

# 40 DAYS OF PRAYER

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*PRAYERS FOR KINGDOM GROWTH, FORGIVENESS,  
GUIDANCE, PROVISION, AND THANKFULNESS*



**COMPASSION  
CONNECT**  
*uniting to serve*

# 40 DAYS OF PRAYER

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## *FOSTERING A DAILY RELATIONSHIP WITH THE LIVING GOD*

Dear Participant,

It is my sincerest hope that you will not be merely a reader, an observer, or a person on the sidelines as you open this devotional. Instead, my hope is that you will participate in this 40 day journey as a humble recipient of all God has for you.

This is not a devotional that will increase your mental acumen; rather it is intended to position you to increase your capacity to be in a living relationship with God on a daily, step by step level.

After nearly 12 months of planning high level strategy for the future of Compassion Connect, we hit a point where we felt like the number of documents, budgets, and options were overwhelming. It quickly became clear that we needed an organizational shift in posture. So when we heard about some other organizations that had hit the pause button and walked through 40 days of prayer, we knew that was our next step.

We decided to include our entire volunteer and donor base on this journey, and nearly 100 people signed up to be part of this 40 days of prayer journey. They received daily email devotionals prepared by myself, some staff, and a few board members. The positive response we received was overwhelming so we decided to put the prayers all together in this little devotional book to bless you. It's important to know that it is structured like a journey according to themes by week, as this was the helpful layout given to me by a spiritual director friend who helped me lay out the themes.

I pray you will experience God's love through these next 40 days of highs and lows.

Yours in Christ,  
Milan Homola  
Compassion Connect Co-Founder & Executive Director





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## WEEK ONE: DAYS 1 - 7

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*THEME: "FATHER IN HEAVEN, HALLOWED BE YOUR NAME, YOUR KINGDOM COME. WE WILL FOCUS ON THE LORD AND SAY REPEATEDLY "ALL I WANT IS YOUR KINGDOM ON EARTH."*

### DAY 1

**Verse to Reflect On:** “For this reason I bow my knees to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, from whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named.” Ephesians 3:14

**Devotional Thoughts:** We acknowledge God as the source of our lives, which can be a tool of his kingdom. We are named because of His work and His character; individually and corporately we are named through the Father. If the Father has named us, we reflect him to the world around us. This is a great honor; therefore our starting point and ongoing culture is to bow our knees to the Father.

**Prayer:** Lord please lead us through this season. Meet with us, restore our hearts, unite us, and set us free of all that holds us back from you.



*WEEK 1 THEME: "FATHER IN  
HEAVEN, HALLOWED BE YOUR NAME,  
YOUR KINGDOM COME"*

## D A Y 2

**Verse to Reflect On:** “But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things will be added unto you.” Matthew 6:33

**Prayer:** Father we lay our "kingdom" building activities at your feet. We acknowledge the reality that we are often building for our own safety and protection. Give us eyes to see you as the only true source of safety and protection. Give us the heart to embrace your true Kingdom and the ways in which you call us out to radical faith.



*WEEK 1 THEME: "FATHER IN  
HEAVEN, HALLOWED BE YOUR NAME,  
YOUR KINGDOM COME"*

## DAY 3

**Verse to Reflect On:** “The Lord descended in the cloud and stood there with him as he called upon the name of the Lord. Then the Lord passed by in front of him and proclaimed, “The Lord, the Lord God, compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in lovingkindness and truth...” Exodus 34:5-6

**Prayer:** God, we worship you with our whole heart. We declare your truths as a perfect Father: you are compassionate, gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in promise-filled love. Today we will walk in light of these truths but only by your power through the Spirit in our inner being.



*WEEK 1 THEME: "FATHER IN  
HEAVEN, HALLOWED BE YOUR NAME,  
YOUR KINGDOM COME"*

**D A Y 4**

**Verse to Reflect On:** "Oh, the depth of the riches of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable his judgments, and his paths beyond tracing out!"

Romans 11:33

**Prayer:** Gracious God, we seek your will. Help us to see the people and issues that are important to you; open our eyes and help us to be brave to see your heart on earth.



