LENT Devotional Journey

.....a journey to follow Jesus through the book of wisdom

The book of Proverbs was originally written to a young man by his elder in an attempt to pass down both godly wisdom and instruction. In this six part series, we will explore the book's themes of wisdom and folly, and you are invited to live with wisdom and in the fear of the Lord in order to experience the good life. The culture we live in today desperately needs to see and experience wisdom. So this series is not only for churchgoers, but it is for the people we will interact with on a daily basis. Join us as we learn how to fool-proof our lives.

Corporate Worship & Prayer Space

Ash Wednesday Service
6 Mar, 7-9pm, SOC Main Hall

Tuesday Worship & Prayer Room
12, 19 & 26 Mar, 2 & 9 Apr Free to come and go between 7-9pm, SOC Main Hall

Lovingly Present; Lovingly Disruptive | Re:Work
30 Mar, 10am-4pm, London Institute of Contemporary Christianity

Good Friday Prayer and Reflection Space
19 Apr, SOC, free to come and go between 10am-6pm

Personal Devotional Journey

In your own quiet room

This devotional journal takes you on a journey through worship & prayer where you can come into God's presence; build a relationship with Jesus; and be ministered in the Holy Spirit……

As You Begin……..

Journal

Posture of your soul

come into Your presence

what am I willing to surrender? _____

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wait & listen, what is God saying to me?

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Status of your heart

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Thinking in your mind

What does the Bible say

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Strength to serve

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DAY 40 | 20 APRIL Sat.
Scripture Reading : Proverbs 31B

10A wife of noble character who can find? She is worth far more than rubies. 11Her husband has full confidence in her and lacks nothing of value. 12She brings him good, not harm, all the days of her life. 13She selects wool and flax and works with eager hands. 14She is like the merchant ships, bringing her food from afar. 15She gets up while it is still night; she provides food for her family and portions for her female servants. 16She considers a field and buys it; out of her earnings she plants a vineyard. 17She sets about her work vigorously; her arms are strong for her tasks. 18She sees that her trading is profitable, and her lamp does not go out at night.

19In her hand she holds the distaff and grasps the spindle with her fingers. 20She opens her arms to the poor and extends her hands to the needy. 21When it snows, she has no fear for her household; for all of them are clothed in scarlet. 22She makes coverings for her bed; she is clothed in fine linen and purple.23Her husband is respected at the city gate, where he takes his seat among the elders of the land. 24She makes linen garments and sells them, and supplies the merchants with sashes. 25She is clothed with strength and dignity; she can laugh at the days to come. 26She speaks with wisdom, and faithful instruction is on her tongue. 27She watches over the affairs of her household and does not eat the bread of idleness. 28Her children arise and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praises her: 29"Many women do noble things, but you surpass them all."

30Charm is deceptive, and beauty is fleeting; but a woman who fears the Lord is to be praised. 31Honour her for all that her hands have done, and let her works bring her praise at the city gate.

Prayer:

O God, who was, who is and who will be, You have instructed us the way of life, which is to understand wisdom by fearing You. May us all become like this wife of noble, working by our own hands, caring for the family and for the poor, speaking with kindness; may Jesus Christ who has died and risen for us, constantly become our model of humility and obedience. As we are in the last week of Lent, may we continue to live out a life with Wisdom through knowing You. In the name of Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

LENT 2019 | WEEK 7 | 15 APRIL –20 APRIL

What does worship mean to me? Is my worship God centred and pleasing to Him? Have I personally encountered with God during worship? Does God really listen and answer my prayers?

As we considered these questions, let us consider what Jesus said in Luke 10…'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind.'

In fact He is calling us to: 'COME, worship me with your whole life, and you will experience transformation in your soul, your heart, your mind and your strength….'

This is Whole Life Worship….

We encounter with God in the journey of our life. Whether we gather in our church, in our home or work place, in our small groups, or in our personal quiet time, we seek the presence of our Father God, we build a relationship with Jesus and ready to be ministered by the Holy Spirit. In fact each of our 'Daily Walk' with God forms the basis in shaping our corporate worship culture.

