

Seeing the best, despite the worst

Times are bad, Lord, but remind me they could be worse.
They are hard, but remind me they could be harder.
They are testing, but remind me they could be far more challenging still.

They bring trouble, but remind me many face adversity much more demanding.

It's not easy, you're not asking me to pretend otherwise,
the events of recent months having brought trials and tribulations such as most of us have never begun to experience before,
yet though much is being asked of us,
we know much more is asked of others,
though the path we tread is difficult,
it is less gruelling than the one many have to travel.

Teach me, Lord, should I feel weary, shaken, sorry for myself,
to focus on the good rather than the bad,
the best instead of the worst,
and to recognise that, however tough things may be,
I still have so many reasons to give thanks.
Amen.

From **Nick Fawcett: For Such a Time as This**, Kevin Mayhew Publishers.



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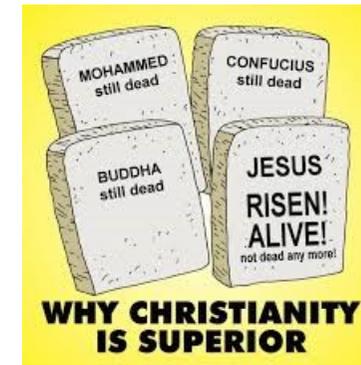
Please note! Items for 7/52 should be given to **Sally** by **midnight THURSDAY** on 641305 or email: ian.pratt5@btopenworld.com

7/52 @ RBC

24 May 2020

May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you the same attitude of mind toward each other that Christ Jesus had, so that with one mind and one voice you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Romans 15:5-6



Check out our website at **www.rydebaptist.org** for general updates.

Sermon notes and suggestions for reading and study are on **<https://www.rydebaptist.xyz>** —the Sunday supplement.





Jenny and Paul's nephew **Laurie** is now resting at home. Please continue to pray for him and family.

What's On

Worship at home with Premier Radio **10 am Sunday**.

BBC1 11.45 am Sunday worship from Bangor Cathedral. Also listen to **Pam Rhodes** on Premier Radio for Sunday Live at 6 pm, followed by Prayer of Hope from Churches Together at 7 pm. Pam Rhodes also leads a lunchtime singalong every weekday at 1 pm on Premier Radio.



Prayer broadcast with BU General Secretary Lynn Green at **7 pm** this Sunday. Prayers at 7 pm on Wednesdays.

All available at https://www.baptist.org.uk/Groups/338268/Prayer_broadcasts.aspx

For further resources see https://baptist.org.uk/Groups/338269/Prayer_and_reflections.aspx

For free videos from Kyle Idleman of City on a Hill until 15 June including 'I still believe', 'Don't give up', 'A cure for everything' and 'The Easter Experience', go to <https://reveal.vhx.tv/free-series-during-quarantine-1?>

'24% of UK adults say they have watched or listened to a religious service since lockdown, of whom some say they have never been to church before. Some churches are seeing double the number of people watching online that would normally attend in person. Is this entirely a good thing? If I used to go to church every Sunday, but can now get it at home, is there less reason to go once the building is open? Most of us will say we want community, but there will be Sunday mornings where we open our iPad or phone and 'attend' from there. Will new cyber-church 'members' rush to the church they have been watching online? Being part of a church means being part of a body of people in communion around a belief in God and an experience of his love. If churches are streaming online and getting good numbers that's great! But are we doing enough to grow **community?**'

Next **Sunday 31 May** is **Pentecost Sunday**. Baptists in the UK and worldwide will be coming together for **Solidarity Sunday** to pray for people most vulnerable in the Coronavirus crisis, as well as those who are responding across the world. Though church buildings are closed, Solidarity Sunday is about reminding ourselves that there is so much good we can do –through giving, through prayer and through powerful demonstrations of unity. Kerry will be using some Solidarity Sunday resources next week.

In the meantime, read the advice from Genesis Acaye in Uganda on getting through this crisis at

<https://www.bmsworldmission.org/news/hope-no-one-but-god-can-give/>

Two cases of coronavirus have now been detected in Cox's Bazar, the largest refugee camp in the world and shelter to more than 850,000 Rohingya people. Please pray for missions such as BMS, Tear Fund, Operation Mobilisation and Christian Aid working with refugees there and in many other places, training doctors and helping to provide food and PPE. Donate if you can to their coronavirus appeals at

<https://donate.christianaid.org.uk/Donate/Step/1?>

https://www.tearfund.org/en/latest/coronavirus_emergency_appeal/

<https://www.uk.om.org/appeal/mercy>

<https://www.bmsworldmission.org/appeal/covid-19-coronavirus-appeal/>

As lockdown conditions are easing in Europe, see what's happening in other parts of the world at <https://traidcraftexchange.org/blog/2020/5/21/the-world-in-lockdown>

Thank you for your continued financial support of the work of the Church. Bank details for standing orders are as follows:
RBC Barclays current account number 20731102
sort code 20—60— 55

If you usually give by cash or cheque, save it up until you have a few weeks' worth and then contact Kerry or a deacon who can collect it from you.

Offerings for **April** were as follows:
Standing orders **£1792**

