

Pastor's Patch: Change for the better



The plum tree in our garden is starting to change. Branches, heavy with unripe plums, sag and bend under the growing weight. There is also a change in colour as plums turn from green to a rich burgundy colour. But there's a catch. Many of the first plums to change their hue will not go on to perfect ripeness. Instead, as air fails to freely circulate around the bunches of unripe plums, some will start to get infected and go rotten. My task at this point is to scour the tree to spot and remove them and any touching plums that will quickly spoil as well. It seems ruthless, but to lose a few potentially good plums at this point will ultimately mean that I will have a bigger harvest that ripen to perfection.

Paul reminds the believers in the early church, that they too need to remove anything that could cause a spread of sinful infection: they must particularly address the sins of their old selves.

*You used to walk in these ways, in the life you once lived.
But now you must also rid yourselves of all such things as these:
anger, rage, malice, slander, and filthy language from your lips.
(Colossians chapter 3 verses 7-8)*

The word to "rid" could also be "put aside" or "take off". Salvation in Jesus' name means a believer is forgiven of all their sin, but sanctification and change to become more like Jesus involves us actively moving to change our worst behaviours and attitudes.

POINT TO PONDER

Is there a sinful trait or behaviour that commonly arises in your life?
Ask the Holy Spirit (and confess it to your believing sisters and brothers)
to help you start to root it out and lead to a greater fruit of holiness.

Darrell

A chain of prayer and praise around the South West!

SATURDAY 11TH JULY 2026, 10.30AM

Sign up! www.southwestawake.com



LIFT YOUR VOICE & PRAY FOR THE SOUTH WEST SATURDAY 11TH JULY 2026 SEEKING GOD TOGETHER

For the sixth year, something powerful is happening across the South West.....

On **Saturday 11th July at 10.30am**, South West Awake is calling the Church to rise together in prayer.

From coastlines to communities, believers will be taking their place across the region, lifting one united cry to God. This is more than an event. It is a moment of alignment, faith, and movement.

Wherever you are, you can be part of it:

- **Pray for your place** - speak blessing, hope, and salvation over your town, your streets, your neighbours
- **Pray for people** - lift up friends, families, and those who do not yet know Jesus, asking for hearts to be opened
- **Pray for the Church** - unity across denominations, fresh fire, boldness, and a move of God across the South West

Together, we are believing for transformation.

One region. One Church.

One voice lifted to heaven.

SIGN UP AT: www.southwestawake.com