*WEEK 1 THEME: "FATHER IN  
HEAVEN, HALLOWED BE YOUR NAME,  
YOUR KINGDOM COME"*

## DAY 5

**Verse to Reflect On:** "But He said to them, "I must preach the kingdom of God to the other cities also, for I was sent for this purpose." Luke 4:43

**Prayer:** Jesus, we thank you that your whole heart is aching for the whole world--both those in our own backyard and those in cities everywhere. We thank you for your body the Church, who you have tasked with sharing your good news and transformative power. We thank you that your great purpose includes all of us--the broken, the hopeless, the rejects--not just some.





*WEEK 1 THEME: "FATHER IN  
HEAVEN, HALLOWED BE YOUR NAME,  
YOUR KINGDOM COME"*

## DAY 6

**Verse to Reflect On:** "Whatever city you enter and they receive you, eat what is set before you; and heal those in it who are sick, and say to them, 'The kingdom of God has come near to you.'" Luke 10: 8-9

**Prayer:** Oh God, we thank you for the physical, spiritual, and mental healing you have given us. Thank you that you have given us the ability to pass that healing onto others, and that your kingdom is present when we do so. Please help us bring more healing to more people in your precious name.



*WEEK 1 THEME: "FATHER IN  
HEAVEN, HALLOWED BE YOUR NAME,  
YOUR KINGDOM COME"*

## DAY 7

**Verse to Reflect On:** “Now having been questioned by the Pharisees as to when the kingdom of God was coming, He answered them and said, “The kingdom of God is not coming with signs to be observed; nor will they say, ‘Look, here it is!’ or, ‘There it is!’ For behold, the kingdom of God is in your midst.” Luke 17:20-21

**Prayer:** Lord, we thank you that even now, your kingdom is in our midst. It is not flashy, it does not call attention to itself, but it is here with us. It is in the people you have placed around us to love and to serve, and in our brothers and sisters in faith. Your kingdom is active, alive, and both constantly here and constantly coming. Please awaken us to see your kingdom all around us.



## WEEK TWO: DAYS 8 - 14

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*THEME: "FORGIVE US OUR TRESPASSES. FOCUS ON PURITY OF HEART. ASK, "LORD, HELP ME SEE EVERYTHING IN ME THAT KEEPS ME FROM LOVING YOU AND YOUR PEOPLE."*



### DAY 8

**Verse to Reflect On:** "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." 1 John 1:9

**Devotional/Prayer:** Take 5 minutes to ask God to unveil parts of your life and heart that you don't normally take notice of. Rest in silence. When your mind wanders, don't get upset or feel like a failure. Gently come back to sitting with Jesus. Confess what needs to be openly discussed with him. Accept forgiveness.



*WEEK 2 THEME: "FORGIVE US OUR  
TRESPASSES"*



## D A Y 9

**Verse to Reflect On:** "Search me, God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. See if there is any offensive way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting." Psalm 139:23-24

**Prayer:** Almighty God, we welcome you into our space both individually and corporately. Show us the dark corners we explain away, ignore, or don't yet know. Lay bare our motivations. Make known to us where we are operating for our own glory. Lead me! Lead us! There is nowhere else to turn.



*WEEK 2 THEME: "FORGIVE US OUR  
TRESPASSES"*

**D A Y 1 0**

**Verse to Reflect On:** "For thus the Lord God, the Holy One of Israel, has said, 'In repentance and rest you will be saved, In quietness and trust is your strength.' But you were not willing." Isaiah 30:15

**Prayer/Devotional:** Lord, I repent of my self-effort to earn, build, and maintain apart from you. I return to you right now in this moment, acknowledging you as the true vine and source of life and joy. Help me, oh Lord, to be willing.

Take 5 minutes to rest in in quietness. In this moment allow your heart to trust that God is good. When another thought, worry, doubt, or concern tries to grab your attention lightly let it go and come back to a place of rest and trust in Jesus.



*WEEK 2 THEME: "FORGIVE US OUR  
TRESPASSES"*

**D A Y 11**

**Verse to Reflect On:** "For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far does he remove our transgressions from us. As a father shows compassion to his children, so the Lord shows compassion to those who fear him."

