

PRAYER DEVOS: JAN 29 - MAR 4

TACC Prayer Devotional

Jan 29 - Feb 4, 2018

Reading: Matthew 1 - 7

Monday, Matthew 1: From the very first page of the Bible, the Spirit of God was active in creation, of life and everything we know. We disobeyed and rejected God and His good work. This same Spirit of God, the Holy Spirit conceived in Mary our only way to reconciliation with God, that is Jesus Christ. As believers in Jesus, we now have the very same Holy Spirit dwelling in us as did Mary. Pray that the Holy Spirit will work in us all to bring about the same obedience to God's will as Mary did, that we will also be a means for others to receive God's gift of salvation. Pray that God will use us to bring His salvation to our families, neighbors, co-worker, community and the world.

Tuesday, Matthew 2: In Matthew 2:1 we are told that the magi "fell to the ground and worshiped Him". The New Testament is bookended by a similar event in Revelation 1:17 when John "fell at His feet like a dead man". The Bible shows Jesus worshiped as a simple human child, to transfigured Jesus, with eyes "like a flame of fire", feet "like burnished bronze" and a voice "like the sound of many waters." We are to worship God in every way He presents Himself to us. Pray that our attitude in worship, obedience and prayer, reflect the glorious awesome and powerful Jesus. Pray that we honor the Jesus that causes men to fall on there knees whether seen as child or warrior. Pray that we reject the weakened, politically-correct Jesus portrayed in our culture and often our imaginations. Pray that we always fall on our knees to the true Jesus, our God and King.

Wednesday, Matthew 3: God chooses to work through His people. He used John the Baptist to "Make ready the way of the Lord" and John obeyed his God by preaching repentance and baptism. Jesus has given us a job much like John, and it could not be more clear than in the words of Jesus from Matthew 28:19 "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit" Pray that we understand and

act on our call to expand God's kingdom. Pray that we are convicted and motivated to share the truth, obeying and glorifying our God and savior Jesus Christ.

Thursday, Matthew 4: Jesus began building his community beside the Sea of Galilee with a simple call to "Come and follow me". Community is important to God and God Himself is a community of Father, Son and Holy spirit. These followers of Jesus were to be active participants in his kingdom. Follow Jesus "and [He] will send you out to fish for people". Pray that we have His heart for the lost, and pray that we recognize and act on the importance of developing a community centered on Christ. Pray that Jesus will help us build His community.

Friday, Matthew 5: Jesus came here to die in our place for our sins as the only means to reconcile us to God. In Matthew 5:23-24 Jesus says "First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift" and later in Mark 11:25 "And whenever you stand praying, forgive, if you have anything against anyone". While you pray today, be thinking of those you need to forgive. Pray that God will motivate His community to continual reconciliation and forgiveness. Pray that you will always be forgiving others, as God in Christ forgave you.

Saturday, Matthew 6: Matthew 6:10 tells us to pray "Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.". Praying for God's will to be done here on earth requires that we are in full agreement with it, and that agreement requires us to act in accordance with it, in everything we do. Pray that we see and understand God's will clearly in our daily Bible reading. Pray for the strength and resolve to do God's will every day, and pray for the conviction to motivate and encourage others to do the same.

Sunday, Matthew 7: We gain such amazing knowledge and understanding from reading God's word every day. However, Jesus says in Matthew 7: 24-27 that to act on God's words is wise, yet failing to act is foolish. We need God's word in our minds and hearts, however it is acting on them that protects us from the "floods and the winds." Jesus assures us that protection is in the ACTION of His word. Pray that the word of God produces action in you, that you are not just a hearer, but a doer. Thank God for giving us a means to be considered wise, and for the help of the Holy Spirit to do so. Thank God for giving us the material and strength to build a house that will not fall.

