



maranatha newsletter

Our prayer is, 'Come, Lord Jesus!'

Issue: 128 SEPTEMBER 2012
Internet edition

Do you know what to do?

Centuries before the Church came into being, King Jehoshaphat prayed to the Lord, "We do not know what to do, but our eyes are upon you." (2 Chron. 20.12) He was surrounded on all sides by enemies that were too big for him to handle. His response was not to blockade himself in, it was not to escape, it was not to devise a clever strategy, it was to turn to the Lord in confidence and trust. The words from his mouth were "We do not know what to do" but, in truth, he KNEW what to do! His prayer is a model for us, the Church today.

The questioner of the Psalmist asked, "When the foundations are being destroyed, what can the righteous do?" (Ps. 11.3) The Psalmist simply responded "The LORD is in His Holy temple; the LORD is on His Heavenly throne".

At times of crisis and catastrophe people look for someone who knows what to do. As we face great uncertainty and the looming collapse of many facets of our national life, there is a great opportunity for the Church in this nation to lead the way. As many search for solutions to huge social and infrastructural problems, we can confidently proclaim **WE KNOW WHAT TO DO!** Our message is that of the prophet Isaiah "Seek the LORD while he may be found; call on him while he is near. Let the wicked forsake his way and the evil man his thoughts. Let him turn to the LORD, and he will have mercy on him..." (Is. 55.6-7)

The Lord assured Jehoshaphat that He would take care of the battle, but he then told him to advance and face the enemy. As the Christian Church today, we know that Jesus has already won the ultimate battle with evil, but we are called to secure that victory in places that are still governed by "the ruler of the Kingdom of the air..." (Eph. 2.2) For the transformation of our nation to take place, followers of Jesus must engage in the battle for the soul of our nation and the souls of its people. The key is to **LISTEN** to what the Lord tells us to do and to respond with our 'YES, Amen!' expressed in praise and worship.

PRAY FOR THE NATION

A Gathering for Christians of all traditions

Wembley Stadium
Saturday 29th September
2:00pm - 6:30pm

The Maranatha Community is one of the many Christian groupings which is fully supporting this National Day of Prayer. This is what we as a Community have prayed for over the last three decades - Christians joining together in the ONENESS of God's Spirit to praise and worship our ONE Lord - Jesus Christ - and pray for the unity, renewal and healing of the Church and the Nation. Tickets cost £10 (£15 from 17th September) and can be purchased on 0800 756 5451 or online at www.ndopwembley.com Please encourage other people to come as well.

NEWS

For such a time as this

The enclosed folder is a statement about the Maranatha Community. Please consider this prayerfully. Any response should be sent to Linda Stalley at the Maranatha office.

Bedford - New Group

Tuesday 11th September
Saturday 13th October.
Info: Maranatha Office 0161 748 4858

Anglesey Day Gathering

Saturday 24th November 10am-4pm
Info: Maranatha Office 0161 748 4858

Training Day - Effective Christian Witness

Saturday 17th November at The Ark.
Info: Maranatha Office 0161 748 4858

CRISIS & GLORY

I ask you to open your eyes to the truth.
There is great sickness in your nation.
There is great sickness in the churches.
I am calling you urgently to a ministry of healing.
There is great division in your nation.
There is great division in the churches.
I call you urgently to a ministry of unity and reconciliation.
There is death in your nation.
There is death in the churches.
I call you urgently to a ministry of life, renewal and revival.
My call to My people is immediate.
You stand in urgent need.
Your situation is serious.
There is crisis in your land, but My glory will be revealed.
There is darkness and decay, which only My Light can penetrate.
There is dryness and decay but I am ready to release the fire which will transform My people and sweep across your nation.
The flames of My Spirit, none can resist.
Receive My Word, live My Word, proclaim My Word,
be loving, be faithful, be hopeful
be humble, be strong, be obedient.

(DW)

Maranatha members join with Christians across the UK in praying the Lord's prayer at 12 noon daily

Moving together as the Body of Christ

There is a high calling for God's people, the members of the Body of Christ. It is to *"live by faith, not by sight."* (2 Cor. 5.7) If it is truly IN Christ that *"we live and move and have our being"* (Acts 17.28) then the thoughts, decisions and actions of our daily lives will be prompted, motivated and empowered by His Spirit.

