



Chatham Chatter



Chatham Citadel Corps
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2 CORINTHIANS 5: 14-15

Christ's love compels us, because we are convinced that one died for all, and therefore all died. And He died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for Him who died for them and was raised again.

Over the weeks there have been many discussions around how we will be engaging with the community as we begin to open up - Monday mornings is seeing a good flow of people come to the Café to get their free coffee and chat! It is great to have an atmosphere of joy around the building. It would be great to see some of you on Monday at 10:30 (and it is real coffee!)

My thoughts this week are around the scripture above. 'Christ's Love Compels us'. 'By Love Compelled'. What motivates us? What is going to re-energize us? What is it about Christ's love that enables us to move out? How

do we know Christ's love? How on earth can we let people know it?

I had a lovely email this week from a Salvationist in the Northwest of England who has been engaging in our live streaming.

'I just wanted to say a huge thank you for all you have done at Chatham with the live streaming over lockdown. I've tuned in every week and that hour each Sunday morning has become a very special time. I will definitely go back to the Army with a different perspective. I think I had got into the habit of turning up each Sunday because 'that's what you do', whereas over lockdown I feel like I have really been seeking out that quiet time with God, which has come as a surprise to me! But has definitely renewed my relationship with Him in a way I will take back to the Army with me and build on.'

How encouraging to read this and I share it with you to assure you that God is working in many lives that are open and allowing God that 'room'. Let us all be able to say our relationship with God has improved over the past 15 months because we have improved our time with 'Him'.

God bless us all as we journey together this Sunday.



Ian F Payne
Major

PRAYER REMINDERS



Please pray this prayer:

Father God, I pray that today you will inspire us and fill each of us with your joy and peace and that, in our worship wherever we are, our fellowship and mission will overflow with hope. By the power of your Holy Spirit, in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.

- Pray for the Abbott family: Kevin, Debbie and Rebecca, as they move to Bournemouth that God will use them greatly in their new home environment.
- Pray for those experiencing health concerns, for those with mental health problems exacerbated by Covid and for those who are having anxiety problems as we adjust to the lessening of restrictions.
- Pray for the music of the Corps that we will soon be able to sing again in our worship. Thank God that He has blessed us and others in the Live streaming of our meetings.
- Pray for our Corps that we will find a way of discipling others in their faith and be assured that we are doing as God plans for us.

Please let Jean know of any urgent prayer requests for the supportive prayers of the Prayer Chain. Email her on jeanm1938@gmail.com or text on 07787718273.



Territorial Envoy Tony McClure

I was at a bit of a loss as to what to write this week. Couldn't think of a thing to say. I mentioned this to Major Ian and he said he didn't believe it. I suppose I do have a reputation for always having something to say. Well, I was sitting in this place of silence when I noticed the postman had visited me. And, joy of joys, there was an envelope on my door mat. It wasn't the usual bill-sized letter, which I normally ignore for a day or two. So, I picked the envelope up. My address on the front of it was hand written which made me rather enthusiastic about it.

"Who had written to me?" "Would it be good news...or bad?" There was only one thing to do and that was to open the envelope and see what was in it. It turns out it was a card and a photograph from a couple I know who were in the throes of adopting a baby. The adoption process seemed, to me, to take a long time. I think most of this was because of 'lockdown' and the 'speed' at which the adoption people work. Anyway, it was good news and the card was to tell me that the adoption had finally gone through. This is good news and the stress of thinking about the adoption process has ended. Of course, no one knows what the future holds but I hope and pray all will go well with my friends and their new son.

This got me thinking about Romans 8: 14-17 where Paul says;

'For those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God. The Spirit you received does not make you slaves, so that you live in fear again; rather, the Spirit you received brought about your adoption to sonship. And by him we cry, "Abba, Father." The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children. Now if we are children, then we are heirs—heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ.'

I send my congratulations to my friends, and I also rejoice in the glory of the relationship we can have with God, through what Jesus did for us on the cross at Calvary.

God bless each and every one of you.. **Tony**

BIBLE FELLOWSHIP

Bible Fellowship this week at 8pm, on Zoom. Meeting Zoom ID: 597 290 9541

This week the theme is 'The Spirit & the Son' John 15:26 - 16:15

Come and enjoy, fun, fellowship and learning with the occasionally Cuckoo!!! (you'll only know if you zoom in!)

