

Thought for the day – Friday 30th July 2021

By Revd John Ohen

PRAYER

As Christians we are encouraged to pray all the time, to be precise “to pray without ceasing. 1 Thessalonians 5: 17”. I was given three books on prayer in our 60 years of joint Ministry celebration.

1. Rage and Hope 75 years for a better world by Christian Aid. What caught my eye, was where it said that our world is broken. All around us, we see injustice and inequality. Yet, we hope - - - despite it all.
2. A prayer for every occasion by Carrie Marris – Zondervan. It says “Nothing compares to the power of prayer”
3. David’s Crown Sounding the Psalms by Malcolm Guite with introduction by Paula Gooder. “Reminding us that the psalms are great poetry, and so rich and varied in their imagery that they nourish the imagination and become a source from which our own prayers can be formed and enriched”.

However, we must not be too quick to judge others, let alone too quick to separate the wheat from the tares. In contrast, our calling is to be quick to show mercy, eager to excuse and gracious towards everybody. Who are we to judge? We do not know that one day the righteous will shine like the sun in God’s kingdom. It may even come as a surprise to see those who are numbered among the righteous in God’s kingdom. Mercy is a way of life, we have received mercy, therefore we must show mercy. Matthew 13: 36 -43.

We as Christians, should continue to make our church and our homes a place of prayer. A place where we learn to be still and speak to our heavenly Father in prayer. Parents and grandparents have the noble task of being an example of the Christian life to their children and grandchildren. We all should be like yeast working through the dough. One of the best ways of teaching how to pray is to be a good example of prayer. Prayer still remains vital for the Christian life. It is in prayer that we hear the Lord teach us about his plan and vocation for our lives. So, sisters and brothers let us turn to our Lord in prayer.

Bible passage: Matthew 13: 31 -35.

PRAYER: Lord give us your wisdom and teach us how to pray, that our lips may sing your praise now and forever. AMEN.