

## LIFE IN THE SPIRIT PRAYER MEETING 22-4-20

This week we started by sharing Scriptures verses that had particularly spoken to us and encouraged us recently. This was then followed by a time of prayer intercession for everyone affected in different ways by the current pandemic crisis.

**Scriptures given** (*New International Version, UK translation*)

*Revelation 3:10* Since you have kept my command to endure patiently, I will also keep you from the hour of trial that is going to come on the whole world to test the inhabitants of the earth.

*Lamentations 3:25-26* The LORD is good to those whose hope is in him, to the one who seeks him; it is good to wait quietly for the salvation of the LORD.

(The Apostles were at sea in the middle of the storm for some time before Jesus came to them on the water: we have to patiently await God's timing. Also, between Easter and Pentecost the Disciples were "in lockdown" – waiting and praying.)

*1 Thessalonians 5:16-18* Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

*Philippians 4:4-7* Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: rejoice! Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

*Psalms 46 particularly vs1 and vs10* God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way... Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth.

*Psalms 94:22* The LORD has become my fortress, and my God the rock in whom I take refuge.

Song: "Stronghold" by Edwin Fawcett <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1Pg4U9bvdjs>

*Romans 10:9-13* If you declare with your mouth, 'Jesus is Lord,' and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you profess your faith and are saved. As Scripture says, 'Anyone who believes in him will never be put to shame.' For there is no difference between Jew and Gentile – the same Lord is Lord of all and richly blesses all who call on him, for, 'Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.'

*Baruch 5:7 (New Jerusalem Bible)* For God has decreed the flattening of each high mountain, of the everlasting hills, the filling of the valleys to make the ground level so that Israel can walk safely in God's glory.

*1 John 4:18* There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear.

*Isaiah 41:10* So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

*John 33* Jesus said: In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world.

We have to hold our place of victory in Christ and in what he has already accomplished by his death and resurrection. We stand against the enemy. "...we do not fight for victory; we fight from victory..."

*1 Peter 1: 5-8* Through your faith, God's power will guard you...This is a cause of great joy for you, even though you may for a short time have to bear being plagued by all sorts of trials...Your faith will have been tested and proved like gold - only it is more precious than gold.

*Romans 8: 34-37* Christ Jesus who died – more than that, who was raised to life – is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us. Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.

*Mark 11:24* Whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours.

*Romans 8:28* we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

**Summary: God is with us in this time of difficulty: rejoice in him. Keep praying, praising him, giving thanks, being patient and trusting in the victory Jesus has already won through his Cross and Resurrection.**