



A NEW SEASON

Prayer  
Devotional

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*Prayers written by members of Redeemer East Side*

**2025**





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# Introduction

I'm delighted to invite you to join our community at Redeemer East Side on this 40-day journey of prayer. The following devotional guide is written from the lived experiences and perspectives of people in our congregation on their own journey of faith in the city. Christians with different backgrounds have written devotional entries under the great gospel unifying truth that we are a spiritual family in Jesus Christ. We share the same Father in Heaven, through the work of the Son, and have received the Spirit of adoption in which we are empowered to call the King of Heaven, Abba! Father! (Rom. 8:15). Having the same Spiritual Father, we are made brothers and sisters in Christ.

Maybe you find prayer difficult. Possibly you believe in its power in theory, but find prayer difficult in practice. Perhaps you have tried to commit to prayer on your own and failed. Using this devotional guide together in community is a great way to grow in your prayer life. God has not designed us to operate best alone. I know for myself, my prayer life is greatly enhanced when I am joined with other people. This is how God made us; we need each other. So please join us on this journey of prayer, as we seek God's will for our lives, our church, and our city, together!

*Dr. Crawford Stevener*  
*Senior Pastor*



# Dedication

For all those who call Redeemer East Side home.

More things are wrought by prayer  
than this world dreams of.  
*Lord Alfred Tennyson*



# Gratitude

A special thanks to all the wonderful people of Redeemer East Side who prayerfully and thoughtfully shared their thoughts and prayers for this devotional. Thank you! You are a gift.

And to you the reader and fellow pray-er: Thank you for journeying with us in this season of prayer.

To pray is to accept that we are, and always will be,  
wholly dependent on God for everything.

*Timothy Keller*

# How to Use This Book

This devotional has been written by members of Redeemer East Side and is meant to be a tool for our communal prayer life, especially during this new season in the life of our church. It can also be used for personal devotions with space at the end of each day to write your own prayer.

This devotional is divided into two sections. The first section covers 40 days of prayer and covers themes that have been key to the formation and the life of our church:

- The Gospel
- Our Vision
- The City
- Our Mission
- The Sermon on the Mount

As you pray with us through these themes during the 40 days, we hope you find them helpful, encouraging, and renewing.

The second part of this devotional is based on the Lord's Prayer found in Matthew 6:9-13. During each of the 10 days of this section, we pray together through the different elements of the Lord's Prayer in different languages with English translation. These languages are representative of the languages spoken by members of our church. This section is a celebration of the diversity of the Body of Christ which the resurrection of Jesus Christ and the coming of the Holy Spirit has made possible. It can be used as a stand alone section, or as a continuation of the first part of this devotional.

A practical note: each day has a Scripture passage, a meditation to consider, and a communal prayer. Please set aside 15 minutes to quiet your heart and come before God.

Thank you for joining us in prayer.

*Let's pray.*



# Part 1

# 40 Days of Prayer

## Gospel

Theme: The gospel is the unmerited gift of God in Jesus that brings both peace with God and one another across human divisions.

There is good news! God has sent his Son for us. Jesus lived, was crucified, and died in our place. He rose from the dead, ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God Almighty from where he is now ruling and reigning over all things for the glory of God and for the good of us, his people.

This is the good news — the Gospel. Because it's true, we don't seek to earn God's love. We already have it in Jesus. He has done all the work for us to be reconciled to the Father. And even more, he brings us into God's family. It's good news... it's **great** news!

This is why we begin meditating on the Gospel. All our devotion and prayer life flows out of this foundation: that we are dearly loved. Therefore, rejoicing that we are loved and heard because of what Christ has done, we come to God in prayer with faith, humility, and boldness.

*Let's pray.*

# Devotional — Day 1

Author: James Ortiz

**Theme:** The gospel is the unmerited gift of God in Jesus *that brings both peace with God* and one another across human divisions.

**Scripture:** Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God. Romans 5:1-2

**Meditation:** The gospel is the incredible news that God reconciles fallen sinners to himself through Jesus Christ. But why do we need to be reconciled to God? Because without Christ, we are at war with God, constantly failing to love him and our neighbors as they ought to be and storing up God's wrath for ourselves. Out of his love for us, God sent Jesus to absorb the punishment for all of our sins. Christ lived a life of perfect obedience, and his right-standing with God is offered to us as a free gift! By putting our faith in Christ, we gain peace with God. All of our sins — past, present, and future — are forgiven, and we gain the immense joy and privilege of being in relationship with God.

**Prayer:** *Father, we are overwhelmed by your kindness. You loved us while we were your enemies, and your love came at a great cost: the life of your precious son, Jesus. On the cross, he bore the punishment that we deserved and that has given us peace with you. Because we have peace with you, we no longer have to carry burdens of guilt or shame: we have been forgiven. Nothing we have done or can do will separate us from your love. We praise you for this wonderful news and ask that we may experience it more deeply each day. In Christ's name. Amen.*

## Your Personal Prayer





# Devotional — Day 2

Author: Jane Kim

**Theme:** The gospel is the unmerited gift of God in Jesus that brings both peace with God **and one another across human divisions.**

**Scripture:** Jacob's well was there; so Jesus, wearied as he was from his journey, was sitting beside the well. It was about the sixth hour. A woman from Samaria came to draw water. Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." (For his disciples had gone away into the city to buy food.) The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask for a drink from me, a woman of Samaria?" (For Jews have no dealings with Samaritans.) Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water." John 4:6-10

**Meditation:** It's very easy to get caught up in an us-versus-them mentality, particularly when we are exposed to it every day with social media and the 24/7 news cycle. Jesus saw it first-hand when he visited Jacob's well. The hostility between Jews and Samaritans existed for generations. In asking the Samaritan woman for water, Jesus upended the rules to steer clear of a person from an enemy group, a person of the opposite gender, and a person living on the margins. Rather, he invites her into a conversation and ultimately into a shared family — God's family.

**Prayer:** *Dear God, we repent of the ways we have not recognized others as made in your image and how sometimes we do not stand up for what is right. Where there is division, help us to be agents of peace and healing. When we are faced with fear, help us to be a presence of love. We desire to become more like Christ and to live in ways pleasing to you. In the name of our Prince of Peace, Jesus Christ. Amen.*

## Your Personal Prayer



## Part 1: 40 Days of Prayer

# Vision

Redeemer East Side exists  
to see Manhattan's East Side  
—and the entire city—  
renewed spiritually, socially, and culturally  
through a movement  
of the gospel of Jesus Christ  
for the glory of God.



# Devotional — Day 3

Author: Bob Just

**Theme:** Redeemer East Side exists to see ***Manhattan’s East Side – and the entire city*** – renewed spiritually, socially, and culturally through a movement of the gospel of Jesus Christ for the glory of God.

**Scripture:** Now the Lord said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing.” Genesis 12:1-2

**Mediation:** As Redeemer East Side begins a new era in its historic journey to bless New York City, let us consider how God has prepared our church through much hard pruning. In recent years, our members have left behind or lost much of what was familiar to us. This has been confusing, heartbreaking at times, and humbling. Yet here we stand in this great moment of renewal. We know that we are blessed by him who calls us to be a new blessing to our city – building on our unique history, on much true sacrifice, and, despite all, still rooted firmly in God’s unfailing love. He had a plan for Abraham who gave up everything familiar, and he has a plan for us which involves seeking what we can each do to bless our neighbors while together we seek to bless our new neighborhood, our great city, and our beloved church.

**Prayer:** *Lord, help us to see the many ways we hide from you and hide from your call to the cross. Renew our hearts as you have renewed our church that we may be free from the chains of a busy spirit, an uncaring heart, and eyes that see too little. For the sake of your gospel, teach us to see beyond our own interests to find where you are already at work. Teach us to spread the many blessings you give us and to encourage others to do the same. Thank you for the great blessing of our church. Help us to inspire and strengthen each other. Show us how to fully appreciate the blessing of living in this vast city, a place so many millions of people call home, that is a place the world cannot ignore. Let your light shine here, Lord Jesus, that the world may see. Amen.*

**Your Personal Prayer**



# Devotional — Day 4

Author: Mary Gallagher

**Theme:** Redeemer East Side exists to see Manhattan's East Side – and the entire city – **renewed spiritually**, socially, and culturally through a movement of the gospel of Jesus Christ for the glory of God.

**Scripture:** Now when they heard this they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, “Brothers, what shall we do?” And Peter said to them, “Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.” Acts 2:37-38

**Meditation:** When someone is “cut to the heart,” that person experiences the awful, deep, personal pain of sin. This pain takes different forms: in my own life it has felt like crippling shame or guilt over moral failure, or a repeated, accusing voice that taunts as the mind replays the events of the day. It can be a plaguing sense that you're not measuring up, or that you're missing out on “something more.” What a joyous relief to discover that there IS something, Someone, more. Through Jesus, we can be healed, restored, and forgiven by the Father. God's very Spirit indwells us, giving freedom, power, peace, and transformation. At baptism, we become a vital part of a new community: the Church. What Good News! It needs to be proclaimed to be heard. Let us go forth and proclaim it.

**Prayer:** *God, we want to see our neighbors, leaders, and the entire city renewed by the Gospel. Let our city be “cut to the heart” with Godly sorrow that leads to repentance, and turn to You for salvation. For those who live in misery, comfort them with the knowledge that You promise a future with You. For those who live in ease, shake them out of complacency with the knowledge that You will call everyone to account. Empower and embolden Christians to proclaim the Good News that Christ has paid the debt for our sins. Bring new Christians to our church to be welcomed into community where they can grow to maturity. Enable growing churches to minister to our city in ways that cause it to flourish. We pray this for the sake of Your glory and honor in New York City. Amen.*

## Your Personal Prayer



# Devotional — Day 5

Author: John Hamilton

**Theme:** Redeemer East Side exists to see Manhattan's East Side – and the entire city – renewed spiritually, **socially**, and culturally through a movement of the gospel of Jesus Christ for the glory of God.

## Scripture:

“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,  
because he has anointed me  
to proclaim good news to the poor.  
He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives  
and recovery of sight to the blind,  
to set at liberty those who are oppressed,  
to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor.” Luke 4:18-19

**Meditation:** When we hear peace, we generally think of tranquility or a time of no war. When we see the word peace in the Bible, it is most often a translation of the Hebrew word shalom (or its Greek equivalent, Eirini) which carries a much deeper meaning. To Biblical writers, Shalom speaks of the “webbing together of God, humans, and all creation in justice, fulfillment, and delight.”<sup>1</sup> This is the shalom that frames Jesus' ministry, from the angel's herald to the shepherds (Luke 2:14), to the proclamation of good news (Luke 4), to the resurrected Savior's blessing to the disciples: “Peace be with you” (Luke 24:16). As we seek a flourishing Upper East Side, we remember that Jesus, the Prince of Shalom, is the string that binds together our efforts and creates works of “joyful wonder.”<sup>2</sup>

**Prayer:** A Prayer for Shalom (adapted from the Prayer of St. Francis of Assisi):  
*Lord, make me an instrument of your shalom:  
Where there is hatred, let me sow love;  
Where there is injury, pardon;  
Where there is doubt, faith; deceit, truth; despair, hope; sadness, joy.  
Where there is darkness, let me bring your light,  
So that our neighborhood would experience your shalom,  
Where divisions are crossed in love, and we are bound together in justice  
and kindness. Amen.*

## Your Personal Prayer

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<sup>1</sup> Plantinga Jr., Cornelius, *Not the Way It's Supposed to Be: A Breviary of Sin* (Grand Rapids, Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Company, 1995), pg. 10.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.



# Devotional — Day 6

*Author: Carol Chou*

**Theme:** Redeemer East Side exists to see Manhattan’s East Side – and the entire city – renewed spiritually, socially, and **culturally** through a movement of the gospel of Jesus Christ for the glory of God.

**Scripture:** God blessed [Adam and Eve] and said to them, “Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky and over every living creature that moves on the ground.” Genesis 1:28

The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to work it and keep it. Genesis 2:15

Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain. 1 Corinthians 15:58

**Meditation:** The definition of “culture” encompasses not only the arts, but also the manifestation of all human endeavors. God’s first commandment to humanity was to work in His creation for its flourishing. God gave this job to bless us and for us to bless each other. All of our work can be seen through this lens of allowing us to contribute to the flourishing of Creation – caring for people, teamwork, teaching, creating better products, working in civic systems, creating art. But because of sin, this work is hard. The broken world intrudes into our lives daily: injustice, sickness, natural calamity, human sin. Into this world, Jesus came demonstrating the steadfast heart of the Father for humanity as a carpenter, teacher, healer, compassionate friend. Because of His life, death, and resurrection, we can joyfully join the Lord in the redemptive work He is already doing. Where can I see and participate in the work of the Lord today?



# Devotional — Day 6 Continued

Author: Carol Chou

**Prayer:** *Heavenly Father, Your creation is full of splendor, and you invite us to co-reign with you! How kind, generous and merciful You are! We have often missed seeing our work as places You are renewing. Give us eyes to see where you are already at work that we will respond to your invitation. We can only know your heart by studying your Word, so fan this flame in each of us. May your Word enlighten us to see all of our work, if done in the Lord, is not in vain, and ultimately cause those around us to ask what is this hope that we have. Give us the courage to answer so that they may be curious about Jesus - truly the only hope we have. In your mercy, Amen.*

## Your Personal Prayer



# Devotional — Day 7

Author: Doug Penn

**Theme:** Redeemer East Side exists to see Manhattan's East Side – and the entire city – renewed spiritually, socially, and culturally ***through a movement of the gospel*** of Jesus Christ for the glory of God.

