

# OCTOBER 2020 PRAYER LETTER

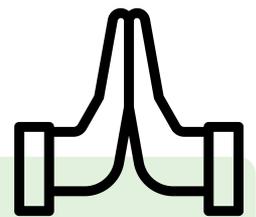
Jonathan Wong | Ministry Trainee Scheme at Christ Church Fulwood

## Give Thanks...



- For Bible Training Yorkshire (BTY) which is course that runs to better equip people in learning and teaching the bible. We've been looking at Matthew and Genesis this term as well as sessions in 'Forming Godly character' and 'Focus on Missions'.
- Student studies through the letter of Ephesians on Tuesdays and able to meet online in small groups.
- Talk given at Hallam Christian Union in Daniel 4. We were seeing God's greatness and our humility before him turns us to praise and share his greatness with others.

## Please pray for...



- Many students who have been in isolation in Sheffield, please pray they stay encouraged in meeting with church family in small groups online and on Sundays.
- A growing appetite for God's word and growing in loving leadership to serve people.
- Pray for time management. Usually a third of our time is invested in practical service in preparing events and catering, please pray for good use of the time and self-control in forming good habits for study.
- Pray for the ongoing preaching series through Ephesians. For real, lived out unity in humility as a church family.

## Upcoming...



- Online videos covering different topics for students (On the Trinity, Biblical hospitality, Doctrine of God)
- Ongoing studies in Ephesians over the next few weeks with Student small groups (1:15-2:1-7)
- Preparing a talk for Bible Training Yorkshire talk on Matthew 19 (November 26th)
- Starting up Bible Triplets for discipleship in the coming week or two

# A week in the scheme.....(so far)

## **SUNDAY**

With the morning and evening services, I'm usually involved in stewarding for the seating plans or serving on the music ministry.

In the afternoon, the small group leaders meet to study the next passage in Ephesians for Tuesday evenings with Andy Fearnley (Minister for Students) .

## **MONDAY**

Currently, half of the trainees are in the building for two days, and work from home for the rest of the week. On Mondays, I've been given the exciting task of burning DVDs and CDs for members of the church family who can't access online material. A big throwback!

As student trainees we meet with our supervisor Andy Fearnley to evaluate our past week of ministry and discuss aspects and expectations of full-time paid ministry. I find these times insightful in seeing the practical ministry involved for ministers and staff.

## **TUESDAY**

In the morning, we begin the day with staff prayers on Zoom and pray for the regular ministry within the church, for families and upcoming preaching, for pastoral ministries, students, and any pressing needs for the week.

Although we've been free of chair-moving and events management, cleaning responsibilities remain. Tuesdays involve some standardised virucidal cleaning for the church centre.

I've been spending Tuesday afternoons in preparation for Thursdays sessions at BTY which involves reading through the assigned chapters and coming up with what they call purpose statements to summarise the theme and application of the passages.

Our students small groups meet in the evening to discuss a part of Ephesians followed by a summary talk of the chapter and a Q&A with the speaker.

## **WEDNESDAY**

The student trainees huddle for a catch-up and pray and discuss the progress of our tasks for the week or ongoing preparation in serving students.

Wednesday afternoons will form the bulk time to spend with 'Bible Triplets' to study the bible and invest in those who are keen to grow in the gospel.

## **THURSDAY**

Thursday mornings are spend with a band of older men in Men's Prayer Breakfast (without the breakfast). We usually share in the word, a song, and pray for the world, church and personal needs.

Bible Training Yorkshire runs all day with four sessions. The first session is devoted to one book of the bible, followed by a session on either 'Forming Godly character' with Biblical Counselling or 'Focus on Missions' with Alan Purser. After lunch, we have our talk groups where a member will share an explanation of a passage and we have a chance to sharpen and grasp the text more helpfully together.

## **FRIDAY**

Involves a half day where I've attempted to finishing any remaining tasks, followed by 'Preacher's Lunch' (without the lunch!) where the minister preaching that week will discuss their outline for a talk and receive any wisdom in making the talk more faithful and helpful.

## **SATURDAY**

Our day off!