

## Prayer Focus 6th May 2018

**Be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving each other, just as God in Christ also has forgiven you. Ephesians 4:32**

Dear Lord, Thank you for your gift of forgiveness.  
Your only Son loved us enough to come to earth so we might be forgiven.  
Your mercy flows to us in spite of our faults and failures.  
Help us demonstrate unconditional love today, even to those who have hurt us.

We understand that even though we feel scarred,  
our emotions don't have to control our actions.  
Help us release the hurt and begin to love as Jesus loves,  
seeing those who have offended us through our Saviour's eyes.  
We are all your children, and your desire is that none should perish.

When we forgive in words, allow your Holy Spirit to fill our hearts with peace.  
With gratitude we can draw closer to you and let go of unforgiveness.  
With gratitude we can see the person who caused us pain as a child of the Most High God,  
loved and accepted. Help us find the compassion that comes with true forgiveness.

We know the damage that unforgiveness brings to ourselves and to the Church.  
Help us to take any ungodly thoughts captive and make them obedient to Christ.  
May the confidence of Christ in our hearts guide us into the freedom of forgiveness.

In Jesus' name. Amen

**Family Prayer News:** pray for Margaret & Peter White that her treatment will go ahead & be successful. Pray for Mark & Rebecca & Margaret Dalton. Pray that Sheila will be fully healed. Pray for the Cook family & that John's funeral will be source of blessing. Pray for Olive who still is unwell that she will be fully restored. Remember "flagman" & his students especially as that country is in the news.

### **Street of the Week: Quarry Close**

Pray for Dave Gregory, who will be inducted as Baptist Union President at the Baptist Assembly on 12 May. Dave's theme for his Presidency is 'Divine Windows - Glimpses of God through life, the universe and everything'. How might our lives be Divine Windows through which others glimpse God?

Pray for Afghanistan which is the second most dangerous country to be a Christian. Leaving the religion of the community is unthinkable as tribal loyalty is one of the most important influences on people's lives. Converts who refuse to recant can face extreme abuse and violence from their neighbours and friends, and, depending on the family, some might even be killed. Christian converts

in Afghanistan must keep their faith an absolute secret. But the transformational power of Christ can change the lives of entire families.