

Reaching Out

PRAYER FOCUS MAY 2021

May we be invited to pray for 2 specific needs today:

1. The possibility of starting a new congregation in West Kelowna
2. Linked - reaching out to care for refugee families.

A. Prepare your hearts. (3 mins)

Spend a moment quieting your busy mind, settling your heart and stilling your restless body. Wait in silence for a minute and acknowledge His Presence, asking Him to open your ears so you may hear Him speak.

Read Psalm 27:13-14

“I remain confident of this:

I will see the **goodness** of the Lord in the land of the living.

Wait for the Lord; be strong and take heart and wait for the Lord.”

Goodness is part of God's nature and He cannot contradict it - it is part of His perfect Being. He is not good 'because' He causes things that seem or feel good to happen in our lives, and even in those tough times He comes closer than a storm ever could and reveals His goodness. Our very existence is an expression of that goodness.

Spend a minute thanking God for how He has shown you His goodness over the past day, week, month.....

B. Prayer for West Kelowna (8 mins)

There is a possibility of the West Kelowna Church plant becoming a part of Southside. They have been journeying with us over the past number of months with a view to possibly joining us....please pray for:

i) Relationship with Southside

- For wisdom and discernment with steps forward

ii)Family:

- Heather as she leads this church plant, for renewed energy and strength and a leaning into Jesus.

- Heather's daughter Bethany, for healing to her body and mind in the midst of some challenges.
- Protection for the family in the midst of spiritual attack.

iii) Team:

- Pray for unity amongst the team
- Many of the team are young in their faith; pray for spiritual growth and equipping to step into the roles they have been called to.

iv) Summer:

- THRIVE (Christian daycare centre) . Pray for Carissa (Heather's daughter) as she leads this. Pray for outreach opportunities and families within Thrive that have expressed interest in connecting with the church in various ways. Pray for growth in registrations in the Thrive camp this summer.
- Pray for summer plans with Natalie around youth and young adults getting together and connecting.

v) Specific people:

- **The Volk family**- Jake and Lisa - pray for Jake's acceptance of Jesus
- **Kelly Quinn** - he has stage 3 lung cancer - pray for his acceptance of Jesus and for God's healing on his life.
- **Bob Roxburgh** - for continued healing from a bad bacterial infection. Pray for his wisdom and guidance as an integral part of the church plant.

*SPEND A MINUTE BEING QUIET, LISTEN AND ASK THE LORD IF THERE IS ANYTHING HE WANTS TO SAY AS YOU PRAY FOR THIS CHURCH PLANT.
(Write down anything you hear the Lord say)*

C. LINKED (8 mins)

Linked is an extension ministry of Southside. For the past 10 years or so, Southside has become increasingly involved in helping those who have sought to come to Canada from some difficult situations. Over the years, Southside has raised funds to support three families. Currently we have a number of people who serve on the Linked team and we have about \$20,000 in the bank in preparation for the next sponsorship.

At present, our main focus is on helping Winnie, (who has been a part of Southside for a number of years now), and doing all we can to find a way to sponsor her family getting to Vancouver. This has been difficult, especially during covid, but we feel we are

getting closer. To give a little background on Winnie, when she was 10 years old, war broke out in her home country of Liberia. When people fled to the neighbouring country, Ivory Coast, Winnie was separated from her family. She has not seen her mother since then. Southside submitted applications a year and a half ago to bring 6 members of Winnie's family from the Ivory Coast here to Canada.

- * Denise- Winnie's mother*
- * Mohammed - Denise's 11 year old son*
- * Mariam - Denise's 8 year old daughter*
- * Pretty - Denise's 24 year old daughter*
- * Shalon - Pretty's 5 year old daughter*
- * Winifred - Pretty's 4 year old daughter.*

i) Thanksgiving:

- For the funds we currently have
- For our relationship with Journey Home
- For the Linked team
- For people like Mark and Michelle who have led the way in this.
- For all we have here in Vancouver.

ii) Pray for Winnie's situation:

- That the applications will be processed and accepted quickly
- For Winnie for strength and peace, as the delay is causing anxiety within her.
- For safety for Winnie's family and a safe path for them to get here.
- For the raising of the rest of the funds needed.

iii) Pray for Linked:

- For a new leader for Linked and for new team members.
- For a new leader for Ride for Refuge and clarity in our involvement.
- For clarity on our partnership with Journey Home in the "Imagine Edmonds" proposal (our new building project).

*SPEND A MINUTE BEING QUIET, LISTEN AND ASK THE LORD IF THERE IS ANYTHING HE WANTS TO SAY AS YOU PRAY FOR BOTH WINNIE AND LINKED.
(Write down anything you hear the Lord say)*

As you conclude your time of prayer, thank the Lord that He has heard you.

“But God has surely listened and has heard my prayer.” Psalm 66:19

Email shelley@southside.ca with any important notes or word you either heard from the Lord or sensed as you were praying.