

## **Ask and it shall be given you**

St Matthew 7 v 7

The Church of God in England has truly been blessed with a wonderful new home at Long Lane, Halesowen.

As the time approached to make our move following many weeks of hard work, toil and teamwork from the members of The Church in England we were once more blessed with a special service led by Brother Clement Edmeade in our final CPMA service at St Christopher's Church Hall in Frankley.

Members from St Christopher's Church joined us in our final service as the moderator took favourite songs from each member of the congregation. The evening proceeded in prayer and the presence of God could most certainly be felt as the saints worshipped together, praised God for his goodness towards us and fellowshiped in unity! Praise God! Funds were raised to cover all CPMA expenses and a sweet spirit was present as we made preparation to go into pastures new.

***For with God nothing shall be impossible*** St Luke 1 v 37

Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> March saw our first Midday Service at The Church of God, Long Lane. How wonderful, how sweet, what a blessing from the Lord!

As members and visitors turned out in anticipation, the morning began with an impromptu praise and worship session. Sister Jennifer Thompson led the service in a Devotion focusing on the events of Palm Sunday (*St Matthew 21 v 1 – 11*). We prayed together and sang in worship to God, before being sobered by the thought that the very same people that hailed "Praise Him" in adoration of Jesus Christ turned against him chanting "Away with Him".

In mind of sincerity and devotion to our Lord and Saviour, we worshipped together and sang a lively chorus of '*Praise Him, Praise Him, He's Worthy to be Praised.*'

***...Yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread*** Psalm 37 v 25

Thankful to our God for providing this new place to reside and call home, Pastor Philip C Bennett rightly acknowledged the work that God had done for his children. The work and contributions of the members were noted and an offering taken.

Sister Wilel Brown's message focused on the topic '*God will use whom he will*'.

She stated that God's sacrifice for us was sending Christ to die for our sins. We gained freedom as a result of this and must make ourselves available for God to use us. She

encouraged us to maintain humility before God and among one another and to make our hearts open to God.

*And Jesus answered and said, Verily I say unto you, There is no man that hath left house or brethren, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands, for my sake, and the gospel's - St Mark 10 v 29*

She further encouraged us not to allow anything or anyone to hinder us, as when it comes to God it's one on one. She said that Jesus chose to use a colt (donkey) to make his humble entrance to Jerusalem. In St Mark 11 we read that Jesus sent forth two of his disciples to find the colt tied and to loose him, and bring him. The disciples may not have known the purpose of the mission they had been sent on but were required to be obedient and carry out the instructions.

In closing, the Church was encouraged that when God tells us to "Go" we shouldn't question it. "God is a loving God, sympathising and merciful *but* will also be our judge".

**Jenetta Hurst - Reporter**