

PRAY FIRST

APRIL 2019



PRAYER POINTS

Apr. 1 - Pray for our Easter services to be packed out today so as many people can hear the good news of the empty tomb and His loving grace meant for them! (Luke 24)

Apr. 2 - Pray we consider Jesus and the cross every day of the year, and we seek Him to help us live for the Kingdom of God and not our own agendas. (Matt. 13)

Apr. 3 - Ask Jesus to help us stay committed to the truth of gospel generosity, and when we doubt His provision, to strengthen our faith. (Psl. 23:1)

Apr. 4 - Ask Jesus to help us curve our criticism of the "least of these". Pray we stay away from trite critiques and seek the heart of Jesus regarding how to love them practically. (Matt. 25:31-46)

Apr. 5 - Pray for Crossbridge to be people who do not live on the fringe of all Jesus has for us, but we move from proximity to intimacy, allowing His love to transform our relationship with Him. (Matt. 27:54)

Apr. 6 - Pray for the youth of Crossbridge to know Jesus is better than any pursuit, dream, interest, or distraction, and help them keep their eyes on Jesus, the One who loves them most. (Phil. 3:8)

Apr. 7 - Pray for the new-comers in the Next Steps class today to connect with their purpose as growing followers of Jesus and grow in their desire to know God, moving from curious to connected. (Acts 2:46)

Apr. 8 - Ask God to reveal His tremendous love to the elementary students and ask for many to trust Him as their Good Shepherd. (Psl. 23:3)

Apr. 9 - Pray each of us ask this hard but necessary question, "Jesus, am I craving anything that you were crucified for?" and then rapidly repent and accept His healing for our sin and hurt. (Isa. 53:4-5)

Apr. 10 - For the El Salvador trip this June, ask Jesus to prepare the hearts of those He has called to go, as well as those He is calling to be a part by being "senders". (Rom. 10:14)

Apr. 11 - Pray we seek first God's presence, seeing ourselves seated with Jesus, where we are already complete in Him, counted as citizens of heaven, seen as perfected in God's love, because of His sacrifice. (Col. 2:8-10)

Apr. 12 - In this world you will have trouble, but take courage; I have overcome the world. Pray when we have troubles, we remember we are in Christ, so we have overcome the world with Him! (Jn. 16:33)

Apr. 13 - Pray we find small ways to hold others "of no account", neither judging or condemning when we are hurt or wronged, surrendering our expectations of others, both loved ones and enemies. (1 Cor. 13:4-7)

Apr. 14 - On Palm Sunday, pray we surrender whatever Jesus may request for His Kingdom purposes as He did of the donkey's owner, and we come, stay, go, offer whatever the request. (Day 1 of Holy Week: read Luke 19:28-44)

Apr. 15 - Pray as we go through Holy Week, we reflect on the way Jesus spent His last days. Today He cleared the Temple and cursed a fig tree; pray we embrace faith to fly free of yesterday's guilt, today's fears, and tomorrow's problems. Pray BIG; He's bigger! (Day 2: read Luke 19:45-48)

Apr. 16 - The parables of the wise and loyal servant and bridesmaids, and loyal and wicked servants all point us to choices. We can choose the wrong career, house or city and survive, but there is one choice we must make correctly: our eternal destiny. Pray we choose wisely and invest in other's choices. (Day 3: read Luke 20:1-21:9)

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Apr. 17 - Ask Jesus to speak to each of us as we consider what He is saying to us about His return and ask we steadily endure through the messes of this life to see His will fulfilled in each of us. (Day 4: read Luke 21:10-38)

Apr. 18 - As we consider the Last Supper and His time in the Garden, pray we see His choices: washing the feet of His disciples, and prayer for others and Himself, yet He chose to obey when God so gently but firmly said, "No" to His request. (Day 5: read Luke 22:1-45)

Apr. 19 - Pray Good Friday services will be a sweet but sober time of reflection of Jesus' ultimate sacrifice for all people, for all time, for all sin, and we will be encouraged by remembering His fierce love for us. (Day 6: read Luke 22:55-23:46)

Apr. 20 - Just as the disciples would soon see, the Father's loyalty to Jesus is the Father's loyalty to us. Pray as we contemplate His ultimate sacrifice, we see His completed love for us and humbly worship. (Day 7: read Luke 23: 47-56)

Apr. 21 - Pray on Easter Sunday, many will accept His mercy and surrender their hearts to Him, and we will worship with full hearts as we celebrate our risen Savior and all He has done for us! (Luke 24)

Apr. 22 - Pray we understand more fully that it was love, not nails, that kept Jesus on the cross, a depth of love we may not entirely grasp but can more fully know if we seek Him above everything else. (Mk.15:25)

Apr. 23 - To believe in Jesus is to believe like Jesus. Pray we believe Jesus means what He says when He says we can do all things through Christ who gives us strength. (Phil. 4:13)

Apr. 24 - Pray we know and believe today that Jesus is enough, and things we attempt to add to Him are only distractions meant ultimately to replace Him. (Matt.11:29-30)

Apr. 25 - Pray we are strengthened and encouraged by the Spirit, remaining faithful to seek opportunities to invest in others in practical ways, trusting God to provide what we need to do so. (Luke 21:2)

Apr. 26 - Pray for those who are stuck believing they are not worth saving, asking Jesus to reveal His suffering and death was to show them He believes they are worth it. (Luke 23)

Apr. 27 - Pray we believe like Jesus believes and ask like Jesus asks when we pray, filled with His faith in the Father, trusting God hears us just as He delights to hear and answer His Son. (Jn.11:41-42)

Apr. 28 - Ask Jesus to spur us to invest in, cherish and serve others in our community. Pray we are softened to the needs of those around us and find practical ways to serve them. (Matt. 20:28)

Apr. 29 - Pray we believe Jesus is better than money, entertainment, achievement, popularity, our latest ambition, our newest pursuit, or compromise: Pray we believe He is better and live like it. (Phil. 3:8)

Apr. 30 - As much as we do not fully know our own hearts, Jesus knows and still loves us. Pray we run from self-confidence and embrace God-confidence because He has made us new. (Jn.16:13)