**Scripture:** Now after John was arrested, Jesus came into Galilee, proclaiming the gospel of God, and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel." Mark 1:14,15

**Meditation:** In this verse Jesus tells his hearers that believing God's gospel is essential to realizing God's kingdom on earth. In God's kingdom He is sovereign over all aspects of life: spiritual, social, and cultural; all of life is made new. To spread the gospel is to increase the influence of God's kingdom. The kingdom's citizens and ambassadors are those who have believed the gospel of new life through faith in Jesus Christ, and who can bear witness to their salvation. Their sins are forgiven, they have new hearts with a desire to see all of life brought into subjection to Christ. Redeemer members and other gospel believers are called to work for our King in every area of life, for the renewal of our city and for God's glory.

**Prayer:** *Heavenly Father, help us, as those who have believed Your gospel and are new creatures in Christ, to work to bring in Your kingdom, not with military might, but with a movement of the gospel. Help us by Your Holy Spirit to extend the reach of the gospel and the kingdom by planting churches that work across cultures, as You reconcile the world to Yourself through Christ. Renew gospel preaching churches that have grown cold. Help us to overcome resistance by the world, the flesh and the devil. Give us wisdom to work for the unity and purity of Redeemer East Side, for the shalom of New York City and for Your glory. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.*

## Your Personal Prayer





# Devotional — Day 8

Author: Michelle Turner

**Theme:** Redeemer East Side exists to see Manhattan’s East Side – and the entire city – renewed spiritually, socially, and culturally through a movement of the gospel of Jesus Christ **for the glory of God.**

**Scripture:** Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God... and hope does not put us to shame, because God’s love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us. Romans 5:1-2, 5

**Meditation:** Paul said, “we rejoice in hope of the glory of God.” He rejoiced because, through Jesus Christ, he had been justified by faith and thereby gained peace with God. Paul was hopeful because God’s love had been poured into his heart by the Holy Spirit. It was this supernatural love that compelled Paul to preach the good news to all who would listen and to seek to see lives transformed by God’s grace. These lives would bring glory to God . Let us also be conduits of the love that flows from the Holy Spirit so that ever more people would rejoice in hope and bring glory to God.

**Prayer:** *Dear God, may we be filled with a peace established by your call, a grace confident in your acceptance, a hope assured by your purposes, and a love overflowing in generosity and kindness to others. May the fragrant aroma of Christ radiate from us throughout the Upper East Side to bring life to many and glory to God the Father. Amen.*

**Your Personal Prayer**



## Part 1: 40 Days of Prayer

# For the City

Jeremiah 29:4-7 has been our church's banner and clarion call for how we are to seek the good of our city. In this passage, God (through the prophet Jeremiah) calls his exiled people living in the wicked city of Babylon to pray for and actively engage the city for its good: industries, communities, and relationships. He tells the Israelites that their prosperity is tied with the city's prosperity.

Yet God's blessing on the city would only come if God's people kept themselves faithful and did not assimilate to Babylon's twisted value systems. Clearly, it required great humility and boldness to live faithfully in that hostile environment.

It is the same with us in New York City. We are also called to live faithfully here, to actively pursue the good and prosperity of our city, and to pray for it. For if it prospers, we prosper.

*Let's pray.*



# Devotional — Day 9

Author: Yi-Ting Chiang

**Theme:** Exile from Jerusalem to Babylon

**Scripture:** This is what the Lord Almighty, the God of Israel, says to all those I carried into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon: “Build houses and settle down; plant gardens and eat what they produce. Marry and have sons and daughters; find wives for your sons and give your daughters in marriage, so that they too may have sons and daughters. Increase in number there; do not decrease. Also, seek the peace and prosperity of the city to which I have carried you into exile. Pray to the Lord for it, because if it prospers, you too will prosper.” Jeremiah 29:4-7

**Meditation:** For a city that never sleeps, New York is filled with dreams: dreams to be free, to be rich, to be somebody. Many have paid a great price to come here in exchange for the possibility of realizing their dreams. Beneath the endless striving, in rare moments of quiet, it's easy to wonder if it's worth it. Will a city that demands so much to simply survive ever be home? Will it ever be a place where one's worth isn't treated as something to be earned, but freely given? Jesus said to His disciples before He was crucified, “I go to prepare a place for you...I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also” (John 14:2-3). As God's children, knowing that an eternal home awaits us gives us the courage to invest in the earthly city free of the crushing expectation that it will give us our ultimate longings. The same God who commanded the exiled Israelites to thrive in Babylon asks the same of us. Because of Jesus, the way to our eternal home is sure, and He will guide us.

**Prayer:** *Heavenly Father, thank You for giving us the assurance that You love us and want us to be with You some day. May your Holy Spirit touch everyone in this city who is yearning for home — a place where everyone is loved, accepted, and recognized for their worth. May they come to see that an eternal home exists and awaits them, a place where dreams are ultimately fulfilled and all can find rest. Give us glimpses of your purpose. Help us to follow you and be your hands and feet extended, that your name would be glorified. Amen.*

**Your Personal Prayer**

# Devotional — Day 10

*Author: Bobby and Samara Bennett*

**Theme:** Build houses and settle down

**Scripture:** This is what the Lord Almighty, the God of Israel, says to all those I carried into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon: “Build houses and settle down; plant gardens and eat what they produce. Marry and have sons and daughters; find wives for your sons and give your daughters in marriage, so that they too may have sons and daughters. Increase in number there; do not decrease. Also, seek the peace and prosperity of the city to which I have carried you into exile. Pray to the Lord for it, because if it prospers, you too will prosper.” Jeremiah 29:4-7

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them and be their God; he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away.”

I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God is its light, and its lamp is the Lamb. The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it. Its gates will never be shut by day — and there will be no night there. People will bring into it the glory and the honor of the nations. Revelation 21:1-4, 22-26



# Devotional — Day 10 Continued

*Author: Bobby and Samara Bennett*

**Meditation:** When Jesus renews all things, and brings about a new heaven and earth, we will live with God in the new Jerusalem. It will be a diverse and glorious city; God will live there and gather all his people from all nations to live with him there. What if we could live now in a way that foreshadowed this future city in some way? New York City is one of the most diverse cities in the world with approximately 163 different nationalities represented among its people. The Lord has gathered many nations here, and what an opportunity that presents for Christians to settle here and build homes. As Christians plant roots in this city, love their neighbors, and seek the shalom of the city, over time New York City will come to image our eternal home in heaven.

**Prayer:** *Lord, we lift up our city to you. We thank you that New York is a diverse city of many nations. We pray Christians would feel called to build homes and settle for the long term. We grieve the way crime, division, poverty and cost of living standards in the city create fear, anxiety, and a desire to move elsewhere. May we remember that everyone is made in your image, and humbly seek the good of all. Lord, we need your wisdom as we seek the shalom of the city, would you help us please. Create in us hearts that boldly desire to live in the city and seek its peace. Above all Lord, we give you thanks for sending Jesus to die on the cross in our place. May all we do be for your glory. In His name we pray. Amen.*

## Your Personal Prayer



# Devotional — Day 11

Author: Maria Laino Kim

**Theme:** Plant gardens and eat what they produce

**Scripture:** This is what the Lord Almighty, the God of Israel, says to all those I carried into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon: “Build houses and settle down; plant gardens and eat what they produce. Marry and have sons and daughters; find wives for your sons and give your daughters in marriage, so that they too may have sons and daughters. Increase in number there; do not decrease. Also, seek the peace and prosperity of the city to which I have carried you into exile. Pray to the Lord for it, because if it prospers, you too will prosper.” Jeremiah 29:4-7

**Meditation:** As New Yorkers, we may be a bit out of touch with gardening and forget all of the work and dedication needed to grow crops. To start, it requires planning and knowledge of the land and climate to determine what is best suited to grow in those conditions. The planting itself is physically demanding and messy work, digging in the soil. Then there is the ongoing maintenance of weeding, watering, and protecting from pests and harsh weather. Most of all throughout the whole process, gardening is an exercise in hope — that what you sow in earnest and care for over time will one day thrive and produce fruit. For the Israelites forced from their homes to an unfamiliar land, this command to “plant gardens and eat what they produce” must have felt daunting, but simultaneously instilled confidence that they would experience new life and hope even while in exile.

**Prayer:** *Dear God, spiritually, it often feels like we are in exile in a foreign land – our world is broken by sin, and we become cynical, despondent, and withdraw. Thank you for your Word and Gospel that gives us hope and reminds us that you are redeeming our world and inviting us to join you in that redemptive work. We pray that your Spirit would guide us in how to invest where you have placed us and encourage us to know and serve our neighbors well so that they may flourish and your name be glorified. Amen.*

**Your Personal Prayer**



# Devotional — Day 12

Author: Jung Min Ha and Min Chang

**Theme:** Marry and have sons and daughters

**Scripture:** This is what the Lord Almighty, the God of Israel, says to all those I carried into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon: “Build houses and settle down; plant gardens and eat what they produce. Marry and have sons and daughters; find wives for your sons and give your daughters in marriage, so that they too may have sons and daughters. Increase in number there; do not decrease. Also, seek the peace and prosperity of the city to which I have carried you into exile. Pray to the Lord for it, because if it prospers, you too will prosper.” Jeremiah 29:4-7

**Meditation:** It is ironic how in this densely packed city that is New York, where almost everyone is simply a text or email away, so many still feel so alone. Trying to meet, understand and develop relationships in a city that is constantly changing can feel overwhelming and intimidating. God gives us hope and teaches us in this text that our prosperity is tied to one another and encourages us to keep seeking and developing deep meaningful relationships so we can prosper, and by extension, so that our city can prosper.

**Prayer:** *Dear God, your love is boundless and perfect. Your grace, mercy and patience reach far beyond the depths of our sins. And while we repent for the ways in which we have not loved one another, we pray that you continue to melt our hearts and open our eyes to the reality that we were designed and built for relationships, with you and with each other. We pray that you close these distances we have created and that you give us the wisdom to recognize that we and our friends, coworkers, neighbors and strangers, are precious gifts given in grace and mercy, for the joy and prosperity of each of us and this city. In the name of our savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.*

**Your Personal Prayer**



# Devotional — Day 13

*Author: Joyce and David Wong*

**Theme:** Marry and have sons and daughters

**Scripture:** This is what the Lord Almighty, the God of Israel, says to all those I carried into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon: “Build houses and settle down; plant gardens and eat what they produce. Marry and have sons and daughters; find wives for your sons and give your daughters in marriage, so that they too may have sons and daughters. Increase in number there; do not decrease. Also, seek the peace and prosperity of the city to which I have carried you into exile. Pray to the Lord for it, because if it prospers, you too will prosper.” Jeremiah 29:4-7

**Meditation:** Biblical marriage is designed to join a husband and wife, reflect the image of God, and provide insight into the mystery of Christ and the church. It’s a lifetime commitment where two people come together to become one flesh. Husbands will love their wives, and wives will submit to their husbands. At the head is Christ who loves the church. For the horizontal relationship between a husband and wife to flourish, the vertical relationship with God must be on firm foundation. The passage speaks of marriage not as an end but as the building block to community. Deep friendship, whether single or married, is essential to community and to preserve our spiritual identity as we seek the flourishing of our city. In fellowship with other Christians, we learn how to commit, sacrifice, submit, forgive, and extend grace.

**Prayer:** *Father God, you are the triune God and you created community. You send us your Holy Spirit to comfort and guide us so that we are never alone. Whether in marriage or singlehood, we pray you fill our days with healthy relationships so that we feel supported, encouraged, and accepted. We pray for husbands and wives to adore each other and pray for friendships that are deeply rooted and long lasting. Help us to find relationships where we can be vulnerable and honest and that are free of judgment so we can experience the self-sacrificing love of Jesus. Amen.*

**Your Personal Prayer**





# Devotional — Day 14

Author: Ron Berthel

**Theme:** Increase in number there; do not decrease

**Scripture:** This is what the Lord Almighty, the God of Israel, says to all those I carried into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon: “Build houses and settle down; plant gardens and eat what they produce. Marry and have sons and daughters; find wives for your sons and give your daughters in marriage, so that they too may have sons and daughters. Increase in number there; do not decrease. Also, seek the peace and prosperity of the city to which I have carried you into exile. Pray to the Lord for it, because if it prospers, you too will prosper. Jeremiah 29:4-7

**Meditation:** New York is a transient city. Unlike the exiles commanded to remain in Babylon, many come to New York willingly, to make their fortunes (or not), and often eventually leave, settling elsewhere. But when more Christians set down roots in New York, something amazing and wonderful can happen: Their gospel-centered lives not only contribute to the welfare of all, but in time may even cause their neighbors to take note, encouraging them to “get in on a good thing” --- that is, living according to a gospel that promotes generosity, racial harmony, obeying laws, and respecting the rights of others. Thus, their communities and the entire city become more humane and livable places for all.

