



May 2018 · #042

## Dear praying friends in Europe –

*When Jesus began his earthly ministry preaching and teaching through the towns of Galilee he began by gathering disciples. Four locals, working in their family business were invited on the adventure of a lifetime – Simon Peter and his brother Andrew, James the son of Zebedee and his brother John (Matthew 4:18-22) – to become fishers of men. (Lk 5:10)*

*When most of us are asked if we could do that, we make excuses about why we're needed elsewhere, don't have the right gifting, aren't the right candidate, or 'have a new plough to try out'. Yes- excusing ourselves from God's invitation is nothing new. Yet God has chosen you to be salt and light, to serve him with your whole heart, every day of the week. Let's determine to follow Him in the little things as well as the big.*



Paul Moynan

## Going where the Lord leads you

This month I would urge us to pray for our working places throughout Europe. We all have the ability to reach out with the love and message of our Saviour Jesus Christ, and “we need to make the most of every opportunity because the days are evil” (Eph 5:16). Our work colleagues, our families, our friends and total strangers, are all in need of the good news that can lift them above the storm and bring them to eternal life.

Paul reminds us that we are “created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do” (Eph 2:10). As we use our gifts being the best teacher, politician, farmer, business-woman, home-maker, fireman, director, cleaner, let us call for God's kingdom to come in and through our work. Where Christians are known as the best workers, full of joy, integrity, professionalism, love, etc the world takes note.

Part of our witness may be to call out corruption, evil and deception in our workplace. Some whistleblowers knowingly put themselves in danger to expose corruption. In Slovakia & Malta it has cost journalists their lives. Pray for Maria Efimova and

Jonathan Ferris (a modern day Naboth – 1 Kings 21), exposing corruption in Malta, facing strong legal and professional opposition and also fearing for their lives. Let's pray for all those who are making a stand against corruption. We need also to be praying for a return of Christian influence throughout society in our whole continent. For too long Christ's teaching and the Bible have been considered irrelevant, too old fashioned for modern thinking. The church is often simply reacting to a fast moving world instead of being a prophetic voice to the nations. Let's pray for an increase in the presence of the gospel message in the media, in politics, in the judiciary and in the caring services, not just in a charitable way but right to the heart of decision making.

### Prayer:

- Let's continue to pray for Ireland, where repeal of the Amendment 8 is being considered allowing widespread abortion.
- Let's pray for those in the medical professions who stand up for righteousness.
- Let's pray for the situation in Syria – where wise leadership is needed more than ever. Pray for the overcoming of good over evil.

### Please also pray for

- The EU budget negotiations for 2020-27 having less means due to the “Brexit” which means higher contributions of all member states.
- Greece. It is gradually improving economically. Pray for the prayer walk of Elias Armenis on the 2<sup>nd</sup> June in Athens.