



## 2023 Lenten Prayer Calendar: We encourage you to join us in a daily prayer during the Lenten Season

### Praising God:

**February 22nd:** Mark 12:28-31 "... And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength..."

*Prayer: Lord you are God overall the world, there is none like you in glory and majesty. I thank you for Your Hand upon me and Your presence in my life. I pray that I will remember your love today and be grateful for all your blessings. In Jesus name I pray.*

**February 23rd:** John 1:1-5 "In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God and the Word was God..."

*Prayer: Lord, Jesus, I thank you for being the Revelation of God's will for us Your children. You are a mighty and wonderful God who gave Your life that we might approach You. We think about Your love and Your sacrifice during this Lenten season. In Jesus name I pray.*

**February 24th:** Luke 3:21-22: "Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heavens were opened, and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily form, like a dove; and a voice came from heaven, "You are my beloved Son; with you am well pleased."

*Prayer: Thank you my Dear Lord for revealing Your essence to us. You are one God eternally revealed in three personages Father, Son and Holy Spirit. In Jesus name I pray.*

**February 25th:** John 14: 26 "But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you."

*Prayer: Dear God, you ministered to us on earth by the power of Your Holy Spirit throughout history. You ministered and warned Your people through the prophets by Your most Holy Spirit. Likewise, Jesus ministered in the power of the Holy Spirit. And now You have sent the Holy Spirit to teach and fill all of us. In Jesus name I pray.*

### Repentance:

**February 26th:** Mark 1: 2 – 4 As it is written in Isaiah the prophet, "Behold, I will send my messenger before your face, who will prepare your way, the voice of one crying in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make His paths straight.'" John appeared, baptizing in the wilderness and proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.

*Prayer: Dear Lord, as we celebrate this Lenten season may we be retrospective and consider the time Your call came upon our lives. Just as John began to proclaim a baptism of repentance may we rededicate ourselves to turn from sin and turn our faces to You our God. In Jesus name I pray.*

**February 27th:** Matthew 4: 17 From that time on Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

*Prayer: Lord, do I recognize Your awesome holiness? I want to know you better Lord so I understand Your majestic power. May we draw closer to You today so we can know Your presence and turn away from the attraction of this world. In Jesus name I pray.*

**February 28th:** Luke 15: 9 Just so, I tell you, there is joy before the angels of God over one sinner who repents.

*Prayer: Dear Lord, may we join with the angels today in rejoicing over sinners who confess and turn from the sin in their lives. We have grown accustomed to sin, the devil having blinded our eyes, so that we walk in ways that offend You, our Lord. Show us the true path as we rejoice in You today. In Jesus name I pray.*

**March 1st:** Acts 3: 19 – 21 Repent therefore, and turn back, that your sins may be blotted out, that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord...”

*Prayer: Lord, I pray that I might have enough courage to examine myself and my motivations so that I do not miss the promise of the scripture that we read today. The promise of times of refreshing from the presence of the Lord that follow repentance and return from my own paths. In Jesus name I pray.*

**March 2nd:** Romans: 2: 4 Or do you presume the riches of His kindness and forbearance and patience, not knowing that God’s kindness is meant to lead you to repentance?

*Prayer: Lord, we are grateful for Your kindness, forbearance and patience. We have sinned against You before we met You and knew Your love, and even after You called out to us; we have continued to sin against You. Forgive us Lord, may we walk close with You today and even closer on our tomorrows. In Jesus name I pray.*

**March 3rd:** 1 John 1: 8 – 10 If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say we have not sinned, we make Him a liar, and His word is not in us.

*Prayer: Lord, we never want to call you a liar, and deceiving ourselves is not so good either. Let us have a heart that is tender toward You, so we can recognize our sins and turn to You. Let us examine ourselves today and confess our sins and failing, so we can receive your cleansing from sin and iniquity. In Jesus name I pray.*

**March 4th:** Revelations 2: 4 – 5 But I have this against you, that you have abandoned the love you had at first. Remember therefore from whence you have fallen; repent, and do the works you did at first. If not, I will come and remove your lampstand from its place, unless you repent.

