

# Knowle Green Church

The Voice



**For we are not contending against flesh and blood, but against the principalities, against the powers, against the world rulers of this present darkness, against the spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places. Therefore take the whole armour of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand**

**Ephesians 6 vs 12 & 13  
RSV**

**Mar - May 2014**

**[www.knowlegreenc.org](http://www.knowlegreenc.org)**

## Knowle Green Congregational Church

Clitheroe Road, Knowle Green, Longridge. PR3 2YQ

Tel: 01254 878 394

Knowle Green is an independent Church affiliated to the Congregational Federation. Our ultimate loyalty is to Christ Himself and to His Word. We seek in our dealings to be guided by the Holy Scriptures and aim to build a spiritual house worthy and fit for the Lord Jesus.

If you would like to know more about our fellowship here you are welcome to speak to our Pastor, who can be contacted at the Manse, or by telephone (see above) or speak to one of the Deacons on duty, who will be happy to provide more information.

Services are Open to all and you are invited to attend any or all.

### 9. 45am Devotional Service

This takes place every Sunday morning excluding the 1st Sunday in the month. This Service is facilitated by a Church member. It is Devotional in orientation, is an open Service and attendees are encouraged (optional) to take part through reading of Scripture; sharing of testimonies; choose a hymn/Worship song etc. This Service offers you the opportunity to be still; Seek God and listen to what God through the Holy Spirit is saying; to share; encourage ; bless and share in the Believers Breaking of Bread.

### 11.00am Family Service

This is a traditionally structured family Service. It is led from the front by the Pastor of the Church (1st and 2nd of the month) and invited speakers thereafter.

### 2.30pm Agape Fellowship Meeting (1st Sunday ONLY)

This is a 'MUST' for all. It takes place every 1st Sunday. We recognise the fact that increasingly Christians are becoming more isolated and marginalized hence this Service. It is more of a celebration/fellowship meeting. We share a meal (bring and share). This follows on after our usual tea/coffee recess. The gathering gives insight into the Church and the opportunity to meet Church members. We also recognise that we have a number who travel in and miss out on fellowship hence the need to be part of the family and enjoy each other's fellowship. Knowle Green remains unspoilt and is a designated 'Area of natural outstanding beauty'. On a good day take the opportunity to explore the Ribble Valley. If you have not come prepared ( brought food with you) please do still join us. Your fellowship means a lot to us.

### Visitors

If you are visiting, we welcome you to the service. We hope that you will be at home with us and experience the presence of God as we worship together. If this is your first visit, please sign in the visitors' Book in the foyer and we would love you to stay with us for coffee after the service. On Sunday mornings we warmly invite visitors to make use of our crèche, children and young people activities. Please ask for the group relevant to your child's age.

## “And yet I show you a more excellent way” 1 Corinthians 13:31

“**But earnestly desire the best gifts,**” Paul is speaking to the Corinthians as a local Church, and not as individuals. He is saying that as an assembly they should desire to have in their midst a good selection of gifts that edify. Paul introduces the **Love Chapter** (1 Corn 13). What he is saying is that mere possession of gifts is not as important as the exercise of these gifts in love. Love thinks of others, not of self. Paul insists that all gifts must be exercised in a spirit of love. The aim of love is to help others and not to please self.

Even if a person could speak in all languages, human and angelic, but did not use it for the good of others, Paul says it would be no more profitable or pleasant than the **clanging**, jangling sounds of metals crashing against each other. It is of interest to note Paul uses ‘cymbals’ as his preferred choice of instrument contrasted to love. **‘A cymbal is a percussion instrument of indefinite pitch made of brass metal which is inanimate, hard, fixed and of loud sounding. The collision of cymbals drowns all other instrument in its wake’.** *Collins Dictionary* A cymbal unlike others drowns all other instruments in its wake and requires musical discipline and sensitivity to control. Love **suffers long and is kind**. Kindness is active goodness. Love **does not envy** others; rather it is pleased that others should be honoured and exalted. Love **does not parade itself, is not puffed up**. It realizes that whatever it has is the gift of God, and that there is **nothing in man** of which to be proud. Love **does not behave rudely**. If a person is truly acting in love, he will be courteous and considerate. Love **does not selfishly seek its own**, but is interested in what will **assist others**. Love **is not easily provoked**, but is willing to endure errors and insults. Love **thinks no evil**, that is, it does not attribute bad motives to others. It is guileless. Love **does not rejoice in wrong doing, but rejoices in the truth**. There is a certain mean streak in human nature (Old Adam) which takes pleasure in what is unrighteous, especially if a wrongful act seems to benefit oneself. Love **rejoices** with every triumph of **the truth**. Paul concludes the **Love Chapter** with the words **‘bears all things’**. The word bears all things typifies the ‘Cross’. It means **“covers.”** Love does not needlessly publicize the failures of others, though it may be firm in giving godly discipline when necessary. **The fruit of the Spirit is more important than the**