TACC Prayer Devotional

Feb 5 - 11, 2018

Reading: Matthew 8 - 14

Monday, Matthew 8: In this chapter we read of many of Jesus' miracles. He heals several people, calms a storm, and casts out demons. Pray that you will be in proper awe of Jesus power, leading to humble worship and adoration. Ask that God would give you the faith of the centurion. Even though he was not part of God's chosen people of Israel, he had a deep and profound faith in Jesus. Pray that God would give you that powerful faith and trust in Him.

Tuesday, Matthew 9: Jesus' love for the people is obvious throughout this chapter. As the crowds come, he loves them and has compassion on them, and as individuals come he lovingly heals them and cares for them. Ask God to help you have compassion on his people, especially the people that are difficult to love, the way that Jesus does. Pray that you will be one of the laborers sharing the gospel and Jesus love to God's people, as the harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few.

Wednesday, Matthew 10: As Jesus sent out his apostles, he sends us into our neighborhoods, workplaces, schools, and community to proclaim that the kingdom of heaven is at hand. Pray for courage and boldness as the Spirit directs your words. Ask for wisdom, innocence, and love as you interact with those that do not know Jesus. Pray that you will not fear, and can boldly share what you have read in His Word. Ask God to help you love Him more than anything else, and that your life may be found in Him.

Thursday, Matthew 11: Thank Jesus for his wise responses to John's disciples and others throughout the gospels, and his wise responses to us today. Ask God to give you wisdom and an open heart to hear and know His answers to you. If you are part of God's kingdom, thank God for his salvation in your life because Jesus says you are greater than John the Baptist for being part of His kingdom. We are so undeservedly blessed to be chosen, loved, forgiven, and made

righteous by our creator. Thank God for choosing you. Pray that you will lay down your own desires and control, and take on Jesus yoke, learning and resting in Him.

Friday, Matthew 12: Pray that God remove unhealthy legalistic rules from your understanding. Ask Him to give you a heart that loves Him above all else, even Christian “rules.” Ask him to give you a desire for only God and His goodness, that all that pours out of you is good, bringing glory to God. Pray that God would take away any desire for things, hobbies, entertainment, etc that are not good by His standards. Ask God to guard your words, so that they are not careless, but uplifting and encouraging to your brothers and sisters.

Saturday, Matthew 13: Pray that God would make or keep our church body good soil, and that we would produce great fruit for God’s kingdom. Ask God to give us ears to hear and eyes to see God’s truth in His Word. We are blessed to have His Word written down for us to read, memorize, and meditate on as often as we want. Ask God to deepen your desire to spend time in the Bible and with God. Pray that He will sustain your saving faith and help you to treasure His kingdom above all else in your life.

Sunday, Matthew 14: Thank God that he is in control of evil and He does what is best for the world even when it does not seem like it, just like when John the Baptist was martyred. When you are sad or depressed as Jesus was when he heard about John’s death, ask God to help you stay focused on God’s kingdom and loving those around you, as Jesus did when he saw the crowds coming to Him. Pray that you will be properly amazed by Jesus’ miracle of feeding five thousand with five loaves and two fish, and having twelve basketfuls left over. Pray that you will have the courage to follow Jesus wherever He leads and that He will keep you focused on Him through every challenge.

TACC Prayer Devotional

Feb 12 - 18, 2018

Reading: Matthew 15 - 21

Monday, Matthew 15: *Matthew 15:1-9* Help us not put traditions before you. Help us honor you with our hearts and our actions. Help us worship you rightly and to know you rightly. *Matthew 15:10-20* Help us to Shema; to hear, understand and to act on your word. Thank you for your word and your instruction. *Matthew 15:21-39* Thank you Jesus that you are our God, that you have compassion on us and that you are our ultimate healer. Help us to have faith in who you truly are.

Tuesday, Matthew 16: *Matthew 16:1-12* Help us to take you at your word, keeping us from procrastination, not demanding signs from you. Your word is true and you are faithful help us to trust you. Help us to remember your mighty works. *Matthew 16:13-28* Thank you that you have revealed yourself to us and that we can confess that you are Christ! Help us to not be a hindrance to your word but to set our minds on the things of God and not on the things of man. Help us to take up our cross and follow you because you-only are worthy.

