



ALLANDER EVANGELICAL CHURCH

FELLOWSHIP NEWSLETTER

17th August, 2020

Hello

Template for Worship: 1 Kings 8: 27 – 30

Having noted the 'wrongs' that necessitated Jesus cleansing the Temple in His day, it is good to see from the Old Testament, and Solomon's dedication in particular, a reminder that true worship entails a recognition of the greatness of God. As His temple we worship Him. And, that true worship has several features we do well to note and practise.

Humility is essential as we reflect that almighty God deigns to "*fix in us Thy humble dwelling*".

Within that dwelling, **communication** is important as God speaks and listens to us and we, then, listen and respond to Him.

Such interaction generates a **presence** – a sense of "*Surely God is in this place*"; an overwhelming awareness of God's awesome, holy presence when we gather.

What is more, God is **attentive** to our behaviour and being. "*Thou God seest me*" applies to all our living.

The Temple reflects God's **character** which, in turn, should impact ours.

It should inspire a **cry for help** as opposed to any self-righteousness on our part; and convey the appreciation and practice, of **forgiveness**. These features provide us with a template for true worship.

More Lockdown Reflections

David Wilson shares the following with us: *Morag and I share many interests together and enjoy each other's company, so spending more time together has been very good. Each Sunday morning we have "broken bread" together in accordance with Acts 2:46. I have also appreciated reading a couple of excellent new doctrinal books.*

We have both enjoyed the Getty Family Weekly Hymn Sing. And, in addition, we were able to keep in touch periodically with our family and friends, virtually - not a substitute for visiting, but worthwhile nevertheless.

More from Romania

Last week David Jack shared about the disappointments experienced by the Children for Christ (Copii pentru Cristos (CpC) folk in Romania with activities cancelled. Yet there are positives as the following recounts.

The good news is that the second hand shop has now been allowed to re-open and the team at Varfurile offer their thanks to all in the UK who donated, sorted and packed the clothes which were sent out the week when Lockdown was announced in March. These goods are not only a vital source of finance for the work

of CpC but are also a great help for the people who purchase them especially in this financial crisis. Collection of goods for delivery in 2021 will commence soon.

Prayer is requested for:

- 1 Wisdom in deciding what the new normal will be for this work among Romanian children.
- 2 The Lord to lay on someone's heart, preferably a husband and wife team, to help care for the children in Casa Harry.
- 3 A skilled maintenance man to replace Ion who is now semi-retired and only works part-time.

People

A number of our folk are going through difficult times just now and would value our prayers. Remember the Cowans as they face the challenge of Margaret having moved into Mugdock Care Home but needing to self-isolate for 14 days during which time George won't be allowed to visit her. We hear that Jack Harvey has had another fall so we remember him and Christine at this time of added anxiety. Remember also Netta

Finally

Proverbs 18-10: *The name of the Lord is a fortified tower, the righteous run to it and are safe.*

During COVID-19 we were separated from our loved ones. Eventually, when we met up, our youngest grandson said to his Granny, "I just want a hug - it's been four months since I've had a hug, I need a big hug".

It reminded me of our journey of faith, and God's eternal love for us. We all want safety and protection and it is in God's presence with us, and in that place, that we find the strength and protection we need in our daily lives. *"Lord we are so grateful for those in our lives who remind us what it is to love and be loved. Lord help us to be rooted in your love so that like children we can learn to rest in your amazing love"*.

Gardiner, Joyce Kyle, Anne Wilson, among many others, who would also appreciate prayer at this time.

Looking Ahead

With continued uncertainty regarding the Covid 19 situation, activities that would have been starting up soon – like Mothers and Toddlers, #One2Seven, Ladies' Meeting, etc, - cannot be planned for as yet. Remember the informal contacts being lovingly maintained; and for the Elders as they have to take key decisions.

New Books

Gordon Craig has come across two new books which he has read over the lockdown period. The first, by Alastair Noble, called *Born in a Golden Age*, is a series of articles recalling his testimony and the privileges of Christian upbringing and influences. The second, by Professor Jim Parratt, called *Marvellously Made* and described as 'a Biblical tour around the human body' containing wonderful reflections of great devotional value.