

WEEK 3

I AM...

40 Days of Prayer

EASTER 2026

40 Days of Prayer



WEEK 3

MARCH 2 - 8

Digital Guides will be posted weekly at:
www.pbcbr.org/daysofprayer

40 DAYS OF PRAYER INTRODUCTION



Our annual *40 Days of Prayer* has become one of my favorite times of the year for our congregation. It is a sweet thing to interact with those who are yielding this time in prayer to the Lord. Over the course of the last year, we have been challenged with the reality that prayer is powerful because the one who we pray to is powerful, so it is fitting to put that into practice through another corporate time together. Leading into this season of Easter, we are looking squarely at the person and work of God the Son. He impacts our lives and is worthy of all our praise. Over the course of these 40 days, we will be digging into that truth further as we engage in praying with one another. May this season of prayer bring you joy as you fellowship with Jesus.

Each day, there will be a passage with a brief explanation, some application, and then a prayer response. As you pray the specific prompt, I would encourage you to take the opportunity to pray for other things as well. You can pray for those in our congregation who have need, for missions, or other needs the Lord burdens you. You can sign up to receive our daily prayer email to help guide you. Also, you can pray for our church, for the ministries we have here, and for our staff. Certainly, include your daily prayer concerns and whatever else the Lord lays on your heart.

May it be that our hearts would be changed through this concentrated season of prayer together.

Yours In Christ,
Pastor Chris

Before Abraham was, I AM

READ JOHN 8:58

MARCH

2

DR. CHRIS DEGEORGE

As Jesus was teaching in the temple, much debate was swirling around who he was. Jesus's bold proclamation that he is the Light of the world led to questions and challenges. Everyone kept wanting to define it all from their own human understanding. Recognizing that the people were not understanding, Jesus begins a discussion regarding the identity of their father. They claim Abraham but because of their deeds and sinfulness Jesus reveals that truly they do the works of their real father, the devil. This confrontation leads to much animosity as Jesus continues to point them to the truth of what God has done through his coming. No longer would they have to stay in that place of bondage to sin, but through the Son they can be set free. The sad situation revealed is that they don't even recognize they are in bondage to sin. Jesus sums up the truth of what he is offering by making a truly bold claim that, "Before Abraham was, I AM." They are left to believe or deny whether Jesus is that one.

We can easily misunderstand our need. Our need, just like theirs, is to be set free from the bondage of sin. Jesus has accomplished that through his life, death, and resurrection. His supremacy is revealed in his preexistence, presence in creation, sinless incarnation, miracles, and so much more. That leaves us recognizing that he is sufficient, and we are left to acknowledge him as such. The true question for us is whether we will surrender ourselves to acknowledge him. This is what the people in John 8 were left to decide that day, and it's the same for us. Will we surrender to the Great I AM?

As you pray today, would you reflect on Jesus's supremacy and sufficiency? Thank him for it. Ask that he might draw those who are struggling through this same choice in whether to surrender to Jesus as Lord.

A Living Sacrifice

READ ROMANS 12:1



DR. CHRIS DEGEORGE

In the passage today Paul is challenging the church with the picture of what surrender looks like. Throughout the epistle up to this point he has been detailing the theological realities that lead to our state before God, and the truth of what Jesus has given for us. As he moves into chapter 12, he begins to reveal the practical outworking of those truths. His urging is to surrender. The image Paul uses is one of sacrifice. A living sacrifice. When something was put on the altar for sacrifice it was being devoted completely. The image is one of complete surrender, yielding everything to the Lord. That they would be a living sacrifice means that all aspects of their lives would be devoted. The heart would be given which would in turn affect everything else. This might suggest images of a suspect surrendering to police giving up their freedom in resignation to the reality of the situation. It may also lead us to think of what happens when in a wrestling match or fight someone surrenders in submission. Surrender as a living sacrifice is completely yielding control and authority to Jesus.

The question that lies before us in response to this passage is whether we are a living sacrifice. We are called to surrender, and yet we often confuse what surrender involves. We can think that only parts of our lives are given and reserve some parts for our own control. The clear picture from the passage is that everything would be yielded as an act of worship to acknowledge Jesus as Lord. The subsequent change should then impact every detail of how we live. So, are you a living sacrifice?

Today as you pray ask the Lord to reveal parts of your life that you struggle to surrender. Ask him to give you strength to yield them to him.

Faithful to Complete It

READ PHILIPPIANS 1:6



DR. CHRIS DEGEORGE

Amid all of this talk of surrender and yielding our lives it is important to keep in mind what Jesus is doing. Through his grace we have access to many things in this life and the next. We are given peace with God, an inheritance among the saints, strength to walk in the Spirit, strength to face the challenges of life, as well as much more. Paul describes what Jesus is doing by telling the Philippians that he is convinced that the good work begun in them will be faithfully completed. Paul says this with conviction regarding God's character and his purposes. This statement hits much deeper when we also consider that Paul was writing from prison in the midst of great adversity in his own life. The clear message he gives is that even in the darkest moments we can have hope because God has a plan that he will faithfully complete.

