

Experiencing the Power of Prayer

As a church, we have been sensing recently that God is calling us to spend more time with Him. The season of Lent is a special period of preparation for Easter: a time to reflect, and a time of spiritual renewal.

This year at St Thomas' Church, we are offering a Lent Course that focuses on experiencing the power of prayer. We are setting aside 4 Wednesday evenings in Lent to explore different aspects of prayer in a very practical and down-to-earth way. So if you feel like you've got stuck in your prayer life, or you'd like some fresh input to inspire you to try a new way of praying, come along!

There's no need to sign up, just come to any or all of the evenings – **8.00-9.30pm in the main church.**

Wed 24th Feb: Finding God in daily life

Many of us admit that we find it hard to spend regular time with God in our daily lives. This evening will be entirely dedicated to looking at different resources that are available to help us start small or stay fresh in our personal prayer life. We'll be looking at everything from classic Bible Study notes to the latest online apps, with plenty of first-hand experience from church members on offer. We'll also be looking at resources that can help children grow up spending time with God too. At the end of the evening, we'll all have the chance to try something out for ourselves.

Wed 2nd March: Learning how to hear from God

This is the question everyone is asking – how can I hear from God, and be sure it's Him? How do I live well and make good choices if I'm not sure what he wants me to do? This session will look at the wide variety of ways that God speaks to us in line with his revealed word in the Bible. There will be lots of room for sharing personal experience, with space in the evening to pray and listen to God.

Wed 9th March: Intercessory Worship

This evening will set aside time to engage with God through extended sung worship and open prayer, with space to listen to God and respond. There will also be some teaching to explain the relationship between worship and intercessions. Come prepared to worship, listen to God, and (if you wish) share what you hear.

Wed 16th March: Praying with and for other people

It is a great privilege to come before God with the people of God on our heart. There are so many ways we can pray for each other, and this session will be exploring a number of the tools God has given us to pray for each other. In particular, we will be looking at:

- Persevering in our own personal prayers for others – e.g. prayer journals;
- Praying naturally for others in a moment of need;
- 'Doing life together' prayers - e.g. practical experience of prayer triplets, prayer squares;
- Prayer ministry at church – how it works, and what it's for