

## Church Family Prayers

Sovereign Lord, we thank and praise you that you have brought us out of the darkness of sin and death to live as your children; children of light! (Ephesians 5:8)

Help us to respond rightly to your grace. Help us to not just keep this good news to ourselves as 'head-knowledge', but help us to bring glory to your name in the way we behave and in what we do for others.

Help us to be very careful in how we live, making the most of every opportunity with the time you have given us. And may we remember to give thanks to you, Father, for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus.

Almighty God, we thank you for the recent women's afternoon tea and men's 4wd day. Thank you for those leaders who organized these events and for those who went along. Thank you for the opportunity to spend time with others, and for all the encouraging conversations and for deepening relationships within the body of Christ.

And we thank you for TOGS and for the various home groups still meeting together, either in person in homes or virtually. We pray that we would not give up meeting together, or encouraging each other, especially as we see the day when you will return approaching (Hebrews 10:25).

We also pray for our diocese, Lord. We pray for our Bishop Keith Joseph, that your Holy Spirit would be upon him and that he would be led by you in the work you would have him do as Bishop of North Queensland. We pray this too for the other leaders whom are being commissioned or ordained soon. For Kenneth Lay, Jeff Coop, Rosemary Dunn and Annette Woods we pray that they would work tirelessly to ensure that your truths as revealed by Holy Scripture would be faithfully taught and adhered to. We pray that all church leaders would act humbly and selflessly, showing an abundance of the fruit of the Spirit, being very careful in our walk and in what is taught as we know we will be judged more strictly by you (James 3:1).

Lord, as we watch footage of the horrendous explosion in Lebanon this week, we pray that you would have compassion on those who are suffering and grieving at this time. We pray for mercy for those who have lost so much. We know that horrible things happen in this world, and yet you are still holy, and loving, and remain sovereign. We pray that people would look at this disaster and turn back to you in repentance and faith. May they walk with you faithfully, as their God and Saviour, and we pray that through Jesus, they would experience the peace and healing that only you can provide.

Loving Father, we pray for those we know who are sick or suffering. We pray for Joe, Monica, Louise, Stephen, David, Gloria, Sophie's family and others known to us. We thank you, Lord Jesus, that you do not crush those who are as weak as a bruised reed; nor do you extinguish those who have as little heat or life as a smouldering wick (Isaiah 42:2-3), but offer rest to their souls. In Jesus' precious name we pray these things to you, knowing that you always hear your children. AMEN.

*Live in ...*

**Ephesians 5:1-20**

**9/8/2020**

### 1. *Live in love*

v1-2

- Father's love ... Son's love ... your love!

### 2. *Live in light*

v3-14

- Live as God's *holy* people v3-7

- Live as children of the *light* v8-14

### 3. *Live in wisdom*

v15-17

- Seize the season

### 4. *Live in the Spirit*

v18-21

- A command ...

- To be '-ing'!

**So ... choose (this) life!**