

ST DENYS  
STANFORD IN THE VALE



# Friday Fellowship News No 20 28 August 2020

## ONE WEEK AND COUNTING!

IN just over ONE week, September 6, we shall gather again in St Denys Church to worship together. The first time since March 22!

Last Friday I circulated a brief Survey for completion to help us plan seating for the first Sunday back. Thus far, only around 20% of our usual church folk have responded. **If you have not yet returned your Survey, please email me OVER THIS WEEKEND, in reply to the following questions:-**

I am planning to attend morning worship on:

Sunday 6 September, 1015am **Yes/No**  
Sunday 13 September, 1015am **Yes/No**  
Sunday 20 September, 1015am **Yes/No**  
Sunday 27 September, 1015am **Yes/No**

[ ] I wish to be seated on my own, 2m apart from others

[ ] I intend to sit with the following adult [ ]  
(**please add name of other adults in your house bubble**)

I will be dropping off [ ] children at The Village Hall between 1005-1010am, and collecting them at the end of the service. Their names and ages are:

Name	Age
_____	_____
_____	_____

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mobile/Landline Tel: \_\_\_\_\_

If you are NOT planning to attend at 1015am, but would be prepared to record a Bible Reading, or some prayers for us to play out in church, please tick [ ] and we shall be in touch.

**Please email responses to [vicar@stdenys.org](mailto:vicar@stdenys.org)**

## 15 WAYS TO SPEND TIME WITH GOD

SPENDING daily time with God will ground you, calm you and give you peace—no matter if you're manoeuvring COVID-19 restrictions, a serious illness or natural disaster.

Here's 15 helpful ways to spend time with God:

- Make quiet time a daily habit, but don't get discouraged if you occasionally miss a day or two. You wouldn't quit eating if you missed breakfast.
- Find a quiet place without distraction where you can concentrate. Jesus went to a solitary place to pray (Mark 1:35).
- Be alone as often as possible and *lock in* with God. Remember, *He is seeking you to worship*. What an privilege to meet daily with the living God. Let His Word speak and be quick and powerful and penetrating (Hebrews 4:12).
- Have a plan for both Bible study and prayer. Know what you want to do. Otherwise your mind can easily wander and time will be wasted.
- Secure a good Study Bible with notes and commentary. Ask the vicar or a Christian friend what they use.
- Secure good marking pens and don't be afraid to mark your Bible.
- The whole Bible is important but if you are a new Christian, or don't have a lot of time to read, spend most of your time within the New Testament. Start with Mark and endeavour to read a chapter a day. Underline or circle key words or thoughts. Mark key verses with a coloured marking pen. Marking verses makes them easier to find and share.
- A Christian leader I read about had a unique way to master a book. He would read Philippians through in its entirety every day for a month (104 verses). As he read, he would mark. It wasn't long before certain verses would stand out like mountain peaks. The book opened up to him like a flower and he could readily turn to any of the four chapters and share truth.

- Proverbs is an excellent book to read and mark. In the book are priceless gems of truth that should help especially in relationships. Psalms is another excellent book to read and mark. It will enhance your relationship with God.

- Many of the verses that you mark should be written on 3 x 5 cards and memorized. Carry the cards with you and review the verses as you sit in a doctors' surgery, waiting for friends or at odd moments of the day that could be wasted.

- Use your memory verses as a part of your daily devotional time. Often, when I read chapters that don't have a lot of challenge, I review verses that speak to me. Spend a few moments praising and thanking God (Psalm 69:30-31).

- Search your heart and confess any wrongdoing. Keep your conscience clear (1 John 9-10; Proverbs 28:13). Spend a little time in intercessory prayer. Some of the people on your list need Jesus. Others might be family members and friends in need. Make a priority list. Some people you will pray for every day and others once a week, etc. Pray for yourself. What do you want Him to do in and through your own life?

- You may not feel like praying, but pray anyway. If you don't seem to have a burden for prayer, spend your time praising God for who He is and thank Him for all He has done.

## BIBLE READINGS & SUNDAY REFLECTIONS

I will upload a Reflection on the reading from Romans 12: 9-end to our YouTube and Facebook pages for Sunday. Here is the THINK tool I refer to in my message for you to reflect on.



The Daily Bible readings for Morning prayer are as follows:-

**Fri 28<sup>th</sup>:**

Psalm 88

2 Sam 7: 18-end

Acts 7: 54-8:3

**Sat 29<sup>th</sup>:**

Psalm 97

2 Sam 9

Acts 8: 4-25

**Sun 30<sup>th</sup>:**

Psalm 26: 1-8, Rom 12: 9-end

Matt 16: 21-end

**Mon 31<sup>st</sup>**

Psalm 98

2 Sam 11

Acts 8: 26-end

**Tue 1<sup>st</sup> Sep:**

Psalm 106

2 Sam 12: 1-25

Acts 9: 1-19a

**Wed 2<sup>nd</sup>:**

Psalm 111

2 Sam 15: 1-12

Acts 9: 19b-31

**Thur 3<sup>rd</sup>:**

Psalm 115

2 Sam 15: 13-end

Acts 9: 32-end

**Fri 4<sup>th</sup>:**

Psalm 139

2 Sam 16: 1-14

Acts 10: 1-16

## DISCIPLESHIP GROUPS - ZOOM

DON'T forget, we shall be providing personal and group Study Notes based on my Sunday sermons during September.

If you would like to take part in a one-hour-a-week Zoom Discipleship Group, to share ideas on the message and reading, please email me, [vicar@stdenys.org](mailto:vicar@stdenys.org)

## CARE FOR THE FAMILY RESOURCES

EVER wanted to go on a course to know what to say to someone who has been bereaved? Maybe wanted to go on a course to enrich your relationship, or even look at how you might carry the load of parenting, or grandparenting a little lighter? Well, **Care For The Family**, a national Christian charity with a well-regarded reputation is putting most of its courses on-line this coming Autumn/winter. Why not check out all they have to offer by clicking this link?:

<https://www.careforthefamily.org.uk/events/events-online>

## ST DENYS – OPEN FOR PRIVATE PRAYER THIS SUNDAY – 30 SEPTEMBER

ST Denys shall be open for private prayer from 11am-12noon this Sunday, the last of these PP times ahead of our re-opening for Public Worship, God Willing, on September 6.

Do come with a face covering, wash hands with gel on arrival and sit in one of the allocated seats, exiting via the door, top left, by the High Table in the Chancel. Thank You!

With my love and prayers:

**Revd Paul Eddy, Vicar, T: 01367 710267**

**E: [vicar@stdenys.org](mailto:vicar@stdenys.org)**