

Monday 20th April 2020

Good morning!

In beginning the new Philippians-based sermon series yesterday, "Letter from Lockdown", Hils encouraged us to be asking God in this season if we need a "reset" in any area of life; she then spoke of how we might 'reset our confidence in the gospel'. (Her talk is on the website if you missed it)

Let's use her three headings as the basis for praying **for ourselves & others** today:

1) God wants us to be confident that He's working His purposes out.

Remind yourself of these scriptures - say them aloud - and thank God for the truth of them:

"And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose." (Rom 8:28)

"As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts." (Is 55:9)

Thank God he has called us to himself in relationship based on **trust** in his loving character, **not on our desire to understand** everything.

In this unique season, where so much is unfamiliar and uncertain, beyond our control and understanding -

Pray for yourself, and any other members of God's family on your heart, to grow in the confidence that God is working his purposes out.

2) God wants us to be confident in the resurrection.

"For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain. If I am to go on living in the body, this will mean fruitful labour for me. Yet what shall I choose? I do not know! I am torn between the two: I desire to depart and be with Christ, which is better by far;" (Phil 1:21-23)

Paul's is very confident in the resurrection of Jesus, and unafraid of death; he is very confident in his own resurrection after death into eternity with Jesus, living in his glorious presence for ever.

Repeat this verse aloud over yourself, and any other members of God's family on your heart. Pray that God would grow your confidence in the reality of eternal life; reduce any fear of death; and help you to live more freely and faith-fully now, in the light of eternity.

3) God wants us to be confident that we have a part to play in what He's doing.

"Live in such a way that you are a credit to the Message of Jesus." (Phil 1:27 Msg)

Ask the Holy Spirit to show you specifically what that looks like today and in this season.

Whatever you sense him showing you:

- write it down
- thank him that he has given you grace to do it
- do it
- share it with those you pray with