SUNDAY 4 JULY THANK YOU DAY

After a hard 18 months of pandemic, let's pause to say a great big 'thank you' to everyone who helped get us through this extraordinary time together. From hosting a thank you picnic brunch, or sharing a BBQ with your neighbours, join in the first National Thank You Day on Sunday 4 July. Find guides, ideas and a timetable of activity you can choose to join on the Thank You Day website

<https://thankyouday.org.uk/>

PROMOTIONAL VIDEOS FROM GENERAL BRIAN PEDDLE: TWO NEW BOOKS FOR SOLDIERS

Share in the live-streamed launch -

<https://www.salvationarmy.org/ihq/news/inr/280521> by the General of two significant

books published by International Headquarters: *Called to be a Soldier* and *Day by Day* on 1 July 2021. Read more about the new books in the article at the end of the Chatham Chatter. The Book Day by Day is available (Free) at the Hall.

HOPE FOR EVERY HOME PRAYER APP

Turn your daily walk into a prayer walk in your street or community where you live, with the new OKIOS Prayer App available from the App store or Google Play. Use the app to place a pin on a map to show a street is being prayed for. See details

<https://www.hopeforeveryhome.org>

MORNING WORSHIP SUNDAYS IN JULY

YOU MUST BOOK A TICKET

for the Sundays in July - no ticket no entry. We need to adhere to the Covid19 rules and guidance.

Tickets can be obtained at

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/sunday-morning-worship-tickets-156521982463>

Contact CSM Paul for further details.

There are guidelines that you must follow;

- + Please do not arrive before 9:30am
- + **You must be in your seats by 9:45am**
- + Your temperature will be taken
- + Please use hand sanitisers supplied
- + Register the QR Test and Trace App or sign in the day book
- + Please observe all seating protocols
- + Face coverings must be worn at all times in the hall
- + There will be no public singing
- + No close socialising
- + Please observe the 2 metre rule
- + There will be NO collection
- + Please leave as directed immediately the meeting has concluded - 11:15am

IMPORTANT

If you have a temperature or flu-like symptoms.

PLEASE DO NOT ATTEND

If someone in your household is unwell

PLEASE DO NOT ATTEND

If you have come into contact with someone who has Covid19

PLEASE DO NOT ATTEND

PLEASE DO OBSERVE ALL THE GUIDELINES AS THEY WILL HAVE AN IMPACT ON FUTURE SUNDAY GATHERINGS.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR PATIENCE AND CONSIDERATION

CORPS FUNDRAISING DONATIONS

Donations can be made to the Corps at our Just-Giving page.

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/c-hatham-citadel>

Donations can also be sent to the Hall for the attention of the CO.

Can we remind members that you can pay your cartridges and collections by **STANDING ORDER**. Please ask CT Andy Smith for details.

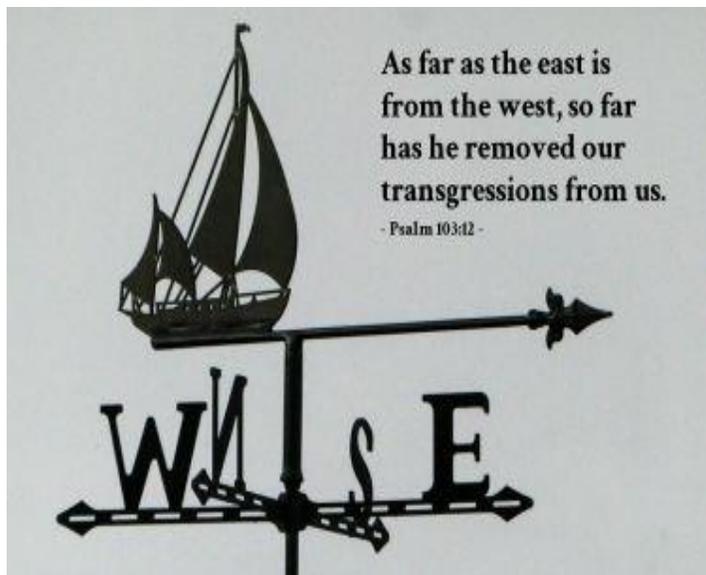


MOBILITY SCOOTER

Mobility scooter for sale: Four years old, used for less than 6 months; fully serviced; 185 miles on the clock; Registered with the DVLA; Bought for £3,200; open to offers circa £1,000; for further details contact

