

# CHORLEY NEWS

Celebrating 158 years  
of service to our community



February 2025



# Prayers of the Bible:

## Praying in your Discouragements...

By Revd Dr Herbert McGonigle

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It can be hard to pray sometimes, and most of us need all the help we can get! This new series continues.

*‘Moses said to the Lord, “...I am not able to carry all this people alone, the burden is too heavy for me...”’*

Numbers 11:10-15.

Moses prayed this prayer in a day of dark depression and discouragement. The opening verses of the chapter relate how divine punishment fell on the people of Israel because they complained about almost everything.

Moses prayed and the punishment stopped but not the people's complaints. They wanted meat to eat.

For years they had been sustained by manna from heaven, but now they longed for the fish, cucumbers and melons they had eaten in Egypt (vv.5,6).

They forgot how the Lord had delivered them from Pharaoh's bondage. Now they preferred Egyptian food, and the slavery that went with it, to the goodness of the Lord and His provision for them.

Moses was beside himself with despair. Would these ungrateful people never stop complaining? Then the Lord's anger threatened the people again (v.10). Moses was caught in the middle. On one side of him the people complained, and on the other side God's wrath was about to fall. Moses couldn't go on.

His frustration broke out in petulant questions to the Lord. ‘Why are you dealing so severely with me?’

‘Why do you lay this burden on me?’ ‘Did I conceive these

people?’ ‘Why am I a nursing mother to them?’ ‘Am I responsible for getting them to the land you promised?’

‘How can I provide meat for so many?’

‘Lord, this burden is too great for me.’ ‘I'd rather die now than go on like this’

(see vv.11-15).

Moses was depressed, irritable and resentful.



He poured it all out before the Lord. It was a prayer born of frustration and anger. He was angry with his ungrateful congregation, and he was angry with God. Why did the Lord leave it all to him? After all, it was God's plan to bring the Israelites from Egypt to Canaan. Moses had only gone along with it because God commanded him. But now it was all too much. Worn out with listening to the people's whining and not sure of what God would do next, Moses had had enough. He blamed the Lord for giving him a burden he couldn't carry, and he wanted to die.

But God answered Moses graciously! He understood the frustration, the petulance, the lack of faith and the rebellious spirit that blamed God for it all. He provided Moses with seventy elders who eased the burden of leadership (vv.16, 17). He sent an east wind that brought quails into the camp and provided meat for them (vv.31, 32). In grace and mercy God 'overlooked' the faults of Moses and sent him help and refreshment.

In our deepest disappointments, God understands. In our frustrations, God is merciful. When we lash out at circumstances and even at God Himself, He does not answer in kind. In our deepest discouragement, His love and grace and understanding are with us still.



## Foodbank

**As the cold winter months set in, we would like to thank everyone who helps with the foodbank and also helping to put together the bags to give out to the homeless in our city.**

**As you may know we have this small foodbank, so as to have Non perishable groceries permanently available for people in our community.**

**We would like to thank everyone who have so kindly contributed to the community foodbank. If you would like to continue helping this winter, and of course during the rest of the year by contributing, please bring non perishable groceries such as tins and long life cartons etc. and hand them to Roger.**

**Thank You  
For Your Support**

# What's the Big Idea?

## An Introduction to the Books of the Old Testament: Job By Paul Hardingham

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### ***Why does God allow suffering?'***

This is a frequently asked question of Christians, because we believe in a God who is both good and powerful and it is explored in the book of Job. This book is part of the wisdom literature, along with Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, and Song of Solomon.

Job was both wealthy and righteous, yet he experienced catastrophic suffering, losing all his wealth, children and health. This is portrayed as a result of Satan's challenge to God, testing whether Job's devotion to God was dependent on his circumstances or not.

The main body of the book (3:1-42:6) consists of dialogues between Job, his friends (Eliphaz, Bildad, and Zophar) and God. Job and his friends assume that God is almighty and just, and that no human being is wholly innocent. In the three cycles of speeches they wrestle with the reasons for Job's suffering, remembering his morally upright character.

