

-ONE LOVE – ONE PURPOSE

EVERYTHING & EVERYONE BROUGHT TOGETHER AT THE CROSS

#Empty Yourself

“Empty yourself because Christ emptied Himself for you”

In the penultimate week of our series on UNITY, we will be looking at HUMILITY. In conjunction with our series scripture, we will be looking at Philippians 2:5-11. Paul writes to the church in Philippi due to there being a disagreement between two leaders and he encourages them to find humility in their hearts. Being humble is a key aspect of entering the Kingdom and we are encouraged to find peace with each other in spite of differences, being right, getting our own way or getting our point across.

Humility isn't easy and it takes a change of focus and an emptying of oneself in order to make room for the Spirit of God to make room in our hearts. “A cup cannot be filled if it is already full”

“In your lives you must think and act like Christ Jesus. Christ himself was like God in everything. But he did not think that being equal with God was something to be used for his own benefit. But he gave up his place with God and made himself nothing”– Philippians 2:5-7

REFLECTION

1. Remember who's in charge—& praise Him! Its hard keep things in perspective if we don't remember who is Lord! - Psalm 90 is a good place to start.
2. Pray for a humble heart - Ask the Holy Spirit to open your eyes to the ways in which pride gets in the way of your relationships.
3. Pay more attention to your own faults than to the flaws of others.- Confess your failings, but don't obsess—move on!
4. Don't hide behind your dignity—its pride's favourite hiding place. Your real value lies in God's eyes, not in the eyes of the world. Remember: “God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble” (1 Peter 5:5)
5. Worship isn't about you - .Give all of your heart and mind to God.
6. Serve others -The fastest way to humility is the way Christ chose. “For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve...”Mk 10:45

Prayers

- For church members who are unwell and/or who can no longer attend.
- For the Lunch Club and all who attend
- For Sarah, Sarah and their families
- For CGL and the continued growth & positive influence in the community
- For opportunities to share the gospel in our community and home lives
- For Amy, Ben and their families
- For open doors/opportunities to build relationships with our community and other local churches
- For the governmental challenges and Brexit negotiations at this time
- For 3 people you know or know of that need to come to know the Lord
- For the floods in Bangladesh and other parts of Asia, Caribbean, U.S.
- For Amy and Dan as Amy undergoes treatment for cancer
- For peace in our world
- For our emergency services
- For our church
- For the challenges & tragedies of increased gun/knife crime in our city
- For North Korea as tensions continue to rise

Today's Service

- Bible Reading

John 17:20-26

- Songs

- ❖ Come Thou fount
- ❖ Here is love
- ❖ I want to serve the purpose of God
- ❖ I will enter His gates
- ❖ O church arise

Notices

Sunday 24th September 2017

- Next Lunch club will be on **25th September 2017**
- Please continue to support our emergency food parcel cupboard by bringing in some things off the list in the foyer when you can
- Thursday morning prayer meeting **9.30am – 10.30am** (1st Thursday of the month)
- Pickleball every Monday **@7.00PM (term times)**
- Wednesday bible study every week **@7.30PM (term times)**
- Church Away Day – **7 October 10.30AM – 4PM** – please let us know if you can attend. There will be a contribution of around £20 for the day if you are able
- Next Strategy Meeting – **10 October @7.30PM – Nicodemus presentation – all church members welcome**
- Next Church Meeting – **22 October 2017 – after the service**
- Welcoming into Membership service of – **Ena Wiggins on 1st October 2017 and a shared lunch after church**
- **Samaritans Purse** – shoebox collections. 13-17th November between 11am – 2pm. If you can help with a session – please see Sarah.
- **Harvest Sunday** – 8 October – Please bring in an offering of food if you are able

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- **Flower Rota** - 1 October – Edna
 - **Prayer** - 1 October – Merkel
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CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER
BAPTIST CHURCH



Prayer for the Week

So Spirit, come put strength in every stride,
Give grace for every hurdle,
That we may run with faith to win the prize
Of a servant good and faithful.
As saints of old still line the way,
Retelling triumphs of His grace,
We hear their calls and hunger for the day
When with Christ we stand in glory.

Father God,

Deliver us from prideful attitudes that rob us of joy and gratitude. Help us to embrace humility and humility that finds its confidence in You.

Therefore, help me each day to eliminate the ways in me that may be a stumbling block in my relationships with others. Help me to know with confidence that I am Yours and that because of this I can choose humility – I can choose to lay down my ways, my thoughts, myself to you, so that in all things I will choose to empty myself for Your sake.

Give me the grace to live each day in the example that you set out for us, with purpose, with passion and with humility

In Jesus name - AMEN

Notes

Series – Theme Song

O church arise

O Church, arise, and put your armour on;
Hear the call of Christ our Captain.
For now the weak can say that they are strong
In the strength that God has given.
With shield of faith and belt of truth,
We'll stand against the devil's lies;
An army bold, whose battle-cry is Love,
Reaching out to those in darkness.

Our call to war, to love the captive soul
But to rage against the captor;
And with the sword that makes the wounded whole,
We will fight with faith and valour.
When faced with trials on every side
We know the outcome is secure,
And Christ will have the prize for which He died,
An inheritance of nations.

Come see the cross, where love and mercy meet,
As the Son of God is stricken;
Then see His foes lie crushed beneath His feet,
For the Conqueror has risen!
And as the stone is rolled away,
And Christ emerges from the grave,
This victory march continues till the day
Every eye and heart shall see Him.

Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time. ⁷Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you. – 1 Peter 5:6-7