Wednesday, Matthew 17: Thank you for this chapter, it is filled with mystery and wonder from the transfiguration to a fish with a coin in its mouth. You are an amazing God and we are blessed to be a part of your plan, thank you for having a plan to save us. Thank you for revealing how amazing you are. Help us to remember how amazing you are from your word to all the tremendous blessings we have in our everyday life because of you.

Thursday, Matthew 18: *Matthew 18:1-9* Help us to humble ourselves like children, a faith that is totally dependent on you, a faith that is not complicated. Help us to be good examples to the children around us. Help us to be obedient and a good example to them. Thank you for revealing the danger and sickness of sin and thank you that the Holy Spirit helps to overcome our temptation to sin. We have your power to persevere, help us to live it as we believe in it. *Matthew 18:10-35*

Thank you that you care about each one of us and that you care about the lost. Help us to be obedient and to share your word with the lost. Help us to be the church to our brothers, to not hold grudges, and to forgive. Help us to genuinely care and love those around us, not for our gain but because it's what you command of us. Remind us that we are not alone, but that you are always with us.

Friday, Matthew 19: *Matthew 19:1-12* Thank you for marriage! Thanks to you, at TACC we have many marriages that represent what you have intended to marriage to be. I pray for the men at our church to continue to be in the word, to be strong spiritual leaders in their homes so that our marriages can honor you. I pray for the single men and women in our church that they are growing in your truth so they will be prepared to be joined together to glorify you through their marriage. *Matthew 19:13-29* Jesus you are the only one that is good, help us to be aware of where our weaknesses lie so that we can confess them and turn from them, help us to be freed from the strongholds we create. Help us in all we do be for your name's sake.

Saturday, Matthew 20: *Matthew 20:1-16* Thank you Jesus that you are God and that you are just and sovereign. Help us to trust that and to know that you are all knowing and we are not. Jesus thank you that you are God and that you knew the sacrifice that you chose to make, thank you that in your word you continually shared your plan even though no one knew the things you spoke of, thank you that it's a reminder to us that even though we don't always see clearly that you are always in control.

Sunday, Matthew 21: Thank you Jesus that you are the King and our savior. Forgive us when we don't recognize your Lordship in our life. Help us to praise you as King because you are worthy!

TACC Prayer Devotional

Feb 19 - 25, 2018

Reading: Matthew 22 - 28

Monday, Matthew 22: This chapter is choked full of classic biblical passages. Today, let's focus on verse 29. The Sadducees were trying to trick Jesus and make Him look foolish. Jesus diagnoses their difficulty deftly by saying that they have two problems: 1) They do not understand the Bible's clear teaching and, 2) they underestimate the power of God. Ask God to open the eyes of your mind and heart to carefully understand the Bible and then to see God in His powerful ways in your life. Read slowly and carefully and then stop and give thanks as He shows you what the text means and how powerful He is.

Tuesday, Matthew 23: In verses 37-39 Jesus mourns over the city of Jerusalem. He knows that in 70 A.D the Romans will sack the city, destroy the Temple, and slaughter thousands of His countrymen. If only... if only they had ears to hear and obey the Messiah. Pray that God would give you the same heart and emotions for those in your life who do not know Him. Pray that God would give you a heart of love and care for them, as He loved and cared for His people who ultimately rejected Him.

Wednesday, Matthew 24: In verse 14 Jesus tells us that the gospel of the kingdom needs to be preached in the whole world before He comes again. Pray for India, pray for Europe, pray for your neighbors, pray that God would send you to those who have never heard the gospel. Over 3000 people groups have yet to hear the name of Jesus. In verse 42 Jesus commands us to be on the alert. We do not want to be living in an unprepared state when He comes again. Pray for His coming, pray that your life would be found holy when He comes. Pray that God would give you the grace to root out from your life those things that are displeasing to Him.