**gifts of the Spirit**. The fruit of the Spirit is **rooted in love** and **the fruit** is the outward expression of **love within**. The command from Jesus is to **‘Love’**.

“If you love those who love you, what reward will you get?” Matt 5:46

“Remain in my Love.” John 13:9 ; “Love one another.” John 13:34

“Love your neighbour as yourself.” Matt 19:19

“Love each other as I have loved you.” John 15:12

“If you Love me, you will obey what I command.” John 14:15

Have you ever tried reading 1 Corinthians 13 with your first name in place of the word “Love”? Try it. **How does it make you feel?** The Body of Christ is our equivalent to God’s Accident and Emergency (**A&E**) unit on earth. Our **position (hidden in Christ)** is secured spiritually. Our **condition** (imperfections) He deals with daily. We all carry chronic spiritual imperfections hence Christians are commanded to **‘Love one another’**. Love and forgiveness are God’s ultimate Medication. The only known spiritual remedies which cure our condition. All the gifts will cease because they bring only partial knowledge of God; but three things will carry over into the new era; Faith, hope and Love. **The greatest of these is Love. Because God is Love** (John 4:8).

Let us **choose to pursue Love** always, The Lord Jesus is our example ever before us and especially as we approach Easter and see Love in action on the Cross.

Have a blessed and joyous Easter.



*God Bless*

*Pastor Chris*

*(Pastor Chris.)*

## Prayer for Israel

We meet to pray for Israel in the cabin on the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of every month from 2.00pm—3.30pm.

The next meetings will take place on:

**5th March 2014**

**2nd April 2014**

**7th May 2014**



'Pray for the Peace of Jerusalem. May they prosper who love you.'

Psalm 122:6



A Life of Faith Girls Club exists to provide an encouraging and inspiring environment for mentoring young girls, primarily ages 6 to 16. The objective of the Club is to help each club member develop a life of Faith.

We look at a range of issues including forgiveness, rejection, truthfulness, jealousy and more through using the historical fiction novels of Martha Finley. The main characters - Elsie Dinsmore, Millie Keith and Laylie Colbert serve as excellent role models to teach us faith and godly living as a lifestyle.

The evening sessions include dressing up, baking, drama, craft and the much-loved tea party!

### **Forthcoming Events in 2014**

**March - 3rd, 17th & 31st**

**April - 14th & 28th**

**May - 12th & 26th**

**Meetings start at 6:30pm and end at 8:00pm**

### **First Fruits**

Every Friday (Term time) 9.30am – 11.00am Toddler Group here at Knowle Green, Sunday School Building. Parents, Grandparents, Carers with under 5's welcome.

### **Men's Breakfast**

This is a quarterly held event to encourage each other and get to know each other. Please do join us and invite a friend. We eat at 9.00am and finish at 11.00am. All men welcome. Additional help is always appreciated with the cooking.

Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> May, 9.00am

Speaker:- Pastor Chris Okpoti

### Bible Wordsearch

Animals in the Bible

Fit the words in the list into the diagram below reading forward, backward, up, down, diagonally, always in a straight line.

