



Wesley's Blog

Wesley Bear prays from the bible
In this Year of Prayer, the National Methodist Church encourages us to explore and develop our prayer life. Wesley will be showing us prayer responses in the bible to help us see how we can do this.



First up is Mary (Luke 1 46-55). After some amazing news she goes to see her older relative, Elizabeth. Elizabeth is also pregnant and they spend about three months together in mutual support.

Note how the first 4 verses relate to Mary herself, then her prayer expands to the qualities and actions of God throughout the world. From personal praise to worldwide power.

“ My soul praises the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my saviour, for he has been mindful of the humble estate of his servant.

From now on all generations will call me blessed, for the Mighty One has done great things for me- holy is his name”.

“His mercy extends to those who fear him, from generation to generation.

He has performed mighty deeds with his arm.

He has scattered those who are proud in their inmost thoughts.

He has brought down rulers from their thrones, but has lifted up the humble.

He has filled the hungry with good things, but has sent the rich away empty.

He has helped his servant Israel, remembering to be merciful to Abraham and his descendants for ever, even as he said to our fathers.”

Phyllis Birchall wrote these moving lines:

Faith is like a shining star, beckoning us from afar,

Faith means trusting, come what may

Even when the days seem grey.

Looking upward to the sun, knowing God loves everyone

When courage fails but faith remains

This will lift us up again

But if faith begins to dim, let your thoughts just dwell on Him

Who for us came down to earth, to save and bless us with His birth.

Keeping your temper when everything's wrong
Gallantly, pleasantly jogging along
Doing your job - if you like it or not
Making the most of the little you've got
Carrying on when you want to give in
This you must do if determined to win!

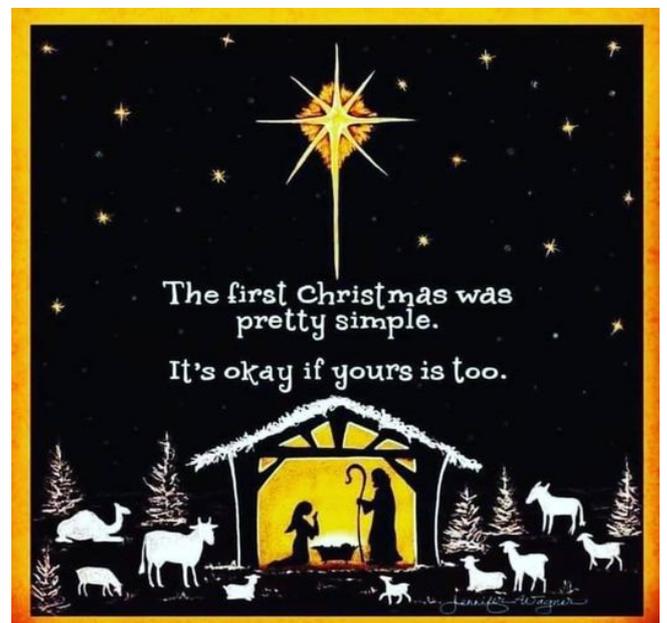
A seven year old's letter to Santa:

Dear Santa.

I would like lots of things in the world but mainly I would like everyone to be happy and in a warm place. I would like all animals to be in one too. I hope that you and your little elves can gather some food for the starving. Please, please don't worry about any of my presents but I hope you can help or my Christmas will not be happy.

An encouraging note don't you think?

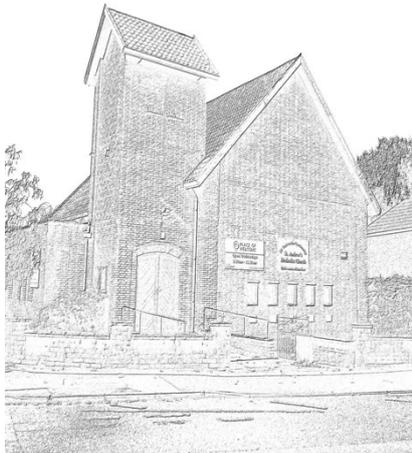
Do you know why Rosemary, with its silvery green leaves, had flowers of a clear blue? A great deal of story and legend is often attached to plants and it is said that when Mary and Joseph, with baby Jesus, were fleeing to Egypt to escape the wrath of King Herod, Mary hung the Christ child's linen to dry on a sweet smelling Rosemary bush. From then on the Rosemary's white flowers turned to the delicate blue we know today.



Phrases that best sum up the Christmas season? '
Peace on earth', 'Good will to all' and 'Batteries not included'

Nearly a hundred pages of wit and wisdom, what better gift to brighten these uncertain times? Indeed, the ultimate answer to the ongoing dilemma "what can we get them for Christmas".

Saints Alive



Please contact John Goacher to order your copy, giving your name and which church you attend so that delivery can be arranged. In true Baldrick fashion, there is a cunning plan for delivery. Better get in quick before they sell out! Wesley has already ordered 4, 1 for him and 3 as presents

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St Andrew's Methodist Church Beeston Annual 2020



Thank you to everyone who donated to St Mark's gift Sunday for the Salvation Army. Wesley did not have time to unpack all the bags collecting under the table before the service, not that there was enough room on the table for all the generous gifts. The gifts have been delivered to the Salvation Army in Bramley and will be distributed where needed in the area.

A four year old boy was asked to give thanks before Christmas dinner. The family members bowed their heads in expectation. He began his prayer, thanked God for all his friends, naming them one by one. Then he thanked God for Mummy, Daddy, brother, sister, Grandma, Grandpa and all his aunts and uncles. Then he began to thank God for the food. He gave thanks for the turkey, the stuffing, the gravy, the cranberry sauce, the mince pies, the Christmas pudding, even the brandy sauce. Then he paused and everyone waited - and waited. After a long silence, the young boy looked at his mother and asked 'If I thank God for the sprouts, won't he know that I'm lying?'

Grandfather talking to his granddaughter: 'When I was a child all we got for Christmas was an apple and an orange.' The girl replied, 'Brilliant - a computer and a mobile phone!'

A five year old girl was watching as the Nativity scene was set up for the carol service. She was mesmerised by all the figurines - especially the baby Jesus. When she asked what the manger was, her teacher explained that they didn't have a crib for Jesus, so they had to lay a blanket on the hay and put him there. She thought about that for a minute, and then asked, 'Did they have to use a manger for his car seat too?'

A group of children had been rehearsing for the Nativity play they were to perform for parents. All went well on the day, until one of the shepherds decided to use his initiative. Approaching the manger, he looked at the baby Jesus, smiled at Mary and said, 'Isn't he like his dad!'

Father chatting with his young son about Christmas: 'Father Christmas brings toys to good little boys. Do you know what he brings if you're bad?' Son replied 'Clothes.'

Word search

ANGELS	OE	HEROD
BETHLEHEM	FG	KING
CHILD	TEIR	MANGER
EAST	NGIFTSESHERODREB	MARY
	EYRAMHNODLIHCH	
	BETHLEHEMDSB	
	EGIMACPCEISO	
	NGSINSHNLG	
	EATDLINGELOH	
	MMGNIKIGIRLY	
	ASTRAYNNONGDEB	
	NMYRRHGAKFRATSCI	
	RRYH	
FIELDS	FS	MYRRH
FRANKINCENSE	OE	SHEPHERDS
GIFTS		SINGING
GOLD		STAR

'I've found religion', 'I've found Jesus', 'Have you found God? I have'; 'I've got the Bible'. Oh the joys of the word search in the classroom!!