

Prayers for the 12th Jan 2025

Lord Jesus our loving Saviour and friend, draw close to us now as we come to you in prayer'. Thank you for bringing us safely into a new year. Help us to look back and reflect on your hand at work in our lives over the past year: and forward to all you are able to do in and through us in the year to come. We don't know what the future holds but we know with certainty that you hold our future. Help us to us to commit time this year to be with Jesus, becoming more like Him and with the help of the Holy Spirit and each other, to do as He did. We pray as followers of Christ have for hundreds of years: - To see you more clearly, love you more dearly and follow you more nearly, Day by Day..... *Lord in your mercy – Hear our prayer.*

Father God, we thank you for your word and the freedom we have to own a bible. We pray for the preaching of God's word around the world. Father, we thank you that millions of people will learn from the bible today. Please speak powerfully to convict, to comfort and to conform our minds to yours. Jesus, we pray today for all the children learning about you. Thank you that you always love to put them first. Help us to be more trusting, humble and playful like them, for such is your kingdom. We pray for the teachers and preachers in our church, for Jeni, Nick Jess and many more. Empower them by your Holy Spirit to bring your loving challenge to our church. May they be obedient to your calling as they encourage and help us to be kingdom shaped disciples who follow you. Holy Spirit revive us today. Inspire politicians and educators, artists and journalists, economists and scientists through your word, with ideas that can change the world for God *Lord in your mercy – Hear our prayer.*

In the news this week we have seen earthquakes, floods and terrible fires. Lord comfort those who have lost their possessions, homes, livelihoods and loved ones. Heavenly Father, we ask you to stir our hearts into action. As global temperatures increase, inspire us with the ways we can make a difference to climate change, in our homes, church, community and the world around us. Forgive us for the harm we, as your created ones, are doing to your creation. We pray Holy Spirit, that you will prompt us where we can do more to love our neighbours and care for our world.

We pray for the NHS, for all who work in whatever role under extreme pressure. Thank you for the members of our church who work in social and healthcare. Lift them up when they are tired and overwhelmed. Encourage them and pour your grace into the situations they relentlessly deal with. Remind them that 'Whatever they do for the least of them, they do for you' *Lord in your mercy – Hear our prayer.*

Thank you Lord that Psalm 34 reminds us that 'The Lord is close to the broken hearted and saves those who are crushed in Spirit'. Lord Jesus this is our prayer: - draw close to the crushed and broken hearted (Pause).. Thank you that your eyes are upon us and you face is turned towards us. Help those in pain, sickness, grief, depression, fear or despair, to turn their eyes to you Jesus. Let's take a moment to look to Jesus to bring someone or yourself. Ask the Holy Spirit to open your eyes and heart to see Jesus more clearly. (10 Second pause...) Father God shape our lives so that we more clearly resemble our King and more sincerely live for His kingdom..... *Merciful Father, accept these prayers for the sake of your son, Jesus Christ.*