Hence the church would like to invite you to walk this worship & prayer journey together. This devotional journal takes you on a path which helps you focus on God. Feel free to use this in your personal quiet time, or you can come along to the 'Corporate Worship Space', which takes place in SOC every week during Lent, and journey with other brothers & sisters in our church.

The Corporate Worship Spaces are not events to attend - hence feel free to come and leave anytime between the set time. When you come inside you are free to pray, meditate, reflect at your own pace, share your thoughts with others, and minister to each other with prayers.

The only agenda is to encounter with God…….

Journey Guide

Journal

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DAY 39 | 19 APRIL Fri.
Scripture Reading : Proverbs 31A

1The sayings of King Lemuel—an inspired utterance his mother taught him.2Listen, my son! Listen, son of my womb! Listen, my son, the answer to my prayers! 3Do not spend your strength on women, your vigour on those who ruin kings.

4It is not for kings, Lemuel—it is not for kings to drink wine, not for rulers to crave beer, 5lest they drink and forget what has been decreed, and deprive all the oppressed of their rights. 6Let beer be for those who are perishing, wine for those who are in anguish! 7Let them drink and forget their poverty and remember their misery no more.

8Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, for the rights of all who are destitute. 9Speak up and judge fairly; defend the rights of the poor and needy.

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Prayer:
O God, who creates and sustains all things with orders, help us to understand and obey to the living order which is good for us. While it seems that we have freedom without limitation, may the Holy Spirit remind us and help us to let You reign over our words and deeds, so that we may act appropriately with wisdom, gentleness and self-control. As we are in the last week of Lent, may we continue to live out a life with Wisdom through knowing You. In the name of Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

LENT 2019 | WEEK 7 | 15 APRIL –20 APRIL

When we spend time with God alone in worship and prayer, He welcomes us into a personal friendship that grows deeper over time. In this friendship we not only sense His presence and speak to Him as we journey through our daily lives, but also learn to hear His voice.
Therefore seek His presence in your life every day. If your walk with Him is close, expect Him to draw you closer. Our God is always ready to meet us where we are and bring us further with Him. You will experience life in all of its fullness.

The following is a simple guide in your journey to explore and experience our God in the different spaces of our whole being – your SOUL, your HEART, your MIND, your STRENGTH

WORSHIP – engage in God's presence

REFLECT – engage with His Word

PRAYER - engage in conversation with God

Try this journal format
to record your journey

Posture of your soul
surrender your everything
come into His
presence to adore & praise Him
wait - listen - meditate

Status of your heart
open your heart
allow Him to search inside out
confess – forgive - heal

Thinking in your mind
consider your life situations at present
hold tight to His words & truth
read – reflect - ask

Strength to serve
commit your life to serve Him
move with the Holy Spirit
response – minister – supplicate

Week 7 Overview……

LENT 2019 | WEEK 7 | 15 APRIL –20 APRIL

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DAY 38 | 18 APRIL Thurs
Scripture Reading : Proverbs 30B

11“There are those who curse their fathers and do not bless their mothers; 12those who are pure in their own eyes and yet are not cleansed of their filth; 13those whose eyes are ever so haughty, whose glances are so disdainful; 14those whose teeth are swords and whose jaws are set with knives to devour the poor from the earth and the needy from among mankind. 15“The leech has two daughters. ‘Give! Give!’ they cry. “There are three things that are never satisfied, four that never say, ‘Enough!’: 16the grave, the barren womb, land, which is never satisfied with water, and fire, which never says, ‘Enough!’ 17“The eye that mocks a father, that scorns an aged mother, will be pecked out by the ravens of the valley, will be eaten by the vultures.

18“There are three things that are too amazing for me, four that I do not understand: 19the way of an eagle in the sky, the way of a snake on a rock, the way of a ship on the high seas, and the way of a man with a young woman.20“This is the way of an adulterous woman: She eats and wipes her mouth and says, ‘I’ve done nothing wrong.’21 “Under three things the earth trembles, under four it cannot bear up: 22a servant who becomes king, a godless fool who gets plenty to eat, 23a contemptible woman who gets married, and a servant who displaces her mistress.

