
For 12th – 25th June

Prepared by Keith Wansbrough

Each Sunday at 7pm, Christians in every part of the UK join in prayer. Here are some prayer thoughts from Keith that you may wish to focus on.

This fortnight we focus our prayers on our children and young people.

Psalm 119:89-90 says *"Your word, LORD, is eternal; it stands firm in the heavens. Your faithfulness continues through all generations; you established the earth, and it endures."*

Our world has shifted in many ways over the last couple of years, and many of the needs of our children and young people have also shifted. But the message remains the same: God hasn't changed. He is still faithful, still loving, still kind. And His vision for our young people is unchanged: that they get to meet Him and develop their own unique relationship with Him.

Thank God for His continued blessing in giving us so many children and young people to nurture, and for their continued enthusiasm in attending Sunday Schools and other groups. Thank God for those who moved up to the next Sunday School group recently, and pray that they settle well into their new groups.

Pray for our children and young people as they catch up on what they've missed, and for all who work with them as they adapt to the new normal and choose what to change and what to retain. Pray that we at Brightons would continue to see young people of our church and parish becoming mature disciples.

Thank God for the recent Up and Coming strategy meeting. Pray that the team would be able to discern what God is doing amongst our children and young people and that He would inspire their plans for the year ahead.

For Beginners (up to P1) thank God for the enthusiasm and joy of the children (whether asking questions, playing with Lego, or making faces!), and for the involvement of their families both in person and on Facebook. **Pray** for more helpers.

For Juniors (P2-4), praise God for the creativity of the leaders, the service of the helpers, and the regular attendance of a good number of children. **Pray** for the children to connect, through the stories and prayers, with the living God.

For Triple-S (P5-7), give thanks for the material provided by Urban Saints, and for a good number of children attending regularly. Praise God for the children's confidence in sharing and asking questions. **Pray** for God to provide additional leaders.

For FLAIM (S1-3), **pray** for re-engagement of the young people now they are meeting back in person. Praise God for His provision of leaders and helpers. **Pray** for them as they hope to organise a trip away to build closer relationships with the group.

For Wait for It (S4-6), thank God for their enthusiastic service in tech, Sunday Schools, and the band. Thank God for His support through the exam period, and pray for our young people as they await their results. **Pray** for a deeper connection with the young people, and for the leaders as they decide what shape Wait for It should take next year.

For the Israel and Palestine trip planned for October, praise God for His blessing in reaching the fundraising goal, and pray now for logistics and preparation. **Pray** too that it would be a meaningful, challenging, and rewarding experience for all concerned.

For the Brigades, thank God for the year that's been and the children and young people who have encountered friendship, fellowship, and the love of God. **Pray** for refreshment for leaders and helpers, and God's provision for the year to come. Thank God for Billy Rankine's faithful service over 31 years, and for Colin Heggie taking on the Company Section.

For the Youth Worker Committee, thank God for his blessing so far; **pray** that the necessary funding applications can be made, that they will find favour with the grant committees, and that the church would receive the funding needed to enable this work. Further ahead, **pray** that at the right time God will provide the right person to take on this role.

Pray for our leaders and helpers, who work so hard and with such love. **Pray** that they would be lifted by God's strength and filled with the creativity of His Spirit as they continually adapt to changing circumstances and find new ways to communicate God's love with our children and young people. **Pray** for God to provide new leaders and helpers where they are needed. **Pray** for our Sunday School Coordinator, Up and Coming Team, and Safeguarding Coordinator.

Thank God that we have a church of all ages together. **Pray** for supportive links to continue to grow across the ages, with younger and older challenging, inspiring, and encouraging each other as we meet and learn from each others' experience and perspective.

Let the children come to me; do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of God. (Mark 10:14).