

Thoughts from the Prayer Corner 6



Back in October 2013 our St. James Church family collectively wrote a psalm applicable to the time which I decided to have a go at illustrating. The above is the result. Finding pictures to exactly depict the words was almost impossible, but hopefully the ones chosen will express the sentiments within it.

Below, in an easy to read format, are the words of that Psalm:

St. James' Psalm

- v.1 Let us thank God for Jesus and for Him forgiving our sins.
- 2 Come and rejoice and worship the Lord in dance and song. Thank you that we can come to you just as we are in sorrow and in joy.
- 3 The Lord is amazing and extraordinary, magnificent and full of never ending love. The Lord is always there and always forgives when we say sorry. The Lord is Jesus Christ our Saviour and we thank Him for all we have.
- 4 He has provided us with all we need and we are grateful. Praise the Lord
Selah
- 5 Praise you in the morning, in the evening, on the train, in the traffic jam, when the computer goes wrong. At the checkout. When I'm standing in the rain.
- 6 You are holy, all powerful, everything, majestic, beautiful, the one and only true God. Loving and caring to everyone, always happy, mighty, strong, You are God.
- 7 Even though we experience difficult times and don't always remember that you are there, we know that you will always love and protect us.
- 8 Why do we always see the negatives? Why can't we look on the bright side and bring the positives to the front? Why can't we be satisfied with the blessings that we have? Why are there so many wars and conflicts?
- 9 Yet will I praise my Father in Heaven, who works only for my good.
- 10 For you areinstrumental praise.....**FANTASTIC**
- 11 We thank you Lord for our loving families, food and shelter, peace and tranquillity. We thank You Lord for the beauty of the earth, the warmth of the sun, refreshing rain. We thank you Lord for the community of St. James' Amen
- 12 We praise You Lord for all You have done for us, for Your great love, might and power that strengthens us through all circumstances.

27.10.13

Amen

Which made me think. **What might a Psalm look like written during and after the Pandemic, incorporating Lockdown?** The following is my attempt!

Lockdown Psalm of Lament

- 1 *Come, let us accept the invitation to worship our God.*
- 2 *Come, just as we are full of the excitement of the new that You will do, or in the lethargy of not knowing what we should do.*
- 3 *You Lord **love** us yesterday, today and tomorrow with all our quirky ways.*
- 4 *You Lord are **AMAZING, AWESOME, MYSTERIOUS, GREATER** than our imagination can comprehend and so-*
- 5 *Lord You travel with us through the dark days of social isolation when freedom is curtailed, when the WIFI drops and the Zoom meeting disappears from view,*
- 6 *When our days are filled with sadness and grief for the things we have lost. When finding purpose and meaning for the days ahead are laced with despondency and oft times, fear.*
- 7 *When we agonise on how the “new normal” might look and all that that might entail*
- 8 *Yet, still we will praise you.*
- 9 *Even though songs may not exit from our lips, it still forms in our hearts and in our minds*
- 10 *Still, we will glorify You.*
- 11 *We look to Creation and find within it a resilience to flourish, and in the absence of man-made noise, birdsong magnifies the sound of praise in the air.*
- 12 *We thank You that in times of joy and trouble You are always with us, **Redeemer, Restorer, Deliverer, Healer, Prince of Peace, YAHWEH, Almighty God.***
- 13 *We praise You Lord for giving us life through Your Holy Spirit and Your constant invitation to “Come to You,” and so we simply lift our hands as we invite You to “**Come,**” Lord Jesus.*

The past few months will have changed us all in different ways. For most of us there will have been highlights and low times, new opportunities and directions. Maybe you have found time to have a good clear out, tidy up the garden, get some decorating done or maybe the motivation to do anything has been sadly lacking. Writing a psalm gives us the opportunity to tell God exactly how we feel! **Why not give it a go.**

If you write something that you would be willing to share, please send it to me and I will post it anonymously either on our electronic Prayer Corner Board or physically sometime in the future.

Happy Writing
Margaret

It can be useful to use the Psalms for formatting