J	Q	D	B	I	U	D	P	F	M	Z	S	I
L	A	P	B	A	R	T	M	N	O	A	H	N
H	C	E	E	T	R	S	P	C	L	L	L	I
O	X	U	A	Y	T	E	L	L	E	Z	A	G
B	H	O	R	S	E	R	G	M	O	A	K	H
X	G	E	J	H	R	K	A	S	P	K	C	T
Q	X	S	S	C	O	C	N	H	A	I	A	H
K	T	R	E	U	N	I	C	O	R	N	J	A
B	R	R	Y	N	O	E	R	T	D	Q	M	W
C	S	J	X	J	I	M	S	M	M	O	L	K
I	F	Z	P	F	L	O	W	U	E	K	X	J
E	F	C	J	R	K	W	F	U	M	N	T	E
Q	L	B	W	V	N	M	J	N	Y	O	C	P

BEAR  
CAMEL  
DONKEY  
GAZELLE  
GOAT  
HART  
HORSE  
IBEX  
JACKAL

LEOPARD  
LION  
MOLE  
MOUSE  
NIGHTHAWK  
OSTRICH  
SHEEP  
UNICORN  
WOLF

## Preaching Plan March to May 2014

### March 2014

- 2 Pastor Chris
- 9 Pastor Chris
- 16 William and Sue Marsden, Sports Reach
- 23 Steve Coles, Police Chaplaincy
- 30 Mother's Day - Julie Okpoti (Includes Kidz Church prize giving)

### April 2014

- 6 Pastor Chris
- 13 Pastor Chris
- 18 Good Friday - Pastor Chris
- 20 Easter Sunday - Revd Keith Parker
- 27 Revd Brian Grist

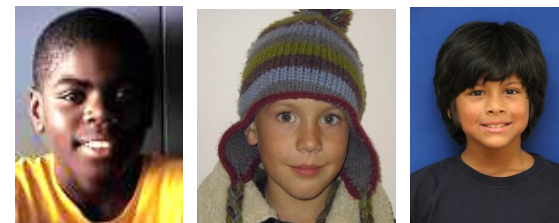
### May 2014

- 4 Pastor Chris
- 11 Pastor Chris
- 18 Mandy Hunter and Melanie Welch, Mozambique
- 25 Diane Daune

## The Capernwray Students

The three Capernwray students, Jeremy, Kendra and Ruth have spent their first weekend with us. It has been great getting to know them. Please pray for them whilst they continue their studies at Capernwray Hall and as they prepare for their return visit to us. The 10 days outreach programme begins 28<sup>th</sup> February until March 9<sup>th</sup> 2014. If you would like to be involved in any of the outreaches please see the students programme and let Pastor Chris know of your availability to help. This is our community and the students are making themselves available and are willing to work with us, for the Lord and His glory to reach others for Christ. Please pray and be part of this outreach team as the Lord leads.

If anyone would like to host one, two or three of the students for a meal over their stay with us please sign up on the sheet in the Sunday School. Get to know these students over an evening meal in your own home or provide a light lunch for them in the Sunday School building. Please speak to Julie for further details



## Boys Club

Knowle Green Congregational Church, Clitheroe Road, Knowle Green, Longridge. PR3 2YQ Tel: 01254 878394

**When: Every other Monday Time: 6.30pm-8.00pm**

**Age Group: 6-16year olds**

**Forget the gadgets: The Wii; The Xbox; Computer games; The Blackberry.**

**Upcoming meetings in 2014 are:**

**March - 10th & 24th**

**April - 7th & 21st**

**May - 5th & 19th**

**Why not dare to be different?**

## Ace Space Dates

Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> March

Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> April

Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> May

## Conference Weekend

Ladies long weekend Friday 4<sup>th</sup> April to Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> April 2014.

Speaker – Hilary Price

Cost: £176.00

At Capernwray Hall, Carnforth, Lancashire.

There are already 5 ladies booked for this weekend. See Julie if you would like to join us and be blessed.



**'The Lord our God has been gracious in leaving a remnant and giving us a firm place in his Sanctuary.' Ezra 9:8**

A.W. Tozer said: - **"Man.... had to choose sides – he could not be neutral. For him it must be life or death and if he chooses to come out on God's side, he could expect open war with God's enemies.... The fight would be real and deadly.... The Christian soldier never forget what kind of world he lived in – it was a battleground and many were wounded and slain" He goes to argue that today the tendency is to 'think of the world not as a battleground, but as a playground. We are not here to fight; we are here to frolic... We are not here getting ready to live, but we are already living.'** Unsurprisingly, this changed attitude has had a profound effect on Bible-believing Christians...

