

TACC Prayer Devotional

Jan 1 - 7, 2018

Reading: Matthew 1 - 7

Monday, Matthew 1: This list of names in the family of Jesus reminds us to pray for our family: their continued growth in grace, their salvation. There are four women in the line of Christ as recorded by Matthew. Give thanks for the women in your life who have influenced you for good. Ask God to continue to use them, to hold them fast until the day they die, that they remain faithful to their Savior.

Tuesday, Matthew 2: As you read this chapter, note how many times prophecy is fulfilled in the events of Christ's birth. God is in control! Thank God for His control in all the events of your life, that even though you cannot see the end (just as Mary and Joseph) you know that He is at work, working all things for good, Romans 8:28.

Wednesday, Matthew 3: Pray today that God would give you the grace to confess your sins and to radically change how you think about your own sinfulness. Ask God to give you the grace and humility to listen to others when they offer solicited and unsolicited criticism. Go to Jesus for forgiveness, He loves to forgive. Verse 8 instructs us to do things that show how we have changed. Actions speak loudly about our repentance. Ask God to give you new desires, new loves, new goals.

Thursday, Matthew 4: Jesus' agenda for us is that we would become fishers of men, that we would continually be looking and strategizing for ways to have influence in the non-believing world, Matthew 4:19. Pray for opportunities to share your faith, pray for chances to meet new friends, pray for a gracious and winsome spirit, pray that God

would change you into the image of the ultimate fisher of men.

Friday, Matthew 5: Pray for gentleness (Matthew 5:5). The gentle will have great impact on others. Ask God to give you a spirit of humility, so that the wrongs done to you will not be counted against others. Pray for the ability to truly mourn over your sin and the sin you see in others. Pray that your first reaction to sin and discord is mourning. Confess any delight you might harbor at the trouble others are enduring because of their sin. Ask God for a pure heart of love for others.

Saturday, Matthew 6: Anxiety is crippling, Matthew 6:19-34. Ask God for a heart that trusts in His sovereign hand over EVERYTHING. Ask God for eyes to see His sovereign plan. Ask God for the contentment of only having food and covering, Philippians 4:11-13. Ask Him to give you a joy in knowing Him that surpassing the lesser joys of earth. Ask Him to free you from the wants of more things, more vacations, more entertainment, more friends, better friends, better and more Pray that God would give you Jesus. Pray that you would see the beauty and glory of being saved, of knowing Him, and of serving Him and loving Him above all other loves. That He would be your most precious prize and most treasured treasure.

Sunday, Matthew 7: Pray for the grace of forbearance, Matthew 7:1-5. Pray for the grace of not judging other's motives. Ask for a gracious and forgiving spirit so that others will see Jesus in you. Part of this will be self-examination, Psalm 139:23-24 is a prayer for God to help in the searching of one's own heart. Ask for God's help in pointing out hidden faults. It is this kind of searching humility that gives us the grace and gentleness to help with other's sins. Pray that God would give you a double measure of repentance for yourself, ask Him for tears of sorrow so that you might one day help other's see Jesus.

TACC Prayer Devotional

Jan 8 - 14, 2018

Reading: Matthew 8 - 14

Monday, Matthew 8: Jesus is busy healing in Matthew 8. Back to back to back. Right in the middle of these healings is the teaching about the cost of following Jesus and the story of the storm. Pray that God would grace you with an increasing faith to follow His leading wherever it goes. He may ask you to serve, sacrifice, listen, give, boldly tell others of your faith. Remember, He gives to those who ask. Pray that when difficulties arise, from whatever source, that you would be faithful in serving without complaint.

Tuesday, Matthew 9: In Matthew 9:15 Jesus' responds to a question about fasting indicating that those who follow Him, after He has gone to heaven, will fast (and prayer is assumed here) in sorrow over His absence and pray for His coming again. If your health permits, fast for a meal or two. Take the extra time saved from not eating and pray. Pray for an increasing desire to be in His presence, a decreasing attachment to this world, and sensitized spiritual awareness of our need for Him.