Psalm 103:11-13

**Devotion:** The context for conquering sin is love. Not a distant far off love, but a deep, close, personal love; very much like a good Father. God's compassion and love are vast and ever-present. In the midst of our sin do we cling to his vast love or try to "make up for it?"

**Prayer:** Lord, we worship you. What is humanity that you are mindful of us? We are in awe of your great love that has unceasing depth, height, length, and width. Please grant us the strength to embrace your love and compassion, especially in our places and moments of darkness.



*WEEK 2 THEME: "FORGIVE US OUR  
TRESPASSES"*

**D A Y 1 2**

**Verse to Reflect On:** "But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved" Ephesians 2:4-5

**Devotional:** Read this passage slowly. Rest with the images that come to mind. Don't rush through it to learn something; instead imagine opening your arms and receiving God. Allow your heart to be drawn to key images and simply speak back to God what you experience/feel as you rest with those pictures.

**Prayer:** Thank you God for your rich mercy and your great love. We confess how rare it is for us to slow down and embrace this mercy and love that are so central to your character. We confess the self-effort we expend to make ourselves "alive." Please open our eyes to what life looks like when we embrace the truth that we have been "made alive together with Christ."



*WEEK 2 THEME: "FORGIVE US OUR  
TRESPASSES"*

**D A Y 13**

**Verse to Reflect On:** "For freedom Christ has set us free; stand firm therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery." Galatians 5:1

**Devotional:** We are bombarded with definitions and lifestyles of "freedom" and yet scriptures point us to Jesus alone as the means and source of true freedom. Sometimes the biggest barrier to receiving this freedom is our own pursuit of it. Will we get out of the way and simply embrace Jesus as the one who brings freedom? Our call is to stand firm in Jesus and no longer put the chains of self-effort, pride, and fear back on our shoulders.

**Prayer:** Jesus, we receive your freedom. We worship you as the God of liberty. Forgive us for the barriers we uphold in our hearts and minds that keep us scrambling to "hold it together" and working hard to build our own "freedom." Heal me. Heal our city. Heal our nation. Heal our world. Set us free.





*WEEK 2 THEME: "FORGIVE US OUR  
TRESPASSES"*

**D A Y 14**

**Verse to Reflect On:** "But the Lord our God is merciful and forgiving, even though we have rebelled against him."  
Daniel 9:9

**Devotional:** Our rebellion is deep. At times we see this clearly and at other times we prefer ignorance. Either way, God is merciful and forgiving. Take this time of silence to explore what blocks your heart and mind from receiving undeserved forgiveness. Imagine Jesus removing those hurdles one by one with the most gentle touch. What does it feel like to embrace the freedom of unconditional love?

**Prayer:** Jesus, we don't deserve mercy and forgiveness and yet you have both available to us at all times. Please strengthen our hearts to embrace this incredible reality. Remove the barriers we can't seem to let go of and the hurdles we aren't even aware of. Give us a glimpse into the vastness of your mercy and may it fill our hearts to overflowing for all those we come in contact with who need a taste of mercy and forgiveness.

## WEEK THREE: DAYS 15 - 21


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*THEME: "COME HOLY SPIRIT. ASK THE SPIRIT OF GOD TO GUIDE AND LEAD. "WE BEG YOU, HOLY SPIRIT, AGAIN AND AGAIN, SHOW US THE WAY."*

### DAY 15

**Verse to Reflect On:** "Teach me to do Your will, For You are my God; Let Your good Spirit lead me on level ground." Psalm 143:10

**Prayer:** Dear Lord, help us to understand your will. Whatever is necessary for your will to be done, help us each to see it and do what you require, even if all you require is waiting on you, being in your Word, and in dialogue/prayer with you. We pray this in Jesus' name, Amen.




*WEEK 3 THEME: "COME HOLY SPIRIT. ASK THE SPIRIT OF GOD TO GUIDE AND LEAD. WE BEG YOU, HOLY SPIRIT, AGAIN AND AGAIN, SHOW US THE WAY."*



## DAY 16

**Verse to Reflect On:** "For God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control." 2 Timothy 1:7

**Prayer:** Dear Lord, thank you for all you have given to us. It is amazing to see how You have answered our prayers over the years. Please help us to focus on all You have done, and to give You the thanks and praise, ALWAYS. Bring us to a place of peace and joy, no matter what the future brings, knowing that we are truly in Your will, today and each day moving forward. Help us each to see what you require, and to be obedient unto your Word and Will. We pray this in Jesus' precious name, Amen.




