

## **SHROPSHIRE HOPE PRAYER BREAKFAST 2015**

### **PRAYING AROUND THE TABLES**

We invite you to pray either audibly or silently for each of the Six Spiritual Strongholds identified for the Shropshire Hope 2014 events and which we believe are still key for our county. We would encourage you to take this leaflet home with you for further meditation and to log onto the website which contains other prayer items together with data sources and statistics.

#### **Corporate Prayer**

“Heavenly Father

We confess that at times we have failed to live up to the standards of holiness and righteousness You have asked for. We have not always followed Your ways; we have not always sought You with all our heart; and we have not always loved You and those around us as we should have. We ask for Your forgiveness - that You will restore and renew us. We pray that as we repent and seek your face with humility, You will heal this land.

We pray blessings on our leaders and those with influence here in Shropshire and Telford and Wrekin. Innovate and inspire, by Your Holy Spirit, all who serve in secular, social and spiritual leadership roles.

We thank you for every person who serves You in our County and Borough. Innovate and inspire us all by Your Holy Spirit to follow You, and to serve You with all our hearts. Strengthen us to fulfil Your works through us. We pray that your Church will unite and proclaim your Gospel, and share Your love by word and deed.

May there be a great spiritual awakening that touches industry, the workplaces, places of learning, health services, civic and civil services, social services, law and order, marketplaces, leisure spaces, homes, neighbourhoods, hamlets, villages, towns and Churches in our County and Borough. We pray for Your peace and security for the whole of Shropshire.

‘God be merciful to us and bless us, and cause Your face to shine upon us.

That Your way may be known in Shropshire, Your salvation in Telford and Wrekin.

Let the people’s praise You, O God; let all the people’s praise You.

Oh, let the County and Borough be glad and sing for joy!

For You shall judge the people righteously, and govern the nations on earth.

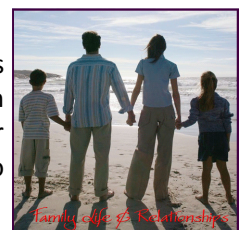
Let the people’s praise You, O God; let all the people’s praise You.

Then the County & Borough shall yield their increase; God, our own God, shall bless us. God shall bless us, and all the ends of our country shall fear Him.’ (Based on Psalm 107 1-7)

We pray in the mighty name of Jesus, and we declare His Lordship over this whole County. Amen”

#### **Family Life & Relationships**

Pray for families in our community where relationships are fractured or strained, for single parents struggling to make ends meet, especially those with absent fathers, for children and adults living in fear of abuse, physical, mental or emotional. Please pray also for families where illness, disability or bereavement causes distress, and for those who are lonely because they have no family members to call on. Also for Christian families to be strong and marriages to be blessed.



#### **Schools & Education**

Education is not only about making sure all children can attend school. It is about setting young people up for life by giving them opportunities to find decent work, earn a living, contribute to communities and societies, and fulfil their potential.

UNESCO reports that across the world there is a lost generation of 200 million young people who are leaving school without the skills they need. We need to pray that schools will provide children with the skills and qualifications they need for living in the 21st Century.

We give thanks for Christian Organisations that help in Schools: Open the Book, Pray for Schools, Prayer Spaces in Schools, Youth for Christ and Scripture Union. We need to encourage and inspire all those who work with them and help them day by day as they visit schools in Shropshire.



## National & Local Government

It is important that we pray for our MP's, MEP's, County Councillors and Town Councillors: that God will grant them wisdom when decisions need to be made, and also fill them with a heart for justice and compassion - particularly for the most vulnerable in our society. It is rare for such people to be publicly thanked for their service, but we offer prayers of thanks for their service in pursuit of policies that work for the good of all.

Pray that God will encourage those in local, national and international government who profess to be Christians – regardless of their political views and affiliations, to strengthen and uphold them, and enable them to stand for righteousness, justice and equality.



## Economy & Employment

There is a cost of living crisis caused by a succession of benefits and tax credits cuts which have left many people struggling to make ends meet, and finding employment is still a major issue within the UK - especially amongst the young.

We pray that Churches are given wisdom and guidance in ways to help and support those affected by the current economic situation, and ask that the outreach of the Christian community will be seen as inspirational. Pray that many lives will be touched and changed positively by the kindness of God in action as a result.



## Law & Order

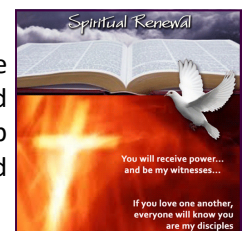
We pray for all members of the Police Service, that they may honour their calling and serve those around them, upholding human rights and according equal respect to all around them. We pray that deep and lasting change will come to the lives of the most prolific offenders, often stuck in the trap of addiction, homelessness and multiple prison sentences. Key factors such as hope and motivation, having something to give, being believed in, and having new social groups make all the difference. Help us as Christians who carry hope within us advocate for change through our prayer and action.



Thank you for Street Pastors who patrol at night and how this work has made both Telford and Shrewsbury safer and kinder places. Thank you for the unity across the churches as a result. Bless them as they serve, may they know protection and a rich anointing by the Spirit .

## Spiritual Renewal

We have not yet discovered all there is to know of You Lord, neither have we done all You have asked us to do on this earth. We are hungry for more of You and humbly ask that You would empower us afresh and work in us and through us so that we may become more like You, and help others to know You too. May a great spiritual awakening and revival transform this county and borough as Your saving grace flows.



*"I pray that from His glorious, unlimited resources He will empower you with inner strength through His Spirit. Then Christ will make His home in your hearts as you trust in Him. Your roots will grow down into God's love and keep you strong."*

Ephesians 3: 16-17 (NLT)

For more information and prayer resources please visit:

[www.shropshirehope.co.uk](http://www.shropshirehope.co.uk)