Wednesday, Matthew 10: The end of chapter 9 and the whole of Matthew 10 speaks to our call to spread the Gospel. Pray for the evangelistic topics this chapter addresses, including: the need for more workers to speak the truth; understanding of the coming judgment; weening ourselves away from material goods; wisdom in dealing with those who are against us; words to speak from the Holy Spirit; boldness. Pray that God would give you a spirit of gratefulness and not whining or complaining when things are difficult for the cause of Christ. Pray that the Lord open Hoon's heart to the gospel. <http://www.icommittoprayer.com/request/1643/hoon/>

Thursday, Matthew 11: In verses 28-30 we have a classic passage about the rest that Christ provides to those who come to Him. Give

thanks for the yoke of the Lord. Give thanks that we can work for Him. Give thanks that His yoke is easy and light. Give thanks that you can bear burdens for Him. Give thanks that His invitation goes out to everyone without regard to language, race, country, economic status. Give thanks and ask Him to take from you any sliver of ingratitude.

Friday, Matthew 12: Jesus is greater than the temple in Jerusalem. He is the center of our faith. Jesus is Lord of the Sabbath. We rest in His work on the cross to bring us to God. Jesus is Healer of diseases and demon possession. He has total rule over both physical and spiritual realms. Jesus is greater than the prophet Jonah. He defied the grave and rose from the dead. Thank God for His power and dominion over this world and then ask Him to give you a humble heart to recognize Christ's Lordship in your own life.

Saturday, Matthew 13: Pray that you have ears to hear and a mind to understand the things of God. Pray that God will grant you to understand the mysteries of heaven. Pray that God will help you bear fruit for His kingdom. Pray that God's kingdom spreads but stays pure for His glory. In verse 44 the Kingdom of God is likened to a treasure in a field that is more valuable than everything. Ask God to show you the riches of the inheritance that is yours in Christ. Ask God to make Himself your true and highest treasure.

Sunday, Matthew 14: In 14:13 Jesus hears of the death of His cousin, John the Baptist. Grief overcomes Him and He withdraws to a lonely place. Jesus desires solitude. Jesus is sorrowful. He teaches us the value of grieving and the value of time alone. Be sure to spend time alone with the Word and in prayer today. Pray for those who are giving their lives for the sake of the Gospel. Check out the web page, <http://www.icommittoprayer.com/request/1642/imam-fedu/> , and pray specifically for Imam Fedu.

TACC Prayer Devotional

Jan 15 - 21, 2018

Reading: Matthew 15 - 21

Monday, Matthew 15: Think of areas in your walk with the Lord where you are acting hypocritically. In humility, confess and repent of it. Do you give lip service to God on Sunday mornings then live hypocritically the rest of the week? Do you care for your aging mom and dad? Have evil thoughts gone unchecked in your mind? Are you acting upon them? Do you grumble and complain? Have you gossiped or slander someone's character? Ask God to forgive you and "lead you not into temptation but deliver you from evil." Matt 6:13

Tuesday, Matthew 16: Pray for discernment to know error from Truth, false doctrine from true doctrine. Pray to have the resiliency and conviction to remain steadfast to the Truth of our faith with all conviction in spite of being loathed or hated by others. Pray that your mind and heart be stayed upon the things of God and that material things will not run your life or steal your heart away. John 21:15 "... do you love Me more than these [things]? ..."

Wednesday, Matthew 17: The voice of the Father came audibly to the three disciples, "This is my beloved Son ... LISTEN TO HIM!" (vs 5). Pray that you'll never become dull of hearing His voice as you read His Word, listen to sound preaching and teaching, or being encouraged by a believer who is either sharing their experiences in the Lord or who is speaking encouraging words. Pray that your littler faith becomes greater faith and boldness in Him. (vs 17-20). Also, do not pray whether you should pay your taxes or not because God has already decided that you should. (vs 27) Romans 13:6-7.

