



Wesley's Blog

Wesley prays from the bible.



Thessalonians is one of the earliest New Testament writings, thought to have been written in AD 51 or 52. Paul and Silas established the church community and Timothy visited later to encourage them.

There is an 'octave' of prayer pointers in the closing verses of 1 Thessalonians. (Think "Doh a deer, a female deer; ray, a drop of golden sun" if you want!)

Here are the 8 prayer pointers / headings from 1 Thessalonians v16-22:

Be joyful always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances, do not put out the Spirit's fire, do not treat prophecies with contempt, test everything, hold on to the good, avoid every kind of evil.

Paul finishes this letter with these words of encouragement: "May God himself, the God of peace, sanctify you through and through. May your whole spirit, soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful and he will do it."

Use the 8 pointers as you pray and, for the musical ones: "Joy to the world, the Lord has come" goes down an octave, note by note!!

Turn your face to the sun and the shadows fall behind you.

Words worth considering don't you agree?

Getting up from our cosy bed in the morning often doesn't appeal. On bright summer morning we might leap from bed full of enthusiasm but on an icy winter's morning, it's altogether different. Still, these words by an unknown writer might make it all a little easier. 'Every morning is a challenge. Waking from sleep is like being born again, leaving our bed and faring forth means we have a new opportunity, an opportunity to do better than we have ever done before.' So leave the snooze button alone and rise to the challenges of the day ahead.

I have to exercise early in the morning before my brain figures out what I am doing.

Life's Journey

Sometimes we feel as if we are racing through the day as smoothly as a gazelle. Sometimes it's as if we were a tiny gastropod, just creeping along at a snail's pace. Sometimes we just have to be like a frog and take a great leap of faith!

Well, that's the way to make a splash in the world!

When John Newton wrote 'Amazing Grace', he was a clergyman in Warwickshire and he could hardly have foreseen that native American Cherokees would be singing a version of it 70 years later. Marching along the thousand mile 'Trail of Tears' to their new reservation, they sang the hymn so often in tribute to the dead they left on the way, that it became a part of their folklore. But, if something touches the human soul, it has the power to touch every human soul, no matter where, no matter when and no matter in what situation. Amazing, isn't it? But, grace is grace and always will be.

A little piece of Aboriginal wisdom:

We are all visitors to this time, this place. We are just passing through. Our purpose here is to observe, to learn to grow, to love and then we return home.

Faith lights a lantern that burns ever long,
Faith lights a lantern that shines ever strong
For though skies may darken and storm clouds may toll,
Still faith's flame glows steady to calm and console,
No matter how wind tossed or battered or drenched,
The light of faith's lantern can never be quenched.
Margaret Ingall

The Longest Password

During a recent password audit, it was found that an Essex girl was using the following password: "MickeyMinniePlutoHueyLouieDeweyDonaldGoofyLondon"

When asked why she had such a long password, she said she was told that it had to be at least 8 characters long and include at least one capital.

Speak softly and sweetly. If your words are soft and sweet, they won't be so hard to swallow if you have to eat them, nor will you get indigestion!

Leeds Methodist Mission are supporting the Leeds Green Hearts Campaign 2021

Are you worried about climate change? Want to do something to make your voice heard on the issue?

LMM is organising a city wide green hearts campaign ahead of COP26, the UN Climate Change meeting which is in Glasgow in November of this year. They are asking groups and individuals to make green heart to send to local leaders to show how important radical change to stop climate change is to the people of Leeds. These can be knitted, sewn, coloured, any thing you want. So if you fancy trying some simple craft or meeting as a group to do some together online you can find full instructions, craft templates and a session plan here:

<https://leedsmethodistmission.co.uk/2021/01/27/leeds-green-heart-campaign-2021/>

If you want any more details, or information about where the hearts should go, please contact Phil Maud from The Grove.

Anthony's garden is his haven. Endless hours are spent tending his flowers and enjoying their beauty, and over the years he had lovingly created an entrance with stepping stones and a trellis. It bears a plaque that says: Keep your eyes to the sky, your feet on the path and your heart on the moment.

What a lovely way to walk through life's garden.

During an end of term quiz the teacher looked around his class and asked: 'Who was Joan of Arc?' Eight year old Tim though for a moment and then replied, 'Noah's wife.' As a Cuban proverb says: 'Life is short but a smile is only a second's effort.'

STORY OF ELIJAH

The Sunday school teacher in a little country church was carefully explaining the story of Elijah the Prophet and the false prophets of Baal. She explained how Elijah built the altar, put wood upon it, cut the steer in pieces, and laid it upon the altar. And then, Elijah commanded the people of God to fill four barrels of water and pour it over the altar. He had them do this four times. 'Now', said the teacher, 'can anyone in the class tell me why the Lord would have Elijah pour water over the steer on the altar?' A little girl in the back of the room started waving her hand, 'I know! I know!' she said, "To make the gravy!"

A competition was held to find the stupidest but 'true' things that bosses have said. Here's a selection of the winning entries.

As of tomorrow, employees will only be able to access the building using individual security cards. Pictures will be taken next Wednesday and employees will receive their cards in two weeks.

What I really need is a list of specific unknown problems we will encounter.

This project is so important, we can't let things that are more important interfere with it.

Teamwork is a lot of people doing what I say.

GOOD SAMARITAN

A Sunday school teacher was telling her class the story of the Good Samaritan, in which a man was beaten, robbed and left for dead. She described the situation in vivid detail so her students would catch the drama. Then, she asked the class, "If you saw a person lying on the roadside, all wounded and bleeding, what would you do?" A thoughtful little girl broke the hushed silence, "I think I'd throw up."

DID NOAH FISH?

A Sunday school teacher asked, "Johnny, do you think Noah did a lot of fishing when he was on the Ark?" "No," replied David. "How could he, with just two worms?"

WAYSIDE PULPIT

'To get Joy, you must give it; to keep it you must scatter it'

'One believing heart sets another on fire'

'It's the storm that proves the strength of a ship'

'We see things not as they are, but as we are.'

'The church is not a club for saints; it is a hospital for sinners.'

Give me a sense of humour, Lord,
Give me the grace to see a joke,
To get some humour out of life,
And pass it on to other folk!

Another month,
another year.
Another smile,
another tear,
Another winter,
summer too
But there will never
be another you.
God bless everyone

LOT'S WIFE

The Sunday School teacher was describing how Lot's wife looked back and turned into a pillar of salt, when little Jason interrupted, "My Mummy looked back once, while she was driving," he announced triumphantly, "and she turned into a telephone pole!"

A father was reading Bible stories to his young son. He read, 'The man named Lot was warned to take his wife and flee out of the city, but his wife looked back and was turned to salt.' 'What happened to the flea?' said the little boy.

Communicate with God
via knee mail