

W.I.E.C. News Sheet July 2018

Sunday 1st	11.00 am	Matthew Sharpe (Communion)
	6.30 pm	Matthew Sharpe
	3.00pm	Signature House
Wednesday 4th	7.30 pm	Prayer Meeting
Sunday 8th	11.00 am	John Mann
	6.30 pm	Matthew Sharpe
Wednesday 11th	7.30 pm	Bible Study
Sunday 15th	11.00 am	Matthew Sharpe
	6.30 pm	John Mann (Communion)
	3.00 pm	Signature House
Wednesday 18th	7.30 pm	Bible Study
Sunday 22nd	11.00 am	John Mann
	6.30 pm	Matthew Sharpe
	3.00pm	Signature House
Wednesday 25th	7.30 pm	Bible Study
Sunday 29th	11.00 am	Matthew Sharpe
	6.30 pm	John Mann

Please contact us for venues of midweek meetings

Some years ago, a much loved uncle had his 80th birthday. To mark the occasion, we decided to write 80 reasons to remember him and be thankful. Although the kindness of his character and the varied interests and works he was involved with made the first 50 or so reasons quite easy, we did struggle to get the full 80 without help from older relatives. He was touched that we had taken the trouble to list out those things that we remembered about him that caused us to give thanks to the Lord he loved so much (and still does!).

Is your godly character something that others notice? Do they have reason to be thankful for you – for your faithful service of the Lord, your good example, your truth based love? If so, it's all to God's glory, although there is no harm in being touched by people's appreciation. If perhaps less positive attributes would come to mind, God is able to give grace to work in His children a character that reflects that of His Son (Romans 8v29). Is such a character something you prize highly?

And do you ever stop to remind yourself of the many reasons that you have to be thankful for all that God is to you as well as for all He does? The Psalmist knew the necessity of blessing remembrance – not just as an intellectual habit but as speaking to his very soul. “Bless the Lord O my soul, and forget not all His benefits” Ps 103 v2.

Time may limit our ability to list 80 reasons to bless God, but surely we have infinite reasons, when our minds are focused on God, to be thankful and to marvel at His wonderful ways. Scripture verses so often help energise such thinking. And good hymns help us too.

The songwriter Matt Redman puts it like this:

*Bless the Lord, Oh my soul
Oh my soul, worship his holy name
Sing like never before, Oh my soul
I'll worship your holy name*

The sun comes up, it's a new day dawning
It's time to sing your song again
Whatever may pass and whatever lies before me
Let me be singing when the evening comes

You're rich in love and you're slow to anger
Your name is great and your heart is kind
For all your goodness, I will keep on singing
Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find

And on that day when my strength is failing
The end draws near and my time has come
Still my soul will sing your praise unending
Ten thousand years and then forevermore

Maybe we'll sing that one together some day?!