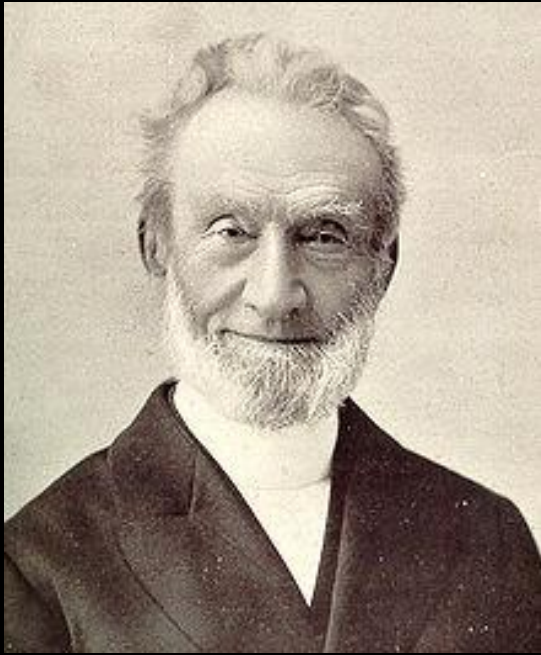




George Müller

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

A brief description of his incredible life, prayer life and answered prayers

George Müller

- **Born**
- Johann Georg Ferdinand Müller
- - 27 September 1805
- [Kroppenstedt, Kingdom of Prussia](#) (now [Saxony-Anhalt, Germany](#))
- **Died**
- 10 March 1898 (aged 92)
- [Bristol, England](#)
- **Nationality**
- [Prussian](#) (German)
- **Education**
- Cathedral Classical School, Halberstadt

George Müller

- **Occupation(s)**
- Evangelist and missionary, Director of Orphan Houses
- **Spouse(s)**
- Mary Groves (7 Oct 1830 – 6 Feb 1870, her death)
Susannah Grace Sanger (30 Nov 1871 – 13 Jan 1894, her death)
- **Children**
- Lydia (17 Sep 1832 – 10 Jan 1890); Elijah (19 Mar 1834 – 26 Jun 1835).
- **Theological work**
- **Tradition or movement**
- founding member of [Plymouth Brethren](#), [Open Brethren](#)

George Müller

- **George Müller** (born **Johann Georg Ferdinand Müller**, 27 September 1805 – 10 March 1898) was a [Christian evangelist](#) and the director of the [Ashley Down orphanage](#) in [Bristol, England](#). He was one of the founders of the [Plymouth Brethren](#) movement. Later during the split, his group was called the [Open Brethren](#).
- He cared for 10,024 orphans during his lifetime, [\[1\]](#)[\[2\]](#) and provided educational opportunities for the orphans to the point that he was even accused by some of raising the poor above their natural station in [British](#) life. He established 117 schools which offered Christian education to more than 120,000.

Early Work

- In 1829, Müller offered to work with [Jews](#) in England through the [London Society for Promoting Christianity Amongst the Jews](#). He arrived in London on 19 March of that year, but by mid-May, he fell ill and did not think that he would survive. He was sent to [Teignmouth](#) to recuperate and, while there he met [Henry Craik](#), who became his lifelong friend.^[3] Müller returned to London in September, but after ten days started to feel unwell again. He blamed his failing health on his having been confined to his house because of his studies.

Personal Life

- His name is frequently spelled as "Mueller", particularly in the United States. Whilst "Mueller" is a possible substitute spelling for "Müller" in German, George Müller never changed his name from the original spelling and always took care to place the two dots over the letter "u" to form the umlaut. When asked by his nephew, Edward Groves, what difference this made to the pronunciation, Müller pronounced his name as though it was spelt "Meller".[\[31\]](#)