*WEEK 3 THEME: "COME HOLY SPIRIT. ASK THE SPIRIT OF GOD TO GUIDE AND LEAD. "WE BEG YOU, HOLY SPIRIT, AGAIN AND AGAIN, SHOW US THE WAY."*



## DAY 17

**Verse to Reflect On:** "Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect." Romans 12:2

**Prayer:** Dear Lord, we live in a world where "bigger is better," and where self-sufficiency is admired and rewarded. Your ways are not the way of the world. Help us to focus on You, Your Word, Your Will, and not to be influenced by what the world sees as good or successful. Give us the wisdom to wait on You, and to clearly understand Your will. We pray this in your Son's precious name, Amen.



*WEEK 3 THEME: "COME HOLY SPIRIT. ASK THE SPIRIT OF GOD TO GUIDE AND LEAD. "WE BEG YOU, HOLY SPIRIT, AGAIN AND AGAIN, SHOW US THE WAY."*




## DAY 18

**Verse to Reflect On:** "Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom."

2 Corinthians 3:17

**Devotional:** Take some time to sit with Jesus and ask Him to show you the emotions and circumstances you are experiencing. Do they reflect peace and a sense of freedom in Christ? If not, name those things: fear, worry, doubt, shame. Write them down if you need to and then invite the Lord to come and bring freedom in their place.

**Prayer:** Lord, we worship you as the God of freedom. We seek to follow your Spirit. Help us experience the joy of waiting on you, following you, and honoring you. Help us see where your Spirit is working in our hearts, in our home, and in our community, and give us the courage to partner with you in that work.



*WEEK 3 THEME: "COME HOLY SPIRIT. ASK THE SPIRIT OF GOD TO GUIDE AND LEAD. "WE BEG YOU, HOLY SPIRIT, AGAIN AND AGAIN, SHOW US THE WAY."*




## DAY 19

**Verse to Reflect On:** "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters. And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. God saw that the light was good, and he separated the light from the darkness." Genesis 1:1-4

**Devotional:** In the midst of chaos the Spirit created order. In the midst of darkness was light. Beauty out of the mess: this is the character of God. God's character is consistent and God desires the same for his most treasured creation: humanity. In our darkness, chaos, and mess, God seeks to enter in and rescue/renew.

Take 5 minutes to sit and picture the Spirit hovering over the darkness within. Receive the light God wants to bring forth. Embrace the eternal declaration that "you are good." *Day 19 continued on next page*




*WEEK 3 THEME: "COME HOLY SPIRIT. ASK  
THE SPIRIT OF GOD TO GUIDE AND LEAD.  
"WE BEG YOU, HOLY SPIRIT, AGAIN AND  
AGAIN, SHOW US THE WAY."*




## DAY 19, CONTINUED

**Prayer:** Holy Spirit, we honor you as the creator God. We surrender to your overwhelming power to renew and rebuild. Lead us forward as a people who reflect your goodness to the world around us.



*WEEK 3 THEME: "COME HOLY SPIRIT. ASK THE SPIRIT OF GOD TO GUIDE AND LEAD. "WE BEG YOU, HOLY SPIRIT, AGAIN AND AGAIN, SHOW US THE WAY."*




## D A Y 2 0

**Verse to Reflect On:** "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law." Galatians 5:22-23

**Prayer:** Lord, we bow before you, acknowledging you as King. We ask that you reveal to us the quality of the fruit in our lives. Gives us eyes to see the fruit that comes from walking in the Spirit and also eyes to see the fruit that we try to create apart from you. We need your wisdom, your Word, and the way of Jesus. Please, Holy Spirit, guide us in this freeing life of love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.






