

Sacrificial Praying

God is a worker and he made us, in his image, to be workers, growing things building things, creating beauty, caring for his creation and central to our work should be being in relationship with him.

The last few hours of Jesus before his crucifixion show us that prayer can be a real battle. Sometimes we should devote our selves to prayer in the same way.

Like a soldier under orders at the eve of a battle, or a sailor on a sinking ship, or a worker in the fields as a tornado rushes towards them.

They pray with urgency, directness, clarity and faith that God is able to achieve far more than we can.

Sometimes we need to change gear in our prayer life.

Not just give a little effort but give a lot. Think Big, think costly in time.

Some people manage to put times for prayer as their First Priority, perhaps we should each endeavour to follow their example for a while.

I realise how far from this I am now, but change is possible.

In our Prayer Week our participation should be costly to each of us, real work, real effort, because we should be there, fighting for what God has promised.

PLEASE PRAY:

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• that God will show us what building will best serve his Kingdom	Think and pray about the current use of the hall. Has God thought of something else?	The current design has been prayed about already but God may still have additional things to reveal.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• that we will get a clear sense of whether the current design proposal is the right one	Sometimes the plans of mankind are made in human weakness.	Pray for the Lord to confirm it is right or show us clearly if the design should be altered.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• that God will guide us through our applications for planning permission and other consents	May we be understanding of the process and purpose of each hurdle across our path. May our participation be in itself a witness to our faith.	Pray that our Lord will be our shepherd, leading and protecting.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> that consultation with our neighbours will be positive and create good connections 	<p>Please pray that the planning consultations would be factual and positive and that the benefits of the new hall would be fully recognised.</p>	<p>That consultation meetings will be an occasion for witness to our faith and mission and concern for members of the community.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> that our generous God will provide all of the funding that we need, at the right time 	<p>Pray for the delivery of cash flow in tandem with the various outgoings.</p>	<p>Pray too that we would have unwavering faith that God will enable all the costs to be met.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> that the existing hall building can continue to be used until we are ready to replace it. 	<p>Pray too for the planning for the time while it is being replaced. May God be our guide to the best options</p>	<p>May our need for alternatives also be an opportunity for new contacts in the community.</p>

IMPORTANTLY: please also pray that God will show each of us how we can contribute to the building project and help to make it happen.

Please do participate in silent prayer as well as out loud.

PLEASE LISTEN:

Sometimes the Spirit prompts us to pray about things that we have not thought of. Please note down anything that you or your group pray about that is additional to the above. Please put clear Bullet points on a post it and add to the main prayer points board so others can pray about the issue again.

If you feel it is very important, or is clear guidance in some way, please also e-mail Tom and Marion, or phone if that is better.