**Prayer:** *Heavenly Father, we know that New York can seem like a very lonely place, in spite of its huge population. We pray that more Christians will be attracted to the city, that they might seek each other out, and plan to stay and raise Christian children, who will also stay and raise Christian families of their own. “Increase in number there; do not decrease.” And we ask that current New Yorkers will join these newly arriving Christians and come to know You through your Son, Jesus Christ, who died for our sins. It’s in His name we pray. Amen.*

**Your Personal Prayer**



# Devotional — Day 15

Author: Beulah Chou

**Theme:** Seek the peace and prosperity of the city

**Scripture:** This is what the Lord Almighty, the God of Israel, says to all those I carried into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon: “Build houses and settle down; plant gardens and eat what they produce. Marry and have sons and daughters; find wives for your sons and give your daughters in marriage, so that they too may have sons and daughters. Increase in number there; do not decrease. Also, seek the peace and prosperity of the city to which I have carried you into exile. Pray to the Lord for it, because if it prospers, you too will prosper.” Jeremiah 29:4-7

**Meditation:** NYC is a beautiful and broken city, full of hope and despair. We are born here, immigrate here, and others stay for a brief season. No matter the routes that brought us here, we search for opportunities, chase dreams, and enjoy all that NYC has to offer. Nonetheless, we are confronted daily with the struggles of our fellow immigrants, homeless neighbors, and those barely able to make the city a home. Despite these struggles, we are reminded that even in the early days of the Israelite exile in Babylon, God called his people in that city to create homes, families, and communities such that the city may prosper. May we never forget, in the midst of our hustle, to seek the peace and prosperity of our city in His mighty presence so that all may flourish and honor God.

**Prayer:** *Dear Heavenly Father, we pray for the peace and prosperity of New York City. We know that you are restoring the brokenness in our industries, neighborhoods, and relationships. Give us the desire to participate in this restoration with you as our church becomes a visible, physical presence in this neighborhood. May we use the gifts, talents, and resources that you have so generously given to us to seek the peace and prosperity of our colleagues, neighbors, and loved ones. We desire to become more like Christ and live according to your will: to do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with you. We pray this in Jesus' name. Amen.*

**Your Personal Prayer**



# Devotional — Day 16

Author: Stephanie Harper

**Theme:** Pray to the Lord for it

**Scripture:** This is what the Lord Almighty, the God of Israel, says to all those I carried into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon: “Build houses and settle down; plant gardens and eat what they produce. Marry and have sons and daughters; find wives for your sons and give your daughters in marriage, so that they too may have sons and daughters. Increase in number there; do not decrease. Also, seek the peace and prosperity of the city to which I have carried you into exile. Pray to the Lord for it, because if it prospers, you too will prosper. Jeremiah 29:4-7

**Meditation:** In Jeremiah’s letter to the Jewish exiles who had been carried away from Jerusalem to Babylon by Nebuchadnezzar, we find an astonishing call to prayer. God instructs his people not only to settle in Babylon, but also to pray for the shalom of the city—for its peace, its wholeness, its flourishing. The Jewish exiles would have needed to cry out to God, in repentance and lamentation, to be able to love so selflessly. God would transform the city as he transformed the hearts of his people. As they prayed, he would be the one to turn their bitterness into love and their pride into concern for others who were different from themselves. Only the Lord could change the exiles into prayerful, loving neighbors who would sacrificially work toward the flourishing of the city to which he had carried them. May he do the same in us.

**Prayer:** *Lord, we pray to you for the shalom of New York City. Form us into the loving neighbors you desire us to be. We confess that too often we put our interests before the interests of others and are indifferent to the burdens of our neighbors. Father, forgive us, change us. By the power of the Holy Spirit, may we become intercessors who pray daily, love sacrificially, and work faithfully for the wholeness of the entire city. May we reflect the love and grace of Christ, in whom and by whom true and lasting shalom is found. Amen.*

**Your Personal Prayer**



# Devotional — Day 17

Author: Sophia Coston

**Theme:** Because if it prospers, you too will prosper

**Scripture:** This is what the Lord Almighty, the God of Israel, says to all those I carried into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon: “Build houses and settle down; plant gardens and eat what they produce. Marry and have sons and daughters; find wives for your sons and give your daughters in marriage, so that they too may have sons and daughters. Increase in number there; do not decrease. Also, seek the peace and prosperity of the city to which I have carried you into exile. Pray to the Lord for it, because if it prospers, you too will prosper. Jeremiah 29:4-7

**Meditation:** “I’m a product of my society” is a common theme in coming-of-age stories. We don’t exist in a vacuum, no man is an island, and other sorts of messages come through and communicate that even the most stubborn of individuals are influenced by the greater dynamics in their culture. When we see that those around us are struggling, we are more likely to struggle. Conversely when our community is thriving and receiving blessings, we too are more likely to thrive along with it. Here God is calling us to uplift our city and neighborhoods so that in their success we might find success too. May God cause our city to flourish, that we might flourish too!

**Prayer:** *Lord God, you have given us into a culture that is lost without you. We are put here, in this specific place, at this specific time, to do your will. This is not a mistake, even if we long for someplace better. May we be uniquely gifted to serve our neighbors in our callings and give encouragement to fellow pilgrims who struggle to see the good in their place. May our streets and cities be filled with your praise and a bounty that reflects your goodness rather than our own success. Help us to see the goodness you have given right in front of our eyes. Let your glory and the Kingdom of Heaven come down to the Kingdom of earth. Amen.*

**Your Personal Prayer**



# Your Thoughts on For the City



## Part 1: 40 Days of Prayer

# Mission

Redeemer East Side is building  
a movement of everyday New Yorkers  
who are transformed by the gospel,  
rooted in cross-cultural gospel community,  
and mobilized for Christ's mission  
where they live, work, and love.



# Devotional — Day 18

Author: Sam Pritt

**Theme:** Redeemer East Side is building a *movement of everyday New Yorkers* who are transformed by the gospel, rooted in cross-cultural gospel community, and mobilized for Christ's mission where they live, work, and love.

**Scripture:** Brothers and sisters, think of what you were when you were called. Not many of you were wise by human standards; not many were influential; not many were of noble birth. But God chose the foolish things of the world to shame the wise; God chose the weak things of the world to shame the strong. God chose the lowly things of this world and the despised things — and the things that are not — to nullify the things that are, so that no one may boast before him. 1 Corinthians 1:26-29

**Meditation:** Just as God chose the “foolish” and “weak” to display his power, he calls ordinary people to advance his kingdom in a city defined by ambition and status. Like Corinth, New York has a culture that elevates success, but God moves through those who may feel insignificant or overlooked. In our neighborhoods, workplaces, and relationships, we are called to reject the status quo as we transform communities. The church thrives when everyday individuals, empowered by the Spirit, live out their faith authentically. Let us rely not on our influence or talent but on God's grace, knowing that his power is perfected in our weakness.

**Prayer:** *Dear God, we recognize that we have sinned and fallen short in so many ways and that our own abilities are far from sufficient to build a thriving church movement. Nevertheless, we faithfully ask you to use us as instruments in your hand. Help us to trust in your power as we live out your purpose in this city that we call home. Amen.*

## Your Personal Prayer



# Devotional — Day 19

Author: Jim Mumm

**Theme:** Redeemer East Side is building a movement of everyday New Yorkers who are **transformed by the gospel**, rooted in cross-cultural gospel community, and mobilized for Christ's mission where they live, work, and love.

**Scripture:** I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. Galatians 2:20 NIV

You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; to be made new in the attitude of your minds; and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness. Ephesians 4:22-24 NIV

**Meditation:** In a city where self-promotion and personal success are celebrated, Galatians 2:20 reveals a radical truth: our lives are no longer our own. Our identity now rests in Christ alone, not in achievements or social status. Living in New York, it's easy to chase success, but as Christians, we're called to let Christ's love shine through us. Our ambitions are guided by faith in Jesus, who loved us and gave Himself for us. This transformation empowers us to bring hope, love, and light into every corner of the city. Christ is seen and glorified through His people.

**Prayer:** *Dear Heavenly Father, we thank You for the profound gift of Your Son. In this vibrant and fast-paced city, where ambition and success often dominate, we humbly seek your guidance. Help us to crucify our old selves and allow Christ to live fully through us. May the Gospel change our lives, our neighbors, and neighborhoods. Let our transformed lives be a true reflection of your love, righteousness, and holiness in every interaction. Empower us to be vessels of your Gospel, spreading hope, light, and transformation to every corner of this great city. May Christ be glorified through our actions and words, and may NYC shine even brighter by the power of your Gospel. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.*

**Your Personal Prayer**





# Devotional — Day 20

Author: Diane Wenzler

**Theme:** Redeemer East Side is building a movement of everyday New Yorkers who are transformed by the gospel, **rooted in cross-cultural gospel community**, and mobilized for Christ's mission where they live, work, and love.

**Scripture:** For he himself is our peace, who has made us both one and has broken down in his flesh the dividing wall of hostility Ephesians 2:14

**Meditation:** We have a natural tendency to connect with people who have the same interests, the same way of thinking, and the same likes and dislikes. There's nothing wrong with that. The Spirit-filled church, however, is wonderfully different. God's family is defined by diversity: different cultures, ethnicities, languages, nationalities, socio-economic standings, political leanings, and all other kinds of distinctions. Yet we share one body, one hope, one faith, one baptism, one Lord, one Spirit, and one Father of all. We share in Christ's mission that the world may believe the Father sent the Son (see John 17:21). What unites us is so much greater than what separates us. Christ's death and resurrection breaks down the dividing wall of our differences. What a powerful testimony to a world fractured by differences. The unity of the church is our public witness, as vital to our mission as the words we speak and the good works we do.

**Prayer:** *Father God, we praise and thank you that in Christ Jesus you have broken down the dividing walls that cause discord, resentment, and bitterness among our brothers and sisters in Christ. Forgive us our sins of division, pride, and even malice when we elevate our differences above our being one in Christ. You have baptized us into one body – Jew or Greek, slave or free — made to drink of one Spirit so that we may no longer elevate our distinctions above the One whose blood we share. May your Spirit make this real to us, filling us, joining us together as one in Christ so everyone may know you sent the Son into the world to save it. In the name of our great high priest, Jesus Christ. Amen.*

**Your Personal Prayer**



# Devotional — Day 21

Author: Jonathan Lee

**Theme:** A community of cross-cultural love: solidarity.

**Scripture:** For if you forgive other people when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. Matthew 6:14 | Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, “Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother or sister who sins against me? Up to seven times?” Jesus answered, “I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times.” Matthew 18:21-22 | Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. Colossians 3:13

**Meditation:** In a growing congregation like RES, in a huge and diverse city like NYC, and even just within CGs, our differences can overwhelm us. In such times, it’s easy to choose the paths of entering into conflict or declining to engage. But what have we experienced through the death and sacrifice of Jesus on the cross? His grace cost Him everything. He could have decided to withdraw, but instead He chose the infinitely difficult path of valuing us over himself, giving himself up for us, patiently loving and reconciling us to himself. What beauty! Only when we see him looking at us with such love, and take that into the center of our hearts and lives, can we begin to have any real hope of overcoming our differences and seeking to cultivate genuine cross-cultural community.

**Prayer:** *Abba Father, we praise and thank you for your infinite love that led you to send your only son to earth for us. Dear Lord Jesus, we praise and thank you for valuing and choosing us over yourself, for your incarnation and ultimate sacrifice on the cross to pay the penalty for our sin. We acknowledge that we cannot do this in our own strength. By the power of the Holy Spirit, help us to take these truths into the center of our lives, and melt our hearts so that we can see our sisters and brothers in Christ with your eyes, begin to overcome our differences, and do the work it takes to build genuine cross-cultural community, rooting for and advocating for one another. We pray this in Jesus’ precious name. Amen.*

**Your Personal Prayer**



# Devotional — Day 22

*Author: Isabel Kim (Communicant Member)*

**Theme:** A community of cross-cultural love: justice

**Scripture:** Yet the Lord longs to be gracious to you; therefore he will rise up to show you compassion. For the Lord is a God of justice. Blessed are all who wait for him! People of Zion, who live in Jerusalem, you will weep no more. How gracious he will be when you cry for help! As soon as he hears, he will answer you. Isaiah 30:18-19

**Meditation:** In a world full of violence and sin we tend to lose faith and trust in people and society, but we often fail to see how we contribute to the problem ourselves. We do not focus back on our sins but judge others and resent the world. Yet our Lord is compassionate, merciful, gracious, and patient with our arrogance, and slow in anger. He graciously waits for our confessions and repentance to lead us down his path of peace. We must realize the Lord is the justice we seek and need. Let our initial reaction in the face of sin and injustice in the world, and in us, be to seek the Lord and pray; then to choose our thoughts and let the Spirit and scripture guide our course of action.

