

# Prayer Update 1049

Wednesday 24 November 2021

## God's Word for this week ... Philipians 2:19-30

I [Paul] hope in the Lord Jesus to send Timothy to you soon, so that I may be cheered by news of you. I have no one like him who will be genuinely concerned for your welfare. All of them are seeking their own interests, not those of Jesus Christ.

But Timothy's worth you know, how like a son with a father he has served with me in the work of the gospel. I hope therefore to send him as soon as I see how things go with me; and I trust in the Lord that I will also come soon. Still, I think it necessary to send to you Epaphroditus – my brother and co-worker and fellow soldier, your messenger and minister to my need; for he has been longing for all of you, and has been distressed because you heard that he was ill. He was indeed so ill that he nearly died. But God had mercy on him, and not only on him but on me also, so that I would not have one sorrow after another.

I am the more eager to send him, therefore, in order that you may rejoice at seeing him again, and that I may be less anxious. Welcome him then in the Lord with all joy, and honour such people, because he came close to death for the work of Christ, risking his life to make up for those services that you could not give me.

## Families, love, and care for one another

The above verses demonstrate the love, care, concern, and mutual support of one another in the New Testament Church – the Family of God. **Please pray for ...**

### The Family of God

The Church of Jesus Christ and His followers: "Love one another as I have loved you."

Commitment of believers to following and serving their Lord and Saviour; and to one another, to serve the Body of Christ, and reach out to the world.

Salt and light to the world; living and serving the Lord; unity, and power of the Holy Spirit.

### God's purpose for families

- The importance of families that make up a nation.
- Marriage, commitment to spouse and to children.
- Parents, fathers, mothers, children, whanau.
- The welfare of each person in a family, and the family as a whole – all ages and generations; their needs, and their contributions to the home, family, church and society.
- Love within the family, including mutual respect, support, encouragement, and protection.
- Care of the elderly, and those with special needs.
- Families' economic requirements, e.g., income, welfare of children, health, employment, education, recreation; etc.

## December – January

The next two months will bring many important changes to our country. **Please pray concerning:** Changes, and their effects, such as: Introduction of "Traffic Lights". Vaccination certificates. People who have not been vaccinated. Large gatherings. Travel including crossing previous lockdown levels and boundaries. People not obeying covid laws. Christmas and New Year holiday season. Protection from covid spreading. Covid cases in hospitals, especially in Intensive Care.

**National Days of Prayer** (see last week's *Prayer Update* 1048). **Prayer themes:**

Wednesday (today) – FAMILIES. Thursday – THOSE IN AUTHORITY OVER US. Friday – CRY OUT FOR UNITY. Saturday – AUTHORITIES AND POWERS. Sunday – "COME, LORD JESUS !" Prayer Points Guide and Suggestions for prayer each day are available at:

<https://www.pray-for-the-nation.org/weekly-prayer-updates.php>