Thursday, Matthew 18: Our old nature always seeks self; we will always battle our fleshly desires (vs 1). Pray that the Lord keeps you in a humble state. Romans 12:3. Pray that you will not be one of those who cause another brother or sister to give into temptation

and sin. Also, pray that you'll have a heart to help, watch out for, and encourage weaker Christians in their faith (vs 7). You must be forgiving. It is the hallmark of what it means to bear the image of Christ in your heart. God IS a forgiving God and you MUST forgive also (vs 35); therefore, pray that you'll be forgiving of others and that they will forgive you.

Friday, Matthew 19: If you are considering divorce, pray and seek God's will in this matter. If you know someone considering divorce, pray for them that they would seek God and do the right thing (vs 6-9). Those who are divorced, or are considering divorce, have deep emotional scars and will need our help to make good Biblically informed decisions. Pray that your material wealth do not hold power over you and that they do not become idols. Pray for the heart to give away your stuff to others. We already have immense treasures: eternal life (vs 29) the knowledge of God (2 Cor 4:6-7) no fear of the future (Rom 8:39) etc. Pray for the grace to follow Him with nothing tying you to this earth.

Saturday, Matthew 20: Stop complaining for a moment about whatever situation you might find yourself in (vs 11); instead thank God for His generosity of allowing you to be His laborer in His field! And thank God for all your fellow laborers as well who have received the same amount of grace as you. Pray that you will become a Great Person – at serving others in humility! (vs 26-28). To do this you must see their needs. Therefore, pray that God will grant you opportunities to serve them.

Sunday, Matthew 21: Verse 10 says that the whole city got riled up saying "Who is this?" Pray to be bold and not afraid to share your faith. We know Him intimately enough to share Him with all who don't know who He is. Throughout His entire life, Jesus was always praying to the Father. The Temple in Jerusalem was literally His house – and prayers are tied to it! (vs 13). So pray to have a constant attitude of prayer and thanksgiving to God. Pray for compassion that will move you to action. Jesus always healed because of a God-sized compassionate heart (verse 14), Matthew 9:35-36, Colossians 3:12.

TACC Prayer Devotional

Jan 22 - 28, 2018

Reading: Matthew 22 - 28

Monday, Matthew 22: Thank God for welcoming you into His kingdom, and pray that you may find and invite others who do not know him into his kingdom as well. Pray that those you invite may accept His invitation before it is too late. Thank God for not being swayed by popular opinions. Pray that you may respect God and the authority He has placed you under. Pray that you would love God with your entire being.

Tuesday, Matthew 23: Pray that you would have a clean heart before God. Pray that you would not care more about outward appearances and human standards than God's standards. Pray that your heart would be humble, and you would not be blind to justice, mercy, and faithfulness.

Wednesday, Matthew 24: Thank God for having a perfect plan for all time. Thank him for planning to live a perfect life, die for our sins, and then rise from the dead to conquer sin and death. Pray that God would allow you to stand firm in your faith and not be swayed. Pray for the leaders in the church that they would stand firm in their faith and not be swayed.

Thursday, Matthew 25: Pray that you would always be ready for when Christ comes back. Pray that you would confess and repent from any undealt with sin. Pray that you would use the talents God has given you to lovingly tell others about Christ. Pray for your neighbors that they may know Christ before it is too late.

Friday, Matthew 26: Pray that your heart would feel the weight of Christ's sacrifice for you. Thank God for having Christ perfectly complete the Father's plan to take on the sin the of the world for us. Pray that God would give you a passion to reach others.

Saturday, Matthew 27: Thank Jesus for his death on the cross. Thank him for flawlessly obeying the Father and for taking on the sin of the world. Confess and repent from any undealt with sin and ask God to forgive you.

Sunday, Matthew 28: Thank God for rising from the dead and conquering sin. Thank God for loving you and saving you from your sin. Ask God to heal your broken heart and ask him to give you a fire and a compassion for the lost. Pray that you would share the Gospel with others this year.