**Prayer:** *Dear God, thank you for your graciousness. We are ungrateful and undeserving of the mercy you bought for us on the cross. Let us not forget your gift of salvation and help us humble ourselves that we may seek you. Help us examine our hearts and blossom the desire to follow your path. Let us choose you and your thoughts and actions before our own so we may be more like you and know you Lord. Remind us that only you can bring true justice, that all good things come from you, and of your graciousness. Amen.*

**Your Personal Prayer**



# Devotional — Day 23

*Author: Paul Kim*

**Theme:** A community of cross-cultural love: forgiveness

**Scripture:** Here there is no Gentile or Jew, circumcised or uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave or free, but Christ is all, and is in all. Colossians 3:11

May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you the same attitude of mind towards each other that Christ Jesus had, so that with one mind and one voice you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Accept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you, in order to bring praise to God. Romans 15:5-7

Therefore if you have any encouragement from being united in Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any common sharing in the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and of one mind. Do nothing out of selfish ambition, or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of others. Philippians 2:1-4

**Meditation:** When there are times where people disappoint us, whether they are friends, family, colleagues, neighbors, or anyone else, it is very easy to react and become irritated or angry at them. It is much harder to take a step back, meditate and reflect on the situation at hand, and respond by forgiving the other person. The same can be true in the reverse; when we have wronged or done something wrong, it may be hard for the other person to find forgiveness in their hearts toward us. But because we are a community that has experienced the forgiveness of God through Jesus, he calls us now to forgive one another and to let go of any anger or resentment that has been built up, and to be merciful, gracious, and compassionate toward each other. And it is also important to ask for forgiveness when we have done something wrong. Only then can the love of Jesus stir within our hearts to find healing, reconciliation, and peace.



# Devotional — Day 23 Continued

Author: Paul Kim

**Prayer:** *Heavenly Father, we ask for you to search deep within our hearts any unforgiveness and help us to forgive those who have wronged us. Help us to surrender our pride and ourselves to your Son, Jesus Christ, and to find peace, understanding, and empathy for those who have wronged us and to bear the cost without any resentment and bitterness, whether it is forgiving seven or seventy-seven times. We also ask you to humble us whenever we have wronged those around us, whether it be neighbors, friends, family, and others, to accept responsibility and accountability, and to ask forgiveness from them and seek repentance. Remind us of the greatest gift that you have given to us, which is your Son, Jesus Christ, and how He gave up His life because of your unconditional love and the mercy and grace that has been bestowed upon us. We pray this in your Son, Jesus' name. Amen.*

## Your Personal Prayer



# Devotional — Day 24

Author: Terrie Wheeler

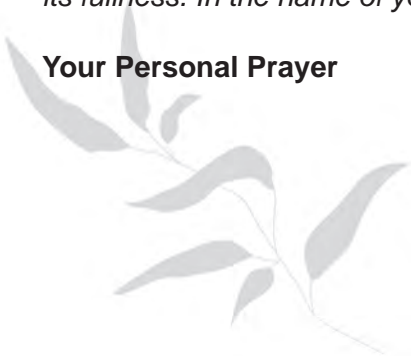
**Theme:** Redeemer East Side is building a movement of everyday New Yorkers who are transformed by the gospel, rooted in cross-cultural gospel community, and ***mobilized for Christ's mission*** where they live, work, and love.

**Scripture:** You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled underfoot. You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven. Matthew 5: 13-16

**Meditation:** God has put us in this time and place for His purpose: to be salt and light to those who live around us. This means to actively influence those around us (see Luke 10:25-37) positively with the love of God. Salt preserves goodness and enhances the quality of life, and light is to provide guidance and be an example of Christ in our world today. This is not easy. It requires daily surrender of our will, plans, and time to God, and a commitment to live and share our faith authentically. For as long as we inhabit this physical place, God desires that we would live out our faith where he has placed us on earth, and in so doing, bless those around us.

**Prayer:** *Father God, In your providence we were born in this time in history, and live where You have placed us. We repent that we so easily live our lives to satisfy ourselves without thought for our neighbors. Help us to take time to touch their lives and to live out the love you have for each of them. Through your Holy Spirit in us, enable us to be salt and light, faithfully showing your love and kindness to those around us. Let our light shine to reflect your love and glory. We ask you for our neighbors' salvation, that they may see you, know you, and experience your joy in all its fullness. In the name of your Son, Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.*

**Your Personal Prayer**



# Devotional — Day 25

*Author: Medina*

**Theme:** Redeemer East Side is building a movement of everyday New Yorkers who are transformed by the gospel, rooted in cross-cultural gospel community, and mobilized for Christ's mission where they live, **work**, and love.

**Scripture:** So I hated life, because the work that is done under the sun was grievous to me. All of it is meaningless, a chasing after the wind. So my heart began to despair over all my toilsome labor under the sun. For a person may labor with wisdom, knowledge and skill, and then they must leave all they own to another who has not toiled for it. This too is meaningless and a great misfortune. What do people get for all the toil and anxious striving with which they labor under the sun? All their days their work is grief and pain; even at night their minds do not rest. This too is meaningless. A person can do nothing better than to eat and drink and find satisfaction in their own toil. This too, I see, is from the hand of God, for without him, who can eat or find enjoyment? To the person who pleases him, God gives wisdom, knowledge and happiness, but to the sinner he gives the task of gathering and storing up wealth to hand it over to the one who pleases God. This too is meaningless, a chasing after the wind. Ecclesiastes 2:17, 20-26

**Meditation:** The only thing that can bring eternal glory, satisfaction, and self worth is God. God calls us to work, and work is good. We work to earn a living, take care of our loved ones, and create a life to enjoy. However, all of these things are meaningless without faith in God's greater currency: a promise to be a part of God's kingdom through the life, death, and resurrection of Christ. Therefore, we work for the Lord and not ourselves. We work with love, excellence, and diligence for God's promise of renewal, not for our comfort or legacy. Let us rejoice that God provides an eternal purpose to love, work, and serve our city.

**Prayer:** *Lord, help us remember to put our eyes on Christ when we work. Let us not toil to obtain the things of the world but to obtain the better promise and blessing of God. Let us not work to pursue things that perish but let us work for the glory of God to love and serve our city. Amen.*

**Your Personal Prayer**



# Devotional — Day 26

Author: Carole Kleinknecht

**Theme:** Redeemer East Side is building a movement of everyday New Yorkers who are transformed by the gospel, rooted in cross-cultural gospel community, and mobilized for Christ's mission where they live, work, and **love**.

**Scripture:** So now I am giving you a new commandment: Love each other. Just as I have loved you, you should love one another. Your love for one another will prove to the world that you are my disciples." John 13:34 NLT | Love is patient and kind. Love is not jealous or boastful or proud or rude. It is not irritable, and it keeps no record of being wronged." 1 Corinthians 13:4-5 NLT

**Meditation:** Relationships with friends, colleagues, and family bring both joy and challenge to our lives. We read the attributes of love sadly, knowing how often we fall short of loving well. There are some people in our lives we find very difficult to even tolerate much less love. As a new believer, I had a family member I didn't love — or like. When God pointed that out to me, he said, "But I love her, and I can love her through you." If he makes us channels of his love, our relationships will flourish, allowing us to extend His grace to others in both our words and actions.

**Prayer:** *Lord, we are heartily sorry for the times even this week that our words or tone or attitude dimmed the light of Your love to those around us. We know our lives are watched by many; we may even be the only Jesus-follower that someone knows. Let our hearts extend grace, even when it's hard. Help us to communicate with others with patience and kindness, in a way that honors You and draws them to Yourself. For the sake of Your kingdom! Amen.*

## Your Personal Prayer





# Your Thoughts on our Mission



## Part 1: 40 Days of Prayer

# Sermon on the Mount

The Sermon on the Mount is the most famous sermon ever given. In it Jesus explains what life in the Kingdom of God is like — what we value, what we pursue, how we treat others, and where our ultimate hope is found.

In this section, we will pray through some of the different themes of the Sermon on the Mount, and ask God the Holy Spirit to empower us to live in such a way that our neighborhood and our city would see Jesus in us, his people.

*Let's pray.*



# Devotional — Day 27

Author: Truly Ager

**Theme:** Blessed are the poor in spirit

**Scripture:** Seeing the crowds, he went up on the mountain, and when he sat down, his disciples came to him. And he opened his mouth and taught them, saying: “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted. Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied. Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God. Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.”  
Matthew 5:1-12

**Meditation:** In this verse, Jesus calls us to recognize our spiritual poverty, our very deep need for God. To be “poor in spirit” means to acknowledge that, on our own, we have nothing and are in need of His grace and mercy. It’s an opportunity to let go of pride and self-reliance, and to embrace a humble spirit, knowing that true life comes from God alone. When we humbly admit our need, we open our hearts to the abundance of His kingdom where His love, peace, and presence reign. This poverty is not a burden, but a rich blessing. For in our emptiness, God fills us with His strength and equips us for his mission. Today, let us approach God with humble hearts, trusting and believing in his sovereignty and provision.

**Prayer:** *Dear God, we repent of leading lives relying on our own self-sufficiency and disregarding your sovereignty in all things. Make us aware of our deep need for your provision, mercy, and love. Let our open hands be filled with your good work for our lives, and may our service to you reflect your beauty, bless our neighbors, and further your kingdom on earth. In Jesus Christ. Amen.*

**Your Personal Prayer**



# Devotional — Day 28

Author: Iris Bae

**Theme:** Blessed are those who mourn

**Scripture:** Seeing the crowds, he went up on the mountain, and when he sat down, his disciples came to him. And he opened his mouth and taught them, saying: “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted. Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied. Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God. Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.” Matthew 5:1-12

**Meditation:** In our current broken and divided world, we see so many seemingly innocent people suffering due to injustice while those seemingly responsible continue on unaware that they will be their own downfall. Because we are so broken by sin, we are unable to be comforted by our own efforts. True comfort does not originate from this world, but from the one who has formed us and continues to transform us through our times of suffering and mourning. We can best seek the one who restores us in our brokenness when we see the redemptive power of God.

**Prayer:** *Dear God, we repent that we have despaired, unwilling to see beyond our pain, disregarding your mighty presence in our lives. In our mourning, hear our cries and comfort us with your grace. We acknowledge that when we draw near you, our brokenness is healed. Reveal to us your glory through one another — your faith, hope, and love shines strongest when we proclaim your ownership over us. May we as individuals and as a community learn to embrace our shortcomings, and let your love cover our multitude of sins. In the name of our Lord who comforts us completely, Jesus Christ. Amen.*

**Your Personal Prayer**

# Devotional — Day 29

Author: Sharon Tanaka

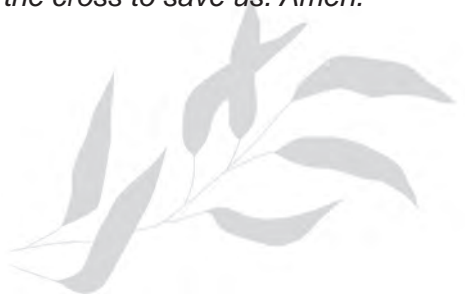
**Theme:** Blessed are the meek

**Scripture:** Seeing the crowds, he went up on the mountain, and when he sat down, his disciples came to him. And he opened his mouth and taught them, saying: “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted. Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied. Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God. Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.” Matthew 5:1-12

**Meditation:** Jesus invites us to learn from him because he is meek “gentle and humble of heart,” and he promises we will find “rest for our souls” (Matt. 11:29). The only way to grow in meekness is by asking Jesus to produce it in us. Meekness is not weakness — see Jesus, the King of Glory, humble himself, take a frail human body, and serve the sick and needy. In the ultimate act of meekness, he suffered a criminal’s death on the cross as a substitute for us. He rose from the dead, and now gives us his Spirit to help us live as he lived: serving and humbly putting others before ourselves. Let us learn his heart of meekness, and Jesus, who lives in us, will enable us to lovingly serve one another. As we do so, he will become more beautiful, and others will want to learn of Jesus from us.

**Prayer:** *Lord Jesus, we come to you, and learn from you, that we may reflect your heart of meekness and service so others will want to know you. Make your life of meekness and your death on the cross, more real to us. Give us rest from trying to prove ourselves, and may we lovingly reflect your heart of serving others in meekness. We praise you for your meekness as you served us by going to the cross to save us. Amen.*

**Your Personal Prayer**



# Devotional — Day 30

Author: Lucy Jimenez

**Theme:** Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness

**Scripture:** Seeing the crowds, he went up on the mountain, and when he sat down, his disciples came to him. And he opened his mouth and taught them, saying: “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted. Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied. Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God. Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.” Matthew 5:1-12

**Meditation:** As good New Yorkers, we love to be vocal when we hear about injustice, and to let others know what we would have done. But is that the kind of righteousness that this blessing is about? The word righteousness (Zedeq in Hebrew) refers to being in good relationships with those around us: treating each other equally and justly, actively caring for each other. Being righteous is an action that moves us to do good for the well-being of others. When we do this, we reflect God’s love, and we long for the Kingdom of Heaven where we will treat each other rightfully. Jesus gave us his righteousness on the cross, and that can move us to love others. So what will you do today to reflect the good relationship that we are given in Christ?

**Prayer:** *Our Heavenly Father, you have chosen us to be instruments of Your love. Open our eyes to see the needs around us and our hearts to pursue justice among us. Move us out of our comfort zones so we can reach those in need. Transform our minds and desires so we can look to have good relationships with others. In the name of Jesus, through whom we are counted righteous. Amen.*

**Your Personal Prayer**



# Devotional — Day 31

Author: Manuel Chea

**Theme:** Blessed are the merciful

**Scripture:** Seeing the crowds, he went up on the mountain, and when he sat down, his disciples came to him. And he opened his mouth and taught them, saying: “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted. Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied. Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God. Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.” Matthew 5:1-12

**Meditation:** It’s easy for us to be merciful and neighborly to those who are similar, be it the same socio-economic status, ethnicity, nationality. But what about those who are different? Do we extend the same mercy? Jesus showed us the way when he told the parable of the Good Samaritan: he did not cross to the other side and pass by the injured man. He tended his wounds and brought him to an inn for further care. He showed mercy to a man who was essentially his enemy. And again, Jesus showed the way with the woman caught in adultery: asking the accusers to stone her if they were without sin, and no one could. Jesus who was without sin, rather than condemn her, gave her mercy instead.