*Prayer: Lord, this verse sounds ominous. The thought that I or a church, a group of Your people, could abandon their first love and miss out on Your calling in their lives; it fills me with apprehension. I repent, Lord, for my reliance on my own understanding and seek You anew today. Lead me in Your paths of righteousness. In Jesus name I pray.*

## Turning to Jesus

**March 5th:** John 3: 16 – 18 For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through Him. Whoever believes in Him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God.

*Prayer: What love the Father has shown, in sending His only Son Jesus on my behalf. While I was deep in sin, at the point of my greatest rebellion against God, He sent Jesus to die for my sins. I owe a debt to Him that I can never repay. In Jesus name I pray.*

**March 6th:** John 14: 23 Jesus answered him, “If anyone loves me, he will keep My word, and My Father will love him, and we will come to him and make Our home with him.”

*Prayer: Lord, I profess that I do love you today. Please strengthen me to keep your word in all that I do and say – for my heart's desire is for You and the Father to make Your home in my heart continually through the power of the Holy Spirit. In Jesus name I pray.*

**March 7th:** Acts 2: 37 – 39 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. For the promise is for you and for your children and for all who are far off...”

*Prayer: Dear Lord, thank you for providing the way of salvation. Move our hearts to follow Peter's words by repenting of our sins and being baptized. May we receive forgiveness of our sins as we trust in Jesus and are baptized, and fill us with Your Holy Spirit to lead and guide us in this life. In Jesus name I pray.*

**March 8th:** Ephesians 2: 8 – 10 For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not of your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

*Prayer: Thank You Lord for Your amazing grace. It is overwhelming to think that You have been at work in our lives; first calling to us by Your Spirit, then sowing seeds of faith in our hearts, that we might turn to you and believe for the salvation of our souls. Lead us to the good works that you have prepared for us to work. In Jesus name I pray.*

**March 9th:** 2 Corinthians 5: 21 For our sake He made Him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in Him we might become the righteousness of God.

*Prayer: Dear Lord, you are the sinless Son of God, you lived a holy blameless life; yet You suffered and died a horrible death of a sinner for us, your children who would one day believe in you. May we never stop reaching for the promise of becoming the righteousness of God*

*through Jesus. In Jesus name I pray.*

**March 10th:** Romans 10: 9 – 10 ... if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart, one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved.

*Prayer: I am struck, dear Lord, with the simplicity of Your Word. I remember back to the night I trusted in You for the first time, and in my heart really believed that You died for me; confessing for the first time that You, Jesus, are Lord. That was a turning point in my life, and I praise You for Your love for me and all mankind who turns to follow You. In Jesus name I pray.*

**March 11th:** 1 Timothy 1: 15 This saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the foremost.

*Prayer: Lord, I thank You for all You have done for us. You left Your home in heaven and came to the earth on our behalf. You were rejected by the politicians and religious leaders on Your day and died a horrible death on the cross so that we could be saved and draw close to You. Thank You for Your love and all You have done for us. In Jesus name I pray.*

## Healing:

**March 12th:** Matthew 8:1-4 "...And behold, a leper came to Him and knelt before Him, saying: Lord if you will, you can make me clean." And Jesus stretched out his hand and touched him, saying, "I will; be clean." And immediately his leprosy was cleansed...

*Prayer: Dear Lord I am thankful that You have power to heal. I pray today specifically for those who have skin disease, whether skin cancer, psoriasis, eczema, acne or any other disease. As Jesus said in the verse, "I will be clean." I pray those in need will be healed today and that we will lift the needs of our friends and loved ones to the Lord today for His healing touch. In Jesus name I pray.*

**March 13th:** Matthew 8:5 – 13 "... a centurion came to Him, appealing to Him, "Lord, my servant is lying paralyzed at home suffering terribly." and he said to him, "I will come and heal him." But the centurion replied, "Lord, I am not worthy to have you come under my roof, but only say the word, and my servant will be healed..." When Jesus heard this, he marveled and said to those who followed Him, "Truly, I tell you, with no one in Israel have I found such faith.... Go let it be done for you as you have believed."