It is nearly 500 years on October 31, 1517 when Martin Luther nailed his 95 Theses to the main door of the castle Church in Wittenberg. A lot has happened in the intervening years. The Church has enjoyed years of tremendous blessing including having been the pioneer and instigator of many of our national institutions such as the Education system; Health service; Constitutional reforms; Social services. The church during the Reformation also endured a vicious spell of persecution. Our spiritual forefathers (remnant) went to prison, were burnt alive, Ministers tufted out of parishes, people were made unemployed and others put to the stakes for proclaiming Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour. Today it seems scarily different. The Christian enjoyment today is the pleasure of the soap box, the couch in the living room and the luxury of debating, falling out over trivialities, personal opinions, theology and Church tradition. More so sadly at the expense of fulfilling our calling. To put it into perspective our spiritual forefathers' (generation past) went to their death for their Christian faith and so are many today in other parts of the world. Israel likewise enjoyed years of blessing but it also became corrupt, lukewarm, indifferent to its spiritual state and condition. Israel eventually found itself captivity for 70 years for turning its back on God and discarding his commands (Ezra 9: 6-15). Ezra the priest remarked **"O my God, I am too ashamed and disgraced to lift my face to you, my God, because our sins are higher than our heads and our guilt has reached to the heavens. From the days of our forefathers until now, our guilt has been great."**

We are faced with the same predicament as Israel did. Corruption and vile detestable practices have beset us. Lord Carey, the former Archbishop of Canterbury warned:- The Church 'must not allow us to fracture under the colossal weight of dancing to the world's agenda'. Trying to satisfy the demands of politicians'. (Daily Mail, Tuesday, January 21, 2014).

The issues facing us are dire and realistically no one believes our political lot are able any longer to maintain a spirit of optimism. We are faced with National bankruptcy (trillion's in debt); household personal debt estimated at £8,000-£12,000; Social division; Employment uncertainties and economic exploitation (0 Contracts); Child abuse and sexual exploitation on a scale unheard of before; family breakdown; drug abuse etc, etc. The leading nations no longer preach peace, except a goal toward which the nations should struggle even while they have little hope of achieving it. No political party seems to offer a meaningful solution to the crisis stirring directly at us.

There is still Good News in the 'mist of the storm'. The Church has been given **a prophetic preview** off all those things that are to come upon the earth. God is still offering a way out. It is **never ever too late to petition God**. It is not His will that any is lost. He is the God of 2<sup>nd</sup> chances. Jonah through obedience was instrumental in saving Nineveh. The situation during Ezra time;- ***'our kings, priest have been subjected to the sword and captivity, to pillage and humiliation at the hand of foreign kings' (Ezra 9:7)*** Ezra cried out ***'I confess the sins we Israelites, including myself and my father's house, have committed against you' (Neh. 1:6)***

Like Ezra, Nehemiah, Daniel, David and many others, we can be a part of the solution if we choose. The remnant identified with the roots of the sin of the nation. Whenever the nation has been on the brink and the Gods people sought Him, God has always intervened. Why not now? **'He is the same Yesterday, Today and Forever'** When Pharaoh was faced with trouble, he sent for the remnant Joseph; Nebuchadnezzar in distress called on Daniel. If we are not too concern about ourselves because we hold the view that we have secured our eternal destiny, what about our next door neighbour? What about our family and friends? What about our community? What about the next generation?

It is never ever too late. It is still God's will for all to share eternity with Him and a good starting place is by us choosing to **resign from the living room** and join others at the prayer meetings. Why don't we, out of concern for others in 2014 choose to be at and support the various prayer meeting initiatives? Like of George Müller, John Owen, Corrie ten Boom; Jackie Pullinger; Ordinary people doing ordinary things did extra ordinary things for an Extra ordinary God which impacted whole communities and bore godly influence on politicians and governments.

All the reason to encourage us to meet and pray. There is nothing more loving and practical than to pray for your nation, your community, your friends and family.

Pastor Chris.

