

PRAYER DEVOS: MAR 5 - APR 1

TACC Prayer Devotional

Mar 5 - Mar 11, 2018

Reading: Mark 8 - 14

Monday, 3/5, Mark 8: Note how our Heavenly Father meets our every need and in the process demonstrates His greatness. His every action, including His amazing creation (See Romans 1) speaks to His sovereignty and might. We are compelled to give praise. God has given us every sign we could possibly need to believe, trust, and obey. Ask that we pursue Christ's will for our lives, not our own.

Tuesday, 3/6, Mark 9: Thank God for the proof of Christ's deity through the eyewitness of His Transfiguration. Thank Him for the example of Jesus who shows us the power of prayer to defeat the enemy and provides strength for The Fight we, as Christians, face on a daily basis. Pray for humility to serve rather than be served; pray that we remain faithful to the one true Gospel; and, pray that we would be winsome (salty) so that others will see in us Christ, who saves us from Hell.

Wednesday, 3/7, Mark 10: Pray today for our marriages and the institution of marriage. Divorce displeases God and He never intended for divorce to be an option. Pray that men would lead their homes and wives would love and submit to their husbands (Ephesians 5:22-31). Be thankful for God's commands and ask for strength to follow them. Pray that God's righteousness would show us our sin and alienation from Him. Rejoice that through Christ we have a means to draw close to Him and live lives worthy of our calling, even at the cost of family or friends. Pray for the lost that we would be bold to speak the truth of Heaven and Hell.

Thursday, 3/8, Mark 11: In gratitude draw near to the Lord who

teaches with authority and truth. Rejoice that He is the Messiah and worthy to be praised. Thank God that Jesus came to defeat sin and death and pray that we remain steadfast to the end. Pray that we bear true fruit of worship and praise, unlike the fig tree whose leaves suggested there would be fruit yet none was to be found. Pray that we not be like Israel whose worship was from false belief and hard hearts. Thank God that He loves to give good gifts and supplies us with our every need. Ask God to align our will with His so that “all things” asked for are God centered.

Friday, 3/9, Mark 12: Jesus is the “cornerstone”, the Messiah, rejected by the religious leaders of the day. They rejected Jesus’ deity, the fulfillment of Psalm 118:22-23, and were like those who persecuted the prophets of God. Pray that we do not make the same mistake but instead recognize Jesus for who He truly is – the King of Kings and Lord of Lords. Pray that we honor earthly authority while recognizing that obedience to God transcends all else. Ask God for the strength to love Him completely and others as ourselves.

Saturday, 3/10, Mark 13: Thank God that he outlines for us the end times so that our focus and attention is on Jesus; pray that He comes soon. Pray, too, that God would stiffen our resolve and give us courage to face suffering for His sake, if need be. Ask for the Holy Spirit’s help to trust in God’s sovereign plans for mankind, for they are perfect. Pray for a missional mindset, both personally and corporately, and humbly participate in the work of spreading the gospel to Orange, Mexico, India and the world.

Sunday, 3/11, Mark 14: Pray that the Lord would break our hearts for how we have betrayed Jesus, the messiah. Yet rejoice that while we were yet sinners, He died for us (Romans 5:8)! Just as God saved the Israelites from Pharaoh and Egypt, rejoice that Jesus has liberated us from sin and judgment by his death and resurrection. Ask God to strengthen you so that you run the race, this life, with vigor to the very end; vigilant that we not fall away.

TACC Prayer Devotional

Mar 12 - 18 , 2018

Reading: Mark 15 - 16, 1 - 5

Monday, 3/12, Mark 15: What shocks me as I read March 15, other than the devastating slaughter of Jesus, is the utter lack of respect humans display to the Son of God. The chief priests accused him of many things. The crowds chose an insurrectionist and murderer over Jesus. The soldiers twisted together a crown of thorns and put a purple robe on Jesus. And then the soldiers divided his clothes by casting lots. All unconscionably unaware that they were daring to insult and challenge the Son of God. When do we fail to show Jesus the proper respect?

