

I Will...



Worship Service Outline “The Cycle of God’s Grace”

Theme: Reflecting on the legacy we leave for future generations using the metaphor of the water cycle. As God’s grace flows into our lives, it nourishes our faith and then flows out into the world, impacting those around us and leaving a lasting legacy.

1. Welcome and Call to Worship

Opening Scriptures:

“One generation commends your works to another; they tell of your mighty acts. They speak of the glorious splendour of your majesty... They celebrate your abundant goodness and joyfully sing of your righteousness.”

Psalm 145: 4-7

Opening Prayer:

- Thank God for the continuous flow of his grace in our lives.
- Ask for the Spirit to be present in this time of worship, opening hearts to receive the Word and reflect on the legacy we leave.

2. Opening Worship Songs

Song 1: “Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing”

- Focus on the “fountain” of God’s blessings that pour into our lives.

Song 2: “Living Water”

- Reflect on Jesus as the source of living water that flows through us to others (John 4: 14).

3. Responsive Reading with introduction to the work of BMS World Mission and the Baptist Union of Great Britain: The Legacy of Faith

(Based on Isaiah 55: 10-11)

Leader:

- “As the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return to it without watering the earth and making it bud and flourish...”

Congregation:

- “...So is God’s Word that goes out from his mouth. It will not return empty, but will accomplish what he desires and achieve the purpose for which he sent it.”

Leader:

- “Our lives are like a drop in the water cycle – part of God’s plan, refreshing others, bringing life and growth.”

Congregation:

- “May our legacy of faith pour into the lives of others, that God’s love and truth may flow through generations.”

- One legacy of faith is what we do with the material possessions we are blessed with and who we leave them to. This could be family, friends, your church and other organisations. *Follow with a short introduction about the Baptist Union of Great Britain and BMS and show the video.*

Optional All-Age material

Young people may leave at this point



4. Scripture Readings

Old Testament Reading:

“As the rain and the snow come down from heaven... so is my word that goes out from my mouth.”

Isaiah 55: 6-12

- Reflect on the faithfulness of God's Word and how his blessings never return empty.

New Testament Reading:

“Whoever believes in me, as Scripture has said, rivers of living water will flow from within them.”

John 7: 28-38

- Jesus promises that those who believe in him will have rivers of living water flowing through their lives, symbolising the continuous legacy of grace and love.



5. Sermon: “The Water Cycle of Faith: Leaving a Lasting Legacy”

Key Scriptures:

The purpose of God’s Word in nourishing and fulfilling its mission

Isaiah 55: 10-11

The promise of living water flowing from the lives of believers.

John 7: 37-38

A good person leaves an inheritance for their children’s children.

Proverbs 13: 22

Outline:

- **Evaporation: Rising Up in Prayer and Worship**
 - Just as water evaporates, our faith and devotion rise to God through prayer, worship, and obedience. What we do in faith leaves a legacy in heaven and on earth.
- **Condensation: God’s Blessings Prepare to Fall**
 - As clouds gather moisture, God stores up his blessings, ready to pour them out. How we live and serve others helps “store” blessings for future generations.
- **Precipitation: Our Lives Pour Out Blessings on Others**
 - When rain falls, it nourishes the earth. Similarly, the actions, wisdom, and faith we share with others leave a lasting impact. Are we a source of life and renewal for those around us?
- **Collection: Building a Legacy that Continues**
 - Just as water collects in rivers, our influence flows through the lives of others and into future generations. What kind of spiritual legacy are we leaving behind for our families, communities, and the Church? We also need to consider what our financial legacy will be and how that can be used for God’s purposes. This can include giving to organisations like the Baptist Union of Great Britain and BMS where together they work locally, regionally, nationally and internationally for God’s Kingdom.
- **Conclusion:** Encourage the congregation to consider their own legacies and to make conscious choices that will contribute to a positive and enduring impact in the world.



6. Reflective Response: “Passing the Blessing”

Outline:

Invite the congregation to reflect on their personal legacy. Are they passing on the “living water” of Christ? Pray for wisdom in being a blessing to future generations.



Prayer Prompts:

- Ask God to show areas where we can pour into others.
- Pray for opportunities to leave a legacy of faith in our families, communities and church.
- How we can be a blessing to future generation both at home and overseas?
- Pray about who we leave our legacy to. Which people or causes are right for you? This could include BMS and the Baptist Union of Great Britain.

Reflection Song: “Let Your Living Water Flow”

- Use this time for silent reflection or encourage people to come forward for prayer.

7. Congregational Activity: “The Water of Legacy” (Optional)

Instructions:

- Set up a station where people can write down one way they want to leave a spiritual legacy (eg “I will teach my children to pray,” “I will share my testimony with others”).
- After writing, they will take a small cup, dip it into the bowl of water, and pour it back into the bowl, symbolising the continuous flow of blessings and legacy from one generation to another.
- This can be done while worship music plays, encouraging reflection.

Materials:

- A large bowl of water, small cups, and slips of paper.



This could also be the space for Communion if being planned during a Communion service.

8. Closing Worship Song Song: “The Blessing”

- *Focus on the generational blessing spoken about in the song, asking God’s favour to be on our children, their children, and generations to come (Numbers 6: 24-26).*
- *This powerful song reinforces the theme of passing on a legacy that lasts.*



9. Final Blessing

Benediction:

“May the Lord bless you and keep you. May he make his face shine upon you and give you peace. And may the living waters of his grace flow through you, so that you leave behind a legacy of faith and love that nourishes the generations to come.”

Parting verses:

“We will tell the next generation the praiseworthy deeds of the Lord, his power, and the wonders he has done.”

Psalm 78: 4



We would always recommend you speak to a qualified professional, such as a solicitor, when making or changing your Will.

You will need to specify separate gifts for both The Baptist Union of Great Britain and BMS World Mission. All you need are the following addresses and charity numbers:

BMS World Mission

PO Box 49, 129 Broadway
Didcot, OX11 8XA
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**The Baptist Union
of Great Britain**

PO Box 44, 129 Broadway
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Charity number: 1181392



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