24“Four things on earth are small, yet they are extremely wise: 25Ants are creatures of little strength, yet they store up their food in the summer; 26hyraxes are creatures of little power, yet they make their home in the crags; 27locusts have no king, yet they advance together in ranks; 28a lizard can be caught with the hand, yet it is found in kings’ palaces. 29“There are three things that are stately in their stride, four that move with stately bearing: 30a lion, mighty among beasts, who retreats before nothing; 31a strutting rooster, a he-goat, and a king secure against revolt.

32“If you play the fool and exalt yourself, or if you plan evil, clap your hand over your mouth! 33For as churning cream produces butter, and as twisting the nose produces blood, so stirring up anger produces strife.”

Prayer:

O God, who creates the world with transcendent wisdom and knowledge, we can find Your wonder among Your creation. From the smallest insect to the fiercest beast, they all reveal Your creating wisdom and glory. Help us to learn wisdom and humility from them, so that in Your grace, we may live in harmony and peace with all things. As we are in the last week of Lent, may we continue to live out a life with Wisdom through knowing You. In the name of Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

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LENT 2019 | WEEK 7 | 15 APRIL –20 APRIL

THE FRUITFULNESS OF WISDOM

How do the qualities of a ‘Noble Wife’ reflect the character of wisdom?

Do you learn wisdom by simply memorising a ‘do good’ list?

What spiritual fruits does a ‘Noble Wife’ brings to others?

DAY 35 | 15 APRIL Mon.
Scripture Reading : Proverbs 28

1The wicked flee though no one pursues, but the righteous are as bold as a lion.2When a country is rebellious, it has many rulers, but a ruler with discernment and knowledge maintains order.3A ruler who oppresses the poor is like a driving rain that leaves no crops. 4Those who forsake instruction praise the wicked, but those who heed it resist them. 5Evildoers do not understand what is right, but those who seek the Lord understand it fully. 6Better the poor whose walk is blameless than the rich whose ways are perverse.
7A discerning son heeds instruction, but a companion of gluttons disgraces his father.8Whoever increases wealth by taking interest or profit from the poor amasses it for another, who will be kind to the poor. 9If anyone turns a deaf ear to my instruction, even their prayers are detestable. 10Whoever leads the upright along an evil path will fall into their own trap, but the blameless will receive a good inheritance. 11The rich are wise in their own eyes; one who is poor and discerning sees how deluded they are. 12When the righteous triumph, there is great elation; but when the wicked rise to power, people go into hiding. 13Whoever conceals their sins does not prosper, but the one who confesses and renounces them finds mercy.
14Blessed is the one who always trembles before God, but whoever hardens their heart falls into trouble. 15Like a roaring lion or a charging bear is a wicked ruler over a helpless people. 16A tyrannical ruler practices extortion, but one who hates ill-gotten gain will enjoy a long reign. 17Anyone tormented by the guilt of murder will seek refuge in the grave; let no one hold them back. 18The one whose walk is blameless is kept safe, but the one whose ways are perverse will fall into the pit. 19Those who work their land will have abundant food, but those who chase fantasies will have their fill of poverty. 20A faithful person will be richly blessed, but one eager to get rich will not go unpunished.
21To show partiality is not good— yet a person will do wrong for a piece of bread. 22The stingy are eager to get rich and are unaware that poverty awaits them. 23Whoever rebukes a person will in the end gain favour rather than one who has a flattering tongue. 24Whoever robs their father or mother and says, "It's not wrong,"is partner to one who destroys.25The greedy stir up conflict, but those who trust in the Lord will prosper.26Those who trust in themselves are fools, but those who walk in wisdom are kept safe.27Those who give to the poor will lack nothing, but those who close their eyes to them receive many curses.28When the wicked rise to power, people go into hiding; but when the wicked perish, the righteous thrive.

