

It is very challenging to develop a good habit of prayer. These three tips come from Brother Luigi Gioia. They are: keep it simple, keep it honest and keep it going. This is what he says:

Keep it simple.

Keep your prayer as simple as possible, maybe even reduce it to one sentence. To pray can be for five minutes, for fifteen minutes, or half an hour.

Keep it honest.

We often think that we have to be in a certain mood to pray. Before we pray we have to be peaceful or we have to be joyful or enthusiastic about the Lord. The reality is that we are in completely different moods. The secret is to realise that each one of these feelings, even the most negative feelings can be become a fuel for prayer. When I start praying I start with the most dominant feeling in my heart. Start from where you are.

Keep it going.

We can pray all the time, for the people around us. Or we can simply say Lord I love you, Lord help me. In any situation, we can pray. Keep it simple, keep it honest, keep it going.

World Events

Use the news as a source of prayer pointers. Pray for:

- Those grieving and suffering following the Manchester bombing.
- Peace and restraint in the world's trouble spots, especially Syria, North Korea and Iraq.
- The unrest in Brazil, caused by President Temer's alleged corruption
- The violence in the Philippines, in which Christians have been taken hostage.
- De-escalation in the tension with North Korea.

Salvation

Please pray for:

- A sovereign move of God's Spirit in this area, drawing people to Jesus as Saviour and Lord.
- Specific individuals on your frontline.
- Your neighbours by name.
- Those attending Coffee Shop and our community outreach events.
- Non-Christian partners of TBC family members.
- Guests who attend the baptism service at the start of June

June 2017



Frontline Mission

As a church we recognise that God is interested in our whole lives. Each month we feature and pray for a different 'frontline' - the places where TBC members spend their Monday- Saturday lives. This month we feature those who work in manual trades.



My name is Jeremy Payne. I have been a carpenter all my working life. I started at Rolls Royce where I served my Apprenticeship. I then worked as a foreman with a civil engineering company for 16 years. I have been self employed since 2004, and I undertake all types of domestic carpentry jobs, mainly in the local area.

At Rolls Royce I belonged to the Christian Bible study group. I was able to share with many of my work colleagues, about my Christian faith.

God has blessed me throughout my working life, from getting a job at Rolls Royce to getting a foreman's job with the civil engineering company when Rolls Royce closed down the carpenter shop. And now, being self employed, God has always blessed me with having enough work.

Prayer

- Thanks to God for his provision for Jeremy and for all those work in the construction business.
- For the help to deal with, what can be, an unpredictable supply of work.
- For Christ to seen in and through the work of our hands.

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following the way of Jesus

loving God, one another
and the world



Community Mission

Every Sunday Morning, as part of the 9.15am service, some 50 young people from shortly after birth to school year 12 meet in Creche, Bubbles, Splash, X Stream, Ignite and Impact as they plant and grow a faith in Jesus together with their friends. They are a much loved and valued part of the Church.

- Please pray that they will each experience God in a way that is meaningful to them, that they will find answers to their questions, that they will help each other in their disappointments and that their faith will grow strong roots.
- Please give thanks to God for all those who serve him, and the church, in leading these groups so faithfully each week and ask that he will continue to be their inspiration as they relate to the young people.
- We always need more people to help lead in our Children's and Youth Ministry, and setting up a club for those in Year 3 to 6 has long been on our heart, so in your prayers, please ask if this is an area of church life in which you could serve.

Local Mission Partners

Thornbury Foodbank (TFB) started here at Thornbury Baptist Church in June 2013 and is a Thornbury Churches Together initiative, although not all volunteers are church goers. TFB is an affiliate of the Trussell Trust network of Foodbanks and a satellite of Yate Foodbank.

TFB is open every Friday from 2-4pm. Clients come to us for various reasons – low income, benefit delays/changes, illness or unexpected change of circumstance. Numbers of vouchers satisfied are increasing.

Prayer needs:

- Give thanks for all who faithfully give of their time and donate food
- For those who come to feel welcome encouraged and cared for.
- More volunteers
- Increase in donations of food
- For lives to be changed - physically, mentally and spiritually

All of our mission partners are listed under the 'mission' tab on our church website, so do search there for more information. Many also have their own websites, and you will find those links in their listing on the church website.

Mission Partners

CRED Foundation is a Christian development agency that supports 12 overseas partners. Our partners are involved in a range of activities, and CRED focuses support for sustainable programmes under the following categories: Education, Employment, Community Development, and Environmental Sustainability.

The CRED Team Trips continue, overseen by Adventure Lifesigns Group. CRED works in partnership with them to maintain the ethos of the programme, and ensure young people and our international partners continue to benefit from them.

Prayer points:

- all the partners in times of increasing financial challenge,
- the communities that the partners serve who struggle with increasing climatic uncertainty, and resultant crop failures and poor harvests
- the transition of CRED Team Trips across to ALS, and working relationships for all staff involved
- Helen Harrison as she provides partner support for all the partners, as well as oversight for other organizational operations.

Use the weekly notice sheet and e-news to pray for **healing needs** in the church.

Children & Young People

72% of young people have recently felt isolated or lonely. (source: Dame Kelly Holmes Trust)

- Please pray for meaningful friendships and relationships amongst young people and across the generations.

18,788 under 18's were admitted to hospitals in England and Wales for self-harm in 2015-16, a rise of 14% in three years. (source: NSPCC)

- Please pray for a sense of value and self-worth amongst young people and for those who work in our Children and Youth Ministry to support the young people we connect with.

Childline received 2,796 calls about transgender issues in 2015-16.

(source: NSPCC)

- Pray that as a Church we address issues of sexual identity in a positive and loving way.

Personal Renewal

But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth. (Acts 1:8)

Pray earnestly for the power of Pentecost to empower you to share Jesus more effectively. If you're in a small group, pray this for one another.

Pentecost Sunday is on June 4th