How do we live this life? St. Paul's metaphor of the Church being like a body can help us in our understanding:

- The function of all the parts of the body is under the control of the brain.
- The communication between the brain and all the parts of the body is through the nervous system.
- The nervous system of the body has different parts - one part sends information from the parts of the body to the brain, one part sends instructions from the brain to the parts of the body, another part co-ordinates the responses of different parts of the body in situations of stress or need.
- At any given moment, different parts of the body are engaged in doing different things. All activity prompted by the Holy Spirit contributes to the purpose of the whole body at that moment.

The Spirit of God is the mediator of communication within the Body of Christ and Jesus is the head. As each member of the Body of Christ responds to the promptings of His Spirit, Jesus coordinates the actions of the whole of His Body. *"By means of His one Spirit, we all said goodbye to our partial and piecemeal lives. We each used to independently call our own shots, but then we entered into a large and integrated life in which He has the final say in everything"* (1 Cor. 12.13 TM).

It is not necessary for all the parts of the Body to understand what is happening at any given moment. There is only one Head! The only understanding necessary is that each part is vitally important and belongs to the whole body. Our listening and obedience to the Lord is the key to our constructive participation in the purposes of God for the Body of Christ - His Church.

If human systems of communication collapse we can be confident that, as we affirm our oneness with the Head and all members of the Body of Christ, we will be prompted and empowered to live and move as one according to God's purposes and for His glory.

Maranatha weekends have been a source of inspiration over many years and have given opportunity for a shared deepening of faith based on encounter with God.

This meditation was written during the recent Maranatha weekend at Wistaston Hall, Crewe.

MEDITATION

In all my tumult Lord,
where are you?
In all my chaos
pain, confusion,
you're not here?

I AM, I AM there,
my child,
there in the quiet place,
waiting for you.

Stop your panicking,
rushing,
racing hither,
thither.
Stop trying.
Just be.
Be you.
Be with Me.

I AM, I AM here.
LISTEN.
Listen my child.
Put aside the noise and pain,
the panic and the mounting stress.
STOP
THINK
LISTEN
TRUST

I AM.
I AM GOD.
I AM your God.

You I have formed and created.
You I know.
From the very beginning of time
I knew you.

Be at peace, child.
You are not alone.
My angels stand guard over you.
My Spirit guides you.
My Father waits for you.
I AM, I AM.

Only come
LISTEN
Be still.
I AM here.

Put your hand into my hand.
I will hold you,
guard you.
I love you. We love you.
You are mine.
I chose you.
You are safe with me.
COME!
I AM. I AM
YOUR GOD.

Janet Berrie.

Christ has no body
but yours,
No hands, no feet on earth
but yours,
Yours are the eyes with
which he looks with
compassion on this world,
Yours are the feet with
which He walks to do good,
Yours are the hands,
with which He blesses all
the world.
Yours are the hands,

yours are the feet,
Yours are the eyes,
you are his body.
Christ has no body now
but yours,
No hands, no feet on earth
but yours,
Yours are the eyes with
which he looks with
compassion on this world.
Christ has no body now
on earth but yours.

Teresa of Avila

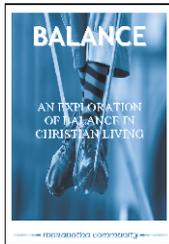
Community News

New Publications

Balance

Since the beginning of the life of the Community we have been called to walk a tightrope, balancing the influence of the old and the new, structure and freedom, truth and love, heart and mind. This new Maranatha booklet explores the meaning of the word 'balance'. It is a timely word for the study for the Church today. Price 60p + p&p from the Maranatha Office or online bookshop:

www.maranathacommunity.org.uk/bookshop



The power of God is capable of finding hope where hope no longer exists and a way where the way is impossible.

