

August 2014

The recent European elections held earlier this year, alongside a number of local Council elections, certainly caused a stir in the political arena - and not just in the UK. It seems that many voters have lost confidence in the major parties and gave their votes elsewhere, whether in protest or as genuine followers of the smaller parties. We look now to see whether those parties are listening and willing to review their policies. In addition there are a number of seriously troubling developments in various parts of the world, as well as major concerns at home regarding financial matters. However, some of the long-running concerns we have been praying about continue to need prayer.



Some major issues we could usefully pray into are below.
(Scriptures and model prayers offered may help us to get started.)

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Please also encourage your praying Christian friends to do likewise.

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Weekly Prayer Meeting

Prayer for Parliament and the Nation



Education and Extremism

As the controversy around alleged take-over plots in schools in Birmingham, and more recently in Bradford, rumbles on, some are not surprised to hear voices from within Islam complaining "you are only picking on us because we're Muslims".

The response of officialdom may be a fear of being labelled Islamophobic, so such allegations might well be withdrawn or diluted. But the greater concern is that this matter may turn out to threaten the future of ALL faith schools, including Christian ones, as although the schools in question are not themselves faith schools, some are calling for a comprehensive ban.

Proverbs 22:6 (TLB)
Teach a child to choose the right path, and when he is older, he will remain upon it.

Psalms 119:105 (NIV)
Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path.

A starting point for prayer:
 Lord, in Your Word You make it clear that the very foundations of wisdom and understanding stand on the fear of the Lord! We acknowledge that Your ways are perfect, and that your precepts are reliable. So we pray for every aspect of education in which Biblical Judeo-Christian concepts might be incorporated. Please protect this nation's children from any attempt to keep them from knowing You! In Jesus' name. Amen.



Slavery and Human Trafficking

It is commendable that the Government has so quickly started the process of enacting a Bill against modern slavery and human trafficking. It is said that there are at least as many in slavery today as there were in the days of Wilberforce! It is clearly an offence against humanity and the process needs much prayer, that the Bill will be well thought through, and comprehensive and effective in its working. Much careful preparation is needed, and then total support within both Houses of Parliament.

We meet on Tuesday nights in the The Chapel at Methodist Central Hall, near parliament square to pray for parliament, and our nation's leaders. Please come join us.

Weekly Prayer Meeting

Every Tuesday
From 6pm
The Chapel, Methodist Central Hall, Westminster

Psalm 82:3-4 (NKJV)

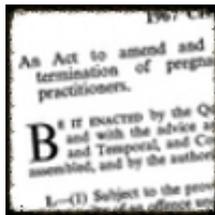
Defend the poor and fatherless; do justice to the afflicted and needy. Deliver the poor and needy; free them from the hand of the wicked.

Psalm 140:12 (NIV)

I know that the Lord secures justice for the poor and upholds the cause of the needy.

A starting point for prayer:

Lord of mercy, we cry out to you on behalf of those whose liberty is taken from them and whose lives are full of misery and harsh treatment. We acknowledge that we are all made in Your image and are precious in Your sight. Therefore we plead with You, Lord Jesus, to come as the Anointed One of God to release the captives [Isaiah 61:1 and Luke 4:18]! Thank You that this Bill is already underway: please grant all involved wisdom and clear-thinking as they bring it into effect, and then prosper the work of those who will enforce it. Amen.



Abortion and the Law

Concerns continue as we see an apparent slackening of the application of the 1967 Abortion Bill. It is deemed acceptable that abortion can be permitted without a Doctor seeing the woman concerned, and abortions are frequently permitted on grounds that were not really intended in the original Act (such as relatively minor disabilities, and even gender selection). Please pray for all who are working to have the law clarified and to ensure compliance even with the Law as it stands.

Psalm 119:126 (NIV)

It is time for you to act, O Lord; your law is being broken.

Psalm 139:16b (NIV)

All the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be.

A starting point for prayer:

Lord of life, Creator God, who made us all in Your image and likeness, we call out to You for the unborn children whose lives are in danger of being thrown away. We pray for those who are trying to draw attention to the whole abortion issue, and to persuade Parliament to look again at the Abortion Act. May they find hard evidence of any instances of the law being broken. Please grant them success, so that many precious lives will be saved. In Jesus' name. Amen.



Northern Ireland

This time of year brings with it many challenges and the political process is in crisis at present with dialogue currently suspended. Politicians have been seeking to resolve the outstanding issues of the peace process, including contentious parades and how to deal with the legacy of a troubled past. However, this will need more than a 'sticking plaster' to heal the wound of many years of conflict. We are reminded of God's word in Jeremiah 8:11 which says -

'They dress the wound of my people as though it were not serious. "Peace, peace," they say, when there is no peace.'

Matthew 5:9 (NIV)

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

Psalm 127:1 (NIV)

Unless the LORD builds the house, the builders labour in vain. Unless the LORD watches over the city, the guards stand watch in vain.

A starting point for prayer:

Sovereign Lord, you rule over all things and you determine the destiny of both individuals and nations. We praise you for raising up peace-makers in Northern Ireland so that your plan for this troubled people might be fulfilled. You are the God of our salvation and the Lord of our hope. In you we have faith that the wounds that run deep in Northern Ireland can be healed in the power of the blood of Jesus. Be pleased to pour out that healing and redemptive power on this land and make it an example to others in the world that they too might seek the face of their creator and know an everlasting peace. Amen.

Contact Us

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THE PRAYER FOUNDATION

