



TEN DAY CORPORATE PRAYER PLAN

Preparational Prayer



Introduction

[PSST... WHAT'S PREPARATIONAL PRAYER?]

This year, as we begin to explore what it means for us to be a church who really contends for the renewal of the Central Coast, we can't help but feel the weight of this – It's a big, scary, exciting, overwhelming, beautiful challenge God asks us to partner with Him in – it will cost us something, and that begins this week! As a community we invite you into a time of collectively seeking God for God, to behold His glory and to experience His revelation. Remember, before every move of God, preparational prayer was essential – Think of the disciples before pentecost.

Key Purpose [What will this look like for me]

The key purpose of this 10-day prayer guide is to prepare our hearts for Lent, as we become intentional in raising our awareness of the presence of God in every place we are gathered, starting in our homes.

An Example

[STORYTIME... WHAT PREPARATION PRAYER CAN LOOK LIKE]

A group of local pastors chose to pray together every week as we contended for the renewal of the Gosnells Area in WA, covering 120 000 people in prayer. Out of years together spent in prayer and meditation, not only were these devotionals collaboratively written, but it resulted in those pastors meeting in each other's churches for a week, and collectively hosting a public Good Friday gathering as well as local carols events in a local public school.

This group showed what can be done when we truly contend together in Kingdom purpose.

Come and sit with us over the next tendays, like Mary at Jesus feet.

Let us ask the Holy Spirit what He wants to reveal of Father about this region to us.

Join us in a time of extraordinary prayer.

Monday, 5 February 2024

I pray that we will, as we sit at Jesus' feet lay down our expectations to see the unseen blessing, he wants to reveal to us.

♠ Lord, this preparational prayer is yours. We anticipate a mighty awakening of your people. We are embarking on one of the greatest adventures.

Search me, know my heart, test me, and see if there is any offense in me and lead me in your ways everlasting.

PSALM 139:23, 24

Father, ignite my heart with a passion that never ceases. I want to know you. I want to honour you. I want to see and hear you clearly. Let the fire of your love burn away everything that is contrary to your Holy Spirit. Remove the barriers I have unknowingly created. Let nothing comes between us so I will burn with zealous, servant like love. Father, let this fire of the Spirit light up and transform my heart, impact my family, and bless my community! Fan into flame a desire for your presence Lord!

Monday, 5 February 2024

Prayer points:

♠ Help us to listen to the whisper of your Spirit

Awake us more and more into the things unseen

Tuesday, 6 February 2024

John 14:25-26

In John 14 - 16 Jesus speaks a great deal about the Holy Spirit in his last instructions to His disciples before His death. He says "the Holy Spirit will be your counsellor, teacher, reminder, and guide". He also says the Spirit will "testify about Me and reveal to you what is to come, as well as bring conviction of sin, righteousness, and the judgement to come." One day it dawned on me that if Jesus was so insistent on sharing about the Holy Spirit in His last instructions, then I should really pay attention. It began a journey of discovery and led me to lift the following prayer to the Father on a daily basis...

Father, Your Word says that if my mind is led by the Holy Spirit then I will have life and peace (Rom 8:6), so I give the Spirit access and permission to control my mind today. I also ask for the grace today to be led by Your Spirit (Rom 8:14), keep in step with Your Spirit (Gal 5:25) and to sow what is pleasing to Your Spirit (Gal 6:8).

Tuesday, 6 February 2024

Prayer points:

Ask the Father to grace you to be led by His Spirit, keep in step with His Spirit and to sow what is pleasing to His Spirit today.

Use the song: "Holy Spirit" by the Bryan & Katie Torwalt as a prayer this week - for yourself and us as the Body of Christ in our region.

Wednesday 7 February 2024

MEDITATE ON WHAT IT WOULD HAVE BEEN LIKE FOR MARY TO SIT AT MY FEET LANA VAWSER

entered a village. And a woman named Martha welcomed him into her house. And she had a sister called Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to his teaching. But Martha was distracted with much serving. And she went up to him and said, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to serve alone? Tell her then to help me." But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are anxious and troubled about many things, but one thing is necessary. Mary has chosen the good portion, which will not be taken away from her.

Luke 10:38-42 (ESV)

As I sat with the Lord and asked the Holy Spirit what He was saying, I felt an incredible invitation being extended to God's people right now, to come deeper into that place of intimacy.

