



A voice of one calling: "In the wilderness prepare the way for the LORD; make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be raised up, every mountain and hill made low; the rough ground shall become level, the rugged places a plain. And the glory of the LORD will be revealed, and all people will see it together. For the mouth of the LORD has spoken.

Isaiah 40:3-5

Sometimes it can feel that as a church we are in the midst of a spiritual battle. It can often seem that we take one step forward and two steps back.

God equips us by His Spirit to hold our ground as we continue as individuals and a church to prepare the Way for Him.

As we pray the prayer below together may we be strengthened and protected for the journey ahead

God equips us with spiritual armour. Through prayer we can stand against attacks of discouragement and doubt.

**Please read Ephesians 6:10-18**

***Equip us Lord we pray:***

- **With the belt of truth** (v. 14). May your truth rule in our hearts and be in our minds and on our lips today.
- **With the breastplate of righteousness** (v. 14). Apart from You there is no righteousness, but through Jesus we have been made righteous in Your sight. May we live lives that reflect this.
- **With feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the Gospel of peace** (v. 15). May we reflect the Gospel in our words and actions, that through us, with every encounter, others may be drawn one step closer to You.
- **With the shield of faith** (v. 16). May we take You at Your word concerning promises about the present and future—promises of everlasting love, abundant life, and so much more.
- **With the helmet of salvation** (v. 17). Remind us that nothing can separate us from Your love and that we have been saved by grace. In Your grace, help us to say "no" to all that may draw us away from you. By your Spirit may we live lives that honour you and bring glory to your Name.
- **And with the sword of the Spirit, the Word of God** (v. 17). May Your Holy Spirit reign in our lives and bring to mind just the right Bible verses to be in our hearts and on our lips. May we be "filled with the Spirit" and ready with Scripture as You were, Jesus, when the devil tempted You.
- **Finally, keep us in an attitude of prayer** (v. 18). Remind us to "pray in the Spirit on all occasions."