

Persistent prayer tests your faith.

James 1:3-4 says, "When your faith is tested, your endurance has a chance to grow. So let it grow, for when your endurance is fully developed, you will be perfect and complete, needing nothing" (NLT). Having our faith tested shines a light on what we worship. If Jesus is the one we look to and build our life upon, then testing becomes a place of growth and spiritual maturity. One of the ways God tests your faith is by delaying some answers to your prayers.

Persistent prayer prepares your heart for the answer.

When you make a request of God, He almost always wants to answer in a greater way than you've prayed. Sometimes God denies your prayer request because you're thinking and asking too small. He wants to enlarge your faith in Him and the answer you are seeking. God uses delays in answering prayer to help you grow, to help you get ready, and to help prepare you for a bigger and better answer. "God can do much, much more than anything we can ask or imagine" (Ephesians 3:20 NCV).

10 am Sunday Service in the Sanctuary

plus

Live Zoom link, 9.45 for 10am

'Mission and Risk' – Daniel 3: 8-18

Please arrive at the church from 9.30 am as there will be social distancing queuing as you enter the main entrance.

The code, password and telephone numbers needed to join zoom have been circulated to all and can also be found on the Beulah Family Facebook page

This Sunday is our BMS Sunday and we are pleased to have Edwin Penman with us from BMS World Mission. We are all feeling uncertain about the future here in the UK and the situation is far worse beyond our borders. In shanty towns and slums, in refugee camps and displaced people settlements, in countries with limited medical resources and low levels of health education, Covid-19 will be devastating. If you wish to donate to BMS World Mission you can do so on-line via their website (www.bmsworldmission.org), where you will be invited to click on the 'donate' button. You can then choose; how much, how often (or just once) and what to give to ('where most needed', Beirut appeal, Coronavirus appeal or Operation Chad).



BULLETIN
13th September 2020

Note from the Pastor

Nothing seems to happen?

7 "Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. 8 For everyone who asks receives; the one who seeks finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened. 9 "Which of you, if your son asks for bread, will give him a stone? 10 Or if he asks for a fish, will give him a snake? 11 If you, then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give good gifts to those who ask him!"

Matthew 7:7-11 (NIV)

"Stay alert and be persistent in your prayers."

Ephesians 6:18 (NLT)

Are there family members, close friends, or people who used to go to church but have drifted away that you pray for? Have you given up praying for them because nothing seems to be happening? Why should you remain persistent in your prayers when it seems that you don't get an answer? Here are some reasons that we should keep going.

Persistent prayer focuses your attention.

When you pray a prayer request over and over, do you think that you are reminding God? He doesn't need to be reminded! It's to remind yourself that God is the source of your answer and all your needs. Part of the reason that answers to prayer takes time is so that develop a deep relationship with God. Otherwise prayer becomes religious and like a vending machine. If every time you prayed you instantly got results, all you'd think about is the blessing. God wants you to learn about what having a relationship with him really means.

Persistent prayer clarifies your request.

A delayed answer gives you time to clarify exactly what you want and to refine your prayers. If God answered all our prayer straight away there would be hurt and trouble because we move out of our own needs and perspective. When you pray persistently to your heavenly Father and you say something over and over again, it can separate deep longings from or own mere whims. When you pray persistently, we are saying "God, I really care about this." I believe in these moments God gives us his perspective, his heart and draws us deeply into himself.

Communion – 20th September. As we are just getting used to being back on the premises for Sunday worship we will not be holding Communion during the morning service. Pastor David will be leading a live zoom Communion service at 6.30 pm on Sunday 20th September, which will be recorded. This gives everyone the opportunity to be included.

The **Tea Party** will continue to take place every Friday at 2.30 pm on zoom (**but not on Friday 18th September**). For the link, either email jackieihughes60@gmail.com or catch the link on the Beulah Family Facebook page.

We will be celebrating **Harvest on Sunday 27th September**. This year we are encouraging support for the **Bexhill Foodbank**. You can leave items of food in the baskets found in supermarkets or help financially. Monies can be paid directly into their bank account – HSBC Bank. CTiB Bexhill Foodbank. Sort code 40 10 14 Account No 61501593. There is also a Virgin money giving page on their website or cheques/cash can be sent to them or put in their letterbox – cheques to Churches Together in Bexhill – Bexhill Foodbank. Their address is 19-20 Station Road, Bexhill. Many thanks.

The **Church Members' AGM and September meeting** will take place in the sanctuary from **7.00 pm** on Tuesday 29th September, 2020.

Operation Christmas child We are sure that many of us will once again want to support this charity in sending gifts and the good news of Jesus to children at Christmas. This year we are going to do this by the online facility. Details will follow how this can be done either directly by you as an individual or by you sending your financial donation to the church who will do it on your behalf.

If you have been accumulating your giving over the past weeks at home, I am providing an opportunity to be able to bring these to Church for banking. Your gifts (cheques or cash) can be put in the church letter box (Clifford Hall door) between **11a.m. and 12 noon on Monday 21st September**. Alternatively, if you are unable to get out and would like me to call and collect your offering please contact me. Thank you for your continuing financial support for the Lord's work at Beulah.
Pat Reigh. Treasurer

Emotionally healthy Spirituality

Do you ever find yourself avoiding conflict in the name of Christianity? Ignoring anger, sadness, and fear? Using God to run from God?

Starting in October the church will be running a new teaching series called 'Emotionally Health Spirituality.' This series leads us into exploring what lies beneath the surface in our hidden world, whilst at the same time rooting us in Christ through godly disciplines and teaching.

The whole church is invited to journey together using the material available at the church office. There is a workbook for home groups or for people who would like to attend a midweek gathering on various Wednesdays between Oct-Dec at 11am. There is also a devotional prayer book for people to use either on your own, with others or both.

If you would like to join a home group via zoom or attend on Wednesdays, please contact the office. The course book is provided by the church and we are asking for a £5 donation for the devotional book.