

PRAYER BULLETIN #111, 22May20201

LET US DO GOOD

"Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to all who belong to the family of believers." Galatians 6:10

REFLECTION

Our hearts usually warmed up when we hear stories of people who do good works which help to alleviate the sufferings of those who are struggling in life.

It is rare to find saintly people like Mother Teresa who spent her whole adult life attending to the homeless, the sick and the dying whom she found in the streets and slums of Calcutta. But if we open our eyes, we will see ordinary people doing good works, quietly reaching out to those who are trapped in systemic poverty. Many of such poor people are also disadvantaged by chronic illness, some with members of the family incarcerated, which made it extremely tough for the affected family to get out of the quagmire of despair.

The thing about caring for the poor and disadvantaged - befriending them, paying their utility bills, giving them food vouchers, offering tuition to their children - is that we do not need to be an extraordinary saint like Mother Teresa for us to do good works. Everyone can do something good to bless others, not just seasonally, but regularly. Not just when we have the time. We make time.

Every 24th May we commemorate the "heart-warming" experience of John Wesley. If we look at his life, we see someone deeply committed to preaching the Gospel all over the British Isle. Yet while he preached the Gospel, he did not neglect the social needs of the people he met. In fact he seized opportunities to do good in very practical ways - built schools, visited prisons, attended to the poor and encouraged new Christians to do the same.

As heirs of the Wesleyan tradition, we should take the pastoral advice of Paul (Galatians 6:10) and follow the example of John Wesley to do good (See quotation at the end of this Prayer Bulletin). And when we do good, we glorify our Father in heaven (Matt. 5:16)

PRAYER

Father God, teach us to do good as evidence of our love for you and for our neighbours. Grant us the love that will enable and sustain us in reaching out to those who are poor and powerless, and to speak out against evil and

complacency, as we seek to do good to all people. In the Name of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour. Amen

SUPPLICATION

- We give thanks to God for John Wesley, the founder of the Methodist movement. We thank God for his selfless service in bringing the Good News to people, especially those who were not part of the establishment. We pray that Christians will seek ways to reach out to the common people, sharing the Gospel with them and introducing them to Jesus.
- We pray for the Methodist Church in Singapore. We give thanks to God that members of the Methodist Church are generally materially rich. Many of us have been blessed with good education and well-paid jobs. We pray that as we have been blessed, we too will be channels of blessings, contributing time, service and finance; doing good works for the well-being of the community and the glory of God.
- We ask God to protect Christian families. We pray that God will help husbands and wives to grow in their love and respect for one another, as they build a home where Christ is the head of the family and children are taught to honour their elders. Pray for parents to set clear Christ-centred example for their children to imitate, besides guiding and disciplining them to follow the way of the Lord.
- We continue to lift up to God the COVID19 pandemic and the disruption and death it has caused to millions of people around the world. We ask God for divine intervention to alleviate pain and sufferings and to help scientists and world leaders to work together to find and produce efficacious vaccines that will stop the spread of this coronavirus and heal the sick. We pray that such vaccines will reach not just those who are rich but more so the poor people in poorest countries.

"...employ whatever God has intrusted (sic) you with, in doing good, all possible good, in every possible kind and degree, to the household of faith, to all men."

(John Wesley)

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

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