Youth

- Müller was born in Kroppenstädt (now [Kroppenstedt](#)), a village near [Halberstadt](#) in the [Kingdom of Prussia](#).^[32] In 1810, the Müller family moved to nearby Heimersleben, where Müller's father was appointed a collector of taxes.^[33] He had an older brother, Friedrich Johann Wilhelm (1803 – 7 Oct 1838) and, after his widowed father remarried, a half-brother, Franz (b 1822).
- His early life was not marked by righteousness – on the contrary, he was a thief, a liar and a gambler. By the age of 10, Müller was stealing government money from his father.^[33] While his mother was dying, he, at fourteen years of age, was playing cards with friends and drinking.^{[34][35]} While in seminary at the [University of Halle](#) in [Germany](#), Müller described his status as one of wicked behaviour and unrepentant spirit ... Despite my sinful lifestyle and cold heart, [God](#) had mercy on me. I was as careless as ever. I had no [Bible](#) and had not read any Scripture for years. I seldom went to church; and, out of custom only, I took the [Lord's Supper](#) twice a year. I never heard the gospel preached. Nobody told me that [Jesus](#) meant for [Christians](#), by the help of God, to live according to the Holy Scriptures. ...^[36]

A prayer meeting - lifechanger

- Then Müller attended a [prayer meeting](#) in a private home in 1825 which so moved him that a swift transformation began in his behaviour. "I have no doubt ... that He began a work of grace in me. Even though I scarcely had any knowledge of who God truly was, **that evening was the turning point in my life.**"^[37]
- Müller's father hoped to provide him with a religious education that would allow him to take a lucrative position as a clergyman in the state church. He studied [divinity](#) at Halle and there met a fellow student, Beta, who invited him to the Christian prayer meeting which changed Müller's perspective. **He was welcomed and began regularly reading the Bible and discussing Christianity with the others in attendance. After seeing a man on his knees praying to God, he was convinced of his need for [salvation](#).** He went to his bed, knelt and prayed, and asked God to help him in his life and to bless him wherever he went and to forgive him of his sins. He immediately stopped drinking, stealing and lying, and developed hope of becoming a [missionary](#), rather than the comfortable clergyman that his father had envisioned for him. He began preaching regularly in nearby churches.^[38]

God's Leading

- He asked the Society to send him out to preach but received no reply. By the end of November, he became doubtful whether the Society was the right place for him and on 12 December made the decision to leave but to wait for a month before writing. Müller returned to [Exmouth](#) in [East Devon](#), England on 31 December for a short holiday and preached at various meetings while there. He wrote to the Society in early January, requesting that they might consider allowing him to remain with them if they would allow him "to labor in regard to time and place as the Lord might direct me".
- This they refused to do at a meeting on 27 January 1830, communicating this to Müller in writing, and thus bringing to an end his association with the London Society.

God's Leading - Work for the Lord

- He moved from Exmouth to Teignmouth and preached several times for Craik, which led to a number of the congregation asking him to stay and be the minister of Ebenezer Chapel in [Shaldon, Devon](#), on a salary of £55 per annum. On 7 October 1830, he married Mary Groves, the sister of [Anthony Norris Groves](#). At the end of October, he renounced his regular salary, believing that the practice could lead to church members giving out of duty, not desire. He also eliminated the renting of church pews, arguing that it gave unfair prestige to the wealthy (based primarily on James 2:1–9).^[4]

James 2, 1-9 - AKJV

- My brethren, have not the faith of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory, with respect of persons.
- ²For if there come unto your assembly a man with a gold ring, in goodly apparel, and there come in also a poor man in vile raiment;
- ³And ye have respect to him that weareth the gay clothing, and say unto him, Sit thou here in a good place; and say to the poor, Stand thou there, or sit here under my footstool:
- ⁴Are ye not then partial in yourselves, and are become judges of evil thoughts?
- ⁵Hearken, my beloved brethren, Hath not God chosen the poor of this world rich in faith, and heirs of the kingdom which he hath promised to them that love him?
- ⁶But ye have despised the poor. Do not rich men oppress you, and draw you before the judgment seats?
- ⁷Do not they blaspheme that worthy name by the which ye are called?
- ⁸If ye fulfil the royal law according to the scripture, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself, ye do well:
- ⁹But if ye have respect to persons, ye commit sin, and are convinced of the law as transgressors.