## Charis Ministries Prayer Meeting

**When:** 1st Thursday of every month

**Where:** 1 Sunnyside Ave, Wilpshire,  
Nr. Blackburn

**Time:** 7:30pm



## Ribble Valley Family Bible Week

**Dates: Tuesday, 19th August - Sunday, 24th August 2014**

If you would like to attend in the summer of 2014 please return your booking form to express interest. It helps to have an idea of numbers. You will find the booking forms either available in the Church or from the website: [www.knowlegreenc.com](http://www.knowlegreenc.com). If you have any questions please feel free to ring or email. Contact details: 01254 878 394

### Biker Breakfast

Recommences Saturday, 29<sup>th</sup> of March, April 26, May 31<sup>st</sup>. Please remember the bikers in your prayers.

### Biker breakfast (poem)

At Knowle Green Church, All bikes and everyone welcome, No one will touch it, Christians are here too, They'll watch out for you, Jesus is here too, Welcoming you in, Friendly kitchen staff, Will take your order for food, And then bring it to you, Because Jesus cares for you, Glory to Him, And you can have, A coffee or tea too, Knowle Green Church, Biker Breakfast, Jesus is here too, It doesn't matter which club you belong to.

You are welcome here, It's for All Bikers

Anne Rowland

## Coming Events

- Ribble Valley Family Bible Week
- Worcester Camp
- PFI Prayer meetings
- Open Doors Prayer Meetings

## Thank You

A very sincere thank you to all who helped over the Marriage weekend. The ladies had a wonderful time walking through their albums and sharing their wedding day with each other. The Thanksgiving Service on the Saturday was very special and eight couples stood to declare their wedding vows together. It was very powerful, tears were shed at a very blessed service. The Lord really met and ministered to everyone and we are so thankful to our God. He is so faithful and sustaining.

## EASTER

### Good Friday – 18<sup>th</sup> April 2014

11.00AM – Family Service at Knowle Green followed by united Service in Ribchester at 12.00noon  
(meet at the Park entrance – Ribchester)

2.00PM – Good Friday Walk

(meet at Knowle Green Church Car park) join us afterwards for light refreshments.

### Easter Sunday – 20<sup>th</sup> April 2014

6.00AM – Sunrise Service on Jeffery Hill

(meet at the car park on Jeffrey Hill) Followed by breakfast at Knowle Green Church.

11.00AM – Family Worship and Holy Communion

### The DVD Library is now Open!

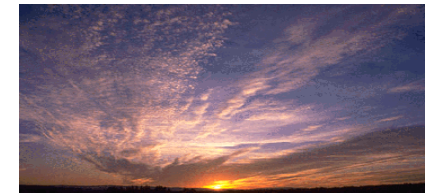
We have a growing number of DVDS now in the church bookcase.

Please ask Jean or Annette for details. DVD's can be borrowed for to 2 weeks and they

include great teaching DVDs/CDs by Derek Prince...Do have a look and we pray this resource will bless you

This is a **Ministry** with the aim of sharing the gospel; to encourage and bless through DVD's.

All DVD's will be secured in a locked cabinet and only accessible via Jean or Annette.



up



### Agape Fellowship Meal

It is good to note attendance in number continues to increase month after month and we are thankful to God for the encouragement we can draw from the meeting and the messages we have received. We would encourage those who attend to please bring enough food for yourselves and another. If in doubt about what to bring please speak to: Julie or Maureen.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Deacon's</b>	<b>Reader</b>	<b>Coffee</b>
Mar. 2nd	Annette Dickinson Margaret Mellor	Ken Saunders	Tony & Pat Jackson
Mar. 9th	Nigel Grimshaw Sue Catlow	Joss Daune	Michael & Elaine Redmayne
Mar. 16th	Robin Clark Joss Daune	Tom Mellor	Barbara Sutcliffe Kath Bowyer
Mar. 23rd	Tony Jackson Michael Redmayne	Maureen Grimshaw	Ruth Woods Paul Knapton
Mar. 30th	Jean Procter Colin Procter	Mel Gilday	Jane Maher Ellen Saunders
April 6th	Annette Dickinson Margaret Mellor	Richard Grimshaw	Brian & Audrey Wynne
April 13th	Nigel Grimshaw Sue Catlow	Tony Jackson	Michael & Elaine Redmayne
April 20th	Robin Clark Joss Daune	Margaret Mellor	Tony & Pat Jackson
April 27th	Jean Procter Colin Procter	Ruth Woods	Barbara Sutcliffe Kath Bowyer
May 4th	Tony Jackson Michael Redmayne	Colin Procter	Ruth Woods Paul Knapton
May 11th	Ruth Woods Jean Hoole	Ken Saunders	Jane Maher Ellen Saunders
May 18th	Colin Procter Nigel Grimshaw	Joss Daune	Brian & Audrey Wynne
May 25th	Annette Dickinson Margaret Mellor	Mel Gilday	Michael & Elaine Redmayne

**Deadline** for articles for the next issue of Voice is: Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> April 2014  
Please note: The Voice is published **Quarterly NOT** bi-monthly.