*WEEK 3 THEME: "COME HOLY SPIRIT. ASK THE SPIRIT OF GOD TO GUIDE AND LEAD. "WE BEG YOU, HOLY SPIRIT, AGAIN AND AGAIN, SHOW US THE WAY."*



## DAY 21

**Verse to Reflect On:** "And hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out within our hearts through the Holy Spirit who was given to us."  
Romans 5:5


**Devotional:** Take 10 minutes to be silent. Prepare your heart by surrendering your agenda/tasks/worries/etc. to Jesus. When you are calm, imagine the words of this verse in full 3D surround sound. You are experiencing the love God has for you, which is vast and measureless. This love is being poured into your heart directly. The one through whom it pours is the Holy Spirit. That is the Spirit's fine work that brings great joy. Receive this reality today.



## WEEK FOUR: DAYS 22 - 28

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*THEME: "GIVE US THIS DAY. FOCUS ON PRAYERS  
OF TRUST IN GOD AS THE PROVIDER."*



### DAY 22

**Verse to Reflect On:** “For the Lord God is a sun and shield; the Lord bestows favor and honor; no good thing does he withhold from those whose walk is blameless.”

Psalm 84:11

**Prayer:** Humble us, Lord, and grant us contrite hearts that we may be made holy and experience your blessings. Thank you that you are a good parent who protects and provides.



*WEEK FOUR THEME: "GIVE US THIS  
DAY. FOCUS ON PRAYERS OF TRUST  
IN GOD AS THE PROVIDER."*

## DAY 23

**Verse to Reflect On:** "Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you." Matthew 7:7

**Prayer:** Thank you Jesus that you invite us into deep relationship with you. As we earnestly and persistently pursue you, please show us your purpose for us in this season. We trust that you will open exactly the right doors. Give us hearts to see them.



*WEEK FOUR THEME: "GIVE US THIS DAY. FOCUS ON PRAYERS OF TRUST IN GOD AS THE PROVIDER."*

## DAY 24

**Verse to Reflect On:** “Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this,” says the Lord Almighty, “and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it.” Malachi 3:10

**Prayer:** God, your abundance is beyond our comprehension. We are so unworthy, yet you choose to give to overflowing. Give us faith to believe your promises. Grant us grateful hearts that are quick to point to your glory.



*WEEK FOUR THEME: "GIVE US THIS DAY. FOCUS ON PRAYERS OF TRUST IN GOD AS THE PROVIDER."*

## DAY 25

**Verse to Reflect On:** "Every good thing given and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shifting shadow." James 1:17

**Devotional:** This verse reminds us from whom all good things come: our heavenly Father. Sometimes pride enters in and tells us that we made this, or we earned this, or we found that, and we don't stop to give God the credit for those good things in our life. I love that God's loving-kindness toward us is everlasting, with no variation or shifting shadows. In other words, God never changes, and God's love for us never changes.

**Prayer:** Lord, we praise you and give you all the glory! Thank you for your provision in our lives, and for every good gift that you have sent to us. We are so blessed by you! Thank you for being you, and for loving us with an everlasting love and kindness that has no variation or shifting shadow. Amen.



*WEEK FOUR THEME: "GIVE US THIS DAY. FOCUS ON PRAYERS OF TRUST IN GOD AS THE PROVIDER."*

## DAY 26

**Verse to Reflect On:** "Unless the Lord builds the house, they labor in vain who build it. Unless the Lord guards the city, the watchman keeps awake in vain. It is vain for you to rise up early, to retire late, to eat the bread of painful labors; for He gives to His beloved even in his sleep."

Psalm 127:1-2

**Devotional:** We can all work very hard to pursue our dreams and goals, but what is the use if the Lord is not in our plans, if we haven't sought counsel in prayer, if we haven't consulted the Word, if we don't listen to the Spirit, if our plans do not represent his will, if we don't put our trust in him? It is our desire for the Lord to build our house, and I love that he is working on it even when we are sleeping! *Day 26 continued on next page*



*WEEK FOUR THEME: "GIVE US THIS DAY. FOCUS ON PRAYERS OF TRUST IN GOD AS THE PROVIDER."*



## DAY 26, CONTINUED

**Prayer:** Lord, please forgive us for all the times when we work independently of you, driving toward our own selfish or misguided goals. Please forgive us when we turn our back on you, ignore you, or purposely block you out. Guide our steps and lead our lives. Build our house by providing us with your wisdom and direction. Show us your will and your way. Protect us and deliver us from trouble. We pray that our labors would be pleasing to you, and that they would bear the fruit of your Spirit. Amen.



