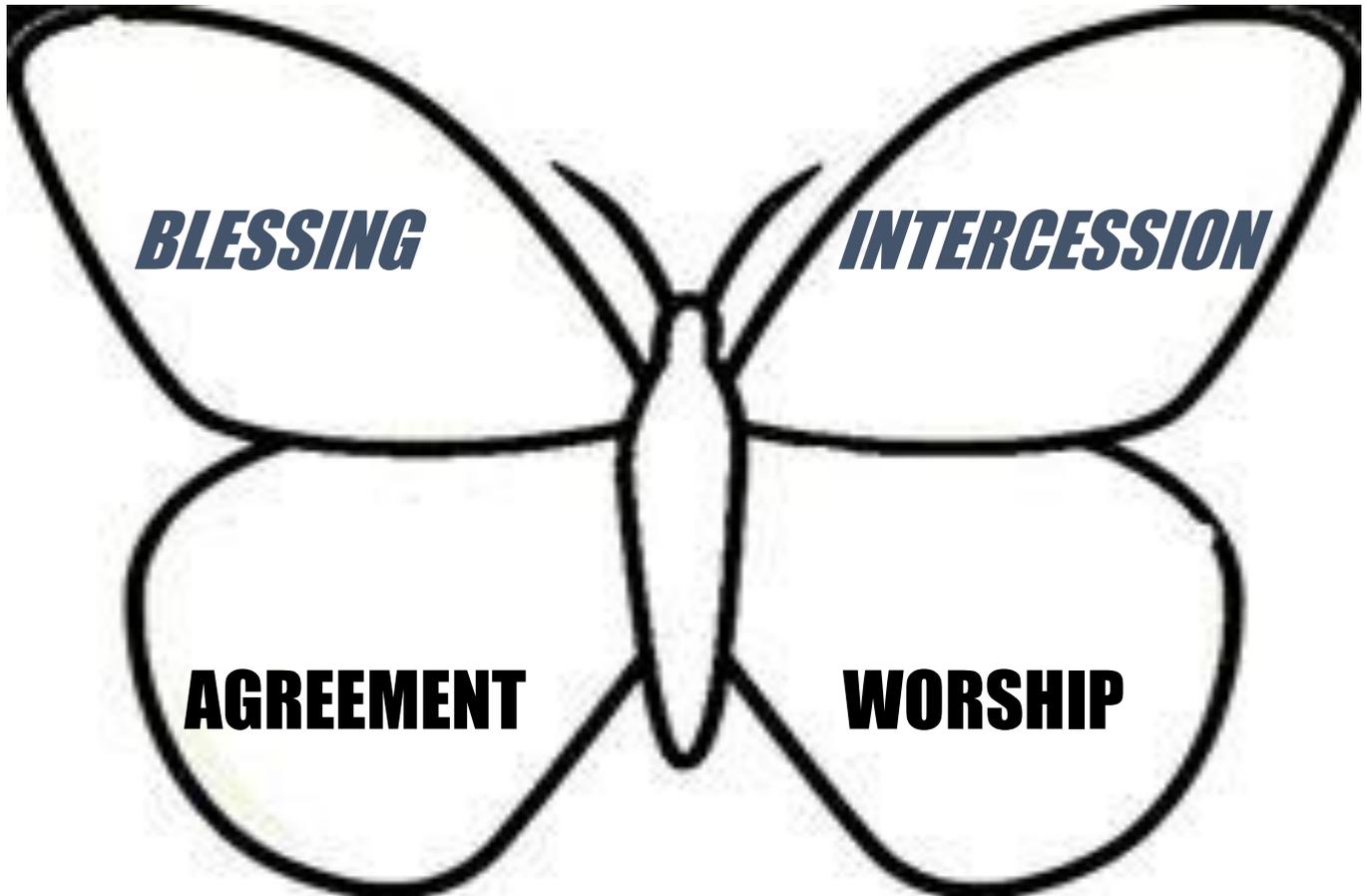


## Notes from Prayer Sunday: Prayer & Blessing 27<sup>th</sup> August 2017

**Four elements of prayer:** The rear wings give power to the front wings so the butterfly can fly well. Our prayer life to be effective needs to have these elements which are integral to scripture.