Bristol

- Müller moved to Bristol, England on 25 May 1832, to begin working at Bethesda Chapel. Along with Henry Craik, he continued preaching there until his death, even while devoted to his other ministries. In 1834, he founded the Scriptural Knowledge Institution for Home and Abroad, with the goal of aiding Christian schools and missionaries; distributing the Bible and Christian tracts; and providing Day-schools, Sunday-schools and Adult-schools, all upon a Scriptural foundation.[\[5\]](#)

Bristol

- By the end of February 1835, there were five Day-schools – two for boys and three for girls.^[6] Not receiving government support and only accepting unsolicited gifts, this organisation received and disbursed £1,381,171^[1] – around £113 million in today's terms^[7] – by the time of Müller's death, primarily using the money for supporting the orphanages and distributing about 285,407 Bibles,^[1] 1,459,506 New Testaments,^[1] and 244,351 other religious texts,^[1] which were translated into twenty other languages.^[8] The money was also used to support other "[faith missionaries](#)" around the world, such as [Hudson Taylor](#).^[9] The work continues to this day.

A Life of Prayer

- **Müller prayed about everything and expected each prayer to be answered.** One example was when one of the orphan house's boiler stopped working; Müller needed to have it fixed. This was a problem because the boiler was bricked up and the weather was worsening with each day. **So he prayed for two things; firstly that the workers he had hired would have a mind to work throughout the night, and secondly that the weather would let up.** On the Tuesday before the work was due to commence, a bitter north wind still blew but in the morning, before the workmen arrived, a southerly wind began to blow and it was so mild that no fires were needed to heat the buildings. That evening, the foreman of the contracted company attended the site to see how he might speed things along and instructed the men to report back first thing in the morning to make an early resumption of work. The team leader stated that they would prefer to work through the night. The job was done in thirty hours. [\[39\]](#)

Orphanages

- The work of Müller and his wife with orphans began in 1836, with the preparation of their own rented home at 6 Wilson Street, Bristol for the accommodation of thirty girls. Soon after, three more houses in Wilson Street were furnished, not only for girls but also for boys and younger children, eventually increasing the capacity for children who could be cared for to 130.

Orphanages

- In 1845, as growth continued, the neighbours complained about the noise and disruption to the public utilities, so Müller decided that a separate building designed to house three hundred children was necessary, and in 1849, at Ashley Down, Bristol, the new home opened. The architect commissioned to draw up the plans asked if he might do so gratuitously.^[10] By 26 May 1870, 1,722 children were being accommodated in 5 homes, although there was room for 2,050 (No 1 House – 300, No 2 House – 400, Nos 3, 4 and 5 – 458 each). By the following year, there were 280 orphans in No 1 House, 356 in No 2, 450 in Nos 3 and 4, and 309 in No 5 House.^[11]

Testimonies

- In 1862, it was discovered that one of the drains was blocked. Being some 11 feet underground, workmen were unable to find the blockage despite several attempts. **Müller prayed about the situation and the workmen at once found the site of the problem.** [\[40\]](#)[\[41\]](#)
- Strong gales in Bristol on Saturday 14 January 1865 caused considerable damage in the area and over twenty holes were opened in the roofs. About twenty windows were also broken and two frames damaged by falling slates. The glazier and slater normally employed had already committed their staff to other work so nothing could be done until the Monday. Had the winds continued, with heavy rain, the damage to the orphanage would have been much greater. **After much prayer, the wind stopped in the afternoon and no rain fell until Wednesday, by which time most of the damage had been repaired.** [\[42\]](#)

Testimonies - witnessing

- Once, while crossing the Atlantic on the [SS Sardinian](#) in August 1877, his ship ran into thick fog. He explained to the captain that he needed to be in Quebec by the following afternoon, but Captain Joseph E. Dutton (later known as "Holy Joe") said that he was slowing the ship down for safety and Müller's appointment would have to be missed. **Müller asked to use the chart-room to pray for the lifting of the fog.** The captain followed him down, claiming it would be a waste of time. After Müller prayed a very simple prayer, the captain started to pray, but Müller stopped him; partly because of **the captain's unbelief**, but mainly because **he believed the prayer had already been answered.** Müller said, **"Captain, I have known my Lord for more than fifty years and there is not one instance that I have failed to have an audience with the King.** Get up, Captain, for you will find that the fog has gone." When the two men went back to the bridge, they found the fog had lifted, and Müller was able to keep his appointment. The captain became a Christian shortly afterwards. [\[43\]](#)

Secret of God's faithfulness

- Müller's faith in God strengthened day by day and he spent hours in daily prayer and Bible reading. Indeed, it was his practice, in later years, to read through the entire Bible four times a year. [\[44\]](#)

