

Andy Giles' Prayer Update

10th November 2006



Hello again,

As you may have noticed, its been longer than a fortnight since I last wrote a prayer letter to you. I seem to be able to make myself very busy at times. I was immensely encouraged by the replies I received from my last prayer letter – about 22 people have committed to praying for me and the Christian Union here at Warwick regularly. Thank you ever so much. If you are not one of these 22, I would really ask you to consider partnering with the CU and I in the gospel as the Philippians did with Paul (Philippians 1:5). And also, please send me anything I can be praying for you – I would love to be praying for my brothers and sisters. So onto the praying part...

Warwick CU's Mission Week 2007 is called... Satisfied? We want to challenge people at university whether they are truly satisfied with their lives. Many people in this generation feel that they have filled the "God-shaped hole" with money, friends, and many other material things. But these things clearly don't satisfy as we can see just by looking at the world directly around us. So please pray that God would challenge many non-believers as we point them to the one who can truly satisfy and give them life to the full (John 10:10). It is my job to head up the organisation of Satisfied? As you can imagine, this is a mammoth task plus I am rubbish at delegating – so please pray for me. Pray that many people in the CU would catch the vision and be willing to help out. I have hired a 500 seater marquee for the week but have yet nowhere to put it. We're currently investigating having it in a very central location of our campus where everyone would see it. Pray that this would be possible. Also pray for the evangelistic speaker for the week – Paul Clarke.

I have a couple of busy weekends ahead. This Saturday (11/11) I am heading down to Bristol for an evangelism leaders conference. Pray that I would learn many things and that it would be a refreshing experience as I catch up with some old friends. The following Saturday (18/11) I am to the supporters conference of the Association of Evangelists. At this conference I will be meeting with the Association (one of whom is Roger Carswell) to discuss the possibilities of being trained by them as an evangelist for a year after university. Pray God would give wisdom in deciding what to do after university. On the Sunday (19/11) I will be leading a church service at my church in Coventry with a couple of other guys to feedback about the trip to Montenegro. Pray we would find time to prepare this and that God would use us to encourage his people.

The next stage of my worldwide visits is to St. Petersburg, Russia. I am heading out with a few guys from Agape (a student mission organisation) plus a few other students to meet the Agape team out there. Working with the team out in St. Petersburg is another possibility for after university. Pray that God would use the team to reach students in Russia who then can reach the world. Pray for the team heading out that we would be a blessing and encouragement. The cost of the trip is about £300 so pray that God would provide – as I know he will.

Discipling people is proving to be challenging. Guy and Travis (see pictures) are continuing to grow which is a constant encouragement. We're looking into them beginning to start discipling some of the first years who recently arrived at Warwick. Pray for that.

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Andy and I are finding it quite a challenge to disciple people together. We are very different people so there are clashes. Pray God would shine through our weaknesses and that he would continue to guide us in discipling these guys. Andy and I are also looking to disciple a couple more guys. Pray for wisdom in asking the right people. We've already asked a guy called Huw – who is currently thinking and praying about it. Pray for wisdom for him.

As the end of term draws ever closer, course work seems to piling up. I really want to be faithful to my course and a great witness for God through the way I work but the temptation to do other things is very large. Pray I would find the right balance between CU activities and work and other things – so that I may bring as much glory to God as is possible. Pray also for my course mate Rob. I desperately want to share the gospel with him. Pray that God would do his amazing transformation work.

One thing I have been learning over this past month is how much we are to rely on God's strength and on God's performance for everything. Our salvation is a result of this as we are now judged by Christ's performance and not our own. Our evangelism relies on this as we cannot convert people, we can only be witnesses. God is the one who does the conviction and transformation. And the constant spiritual battle relies on this too.

*Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power.
Ephesians 6:10*

We are to be strong IN THE LORD and HIS mighty power. We are not called to be strong ourselves or rely on our power. These will fail – as I know far too well. But when relying on God's strength, we can rely on his performance because he does all things well. God has been showing me through many situations that he is my only Rock and Redeemer. JESUS IS MY ROCK! Those words have never been truer to me than they are right now. He will never let me go, he will never forsake me. Hallelujah and AMEN!!!

Thanks for praying,

With love in our eternal Lord Jesus,

Andy Giles
Ephesians 3:20-21

PS. If you would like to commit to regularly pray for me, then please let me know, I would be deeply encouraged. And don't forget to send me things I can be praying for you for.