**Prayer:** *Dear Lord, you have first shown us undeserved mercy by your death on the cross and forgiving us of our sins. Fill us with compassion for those in our midst who are different, for those who may have hurt us, and those against whom we hold grudges. Help us lift up those who are downtrodden and physically or spiritually in need, those who are ill, and those who are foreigners. We pray that we are merciful just as you were merciful to us. We pray in the name of our Lord, Jesus Christ. Amen.*

**Your Personal Prayer**



# Devotional — Day 32

Author: Samantha Chen

**Theme:** Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

**Scripture:** Seeing the crowds, he went up on the mountain, and when he sat down, his disciples came to him. And he opened his mouth and taught them, saying: “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted. Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied. Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God. Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.” Matthew 5:1-12

**Meditation:** The notion of purity may bring to mind sexual ethics. Certainly pure devotion to Jesus results in the holy use of our bodies, but how you decide to use your body only expresses what is already in your heart. Where have you set your affections: finances, career, relationships, physical appearance, possessions? If you long for such things, you won’t see God clearly because you’re not looking for him. If the desire of your heart is to live for God, Jesus promises that you will see him — the one who loved you and gave everything so that you could have abundant life. The only reasonable response to such love is to give your life back to God.

**Prayer:** *Oh Lord, show me your glory. As I sit with you now, grant me the stillness and the patience to stay here with you — to gaze upon your light until you are all I can see. I know that this world is passing away along with its desires. In your mercy, God, reveal to me the things that are competing against your lordship in my life, and take up your rightful place on the throne of my heart. I lay aside every sin that has kept me from wholeheartedly pursuing you. Jesus, take my mind, my heart, my soul, and my body. Everything that I am, I give to you. In your name I pray. Amen.*

**Your Personal Prayer**





# Devotional — Day 33

Author: Sarat and Grace Chanlardapaty

**Theme:** Blessed are the peacemakers

**Scripture:** Seeing the crowds, he went up on the mountain, and when he sat down, his disciples came to him. And he opened his mouth and taught them, saying: “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted. Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied. Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God. Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.” Matthew 5:1-12

**Meditation:** The word “peacemaker” might elicit for some a picture of a person who is friendly, congenial, or gets along with everyone, but who needs a peacemaker unless there is division and conflict? Let us turn instead to an example such as Martin Luther King Jr. who, being unjustly imprisoned for confronting injustice, penned the “Letter from Birmingham Jail” to lovingly and passionately address his fellow clergymen who criticised his movement from afar. Perhaps our tendencies to both incite conflict as well as avoid conflict are equally far from the call of Jesus to address conflict and thereby make peace.

**Prayer:** *Holy Father, we praise you for your Son who was the ultimate peacemaker. One who saw the conflict between our fallen humanity and Your goodness, and came to address that conflict through truth, compassion, and sacrifice. We ask that you would imbue us with Your love and generosity, and grow in us a desire to sow peace. Help us to see and lovingly address the conflicts and divisions before us, through your mercy and grace. In the name of our Prince of Peace, Jesus Christ. Amen.*

**Your Personal Prayer**



# Devotional — Day 34

Author: Casey Slotterbeck

**Theme:** Blessed are they that suffer persecution for justice's sake

**Scripture:** Seeing the crowds, he went up on the mountain, and when he sat down, his disciples came to him. And he opened his mouth and taught them, saying: "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted. Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied. Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God. Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you." Matthew 5:1-12

**Meditation:** Some words of Jesus are uncomfortable to hear. We want the blessings of glad hearts and deep rest, but how do we respond when we're mistreated for following Christ? Do we harden our hearts or love those who ridicule us? To choose love, remember how Jesus suffered and then treated his tormentors. Christ endured injustice for our sake even though we rejected him like sheep that strayed from their shepherd. Not only did Jesus suffer for us, but he considered it joy to endure the cross. Christ prayed for God to forgive those who unjustly condemned him. When we see Jesus gladly giving his life for us, we can be strengthened to face any persecution with love for those who mistreat us.

**Prayer:** *Heavenly Father, you offer your approval as a free gift that cost you your greatest treasure, Jesus. Your love is perfect, and your embrace heals us of our need to please others. Help us to live free from fear of rejection. Grow in us courage, humility, and selfless love. Help the persecuted church share the love of Jesus with their persecutors. Change the hearts of those who harass followers of Christ so that they embrace Jesus as Lord. Have mercy upon those who persecute your family, so they may become our brothers and sisters in Christ. Thank you for hearing us and being able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.*

**Your Personal Prayer**

# Devotional — Day 35

Author: Laura Boren

**Theme:** You are the salt of the earth

**Scripture:** You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trampled under people's feet. Matthew 5:13

**Meditation:** Food doesn't become salty on its own. Good seasoning comes from the knowledge and skills of an experienced cook. Jesus doesn't tell his disciples to find ways to be saltier. Instead, he's urging us to keep the flavor we have so he can use it to usher in this perfectly tasty kingdom.

The paragraphs before this verse preview ways that people are blessed by things they may wish weren't true in their lives: meekness, persecution, seeing unrighteousness everywhere and thirsting for the opposite. These circumstances of our lives and the character they shape are from God, and Jesus is urging us to be people who can sense the flavor he's bringing to the world not in spite of, but through those experiences. He's urging us to keep buying into God's vision to maintain that curious and sometimes painfully disorienting state of being a resource in the hands of an experienced chef.

**Prayer:** *Father, all the flavor we appreciate around us comes from your creative work in the world — from the literal salt on a perfectly crispy french fry, to the figurative salt of the enlightening story we hear from a new neighbor, or even the salt that's present in the darkness we sit in after a devastating day at work when we've completely lost sight of your vision. Thank you for these spots of direction in a world that feels chaotic, unknowable, and unsolvable. You gave us this directive to keep being flavorful while Jesus was on earth. Keep teaching us now how to see the big and small ways you're flavoring the world to be your kingdom and how we fit into the work you're already doing in our city. Amen.*

**Your Personal Prayer**



# Devotional — Day 36

Author: Jim Liou

**Theme:** You are the light of the world

**Scripture:** You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven. Matthew 5:14-16

**Meditation:** It is often very easy to forget that the sun is always shining whether it be above the clouds on a rainy day or on the other side of the Earth when it is nighttime. In the same way, we sometimes forget that God is always with us, especially in times of trouble or when we prioritize and seek our idols before God. Let us not only be reminded that God is by our side in our everyday life, but also wholeheartedly rejoice in His good news and glorify His name by sharing the joy of knowing Jesus with others through His perpetual light.

**Prayer:** *Dear God, we seek to draw ever closer to you in our day-to-day life in understanding that you are the only sure thing and steady hand that can guide us and comfort us in the unpredictability of our earthly life. When we encounter turbulent troubled waters and are lost, we pray that you not only guide us through to find enduring peace, but that you enable us to joyfully spread your word and bring your positive light of truth to our neighborhoods, workplaces, and wherever else we find ourselves. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.*

**Your Personal Prayer**



# Devotional — Day 37

Author: Emma Ortega

**Theme:** Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you

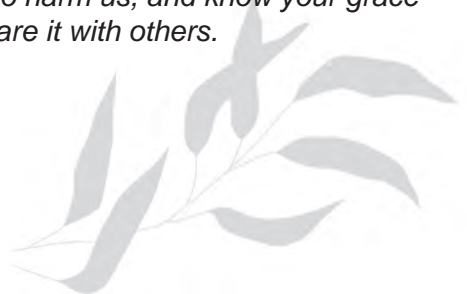
**Scripture:** You have heard that it was said, 'Love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, that you may be children of your Father in heaven. He causes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous. If you love those who love you, what reward will you get? Are not even the tax collectors doing that? And if you greet only your own people, what are you doing more than others? Do not even pagans do that? Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect. Matthew 5:43-48

Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing. James 1:2-4

**Meditation:** A wise and godly woman gave this advice: when you have trouble falling asleep, start praying for your enemies; you'll be asleep in no time. The true value of this advice is the reminder to put our faith into practice. Praying for our enemies goes beyond people who mistreat us. When my heart is hard towards someone, I make myself their enemy, even if only to a small degree. Matthew calls us to pray with our Father's graciousness: he loved us and sent Jesus for us while we were his enemies. Extending the grace of prayer to people who have harmed us is a trial, challenging our belief in God's abundance, goodness, and justice. James counts this trial as joy because the reward is a steadfast faith in God's righteousness that reveals the astonishing beauty of His grace.

**Prayer:** *Perfect Father, this is a difficult teaching. Without you, we are not capable of praying for people who mistreat us. Without you, we cannot bear to admit the enemies we have made and kept in our own hearts. We know that just as you loved us before we loved you, your Spirit makes it possible for us to love as you do. May we grow to be so confident in your righteousness that we pray for those who harm us, and know your grace so intimately that we cannot help but share it with others.*

**Your Personal Prayer**



# Devotional — Day 38

Author: Kay Cain

**Theme:** Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth

**Scripture:** Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. Matthew 6:19-21

**Meditation:** “Our assets are not really ours, but God’s.” We know this teaching. It is an old teaching, echoing through the ages, always in danger of being distorted, obscured, or lost completely by the voracious tsunami of consumption that ceaselessly batters our consciousness. Visionary thinker GK Chesterton reminds us that life here is temporary. A reporter, eager for a headline, asked: what did the fabulously wealthy J.Paul Getty leave behind when he died. “All of it” was the answer. Oswald Chambers, whose pungent writing was reflected in his own brief sacrificial life, left us with the admonition that our hold on personal property and possessions should be very loose. Countless others have repeated the spirit of this teaching: stewards, not owners. Let us meditate on what this means in all areas of our lives today.

**Prayer:** *Heavenly Father, you are the Creator, the Almighty, the Alpha and Omega. We give you our praise and gratitude, now and always. We rest in the certainty that you will supply our every need according to the riches of your glory in Christ Jesus. Keep us focused on this certainty and free from the lure of the temporal and unnecessary. Give us the discretion to know how to pray as we ought, for those things which are of true and eternal value. In your matchless name, Amen.*

**Your Personal Prayer**



# Devotional — Day 39

Author: Erica Sanchez

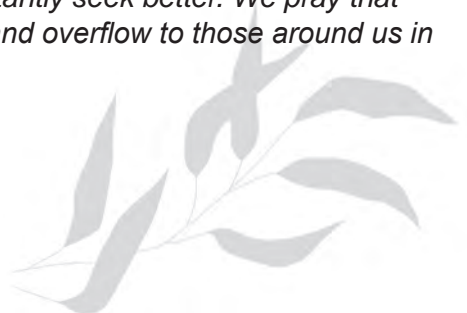
**Theme:** Seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness

**Scripture:** Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And which of you by being anxious can add a single hour to his span of life? And why are you anxious about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is alive and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you, O you of little faith? Therefore do not be anxious, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' For the Gentiles seek after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all. But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you. Therefore do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble. Matthew 6:25-34

**Meditation:** New York City is a place of seekers. The culture relentlessly pushes us to pursue more, greater, better: the raise, the perfect partner, the recognition, the approval. But we know these things are ultimately powerless to truly fulfill us. As music artist Lecrae points out: "if you live for people's acceptance, you'll die from their rejection." This passage calls us to seek to live for and love God above all these other things. We strive for excellence, but resist the temptation to find our worth and identity in anything but the truth that we belong to God's kingdom. He cares for us, and He made the ultimate sacrifice of his Son to reconcile us to Him.

**Prayer:** *God our Father, help our hearts truly take hold of the truth that we see here: that we are valued and cared for so much more than we can comprehend. Help us to seek to live for and love You above all else, so that we are freed from the need to constantly seek better. We pray that the joy of this truth would fill our spirits and overflow to those around us in this city. In Jesus' name. Amen.*

**Your Personal Prayer**



# Devotional — Day 40

Author: Evy Michalos

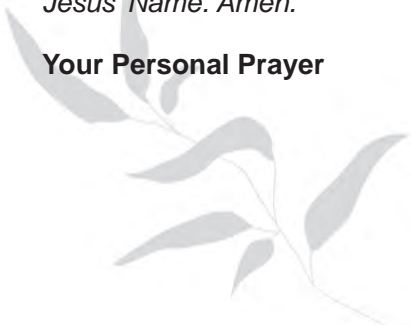
**Theme:** Do not be anxious about tomorrow

**Scripture:** That is why I tell you not to worry about everyday life—whether you have enough food and drink, or enough clothes to wear. Isn't life more than food, and your body more than clothing? Look at the birds. They don't plant or harvest or store food in barns, for your heavenly Father feeds them. And aren't you far more valuable to him than they are? Can all your worries add a single moment to your life? And why worry about your clothing? Look at the lilies of the field and how they grow. They don't work or make their clothing, yet Solomon in all his glory was not dressed as beautifully as they are. And if God cares so wonderfully for wildflowers that are here today and thrown into the fire tomorrow, he will certainly care for you. Why do you have so little faith? So don't worry about these things, saying, 'What will we eat? What will we drink? What will we wear?' These things dominate the thoughts of unbelievers, but your heavenly Father already knows all your needs. Seek the Kingdom of God above all else, and live righteously, and he will give you everything you need. So don't worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring its own worries. Today's trouble is enough for today. Matthew 6:25-34

**Meditation:** We can worry about so many things: family, health, finances, careers, the future. Sometimes we feel so surrounded by worries and cares that our hearts are stressed, troubled, or afraid. Our Lord says that every single day He gives us the grace we need. It's easy to be focused on all the demands of life and feel stressed. But when we realize God has given us wave after wave of His grace every day, we can walk free from stress and learn to live in the present. We can enjoy getting to know Jesus and trust that He will be with us when tomorrow comes with a new fresh supply of His grace.

