



Wesley's Blog

Hasn't this year flown? Where has it gone? It is now 6 months since the churches in the circuit were closed. Usually at this time we would be looking forward to starting the new church year and people's diaries would be filling up with church councils, circuit meeting and all the other events which belong to the beginning of the new year. This year will be very different to the usual, but Wesley is delighted to see many of the circuit churches looking to reopen over the next few months. Although things will not be the same, Wesley hopes there will be a seat for him and he is ready to join you, with his mask.



Opportunity knocks and it could be at your door today. People in China say it knocks every day in life at your door and mine, and while some of us hear it, others don't. But, it's not enough to hear the knock of opportunity. We must welcome him in they say, greet him, make friends with him and then all work together. Isn't that a good way of approaching new opportunities?

Businessmen use the phrase every day. Men and woman in government are rarely without it on their lips. In fact it could be said to be one of the key phrases of our age. You may have guessed it already, those three little words 'The way forward'. This expression is surely one that can be taken to heart by millions more than just those who are in business or politics. It is an excellent motto for all of us in our daily lives. Onwards, not backwards, is the way to go.

In his children's address the Minister said, 'I want you to imagine that you have to leave home suddenly and set out on a dangerous journey. What would you take with you?' One of the older children suggested a bible, others a change of clothes, a raincoat or a stout stick. It was young Brian, aged 4, who shamed them all. 'I know' he shouted. 'I wouldn't need to take anything. I'd ask God to come with me!'

God's Shop

I entered and saw one of God's angels behind the counter. Surprised and amazed I asked: Angel of God, what are you selling? All of God's gifts, he answered me Are they expensive? No. Everything is free. I looked carefully around the shop. There were jugs full of happiness, packets with hope, baskets full of contentment, boxes filled with hints and pieces of wisdom, and bags with trust. Gathering my courage I asked 'I'd like a jar of belief, lots of peace and happiness for me and my family, friends and neighbours, plenty of gratitude too; forgiveness and lots of love for everyone.'

Speedily the Angel of God prepared me a small package which weighed lightly in my hand. Surprised I said 'Have you put everything I asked for in this tiny parcel?' Smiling, the angel answered 'My dear customer – in God's shop we don't sell fruit, we only supply seeds.'

Anon

Some unusual prayers from 'Prayers and Graces'

An old Scottish prayer:

Grant, O Lord, that we may always be right, for Thou knowest we will never change our minds.' Spoken no doubt by people who were very sure of themselves.

From the Minister of the two Cumbraes, the islands in the Clyde:

Lord, bless and be gracious to the greater and lesser Cumbraes, and in Thy mercy do not forget the two adjacent islands of Great Britain and Ireland.' There's nothing like knowing your own importance.

This prayer is by a child:

Make me, dear Lord, polite and kind to everyone I pray, and may I ask you, how you find yourself, dear Lord, today?



Who ever thought the comment 'I wouldn't touch him/her with a 6 foot pole' would become a national policy?'

The trouble with doing something right the first time is that nobody appreciates how difficult it was.

Planting your Garden

Plant three rows of peas
Peace of mind
Peace of heart
Peace of soul

Plant four rows of squash
Squash gossip
Squash indifference
Squash grumbling
Squash selfishness

Plant four rows of lettuce
Lettuce be faithful
Lettuce be kind
Lettuce be patient
Lettuce really love one another

No garden is complete without turnips
Turnip for meetings
Turnip for service
Turnip to help one another

To conclude in our garden we must have thyme
Thyme for each other
Thyme for family
Thyme for friends

Water freely with patience and cultivate with love. There is much fruit in your garden because you reap what you sow.

A Methodist lay-preacher arrived at a little country chapel to take a service. As he went in he saw in the porch a collecting box. Thinking it was for the poor, he slipped 50p into it and went on into the vestry. After the service was over, one of the office-bearers approached and after thanking him said, 'You'll understand that we are not able to pay you any fee, but we have a box in the porch so that any who have been helped by the service and feel grateful may put something in and whatever is found in it we ask the preacher to accept towards his travelling expenses. I am delighted be able to tell you that today there is 50p Here it is with our thanks.' The preacher smiled and took it. When he got home he told his wife and children the story and they had a good laugh together. Then the eldest boy remarked, 'Well you know Dad, if you had put more in, you would have got more out!'

The road to success is not straight. There is a curve called Failure, a loop called Confusion, speed bumps called Friends, red lights called Enemies, caution lights called Family. You will have flats called Jobs. But if you have a spare called Determination, an engine called Perseverance, insurance called Faith, a driver called Jesus, you will make it to a place called Success.

Don't be too busy, too serious, too sensible to enjoy a little fun and laughter. Remember, 'A little nonsense now and then is relished by the wisest men!'

Every path has its puddle.

I didn't intend to do a thing today and so far I'm right on schedule

BRING YOUR RED UMBRELLA

When severe draught hit a farming community in the Midwest, a local church called a prayer meeting and everybody showed up. Crisis has a way of getting our attention. As the Minister stood before his packed church, he noticed an 11 year old girl sitting in the front row beaming with excitement. Lying next to her was her bright red umbrella poised for use. The beauty and innocence of this sight made him smile, as he compared the faith of this child with that of the rest of the people in the room. You see, the rest of them had just come to pray for rain. She had come to see God answer.

New Testament Mark 11 v24

Ask in prayer, Believe that you have received it and it will be yours.

The Bible and Mobile Phones

What would happen if we treated our Bible like we treat our mobile phones? What if we carried it around in our bags or pockets? What if we turned back to go get it if we forgot it? What if we flipped through it several times a day? What if we used it to receive messages from the texts? What if we gave it to our children as gifts? What if we used it as we travelled? What if we used it in case of an emergency? What if we upgraded it to get the latest version? This is something to make you go ... Hmmm... where is my Bible? Oh, and one more thing! Unlike our mobile phone, we don't ever have to worry about our Bible being disconnected because Jesus already paid the bill for us.



"Aliens have landed in London...A comet is about to obliterate Wales...The queen is coming to our coffee morning... And now that I have your attention!..."

The Ten Commandments were NOT called The Ten Suggestions