Finally, all are silenced by God, as He speaks Himself (chapters 38-42). He points out that Job knows very little about the universe when he reflects on God's power. Job confesses

his lack of understanding and weakness, but then goes on to confess his confidence and trust in God. This puts suffering in a right perspective. Job is not condemned, and the book ends with the restoration of his family and possessions.

The importance of this book is that it realistically addresses the painful questions of life, without offering simplistic answers. It focuses on how we should respond to suffering, rather than on why God allows suffering: 'Naked I came from my mother's womb, and naked I shall depart. The LORD gave and the LORD has taken away; may the name of the LORD be praised.' (1:21)

# What you have in common with a woodcarving

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Woodcarving isn't as straightforward as it seems. You don't begin with a block of wood; you begin with a piece of paper. The first step is to draw a plan of what you want to carve, and only when you've got that right do you start to shape your piece of wood.

The carver then works his block with his plan alongside it. He cuts those bits of wood away that he doesn't want, and shapes what's left until it ever more closely resembles that original plan.

Only when the design on the wood and the paper plan are identical has the carver finished his job. He's then made exactly what he'd hoped for, while working all along from that original plan.

It's the same for our lives. God is the master carpenter. He has a unique plan for each one of us, which is a blueprint of what He hopes we will become.

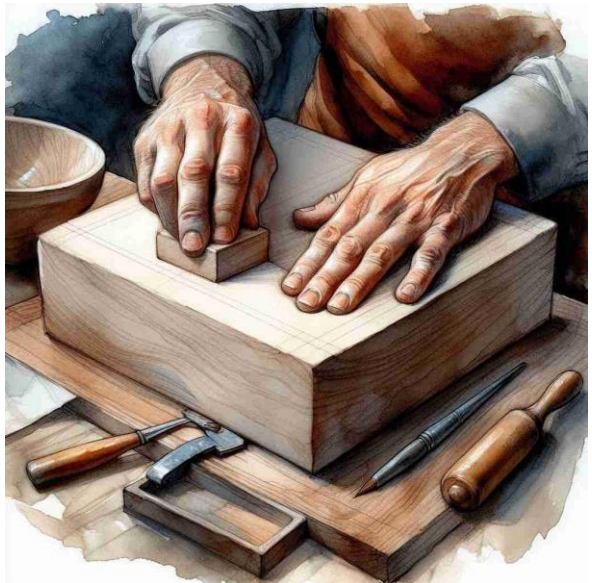
As we go through life, God shapes us, cutting away those bits of us that He doesn't want and which would spoil what

He hopes we'll come to look like.

He then gradually moulds what's left until we look ever more like that original blueprint. Only when the two are identical will God's work be over.

But there's one big difference between a human being and a block of wood. A block of wood sits impassively on the carver's bench while he works at it. The wood cannot help the process along and has no idea what's happening to it.

God very much hopes that we'll help Him in the process of being moulded and shaped into His pattern. That's why we read the Bible and worship and pray: to find out just what His plan is for each one of us. Only when we have some idea of what He wants us to be can we help Him in the process.



# How do you keep your life going in the right direction?

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***Do not let this Book of the Law depart from your mouth; meditate on it day and night, be careful to do everything written in it.***

**Then you will be *successful*.**

**Joshua 1.8**

Any flying instructor will tell you that periodically all aeroplanes need to be 'trimmed' or 'balanced in flight'. After flying through storms and hitting air pockets, the plane's instruments need to be readjusted. That's true of our attitudes too. The air currents of life can 'knock you out of line' and keep you from reaching your destiny.

'Unexpected weather' like sickness, unemployment, divorce, death and disappointment can drive you off course.

