



CONNECT

**NAILSEA UNITED
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The law of the LORD is perfect,
refreshing the soul
Psalm 19 v 7

Minister Rev'd David Jewell
Church Secretary Mrs Sally Edmondson
nailseaurc.org.uk

Dear Friends,

I can feel fairly confident that there have been times when you have been out for a ramble when you have found yourself surrounded by high hedges or experienced a similar feeling of claustrophobia walking through a field of maize just before it is cut. There is that feeling that anything might be lurking in their dark places!

In that strange but wise book in the Bible, Ecclesiastes, King Solomon writes in chapter ten verse eight: "Whoever breaks a hedge shall be bitten by a serpent". You may be thinking that may be practical advice, but how is it applicable to me? As you know, hedges are put around gardens and fields to protect the area they enclose, they are there to keep secure that which is precious to you whether it is a cat, a tortoise or a cow!

So, you are being told to build hedges around that which is alive and precious in your life: your family, your marriage, your children, your walk with God, your integrity, your honour and your calling. Obviously, we are not talking hedges made of thorns or whatever, but of godly parameters, hedges built of safeguards, good decisions, guidelines, standards and principles. Lines you will not allow yourself to be crossed.

Now, the serpent in the Bible represents evil and the enemy, Satan, who is waiting for a break in the hedge, a letting down of our guard. Billy Graham, the hugely powerful preacher, made a commitment to never see a woman on his own, because he knew that he and his crusade would be vulnerable to even false accusations if he did.

The latest scandal in the Christian world has been the fall of Mike Pilavachi, leader of the Soul Survivor festival which used to attract over thirty thousand teenagers each year. He has

been accused by none less than the great singer and songwriter, Matt Redman, of molestation. He had not kept his hedge secure.

Build your hedges strong and high in order to protect what is precious in your life and your garden will be fruitful and a blessing not only to yourself but to many others too!

God bless you, David.

Communion Offering for July

Vine Counselling Services

is a charity based in Congresbury offering affordable (donation based) professional counselling to adults in the community who need help to cope with anxiety, stress, bereavement, depression, bullying, trauma, loneliness, abuse, family problems.



They offer:

- confidential 1:1 counselling with qualified Counsellors and those on placement.
- long and short term counselling and work is guided by the individual needs of each client.
- privacy and confidentiality is an essential part of what they offer.
- they operate in a climate of acceptance and respect and value every person regardless of belief.

Light of hope

Jesus,
You are a light shining brightly in darkness,
a beacon of hope, dispelling shadows of night.

In quietness or rush of living
you come, speaking words of calm.
I love that I can pray and be with you day or night -
no appointment necessary.

You know me inside out,
my delights, my fears ...

when I lack courage to speak against injustice,
break down barriers that imprison me ...

in so many ways I need your help ...

Ah, am I rambling, Jesus,
not letting you get a word in edgeways?
I shall be still for a bit, listen,
and let your healing comfort fill my heart
with strength and peace

(Pause)

I love you, Lord!

Amen

Hazel McCorrisken URC Prayer Handbook

The URC daily devotions

The URC daily devotions can be accessed via
devotions.urb.org.uk These are approximately 5 minutes long.
The Sunday service can be accessed from the same site.

CHURCH EVENTS DIARY – JULY 2024		
SUNDAY 7TH	SUNDAY WORSHIP with Rev.d Daviid Jewell	11.00AM
SUNDAY 14TH	SUNDAY WORSHIP with Mrs Stella Paterson	11.00AM
SUNDAY 21ST	SUNDAY COMMUNION WORSHIP with Rev.d Daviid Jewell	11.00AM
SUNDAY 28TH	SUNDAY WORSHIP with Jeffrey and Mary Ponsonby	11.00AM
SUNDAY 4TH	SUNDAY WORSHIP with Rev'd Sam Hackett	11.00AM
SUNDAY 4TH	IN THE QUIET with Rev.d Daviid Jewell	6.00PM

Flowers

July 7th

Patrick

July 14th

Flower Fund

July 21st

Stella

July 28th

Barbara

August 4th

Readers

Patrick

Jane

Kevin

Margaret

Peter

Please do speak to Sally or Barbara if you know of anyone including outside our church family who would appreciate flowers following our service and if you are able to deliver with a card (I have) we will then be supporting our community beyond our church doors.

LOOK TO THE SKIES

Psalm 19 v 1-9

Alex Smalley wants everyone to wake up earlier - or perhaps pause more at the day's end. Why? To gaze at sunrises and sunsets. Those fleeting moments are the most beautiful, awe-inspiring times of the day, according to Smalley, the lead researcher of a British study on awe-inspiring weather effects. Even more than blue skies or glittering nightscapes, a stunning sunrise or sunset can improve mood, increase positive emotions and decrease stress. Smalley says, "When you see something vast and overwhelming or something that produces this feeling of awe, your own problems can feel diminished and so you don't worry so much about them."

His findings on wonder echo those of the prophet Jeremiah; "Ah, Sovereign Lord, you have made the heavens and the earth by your great power and outstretched arm. Nothing is too hard for you" (Jeremiah 32:17).

King David also beheld God's creation, declaring, "The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands" (Psalm 19:1). As for the sun, "It rises at one end of the heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands" (Psalm 19:1). As for the sun, "It rises at one end of the heavens and makes its circuit to the other; nothing is deprived of its warmth." Therefore, writes David, "The law of the LORD is perfect, refreshing the soul" (vv6-7). God's glorious creation reflects the all-powerful Creator. Why not take time today to look to the skies and marvel in Him!

*In your glorious heavens, Father,
You show me the wonder of Your power*

Source :Our Daily Bread

