



*Together in Prayer for Sheffield*  
and  
*Sheffield Prayer Link*  
Working together to encourage citywide prayer

Every month a free bulletin is issued with prayer points for the City. To get your monthly copy register with SPL today.  
Email: [prayer@sheffieldcrosslinks.co.uk](mailto:prayer@sheffieldcrosslinks.co.uk) Tel: 0114 2493956  
SCL Office: 291 Abbeydale Road, Sheffield S7 1FJ

## **AUGUST 2009**

### ***MY WITNESSES***

Just prior to His ascension Jesus said to His disciples *"You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses"* Acts 1:8. That promise was fulfilled and soon demonstrated in the testimony of the early church. **"God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ ... With great power the apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus"** Acts 2:36 & 4:33. Even the opposition was compelled to take *"note that these men had been with Jesus"*. Acts 4:13.

Where the Holy Spirit is present in power in the church, the focus of attention will be on the person and work of the Lord Jesus. *"He will testify about ME ... He will bring glory to ME"*: John 14:26 & 16:13-14. Not just the biblical truth about Him, but expressing a living, vibrant faith in Him and love for Him as *"the way, the truth and the life"*: The kind of vibrancy expressed in one of Charles Wesley's hymns:

In the heavenly Lamb, thrice happy I am:  
And my heart it doth dance at the sound of His Name.

Let us pray this month that the Church in Sheffield will experience a fresh, Spirit filled growth *"in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ"*, to such an extent that the city will know that WE have *"been with Jesus"* and feel the impact of US being His witnesses.



Sheffield Prayer Link Team



### **Prayer Dates for your Dairy**

Monthly Prayer for Sheffield: 9th August 11 till noon. SCL office. 0114 2493956  
Yorkshire Prayer Conference: 15th August. York . Coach bookings: 0114 2727276  
Prayer Concert: 26th September. Wesley Hall Crookes. 9 till Noon. 0114 2493956  
National Day of Prayer: 17th October NEC 11am till 6pm. bookings: 0121 6337393  
Sheffield Prayer Link: ***Pray for Sheffield***. 5th December. 9 till Noon. 0114 2493956

**YOU are welcome at any or all of these prayer meetings.**

## Bathing our Leaders in Prayer For a Month

Each month we focus on leaders and ministers in a particular area of the city. This month we have listed the surname of \*minister from S13, S17 & S18 irrespective of their denomination or stream. Please pray for the wisdom and power of God in their lives and in their preaching of the Gospel; for their health and family; for their prosperity and blessing.

ABEL. BREWSTER. CANA. DIXON. HAMMOND. JOHNSON. KIRKWOOD. LONSDALE. LOXLEY. PARKER. FRY. BIBBINGS. CARTWRIGHT. EARDLEY. FOWKES. GREEN. HAIGH. REES. JOHNSON. STONEHEWER. WILLIAMS. BLACKBURN. DAWSON-JONES. HUDSTON. HUNTER. LASHMAR. RHODES. SCOTT.

\*Please forgive us and pray for any leader we may have missed.

### Summer Camps and Holiday Clubs

The summer is the perfect opportunity to encourage faith among children and young people, through camps and holiday clubs. **Lets thank God** for the many volunteers and staff who give up their own summer break in order to work with our children.

**Please pray** for The Rock Holiday Club, and especially the culminating service on the 9th August when parents and participating children are invited to the church. **Please pray** that many parents in the area will be touched by the grace of God.

**Please pray** for Scripture Union Summer Camp, Soul Survivor and any clubs and camps you are aware of. May the teaching and witness at these camps, help our children to be built up in the most holy faith.

### SHEFFIELD—CITY OF REFUGE

*Pray that this city of Refuge will be a safe haven for people to grow and develop good and honest lifestyles.*

**Please pray:** for **newcomers to Sheffield**. Whatever the reason for people settling in the city, may they find grace and kindness in abundance.

**Please pray** for **Open Hands Charity**, and their work among male refugees in the city. Pray for all those working with **asylum seekers** and the **homeless** as they search for a better life.

**Please pray:** for **students** making their homes here for the next few years. Pray for the relationships they make and for good influences in their lives.

**Please pray:** for **families** settling here for professional reasons, or maybe to seek work.

**Please pray** that God will bless the people of this city with honesty, integrity, grace, truth and love as revealed through His son Jesus.

***The Harvest truly is plenteous, but the labourers are few. Pray ye, therefore, the Lord of the Harvest, that He will send forth labourers into His Harvest.*** "-  
***Matthew 9:37.38***

"If My people, which are called by My name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek My face and turn from their wicked way; then will I hear from heaven and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land"

2 Chronicles 7:14

## **Yorkshire Prayer Conference 15th August 2009**

Yorkshire Prayer Conference  
will be held at Central Hall,  
University of York Campus.  
Tel to book: 01347 822 531  
[www.yorkshireprayerconference.org.uk](http://www.yorkshireprayerconference.org.uk)

**A coach leaving Sheffield for  
this prayer event has few seats  
still available.**

For further details please contact:  
City Life Church,  
1 South Parade,  
Sheffield. *Phone:* 0114 272 7276

## **Children from Sheffield and the UN.**

Children from Sheffield have been invited join a team holding a prayer initiative for the **United Nations** in New York, with a focus on the Millennium Development Goals – This is an opportunity to pray for the nation's ambassadors, ordinary people who have an enormous task on their shoulders –to help shape life, especially amongst those at risk around the world, i.e. children.