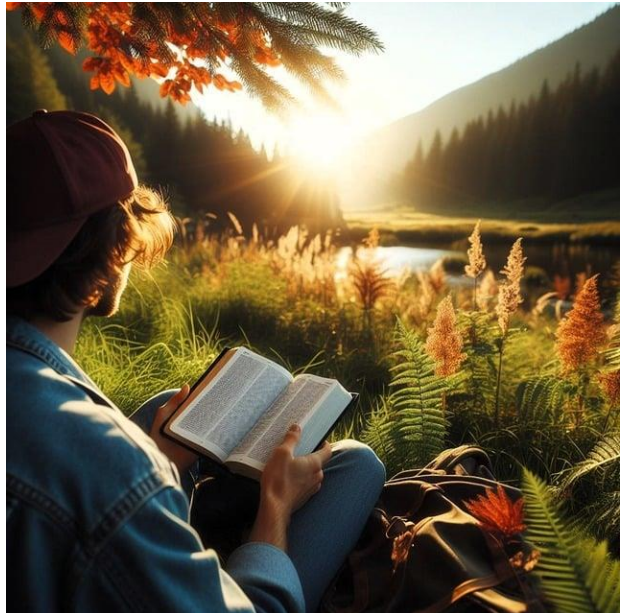
In other words, your attitude needs to be constantly checked and adjusted. Have you checked yours lately? What are you encountering that calls for an attitude change? How are you handling it? Are you adjusting or resisting?

So long as you live, you'll always need to be 'trimmed and balanced'.

The most important thing that affects your attitude in life is your faith, and that grows only as you live in God's Word.

That's why God told Joshua to 'read the Word, speak the Word and obey the Word' if he wanted to succeed.

Try the 3 x 5 Technique! Each week, write out one faith building scripture on a 3 x 5 card. Carry it with you wherever you go and memorise it. In one year, you'll know 52 new scriptures, and more importantly, your attitudes will be in line with God's Word, your faith will be strengthened, and your life will keep moving in the right direction.



# Light

*Lord Your light is brighter,  
Than a thousand stars,  
More expansive  
Than a trip to Mars.*

*Lord You shine  
And all is clear,  
Brighter still  
As I draw near.*

*Lord to You all  
Must bow the knee  
As You hold Within  
Heavens key.*

*Lord You never tire  
Of doing good,  
As You free the thought  
Of the misunderstood.*

*Lord to Your love  
There is no ending,  
For in these words  
Holds the truth,  
That You are sending.*

© Kenneth Lee (AKA Ken)



On Monday mornings we go and visit people who are unable to come on Sundays and also go and visit people who may not have heard the Good News about Jesus.

We also go to Ridley market and local places like Newington Green and local public spaces like Gillett Square and of course we have a table of free books and Bibles, New Testaments and other portions of scripture in many different languages. We put this table out on the junction of Balls Pond Road and King Henry's Walk.

If you would like any of this literature for yourself or to give to a friend in all different languages, come along and help yourself. But of course we would also love if you could come and help to look after the table, even if only for half an hour.



# February @ Chorley

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Sunday	Sunday Service	12.00 – 1.30 pm
Monday	Outreach	10.30 – 12.30 pm.
Tuesday	Wise-Owls	11.00 – 2.00 pm
	Youth	6.30 – 8.00 pm
	Half Term (18 <sup>th</sup> of February)	5.30 – 7.00 pm
Wednesday	Munch Bunch	4.30 – 6.00 pm
	ECC	5.00 pm
	(English Conversation Class)	
	Bible Study	7.00 – 8.30 pm
Friday	Outreach	11.00 – 12.00 pm
	Time of Prayer	6.00 – 7.00 pm

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Sat.	22.02.25	Fellowship Day	12.00 (All Day)
	(12.00pm)	Light Lunch	
	(1.00pm)	Women & Men's Fellowship	
	(3.00pm)	(meeting separately )	
	(5.30pm)	How to write poetry	
	(7.00pm)	Workshop (by Ken Lee)	
		Food and Fellowship	
		Film Night	

# Looking At You



## Middle aged? Don't skip breakfast!

If you skip breakfast in your middle age, it can make you fatter and unhealthy.

Instead, a recent study advises that having a well-balanced breakfast helps manage daily calorie intake and lower cholesterol, BMI and

waist size. Breakfast “serves the critical role of breaking the extended fasting period from sleep.”

