

# SBC BULLETIN



Welcome to church this morning. Last week we looked at the irony of the statements of the beatitudes: blessed are those who mourn, where it is almost paradoxical to say that those who are grieving are also happy. This week we move on to the following section in which Jesus encourages his followers to be the salt and light of the world, and to be renewed in righteousness.

Peter Allbury is preaching in Moora this morning and Andre is preaching at the Afrikaans service at the Trinity Uniting Church in the city of Perth. Pray for them and for the congregations they will visit.



## George Herbert's poem on Prayer

Prayer the church's banquet, angel's age,  
God's breath in man returning to his birth,  
The soul in paraphrase, heart in pilgrimage,  
The Christian plummet sounding heav'n and earth  
Engine against th' Almighty, sinner's tow'r,  
Reversed thunder, Christ-side-piercing spear,  
The six-days world transposing in an hour,  
A kind of tune, which all things hear and fear;  
Softness, and peace, and joy, and love, and bliss,  
Exalted manna, gladness of the best,  
Heaven in ordinary, man well drest,  
The milky way, the bird of Paradise,  
Church-bells beyond the stars heard, the soul's blood,  
The land of spices; something understood.



### **Prayer requests - health-related:**

- Krina is still in hospital undergoing further tests after a fall. Please pray for her continued healing and that they will be able to manage her chronic pain.
- Please continue praying for Margaret who still has a range of medical issues which need sorting out.
- We thank the Lord that Ayla is much better after a very heavy fall. Please pray for complete healing.
- We continue to pray for Iris and Malcolm.
- We thank the Lord that Rosemary is better after a fall while in search of orchids. It is great that she and Bob have maintained their joy despite facing many difficult health issues lately/
- Please pray for Anik who is busy completing her Master's essay after a long setback due to ill health

### Notices:

Most church activities will begin again straight after the school holidays

Tonight: Sundays@6

The church's Annual General Meeting will be held after the morning service on 17 October.

Please note that there will be a Christmas Craft morning at the church on 23 October between 9.30 and 11.30. Everyone is welcome.



"Anyone who breaks one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever practices and teaches these commands will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. For I tell you that unless your righteousness surpasses that of the Pharisees and the teachers of the law, you will certainly not enter the kingdom of heaven."

- We will be "called least ... [or] called great in the kingdom of heaven" based upon whether ...

- 1) we break God's commands and teach others to do so, or...

- 2) we practise God's commands and teach them to others.

- Interesting — the breaker and the keeper of God's commands are BOTH said to be "IN the kingdom." But the breaker is called "least in the kingdom" and the keeper is called "great in the kingdom." But both are called "IN the kingdom."

- The one who broke "the least" commandment (19) is still included "IN the kingdom," but is himself "called least in the kingdom." But still "IN."

- Conclusion: the saved person, who is "in the kingdom" but is breaking some of God's commandments is still "IN" the kingdom.

- The previous paragraph seems to support GRADATION WITHIN the kingdom ranks, not inclusion versus exclusion from the kingdom.

