



BLESS RIPLEY

Blessing:

As followers of Jesus, we are all part of the priesthood of all believers and we have the privilege of being called by God to minister his blessing to those around us. In the Bible we read that, when the priests speak blessings over the people, God releases blessing to them.

So, we invite you to join us in speaking blessing over Ripley and the surrounding area in whatever way you can. You can do this by focusing on individuals, a home, a street, different aspects of life in the town, or the town as a whole.

You will find some suggestions as to how to do this in this leaflet. It can be very simple and everyone can be involved.

If we take this seriously, we believe that we will see an outpouring of God's grace in our town and beyond.

If you would like to find out more about this or you are unsure, please talk to Revd John or Revd Rachel Wigram.

Simple Framework:

The most important thing is that we do this in the name of Jesus, not on our own.

Focus on who and how you want God to bless and speak out that blessing as follows:

In the name of Jesus I bless you with...

The **BLESSING** acrostic is a helpful guide for things to focus on:

Body - health, protection, strength

Labour - work, resources, security

Emotional - joy, peace, hope

Social - love, marriage, family, friends

Spiritual - salvation, revelation, faith, grace

Blessings for Ripley:

We have put together a way of speaking blessing into different aspects of life in Ripley and the surrounding area. We will sometimes use this together. You could use it in your home groups, or when you get together with one or two others, or on your own. The more we do it, the better.

Start by focusing on who God is and all that you have received through Jesus. Then speak the words out loud trusting that, as you do, God is releasing his blessing to others.

Heavenly Father, we stand in the authority that Jesus gives to us and in his name, we speak to every person in Ripley and the surrounding area and we say:

We bless you in the name of the Lord Jesus.

We bless your homes, that they may be safe and filled with peace and joy. We bless your relationships, that they may be strong and healthy and loving. We bless all families and every relationship between the generations in each household, that there may be peace and love and understanding flowing between each one. We bless your marriages, that they may be loving, forgiving, and life-giving. In the name of Jesus we bless every network of wholesome and supportive friendship in this town.

We bless your health, that you may be strong and well in body, mind and spirit. In the name of Jesus, we resist any sickness or disease which seeks to invade this town. To any who are sick right now we say, we bless you with healing and freedom in the name of Jesus.

We bless your resources, that you may have plenty instead of poverty. We bless you to have enough to live and enough to give. We bless you with employment. We bless the work of your hands, that whatever you turn your hand to that is wholesome and good may be successful.

We bless the local schools, that they may be secure, safe places for teachers and pupils. We bless the children's capacity to learn and develop good relationships, that they may grow and thrive and become all that they have been created to be.

We bless the businesses in this town, that they may prosper in every way that is good and wholesome.

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We bless all who work here, that your working relationships may be fair and honest. We bless this town, with a thriving economy in the name of Jesus.

We bless the hospital, the medical centres and the care homes, that they may be filled with compassion and grace. We bless all who work in the caring professions, that you may be resourced and refreshed and renewed.

We bless all those involved in local Government, the Police and other public services, that you may receive the wisdom of God and prosper in all you do that serves the best interests of this area.

We bless all the churches in this town in the name of Jesus, that you may be fruitful in every way. We bless your ministry, that the Holy Spirit and the Word of God may flow out from you in power. And we speak to the hearts of all who live in this town and bless you, that you may be softened towards God and that you may hear and respond to his call.

In the name of the Lord Jesus, we speak to our town of Ripley and say, we bless you with the fullness of all the blessings of the kingdom of God.

Amen.

*Revd Rachel Wigram
All Saints, Ripley
April 2015*

*Inspired by Ffald-y-Brenin
Christian Retreat Centre
'Friday Blessings'*