

Sunday 14 March 2021

### Christians need backbone

*"Whatever my God says, that I will speak."* (2 Chronicles 18:13b).

*"Teacher, we know that You are true, and care about no one; for You do not regard the person of men, but teach the way of God in truth."* (Mark 12:14).

One is tempted to ask, "How is the backbone to be formed in the rising generation of Christians if everything about the religious life is made so pleasant and easy? If sermons must be so light or short as hardly to involve any effort of attention on the part of the hearer, and the rest of the service is to be a bright little concert? And if the other hours of the day given us to be spent at the gates of heaven are to be merely enlivened with 'Sunday talk'?"

We are in great danger of degenerating into molluscos Christians. Christian preachers and writers ought, I think, to be continually reminding their people of the place of self-denial in the Christian life. If we let down the tone of the Church in this respect, it may please God to give her a new chapter of the discipline of persecution, for that has been the great means usually employed for teaching her that the Cross has to be borne in another sense than as an ornament on a lady's bosom. "If any man will come after Me, let him take up his cross daily and follow Me". -Dr. W. G. Blaikie

John Bunyan has said: "I have determined the Almighty God being my help and shield-yet to suffer if frail life might continue so long, even until the moss shall grow over my eyebrows, rather than violate my faith and my principles."



## Global Day of Prayer for Myanmar (Burma)

The Global Day of Prayer for Burma happens every year, on the second Sunday of March. Today, people from across the world will join in prayer for Myanmar. New Believers often face persecution from their communities and loved ones. Because of this, it has become common for pastors to take young people into their homes when they leave their traditional religion for the love of Christ. *Please pray for new Believers, young and old, to stand firm in*



*their faith, no matter what may be thrown at them. Ask God to use their faithfulness to open the eyes of those who oppose them and bring them to His salvation.*



Article - How to pray for strangers

Monday 15 March 2021

## Contract workers



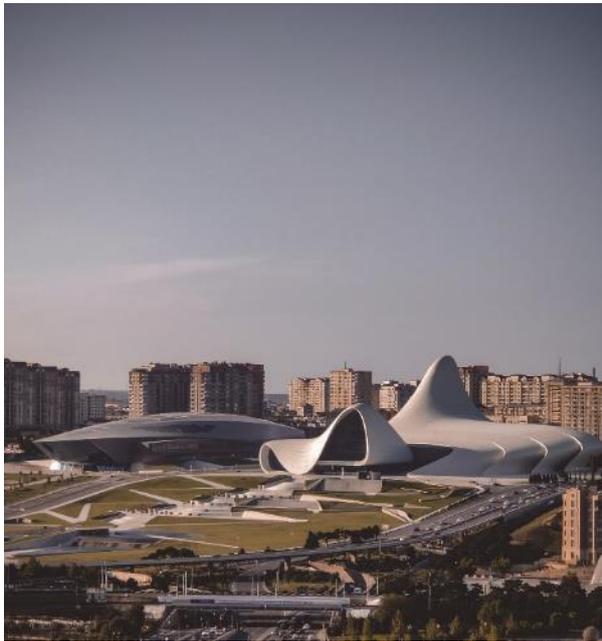
*Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. (Romans 12:12).*

Contract workers do not earn a regular salary and are almost always on the lookout for new contracts. Some earn a small fee, while others literally earn thousands for the number of days they work. They move around a lot, whether between businesses or cities or even countries. Ask that they will receive reasonable wages. Pray for the salvation of all contract workers. Ask

that they will be faithful in their work. Also, that their conduct would draw many unto God, even more than their words. *Therefore, those also who suffer according to the will of God shall entrust their souls to a faithful Creator in doing what is right. (1 Peter 4:19).*

Tuesday 16 March 2021

## Azerbaijan, Central Asia



The current ruling party in the nation, New Azerbaijan Party, is accused of authoritarianism and bribery. It imprisons corruption-busting journalists and human rights advocates. The friction with neighbouring Armenia over the disputed Nagorno-Karabakh territory is ongoing. Oil export revenues have aided the Azeri population, elevating living standards, and increasing military strength. Yet, poverty and corruption plague the nation. The Church experiences ongoing restrictions - raids on church meetings and homes of church leaders, and detentions of Christians continue.

### Praise Report

Praise God for Christians who have shared the Gospel boldly, resulting in many hearing the Good News for the first time, as well as persecution. Pray for the members of the government to have encounters with Jesus and that they will recognise Him as the Way, the Truth, and the Life. Pray for those who are dissatisfied with the state of their nation, to find the wisdom in studying the Bible. Pray for God's Word to bring transformation in their lives (Hebrews 4:12).

Wednesday 17 March 2021

### Your Word encourages us

*Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. (Romans 15:13).*

*Father, we lift up our people in South Africa to You and we pray for our nation to be encouraged by Your Word to pursue the life to which You have called us. We pray that our people will choose to allow Your Word to fill us with faith and to pursue to the fullest whatever You ask of us to do. May the empowerment of Your Spirit transform our nation's heart to be filled with a longing and passion to seek You.*

**Pray meditatively about 1 Peter 1:15-16** - *But as He who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, because it is written, "BE HOLY, FOR I AM HOLY."* Read the Bible verses slowly and ask the Holy Spirit to speak to you on what has to change in your life so that your thoughts and conduct will be in line with this passage of Scripture. Identify at least one thing that needs to change in your life and take the following seven days to actively work on this.



Thursday 18 March 2021

**Revival focus**



*And when you pray, do not use vain repetitions as the heathen do. For they think that they will be heard for their many words. (Matthew 6:7).*

*Everlasting Father, we confess that our prayers contain many words, in which we explain and elaborate on things, and many times, without realising it, we do not ask anything of You, do not thank you for anything, not worshipping you!*

*We tend to pray for our own comfort and not always for specific God-ordained strategies and breakthroughs. Please forgive us and teach us how to pray according to Your own Word. Give us a hunger after You and show us how to pray using Scripture appropriate to our circumstances.*

**Food for thought...**

The Church has many praying men (and women), but few men (or women) of prayer. (From: Revival, God's way by Leonard Ravenhill).

**Ceaseless Prayer**

*Father, You are able...*