*Prayer: Dear Lord, may we have faith like this centurion to believe that You can and will do what You say. We pray today for those with neurological problems; paralysis, multiple sclerosis, neuropathy, tremors and all nervous system conditions. We pray that You will send Your Word and touch the sick, using us to carry that Word. In Jesus name I pray.*

**March 14th:** Mark 7:31 – 37 "... And they brought to Him a man that was dumb and had a speech impediment, and they begged Him to lay His hand on him. And taking him aside from the crowd privately, he put His fingers in his ears, and after spitting touched his tongue. And looking up to heaven, He sighed and said to him. "Ephphatha," that is, "Be opened." And his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly....

*Prayer: Dear Lord, You have made our mouths that we might glorify You and praise Your Holy Name. I pray today for those who are afflicted with speech difficulties. I pray to the Lord that*

*you will touch their lips and tongues, as when you walked on the earth, and heal them. I pray also for the hearing impaired, that you will open their ears so that they may hear. In Jesus name I pray.*

**March 15th:** Matthew 9: 20 – 22 And behold, a woman who had suffered a discharge of blood for 12 years came up behind Him and touched the fringe of His garment, for she said to herself, “if I only touch His garment, I will be made well.” Jesus turned, and seeing her he said, “Take heart, daughter; your faith has made you well.” And instantly the woman was made well.

*Prayer: Lord, we pray today for any with blood disorders. We pray that you will reach out by Your Spirit and touch those who are so afflicted, healing them. We also pray for those who have suffered long with chronic afflictions – may Your healing power flow in their bodies today. In Jesus name I pray.*

**March 16th:** Matthew 9: 27 – 30 And as Jesus passed on from there, two blind men followed Him, crying aloud, “Have mercy on us, Son of David.” When he entered the house, the blind men came to Him, and Jesus said to them, “Do you believe that I am able to do this?” They said to Him, “Yes, Lord.” Then He touched their eyes saying, “According to your faith be it done to you.” And their eyes were opened...

*Prayer: Dear Lord, I pray today for those who are afflicted with eye and vision problems. For those who are blind, partially blind, and have other diseases of their eyes; I pray that you will reach out by the power of Your Holy Spirit today and heal them as You did when You walked on the earth. In Jesus name I pray.*

**March 17th:** Matthew 8: 14 – 15 And when Jesus entered Peter’s house, He saw his mother-in-law lying sick with a fever. He touched her hand, and the fever left her, and she rose and began to serve Him.

*Prayer: Lord, I pray for those who are sick with a fever today. This is the time of year when colds, flu, along with COVID are affecting many people. I pray You will reach out Your hand and touch the sick and heal them today. In Jesus name I pray.*

**March 18th:** Luke 4: 40 Now when the sun was setting, all those who had any who were sick with various diseases brought them to Him, and He laid His hands on every one of them and healed them.

*Prayer: Lord, we pray once again for healing of those who are afflicted. This verse says that they brought all those who were sick with various diseases – and you laid Your hands on every one and healed them. We pray today that You heal those we bring before You today. Lord, heal those who are reading this and the friends and loved ones they name before you now. In Jesus name I pray.*

## **Spiritual / Mental Torment**

**March 19th:** Mark 1: 23 – 26 And immediately there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit. And he cried out, “What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are – the Holy One of God.” But Jesus rebuked him saying, “Be silent, and come out of him!” And the unclean spirit convulsing him, and crying out with a loud voice, came out of him.

*Prayer: Lord You have power over all the works of the devil. I pray today and this week that you will deliver those who are oppressed by the evil one. May those whose lives are tormented by demonic desires, oppressive voices and thoughts, dangerous compulsive behaviors, and other manifestations or unclean spirits be delivered by the power of Jesus' name. In Jesus name I pray.*

**March 20th:** Matthew 15: 22 – 28 And behold, a Canaanite woman from that region came out and was crying, "Have mercy on me, O Lord, Son of David; my daughter is severely oppressed by a demon." ... He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." But she came and knelt before Him, saying, "Lord help me." And He answered, "It is not right to take the children's bread and throw it to the dogs." She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from the masters' table." Then Jesus answered her, "O woman, great is your faith! Be it done for you as you desire." And her daughter was healed instantly.