Prayer:
Our Heavenly Father, we thank You, for Your love is so deep and Your promises are so abundant. You have said "the blameless will receive a good inheritance". Help us to be blameless by the power of the Spirit, do not conceal our sins but confess and renounce them, so that we may find mercy. As we are in the last week of Lent, may we continue to live out a life with Wisdom through knowing You. In the name of Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

LENT 2019 | WEEK 7 | 15 APRIL –20 APRIL

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DAY 37 | 17 APRIL Wed.
Scripture Reading : Proverbs 30A

1The sayings of Agur son of Jakeh—an inspired utterance. This man's utterance to Ithiel: "I am weary, God, but I can prevail.2Surely I am only a brute, not a man; I do not have human understanding. 3I have not learned wisdom, nor have I attained to the knowledge of the Holy One. 4Who has gone up to heaven and come down? Whose hands have gathered up the wind? Who has wrapped up the waters in a cloak? Who has established all the ends of the earth? What is his name, and what is the name of his son?

Surely you know!

5"Every word of God is flawless; he is a shield to those who take refuge in him. 6Do not add to his words, or he will rebuke you and prove you a liar. 7

"Two things I ask of you, Lord; do not refuse me before I die: 8Keep falsehood and lies far from me; give me neither poverty nor riches, but give me only my daily bread. 9 Otherwise, I may have too much and disown you and say, 'Who is the Lord?' Or I may become poor and steal, and so dishonour the name of my God. 10"Do not slander a servant to their master, or they will curse you, and you will pay for it.

Prayer:
God who rules over everything, we long for Your presence. Keep falsehood and lies far from us; give us neither poverty nor riches, so that we might not disown You. As You faithfully give us our daily bread, help us to be content and thankful. As we are in the last week of Lent, may we continue to live out a life with Wisdom through knowing You. In the name of Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

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DAY 36 | 16 APRIL Tues.
Scripture Reading : Proverbs 29

1Whoever remains stiff-necked after many rebukes will suddenly be destroyed—without remedy. 2When the righteous thrive, the people rejoice; when the wicked rule, the people groan. 3A man who loves wisdom brings joy to his father, but a companion of prostitutes squanders his wealth. 4By justice a king gives a country stability, but those who are greedy for bribes tear it down. 5Those who flatter their neighbours are spreading nets for their feet. 6Evildoers are snared by their own sin, but the righteous shout for joy and are glad. 7The righteous care about justice for the poor, but the wicked have no such concern. 8Mockers stir up a city, but the wise turn away anger.

9If a wise person goes to court with a fool, the fool rages and scoffs, and there is no peace. 10The bloodthirsty hate a person of integrity and seek to kill the upright. 11Fools give full vent to their rage, but the wise bring calm in the end. 12If a ruler listens to lies, all his officials become wicked. 13The poor and the oppressor have this in common: The Lord gives sight to the eyes of both. 14If a king judges the poor with fairness, his throne will be established forever. 15A rod and a reprimand impart wisdom, but a child left undisciplined disgraces its mother. 16When the wicked thrive, so does sin, but the righteous will see their downfall. 17Discipline your children, and they will give you peace; they will bring you the delights you desire. 18Where there is no revelation, people cast off restraint; but blessed is the one who heeds wisdom's instruction.

19Servants cannot be corrected by mere words; though they understand, they will not respond. 20Do you see someone who speaks in haste? There is more hope for a fool than for them. 21A servant pampered from youth will turn out to be insolent. 22An angry person stirs up conflict, and a hot-tempered person commits many sins. 23Pride brings a person low, but the lowly in spirit gain honour. 24The accomplices of thieves are their own enemies; they are put under oath and dare not testify. 25Fear of man will prove to be a snare, but whoever trusts in the Lord is kept safe. 26Many seek an audience with a ruler, but it is from the Lord that one gets justice. 27The righteous detest the dishonest;

the wicked detest the upright.

Prayer:

Our caring God, You are pleased with those who seek righteousness and care about justice for the poor, also those who turn away angers and conflicts with wisdom. Our Lord Jesus, the righteous King, the Prince of Peace, help us to be constantly transformed by Your saving grace everyday, so that we might become a kingdom of righteousness and peace. As we are in the last week of Lent, may we continue to live out a life with Wisdom through knowing You. In the name of Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

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