Gill 07739133788 or

gillian.hopkins1@talktalk.net



THE PERSECUTED CHURCH

Here is this week's article explaining and giving information on the subject. **MYANMAR** number 18 in the **WORLD WATCH LIST**



17. MYANMAR

“Our prayers go where we cannot.”-Brother Andrew

Each week in 2021, we are praying for believers in a country on the Open Doors 2021 World Watch List. This week, we lift up Myanmar (No. 18).

Religious nationalism is especially strong in Myanmar and drives much of the persecution of Christians. There is an increasing emphasis on Buddhism, to the exclusion of all other religions. Additionally, the recent military coup in Myanmar has left Christians uncertain what the future might hold—many believers there have traumatic memories of living under the military dictatorship of the second half of the 20th century.

Converts to the Christian faith often face persecution from their families and communities for leaving, or “betraying”, the system of belief they grew up in. Communities who aim to stay “Buddhist only” make life for Christian families impossible by not allowing them to use community resources such as water.

Well-established churches have been attacked, and in some instances, Buddhist monks have invaded church compounds and built Buddhist shrines inside. Non-traditional church groups experience opposition too, especially those located in rural areas and/or are known for evangelistic activity. Since the coup, some Buddhist hardliners have demonstrated support for the military (though others have marched against the military takeover). Although much media attention has been given to the plight of Rohingya Muslims, the ongoing war against insurgent groups—which affects, among others, the states of Kachin, Karen and Shan (all of which have a strong Christian minority)—have gone largely unnoticed. The predominantly Christian Chin State was also affected by fighting. Christians are vulnerable to persecution by insurgent groups and the army, and more than 100,000 Christians in the north live in Internal Displacement Camps (IDPs) where they are deprived of access to food and health care.

The COVID-19 pandemic has brought added challenges, since many Christians are deliberately overlooked in the distribution of government aid. The coup has also affected believers' ability to gather together, either in person or online. Join us in praying with our persecuted family in Myanmar. Pray for those who have left Buddhism to follow Jesus—that God will strengthen, encourage and protect them. Ask that all believers in Myanmar will receive and enjoy fruitful fellowship with other Christians.

Pray the Lord will intervene and bring a peaceful resolution to the ongoing crisis after the coup.

Pray the church is strengthened and courageously shares the peace of Christ in the midst of the chaos in Myanmar. And so, as Your people gather around the world today, I thank You, Lord, for Your beautiful, multicultural, intergenerational family. Revive us, sanctify us and unite us once again I pray. Forgive our many sins and make us holy. Set our hearts on fire again with the good news of Your gospel.

ON YOUR DAILY JOURNEY

As part of your daily devotions let's pray the **A to Z prayer**. Each day I will give you a letter from the alphabet. Please use this letter to pray for members of the Corps with this initial, friends, family and neighbours and why not let them know that they have been prayed for, an email, note through the door or letter. Let's make a difference by praying for each other. Can you imagine the difference that will make?

MONDAY PSALMS 138:2

I will bow down toward your holy temple and will praise your name for your love and your faithfulness, for you have exalted above all things your name and your word.

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...

For Christians, God's temple is one of two related things: either the Christian's body (1 Cor. 6:19-20) or the group of people who make up his Church (1 Cor. 3:16). Because of the flaws of the people in our churches, many are hypercritical of them. But God's Church is precious to him and should be to us. Anyone who destroys his church through division will be utterly destroyed. God's faithfulness to his people is seen in his preservation of the Church through all the ravages and persecutions of history. But God is still the centre of the Church and he alone is to be exalted and the Church is still to be governed by his word and not just their own will.

A - MY PRAYER...

Holy and matchless God, I praise you for your steadfast love and faithfulness revealed in the preservation of your Church through all of history. I promise to cherish your Church and do all I can to help it grow and mature to be more like Jesus, but I recognize that you and you alone are to be exalted above all other things and that my

church must never be more important than your will revealed in your word. Give me the courage to be true to. Through Jesus I pray. Amen.

