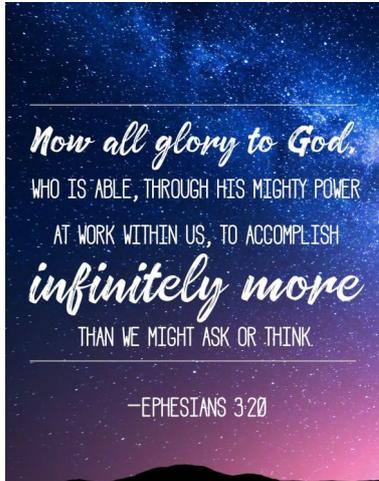


Battle Baptist Church

Being Transformed Together



14th February 2021



'His understanding is infinite.'

One of the characteristic features of our wonderful God is His omniscience. This means that He has an infinite awareness of each of us who claim Him to be Lord of our lives. He has complete understanding of the way we react and respond to the conditions we find ourselves in, whether in sickness or health; whether happy or sad; whether at peace or distress. He has compassion on us when we go through times of temptation and always reaches out to forgive, to restore and to be reconciled to Him.

What we find in a regular reading of scripture is that as an all-knowing Father, He shares Himself with men and women on a personal basis.

In Psalm 139:1-4, King David exclaimed, "O Lord you have examined my heart and know everything about me. You know when I sit down or stand up. You know my thoughts even when I am far away. You see me when I travel and when I rest at home. You know everything I do. You know what I am going to say even before I say it Lord." As we read through the rest of this psalm, David expresses his awareness that God knows all about him, his actions, his thought life, his anxieties, and his deep emotions. From his personal realisation of God's omniscience, David gave his son Solomon good advice when he says in 1 Chronicles 28:9, "My son, learn to know the God of your ancestors intimately. Worship and serve him with your whole heart and a willing mind. For the Lord sees every heart and knows every plan and thought. If you seek Him you will find Him."

When Jesus met the Samaritan woman at the well, He revealed that He knew she had had five husbands and that the man she now lived with was not her husband. But rather than condemn her, he goes on to graciously build on their conversation and the words of teaching he had already given her and leads her to a living faith in Him - to the extent that she shared her testimony with her neighbours and they also came to faith in Jesus (John 4:1-42).

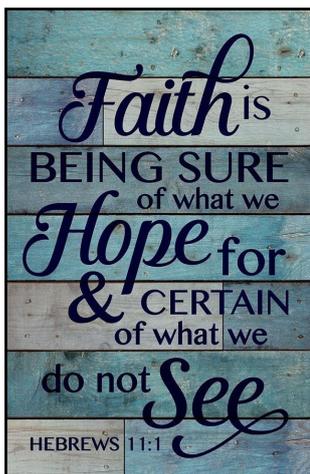
Jesus knew all about this woman, He knew He was about to have an encounter with her at midday and He knew that the Kingdom of God was about to be extended that day. He knows when we have encounters and conversations with neighbours or strangers, that we can be bold enough to pray inwardly and share outwardly as we have opportunity.

Walking this life of faith in the presence our all-knowing Saviour does not mean we are spared loss, grief, or seasons of sadness and questioning. Along with sunny days there are times when the clouds come rolling in and we are not guaranteed that our faith will spare us from them, but we can be sure that Jesus will be ever present and fully aware of our circumstances.

Keith

"Yahweh! The Lord! The God of compassion and mercy!
I am slow to anger and filled with unfailing love and faithfulness.
I lavish unfailing love to a thousand generations.
I forgive iniquity, rebellion and sin. But I do not excuse the guilty."
Exodus 34:67

'...unless you believe that I AM who I claim to be, you will die in your sins.'
John 8:24



PRAYER POINTERS

COVID-19

The Financial Conduct Authority estimates that more than a quarter of UK adults are now financially vulnerable in comparison to 15% pre-COVID. Young and BAME adults are most affected. Pray for a more equitable society.

BTFC

Pray for all the players with whom BTFC has a connection: the adult teams, the veterans, walking footballers and BTFC runners. Pray for Kevin, Gary and Ed as they try to maintain contact electronically. For seeds sown to begin to grow.

Dementia

Pray for families where a loved one has dementia and the extra pressures that living in lockdown must bring. For those who are in care homes and their families for whom visiting is complicated. For love and support.

NEWSLETTER

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Battle Baptist Church is part of Life with Hope Trust; registered charity 1134288, Mount Street, Battle,

East Sussex TN33 0EG.

- Website: www.battlebaptistchurch.org.uk
- Telephone and answerphone (01424) 774825 • Email: office@battlebaptistchurch.org.uk
- Caterpillar Preschool direct telephone line:

Church maintenance issues:
zionpremisesteam@gmail.com



NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Baptist Union Presidency: Four candidates have been nominated for the Presidency of the Baptist Union in 2022/23. This is an important decision and we encourage members to engage in the discernment process. Profiles of each candidate can be accessed [here](#), together with short introductory videos. As a church we are entitled to two votes: please get in touch with the office to tell us which candidate you would like to vote for, and BBC's votes will be cast for the candidate with the most support. The vote closes on 31st March.