### Regular Weekly Fortnightly Schedule of Meetings/Activities

<b>Sunday</b>	9.45am –10.30am	Holy Communion and time of Open Worship	Weekly ( <b>not the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month</b> )
	11.00am –12noon	Family Service	Weekly
<b>Monday</b>	6.30pm-8.00pm	<b>Life of Faith Girls Group</b>	Alternate Weeks
	6.30pm-8.00pm	<b>Boys Club</b>	Alternate Weeks
<b>Tuesday</b>	9.00pm-10.00am	<b>Prayer Meeting</b>	Weekly
	7.30pm-9.30pm	<b>House Group</b> @ the Manse	Weekly (not 1 <sup>st</sup> week of the month)
<b>Wednesday</b>	10.00am-12noon	<b>Art Group</b> (All ages) <b>House Group</b> in	Weekly
	7.30pm-9.00pm	Longridge	Fortnightly

### Regular Weekly Monthly/Quarterly Schedule of Meetings/Activities

<b>Sunday</b>	11.00am-1200 noon	<b>Family Communion Service</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday in the month
	2.30pm-3.30pm	<b>Agape Fellowship Meeting</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday in the month
<b>Tuesday</b>	7.30pm-9.00pm	<b>Deacons Meeting</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Tuesday of the month
<b>Wednesday</b>	9.00am	<b>Finance Group</b>	Usually last week of the month (or as required)
	2.00pm-4.00pm	<b>Prayer for Israel</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Wednesday of the month
<b>Thursday</b>	10.00am-3.00pm	ACE Home School Support/Fellowship Group	Usually 3 <sup>rd</sup> week of the month
	2.00pm-3.30pm	Thursday Fellowship (All Ages)	Usually last Thursday of the month
	7.30pm-9.00pm	Building Committee	Quarterly
<b>Friday</b>	7.00am-6.00pm	Day of Prayer and fasting	Last Friday of the month
	7.30pm-9.00pm	Prayer Meeting	
<b>Saturday</b>	9.00am-12noon	<b>Bikers Breakfast</b> - Last Saturday of the month	Monthly ( <b>Mar-Oct</b> )
	9.00am-10.30am	<b>Men's Breakfast</b>	Quarterly

SEE NOTICE BOARD FOR OTHER ACTIVITIES

### Heavenly Perspective

READ: [2 Corinthians 4:16-18](#)

The things which are seen are temporary, but the things which are not seen are eternal. —2 Corinthians 4:18

Fanny Crosby lost her sight as an infant. Yet, amazingly, she went on to become one of the most well-known lyricists of Christian hymns. During her long life, she wrote over 9,000 hymns. Among them are such enduring favourites as "Blessed Assurance" and "To God Be the Glory."

Some people felt sorry for Fanny. A well-intentioned preacher told her, "I think it is a great pity that the Master did not give you sight when He showered so many other gifts upon you." It sounds hard to believe, but she replied: "Do you know that if at birth I had been able to make one petition, it would have been that I was born blind? . . . Because when I get to heaven, the first face that shall ever gladden my sight will be that of my Saviour."

Fanny saw life with an eternal perspective. Our problems look different in light of eternity: "For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, is working for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory, while we do not look at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen. For the things which are seen are temporary, but the things which are not seen are eternal" (2 Cor. 4:17-18).

All our trials dim when we remember that one glorious day we will see Jesus! —Dennis Fisher

Dear God, please help us to see this life from a heavenly perspective. Remind us that our trials, however difficult, will one day fade from view when we see You face to face.

FEAR NOT,  
FOR I HAVE  
REDEEMED YOU;  
I HAVE CALLED  
YOU BY NAME,  
YOU ARE  
MINE. ISAIAH 43:1