TUESDAY EPHESIANS 3:20-21

Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...

Of all the names for God in the Bible, this is my favourite: Him who is able to do immeasurably more. Our God is the same God who parted the Red Sea and fed 5,000 on a green hillside with only a couple of sardine sandwiches. He longs to do more than we ask and imagine, but most of us haven't really given him much of a challenge. Dream big dreams for God. Then hang on!

B - MY PRAYER...

Almighty and awesome God, do in our day what you did in past days. Give us [faith](#) to believe and then amaze us at the smallness of our faith. Give us vision to see your plan and do greater things. We ask this, not for ourselves or our experience, but for your glory and the salvation of our world. In Jesus name. Amen.

WEDNESDAY PHILIPPIANS 1:6

He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...

God made the world in 6 days. Now he sustains it with his powerful word. But in each of us, he is still at work and will continue to work to his glory (see Philippians 2:12-13) until Christ comes to take us home!

C - MY PRAYER...

Thank you, Father, for being at work in my life. I confess that at times you seem distant, but looking back over the crucial

moments where things were held in the balance, I can see your fingerprints and your grace leading me to where I am today. Please make your presence more powerfully known in my life as I seek your will and live to your glory. Through Jesus I pray. Amen.

THURSDAY JEREMIAH 32:17

Ah, Sovereign Lord, you have made the heavens and the earth by your great power and outstretched arm. Nothing is too hard for you.

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...

In the immense expanse of our universe, with its billions upon billions of stars, where our own tiny blue planet is only a small speck of sand on an inestimable seashore, God knows us each personally. Such knowledge is too wonderful to be true, and yet it is. God has shown us his love in Jesus to remind us that he not only knows us, but he cares for us.

D - MY PRAYER...

O Great God of the heavens, thank you for caring for me even though I am such a small part of your great work in the universe. Your love is beyond my comprehension, and yet it thrills me to know that in your grace one day I will see you face-to-face. Through Jesus, I praise you. Amen.

FRIDAY MATTHEW 4:4

Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Man does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.'"

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...

Like Esau, we get so diverted by the mundane things of life, the growling of our bellies, we forget the longer-range view of things. God's word, his written word the Bible, his demonstrated Word in Jesus, and his proclaimed word in the Gospel, are what can sustain us eternally.

E - MY PRAYER...

True and Faithful God, through your Holy Spirit create in me a hunger for your word that is much more demanding of life than my hunger for food. I confess that at times I have been distracted by the mundane things of life and have not sought your word and have not nourished my soul. Please forgive me as I pledge myself to be more attentive to your leading and your truth through your word. Through Jesus I pray. Amen.

Saturday Philippians 2:9-11

God exalted him (Jesus) to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every other name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...

When Jesus is exalted, when his name is praised and his glory confessed, rather than being insulted or blasphemed, God is honoured. Praise be the glorious name of Jesus and the grace of our God!

F - MY PRAYER...

Precious Saviour, Jesus Christ my Lord, your name is wonderful! Your sacrifice for my sin was so loving and generous. I am so thankful that our Father raised you from the dead and that through you I will be able to be with God and worship you all of eternity! You are glorious, Jesus my Lord!

SUNDAY JOHN 15:10

(Jesus said) "If you obey my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have obeyed my Father's commands and remain in his love."

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...

Love is not just a feeling, but it is action. For us as believers, the action that most

shows our love for Jesus is for us to be obedient to his words and his example.

G - MY PRAYER...

Father, thank you for showing your love in Jesus. Thank you, Jesus, for showing us how to love our Father by being obedient to his will and word. Today I pledge to consciously try to live in obedience to your will. Please receive my actions, words, and thoughts today as an offering of praise to you. In Jesus name. Amen.



[Bless the LORD]
who satisfies
your desires with
good things so
that your youth
is renewed like
the eagle's.

- Psalm 103:5 -



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.

