

April 2024 prayer diary

MONDAY 1 APRIL

- Pray that teenagers away on Easter camps will have a great time and pay attention to the teaching
- Pray that students away over Easter will be an encouragement to their home churches and believing family and good witnesses to unbelieving family
- Give thanks for some good Sylheti outreach in Mile End Park last month. Pray that conversations and seeds sown will be remembered, and that people might make their way to nearby churches, including Asha

TUESDAY 2 APRIL

- Give thanks for the guests who attended the Messiah concert at St Michael's last month. Pray that any who took a Gospel away will read it from beginning to end
- Give thanks for the recent 4pm men's breakfast thinking about prayer. Pray they will grow in excitement at the privilege of prayer, and boldness as they look to our heavenly father who can do more than all we ask or imagine (Eph 3:20)

WEDNESDAY 3 APRIL

- Give thanks for some Sylheti ladies at Asha being particularly struck by Jesus' mercy to sinners, outcasts, blind men and little children. Pray they will call out to Jesus for mercy. Pray too that more men will come
- The Shantir Boi bookshop has moved from Brick Lane to the Asha venue in Limehouse. Pray that this location will work well and be a means to reach new people

THURSDAY 4 APRIL

- Give thanks for the ReNew Regional Leaders; pray for them to be steadfast in their own guarding of the gospel and for their encouragement of others in their regions
- Pray for believers living in countries where it is dangerous to meet together. Pray they will find ways to have fellowship and to grow as disciples of Jesus
- Pray that the Lord will enable Christians around the world who face rejection by their families or communities to remain faithful to him

FRIDAY 5 APRIL

- Pray for the Asha team, who run book tables in Watney Market each Friday, seeking to hold out the word of life to the predominantly Muslim community
- Pray for a group of ICG students going away on "Lads in a House"; for significant times in God's word, and for partnership in the gospel to be strengthened
- The Kamuku translation team are in Jos to continue linguistics training with Katharine. Pray for them as they apply what they are learning to the books that have been translated

SATURDAY 6 APRIL

- Give thanks for dialogue events hosted by church family last month. Pray for follow up opportunities, including invitations to the "If you could ask God one question" week of talks events
- Myriam is leading a workshop on "Comparison, Envy and Competition" at the annual women's convention, Charleroi (Belgium); James is teaching on prayer at a church plant in Bordeaux

SUNDAY 7 APRIL

- Pray for the 10 & 10.30am (William on 1 Thess 2:9-16), 2pm Mandarin (Henry on Eph 2:4-7), 4pm (Aneirin on Judges 17 & 18), and 6pm (Tim on Daniel 9) meetings
- Pray that the children will have confidence that Jesus is building his kingdom as they look at Acts in Sunday School this term
- The 4pm women's reading group meets today to discuss "Five Lies of Our Anti-Christian Age". Pray that they will be strengthened in their conviction of the truth of God's word in the face of a culture that is increasingly set against it
- Asha are looking Luke 24 to focus on the resurrection of Jesus

MONDAY 8 APRIL

- We are committed to partner in prayer with St Philemon's Toxteth. This month they ask us to:
 - Give thanks for the many kids and young people in their church family. Pray they will want to go on summer camps
 - Pray that God will be preparing St Philemon's in maturity, trust and financially to plant a church in the next few years
 - Pray that they will be creative and loving as they try to improve their services for non-English speakers. Praise God for the diversity within their congregation

TUESDAY 9 APRIL

- Pray for the lunchtime meetings at St Helen's (Wes on Eph 4:17-24) and Aldersgate (Phil M on John 12:27-36)
- Pray that the seed sown in our prison ministry Sunday services and Bible studies will not be snatched away, or be choked up, but produce a harvest amongst the inmates
- Pray for Ochum youth (Joelle - Cambodia), who are studying Genesis. Pray for good resources that will help them understand the book. Two of the leaders are getting married; pray their future wives will take their faith more seriously and grow in godliness. Pray for the preparations for a youth camp which will be held this month; for good attendance, good teaching and safe fun