Financial Support

- Through all this, Müller never made requests for financial support, nor did he go into debt, even though the five homes cost more than £100,000 to build. Many times, he received unsolicited food donations only hours before they were needed to feed the children, further strengthening his faith in God. Müller was in constant [prayer](#) that God touched the hearts of donors to make provisions for the orphans. For example, on one well-documented occasion, thanks was given for breakfast when all the children were sitting at the table even though there was nothing to eat in the house. As they finished praying, the baker knocked on the door with sufficient fresh bread to feed everyone, and the [milkman](#) gave them plenty of fresh milk because his cart had broken down in front of the orphanage.^[12] In his autobiographical entry for February 12, 1842, he wrote:

Testimony

- A brother in the Lord came to me this morning and, after a few minutes of conversation gave me two thousand pounds for furnishing the new Orphan House ... Now I am able to meet all of the expenses. In all probability, I will even have several hundred pounds more than I need. **The Lord not only gives as much as is absolutely necessary for his work, but he gives abundantly.** This blessing filled me with inexplicable delight. He had given me the full answer to my thousands of prayers during the [past] 1,195 days

Donations

- *Müller never sought donations from specific individuals and relied on the Almighty for all of his needs.* He asked those who did support his work to give a name and address so that he could prepare a receipt. The receipts were printed with a request that the receipt be kept until the next annual report was issued so that the donor might confirm the amount reported with what he had given. The wording in the image reads: "Owing to the great increase of my work, I have found it necessary to authorize two of my assistants (Mr. Lawford and Mr. Wright) to sign receipts for donations, if needful, in my stead. Donors are requested, kindly to keep the receipts and to compare them with the "Supplement" to the Report, which records every donation received, so that they may be satisfied that their donations have been properly applied.-"

Receipts

Being to the great increase of my work, I have found it necessary to authorize two of my assistants (Mr. Herbert and Mr. Wright) to sign receipts for donations, if sent, in my stead.—Donors are requested, kindly to keep the receipts and to compare them with the "Receipts" in this paper, which inserts every donation received, so that there may be avoided the errors sometimes here, here properly applied.—The "Receipts" are sent with kindness to every donor who sends me with his or her name and address.—I would especially request all donors from whom it is right to give occasionally, to put it in my power to acknowledge their donations at the next time some be sent; and should any donor, after having done this, not receive a printed receipt within a week, that would much oblige me by giving me information at once. This printed receipt, of course, is recorded in the list of donors who send from places out of the United Kingdom.

21, Great Street, Manchester,
 Bristol, 16th Decr. 1867.

The receipt of
 £3. from Mrs. E. J. Buckle;
 taken for the support of the Epitaph, is gratefully acknowledged.

George V. Buckle;
 with the necessary Remittance
 from the Epitaph Office, groups
 being.
 Decr. 14th 1867.
 Decr. 27.
 Decr. 28—1867.

Receipts

- .-The "Supplement" is sent with the Report to every *Donor* who furnishes me with his or her name and address.-I would earnestly request all Donors (even those who feel it right to give anonymously) to put it in my power to acknowledge their donations at the time they come to hand; and should any Donor, after having done this, not receive a printed receipt within a week, they would much oblige me by giving me information at once. This interval must, of course, be extended in the case of Donors who send from places out of the United Kingdom. George Müller". **Every single gift was recorded**, whether a single farthing, £3,000, or an old teaspoon.^[14] **Accounting records were scrupulously kept and made available for scrutiny.**^[15]

Bible Studies – high standards

- Every morning after breakfast there was a time of Bible reading and prayer, and every child was given a Bible upon leaving the orphanage, together with a tin trunk containing two changes of clothing. The children were dressed well and educated – Müller even employed an inspector to maintain high standards. In fact, many claimed that nearby factories and mines were unable to obtain enough workers because of his efforts in securing [apprenticeships](#), professional training, and domestic service positions for the children old enough to leave the orphanage.

Evangelism

- On 26 March 1875, at the age of 71 and after the death of his first wife in 1870 and his marriage to Susannah Grace Sanger in 1871, Müller and Susannah began a 17-year period of missionary travel. The table below gives a list of the dates and destinations of their journey.

