

PRAYER BULLETIN #72, 06JAN2021

NUMBER OUR DAYS IN 2021

"Teach us to number our days, that we may gain a heart of wisdom..." Psalm 90:12

REFLECTION

Psalm 90 puts in perspective God's sovereignty and his everlasting nature compared to human's sinfulness and brevity of life. The best of human life and effort amount to nothing if not for God's grace and mercy. In view of this great contrast, the most appropriate posture we humans can take is one of humility, "[So] teach us to number our days..." (v.12), where we come of recognize and acknowledge that ultimately we are not in control of our destiny; rather, God is.

The COVID pandemic has in many ways revealed human frailty, limitations, weaknesses, strengths, resilience, courage, selfishness, kindness, compassion, etc. In short, the good, the bad and the ugly. If it had not been for the grace and mercy of God, the whole of human life could be in a far worse state. We are not out of the woods either but still battling to control the spread of this COVID virus and its fallout in every area of life.

As we begin this New Year 2021, how then are we to posture ourselves in view of the on-going struggle against the pandemic while sending well-wishes of blessed New Year to everyone we know? The best posture is to acknowledge our need for God and dependency on Him for wisdom, strength and intervention as we attempt to bring stability and normalcy in our lives in 2021.

Take the time to consider how you would begin 2021. What concerns, worries or needs would you have as you enter into the new year? Take the time to place in before God's sovereign rule. Do you have any thoughts and emotions that cause you to respond inappropriately? Take the time to submit to God your thoughts, emotions and behaviours. Do you need a renewed perspective of your situation and the wisdom to deal with challenges along the way? Ask God for His grace and strength. Take the time to submit to God each day of 2021 so that you may live each day well in Him and for Him.

PRAYER

Heavenly Father, grant us a heart that is humble and contrite before You, one that recognize and acknowledge our need for You in our lives, one that turns toward You daily in quiet and faithful submission, knowing that You are sovereign over all that happens to and around us. As we begin this new year draw us closer to You in communion

through Your word, prayer, worship and service. This we ask in Jesus' precious name. Amen.

SUPPLICATION

- Thank God for His grace and mercy shown to us in 2020. Take the time to recall how the Lord may have been gracious and merciful towards you or your loved ones in various incidents. Have you experienced the Lord's provision or intervention in any simple or miraculous way? Mark those occasions as God-moments. Have you been a messenger of help or timely intervention to someone in need? Acknowledge God as the master planner who orchestrated the meet-up. Then offer up a prayer of thanksgiving to God and acknowledge His sovereignty.
- Submit to God the concerns and needs that you (or of others whom you may know) may have for 2021. Acknowledge and surrender to God all your worries, anxieties, depressions and thoughts that would either paralyze or hinder you from moving forward or doing something constructive for your situation. Seek the Lord of all comfort for His peace that surpasses all understanding and circumstances. Rest in His peace. Ask for His wisdom to know how and what to do regarding your situation, and trust in Him.
- Pray for the leaders of this nation, the religious organizations, communities and companies, that they may have the wisdom to know how to address the different needs in society and the continual changes in world. Pray for their physical, mental, emotional and spiritual health as they guide this nation in dealing with the effects of the pandemic in this new year. Pray also for their families' well-being.
- Pray for BRMC as we enter a new phase in worship with more worship services, seating capacity, live streaming, etc. Pray for volunteers to rise up to assist in the worship and screening team for each service. Pray for a spirit of grace and love to abide in every member as we adapt to new changes to accommodate the service arrangements.

*"Trust in the Lord with all your heart,
and lean not on your own understanding.
In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make
straight your paths.
Be not wise in your own eyes;
fear the Lord, and turn away from evil."
Prov. 3:5-7*

**If you need any prayer or pastoral care support, kindly contact the pastoral care team via:
Email: wecare@brmc.org.sg
Contact: 6592 4011 or 6592 4012**