

Thy Kingdom Come

The prayer movement is back - and growing like wildfire

Thousands of churches across the country will be joining this year's global ecumenical prayer movement, Thy Kingdom Come, which takes place 10th to 20th of May.

First launched by the Archbishop of Canterbury and York in 2016, Thy Kingdom Come has spread rapidly, beyond all expectations. In 2016 - 100,000 Christians pledged to pray. Just one year later, in 2017 - more than half a million had pledged to pray, from more than 85 countries including Ghana, Netherlands, Malaysia, Cuba, South Africa, Australia, Korea, Japan and the Philippines.

The campaign's broad ecumenical appeal led to more than 50 denominations and traditions being involved last year; including the Roman Catholic Church, the Methodist Church and the Redeemed Christian Church of God.

The positive impact of Thy Kingdom Come 2017 continues to unfold as numerous stories of personal and communal transformation pour in from churches, families and whole communities alike.

One of the highlights for this year is a new film featuring Archbishop Justin Welby, his grandson Elijah, and Brian Heasley, Director of 24/7 Prayer International. In the film Brian shares his powerful story of how he went from criminal to Christ follower, something which he credits to the persistent prayers of loved ones.



Praying that people come to know Jesus Christ
The Archbishop of Canterbury is calling Christians to join a wave of prayer across the UK and around the world - praying that people you know might know Jesus
It's happening between Ascension and Pentecost from 10th - 20th May 2018



- Our hope is that as Christians pray together we will:
- be transformed through prayer
 - be given new confidence and encouragement by the Holy Spirit
 - be effective witnesses to Jesus Christ

Individuals and churches around the world will be coming together to pray that their friends, families and neighbours come to know Jesus Christ. This may culminate in beacon events where communities gather to worship and to pray for the empowering of the Holy Spirit for effective witness.

Don't miss out on this life changing movement. Pledge2pray by visiting www.thykingdomcome.global where there are resources to help and inspire you and your church.

Considered one of the most dynamic prayer initiatives to emerge from the Church of England in recent years, Thy Kingdom Come is a simple invitation to pray between Ascension and Pentecost for friends and family to come to faith. Now in its third year, participation looks set to grow again.

In the UK, in 2017 every diocese in the Church of England was involved. Many cathedrals took part, hosting 'beacon' events designed to focus prayers in towns and cities nationwide.

You can watch it at:

<https://vimeo.com/221257778> or via a link in the thy kingdom come website:
<https://www.thykingdomcome.global/>

Among the stories arising from the initiative - many of them deeply moving - is one from a couple who had not seen their son for 22 years. 'We pray every day obviously for him but during Thy Kingdom Come he was one of the people we prayed for as a group,' they say. 'We put his name on the altar before God and... yesterday he came home.'

This year also sees some digital developments including a brand-new website and a Thy Kingdom Come devotional app created by leading Christian publishers SPCK. Both products will be translated into several languages including Spanish, Korean, and Swahili and will be launched in time for Easter.

The Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby said: 'The business of being witnesses to Jesus Christ and of praying to be witnesses compels us to look into the world around us. It compels us to seek, to experience the compassion of God for a world caught up in lostness, in sin, but also in suffering and pain, in oppression of the poor, in cruelty, in abuse, in outrageous inequality, in all the things that go against the Kingdom of God.'

'There is no limit to what the Kingdom of God does, and so the moment we start praying Thy Kingdom Come we look outwards.'