**Prayer:** *Lord Jesus, thank you for your loving presence and fresh grace each day. May we learn to walk by faith and live in the present, one day at a time. In the midst of our trouble, may we behold your beauty and seek to know you more. We cast all our cares on you because you know every detail of our lives. Thank you that no problem is too big or too small for you to handle. As we spend time in your Word each day, may we receive a deep awareness of our righteousness in Christ and let every fear melt away in your presence. In Jesus' Name. Amen.*

**Your Personal Prayer**





# Your Thoughts on the Sermon on the Mount



Part 2

# 10 Days of Celebration of the Resurrection



## **The Lord's Prayer — in Different Languages** *A Celebration of Diversity*

The resurrection of Jesus and the coming of the Holy Spirit opened the way for all nations, ethnic groups, and tribes to be able to come into a right relationship with God and to be part of his family, the Church. The book of Acts tells us that ten days after the risen Christ ascended to the Father, people from all over the known world heard, in their own native languages, the glories of God and the good news of the Gospel for the first time as they witnessed the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. This was the beginning of the spreading of the good news of Jesus throughout the world.

The following prayers are a celebration of the beautiful diversity that the Resurrection of Jesus and the coming of the Holy Spirit has created in the Church. In what follows, we will pray together the Lord's Prayer in different languages which are represented in our local church, Redeemer East Side.

*Let's pray.*



# Devotional — Day 41 Spanish

Author: Raul and Ammi Perez

**Theme:** Our Father | Padre Nuestro

## Scripture:

This, then, is how you should pray:

“Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
And forgive us our debts,  
as we also have forgiven our  
debtors.  
And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from the evil one.  
[for yours is the kingdom and the  
power and the glory forever. Amen.]

Matthew 6:9-13

Ustedes oren así: “Padre nuestro que estás en los cielos, santificado sea tu nombre. Venga tu reino y cúmplase en la tierra tu voluntad como se cumple en el cielo. Danos hoy los alimentos que necesitamos, y perdona nuestros pecados, así como nosotros perdonamos a los que nos han hecho mal. No nos metas en tentación, mas líbranos del mal, porque tuyo es el reino, el poder y la gloria para siempre. Amén.”

Mateo 6:9-13 (Nueva Biblia Viva)

**Meditation:** God has made himself known to humanity by different names (the Most High, King of Kings, the Almighty, etc.) And each name reveals part of his character. Jesus knew each of these names, and in his model prayer he chose for us to address God as “Father.” When we think of God as our Father, it is easier to see him as a close, loving, and merciful person. Imagine if he had used the name “King of Kings”, and when we approached him in prayer, we would be confused like the sons of Zebedee were, asking to sit at his right or left believing ourselves worthy of his court\*. What wonderful news Jesus reveals to us when he teaches us that the Most High is not only the King of Kings, the Almighty, but that we can also approach him in prayer as Our Father, because of what Jesus has done for us.



# Devotional — Day 41 Continued

Author: Raul and Ammi Perez

**Meditation Continued:** Dios se ha dado a conocer a la humanidad por diferentes nombres( El Altísimo, Rey de Reyes, Omnipotente, etc.) Y cada nombre revela parte de su carácter. Jesús conocía cada uno de estos nombres y en su oración modelo escogió que nos dirigiéramos a Dios como "Padre". Al pensar en Dios como nuestro Padre es más fácil verlo como una persona cercana, amorosa, y misericordiosa. Imagina si Jesus hubiera usado el nombre "Rey de Reyes", y al acercarnos a él en oración nos confundiéramos como lo hicieron los hijos de Zebedeo, pidiendo el sentarnos a su derecha o a su izquierda por creernos dignos de su corte\*. Qué maravillosa noticia nos reveló Jesús al enseñarnos que el Altísimo no solo es Rey de Reyes, el Omnipotente, sino que también podemos acercarnos a él en oración como Nuestro Padre, por lo que Jesus hizo por nosotros.

**Prayer:** *Our Father, thank you for loving us as your children. Please forgive us for doubting your love and questioning your decisions when we do not understand them. Thank you for being close and accessible, even when we choose to distance ourselves from you. We rely on our own opinions and forget that you, our good Father, know each of our needs very well. Thank you for the Spirit of Adoption, through whom we cry "Abba, Father"! In Jesus' name. Amen.*

*Padre nuestro, gracias por amarnos como tus hijos. Perdónanos por poner en duda tu amor y cuestionar tus decisiones cuando no las comprendemos. Gracias por mostrarte cercano y accesible aun cuando decidimos alejarnos de ti confiando en nuestra propia opinión y olvidando que tú, nuestro buen Padre, conoces muy bien cada una de nuestras necesidades y sabes que es lo mejor para nosotros. Gracias por el Espíritu de Adopción, por el cual podemos clamar Abba Padre. En el nombre de Jesús. Amén.*

**Your Personal Prayer**



# Devotional — Day 42 *Dutch*

Author: *Bram van den Heuvel*

**Theme:** Hallowed be thy name | Laat uw naam geheiligd worden

## Scripture:

This, then, is how you should pray:

“Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
And forgive us our debts,  
as we also have forgiven our  
debtors.  
And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from the evil one.  
[for yours is the kingdom and the  
power and the glory forever.  
Amen.]

Matthew 6:9-13

Bid daarom als volgt:

“Onze Vader in de hemel,  
laat uw naam geheiligd worden,  
laat uw koninkrijk komen,  
laat uw wil gedaan worden  
op aarde zoals in de hemel.  
Geef ons vandaag het brood  
dat wij nodig hebben.  
Vergeef ons onze schulden,  
zoals ook wij vergeven  
wie ons iets schuldig is.  
En breng ons niet in beproeving,  
maar red ons van het kwaad.  
Want aan U behoort het  
koningschap,  
de macht en de majesteit,  
in eeuwigheid. Amen.  
Matteüs 6:9-13 (NBV21)

**Meditation:** The word “hallowed” awakens the language teacher in me, for it is both a verbed noun and a subjunctive translating a third-person imperative. A wordier translation would be “your name must be made holy”. Though this is a petition to God, it also involves us. In our thoughts, words, and deeds we must continue to make God’s name, or reputation, holy; it must be separate and distinct; it must be given a place of central importance, honor, and glory. This is in stark contrast to our intuition to make ourselves, or things we like, “holy” instead. Like Psalm 115:1 reminds us: “Not to us, O Lord, not to us, but to your Name give glory”. Yes, because God deserves it, but also because it is good for us to participate in the honoring of God. And when we do so, the world, our city, and our neighbors will see.



# Devotional — Day 42 Continued

Author: Bram van den Heuvel

**Meditation Continued:** De woorden “geheilig worden” prikkelen de taaldocent in mij; het is een werkwoord gemaakt van een zelfstandig naamwoord en een conjunctief wat een derde-persoon gebiedende wijs vertaalt. Een uitgebreidere vertaling is “uw naam moet heilig gemaakt worden”. Hoewel dit aan God gevraagd wordt heeft het ook betrekking op ons. In onze gedachten, woorden en daden moeten we steeds Gods naam, of reputatie, heilig maken; het moet anders zijn en apart staan; het moet een centrale plaats van belang, eer en roem ontvangen. Dit in tegenstelling tot onze intuïtie om onszelf, of dingen die we leuk vinden, “heilig” te maken. Zoals Psalm 115:1 zegt: “Niet ons, Heer, niet ons, geef uw naam alle eer”. Ja, omdat God het verdient, maar ook omdat het goed voor ons is om deel te nemen aan het eren van God. En als we dat doen zullen de wereld, onze stad en onze naasten het zien.

**Prayer:** *Glorious, awesome, and holy God who has become our adopted Father: open our hearts to see who you are, to be our vision for what should fill our lives. Because your name must be made holy, by you, by us, and by all of creation. May your reputation always be the center of our lives and may all worthless idols be exposed for their hollow lack of realness. Fill us with your Holy Spirit to live like your Son, for the glory of the Father. Amen.*

*Glorieuze, ontzagwekkende en heilige God die onze adoptievader is geworden. Open onze harten om te zien wie U bent, om onze visie te zijn voor wat ons leven zou moeten vullen. Want uw naam moet heilig gemaakt worden, door U, door ons en door de hele schepping. Laat uw reputatie altijd het centrum van ons leven zijn en laat alle waardeloze afgoden worden ontmaskerd voor hun lege gebrek aan echtheid. Vul ons met uw Heilige Geest om te leven als uw Zoon, voor de glorie van de Vader. Amen.*

## Your Personal Prayer



# Devotional — Day 43 Japanese

Author: Eric Takahashi

**Theme:** Your kingdom come | あなたの王国が来ます

## Scripture:

This, then, is how you should pray:

“Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
And forgive us our debts,  
as we also have forgiven our  
debtors.  
And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from the evil one.  
[for yours is the kingdom and the  
power and the glory forever. Amen.]  
Matthew 6:9-13

ですから、こう祈りなさい。  
『天におられるお父様。  
あなたのきよい御名があがめられますよ  
うに。  
あなたの御国が来ますように。  
天の御国でと同じように、この地上でも、  
あなたの御心が行われますように。  
私たちに必要な日々の食物を、  
今日もお与えください。  
私たちの罪をお赦してください。  
私たちも、私たちに罪を犯す者を赦しまし  
た。  
私たちを誘惑に会わせないように守り、  
悪から救い出してください。アーメン。』  
マタイの福音書 6:9-13  
Japanese Living Bible

**Meditation:** In the busy schedule of our daily lives it is easy to forget the kingdom of God. Our natural bend to suppress our trust in the Lord causes us to be burdened with frustrations, guilt, apathy. The polarization in the society, the tension in the workplace, miscommunication in relationships and the awareness of our neighborhoods we live in can take us on a trip of hopelessness if left to ourselves. The struggles we encounter with disagreements in society, disconnected relationships, brokenness in the world adds to our doubts, making us question: “Is the Kingdom of God coming?”

We need to ask daily that His kingdom comes into this world, into our lives. When we place our faith in Jesus, he transforms our minds, enabling us to hold onto His promise that He will bring healing to the world. To trust that his will be done on earth as it is in heaven is something we can only take with faith. Colossians 1:16-17 says: “For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, weather thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him. He is before all things, and in him all things hold together.”



# Devotional — Day 43 Continued

Author: Eric Takahashi

**Meditation Continued:** God is renewing the world, our workplaces, our relationships, and our neighborhoods. In what ways are you seeking and asking His Kingdom to come to your life? Do you believe that he is working all things for His praise and glory? How will you pray for your neighborhood, workplace and community?

私達は忙しい日常生活において、神様の御国を忘れがちです。主への信頼を弱めてしまう私達の性質は、不満や罪悪感、無気力といった重荷を私達に負わせてしまいます。社会の二極化や職場での緊張、人間関係におけるミスコミュニケーション、近隣に対する意識は私達だけで対処するように放っておかれるとしたら私達を希望のない旅路へと引き込ませてしまいます。社会の不和や断絶された人間関係、壊れてしまった世の中で直面する葛藤は、私達の疑いを強め、「神様の御国は来るのだろうか」という疑問を抱かせます。神様の御国がこの世に来ますように、私達の人生に来ますようにと日々祈る必要があります。私達の信仰をイエス様に向ける時、イエス様は私達の心を変えてくださり、そして世界に癒しをもたらすという主のお約束にすることができるようになって下さいます。神様の御心が天におけるように地においてもなることに信頼することは、信仰によってのみできることです。

コロサイ人への手紙1章16-17節をご覧ください。“事実、キリストはすべてのものの創造者なのです。天にあるものも地にあるものも、目に見えるものも見えないものも、霊の世界の王座も主権も支配も権威もすべて、この方がご自身の目的と栄光のために造られたのです。キリストは他のすべてのものに先立って存在し、すべてのものは、キリストによって成り立っています。” 神様はこの世界、私達の職場や人間関係、近隣を新たになさるのです。あなたの人生に神様の御国が来ますようにとどのように求め、願っていますか？ 神様の誉れと栄光のために全てのことに於いて神様が働いておられると信じますか？ あなたの近隣、職場、コミュニティーのためにどのように祈りますか？

**Prayer:** *Heavenly Father, we thank you that you loved this world so much that you brought your Son into this world to save us. We trust through Jesus's complete sacrifice, that he is restoring all things. Jesus is present in our neighborhoods, our workplace and our community. We trust in you that you are renewing our minds and increasing our faith to acknowledge that your will is being done here on earth as it is in heaven. In Jesus name, Amen.*

祈り: 天のお父様、この世をあまりにも愛するが故にあなたのひとり子をこの世にお遣わし下さって私達をお救いくださったことを感謝します。イエス様の完全なる犠牲によって全てのことを修復して下さったと信じます。イエス様が私達の近隣や職場、コミュニティーに伴っておられます。私達の心を新たにしてく下さり、あなたの御心が天と同じく地でも行われますことを確信する信仰を強めてくださるよう、あなたに信頼します。イエス様のお名前によって祈ります。アーメン

**Your Personal Prayer**



# Devotional — Day 44 Chinese

Author: Jennie Yu

**Theme:** Your will be done | 你的旨意行在

## Scripture:

This, then, is how you should pray:

“Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
And forgive us our debts,  
as we also have forgiven our  
debtors.  
And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from the evil one.  
[for yours is the kingdom and the  
power and the glory forever. Amen.]

