

Reflection October 2021



My Dear Friends, as we enter into autumn I am reminded of the hymn 'Bind us together, Lord' because this hymn goes on to say 'with cords that cannot be broken'. Every morning I join in morning prayer on Zoom with members from my church. After the short service we have a meditation to help set us up for the day ahead.

During one of these we were reminded that God, our Father, who loves us beyond measure, reaches out his hand, passing a thread of silk from heaven to earth which is so strong it is impossible to break. Now, I don't know about you, I love the Autumn colours of nature but, as the nights draw in and I am closing the curtains at 4pm in the afternoon shutting out the sights and sounds of life, I begin to feel isolated and cut off from the world, sometimes wondering if I really have a purpose in life. But if I concentrate on the picture of that thread binding me to my loving Father I am able to feel secure, safe in the knowledge that I am not alone but held in love. Throughout my life I have noticed how God has led me on a journey. As a child he led me from Sunday School, which I was forced to attend by my parents, to church in my teens, going against what my family did, then into Guiding. Then on to working with special needs children, before he moved me on to working with adults as I joined the MU. I have held a number of posts in the MU all have been and continue to be a challenge but, in all things, I have relied on prayer and the knowledge of that thread to see me through.



I am now working more closely with the MU staff, much reduced in number, who have been having to work really

hard, thinking outside the box, often working long hours and adding new tasks to their workload. For the last 18 months they have been working from home and for the most part will continue to do so, but this has brought many challenges, many of them either have young families or live on their own in a small block of flats. As we go into Autumn, they are beginning to return to a mixture of working both from home and from MSH. They really need our support, firstly with prayer then by us taking part, as we are able, in all the activities they have planned to help us raise the necessary funds to keep the organisation thriving whilst at the same time allowing us to have fun. This month we will all be receiving the second addition of 'Connected' I am sure this will be full of ideas to help us during the dark times of Autumn and Winter. I hope you will read it and give thanks to God for those who have given their time and energy to put it together. If you enjoy it, please let Adam Sach and his team know, this will be very encouraging and booster raising, helping to bind the team together. We are all here for a purpose. God also has a task for us to do during this time when it is more difficult for us to get out after dark.

We may not be aware of it but when he is ready, God will reveal to us what our task is at this time, a task that could help bind us together with those around us, and maybe people around the world too. Our God is a God of surprises and if we let him, he will lead us in his way. All through the New Testament he shows us how much we are loved, by the words and actions of his son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ. This thread, this strong bond, supported him in his ministry and it will support us also.

As we close the curtains against the dark night let us thank God for ourselves, what would the world be like if we were not in it? We have made an impact and will continue to do so.

Love & Prayers

Jenny

Let us Pray

Father God, we give you thanks and praise for the strong bond we have with you through the teaching of our Saviour, Jesus Christ. May our life experiences enable us to pass on to others what you have taught us. We thank you for ourselves and the contribution we make to the building up of your kingdom in our community. We ask you to bless the staff who work so tirelessly, giving of their time and energy to keep this amazing organisation afloat. Help us to recognise the thread you have provided as we pray in the words of the hymn.

Bind us together, Lord, bind us together with cords that cannot be broken. Bind us together, Lord, bind us together Lord, bind us together in love. In Jesus name we pray.

AMEN

All this day, O Lord, let me touch as many lives as possible for thee; and every life I touch, do thou by thy spirit quicken, whether through the word I speak, the prayer I breathe, or the life I live. AMEN Mary Sumner's personal prayer

