

## Prayer

‘Prayer . . . after prayer . . . as a result of prayer . . . prayer . . .’

During our recent local church review we left the Presbytery with the impression that we were a great praying church.

In fact, we are quite good at prayer, and probably better than many other churches. BUT we are not perfect!

This current crisis that faces us gives us a great opportunity to develop our prayer life, and establish stronger patterns for the future. We have been given time, that so often we cry out for, to do those things that we have always wanted to get round to doing but have never done!

Amongst those ‘things’ is the opportunity to pray for others: intercessory prayer. Much of the prayer life of our church tends to be done on an individual basis: gathering together to pray seems to be anathema to many of us.

So why don’t we take this opportunity to commit to pray for each other in a structured way.

Oswald Chambers stated:

‘. . . intercession is the only thing that has no drawbacks, because it keeps our relationship completely open with God.’

Here is my suggestion for getting us started:

**Minister  
prays for the elders.  
Elders  
pray for all\* their district.  
Members**

**pray for those they usually sit beside in church.**

[\* Elders: remember your district includes  
everyone not just church members]

Shall we try this together for a week or ten days?

Then I shall come back with some other thoughts for prayer.

“ ‘**The Lord bless you  
and keep you;  
the Lord make his face to shine upon you  
and be gracious to you;  
the Lord turn his face towards you  
and give you peace.**” ’

[Numbers 6:24 - 26]

Yours in Christ,  
Douglas