所以，你們要這樣禱告：「我們在天上  
的父：願人都尊你的名為聖。  
願你的國降臨；願你的旨意行在  
地上，如同行在天上。  
我們日用的飲食，今日賜給我們。  
免我們的債，如同我們免了人的  
債。  
不叫我們陷入試探；救我們脫離  
那惡者。因為國度、權柄、榮耀，全  
是你的，直到永遠。阿們！」  
馬太福音 6章 9-13節

Matthew 6:9-13

**Meditation:** We all experience many difficulties, as we face persistent conflicts and evil in this world. But do we choose to hold fast with hope or choose to act according to our own will? Those who chose to do their own will eventually stumble and fall.

How should we find hope? The Bible teaches that the will of God is good, acceptable, and perfect. Let us always meditate on the fact that God is full of mercy, love, and compassion, as it was revealed to us how much He loved us by sending His Son into the world, so that we might have everlasting life through Him. The will of God is also full of glory. Let us pray that the will of God be done, as we rely on His divine providence and great mercy and believe that God gives good and perfect gifts to us.



# Devotional — Day 44 Continued

Author: Jennie Yu

**Meditation Continued:** 看哪!我們總經歷許多難事,面對世上仍存在紛爭和邪惡。我們要選擇盼望持守,還是透過自己意念行事?透過自己意念行事的人,最終迷失絆倒在地。

人應該如何尋找盼望?聖經教導神的旨意為善良、純全、可喜悅的。讓我們時常默想神是滿有恩典、慈愛和憐憫;神差遣耶穌基督降臨於這世上,使我們得永生,神的愛就在此向我們顯明了。神的旨意亦然,是滿有榮耀的。我們祈願上帝旨意成全,倚靠主的美好權能和憐憫,並深信神將最好的賜予我們。

**Prayer:** *Dear God, we admit our weaknesses before you, we are so often preoccupied by the worries in life, and choose to conform to this world. Redirect our footsteps, Lord, that we can stand fast in our faith. Keep us on this path of life to be led by your will, always discerning, meditating, and drawing near to you. We pray that you humble us to let you govern our lives, and with reverence we hope for your will be done! In the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.*

親愛的主,我們要在祢面前承認軟弱,我們總是因為生活總總煩擾而憂慮,甚至甘心效法世界、追求世界。求神這刻調整我們的腳步,能在信仰站立得穩。保守我們的生命道路上,以祢的旨意作牽引,時刻察驗、默想、親近祢。求祢使我們謙卑,讓祢掌管我們的生命,並以敬畏的心期盼祢的旨意成就!奉主耶穌之聖名祈求,阿門。

## Your Personal Prayer



# Devotional — Day 45 *Tagalog*

*Author: Camille Calilung*

**Theme:** Give us this day our daily bread | Bigyan mo kami ngayon ng aming pagkain sa araw-araw

## **Scripture:**

This, then, is how you should pray:

“Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
And forgive us our debts,  
as we also have forgiven our  
debtors.  
And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from the evil one.  
[for yours is the kingdom and the  
power and the glory forever. Amen.]

Matthew 6:9-13

Ganito kayo mananalangin,  
‘Ama naming nasa langit,  
Sambahin nawa ang iyong  
pangalan.  
Nawa’y maghari ka sa amin.  
Sundin nawa ang iyong kalooban  
dito sa lupa tulad ng sa langit.  
Bigyan mo kami ngayon ng aming  
pagkain sa araw-araw;  
At patawarin mo kami sa aming  
mga kasalanan,  
Tulad ng pagpapatawad namin sa  
mga nagkakasala sa amin.  
At huwag mo kaming hayaang  
matukso, kundi iligtas  
mo kami sa Masama! [Sapagkat  
iyo ang kaharian, at ang  
kapangyarihan, at ang  
kaluwalhatian, magpakailanman!  
Amen.]

Mateo 6:9-13 (Magandang Balita Biblia)

**Meditation:** Jesus teaches us how to pray, and there’s no greater authority. He shows us the essential prayer. This is what we are to ask for. Give us this day our daily bread. It sounds elementary. Stark. This day. Today. Bread. No matter how sophisticated we aspire to be, our needs, what we cannot live without each day, can embarrass us with their basicness. We are brought face to face with our body’s limitations. Not only that, but also with the restriction of time. We can only live our lives one day at a time. Jesus teaches us not only how to pray but how to live our lives the only way we can. One day at a time, trusting Him to provide for everything we need to live out the day.

# Devotional — Day 45 Continued

Author: Camille Calilung

**Meditation Continued:** Tinuruan tayo ni Jesus, ang anak ng Diyos, kung paanong ipanalangin ang pangunahing panalangin. Ito ang dapat nating hilingin. Bigyan mo kami ngayon ng aming pagkain sa araw-araw. Parang napaka-simple at diretso. Baka masyadong simple at diretso? Araw-araw. Pagkain. Kahit gaano man tayo kasopistikado, tayo ay mga simpleng nilalang na may mga pangunahing pangangailangan. Inihaharap ng panalangin ito ang limitasyon ng ating katawan. Pati na rin and limitasyon ng oras sa ating buhay. Namumuhay tayo isa-isang araw lang. Tinuruan tayo ni Jesus na mamuhay pa isa-isang araw lang, habang nagtitiwala sa kanya para sa lahat ng ating pangangailangan.

**Prayer:** *Our Father, thank you for showing us how to pray. We pray now for what we, the UES church, need today. For sufficient nutritious food. For safe shelter. For friendships that welcome us and nourish our hearts. For strength that will carry us every hour of the day. Give us this day our daily bread. We depend on you, Father, for everything required to live out today. We pray this not only for our community, but for this whole City. May You give us all that we'll need this day. In Jesus's name, we pray. Amen.*

*Ama namin, salamat sa pagtuturo mo sa amin kung paano manalangin. Itinataas namin ngayon ang mga pangangailangan ng simbahan ng UES. Para sa sapat at masustansyang pagkain. Para sa ligtas na tirahan. Para sa pagkakaibigang tumatanggap at nagpapagaling sa aming puso. Bigyan mo kami ng lakas para sa pagpapatuloy ng araw. Bigyan mo po kami ngayon ng aming pagkain sa araw-araw. Umaasa kami sa iyo, Ama, para sa lahat upang mabuhay ngayon. Hindi lang po to para sa amin, kundi para sa buong lungsod. Nawa'y ibigay mo sa amin ang lahat ng aming pangangailangan sa araw na ito. Sa ngalan ni Jesus. Amen.*

## Your Personal Prayer



# Devotional — Day 46 Korean

Author: Joseph Kim

**Theme:** Forgive us our debts | 우리 죄를 사하여 주옵시고

## Scripture:

This, then, is how you should pray:

“Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
And forgive us our debts,  
as we also have forgiven our  
debtors.  
And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from the evil one.  
[for yours is the kingdom and the  
power and the glory forever. Amen.]  
Matthew 6:9-13

주기도문

그러므로 너희는 이렇게 기도하라 하늘에  
계신 우리 아버지여 이름이 거룩히  
여김을 받으시오며 나라이 임하옵시며  
뜻이 하늘에서 이룬 것 같이 땅에서도  
이루어지이다 오늘날 우리에게 일용할  
양식을 주옵시고 우리가 우리에게 죄  
지은 자를 사하여 준것 같이 우리 죄를  
사하여 주옵시고 우리를 시험에 들게 하지  
마옵시고 다만 악에서 구하옵소서  
(나라와 권세와 영광이 아버지께 영원히  
있사옵나이다 아멘)  
마태복음 6:9-13

**Meditation:** It’s hard to take full responsibility for our wrongdoing, especially as we are tempted to point fingers at others. However, we should turn to God, by taking the time to reflect, confess, worship, and petition. This is what David did in Psalm 51. He remembered his wrongdoings and that he was sinful since birth. He then redirected himself to God’s desires and laid down his petition for restoration of his heart that is full of praise and joy.

Pastor Tim Keller described it like this, “You have to see that your main sin is always against God. And your main sin is not just against his law, but his love. That you haven’t just broken his word but you’ve actually trampled on his heart. And only when your heart breaks to know that, does that actually begin to change you.”

During our Sunday service at Redeemer East Side, we take time to pray a prayer of confession, where we humbly acknowledge our shortcomings and seek restoration from our God—who is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in mercy (Psalm 103:8). We can confidently turn to Him because we have assurance of pardon through Jesus, who bore the penalty of our sin on our behalf. Let us commit to making this a regular and personal practice, drawing near to Him in repentance and renewal.

# Devotional — Day 46 Continued

Author: Joseph Kim

**Meditation Continued:** 특히 다른 것에 손가락질하고 싶은 유혹을 받을 때, 우리의 잘못에 대한 전적인 책임을 지는 것은 어렵습니다. 그러나 우리는 시간을 내어 성찰하고, 고백하고, 경배하고, 청원함으로써 우리 자신을 돌아보아야 합니다. 시편 51편에서 다윗이 이것들을 했습니다. 그는 자신의 죄를 기억했고, 자신이 죄악 중에 출생하였음을 깨달았습니다. 그런 다음 그는 자신을 하나님의 소원으로 돌리고 찬양과 기쁨으로 가득 찬 마음을 회복해 달라고 청원했습니다.

팀 켈러 목사님이 설교에 이렇게 설명하셨습니다. “당신은 당신의 주된 죄가 항상 하나님에 대한 것이라는 것을 알아야 합니다. 그리고 당신의 주된 죄는 그의 법에 대한 것 뿐만 아니라 그의 사랑에 대한 것입니다. 당신은 단지 그의 말씀을 어긴 것이 아니라 실제로 그의 마음을 짓밟았습니다. 그리고 당신이 그것을 알고 마음이 깨질 때만, 당신을 변화시킵니다.”

Redeemer Eastside 의 주일 예배중 우리는 고백의 기도를 드리는 시간을 가집니다. 이 기도로 우리의 부족함을 겸허하게 고백합니다. 그리고, 자비로우시며 은혜로우시며 노하기를 더디 하시며 인자하심이 풍부하신 (시편 103:8) 하나님께 회복을 구합니다. 자신감있게 하나님께 돌일수있는 이유는 우리의 죄를 담당하신 예수님을 통해서 사면을 확신할 수 있기 때문입니다. 이 고백의 기도를 더 자주, 그리고 개인적인 습관으로 삼으며 하나님께 회개하며 회복받을수 있길 바랍니다.

**Prayer:** *Our Father, we repent for the ways we have broken your heart. We confess to you our sins and praise your righteousness. You are our Father who desires our innermost being, and makes wisdom known to us. We ask that you purify our hearts with steadfast spirit and fill our hearts with joy and praise. In the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.*

하나님 아버지, 우리가 하나님의 마음을 상하게 한 것을 회개합니다. 우리의 죄를 고백하고 하나님의 의로움을 찬양합니다. 하나님은 우리의 가장 깊은 존재를 원하시고 내 속에 지혜를 알게 하시는 아버지입니다. 우리를 정결케 하시고 정직한 영을 새롭게 하시며 마음을 기쁨과 찬양으로 채워 주시기를 간구합니다. 예수님의 이름으로 기도합니다, 아멘.

## Your Personal Prayer



# Devotional — Day 47 German

Author: Stefanie Maurer

**Theme:** As we forgive our debtors | Wie auch wir vergeben unseren Schuldner

## Scripture:

This, then, is how you should pray:

“Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

And forgive us our debts,  
as we also have forgiven our  
debtors.

And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from the evil one.

[for yours is the kingdom and the  
power and the glory forever. Amen.]

Matthew 6:9-13

Deshalb sollt ihr auf diese Weise  
beten:

Unser Vater, der du bist im Himmel!  
Geheiligt werde dein Name.

Dein Reich komme. Dein Wille  
geschehe, wie im Himmel, so auch  
auf Erden.

Gib uns heute unser tägliches Brot.

Und vergib uns unsere Schulden,  
wie auch wir vergeben unseren  
Schuldnern.

Und führe uns nicht in Versuchung,  
sondern errette uns von dem

Bösen. Denn dein ist das Reich  
und die Kraft und die Herrlichkeit in  
Ewigkeit!

Matthäus 6, 9-13 (Schlachter)

**Meditation:** We know we’re called to forgive, but often struggle with “how”. The hurt feels too deep, and we sometimes minimize the sin to make forgiveness easier, relying on our own strength. But Jesus never asked us to do the impossible. To truly forgive, we must first acknowledge the sin and feel the pain. It makes sense that we feel that way! Only when we fully realize who we are in Christ - more sinful and more loved than we can ever imagine - we can truly forgive. This applies to us as individuals but also to our church stepping into this new season despite resistance.

“The meek will inherit the earth” and that does not mean weakness. It means doing the hard, heart-transforming work over and over, living the reality of who we are as God’s beloved children.