Songs of Praise: Gary and Janet Walsh's son, Joe, is being interviewed as part of this Sunday's programme (broadcast at 1.15pm on BBC1). He will be talking about his involvement in 'Faith in Operation'. Take a look to find out more!

BBC YouTube channel: Here you can now access recent sermons and 'Everyday stories

of Faith' independent of the broadcasts, as well as other material.

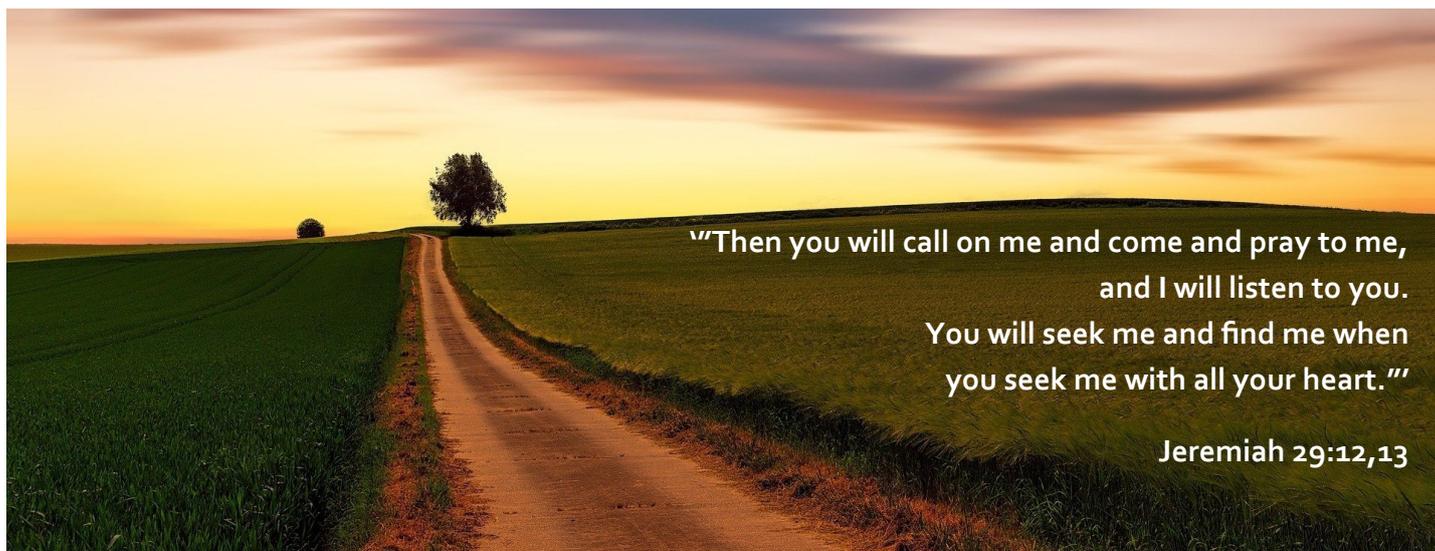
'For Further Fought...' Go to the church website to find links to resources for further study and reflection.

Foodbank: Donations of tinned potatoes, instant mash and tins of hot meat would be particularly appreciated this week. Thank you for your continuing support.

Half term: Ed is taking annual leave next week. If you need pastoral support, please contact Rita, Charles or Shirley in the first instance.

WORLD VIEW

Thank God that BMS work in India has a rich legacy of many churches, schools, hospitals and development projects. Pray that God will enable BMS to support more local evangelists there.



"Then you will call on me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart."

Jeremiah 29:12,13

The [Baptist Union](#) has issued renewed call for us to persevere in prayer regarding the COVID-19 pandemic:

"As Covid-19 threatens to overwhelm our health service and continues to inflict pain and loss, we stand together with many others and **renew our commitment to sustained prayer.**

"You may like to join virtually with friends to pray, perhaps in small groups or as a wider congregation. You might like to spend time in solitude praying for our nation at this time of crisis.

"Here are some **pointers to help you and your friends as you pray.** These have been written by a senior A&E nurse in a large teaching hospital:

1. Pray for all the NHS staff for their own safety, energy and peace in dealing with each and every patient.

2. Pray for those in hospital leadership, for wisdom and for good decisions to give the best outcomes for patients.
3. Pray for patients; for healing, for peace and ultimately to fight this disease and get home and pray for their relatives who feel helpless.
4. Pray for the vaccine, that it will and is working against this latest strain of Covid-19.
5. Pray for a reprieve and an end to Covid-19.

"You may know people who are currently working in the NHS or another healthcare setting in your area, please let them know you are praying for them and ask them how you can pray specifically."

(Taken from the Baptist Union website)