WEDNESDAY 10 APRIL

- Pray for the lunchtime meetings at Moorgate (Phil M on John 12:27-36) and North Bishopsgate (Wes on Eph 4:17-24)
- Pray that our Associates will grow in personal godliness and will be an example to others in their speech, conduct, love, faith and purity (1 Tim 4:12)
- Give thanks for a very encouraging Associate and Apprentice reunion last month. Pray that every one will continue to teach the gospel with boldness and love. Pray that strengthened friendships will provide much encouragement over the months and years to come

THURSDAY 11 APRIL

- Pray for the lunchtime meetings at St Helen's and Covent Garden (Wes on Eph 4:17-24)
- Give thanks for the work of the City Pastors, and pray for a constructive relationship between them and the Met and City Police. Ask God in his mercy to uphold and maintain integrity in the Police Service, and to bless the work of the Christian Police Association; pray that its members will adorn the gospel amidst the challenges of operating in the current culture

FRIDAY 12 APRIL

- Praise God for the Little Pickles mums who attended an evangelistic Bible study last term. Another series of the studies is planned for this term. Please pray that some will be convinced of their personal need of the gospel
- The Tools for Ministry weekend starts this evening, focusing on 2 Timothy. Pray that individuals leading their first Bible studies will be encouraged and equipped in handling God's word. Pray for new servant-hearted leaders to be raised up across all our small groups, especially for our children and youth ministries

SATURDAY 13 APRIL

- Pray that Christians living in Afghanistan will be strong in their faith, even though they may not be able to meet with others. Pray that the word will sustain them and give them hope
- Pray that the Lord will raise up more people able to lead small groups at Joe & Elin's church (Asia); pray too for the right decision about a meeting venue, and for its provision
- Grant Luebke and Heidi Tan (10.30am congregation) are getting married today

SUNDAY 14 APRIL

- Pray for the 10am & 10.30am (Drew / Phil on Matthew 24:1-14), 2pm Mandarin (John on Hosea 1:1-2:1), and the 4pm (Aneirin on Judges 19-21) & 6pm (Tim on Daniel 10-12) meetings
- Pray that the Sunday School leaders' training today will be a useful and encouraging time. Continue to pray for godly and keen individuals to come forward to lead within the Sunday School, particularly men
- Pray that the Lord will produce an attitude of glad, costly generosity amongst those at the 6pm as they consider together their financial giving
- Pray for the Asha team as they hope to join Muslim friends at the end of Eid. Pray for good and bold conversations

MONDAY 15 APRIL

- As small groups start meeting again, pray that members will prioritise being at their small group study each week
- Pray that Christian City workers will be faithful and prayerful in following up after their "Share Life" events last month
- Pray that those who have attended recent Christianity Explored courses will continue to investigate who Jesus is; pray for repentance and belief

TUESDAY 16 APRIL

- Pray for the lunchtime meetings at St Helen's (William on 1 Thess 4:13-18) and Aldersgate (Phil M on John 12:36-43)
- Pray that everyone at 4pm RML will have a hunger for God's word and a desire to help one another make progress. Pray for all studying Romans as they begin to focus on how to live in light of the gospel
- 10.30am CF will study Exodus 25:1-27:19. Pray that as they consider the tabernacle and its design and architecture, they will grow in awe that our God condescends to dwell with his people, and rejoice in the work of Jesus
- A new term of Evensong at St Michael's Cornhill starts this evening; please pray for the sermon series in the Psalms

WEDNESDAY 17 APRIL

- Pray for the lunchtime meetings at Moorgate (Phil M on John 12.36-43) and North Bishopsgate (William on 1 Thess 4:13-18)
- The second years at Student RML are reviewing Romans 9-11 this evening. Pray for an expanded view of God's plan for history, and enthusiasm to take the gospel to the nations
- Pray for genuine seekers to come to the IGG Foundations Course. Four people baptised at the 2pm last month had benefited from IGG "explore studies" before they turned to Christ

