

A PRAYER FOR OUR "MORE ON MISSION" MORNING SERVICE – 6th NOVEMBER

We thank you, Father, for your Word, and the theme verse for our Mission focus *"Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us"*. Just as ambassadors are specially chosen and given authority to act on behalf of their country's head, we thank you for choosing us to be part of your family and to represent Christ in a dark and dying world in need of a Saviour. We recognise that we have the important responsibility of delivering your message of reconciliation to those we meet, as we speak for you and present your appeal with the help of the Holy Spirit.

We pray for our witness for you, both individually and as a church. Thank you for the witness of this church in this place over many years of faithfully preaching your gospel, and the many saints who have gone before us. We ask that this church would continue to be a shining light, a city on a hill that cannot be hidden to all the people of Broadstone and surrounding area who are condemned without Christ. Help us to be salt and light for those we meet in our daily lives, in our actions and our words, and that seeds may be sown, and relationships built so that in the fulness of time many may come to a saving knowledge of Jesus.

We thank you, Father, that we can be partners in the gospel with those you have called to serve you as missionaries. They have sacrificed so much in obedience to your call, and we lift each of our mission partners to you now. Many have been compelled to give up their home comforts, leaving family and friends to labour for you overseas, often in difficult places, facing opposition and even danger and persecution. We ask that your boundless love will protect them, uphold and comfort them in whatever situation they face. You know each of them by name and know all about them and their individual needs.

We pray for those involved in translating the Bible for those who do not have it available in their own language, and for those who distribute your word and for those who print Christian literature. Give them wisdom for all the decisions they have to make. We pray too for those involved in language learning and adapting to new cultures, that they might quickly be able to converse in the new language, and for those carrying out personal evangelism on the streets and in schools.

So Lord, we give thanks for the gifts and talents you have given to all our mission partners, and their willingness to use them. Encourage and protect them despite problems, ill health, an apparent lack of fruit or discouragements. May they remain faithful and please you in all they do. Bless them as they continue to live out the truth of being ambassadors for Christ.

Draw near to each of us as we continue to worship you. Speak to both our hearts and our minds through the reading of your Word and the message that has been prepared. Anoint Tim with your Holy Spirit, and by that same Spirit help us not just to understand what we hear, but to act on it and have the strength and willingness to be changed by it. May we be encouraged and challenged and equipped to grow closer to you in this coming week as we seek to live out today's message of reconciliation.

We ask all these things in the precious name of Jesus, Amen.