Mission Trips

Some mission trips took some years

- 26 March 1875 England
- 15 August 1875 England, Scotland and Ireland
- 16 August 1876 Switzerland, Germany and the Netherlands
- 18 August 1877 Canada and the United States
 - (including a visit to the White House)
- 5 September 1878 Switzerland, France, Spain and Italy
- 17 June 1880 United States and Canada
- 15 September 1880 Canada and the United States
- 23 August 1881 Egypt, Palestine, Syria, Asia Minor, Turkey and Greece
- 8 August 1882 Germany, Austria, Hungary, Bohemia, Russia and Poland
- 5 June 1884 India

Mission Trips

- 18 August 1884 England and South Wales
- 16 May 1885 England
- 1 September 1885 England and Scotland
- 4 November 1885
 - The United States, Australia, China, Japan, the Straits of Malacca, Singapore, Penang, Colombo, France
- 10 August 1887 Australia, Tasmania, New Zealand, Ceylon and India
- 8 August 1890 Germany, Switzerland, Austria and Italy

Travel Costs and Outreach

- Müller always expected to pay for their fares and accommodation from the unsolicited gifts given for his own use. However, if someone offered to pay his hotel bill en route, Müller recorded this amount in his accounts. [\[16\]](#)
- He travelled more than 200,000 miles. His language abilities allowed him to preach in English, [French](#), and [German](#), and his sermons were translated into the host languages when he was unable to use the three languages which he spoke. [\[17\]](#) In 1892, he returned to England, where he died on 10 March 1898 in New Orphan House No 3.

The Bible – Standard of Judgement

Theology

The theology that guided George Müller's work is not widely known, but was shaped by an experience in his middle twenties when he "came to prize the Bible alone as [his] standard of judgement".



The Word of God and the Godhead

- He records in his Narratives
- "[...] That the word of God alone is our standard of judgment in spiritual things; that it can be explained only by the [Holy Spirit](#); and that in our day, as well as in former times, He is the teacher of his people. The office of the Holy Spirit I had not experimentally understood before that time. Indeed, of the office of each of the blessed persons, in what is commonly called the Trinity, I had no experimental apprehension. I had not before seen from the Scriptures that the Father chose us before the foundation of the world; that in him that wonderful plan of our redemption originated, and that he also appointed all the means by which it was to be brought about. Further, that the Son, to save us, had fulfilled the Law, to satisfy its demands, and with it also the holiness of God; that he had borne the punishment due to our sins, and had thus satisfied the justice of God.

The Word of God and the Godhead

- And, further, that the Holy Spirit alone can teach us about our state by nature, show us the need of a Saviour, enable us to believe in Christ, explain to us the Scriptures, help us in preaching, etc. It was my beginning to understand this latter point in particular which had a great effect on me; for the Lord enabled me to put it to the test of experience, by laying aside commentaries, and almost every other book, and simply reading the word of God and studying it. The result of this was, that the first evening that I shut myself into my room, to give myself to prayer and meditation over the Scriptures, I learned more in a few hours than I had done during a period of several months previously. *But the particular difference was, that I received real strength for my soul in doing so.* I now began to try by the test of the Scriptures the things which I had learned and seen, and found that only those principles which stood the test were really of value."[\[18\]](#)

- ...

Stewardship of Money

- Müller wrote frequently about the stewardship of money and the non-reliance on earthly riches, and how God would bless the man who kept to these principles and felt that laying his own experiences bare would prove the truth of his claims. His personal income, from unsolicited gifts (he refused any kind of salary) rose from £151 in 1831 to more than £2,000 in 1870. However, he retained only around £300 a year for himself and his family, the rest he gave away. [\[29\]](#)

God's faithfulness

- William Henry Harding said, 'The world, dull of understanding, has even yet not really grasped the mighty principle upon which he [Müller] acted, but is inclined to think of him merely as a nice old gentleman who loved children, a sort of glorified guardian of the poor, who with the passing of the years may safely be spoken of, in the language of newspaper headlines, as a "prophet of philanthropy." To describe him thus, however, is to degrade his memory, is to miss the high spiritual aim and the wonderful spiritual lesson of his life. It is because the carnal mind is incapable of apprehending spiritual truth that the world regards the orphan Houses only with the languid interest of mere humanitarianism, and remains oblivious of their extraordinary witness to the faithfulness of God.' [\[30\]](#)