*WEEK FOUR THEME: "GIVE US THIS DAY. FOCUS ON PRAYERS OF TRUST IN GOD AS THE PROVIDER."*

## DAY 27

**Verse to Reflect On:** "Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls." Matthew 11:29

**Prayer:** Loving Father, may we not work against time, but with time, valuing our moments as covered in grace.





*WEEK FOUR THEME: "GIVE US THIS DAY. FOCUS ON PRAYERS OF TRUST IN GOD AS THE PROVIDER."*

## DAY 28

**Verse to Reflect On:** "The hand of the Lord was upon me, and He brought me out by the Spirit of the Lord and set me down in the middle of the valley; and it was full of bones. He caused me to pass among them round about, and behold, there were very many on the surface of the valley; and lo, they were very dry. He said to me, "Son of man, can these bones live?" And I answered, "O Lord God, You know." Again He said to me, "Prophecy over these bones and say to them, 'O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord.' Thus says the Lord God to these bones, 'Behold, I will cause breath to enter you that you may come to life. I will put sinews on you, make flesh grow back on you, cover you with skin and put breath in you that you may come alive; and you will know that I am the Lord.'" Ezekiel 37:1-6

**Devotional:** God visits Ezekiel and the first thing He has him do is observe (v.1-2). Take a few minutes to observe the valley of your heart and life. What do you see? What type of geography would you describe? *Day 28 continued on next page*




*WEEK FOUR THEME: "GIVE US THIS DAY. FOCUS ON PRAYERS OF TRUST IN GOD AS THE PROVIDER."*

## DAY 28 , CONTINUED

Don't look at your valley with a heart of measurement but rather receive what God displays and feel the full range of emotions...don't try to be "spiritual" or "righteous" with false Christian humility or shame. Simply receive what is displayed before you and then read verses 3-6 and rest in the truth that God breathes life. Acknowledge those places where you see life, because in so doing you know the great "I Am" is Lord.

Often the valley of dry bones feels like our present reality. Other times, we don't even realize just how dry the bones are because of our manic effort to perform, produce, and evaluate.

**Prayer:** Lord, we want to see, experience, and display your life giving breath. Please reveal it to us and put an end to those thoughts, motivations, actions that steal away life. Amen.



## WEEK FIVE: DAYS 29 - 35

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*THEME: "A LAMP TO OUR FEET AND A LIGHT TO OUR PATH. FOCUS ON MOVING FORWARD IN OBEDIENCE. JOURNAL ANY WORDS OR LEADINGS OR THOUGHTS THAT MIGHT BE FROM THE LORD."*



### DAY 29

**Verse to Reflect On:** “How sweet are your words to my taste, sweeter than honey to my mouth! I gain understanding from your precepts; therefore I hate every wrong path. Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path.” Psalm 119:103-105

**Devotional:** So often we get lost or confused on our path through life and forget that we can trust God’s word to illuminate the way forward when we don’t know where to go. What relief it is to realize that when we’re stuck, we always have a means of getting out at our fingertips.

**Prayer:** Lord, thank you for your sweet words to us. Help us make time to contemplate your words, learn from them, and seek ways to make them real and active in our lives. Please give us discernment to identify “every wrong path,” both individually and corporately. We know that there is no point walking down a path that you haven’t blessed. We want to obey your divine direction. Thank you for being a bright and shining light in the darkness.



*WEEK 5 THEME: "A LAMP TO OUR  
FEET AND A LIGHT TO OUR PATH"*

## DAY 30

**Verse to Reflect On:** “Let the morning bring me word of your unfailing love, for I have put my trust in you. Show me the way I should go, for to you I entrust my life.”  
Psalm 143:8:

**Devotional/Prayer:** Think about some areas of your life that you have been maintaining control of instead of entrusting to God: whether at work, in relationships, personal struggles, etc. Then spend a few minutes in prayer asking for help to relinquish those things and entrust them to God’s care. Ask God to remind you each morning of how much you are loved and how trustworthy God is.