### Worship

- We are called to be living sacrifices before God- **Romans 12 v 1-2**
- Clear channels for Him to work in and through us to others
- Jesus asks us to put things right in our hearts as we come to worship -**Matthew 5vs 23-24**
- The Priests in the Old Testament were **receivers, carriers and transporters of the presence of God** but they had to be pure
- As God's people today, we are a Holy, Priesthood belonging to God, because of what Jesus has done (**1 Peter 2 vs 9-10**). We too who are inhabited by the Holy Spirit carry that same presence; we were made to be embodied beings. The day of Pentecost brought this a possibility for all people and not just special people like Priests. If we do not have the Spirit, we are not of Christ- **Romans 8 vs 9-11. 1 Corinthians 6 v 19**, Paul declares we are the temple of the Holy Spirit. This is both individually and collectively.

## Our Ministry as Priests

- Stand and minister to Him- Deut 10 v 8
- Carry His presence- Numbers 6 v 22-27
- Bless His name- Leviticus 9 vs 22-23

### **Ministry of Blessings:**

- Intercession and blessing: A bird or butterfly with two wings
- Speaking blessings and not praying them

*'Our Father I stand in your presence,  
I come to you with nothing of myself that is any good,  
But in Christ you have made me righteous,  
I receive your forgiveness afresh today,  
Cleanse my heart because you know it all,  
We receive your grace that has been made possible because of the blood of Jesus  
Use me Lord to be your vessel to bring your Kingdom to my part of the Earth  
Show me your heart today.'*

## Blessing

- Therefore we are called to bless one another and the world- **Romans 12 vs 9-16**
- Giving blessing has often been neglected when we pray for each other. Blessing is the wing we have not used and inhibits flight
- We can pronounce blessings on all **people, communities and the land using the written word of God** through the inspiration of the Holy Spirit; revealing Jesus -**Hebrews 4 v 12**.
- **Something happens when we read and use God's revealed truth in the scripture; the Spirit within us witnesses to the written word which He has inspired. He brings it to our notice and from it reveals Jesus. Again we have to be in a 'place of standing' (being right with God in worship) to receive this.**
- Our words can be a blessing or a curse- **James 3 vs 9-10**
- **We need to be in a place of wanting to hear and receive.** Really listen, often we get distracted when listening to others, by thinking about how we might respond. We can miss what people are saying and make assumptions, if we do not hear their whole account

## Bless each other

Blessings are a gift we can pass onto each other from what the Holy Spirit has given us:

- Wisdom
- Revelation
- Enlightened heart
- Hope
- Grace
- Protection

## **BLESSING to pronounce to each other (based on Ephesians 1 vs 17-19)**

**May you (*name here*)**

**Be blessed real good,**

**With a spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Jesus**

**May the Holy Spirit enlighten you to know His grace, power and glory**

**May you be blessed with His hope and peace,**

**In the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit**

## **Intercession**

Jesus is the great High Priest who has passed into the most Holy Place and who now intercedes or stands in the gap between God the Father and us to intercede on our behalf –**Hebrews 9 vs 11-12; 24-27**

- We too have been called to the same ministry- we can stand in that gap between people and God- **2 Cor 5 vs 17-21**
- It is the meaning of intercession
- Blessing can be the gate way to intercession; as you bless and wait on God, the Spirit reveals what He wants you to pray for.

## **Agreement**

- Because we are part of Christ's body on earth, we are joined to Him in a spiritual sense as we all have the same Holy Spirit living in us
- Jesus wants us to be part of the ministry of bringing God's Kingdom to each other and the world; in our part of our world
- Jesus says where, there is agreement between people it shall be done -**Matthew 18 vs 19-20**
- We can collectively agree blessings and prayer for others and be assured of His confirmation of this
- But it comes from a clean heart before Him as we enter His presence –**Hebrews 10 vs 19-25**

## **ACTIVITY:**

- Five people
- God knows their needs- bring their names to Him. (We are often very good at assuming and telling God what we want Him to do
- Bless them as a group
- Wait and see what God says to pray for them
- Pray every day for five days and see what happens

### **Summing up..... 4 elements:**

- worship, agreement, blessing and intercession
- **Hebrews 10 verses 19-25**

### **Houses of Prayer information**

- You can start a small group of no more than 4 people.
- Bless and pray for five people, over five days a week for five weeks.
- Meet up weekly and agree together, from a place of standing in His presence in worship.
- After five weeks review change the names and carry on.
- When the group gets to 4 divide to two groups of two and get another person to join each pair and the multiplication can continue. (This way you do not just become settled, retaining the dynamic and you avoid slipping into ‘another prayer meeting’.)

### **More information try:**

[www.ffald-y-brenin.org](http://www.ffald-y-brenin.org)

or U-tube ‘ffald-y-brenin’

There are a number of these which have come out of the retreat in South Wales.

**Be Blessed!**