

Weekly Prayer Letter

Week of 28 June 2020

Rest For The Soul

Mark 1:32-39 tells us about a busy Jesus. He was busy with ministry at Capernaum. He was working hard, performing miracles and meeting needs. He was busy indeed and he must have been very tired. Verse 35 tells us that Jesus got up very early the next morning and while it was dark, he departed to a desolate place and there he prayed. He returned to his disciples thereafter with fresh resolve and purpose.

Herein lies the secret to *rest* for the soul. That place of solitary, intimate prayer with our heavenly Father.

First, it was a discipline, because Jesus chose to get up early in the morning.

Next, it was inconspicuous because it was still dark and this meant no one would see or know.

Finally, it was in solitude and silence because Jesus went to a desolate place, a place where no one would ordinarily go and there he was intentionally quiet and alone.

What did this time of prayer do for Jesus?

Jesus gave up the *popular* despite the fact that “everyone was looking for him” (v 37) but instead he chose the *needful* which was to go to the other villages. He returned to renewed *purpose* which was to go around Galilee to preach the Word and set persons free from bondage.

This is what the quiet, solitary and intimate place of prayer does for your soul. It is *recalibrated* to ignore the clamour of men but instead *rested* to do what is needful and *revived* to pursue what is divinely purposeful.

Is your soul tired? Make time to pursue and encounter God in quietness and intimacy. May He refresh and renew you.

Praying with you

Ps Ray

Pastor-in-Charge

Faith Methodist Church

Prayer Pointers for Covid-19

1. Pray for our Pastor-in-Charge, Rev Raymond Fong, all our Pastors and Church Leaders for God's wisdom, discernment and guidance to lead the church in the face of this Covid-19 crisis. Pray that our Faith church family will stay united and connected to one another and emerge stronger through this crisis.
2. Pray for God to bless our government's total commitment and best efforts to combat Covid-19 and its impact. Pray for wisdom upon the ministerial committee as they plan and implement strategic actions phase by phase.
3. Pray for the many in our nation who are impacted economically and socially, for God's protection over jobs and businesses as employers are expected to revamp and reconfigure the business for survival. Pray for those facing uncertainties over their future that God will be their trustworthy partner. Pray for the poor and needy, the least and the last, that God will provide for their needs.
4. Pray for Singapore as the government navigates our nation through these troubled waters where protectionism, nationalism and individualism are on the rise, detrimental to Singapore's open economy.
5. Pray for global governments, for policy cooperation, coordination and sensitivities as they reopen the economies. Pray for priority considerations to be centred on safety rather than to choose between lives and livelihood pressures.

We Are Here For You!

- Perhaps you are going through a challenging time, and you need someone to pray with you, our pastoral team is here and ready to journey with you.
- Even though we may not be able to be with you in person, we can still reach you via telephone and other means.
- You may submit any Prayer Requests online via our church website at <https://www.faithmc.sg/care-help/prayer-requests/>.