

Prayer Focus 14th January 2018

Indeed, all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will be persecuted. 2 Tim 3:12

Sovereign God, we worship you and acknowledge that you know all of those who suffer in your name.

We remember those who are imprisoned for their faith,

May they inspire and embolden their fellow believers to speak the word of God more courageously and fearlessly.

For those who are tortured both in body and mind, give them the grace to endure.

For those asked to pay the ultimate price; who are martyred because of their love for you, may they truly know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the fellowship of sharing in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death.

For those who are widowed and orphaned may they know the comfort that comes from your promised presence.

May they be strengthened by your Spirit, as they proclaim that the LORD will not abandon them.

We ask that you would make us ever mindful of our brothers and sisters around the world who need us to stand with them as they suffer in your name.

Teach us what it means to overcome by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of our testimony;

We pray that we would not love our lives so much as to shrink from death.

O Lord, hear our prayer.

Family Prayer News: please continue to pray for the Boyce family. Pray for Kate Potter, John & Toni Forster, John Cook & Jenny Auld.

Pray for complete healing for those in the church who are still suffering from coughs & other viruses, particularly Olive Davis.

Street of the Week: Casterbridge Close

As Open Doors publishes this year's Christian Persecution Watch List & presents it to our Parliament please pray:-

That believers would be strengthened by messages of support from around the world

That MPs would attend the launch on the 17 January, and that they would be inspired to take action on behalf of the persecuted church

That God would protect believers and that they would be able to share their faith with others.

Pray for those facing persecution that they:-

Remain strong in faith and trust despite physical and psychological abuse

Will be able to forgive those who persecute them or who fail to support them

Will experience and know love, joy and peace from God (Romans 8:28-39)

Will walk humbly in their identification with Christ's sufferings

Will be fruitful witnesses to others

Will be able to balance standing up for their rights, yet responding in grace and love.

Therefore, those also who suffer according to the will of God shall entrust their souls to a faithful Creator in doing what is right. 1Peter 4:19