS' CHURCH AT HOME

Make sure you check our <u>YouTube</u> channel for the next video for Kid's Church and we hope the kids enjoy their latest home kit.

VIRTUAL MORNING TEA

Join us on Zoom after the morning service at https://bit.ly/OFAzoomMT for a virtual morning tea together.

FINANCIAL UPDATE

(YTD 19 August 2021)

Income \$115,096

Expenses \$127,677

Difference -\$12.581

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GIVE ELECTRONICALLY - BANK DETAILS

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