

SHROPSHIRE HOPE PRAYER BREAKFAST 2015

PRAYER OF BLESSING – ‘INNOVATE’

“Father God, You are the infinite creator and the ultimate innovator.

Psalm 33 declares *“By the word of the Lord the heavens were made, and by the breath of his mouth all their host.”*

And even before the universe was created You planned our salvation (Ephesians 1:4).

And You have told us we are created in Your image – we have creativity and innovation built-in to our very nature and DNA.

So this morning I want to bestow a blessing on every one here – that each person will live and move in the benefit of that innovative spirit You have put within us.

- ◆ May Your Spirit give us fresh revelation, inventiveness and insight as we seek Your face.
- ◆ May we pioneer new ways of sharing Your love, grace and mercy within our communities.
- ◆ May our imaginations overflow with original ideas and creativeness as we seek to proclaim Your message of salvation.
- ◆ May we dream dreams and see visions that will enable Your Kingdom to come in greater power in the coming days, months and years.

Holy Spirit, help us not to be afraid of challenging the past – enable us to be initiators of original, innovative, contemporary ways that enables us to declare the love of Jesus more relevantly in this day and age.

May this county delight in being seen as a place where innovation occurs in every aspect of life – in homes and relationships, schools, businesses.

And may we Your people, called by Your name, be innovators in ways that declare the truth – that Jesus is Lord.

We claim this blessing in His name and for His glory.

Amen.”

PRAYER OF BLESSING – ‘INFLUENCE’

We have sung about resurrection; we have sung about darkness, and light breaking through.

I pray a blessing, in the same power that raised Jesus from the dead, that Your church and Your people would rise up and be an influence in this county.

I pray a blessing, in the same power that raised Jesus from the dead for influence in this county, for God's people, in their employment, in their leisure time, as individuals, churches and Christian charities, to be placed in positions of influence.

As Joseph was raised from the darkness of rejection and humiliation and was raised into a position of power and influence, so we pray Your people would be faithful, would hold onto Your promises, and would be raised to have opportunities to speak, and act in places of authority and influence.

Bless Your people with their influence in the day to day, worker to worker, child to child, student to student. I pray for Your voice to be heard in the boardroom and the canteen, in the staff room, on the forecourt, in the supermarket aisles, at the school gate, in the neighbourhoods.

And as we read of your people spreading out in your power and seeing radical change in the great cities of Antioch, Ephesus, Corinth, even to Rome itself, Lord we look out upon our county and ask for You to do it in our day.

We pray for the places we represent and pray for thousands of voices influencing for You in the day to day. And that a thousand whispers become a huge shout of witness and influence that brings glory to Your Son Jesus.

We read of revival in Shropshire and we don't just want to see history Lord, we pray for faith to see it in our day, that the name of Jesus would be lifted up in our day.

I pray that we will be an influence for Him, in Him, and with Him.

Amen.”