Tuesday, 3/13, Mark 16: Thank you, Jesus, for having the power over death. Even human best efforts to eliminate you from the earth failed because you rose again three days later. They thought that killing you the best they knew how would stop your mission and your message. But absolutely nothing can keep you from bringing salvation to the world. Thank you for being so powerful.

Wednesday, 3/14, Mark 1: Just as Jesus went off to a solitary place to pray in verse 35, so too we should look for solitude so that we can pray without distraction. Being together with other believers and fellowship are important but we see over and over again that Jesus withdraws from the crowd to pray. When was the last time you shut your door and prayed in solitude? Reflect on Psalm 46, "Be still, and know that I am God."

Thursday, 3/15, Mark 2: Jesus' disciples are criticized for picking some heads of grain on the Sabbath, but Jesus counters that the Sabbath was made for man, not man for the Sabbath. Are you using your Sabbath wisely? Are you reaping the benefits of the Sabbath or

do you work right through? Try preparing for the Sabbath and ensuring that it is day of rest and reflection and not an extra day to conquer your to-do list. Today is a Thursday so you have at least two days to prepare!

Friday, 3/16, Mark 3: Jesus calls us his brothers and sisters!!! This is amazing. We are not mere minions or a weird human experiment, but Jesus considers us like blood relatives. We are given priority and exclusive access as brothers and sisters of Jesus. Thank you, Jesus, for including us in your family.

Jesus asks the crowd in verse 4 if it is lawful on the Sabbath to do good or to do evil, to save life or to kill. But NO ONE ANSWERED HIM. They remained silent. Pray that our knee jerk reaction would always be to do good and to save a life. We should jump at the opportunity to do good regardless of the social norms or perceived community rules. Pray that your compass will always be to help others and respond with kindness and love.

Saturday, 3/17, Mark 4: Do the “worries of this life” make it difficult for you to hear and accept Scripture today? Do you feel like Satan is trying to take away God’s word? Pray that you will be the good soil that is described in verse 29. May we hear the word, accept it, and produce a crop a hundred times what was sown. Make our hearts soft to your scripture and may it cause us to bear good fruit.

Sunday, 3/18, Mark 5: Jesus instructs the demon possessed man to, “Go home to your family and tell them how much the Lord has done for you, and how he has had mercy on you.” We should do the same. The Lord has saved us many times from our own sin and has given us many gifts. We can’t help but share how we have been saved. Today, tell someone, specifically from your family, “how much the Lord has done for you.”

TACC Prayer Devotional

Mar 19 - 25, 2018

Reading: Mark 6 - 12

Monday, 3/19, Mark 6: When we read all of the events in this chapter, we may think that Jesus and His disciples didn't have time to pray. However, we read that Jesus set aside time to pray, giving up time He might have been sleeping. Pray and ask God what you can give up in order to pray for your activities and your schedule.

Tuesday, 3/20, Mark 7: In this chapter we read about the many times Jesus changed the lives of people who asked Him for help. Ask God to show you where in your life you need to be changed so that you can be a witness to His power and grace. Perhaps you need to change the way you speak. Ask God to give you boldness to speak to others about Him.

Wednesday, 3/21, Mark 8: Jesus said that if you are going to follow Him, you need to be prepared to deny yourself. All of us probably indulge ourselves and could give up things in order to be more like Jesus. We could give up an activity or an indulgence in order to spend more time in prayer, in order to give more to others or even go on a mission.

Thursday, 3/22, Mark 9: Three disciples had an amazing time when they were on the Mount of Transfiguration but amazing experiences were no substitute for prayer. The disciples weren't able to help others, Jesus said, without prayer. How much time do you spend earnestly praying for those around you to know God and to be transformed by knowing Him?

Friday, 3/23, Mark 10: Jesus said that many of our problems are

caused by the condition of our hearts. Hard heartedness, seeking after wealth, contending for position and power all can cause problems and keep us from seeking the best thing –righteousness from God. Ask God to give you the right priorities.