*WEEK 5 THEME: "A LAMP TO OUR  
FEET AND A LIGHT TO OUR PATH"*

## DAY 31

**Verse to Reflect On:** “Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.” Romans 12:1-2

**Prayer:** Lord, we thank you that you sacrificed your body for us on the Cross. Please usher us away from lives of complacency and comfort and the pursuit of worldly titles and accomplishments. Help us live out a higher way, a way that is a living sacrifice to you, in pursuit of the better things you have shown us. Thank you that we’re no longer trapped in sin and death; please help us not to go back to living in the old dead ways. Transform our minds, Lord. Show us your will. Let our very lives be continual worship of You.



*WEEK 5 THEME: "A LAMP TO OUR  
FEET AND A LIGHT TO OUR PATH"*

## DAY 32

**Verse to Reflect On:** “And this is love: that we walk in obedience to his commands. As you have heard from the beginning, his command is that you walk in love.”  
2 John 1:6

**Prayer:** Lord, thank you for the interesting connection between love and obedience. Our true love for you is demonstrated by walking in the ways you’ve told us are good. Thank you that everything comes back to love--we obey your greatest command by loving you and loving others, and out of this love we follow all your other commands as well. Obedience does not have to be something we do out of obligation or fear. When love is our motivation, it changes everything and we thank you for that, God. Help us to obey you out of love.



*WEEK 5 THEME: "A LAMP TO OUR  
FEET AND A LIGHT TO OUR PATH"*

**D A Y 33**

**Verse to Reflect On:** “Therefore, my dear friends, as you have always obeyed—not only in my presence, but now much more in my absence—continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God who works in you to will and to act in order to fulfill his good purpose.” Philippians 2:12-13

**Prayer:** Lord, you hold us to high standards for our good and the good of others. But we thank you that we don’t have to be superhuman in order to walk with you. Where we are weak, you are strong. Where we hesitate, you give us confidence. Where we don’t know where to go, you shine a light on the path. Thank you that your great strength resides in us and that we have only to ask for your help---not only to fulfill your good purpose, but to want to fulfill your good purpose when we would stubbornly rather go our own way. Put your desires in our hearts, Lord, and let us rejoice to follow after them.



*WEEK 5 THEME: "A LAMP TO OUR  
FEET AND A LIGHT TO OUR PATH"*



**DAY 34**

**Verse to Reflect On:** “But if any of you lacks wisdom, let them ask of God, who gives to all generously and without reproach, and it will be given to them.” James 1:5

**Prayer:** Lord, you are a fountain overflowing with wisdom, love, mercy, and an endless number of beautiful things. Thank you for being an approachable God to whom we can make requests. During intense times of growth and uncertainty in our lives, we need your wisdom more than ever. Please grant us wisdom during this season of life. Thank you that although circumstances may be uncertain, we may always be certain that you will fulfill your promises to us.





*WEEK 5 THEME: "A LAMP TO OUR  
FEET AND A LIGHT TO OUR PATH"*



**DAY 35**

**Verse to Reflect On:** “For You are my rock and my fortress; for Your name’s sake You will lead me and guide me.” Psalm 31:3

**Prayer:** You will lead me and guide me. What comfort it is to say those words, Lord. Thank you for being our rock and fortress when doubt, darkness, and fear circle around. We invite your leading and guidance into every space of our lives; we plead for you to be especially present in our vulnerability and weakness. Help us not to make important choices out of fear, but with your great strength and protection in mind.



## WEEK SIX: DAYS 36 - 40

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THEME: "THANKSGIVING"

### DAY 36

**Verse to Reflect On:** "Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."  
Philippians 4:6-7

**Devotional:** It's clear from this passage that a connection exists between thankfulness and peace. Often I think of thankfulness as an obligation: "a good Christian is thankful." I try to muster up thankfulness. In the best of times I see that thankfulness is a practiced lifestyle and, though I'm far from it, I have known the greatest peace in those times where thankfulness precedes all else. The worry and anxiety and prayer requests don't need a sprinkling of thankfulness, as though it's a formulaic afterthought; rather thankfulness is the starting place for processing, praying, and requesting. *Day 36 continued on next page*



*WEEK 6 THEME:  
"THANKSGIVING"*

**D A Y 3 6 , C O N T I N U E D**

**Prayer:** Lord, thank you that your very character is peaceful. You create and redeem us so that we can enjoy your shared peace. Please send your Spirit to give us hearts and eyes for thankfulness. Please send us instigators of thankfulness: scriptures, people, memories. Have mercy on our thanklessness and patience for our brokenness. Amen.