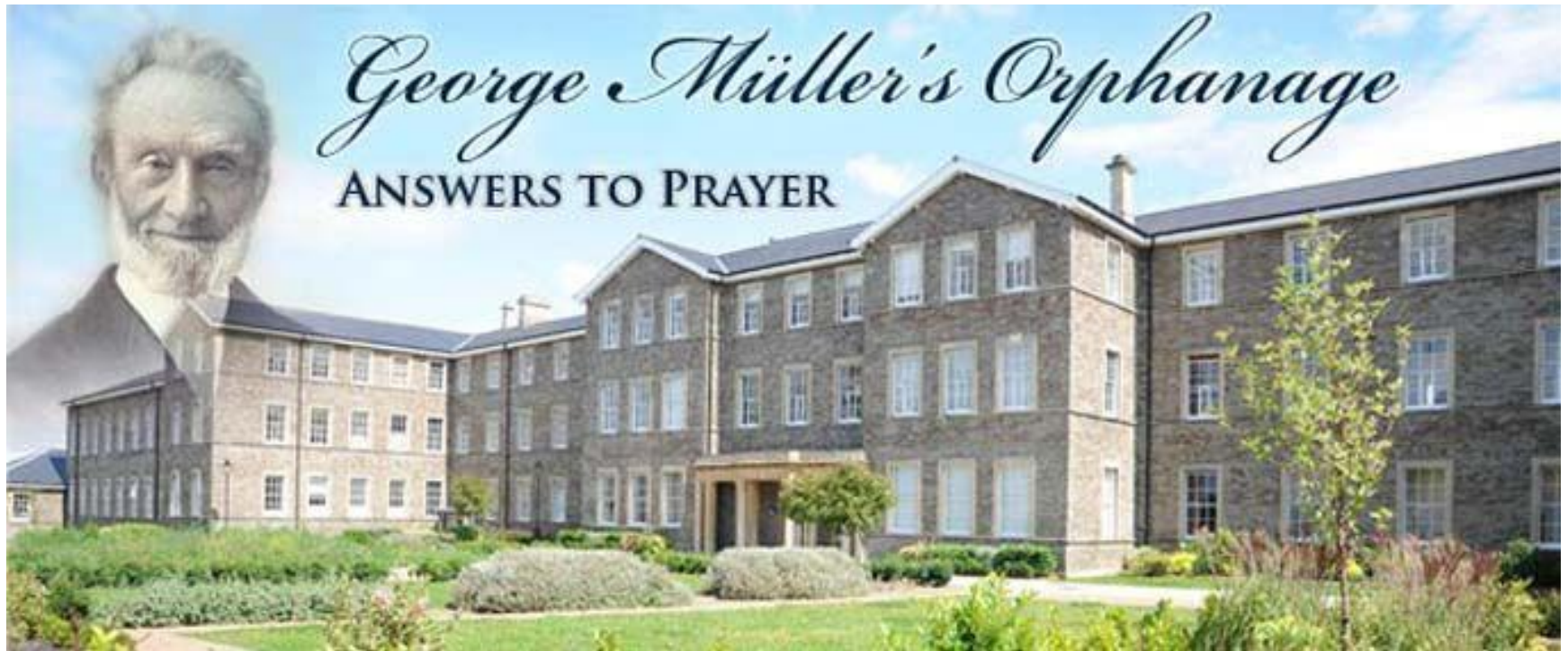
The George Müller Charitable Trust

- The George Müller Charitable Trust[\[edit\]](#)
- After his life, his work was continued by The George Müller Foundation, which was renamed The George Müller Charitable Trust on 1 March 2009. **The Trust maintains the key principle of seeking money through prayer alone – it actively shuns fund-raising activities.** The charity works together with local churches in the Bristol area to enable them to reach out and care for their communities, **especially children, young people and families with physical, emotional, social or spiritual needs; and encourages giving to support mission, social care, relief and development work across the world.**[\[45\]](#) From 1986 to September 2010, it also provided residential care for the elderly in Tilsley House, Weston-super-Mare. The Trust continued to maintain a sheltered accommodation unit for the elderly in Tranquil House, next-door to Tilsley House, until it was closed in 2012.
- A small museum maintained by the Trust at its headquarters in Cotham Park, Bristol, is open by appointment only. Records of all children who passed through the orphanage are held and may be inspected by relatives for a modest fee.[\[46\]](#)
- https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George_M%C3%BCller