THURSDAY 18 APRIL

- Pray for the lunchtime meeting at Covent Garden (Giulio on 1 Thess 4:13-18)
- Our first-year Associates will study 1 Peter this term, and meet today for an introductory session. Pray that time spent in this letter will equip them to stand firm in the true grace of God (1 Pet 5:12)
- There is a thanksgiving service at St Helen's for Robin Somerville today, who was part of the City work for many years. Pray for new life amongst the non-believers who will be there

FRIDAY 19 APRIL

- On Fridays Rob is teaching at Oak Hill on Islam
- Pray that Christian teachers at St Helen's will have regular opportunities at their school to speak about the gospel to students, particularly those from unchurched backgrounds
- Pray for the school Christian meetings at Harris Science Academy East London (run by Hannah Diwakar) and St Dunstan's College (student-led)

SATURDAY 20 APRIL

- The Asha team are holding a music evening to build relationships with Sylheti people. Some gospel songs will be included
- We partner in prayer with Holy Cross Church, Gleadless Valley. This month they ask us to give thanks for: opportunities in their community over Easter; the Lord's work in them as they looked at 2 Corinthians 8-9 on giving; their Leadership Afternoon in March that enabled them to set their priorities for the next 5 years; the Lord bringing J to saving faith in Jesus through Lunch 4 All
- and to pray for: fruit from their Easter services / events / outreach; their APCM on 24 April and the appointment of appropriate church members as churchwardens / PCC etc; their sermon series in May focusing on growing a "Christ-centred culture" in which everyone is "Safe, Happy, Effective and Free" to live for Jesus and serve him

SUNDAY 21 APRIL

- Pray for the 10am & 10.30am (Drew / Phil on Matthew 24:15-28), 2pm Mandarin (John on Hosea 2:2-3:5), and 4pm & 6pm (William on 1 Timothy 1:1-11) meetings
- Our 11-14s are looking at Revelation 1-3 on Sundays this term. Pray it will encourage them to be steadfast and continue to our incredible future, and guard them against complacency
- Junction (14-18s) are starting a new series on battles Christians face; pray that each week the teenagers will be equipped for a lifetime of living for Jesus
- Asha are looking at Matthew 21:23-27 today

MONDAY 22 APRIL

- Pray that we will “look up and see that the fields are white for harvest” (John 4:35). Pray that this will motivate us to tell others about Jesus
- Pray for gospel conversations as we host the John Stow memorial service for our patrons, the Merchant Taylors, today (William is speaking)
- Pray for the safe arrival of the Bwaatye New Testaments (Nigeria - a project Gareth has been involved with) and plans to dedicate and release it in May. Pray for continued calm in that area; one of the recent school attacks was close to the Kamuku area

TUESDAY 23 APRIL

- Pray for the lunchtime meetings at St Helen's (William on 1 Thess 5:1-11) and Aldersgate (Brian W on John 12:44-50)
- 10.30am CF will study Exodus 27:20-29:46 and consider the priestly roles in the tabernacle. Pray that they will grow in thanksgiving for Jesus our great high priest, and in confidence to approach the throne of grace in dependence on him
- Please continue to pray that more Spanish speakers will join 4pm RML and invite their friends to hear about Jesus in their heart language

WEDNESDAY 24 APRIL

- Pray for the lunchtime meetings at Moorgate (Brian W on John 12:44-50) and North Bishopsgate (William on 1 Thess 5:1-11)
- Students will be studying for exams; pray that their primary desire will be to please God rather than man
- Pray that our Government will be able to deal with short-term need and make good decisions for the long-term; pray they will know how best to respond to domestic and global demands