*WEEK 6 THEME:  
"THANKSGIVING"*

**D A Y 37**

**Verse to Reflect On:** "O give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; For His lovingkindness is everlasting."  
1 Chronicles 16:34

**Devotional:** Take 5 minutes and list out on a piece of paper things that will or have lasted a long time in your life. Then list things that will last beyond the days of your physical life. Is love something on that list? This verse tells us that God's "lovingkindness" (which is promise-based, deep love) will last forever.

**Prayer:** Thank you Lord. You are good. Really you are so good. Thank you for sharing your goodness. Thank you that you name yourself as Love and that love is unbending, unbreaking, never stopping, and forever. Thank you Lord. Amen.



*WEEK 6 THEME:  
"THANKSGIVING"*

**D A Y 3 8**

**Verse to Reflect On:** "Give praise to the Lord, proclaim his name; make known among the nations what he has done, and proclaim that his name is exalted. Sing to the Lord, for he has done glorious things; let this be known to all the world." Isaiah 12:4-5

**Prayer:** We thank you Lord for the great works you have done in our midst. We praise your name. Help us Lord not stop short by keeping the goodness and stories of how you have changed our lives to ourselves. May we make it known to the whole world by your strength. Amen.



*WEEK 6 THEME:  
"THANKSGIVING"*

**D A Y 39**

**Verse to Reflect On:** "So now I am giving you a new commandment: Love each other. Just as I have loved you, you should love each other. Your love for one another will prove to the world that you are my disciples."

John 13:34-35

**Devotional:** Sit with God quietly. Honestly allow Him to show you where you are disobeying. Where is your sense of "fairness," "justice," or pride blocking you from loving? Is God wanting to set you free of something that chains down your heart?

Often we say we want the world to know about God but more often we forget that Jesus gives clear avenues to do that: "Your love for one another will..." The world needs to see a love that is supernatural, relationships that overcome conflict, families and friendships that endure through reconciliation because Jesus is all about reconciliation. This will display an uncommon love to a world that needs it, and it involves taking humble steps of obedience. *Day 39 continued on next page*



*WEEK 6 THEME:  
"THANKSGIVING"*

**DAY 39 , CONTINUED**

**Prayer:** Jesus, we acknowledge your command. We notice it and name it: "Love one another." Forgive us when we sweep it under the rug or allow other logical reasoning to hold us back from loving with your love. This may be our weakest spot that we need your redemption and power more than any other. Please show up, transform our hearts, and pour out your love through us to those closest to us and then to the world around us. Amen.



*WEEK 6 THEME:  
"THANKSGIVING"*

**D A Y 4 0**

**Verse to Reflect On:** “For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope. Then when you call upon me and come and pray to me, I will hear you. When you search for me, you will find me; if you seek me with all your heart.” Jeremiah 29:11-13

**Devotional:** We know the context of this passage reveals pain, suffering, and the consequences of rebellion. Our seasons, personally & organizationally, of striving by our own strength, neglecting to turn to Jesus, and robbing Him of glory are not that different than the rebellion and exile that Israel went through. Therefore, as we conclude the 40 days of prayer let us rest upon two truths:

- 1.) We are a wandering and weak people apart from Jesus.
- 2.) In our humble posture/heart God meets us with the plans and purposes that are filled with hope. *Day 40 continued on next page*





*WEEK 6 THEME:  
"THANKSGIVING"*

**DAY 40 , CONTINUED**

What is God directing you toward, or away from, or deeper into as you sought Him over these 40 days? Take that step today!

**Prayer:** Lord, we humbly seek you, acknowledging our weakness. We need you today, right now, this very minute to draw near and unveil your good plans for our lives. Give us the strength to seek you and call upon your name well beyond this wonderful season of 40 days of prayer. Thank you Jesus for walking with us through this encouraging season. Amen.

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