



Glasgow Street Pastors

Bulletin - 17 April 2020

Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer. Romans 12: 12

Message from Linda:

As we move into the next period of lockdown, there are two words which are staying with me: hope and perseverance. We celebrated Easter in a way like no other and, I am sure, all we did last Sunday continues to remind us of the hope we have in the risen Christ. And that hope remains with us today, tomorrow, and forever.

Our journey in lockdown is no longer a new experience. We are now in the time of perseverance: and perhaps perseverance will lead to our spiritual growth as individuals and as teams together as we pray, read God's word, and have quiet times.

We planned to look at some questions together in our teams in the context of our role as Street Pastors or Prayer Pastors.

- What does it mean to go in God's strength?
- What does "God's presence" mean?

As we think about the questions, let us view them for now, at home as we persevere and as we take with us the hope of the risen Christ.



And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests.

PRAY *With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people.*

Ephesians 6: 18

'Please see the prayer points from Willie

*The LORD bless you and keep you!
The LORD let his face shine upon
you, and be gracious to you!
The LORD look upon you kindly and
give you peace!*

Numbers 6:24-26

Peace

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Here is an update from Stuart:

- The GSP phone number will be advertised on Facebook as being available on Friday/Saturday night from 10pm until midnight for anyone who needs someone to listen and pray.
- Glasgow City Mission and the Simon Community are continuing to do incredible work in providing food supplies etc to guests who would normally use their city centre projects. Police Scotland have expressed appreciation that they are not encouraging guests to congregate in the city.
- GCM is also providing 'entertainment' for their guests by setting a weekly challenge!
- Simon Community is appealing for books for guests in hotel rooms.
- Scotland's Homeless Project (normally found operating under the Hielanman's Umbrella) is also delivering food parcels to those in need.
- We have 19 members of the GSP family working in frontline services and others still doing voluntary work at this time.
- Three members GSP are on 12-week isolation.
- Team Leaders met by Zoom on Thursday 16 April and it was very encouraging to hear reports of WhatsApp groups and Zoom Meetings. Teams are praying together, studying the Word together and staying connected.

My continued thanks to Stuart and Lorna as they work from home during this period.

And finally,

Please be in touch if GSP can be of support to you: please do not be stuck. As a family, we are here for one another.

Blessings,

Linda

Linda Burke

Chair - Glasgow Street Pastors

SCO39983



And from Willie:

Context for prayer

- As the lockdown continues and the impact bites deeper, people with mental health problems, drug dependency and other such issues are finding it harder to cope. This is putting extra pressure on the support services and the situation has been made worse by the fact that individuals who have not sought help in the past are now looking for medical and psychological support. While this can be seen as a positive step, the effect on support staff, who are already experiencing anxiety and stress, is considerable.
- There are 19 members of Glasgow Street Pastors who are working in the front line of the NHS in hospitals and care homes, caring for patients suffering from coronavirus. As we know, this exposes them to a risk of infection and, in addition, is putting a lot of pressure on them as they see the serious and sadly often fatal impact on patients who have been isolated from their families and loved ones.
- One of our Street Pastors is still seriously ill in hospital with coronavirus. Thankfully, his wife at home is healthy but she is unable to visit him.

Please pray:

- That the support services for the homeless and other people with drug and mental health problems will be able to cope with the pressure of additional numbers of sometimes desperate patients. Pray that the Lord will bring good out of this terrible situation by enabling more people to receive treatment and break free from drug dependency.
- For our NHS heroes who are risking their lives for us. Pray that they will have enough personal protective equipment to guard against infection and that the Lord will protect them. Pray also that the Lord will sustain their spirits, as they feel exhausted and low, working long hours and seeing the harmful effects of this virus.
- For our Street Pastor in hospital, that the Lord will help him to fight off the effects of the virus and raise him up quickly to full health. Pray also for his wife, that the Lord will keep her safe and healthy and also comfort and support her at a time of great concern, when she is separated from her husband. Pray that the street pastors will continue support them both in prayer and other practical ways in the days and weeks ahead.