George Müller's Orphanage in Bristol



George Müller's Orphanage today



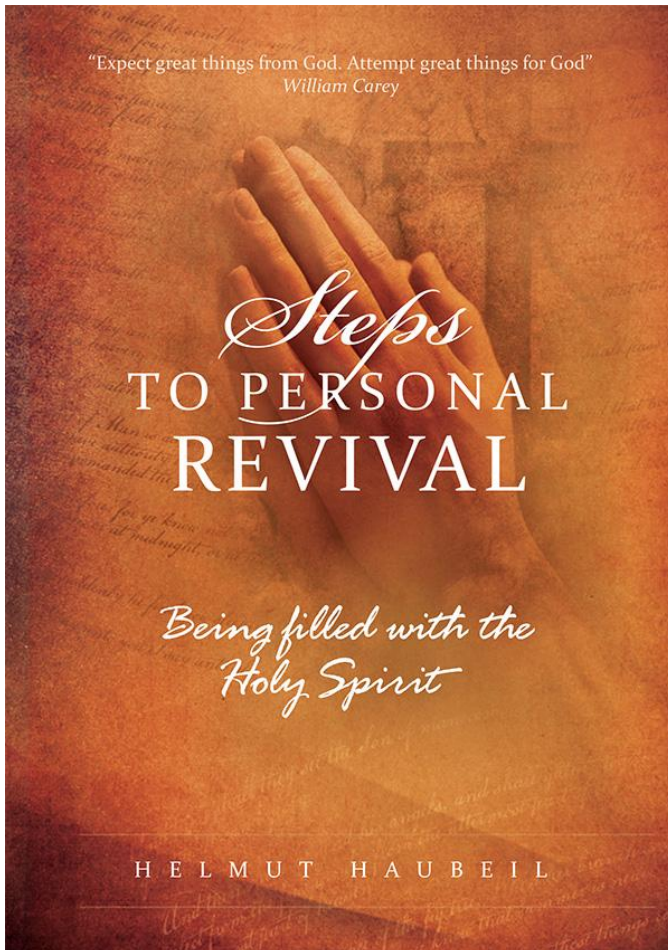
Questions:

- What was the secret of George Müller?
- How did he receive donations and contributions?
- What did he to receive support?
- How did he acknowledge any form of support?
- What can we do?

Join

- Let us commit to begin to study the Bible and to pray as never before.
- Let us praise the Lord for His faithfulness, that He will provide for all our needs
- Let us find Bible promises that the Lord will provide for those being in need.
- Let us study a booklet, which is a lifechanger:
- Steps to Personal Revival and let us have prayer groups

Steps to personal Revival



Link: Steps to personal Revival

<https://www.revivalandreformation.org/resources/all/steps-to-personal-revival>

**You can find the booklet when
googling the title
For jonining:
Whats up group :
Hope Matumaini**

Join

- If you want to join, kindly follow the suggestions and share the Bible study summaries in written and audio form in your respective groups and with your team.
- Kindly read and listen to them...
- And let us study the Bible and pray
- May the Lord bless You abundantly.
- To be continued...

Trust and Believe



Trust in the Lord with
all thine heart; and
lean not unto thine
own understanding.
In all thy ways
acknowledge him,
and he shall direct thy
paths.

Proverbs 3, 5. 6 KJV

Let us sing and praise the Lord:

- **Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father**
- 1. Great is thy faithfulness, O God, my Father;
There is no shadow of turning with thee.
Thou changest not, thy compassions, they fail not;
As thou hast been, thou forever wilt be.
- Refrain:
Great is thy faithfulness,
Great is thy faithfulness,
Morning by morning new mercies I see.
All I have needed thy hand hast provided;
Great is thy faithfulness,
Lord unto me.
- 2. Summer and winter and springtime and harvest,
Sun, moon, and stars in their courses above
Join with all nature in manifold witness
To thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love. [Refrain]

- 3. Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
Blessings all mine and ten thousand beside. [Refrain]
https://my.hymnary.org/song/dynamic/58/great_is_thy_faithfulness_o_god_my_fathe?toolkit=veroviostatic&hymnary=1

Great is thy
Faithfulness
my.hymnary.org/song

May the Lord bless you abundantly

