

Tuesday 21st April 2020

Good morning!

A further simple thought from Paul's "Letter from Lockdown" (ie Philippians!) to fuel our prayer today:

In Chapter 1, verse 3, he writes:

"I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of....."

Amongst other things, Paul was a relentless intercessor! Here, as elsewhere in his other letters, we see how he prayed **frequently, specifically, enthusiastically** and **prophetically** for both individuals and groups.

And he told them some of his prayers.

So today's prayer encouragement:

1) Ask the Holy Spirit to show you a particular person to pray for today.

a) You may know some of the needs that person already has and the situation they're in - in which case, pray for the Lord to meet those needs and bless them in that situation.

b) But also ask the Holy Spirit to speak to you about that person, to give you something of the Father's heart for them - maybe he will give you a word of knowledge, a prophecy, a picture, a scripture....something to encourage that person with. (If it's from the Lord, it will always be positive not critical, uplifting not discouraging)

c) Get in touch with that person today - preferably call/FaceTime them - and (if you think it appropriate) share what God has shown you, and simply let them know what you have prayed for them.

Pray for them over the phone. Paul didn't have that option (!) but we do. Failing that, send a message.

2) Think of Trinity and another church you know. Pray for them - slowly and aloud a few times - what Paul prays over the Philippians (Phil 1:9-11):

"And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight, so that you may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ—to the glory and praise of God." (NIV)

"I continue to pray for your love to grow and increase beyond measure, bringing you into the rich revelation of spiritual insight in all things. This will enable you to choose the most excellent way of all—becoming pure and without offence until the unveiling of Christ. And you will be filled completely with the fruits of righteousness that are found in Jesus, the Anointed One—bringing great praise and glory to God!" (The Passion Translation)