Gregory of Nyssa

Maranatha in Ireland

A multi-national Maranatha team, including members from America, Hungary, Northern Ireland, England and the Republic of Ireland, visited County Cork in June. We had powerful gatherings in *Castlemartyr*, *Castletownroche*, *Macroom*, and *Fermoy*, in addition to speaking at a number of Sunday Services and a half-day teaching on healing. We were delighted, during this trip, to link up with several brothers and sisters from Nigeria, working as missionaries. This was the testimony of one of our team on their first visit. "I took a step of faith to go to Cork. I arrived, met the team and then off to Life FM Radio station. To my amazement I spoke on the radio. Expectations of God's presence at the prayer and healing meetings were high. God showed up and gave each person what they needed, as always He is very faithful! God's plan with me was to surrender and give up my selfish desires, especially my fears of people and getting their approval. God gave me a godly desire to listen with His heart by giving away love supernaturally. God blesses those who trust in Him". Another member said "I got a sense of hope and willingness to move forward. All of us were challenged to step out of our comfort zones and to be available to God for whatever He asks".

SPECIAL TRAINING DAY 'Effective Christian Witness'

Saturday 17th November
10.30am - 4.30pm
'The Ark' 26 Ambleside Road
Flixton, Manchester M41 6PH

Dennis Wrigley will be leading this training day. It is open to all. Cost £5. Bring packed lunch, drinks provided. Bookings via the Maranatha office.

Briefing - 'The cult of the Jehovah's Witnesses'

God has called the Maranatha Community to "speak the truth in love" and also to "equip the saints". This has been the motivation in the production of briefing papers on a variety of topics. The most recent is on the subject of Jehovah's Witnesses - what they believe and where these beliefs come from.

Other briefing papers available:

Reiki The Enneagram
Cannabis Euthanasia
Yoga Koinonia

Angels

The Cult of Mormonism.

Available from the office at 40p + p&p, or online bookshop:

www.maranathacommunity.org.uk/bookshop

A New Initiative

A Maranatha member has arranged for Professor Lord Alton of Liverpool to give the first

MARANATHA LECTURE

Wednesday, 3rd October, 7.30pm
The Royal Northern College of Music, Manchester.

Why Britain urgently needs the 'sharp compassion of the healer's art'

The aim is to attract a new audience, particularly from amongst the university population and others who may prefer a lecture format. Tickets available from the Maranatha office - £5 each.

Together for the Nation

An exceptional gathering took place in the Palace of Westminster on Tuesday 12th June. Over 80 Christian leaders, including Members of the Houses of Commons & Lords, spent one hour together in silent waiting upon God in the Parliamentary Chapel. Following this, participants from a wide diversity of Christian traditions shared what they heard the Lord say. These words and images have been weighed carefully. Three themes emerged:

- An urgent warning of God's judgement, bringing serious crisis in the nation.
- A challenge to the Church to take action, to speak the truth boldly.
- A promise of restoration - God's glory coming on this nation again if we turn and submit to Him.

Pray this message is received by leaders of Churches in the UK and that the Church across Great Britain will truly unite in humble repentance before God.

Contemplative Prayer Day

Saturday 3rd November 10am - 4pm
Presentation Convent, 41 Ashbrow Rd,
Sheepridge, Huddersfield, HD2 1DX.
Info: Peter Jackson 01282 438964

National Christian Healing Fellowship

Maranatha is part of an informal grouping of healing ministries across the UK (formerly called Fellowship of Christ the Healer). New developments include regional events for anyone involved in the healing ministry, especially in their local churches. A day gathering will be held on **Saturday 27th October** 11am - 4pm at Christian Healing Mission, 8 Cambridge Court, 210 Shepherds Bush Road, Hammersmith London W6 7NJ.

For further details contact Gillian Ryeland: 0207 603 8118.

Christians In Science

One of our members has recommended a journal "Science and Christian Belief" published by Christians in Science: www.cis.org.uk. For more info see www.scienceandchristianbelief.org

Maranatha Events Calendar

Have you considered sponsoring someone for a Maranatha weekend or retreat? Please contact the Maranatha office.

Weekend of teaching, fellowship and healing:

'Equipping the Saints'

DONCASTER, Bawtry Hall, 19-21 October

During this weekend we will examine the ways that the Lord trains and equips us to disciple others.