NHS guidelines recommend 2,000 calories a day for women and 2,500 for men. Breakfast should account for a quarter of this: 500 calories for women and 625 calories for men.

The study was carried out at the Hospital del Mar Research Institute in Barcelona. It disregarded the ‘full English’ breakfast as being too full of saturated fat levels. Instead, it recommends cereals, protein, a healthy fat source, fruits and vegetables.

## How many minutes of walking might help you avoid a heart attack?

It seems that keeping your heart reasonably healthy may not take a lot of time.

Researchers at the University of Sydney have found a link between short but intense bursts of activity and a significant drop in heart disease among people who otherwise engage in little activity.





most popular foods.

Eggs are exceptionally good for you – high in protein, containing all the essential amino acids, rich in the B vitamins, vitamin D and A, and choline, and a source of healthy fats.

Eggs are also filling, and with 7.5g of protein in less than 80 calories per

egg, there are few other foods that can match them for so much protein per gram. They are also inexpensive and easy to cook.

Experts recommend eating one or two eggs a day, and choosing a low-fat way of cooking them, by boiling or poaching. Cooking them in butter is a bit lower in fat than frying them in olive oil. Free-range eggs generally contain more vitamin D.

Sedentary women who did just 3.4 minutes of “vigorous intermittent” exercise, such as brisk walking or climbing the stairs, each day, suffered 67 per cent fewer cases of heart failure, with an overall reduction in heart disease of 45 per cent, compared to those not exercising at all.

Sedentary men who did 2.3 minutes of exercise, which could include carrying heavy shopping or heavy garden work, saw an 11 per cent reduction in heart attacks and strokes.

## In praise of the humble egg

We love eggs. On average, we eat at least two of them each week, which makes eggs one of Britain’s



# Chorley Youth

**Every Tuesday from  
6.30pm to 8.00pm**

**All children from  
5 - 13 years of age  
are very welcome.  
We meet every Tuesday  
from 6.30pm to 8.00pm  
including school holidays  
but not bank holidays.**

**Come and enjoy a place to have fun and relax with others.  
A place to participate in activities that you enjoy**

**Table Tennis - Arts and crafts - Pottery - Photography  
Pool - Foosball - Board Games - And Free Refreshments**

**The Youth Club is completely free.  
If you would like further information  
just come along or contact us on:**

**Tel. 020 7254 6835  
info@chorleycommunitychurch.org  
www.chorleycommunitychurch.org**



**Chorley Community Church, 9, King Henry's walk, N1 4NX**

# The parable of the Shrewd Manager



JESUS OFTEN TOLD STORIES WITH HIDDEN MEANINGS



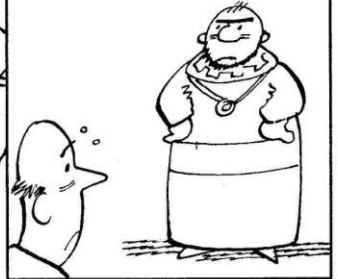
ONCE JESUS TOLD A STORY ABOUT A RICH MAN...

...AND HIS SERVANT, WHO MANAGED THE RICH MAN'S PROPERTY.

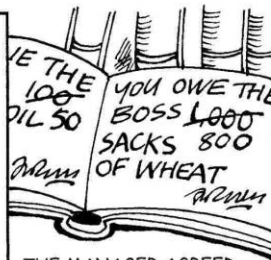


THE RICH MAN HAD HEARD THAT THE MANAGER HAS BEEN WASTING MONEY.

SO HE CALLED THE MANGER TO ACCOUNT FOR HIMSELF!



OH NO! I AM GOING TO GET THE SACK!!

