

PRAYER BULLETIN #89, 06Mar2021

SAVIOUR, LIKE A SHEPHERD LEAD US

*He will tend his flock like a shepherd;
he will gather the lambs in his arms;
he will carry them in his bosom,
and gently lead those that are with young.
Isa. 40:11*

REFLECTION

Isaiah 40 provides us a descriptive picture of the Father's Promised Messiah – one who created the universe and all that is in it, one who is all-powerful, all-knowing and sovereign in every way, and one who is strong and able to deliver his people from every form of darkness. But the writer also describes the Messiah as a shepherd who is gentle and mindful of the sheep under him – one who cares and leads his people with love and tenderness. Though he is holy and righteous, he is not a task-master. He knows our frame, our weaknesses and our limitations. He holds his people dearly to his heart and receives them willingly. Sheep would often be found wandering everywhere and herders would have to gather the sheep together and lead them forward. But imagine for a moment, our Lord Jesus Christ extending out his arms and little lambs come running into his embrace, followed by other kinds of sheep. Our Shepherd is different; he knows each of his sheep by name (Jn.10:14). What comfort it is to know that though we may be harassed by challenges and difficulties in life our master shepherd is present to rescue us out from such crises. We can run to him and be saved and feel secure. This comfort and assurance is not only for us but it is also for anyone who would come to the True Shepherd, Lord Jesus Christ. He alone is the True Shepherd who laid down his life for his flock by dying on the cross and rise again on the third day, so that we may be free from the grasp of sin and the devil.

Every "sheep" needs to know the one True Shepherd. Many are still wandering about lost in the wilderness not knowing and experiencing the freedom and peace that he alone can give. There are others who may know the Shepherd but resist coming to him and thus forfeit the blessing of being with him. Pray that the Lord would gather such to himself.

PRAYER

Heavenly Father, Your love knows no boundaries. Your mercy and grace are new every morning. Thank you for

our loving Shepherd, Lord Jesus Christ who brings us back to you when we go astray. Continue to gather us from every corner of the world and under every circumstances for your kingdom sake and glory. Amen.

SUPPLICATION

- Take the time to appreciate Jesus Christ as your True Shepherd who knows you by name. Thank God for his love and grace shown towards you in salvation and in every form of grace you receive each day. Turn these recollection and reflection into thanksgiving and worship unto the Lord. Ask the Lord to grant you a discerning ear to listen well to his voice or leading, and also a willing spirit to obey him.
- Pray for those whom you know who have yet to respond to the voice of the Shepherd calling them. Pray that God would soften their hearts and break down any resistant spirit so that they may respond to his love and calling. Pray for divine opportunities where our Shepherd invites you to be his mouthpiece so as to gather them to himself.
- Pray for those who are wounded and hurt by life crises, and those who are in need of pastoral care but do not know who to turn to or how to find help. The Shepherd is seeks them out. Pray for God to intervene in their situation and to gather them to himself so that they may be cared for and be healed and restored.
- Pray for on-going mission work locally and regionally that outreach and pastoral care ministries would not be hindered in any way. Pray for more of God's servants to reach out to people who are hurting and seeking for help and answers to life problems. Pray for timely intervention that would direct them to God.

*Saviour, like a shepherd lead us
Much we need Thy tender care
In Thy pleasant pastures feed us
For our use Thy folds prepare
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus
Thou hast bought us, Thine we are
William B. Bradbury*

***If you need any prayer or pastoral care support,
kindly contact the pastoral care team via:***

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