

Below is an excerpt from an online post that spoke to me this week...

"If My people will
1) HUMBLE THEMSELVES AND PRAY,
2) SEEK MY FACE AND
3) TURN FROM THEIR WICKED WAYS"
God promises to heal the land.
(2 Chronicles 7:14)

'That tells me we can be out of sync with God in three ways, we may seek and pray but if we don't TURN, we still haven't got the message. My growing view and I'm not enjoying it, is that REPENTANCE, turning, is a key issue here in our present situation. We're praying all right, but turning? The church has the key to this, not the unbeliever.

What if we are in a desperate state before Him, made worse by the fact that we think "we are all right, it's the others"; what if we cannot see ourselves naked like the King who was in His altogether?

What if we are stone deaf to the Holy Spirit? Yes, we are positionally 'in Christ', yes, we are the beloved of God. BUT, what if we are immature in the WAYS of God and we have some growing to do - fast.

What if it's back to basics?

What if every Christian asked the Lord to show them where they needed to repent, to turn away from what He didn't like in their lives - their wicked ways, and sincerely asked how to get into alignment with HIM? Regular confession: keeping short accounts with Him.

What if the cumulative effect of unconfessed sin is like one vast landfill site stinking to heaven? Graphic but that's the picture I got...unconfessed sin, is sin that is unforgiven. He's not obsessed with it, but it needs acknowledgement and cleansing - it's the only way we grow beloved. Finding out where we don't fit with Him, where we are out of sync...could shake us out of our complacency.'

Beryl Moore – Bible Teacher and Visionary – Sovereign Ministries

Why did the post speak to me? I think it was the words "My people..." that stood out. This verse is directed at those already in Christ, but I wonder if we sometimes interpret it as "If the world will humble itself and pray, and turn from its wicked ways". I shared the above with some prayer friends, and below is how one of them responded. He has given me permission to share his response here:

"Lesley, I was thinking about that very passage yesterday, and how it's hard not to see this situation as punishment/correction. Of course, my main focus was on businessmen, politicians, and basically everyone who doesn't think like me. So it's a huge wake up call to read this and remember, it starts with me - I need to humble myself before God again, and ask him to show me where I need to take a log out of my own eye. So, in such a rationalistic age, perhaps even a miraculous end to the virus would soon be explained away. But a changed Christian community might cause more pause for thought. And seeing as we are all scattered servants now, if we allow God to change and remould us in the light of what's happening, we can let our lights shine to a better way of being."

So what is my response, your response? I like to think of it like gardening. When I regularly weed my garden, it thrives and the beauty of the good things in it, shine through. But when I leave the weeds to take hold, they choke everything around them, and the garden looks uncared for, messy, struggling. Can we all ask God each day to show us what needs digging out, so that our lives, our witness, our relationships, our church, our service are a wonderful array of colour and beauty that transforms the world around us?

Lesley Edwards

SUNDAY 5th APRIL 2020
WELCOME TO
HORLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

HBC
Horley Baptist Church

A VIBRANT CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY

trypraying.

10.30 am - Speaker: Martin Shorey
Live-stream through Facebook
OR through YouTube - search for Horley Baptist Church
on your smart TV or device

6.30pm - No service

If you need help please use the office email (Monday to Friday):
admin@horleybaptist.org.uk

You can also use the Facebook page to message us:
<http://www.facebook.com/horleybaptistchurch/>

If you need prayer please use the following email:
prayer@horleybaptist.org.uk

Keep in touch on the APP or our website

APP Available, Search: HORLEY BAPTIST CHURCH



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Horley Baptist Church, 289 Court Lodge Road, Horley. RH6 8RG
Pastor: Reverend Martin Shorey

Children & Families Pastor: Dazz Jones

Facilities: Alison Dowrick Administrators: Carol Black & Lizzie Alton

The church office is open 9.00am - 1pm Monday to Friday

Reception is manned week days from 9am -12 noon. Answer-phone in use when office is closed.

To contact the church or to seek help of any kind please ring the office on 01293 456258

email: admin@horleybaptist.org.uk

website: www.horleybaptist.org.uk

Prayer Corner



There is so much to pray for in our world at the moment...

✝ We pray for all countries who are dealing with the management of Coronavirus outbreaks..

✝ We pray for our health services, local grocery businesses, delivery companies and postal services as they cope with increasing demand due to Coronavirus.

Locally Please continue to pray for ...

✝ Our congregation as we continue in a time of isolation, that we continue to keep in touch whether it be by phone calls, email, or social media tools.

✝ That people will not be overwhelmed at this difficult time by worry and anxiety.

✝ For those in our congregation giving pastoral support by telephone contact or shopping for those in isolation.

✝ For those who are unwell at this time, may they feel the love of God envelop them with the kindness of friends and neighbours.

If you have a prayer request please email the church office by Thursday morning or use our prayer email:
prayer@horleybaptist.org.uk

Watch out for
Easter Reflections in
your email in box
this week!



CH CHURCHES for HORLEY FOODBANK

The foodbank is Open!

It is low on ...

- *UHT semi skimmed & full fat milk.
- *Jars of pasta sauce.
- *Tinned vegetables

(donations via Waitrose / High Street Pets or Methodist Church 11-12)

HM Government **NHS**

The only reasons to leave home are:

- ✔ To shop for basic necessities or pick up medicine
- ✔ To travel to work when you absolutely cannot work from home
- ✔ To exercise once a day, alone or with members of your household
- ✘ Do not meet others, even friends or family

Psalms 23

A P N K W G
 X D X E P L L E W D
 O K K S W A E F P D R R
 U H T A E D T T W R S A R E E L
 U D O R I G H T E O U S N E S S I
 Y C R E M L E A D D T E O H T U V
 Z J L Y E L L A V A S N I P O O E
 I I H N I B F B H A D N E R H
 O L E T A O L S P O T H E
 I P G S T R O F M O C S P
 J W A T E R F J G E G
 G M I V D A H J P
 A E Q T L
 R R S
 V

anoint	Lord	staff
comfort	mercy	still
death	oil	table
dwelt	pasture	valley
enemies	path	water
evil	restore	
forever	righteousness	
goodness	rod	
house	shadow	
lead	Shepherd	

THIS WEEK **HBC**

All services on site, home groups children's activities and all other events are cancelled due to the government guidelines for the coronavirus pandemic.

**In the interim
Via the digital world ...
Messages from our
Minister and team**

Friday @ 10am



Horley Baptist
Parent and Toddler
Group
@hbctoddlers

Sunday @ 10.30am



Horley Baptist Church
Religious organisation

Contact Us



Liked



Following



Our videos of activities and live-stream services are now available on YouTube via your smart TV or device. Follow the link or copy and paste into your browser:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCDz4VWq4V_LBiFaVha46neQ/featured?disable_polymer=1