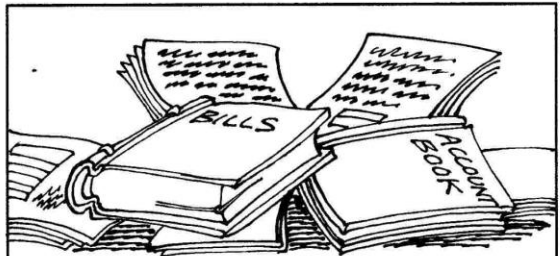
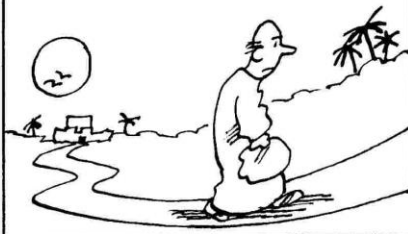


THE MANAGER AGREED TO LET THE RICH MAN'S TRADERS FIDDLE THEIR BOOKS!

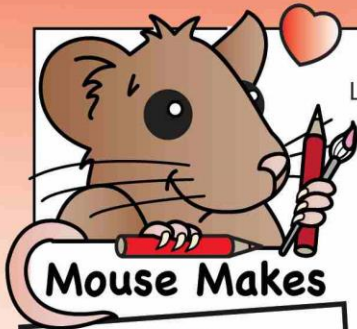


SO THEY ALTERED THEIR DEBTS - AND STAYED FRIENDS WITH THE MANAGER.

JESUS EXPLAINED THAT THE MANAGER HAD BEEN WISE IN MANAGING HIS FUTURE... EVEN THOUGH HE WAS BEING DISHONEST.



JESUS WAS TRYING TO ENCOURAGE THE PEOPLE TO THINK ABOUT THEIR OWN FUTURES TOO. BUT IT'S A HARD PARABLE TO UNDERSTAND!



# Mouse Makes

"Love is

\_\_\_\_\_ love is \_\_\_\_\_  
 It does not, \_\_\_\_\_  
 it does not \_\_\_\_\_  
 it is not \_\_\_\_\_  
 it does not \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ others, it is not self-

\_\_\_\_\_ it is not easily \_\_\_\_\_  
 it keeps no record of \_\_\_\_\_

Love delights in

\_\_\_\_\_ it always \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

from 1 Corinthians 13:4-7

The steadfast **love** of the Lord never \_\_\_\_\_;

His \_\_\_\_\_ never come to an end; they are new every \_\_\_\_\_

Lamentations 3:20-23



I pray... you will understand... the greatness of Christ's **love**,

how \_\_\_\_\_ and how \_\_\_\_\_ and how \_\_\_\_\_ that **love** is.

Ephesians 3:18-19

God is **love**.

whoever \_\_\_\_\_ in **love** \_\_\_\_\_ in God, and God \_\_\_\_\_ in them.

1 John 4:16



Give \_\_\_\_\_ to the Lord, for He is \_\_\_\_\_

his steadfast **love** endures \_\_\_\_\_

Psalms 136:1

HOW DOES GOD **LOVE** ME?

**God sent me a saviour:**

He sent His one and only Son into the world so that we might have eternal life through Him.

1 John 4:9

**God gave me His spirit:**

He has given you the Holy Spirit to fill our hearts with His **love**.

Romans 5:5

**God called me His child:**

See what great **love** the Father has for us that He would call us His children.

1 John 1:3

DID YOU KNOW?

Jesus told us to:

**LOVE** the Lord your God with all your **heart**, all your **soul** and with all your **mind**.

Matthew 22:37

**LOVE** your neighbour the same as you **love** yourself.

Matthew 22:39

P T Y D E B P O P T E L T  
 E R D L N M A Y R F D G R A  
 A U G O D J T H O P E F U L  
 C S K V U U I K T S F L T O  
 E T P E R S E V E R E S H Y  
 K I N D E T N B C S N L F A  
 M N I Y S L T W T S D M U L  
 I G R A C I O U S E S K L I  
 H U M B L E S E L F L E S S

GOD • **LOVE**  
 PATIENT • KIND  
 GRACIOUS • PEACE  
 JUST • TRUTHFUL  
 TRUSTING • LOYAL  
 HOPEFUL  
 PERSEVERES  
 ENDURES  
 HUMBLE  
 SELFLESS  
 PROTECTS • DEFENDS



## Now Here's a Thought:



You can't go back and change the beginning, but you can start now to change the ending.