Saturday, 3/24, Mark 11: We see a different side of Jesus in this chapter. Here Jesus says that He has a right to expect fruit from a tree He created and when He cleanses the Temple He says that His Temple is to be a temple of prayer. We are the Temple of the Holy Spirit (1 Corinthians 6:19). Ask God to give you the desire to pray.

Sunday, 3/25, Mark 12: Pray that God will give you a grateful and giving heart. In II Corinthians 9:6-7 we read that God loves a cheerful giver. One translation says that God loves a hilarious giver! The poor widow gave all she had. Ask God to teach you how to give cheerfully.

TACC Prayer Devotional

Mar 26 - Apr 1, 2018

Reading: Mark 13 - 16; John 1 - 3

Monday, 3/26, Mark 13: As you read this chapter beware of overthinking and trying to figure out all the possibilities in the sequence of events! The danger is not in trying to figure it out, but in only trying to figure it out and missing the main message. The important part is being ready for whatever happens. Being strong in the LORD knowing that the one who has endured to the end is the one who is truly saved. Enduring to the end is not what saves, enduring to the end is the evidence of the truly saved. Pray that God would give you the strength to hold fast to your faith in temptation, distress, trouble, persecution. Pray for others at TACC, that they would stay faithful. And then let them know you are praying for them.

Tuesday, 3/27, Mark 14: In verse 8 Mark tells us that the woman (Mary, John 12:1-8) anointed Jesus with very expensive ointment. She did a good deed, verse 6. She did what she could. Pray that God will give you the willingness to do what you can for him. In verses 13-16 we find a man with a room. They asked him if they could use it and he said yes. Pray that you would be willing to say yes when others ask you for help. Ask God to erase from your thinking personal agendas, plans, and anything that would keep you from divine interruptions and opportunities to serve Him, even when it is inconvenient, expensive, and uncomfortable.

Wednesday, 3/28, Mark 15: The massive irony of verse 15 cannot be overlooked. They say He saved others, but could not save Himself. YES!!! He is giving the ultimate sacrifice, yes, he is saving others. And yes, in their twisted way, He couldn't save Himself. Even though in some sense he could have saved himself; however, in reality, the plan of the Father and Son and Holy Spirit from eternity past could not be changed. Thank God for the gift of his Son who gave Himself to save you. Give thanks that He did not save Himself but He saved you.

Thursday, 3/29, Mark 16: Notice verse 7, “Just as He said to you.” Yes, everything He said, He will do – just as He says to us. Read, pray, claim the promises of God in prayer. In a reverent and careful but bold way, ask God to keep His promises to you. Ask God to show you what He has promised in His Word, claim those promises, memorize those promises and pray those promises.

Friday, 3/30, John 1: In verses 46 and 47 Nathanael is identified as a guile-less person. Great! But what does that mean? In his statement about Nazareth he is honest and yet he betrays some deep-seated prejudice. He is honestly wrong and not afraid to say it! Yes, good things can come out of Nazareth and did so regularly. So, what did Jesus commend about Nathanael? What is the guile-less-ness that is good? Spiritual honesty. Openness. Transparency. Jesus is teaching us to pray honestly. Lay out your struggles, your burdens, your difficulties with God’s ways, your fears, EVERYTHING. He knows, He cares, He loves the spiritually honest.

Saturday, 3/31, John 2: Jesus’ first miracle and public gathering was at a wedding. Jesus is a fan of weddings and marriages and children and marital bliss. Pray for those you know who are married. Pray for patience and kindness and goodness to abound to their children. Ask God to help them as they teach children the Word of God. Pray that God would use you in the church nursery, AWANA club, or other ministry to help parents train children to love and worship the Savior.

Sunday, 4/1, John 3: In verse 30 John the Baptist says that Jesus must increase and he must decrease. The time has come to be a background person. In fact, that time is always. We should always be in the shadows so that Jesus can be clearly seen and worshipped. Pray that God would give you the grace to serve and obey and sacrifice and be more than happy to never be noticed or thanked or praised.