

# Noticeboard

## Photo Board Update

As our photo board is in need of updating, Dan & Rachael Pearce will be taking photos  
**NEXT Sunday** 4th March after the service.

## Alpha course

Wednesday Evenings  
Bring a friend, meal included at 6pm followed by course at 7.30pm.  
Contact Nigel Bird for more information  
01209 822270

## Foodbank needs:

- tinned potatoes
- tinned ham
- savoury snacks
- crisps
- tin tomatoes
- tin spaghetti
- jams
- toothpaste
- washing up liquid
- toilet rolls
- men's anti-perspirant

## Food for Thought

This Thurs 1st March guest speaker is Barbara Warwick Starts at 2.30pm

**House Groups** are important to the Church Life. Small groups are an ideal way to get to know one another on a deeper level. If you are interested in joining a group see Doreen Fraser or Hanna Oakes

## Church Prayer Meeting

We are holding a church prayer meeting here at Emmanuel on THIS Tuesday 27th February at 7.30pm.

## OASIS meeting

this coming Friday 2nd March  
Pizza Night. See Duncan or Amy for more info

## Sunday 4th March

**10.30am** Coming together to praise, learn and encourage.

**7pm** Prayer & Praise

**Main Door** Rob Wood

**Inner Door** Dot Jones & Michael Miners

**Easy Worship** Sue Wilson

**Coffees Before Service & After Service** Nigel & Kate Bird

## Sunday 25th February 2018

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**10.30am** **Coming together to praise, learn and encourage.**  
A warm welcome to you all. We would love to get to know each other better, so please introduce yourself. If you can, join us for refreshments after the service.

**11am** **Children and youth groups leave**  
**Nippers:** 2-4 years  
**Buzz:** Reception - Year Five  
**Salt:** Year Six - Year 13

## Prayer Ministry

Members of the Prayer Ministry Team wear ministry badges. Please speak to one of them if you would like prayer for any reason.

**7pm** **Prayer & Praise**

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## The Church office

Open Monday-Friday, 9.30am-12.30pm

**Telephone** 01326 315249

**Email** mail@emmanuelbaptist.co.uk

**Website** www.emmanuelbaptist.co.uk

**Minister** Rev'd Charles Blizzard

**Sermon outline notes:      Learning to Pray from Paul Part 5  
Philippians Chapter 1: 9-11**

**Introduction**

Before looking at the content of Paul's prayer I want to look at what I call the practice of his praying which is described in verses 3 and 4. Notice what Paul says "I always pray with joy". Paul's statement must have been a great encouragement to the Philippians—Paul is so positive.

Paul prays with joy because of their partnership with him in the Gospel and because they had worked for the Gospel from the day they became Christians right up to the present time and Paul is confident that they will continue working for the Gospel.

**The Prayer**

1) The prayer is not so much a series of requests but one expanding request.

The prayer goes something like this—

**I pray**

Request: For love informed by knowledge and insight

Purpose: So that you can discern what is best.

So that you may be pure and blameless

So that God may be glorified.

2) The prayer starts by asking that knowledge will increasingly inform the love of the Philippians. We are not told the object of that love—'is it love for God, love for one another, or love for an unbelieving world, or all three.

3) Note that Paul does not pray for more and more knowledge. Rather he prays for more love of a certain kind—love that is informed by knowledge and insight.

4) The request for knowledge is characteristic of Paul (see Ephesians 1: 17–19; Ephesians 3: 17 Colossians 1:9). Why does Paul have this recurring request for knowledge—it is that what brings the life changing power into our lives is knowledge of the Gospel. Paul is not praying that the Philippians will discover

something unknown, he is praying that their love will abound more and more in the knowledge of something they already know –The Gospel.

5) 'discern what is best' - I do not think Paul is praying about decision making in general, what is best has already been made known in the Gospel and Paul prays that the Philippians may increasingly live out the Gospel.

6) 'What is best is to be pure and blameless and be prepared for the second coming of Jesus 'the day of Christ'.

7) 'Fruits of righteousness' - the act/deeds/thoughts that are consistent with a person who has embraced the Gospel. It describes a transparent life in which what Christ has done in us is there to be seen.

8) The glory of God is the intended climax and goal of this prayer.

**Conclusion**

1) It defines what is important for Christian love and discipleship—a growing understanding of the Gospel and the ability to apply it in our lives.

2) It defines what is best—that we prepare for the coming of Christ by exhibiting fruit in our lives.

3) It defines the goal of our praying that God should be glorified.