# Devotional — Day 47 Continued

Author: Stefanie Maurer

**Meditation Continued:** Wir wissen, dass wir vergeben sollen, aber oft wissen wir nicht "wie". Der Schmerz scheint zu tief und oft reden wir Sünde klein, um es einfacher zu machen, dem Nächsten zu vergeben - und vertrauen dabei auf unsere eigene Kraft. Aber Jesus hat uns nie gefragt, das Unmögliche zu tun. Um wirklich zu vergeben, müssen wir zuerst die Sünde anerkennen und den Schmerz zulassen. Es macht Sinn, dass wir uns so fühlen! Erst wenn wir vollständig begreifen, wer wir in Christus sind - größere Sünder und mehr geliebt als wir uns je vorstellen können - dann können wir wirklich vergeben. Das gilt für uns als Einzelne, aber auch für unsere Kirche, die trotz Widerstand eine neue Phase beginnt.

"Die Sanftmütigen werden das Land erben"- und das bedeutet nicht Schwäche. Es bedeutet immer wieder die harte, Herz verändernde, Arbeit zu tun und die Realität dessen zu leben, wer wir als Gottes geliebte Kinder sind.

**Prayer:** *Our Father, thank you for guiding us how to pray. May our hearts be more and more transformed into your likeness. May your Spirit point us to the cross so that we would live in the reality of your forgiveness. We ask for us as a church and as individuals to give us gentleness, kindness and patience towards those who sin against us, offend us, misrepresent us, or abuse us. Let us think less about our own concerns and more about your Kingdom. In your name we pray. Amen.*

*Vater, wir danken dir, dass du uns zeigst, wie wir beten sollen. Möge unser Herz immer mehr dir gleich werden. Möge dein Heiliger Geist uns zum Kreuz führen, damit wir in der Realität deiner Vergebung leben. Wir bitten dich für uns als Gemeinde und als Einzelne, gib uns Sanftmut, Güte und Geduld gegenüber denen, die gegen uns sündigen, uns beleidigen, uns falsch darstellen oder uns missbrauchen. Lass uns weniger über unsere eigenen Anliegen nachdenken und mehr über dein Reich. In deinem Namen beten wir. Amen.*

**Your Personal Prayer**



# Devotional — Day 48 Portuguese

Author: João and Gabriela Santos

**Theme:** Deliver us from evil | Não nos deixes cair em tentação

## Scripture:

This, then, is how you should pray:  
“Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
And forgive us our debts,  
as we also have forgiven our  
debtors.  
And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from the evil one.  
[for yours is the kingdom and the  
power and the glory forever. Amen.]  
Matthew 6:9-13

Vocês devem orar assim:  
“Pai nosso, que estás nos céus!  
Santificado seja o teu nome;  
venha o teu Reino;  
seja feita a tua vontade,  
assim na terra como no céu.  
o pão nosso de cada dia  
nos dá hoje;  
perdoa-nos as nossas dívidas,  
assim como nós temos perdoado  
aos nossos devedores;  
E não nos deixes cair  
em tentação,  
mas livra-nos do mal.  
Pois Teu é o Reino, e o poder,  
e a glória para sempre. Amém.  
Mateus 6:9-13

**Meditation:** “Lead us not into temptation” reminds us of our dependence on God for guidance and strength. It’s a humble acknowledgment that, without His protection, we are vulnerable to the pull of sin and worldly distractions. In this prayer, we ask God to steer us away from situations where we might falter, but also to fortify us with His grace to resist when temptation arises. It’s a call to trust in His wisdom and mercy, knowing that He understands our weaknesses. As we pray these words, we remember that God is our shield and refuge, ever-present to deliver us from evil and lead us on the path of righteousness.



# Devotional — Day 48 Continued

Author: João and Gabriela Santos

**Meditation Continued:** “Não nos deixes cair em tentação” nos lembra da nossa dependência de Deus para nos orientar e fortalecer espiritualmente. É um reconhecimento de que, sem sua proteção, somos vulneráveis às tentações do pecado e às distrações do mundo. Nesta oração, pedimos a Deus que nos afaste de situações onde possamos fraquejar, mas também que nos fortaleça com sua graça para resistir quando a tentação surgir. É um chamado para confiar em sua sabedoria e misericórdia, sabendo que Ele compreende nossas fraquezas. Ao orarmos essas palavras, lembramos que Deus é nosso escudo e refúgio, sempre presente para nos livrar do mal e nos guiar no caminho da retidão.

**Prayer:** *Heavenly Father, we come before You in humility, recognizing our need for Your guidance. Lead us away from the paths of temptation that seek to draw us from Your presence. Strengthen our hearts and minds to resist what is not of You, and help us to discern Your will in moments of weakness. We know that, on our own, we are vulnerable, but with Your grace, we can stand firm. Deliver us from the snares of evil, and remind us that Your way is perfect. Fill us with Your Spirit, so that we may choose righteousness over sin, light over darkness. We trust in Your faithfulness, Lord, and ask You to be our refuge in all trials. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.*

*Senhor Deus, estamos diante de ti com humildade, reconhecendo nossa necessidade da sua orientação. Desvie-nos dos caminhos da tentação que buscam nos afastar da sua presença. Fortalece nossos corações e mentes para resistir ao que não vem de ti, e ajuda-nos a discernir a sua vontade nos momentos de fraqueza. Sabemos que, sozinhos, somos vulneráveis, mas com sua graça, podemos permanecer firmes. Livra-nos das armadilhas do mal e lembra-nos que o seu caminho é perfeito. Enche-nos com o seu Espírito, para que possamos escolher a retidão em vez do pecado, a luz em vez das trevas. Confiamos na sua fidelidade, Senhor, e pedimos que seja o nosso refúgio em todas as provações. Em nome de Jesus, oramos. Amém.*

**Your Personal Prayer**



# Devotional — Day 49 French

Author: Nadia Leung

**Theme:** Deliver us from evil | Délivre-nous du malin

## Scripture:

This, then, is how you should pray:

“Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
And forgive us our debts,  
as we also have forgiven our  
debtors.  
And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from the evil one.  
[for yours is the kingdom and the  
power and the glory forever. Amen.]  
Matthew 6:9-13

Voici donc comment vous devez  
prier: Notre Père qui est aux cieux!  
Que ton nom soit sanctifié; que ton  
règne vienne; que ta volonté soit  
faite sur la terre comme au ciel.  
Donne-nous aujourd’hui notre  
pain quotidien; pardonne-nous  
nos offenses, comme nous aussi  
nous pardonnons à ceux qui nous  
ont offensés; ne nous induis pas  
en tentation, mais délivre-nous du  
malin.  
Car c’est à toi qu’appartiennent,  
dans tous les siècles, le règne, la  
puissance et la gloire. Amen!

**Meditation:** The Lord’s prayer is an active proclamation and judgment against evil. We see the effects of evil throughout Jesus’ life on earth. At the time of Jesus’ birth, Herod executed all male infants and toddlers in Bethlehem. At Jesus’ death Pilate appeased the Pharisees and hung our sinless Savior on the cross. As Paul writes to the Ephesians, he warns of the evil that transcends cultures and ages. Ephesians 6:12 “For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places.” This is why we pray to Jesus to deliver us. We pray for His protection, His will and His peace during evil trials and tribulations. When the enemy taunts, persecutes and accuses, the Holy Spirit is our guide. When sin tempts, distorts and grips us the Lord’s prayer is our deliverance.



# Devotional — Day 49 Continued

Author: Nadia Leung

**Meditation Continued:** Le Notre Père est une proclamation active et un jugement contre le mal. Les effets du mal se manifestent tout au long de la vie de Jésus sur la terre. Lors de la naissance de Jésus, Hérode fit exécuter tous les enfants mâles à Bethléem. Lors de la mort de Jésus, Pilate pour apaiser les pharisiens, fit crucifier notre Sauveur sans péché. Comme Paul l'a écrit aux Éphésiens, il les avertit du mal qui traverse les cultures et les époques. Éphésiens 6:12, "12 Car nous n'avons pas à lutter contre la chair et le sang, mais contre les dominations, contre les autorités, contre les princes de ce monde de ténèbres, contre les esprits méchants dans les lieux célestes." C'est pourquoi nous prions à Jésus pour qu'il nous délivre. Nous prions pour sa protection, sa volonté et sa paix pendant les épreuves et l'angoisse. Lorsque l'adversaire nous raille, nous persécute, nous accuse, le Saint-Esprit est notre guide. Lorsque le péché nous tente, nous égare, nous capture, le Notre Père est notre délivrance.

**Prayer:** *Heavenly Father, we understand that this world is evil and that our spirit is willing but our flesh is weak. We boldly come before you to petition and plead for mercy when we are battling against the principalities. Our adversary accuses us daily of many things we have done wrong and likewise the righteous deeds we have not done. We praise the name of Jesus in times of difficulty and persecution. We trust in the Holy Spirit and His commands. There is no other name but Jesus, no other Healer and no other Provider. We thank you Lord for making us in your image and sanctifying us in your image through trials and temptations. In Jesus' name we are victorious.*

*Notre Père qui est aux cieux, nous comprenons que le monde est mauvais et que notre esprit est bien disposé, mais notre chair est faible. Nous nous approchons donc avec assurance pour te supplier et implorer ta miséricorde lorsque nous luttons contre les principautés. Notre adversaire nous accuse chaque jour de ce que nous avons fait de mal et de ce que nous n'avons pas bien fait. Nous louons le nom de Jésus pendant les moments de difficulté et de persécutions. Nous mettons notre confiance dans le Saint-Esprit et dans ses commandements. Il n'y a aucun autre nom qui sauve que celui de Jésus, aucun autre guérisseur, aucune autre providence. Nous te remercions Seigneur de nous avoir créés à ton image et de nous sanctifier selon cette image pendant les épreuves et les tentations. Dans le nom de Jésus, nous sommes victorieux.*

**Your Personal Prayer**



# Devotional — Day 50 *Russian*

Author: Jenya Frid

**Theme:** For thine is the kingdom

## Scripture:

This, then, is how you should pray:

“Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

And forgive us our debts,  
as we also have forgiven our  
debtors.

And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from the evil one.

[for yours is the kingdom and the  
power and the glory forever. Amen.]

Matthew 6:9-13

And the Lord shall be king over all  
the earth: in that day shall there be  
one Lord, and his name one.

Zechariah 14:9 KJV

The Lord hath prepared his throne in  
the heavens; and his kingdom ruleth  
over all. Psalm 103:19 KJV

Молитесь же так: Отче наш, сущий  
на небесах! да святится имя Твое;  
да приидет Царствие Твое; да будет  
воля Твоя и на земле, как на небе;  
хлеб наш насущный дай нам на сей  
день;

и прости нам долги наши, как и мы  
прощаем должникам нашим;  
и не введи нас в искушение, но  
избавь нас от лукавого. Ибо Твое  
есть Царство и сила и слава во веки.  
Аминь. От Матфея 6:9-13

И Господь будет Царем над всею  
землею; в тот день будет Господь  
един, и имя Его едино. Книга  
пророка Захарии 14:9

Господь на небесах поставил престол  
Свой, и царство Его всем обладает.  
Псалтирь 103:19

**Meditation:** It is amazing how all nature knows how to praise and obey God, but we humans continue in our disobedience and ungratefulness. In God’s kingdom, we can all be unified in doing what we have been created to do. In God’s Kingdom, all nations and all people will know to obey and praise one Lord, and He will rule over all hearts.



# Devotional — Day 50 Continued

Author: Jenya Frid

**Meditation Continued:** Удивительно, как вся природа умеет славить и повиноваться Богу, а мы, люди, продолжаем свое непослушание и неблагодарность. В Царстве Божьем мы все сможем быть едины в выполнении того, для чего мы созданы. В Царстве Божьем все народы и все люди будут знать, что нужно повиноваться и славить одного Господа, и Он будет править всеми сердцами.

**Prayer:** *Lord, God who rules all, the Lord who is enthroned in heavens - help us not to strive to rule our own small, meager kingdoms - help us see ourselves as citizens of yours. Help us fulfill our responsibilities as citizens of God's kingdom. Help us not to be overcome with anxiety but find peace in you. Help us to make good choices and good decisions that glorify you. Lord, rule our relationships, our friendships, our work, our rest, and the life of our city. Heal the divisions inside our land as well as the divisions between nations. Bring your kingdom and your peace. In Jesus' name. Amen.*

Господи, Бог, управляющий всем, Господь, восседающий на небесах - помоги нам не стремиться управлять нашими собственными маленькими, скудными “царствами” - помоги нам увидеть себя твоими гражданами. Помоги нам выполнять обязанности граждан царства небесного. Помоги нам не жить в тревоге, но обрести покой в Тебе. Помоги нам принимать правильные решения которые прославят Тебя. Господь, управляй нашими отношениями, нашей дружбой, нашей работой, нашим отдыхом, и жизнью нашего города. Исцели разногласия внутри нашей страны, а также разногласия между народами. Да придет Твое царство и Твой мир, во имя Иисуса, аминь.

## Your Personal Prayer



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Redeemer East Side congregation: may your prayers ever rise before the Father who set you apart for his love, and answer with blessings over our church and our city.



May the God of hope fill you with all joy  
and peace as you trust in him,  
so that you may overflow with hope  
by the power of the Holy Spirit.

*Romans 15:13*