THURSDAY 25 APRIL

- Pray for help to reach those most in need in areas of conflict in the world. Pray for Christians in positions of influence to be able to bring wisdom and resolution
- Pray for the lunchtime meetings at St Helen's and Covent Garden (William / Wes on 1 Thess 5:1-11)
- Give thanks for the wide range of age, heritage, culture and interests in our church family. Pray we will make the most of building relationships with brothers and sisters in our congregations

FRIDAY 26 APRIL

- Pray for those in the church family grieving the loss of loved ones. Pray for the Lord to bring daily comfort, hope and strength
- Pray for those caring for sick or elderly relatives. Pray for patience, compassion, and opportunities to pray and share precious promises from God's word. Pray there will be others alongside to encourage and strengthen those caring
- Pray that the Student Friday training evening tonight will help to equip students to live and speak for Jesus

SATURDAY 27 APRIL

- This year Persian New Year and Easter both fall during the month of fasting and so, even more than usual, Eid will be a great opportunity for Lucy (Central Asia) to visit local friends and colleagues in their homes, and receive guests in her own home. Pray for good conversations
- Pray that university CUs will prayerfully persevere in talking to their Muslim friends about Jesus

SUNDAY 28 APRIL

- Pray for the 10am & 10.30am (Drew / Phil on Matt 24:29-35), 2pm Mandarin (John on Hosea 11:1-11), and 4pm & 6pm (William on 1 Timothy 1:12-20) meetings
- Pray that all our congregations will be welcoming to the newcomers who have joined us over the past few months and to those who come for the first time each Sunday. Pray that established friendship groups will be outward-looking
- Asha are looking at Matthew 21:28-32 today

MONDAY 29 APRIL

- This evening is our Annual Church Meeting; pray that many will come, that it will be a time of prayerful thankfulness as we look back, and prayerful dependence as we look ahead. Pray that the new churchwardens and Church Council members elected today will be godly and provide good counsel
- Pray that as a church family we will persevere in faith and in gospel ministry as we wait for Jesus' return, and that we will encourage each other as we run the race together (Heb 12:1)

TUESDAY 30 APRIL

- Pray for the lunchtime meetings at St Helen's (William on 1 Thess 5:12-28) and Aldersgate (Phil M on John 13:1-11)
- Pray for the recruitment of more full-time students for September's intake at the Brussels Bible Institute
- 10.30am CF will study Exodus 30-31. Pray that they might rejoice that God has spoken and gives his Spirit that we might dwell with him

Mission partner news

St Helen's sends out and supports individuals and families involved in cross-cultural Christian ministry, both overseas and in this country. We are also linked with national Christians and churches overseas. Below is a focus on one of our Mission Partners.

Joelle lives in North East Cambodia, working amongst tribal people. This is a very rural area where people live in scattered villages and have an animistic culture. She leads several women's and youth groups, and together with two helpers she runs a small "dorm" for village girls to attend school. She is currently in the UK on home assignment.

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Pray for the Krung people as they prepare an Easter celebration that includes baptisms. Pray for good attendance; both Christians and non-Christians. Pray for the person giving the gospel message; that it will be faithful and clear. Pray for those getting baptised; that their hearts would be truly given to Jesus and that they will walk with God all the days of their life.

Pray for Ochum youth who have chosen to study the book of Genesis at their Friday meetings. Pray for good resources that will help them understand the book and teach it effectively. Pray for the two youth leaders that are getting married. Pray their future wives would take their faith more seriously and grow in godliness. Pray for the preparations for a youth camp which will be held in April; for good attendance, good teaching and safe fun.

As Muriel (my colleague who helps look after the dorm) returns to Scotland for three weeks, please pray the dorm will run smoothly in her absence and that nothing eventful will happen.

Pray for myself as I continue to battle an illness that, for now, is preventing me from returning to Cambodia. Please pray for healing, peace of mind and patience during this difficult and confusing time for me. Pray for meaningful activities that I can get involved with as I wait. Pray for reconciliation in a broken relationship which is causing me some distress.

Joelle