



Prayer Points for week beginning 16th January

Jesus answered her, “If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, ‘Give me a drink’, you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water.”
John 4 v10 (ESV)

There are 722 references to “**water**” in the Bible - more than for faith, hope, prayer, and worship!! Water is essential for survival. The human body will survive longer without food than without water. The brain is 85% water - little wonder studies show children in school benefit from drinking more water. This can lead to improved mood, memory/attention, better weight management and less dental disease. Water helps with **fatigue** and headaches. Let’s see some ideas about water in the Bible.

Life - Give thanks for water which has been there from the earliest days of creation and underpins life in our world. Praise God for answering all our daily needs. Thank God also for engineers, charities and others who provide safe drinking water and conserve water against drought. Pray for relief agencies seeking to help with restoration in Haiti and providing food and water in Afghanistan and elsewhere. Gen.1v2, Gen. 2v14, Ex.17v6, Ps. 65v9, Is.49v10

Affliction - waters can bring hardship - it is difficult to struggle through deep water and God promises to be with us in such times. Pray for those who are ill, waiting for tests or treatment, health staff under pressure and charities and businesses struggling to stay afloat during the aftermath of the pandemic. Pray for sailors and seamen who are away from home for many months in difficult weather conditions and with inadequate facilities. Pray for families affected by floods in Brazil. Is. 43v2, 2 Sam. 22v17, Mark 9v41

Justice - God used water in judgment when the Egyptians were swept away by the Red Sea. God’s wish is that justice and fairness should flow like rivers. Pray for any who feel a sense of injustice, discrimination or wrong to find a means of redress and know that God sees their need. Bless governments, U.N., international organisations, churches and faith groups and individuals working to make a more just world. Amos 5v24

Cleansing - The Church was made holy by the power of His word and pure by washing with water. Pray people will seek God’s cleansing and not rely on their own initiatives or good acts which are insufficient. Eph. 5v25-27, Heb. 10v 22. Jer. 2v13, John 15v3, Ezek. 36v25-27

Spirit - God’s spirit is described as being poured out like water. Pray that His Spirit will be showered upon our church and community. Pray that in our personal study and prayer we shall thirst for God. John the Baptist used water for the baptism of repentance but pointed to Jesus who would baptise with Holy Spirit and fire. Pray for the growth of the fruit of the Spirit in our lives. Is. 44v3 Ps. 42v1, Ps. 63v1, Matt. 3v11

Healing - Water is used for cleansing people, places and things. Recall Naaman who was healed of his leprosy when sent to wash in the Jordan River 7 times. Jesus’ first healing miracle was at the Pool of Bethesda where he healed the lame man. Similarly, the blind man was healed at the Pool of Siloam. Thank God for all the uses to which water can be put in medicine and science to help and cure. Pray for any who are bereaved, depressed or anxious that they may know the presence of the Shepherd and peace resting by the “quiet waters”. 2 Kings 5v10, Ps. 23v2, John 5v2-9, John 9v1-11.

Rebirth - the stream of water flowing from the Temple in Ezekiel’s vision renews life in the Dead Sea and reminds us of the abundance of God’s promises. To be born again we need to hear Jesus’ words to Nicodemus. Pray for any you know who need the hope of a fresh start in life that they will be pointed to Jesus and become a new creation in Him. He is the one who can walk on water and turn water into wine!! Ezek. 47v1-5, Joel 3v8, Zech.14v8 John 3 v5, John7 v37 -39

Salvation - this is described in terms of “wells” of salvation. Jesus refers to faith in Him the living water as “a spring of water welling up to eternal life.” The encounter with the woman at the well details this. Jesus has paid the price to deal with our sin so that we are offered water without cost from the spring of the waters of life. Pray for all who come to church or who we know to experience this salvation. Isaiah 12v3, John 4v14 Rev. 21v 6. Rev. 22v1-2

If you have any specific requests for prayer, please contact our Minister Jeff McWatters on 07799552804. In addition, if there are any situations that arise for which you need practical support, please contact Jeff or our Clerk of Session, Fiona, on 07974180321, or your elder.

ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK

Mon 17th	10am	Craft Class
Tues 18th	6.30pm	B.B.
Thurs 20th	7.30pm	Badminton

Other organisations are planning to restart in a few weeks; more information will be available nearer the time.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

JANUARY DROP-OFF MORNING: please leave off church envelopes and items for the food bank on **Thursday 27th January**. Items urgently requested by the foodbank: longlife milk, diluting juice, rice, tins of spaghetti and coffee. This month we will also be supporting our GB Company and the Benevolent Fund.

DISCOVERY SUNDAY SCHOOL is returning to their pre-covid pandemic schedule i.e. there will be Sunday School every Sunday morning for children in pre-school to Year 10 during the morning service, except for the 3rd Sunday each month which will be an all-age service. Please note that as January has 5 Sundays the all-age service will be on **Sunday 23rd January**.