Thursday, Matthew 25: In verse 40 Jesus says that when we serve our Christian brothers and sisters with food, water, lodging, hospitality,

visiting them in the hospital or at home when they're sick – we are actually serving Jesus. They are Jesus to us when we serve them we are serving Jesus. Pray that your relationships with our fellow believers at TACC would be such that that you would do these things for them. Pray for a heart of love and compassion.

Friday, Matthew 26: In verses 6-13 a woman pours a very expensive perfume on Jesus' feet. The disciples are indignant. Jesus is indignant at their indignancy! The woman was extravagant in her love for Jesus. Pray that your love for Him would know no bounds. Pray that the expressions of your love for Him would be pure and holy, untainted other agendas.

Saturday, Matthew 27: Jesus is brutally beaten, mocked, tortured and murdered in cold blood. His love for His Father's glory, and His love for us, moved Him to give up His life willingly. It was the most tortuous, agonizing event of all time – and in infinitely multiple ways more than any of us has ever suffered. Pray, as you read through the text slowly, that the Spirit of God would move you to better understand His love, compassion, and suffering. Give thanks. Give thanks that He is a risen Saviour who because of His death and resurrection, reigns over all.

Sunday, Matthew 28: In verse 1 two women come to Jesus' grave. It took courage moved by love. They did the hard thing because of love. Give thanks today for the women in your life who love Jesus. Give thanks for your mother, your sister, a godly aunt or grandmother. Give thanks for the women at TACC who model a godly femininity and serve the body in multiple ways. Give thanks that God so ordained that women would be the first to see Him alive and tell the others. Ask God for the grace to model their actions as they told of His resurrection, to give you the courage to tell others that He is the risen Savior.

TACC Prayer Devotional

Feb 26 - Mar 4, 2018

Reading: Mark 1 - 7

Monday, Mark 1: Pray that you would recognize the authority Jesus commands. In the first chapter of Mark, Jesus reveals Himself as having authority over the spiritual world and the physical world. He casts out demons, heals physical ailments, and preaches in the synagogue with authority. Pray that as you read and pray through Mark that you will be reminded that Jesus is the King.

Tuesday, Mark 2: Jesus continues to show his authority, even over sin and the Law. He forgives the sin of the paralytic who was lowered through the roof. Then He calls Levi the tax collector and eats with “tax collectors and sinners.” Pray that you would feel and understand your desperate need for what Jesus offers: forgiveness of sin and restoration. Then ask Him to teach you to be humble as you live and eat with sinners and bear witness of what Jesus has done for you.

Wednesday, Mark 3: Pray that your heart would be soft. When Jesus heals the man with the withered hand, the Pharisees hearts were so hard, they could not praise God for healing. They were so caught up in their own version of the Law that they missed the point. Pray that you would love the true Law and its Author and praise Him for always doing what is good.

Thursday, Mark 4: The Parable of the Sower is key to understanding how Jesus uses parables in His ministry. Read the chapter again and meditate on it’s meaning. Pray that God would give you understanding as you read each parable Jesus tells in chapter 4. He repeats the parable as he explains it. Do not add your own meanings to His words or try to stretch the parable beyond its purpose.

Friday, Mark 5: Chapter 5 tells three incredible stories of Jesus' power. He casts out, not one, but many demons from a man. He heals a woman who only touched the tip of his garments. And He raises a girl from the dead. Pray that you would be amazed by Jesus. He wields awesome power, and in this chapter, He uses it to heal the outcast, the weak, and the lowly. What a wonderful Savior!

Saturday, Mark 6: Pray for faith. Jesus instructs the disciples to go out and preach, taking only their clothes and a staff. When they return, they still fail to remember his power when feeding the 5000 and when He walks on water to meet them in the boat. When you pray for faith, ask God to remind you of the things He has done both in scripture and in your own life.

Sunday, Mark 7: Pray that your heart would honor God and your actions would follow. Pray you would not be defiled by what comes out of your mouth but that you would speak truth and blessing instead. Pray that you keep away from evil thoughts, sexual immorality, theft, murder, adultery, coveting, wickedness, deceit, sensuality, envy, slander, pride, and foolishness.