If you're only as old as you feel, how am I still alive at 150?



The way to achieve inner peace is to finish the things we have started. Today I finished a Cream Egg, 2 Bags of Crisps and a Chocolate Cake. I feel better already...



Most people don't think I'm old until they hear me stand up.



A priest, a minister and a rabbi sat discussing the best positions for prayer, while a telephone repairman worked nearby.

"Kneeling is definitely the best way to pray," the priest said.

"No," said the minister. "I get the best results standing with my hands outstretched to Heaven."

"You're both wrong," the rabbi said. "The most effective prayer position is lying down on the floor."

The repairman could contain himself no longer: "Hey, fellas," he interrupted. "The best prayin' I ever

did was when I was hangin' upside down from a telephone pole."



### THE GRANDMA TEST

I was out walking with my 4-year-old granddaughter. She picked up something off the ground and started to put it in her mouth. I took the item away from her and I asked her not to do that.

"Why?" my granddaughter asked.

"Because it's been on the ground. You don't know where it's been, it's dirty, and probably has germs," I replied.

At this point, my granddaughter looked at me with total admiration and asked, "Grandma, how do you know all this stuff? You're so smart."

I was thinking quickly, "All Grandmas know this stuff. It's on the Grandma Test. You have to know it, or they don't let you be a Grandma."

We walked along in silence for 2 or 3 minutes, but she was evidently pondering this new information.

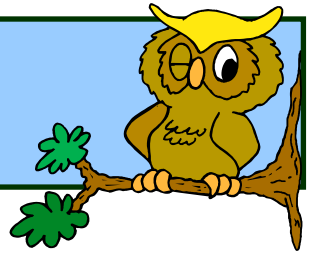
"Oh...I get it!" she beamed, "So if you don't pass the test, you have to be the Grandpa."

"Exactly," I replied.



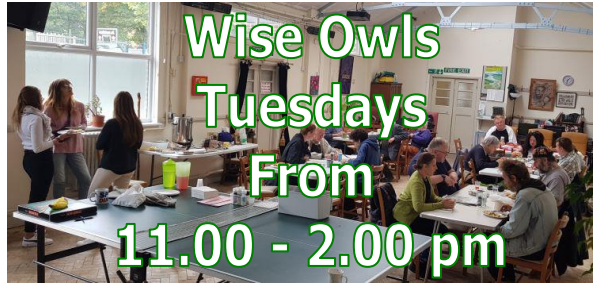
I just killed a huge spider running across the floor with my shoe. I don't care how big the spider is, no one steals my shoe.

# Wise Owls



**Every  
Tuesday  
From  
11 am to 2 pm**

The Wise Owls is for the over 50'ishh...we normally meet on Tuesdays from 11 am to 2 pm.

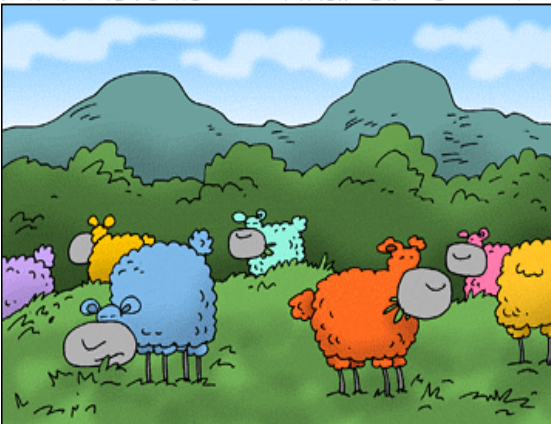


At the Wise Owls we also have a light meal at lunch time, around 1.00pm.

Come and meet with other people for coffee, light lunch, games, knitting, gardening, internet access (with a little help), and of course fellowship, or just a friendly chat.

**Come and join us,  
it's free and everyone  
is very welcome.**

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Thanks to Richard Germain (See Genesis 37:3-36) 09-13-2010  
**WHERE JOSEPH'S COAT CAME FROM**



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