- Romans 8:35-37 -

Called to be a soldier day by day



SALVATIONISTS and friends are invited to share in the launch of two significant new books that have been published by International Headquarters. The live-streamed event, led by General Brian Peddle, will take place on 1 July at IHQ. It will feature recorded testimonies from senior and junior soldiers from around the world, prayer, music, praise and words of challenge from the General.



SAVE THE DATE

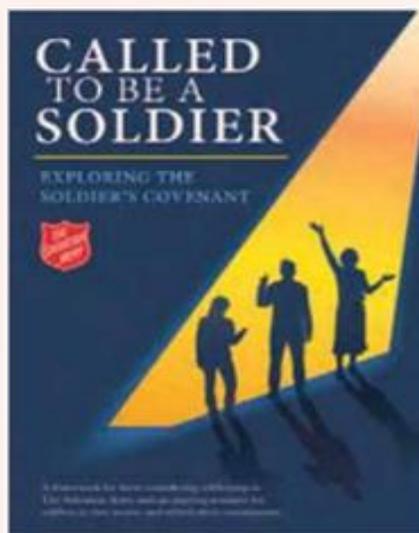
WHEN: 1 July
WHERE: Livestream from IHQ
WATCH: sar.mycalled

CALLED TO BE A SOLDIER

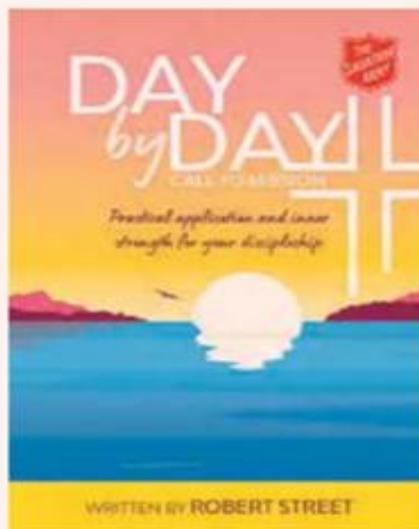
Called to Be a Soldier – Exploring the Soldier's Covenant is the long-awaited successor to *Chosen to be a Soldier* (also sometimes known as *Orders and Regulations for Soldiers of The Salvation Army*).

Compiled with the support of the International Theological Council, the book's easy-to-read content focuses in turn on each of the statements of intention that form the Soldier's Covenant by outlining the possibilities and opportunities of life as a Salvation Army soldier. The covenant is set in the context of Salvationist theology and practice, showing how the promises made in response to God's call are also articles of war – a set of regulations that guide the conduct of an army.

'*Called to Be a Soldier*,' says the General, 'is timely as it challenges us to engage personally in an active, obedient faith. We are becoming increasingly aware of the ways in which our world is interconnected. How we relate to each other as individuals, communities and nations is crucial for our society and the environment. It is my conviction that *Called to Be a Soldier* will provide a most helpful framework to think about these matters, and more.'



“The greatest fulfilment of his call is found in each of us becoming – day by day – the person God intends us to be”



DAY BY DAY

Published as a companion to *Called to be a Soldier* is *Day by Day – Call to Mission*, written by Commissioner Robert Street, which considers what following Jesus looks like now and asks: Is it different? Is it essentially the same as always? Or both?

Basing its considerations on the General's *Call to Mission*, *Day by Day* addresses these questions and encourages readers to come up with their own answers, as individuals or using the content as a basis for group discussion and study. The main purpose, writes Commissioner Street, is to ensure that Jesus and his teaching are always at the heart of our endeavours.

General Peddle describes *Day by Day* as taking his *Call to Mission* and making it 'personal', and he acknowledges that his global call will only succeed if 'our soldiers step up (are available) and step out (are ready to serve)'.

'Out of a heart made right by God stands our Army,' he says, 'not resigned to the trenches but advancing by his grace, bringing good news, shining light into darkness and, yes, challenging the injustices of an all-too-tolerant world... The greatest fulfilment of his call is found in each of us becoming – day by day – the person God intends us to be.'

The General has decided that every Salvation Army soldier around the world should have the opportunity to own a printed copy of the books, which contain spaces for notes and personal thoughts. English-language files have been provided for local printing and 50-plus translations are currently being prepared. The books are not available electronically at present, but they will be distributed to Salvation Army corps, societies and outposts worldwide to be given to every soldier.