**Please pray** for the team as they venture to New York, that the practicalities of their travel will go well, and that they will be led to pray specific prayers that will make a difference.

"When a believing person prays, great things happen"

James 5 v 16 (NCV)

## **The Effects of the Recession**

There is an inevitable knock on effect from the recession and loss of jobs, affecting every walk of life. Loss of income affects shop workers, service providers, charities and church giving.

**Please pray:** for the people affected by redundancy, especially Corus workers in Stocksbridge and Rotherham

**Please pray:** for charities working among the poor, needy, refugees and unemployed in our city, **and** for charities' finances to be available in spite of the recession.

## **Controversial NHS leaflet 'Pleasure'.**

NHS Trust Sheffield have issued a leaflet aimed at school children aged 14, saying that 'experts concentrate too much on the need for safe sex and loving relationships, and not enough on the pleasure sex can bring'.

**Please pray:** for the schools that receive this pamphlet, that they take a responsible attitude to the content and how it is used.

**Please pray:** that the schools won't feel pressured into making a wrong decision about the usage of such information.

Recently we have cause to **thank God** for the changed lives of people who have been delivered from substance abuse. Let us uphold these people in our prayers.

**Please pray :** that the Lord would strengthen their resolve to change their lifestyle.

**Please pray:** for people working in AA and other rehabilitation centres in our city.

**Please pray:** for the people going through such courses as they seek a better way of Life. Pray that they may find the true way to life. **The Way, The Truth. The Life!**

## **What is an Intercessor? (18). An Intercessor is not afraid to hear the LORD.**

### **1.SAMUEL 3:1-18**

The boy Samuel ministered before the LORD under Eli. In those days the word of the LORD was rare; there were not many visions.

1SA 3:2 One night Eli, whose eyes were becoming so weak that he could barely see, was lying down in his usual place. <sup>3</sup>The lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the Temple of the LORD, where the Ark of God was. <sup>4</sup>Then the LORD called Samuel. Samuel answered, "Here I am." <sup>5</sup>And he ran to Eli and said, "Here I am; you called me." But Eli said, "I did not call; go back and lie down." So he went and lay down.

<sup>6</sup>Again the LORD called, "Samuel!" And Samuel got up and went to Eli and said, "Here I am; you called me." "My son," Eli said, "I did not call; go back and lie down."

<sup>7</sup>Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD: The word of the LORD had not yet been revealed to him.

<sup>8</sup>The LORD called Samuel a third time, and Samuel got up and went to Eli and said, "Here I am; you called me." Then Eli realized that the LORD was calling the boy. <sup>9</sup>So Eli told Samuel, "Go and lie down, and if he calls you, say, 'Speak, LORD, for your servant is listening.'" So Samuel went and lay down in his place.

<sup>10</sup>The LORD came and stood there, calling as at the other times, "Samuel! Samuel!"

Then Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant is listening."

<sup>11</sup>And the LORD said to Samuel: "See, I am about to do something in Israel that will make the ears of everyone who hears of it tingle. <sup>12</sup>At that time I will carry out against Eli everything I spoke against his family--from beginning to end. <sup>13</sup>For I told him that I would judge his family forever because of the sin he knew about; his sons made themselves contemptible, and he failed to restrain them. <sup>14</sup>Therefore, I swore to the house of Eli, 'The guilt of Eli's house will never be atoned for by sacrifice or offering.'"

<sup>15</sup>Samuel lay down until morning and then opened the doors of the house of the LORD. He was afraid to tell Eli the vision, <sup>16</sup>but Eli called him and said, "Samuel, my son." Samuel answered, "Here I am."

<sup>17</sup>"What was it he said to you?" Eli asked. "Do not hide it from me. May God deal with you, be it ever so severely, if you hide from me anything he told you." <sup>18</sup>So Samuel told him everything, hiding nothing from him. Then Eli said, "He is the LORD; let him do what is good in his eyes."

**I love this story, but it was many years before I learned a very basic lesson from it. Three times the LORD calls Samuel, but each time he thought it was Eli calling. We are told that Eli was "very old" and almost blind. Chances are that he had lost most of his teeth and his voice would be that of a querulous old man and obviously Samuel was not afraid of him, nor of waking him up!**

**Consider the understanding and gentleness of the LORD in toning his voice to resemble Eli, when he called Samuel. You and I need never fear to hear Him. Even Eli was not afraid even though the message was a hard one.**

**The only sharp word in this story was Eli teaching Samuel not "to hide anything" that the LORD had said.**

**So may you and I have a greater and more eager expectation of hearing Him, and may we pray for more visions [see verse 1.]**

**My love to you all, Noel.**