Retreats in 2012

Light out of Darkness - 'Stepping out in Faith'

LLANDUDNO, Loreto Centre, 1-5 October

Light out of Darkness - 'Building with the Spirit'

LLANDUDNO, Loreto Centre, 8-12 October

Waiting with God in the Desert

LLANDUDNO, Loreto Centre, 8-13 October

Living in the Father's House

Flixton, Manchester, 'The Ark', 26-29 September



If you would prefer to receive your newsletter via email, saving the Community some money, please send an email to charles@maranathacommunity.org.uk

"Since the Resurrection of the Lord is the ever-present event by which He enters into unlimited communion with all mankind, we can conclude that this same mystery should become a concrete reality within the sphere of our social life.

The Church, the radiating brilliance of the glory of the resurrected One, has no other meaning in the world than to serve as this living sign of communion."

Ignatious IV Patriarch of Antioch

Maranatha Groups & Contacts

Maranatha Community members pray for one another daily, especially at 10pm.

Many of the Maranatha Groups meet in a number of different venues. They welcome visitors but please check the time and place of the meeting with the contact person.

England

AYLESBURY 1st Mon. monthly, 8pm

BEDFORD

BEWLEY

BICESTER 1st Tues. monthly, 7.45pm

BIRMINGHAM NORTH

BIRMINGHAM SOUTH

BODMIN Thurs.

BRIGG, 3rd Tues. monthly, 7.30pm

BURY ST. EDMUND, 1st Sat. monthly, 7.30pm

CHISWICK 2nd Mon. monthly, 7.30pm

CLIFFE, KENT

EASTLEIGH / SOUTHAMPTON, Quarterly

ECKINGTON, PERSHORE 3rd Thurs. monthly, 7.30pm

FALMOUTH

GRAVESEND 3rd Tues. monthly.

GRIMSBY

HALIFAX / HUDDERSFIELD 4th Wed. monthly, 8pm

HARROGATE 1st Friday monthly, 7.30pm

HAYWARDS HEATH 1st Tues. monthly, 8pm

LEEDS 1st Tues. monthly, 7.30pm

LEICESTER 4th Fri. monthly, 7.30pm

LINCOLN 1st Mon. monthly, 7pm

LONDON

MACCLESFIELD 2nd Wed. monthly, 7.45pm

MANCHESTER - DAVYHULME 'First Sunday' monthly, 8pm. 0161 748 4858.

MANCHESTER - FLIXTON 3rd Fri. monthly, 8pm

MANCHESTER - CENTRAL bi-monthly, 0161 748 4858

MARKET HARBOROUGH last Fri. monthly, 10am

MATLOCK

NOTTINGHAM 3rd Mon. monthly, 7.30pm

PLYMOUTH 3rd Tues. monthly, 7.30pm

PORTSMOUTH

SCUNTHORPE 3rd Thurs. monthly, 7pm

SHEFFIELD 2nd Sat. monthly, 4pm

STOCKPORT 3rd Sun. monthly

TAUNTON 3rd Fri. monthly, 7.30pm

THE MARCHES, SHROPSHIRE, bi-monthly, 2nd Saturday 12.30-4.30pm

TWICKENHAM 3rd Tues. monthly, 8pm

WAKEFIELD 1st Fri. monthly, 7.30pm

WALLASEY Prayer Group.

WEST DARTMOOR 2nd Sat. monthly

WEST WILTSHIRE (WESTBURY) 1st Mon. monthly 7.45pm

WIRRAL bi-monthly, 10.30-3.30pm

Scotland

HELMSDALE Fri. evenings, 7pm

MAYBOLE, Ayrshire. every Tues. am.

Wales

ANGLESEY Tuesday evenings, 7:15pm

CONWY 1st Mon. bi-monthly, 10.30-3pm

MOLD 1st Mon. monthly, 7.30pm

Ireland

BELFAST 1st Fri. monthly, 7.30pm

FERMOY

Uganda

ENTEBBE Contact: Asher Kalema: lifegospelchurch@yahoo.com

Yorkshire Regional Gathering

Sat 13th Oct. 10am-4pm
St. Mark's Church, Dykes Lane, Sheffield, S6 4RH.
Tel: 0161 748 4858

maranatha community

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