There are MANY things that are attempting to take the "FOCUS" of God's people and

cage them in a place of distraction, but the Lord is wanting to bring His people into a deeper place of intimacy, a deeper place of focus upon Him, a deeper place of fortification of faith in listening to every Word He speaks (Matthew 4:4) and a place of deeper faith rest in the awe and wonder of who He is.

I felt the Lord also releasing a loving warning to the Church right now to not become so busy doing things "FOR" God and prioritising the "DOING" rather than the "BEING". The Lord is wanting to bring His people deeper into a place of humility, surrender and joy in the revelation that we are invited to be friends of God and sit at His feet, and listen to His voice. The Lord is bringing His people deeper into the place of FIRST LOVE like we have never experienced before. This is a time to truly, take time to listen. This is a time to draw close to Jesus. To not RUSH AHEAD and to come deeper into a revelatory understanding of Jesus' words in Luke 10:42....

".....one thing is necessary. Mary has chosen the good portion, which will not be taken away from her."

The good portion, which will not be taken away from her.

Wednesday 7 February 2024

Prayer points:

We pray for our community of believers, that their hearts be renewed in pursuit of Jesus.

Thursday, 8 February 2024

At that time Jesus, full of joy through the Holy Spirit, said, "I praise you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and learned, and revealed them to little children. Yes, Father, for this is what you were pleased to do.

Luke 10:21 NIV

Lord, stir our hearts with the same joy that Jesus had. Reveal to us what is hidden from the world. Your identity was so secure in the Father that you had no fear or hesitation to engage with those who were of a different social identity. In fact, you demonstrated on a number of occasions how much you love the unloved, the outsider, the child, the poor, the tax-collector, the prostitute. Align our hearts with your so we can see others as you see us.

Thursday 8 February 2024

Prayer points:

A Show me areas where I still have barriers hidden in my heart towards loving others.

Are there anyone you need to forgive? Bring that to the Lord right now.

Friday, 9 February 2024

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. 2 The earth was formless and empty, and darkness covered the deep waters. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the surface of the waters.

Genesis 1:1-2 (NLT)

If there was one thing that was drummed into me in my high school English class, it was that the first line of any story is significant. In fact, one of my friends who is an author once told me that he would at times re-write the first line of a piece of work just to get it right. How interesting that the first line of our great story, the story of our loving Creator God and humanity, so often gets left unnoticed. The very first line of our narrative in Genesis gives us a glimpse of the key players and what this story is all about. This is a story all about our incredible God. It's a story that is primarily about Heaven and Earth and it's a story that shows God in the person of the Holy Spirit who is on the move, bringing form into a

place that is 'formless', light into a place of darkness and function to a place of non-function. And after He creates a garden of delight called 'Eden', God invites humanity to be on the move by joining him in this project of 'Edenising' the world, pushing Eden out by means of 'ruling', and 'reigning' (Gen 1:26-28).

Pentecost is the moment when God empowers a called people who have been engrafted into true Israel, Jesus Himself and once again these called people are on the move. The project is still in play with God still bringing light to darkness, 'form' to places of 'formlessness' and 'function' into places of 'non-function' and 'disfunction'. And what is interesting is that God's Modus of Operation is exactly the same as when He called Adam and Eve - The Church is invited to join Him in His project of renovating, restoring and renewing this world. Behold He is making all things new (Rev 21:5), He is not replacing old for new, (that's what insurance companies promise), rather we are called to join Him as true Humanity, filled by the Spirit to see to it that God's Kingdom reign breaks out into our world.

Friday 9 February 2024

Prayer Questions

In what ways is God inviting you to join Him in His pushing out New Creation?

In what ways does God's 'Cultural Mandate' given in Genesis 1:26-28 inform your vocation as image bearers in this world?

Readings

Genesis 1:26-28

Ephesians 3:10-11

Revelation 21:1-11

Saturday 10 February 2024

Read John 20:19-23

In the account of the creation given in Genesis 1, we are introduced to the Spirit (Ru-ach) of God, which we are told was hovering over the waters. In chapter 2 of Genesis, we are introduced to the breath of God, where God breathes into Adam the breath of life, and Adam becomes a living being. The Hebrew word for Spirit is often the same word as used for Breath and Wind.