Throughout our lives we can face difficult situations that may cause us despair. How should we meet those situations? We must meet these situations with truth. It involves recognizing that God will not abandon us in them and will be faithful to complete the work that he starts in us. We can have hope because this is his character. Through Paul's deepest struggle this is what he was sustained by, and it will sustain us as well.

As you pray today, ask the Lord to convict you of the good work he has started in you. Pray that he would remind you of the hope that we have in Christ.

PERSONAL REFLECTIONS

Pressing On

READ PHILIPPIANS 3:12-16



DR. CHRIS DEGEORGE

As we consider the good work begun in our lives, Paul encourages the Philippians to further pursue fellowship with Christ. It made all the difference in his life, and he wants the Philippians to know that difference as well. Even as they are being challenged with teaching that would undermine the gospel, Paul is painting the Philippians a picture of what God has given them in Christ. In the midst of all the adversities and challenges, he bids them to press on toward maturity as they follow the example set for them.

There will be moments in life when it is easy to look at our circumstances and think that we cannot possibly go on. Paul is urging endurance through those times as we pursue Jesus. His earlier statement of his desire to know Christ is what he is pressing on toward. This is even as he faces his own struggles. Paul determines to look forward and charge toward the finish line.

As you pray today, ask the Lord to give you the desire to press on toward the mark. Ask him to give you long-suffering that you might honor him.

PERSONAL REFLECTIONS

The Standard We Are Aiming For

READ EPHESIANS 4:13-16



DR. CHRIS DEGEORGE

Talking about pressing on toward the calling and seeking maturity in Christ leaves us needing to understand what the standard is for what we are becoming. In this chapter, Paul is encouraging the Ephesians toward unity in their fellowship and with how they are meant to grow as followers of Christ. He gives a clear picture of the role of the Church and church leaders while revealing the standard for their growth. He says it is “the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ.” The very standard of Jesus is what we are pursuing and aiming toward. The reason Paul points them this way is that they would be solidly anchored into a foundation that will not shift. Jesus is the only foundation that does not shift or change.

We must know what we are aiming for. An archer doesn't aimlessly shoot arrows at thin air. The archer instead directs his arrow to a target. He knows exactly what he is aiming for. It should be the very same in our lives. Paul sets the standard for the Ephesians, and it is nothing less than Jesus. We pursue him, aim toward knowing him, and desire to grow in him. These aims set the stage for everything in our lives. So, are you aiming for what Christ has called you to? We must recognize that the standard we are aiming for is Jesus.

Today, as you pray, ask the Lord to help you direct your aim toward him. Pray for the Spirit to strengthen you for growth in Christ.

PERSONAL REFLECTIONS

A Light Forevermore

READ REVELATION 22:5



DR. CHRIS DEGEORGE

Jesus taught much about what it means that he is the Bread of Life. Accepting all that he said was difficult for many who had been following. Scripture tells us that many of them “followed him no more” after hearing what Jesus was teaching. Jesus then turns his attention toward the twelve and asks them whether they will also abandon him. Peter answered him, “Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.” This is a tremendous statement by Peter. It is a recognition that Jesus is the one in whom there is life. His word is truthful and trustworthy. He has shown God’s faithfulness and that he will be true to his word. While his words may be difficult to accept, they are life. Peter proclaims that they will continue to follow because he is life.

We can certainly find it hard to follow Jesus. The crucified life of surrender can be challenging as we struggle against the desires of the flesh. Accepting the challenging aspects of the call can certainly leave us wavering at times. When we realize that Jesus is life, we begin to realize that we do not lose by following him. Instead, we are finding the true source of life. This is what Peter proclaims, and although he may not have yet fully understood all that it means, he is acknowledging the major truth that we find in Jesus. Jesus is life, and in him is life. He has the words of life because he is the life.

Today, would you pray that those in your circle of influence might understand that Jesus is Life? Would you ask him to draw them to himself?

PERSONAL REFLECTIONS

The Door of the Sheep

READ JOHN 10:7-9



DR. CHRIS DEGEORGE

There is only one way to salvation. Jesus is directing the attention of those who have been hearing him toward the truth that many have come, and many will come claiming to be the one. But Jesus proclaims that they are all thieves and robbers. The thief comes to steal, kill, and destroy, but Jesus gives life. The life that Jesus provides is “life abundant” or “life to the fullest.” The lines are drawn very clearly by Jesus. In him is abundant life, and apart from him there is no life. Abundant life is only known through Christ, and he is the doorway to it.

We will search our lives away trying to find what truly satisfies. Many are in an endless search for that satisfaction that can only be known in Jesus. Life with him is abundant life. If we mistake this, we will go from thing to thing looking for it to provide that abundance for us. It is in surrender and yielding to Christ that we find what many are searching for. Paul described it in Philippians 3 as he talked about what he was looking for in worldly acclaim. The peace he sought was found through knowing Christ. Paul proclaims that he considers it all “rubbish in order that he may gain Christ.” So, where are you looking to find abundance? Pursue Christ and you will find exactly what he promised.

Today, let us pray that the Lord would burden our hearts to know him. Ask him that through your life may his glory be known, and his abundance seen.

PERSONAL REFLECTIONS



PARKVIEW
BAPTIST CHURCH



Have a prayer request?
Scan the QR Code
or visit
pbcbr.org/prayer-request

