

# DECEMBER 2018



Dear faithful prayer supporters,

*'For the sake of God's elect and their knowledge of the truth which accords with godliness'* Titus 1:1

The LORD HAS HIS PEOPLE in Bologna, and as we reflect on the very full term, THIS has been the motor behind gospel endeavour at Forte Torre; whether shovelling cement or patiently studying the Scriptures, printing programmes, preparing Titus sermons, or navigating through cross-church issues. PRAISE the LORD he has his elect in every generation and thank YOU for praying for Forte Torre, while we proclaim the truth which accords with godliness.

“

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he has his elect in  
every generation...

## FOR THE SAKE OF GOD'S ELECT

Finally **our new building is open**. October 14th saw friends and workmen, camp contacts and neighbours, UK supporters and Italian brothers present to encourage AND to hear the proclamation of the truth from Proverbs 18:10. **No more dust, cardboard boxes, mops, drills or quotes** to evaluate. The mental space is slowly returning, but we have to say the blocks and complications have continued. Only THIS Sunday 9 December did we finally have heating! A few of us are absolutely exhausted, but we're now on the high street and daily prayer for city, nation and world is happening.

- PRAY for Christ's own in Bologna, that those who the Lord is calling **will come in**.
- THANKS for visitors already and the encouraging **three Ms** following this term's Perché Gesù.
- PRAY all activity in this building to be marked by **long-term faithful** proclamation of the Truth.



**Praying for the persecuted church** across churches is now an annual event in our calendar. We prayed for the testimony of God's elect in appalling situations in Somalia, North Korea and Syria. We also have a political refugee amongst us. We'd love you to pray for X; the Lord called him from a very affluent Muslim family in X.

- PRAISE the Lord for calling his own out of Islam.
- PRAY for healing and reconciliation where Christ's Lordship has divided homes and left individuals (literally) running for their lives.



- PRAY for the multiplication of ministries in our new building, so as to bring blessing to the neighbourhood, city and the nations.

...AND THEIR KNOWLEDGE OF THE TRUTH...

After a four year absence, one of the first events in our church building was the **Bologna Bible School**. There were good contributions from various pastors, through key chapters of Exodus.

- PRAY for BBS to hone and develop expository preaching of God's word, through current and future pastors.
- Pray for fruit from GP's course in **Exodus** as part of Applicazione. There are around 12 students on the course. Pray it would deepen the church's understanding of YHWH's eternal design to call a people from slavery... at the price of the lamb's blood... to worship him and announce his glory to the nations .



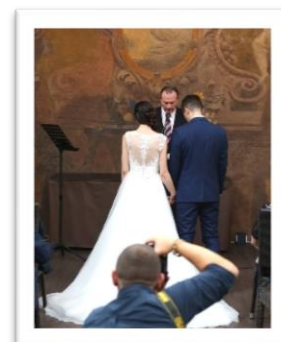
We had a very welcome visit from the senior pastor of **St James Muswell Hill**. Not only did C encourage us with his humble and faithful perseverance in local church ministry, but he taught on **Applicazione on 2 Timothy** in our new library.

- PRAY for more ministers who correctly handle the word of truth, run the race and lay down their life for the flock in Italy.
- PRAY for the provision of more books for our church library and give thanks that church members are beginning to buy them.

...WHICH ACCORDS WITH GODLINESS.

What a happy day! Our keen and encouraging **young couple married** in early October. After marriage prep, they asked GP to preach from Genesis 3, as they were convinced their unbelieving friends needed to hear how the fall had ruined human relationships. That just gives you an insight to their love for the lost.

- THANKS for the **witness of A and I** in the city of Bologna.
- PRAY for the Lord's **protection of marriages** in a generation where few marry and are faithful.



A good number of the church joined us for the **weekend away** in mid-November, where we heard bible teaching on facing trials.



- PRAY for **godly lives in the face of temptations** and suffering, because we never stop believing in the goodness of our Sovereign God.
- PRAY as we have suffered some particularly hard months, including ill-health (especially Sue); that as bodies decay we'd not lose sight of the transformation the Lord is working in our inner beings!

Sending our love. Praying for you this Christmas time, that you would keep growing in the knowledge of the truth that accords with godliness - JP and Sue xx

## Prayer points

- PRAISE for the inauguration of our new building
- PRAY for refugees in our city who've fled from home because of Christ
- PRAY for the setting up of our theological library to equip further word ministers for Italy
- PRAY for protection of our newly weds
- PRAY for godliness in the face of trials of all kinds to adorn the gospel of truth

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