But in Genesis 2:7 it is a different word meaning to puff, giving the picture of God doing CPR on the body He has formed. There are many situations where the Hebrew word 'Ru-ach' for the breath of God, is used in a fearful way. Eliphaz says to Job, speaking about evil people, "At the breath of God they are destroyed." When Jesus was baptized by John, God, The Father, sent down His Spirit, onto Jesus in the form of a dove. This is the visual sign showing Jesus filled with the 'Ruach' Spirit & breath of God. The Spirit, that in Genesis was hovering over the earth, and fulfilling the words spoken by God to bring forth the creation, has now come in the presence of Jesus to show the power of God to the world. Jesus is the Word of God incarnate, which means come in flesh. We are told that He was conceived in Mary by the Spirit of God. After His resurrection, Jesus appears to His disciples. Following a greeting of 'Peace be with you', He commissioned the disciples to go into the world, as the Father had sent Him into the world. Jesus then breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit." Jesus brings together the meaning of The Spirit of God and the Breath of God being the same thing. It is life giving, and life empowering. Just as in the creation story, God breathed into Adam, and Adam became a living being; when Jesus breathed into His disciples, they became alive with the Spirit of God, believing what God had done through His Son. At Pentecost the Spirit of God came upon the disciples to empower them to proclaim to the world what God had done through Jesus, fulfilling the commissioning by Jesus. It is the Breath of God that gives life and The Spirit that empowers us. Pray that God breathes His breath into our churches again to bring about life, and that God pours out His Spirit to empower us to proclaim what He has done for us through

Sunday 11 February 2024

But the Helper (comforter, advocate, intercessor, counsellor) The Holy Spirit whom the Father will send in my place, (to represent, and act on my behalf), will teach you'll things. And he will help you remember everything that I have told you.

John 14:26 (Amplified)

But when the Father sends the Spirit of Holiness, the One like me who sets you free, He will teach you all things in my name. And He will inspire you to remember every word that I have told you

John 14:26 (TPT)

When the advocate (Helper, Paracleteone who walks beside), comes whom I will send to you from the Father, The Spirit of Truth, who goes out from the Father, He will testify of me.

John 15:26 - (Amplified version)

And I will send you the Devine encourager from the very presence of my Father.
He will come to youth Spirit of Truth, emanating from the Father and he will speak to you about me.

John 15:26 (TPT)

Take a moment to read through these verses, and decide through whose eyes you are reading the text. Which character is the narrator?

When we read scripture we see Jesus talking to his disciples; another character in the text is God; another the Holy Spirit; another character is the disciples; another character is you. Enjoy what the Holy Spirit says to you through this.

Monday, 12 February 2024

Ask God today what word He has for you to ponder over.

"I tell you the truth, you shall see greater things than that. Jesus then added: 'I tell you the truth, you shall see heaven open, and the angels of God ascending and descending on the Son of Man."

John 1: 50b - 51

"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

Acts 1: 8

[You will be my witnesses in Tumbi & Bensville and all through the Central Coast, Australia and to the ends of the earth]

Tuesday, 13 February 2024

Read: Galatians 5:16-25

As Christians we are called 'to fix our eyes on Jesus the author and perfecter of our faith' (Hebrews 12:2) and seek to emulate Him in the way that we live. This means putting aside our sinful nature and each day striving to be a Holy people so that we become more and more like Jesus.

We are called as Christians to live by the Spirit in order develop the fruits of the Spirit. These qualities are 'Love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.' All qualities that can enable us to live fulfilling, blessed, and fruitful lives for God. They are all qualities that are a by- product of a Christ Centred life. Of a life that is connected to Jesus the True Vine.

In our own strength and power, it is not possible to sustain growth in each of these qualities, but we can through the guidance and direction of God's Holy Spirit. Jesus in John 14:16 said that I will "ask the Father and He will give you another counsellor to be with you forever- The Spirit of truth."

God through His Holy Spirit wants to come alongside us to help us to continue to grow as God's people, and to be a fruitful people.

Tuesday, 13 February 2024

Prayer Questions

Are we open to the guidance of God's Holy Spirit to help us live as God requires of us, willing to put aside the things of this world in order to grow as God's people?

A Is there a particular fruit that we need to work on in our own lives through the guidance and direction of God's Holy Spirit?