*Prayer: Lord, may we have faith like this Canaanite woman. May we bring our requests and prayers before You, since You are the only one who can meet the greatest needs in our lives. Lord, remove the oppressive spirits from our lives and our family; send the comfort of Your Holy Spirit to fill us. In Jesus name I pray.*

**March 21st:** John 16: 33 "I have said these things to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world."

*Prayer: Lord may Your peace flood over our lives in times of difficulty and distress. There are so many times in our lives where circumstances are so dark and there doesn't appear to be any hope, touch us in that hour Lord; reach out Your hand so that peace will overflow in the heart and lives of those who are searching for comfort today. In Jesus name I pray.*

**March 22nd:** Psalm 3: 1 – 5 O Lord, how many are my foes! Many are rising against me; many are saying of my soul, "There is no salvation for him in God." But You, O Lord, are a shield about me, my glory, and the lifter of my head. I cried aloud to the Lord, and he answered me from His holy hill. I lay down and I slept; I woke again for the Lord sustained me.

*Prayer: Lord, strengthen today those who are buffeted by adversaries on every side. Often enemies of God's work will arise to speak evil of those who are attempting to follow God's leading. Strengthen and give assurance to us, Your children, today. Give us confidence and rest as we need it. In Jesus name I pray.*

**March 23rd:** Psalm 23: 4 – 6 Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and Your staff they comfort me. You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

*Prayer: Lord, there are evils that are around us; we live in a sinful society, the power of the devil and his angels assail us on every side, some are fearing death whether it be near at hand or seemingly further away. You promise Your presence in these times of evil that beset us, let it be so today. May we know the truth of goodness and mercy following every day of our lives as we dwell with You forever. In Jesus name I pray.*

**March 24th:** Lamentations 3: 22 – 26 The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; His mercy never comes to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. “The LORD is my portion” says my soul, “therefore I will hope in Him.” The LORD is good to those who wait for Him, to the soul who seeks Him. It is good that one should wait quietly for the salvation of the LORD.

*Prayer: Lord there are days when it seems that You are far away. The author of Lamentations lived at a time of great judgment on the land and people of Jerusalem, a time when the king of Babylon overthrew the city. Yet he was led by Your Spirit to pen these words, let us draw hope from them. In Jesus name I pray.*

**March 25th:** Philippians 4: 8 Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.

*Prayer: Lord, may we turn our minds to You today. When there is evil before us, may we think of that which is just, pure, lovely and honorable. May our thoughts dwell on You rather than the voice of the deceiver who whispers evil things in our ear. May Your praise be continually in our hearts today. In Jesus name I pray.*

## Fruit of the Spirit

**March 26th:** Galatians 5:22 – 24 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such there is no law. And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.

*Prayer: Lord may your Holy Spirit be manifested in our lives, so that we show for these fruits of the Spirit in everything that we do. May our “Mad Crazy Love” be on display even when times are tough and the people around us are behaving badly. May we be a true witness of Your behavior. In Jesus name I pray.*

**March 27th:** 1 John 4: 7 – 8 Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love.

*Prayer: Lord, I don't love as I should. Often, I see someone in need and it is not convenient for me to take the time to help them. Forgive me Lord and help me to see each need as an opportunity to praise and serve you. Transform my heart of stone to one of flesh so I will show forth Your love. In Jesus name I pray.*

**March 28th:** 1 Peter 1: 8 – 9 Though you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy, for you are receiving the end result of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

*Prayer: We hold fast to Your promise, Lord, of your presence in our lives and the salvation of our souls. When times are perilous, we choose joy in You. Lord, may we experience that joy in our hearts today, maybe because things are going wonderfully, but maybe by faith we are trusting in Your promise – but either way let Your joy rain in our lives. In Jesus name I pray.*

**March 29th:** John 16: 33 “... I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world.”

*Prayer: Lord, we thank You for Your peace. In these difficult and trying times we are tempted to panic and despair, but You have offered peace since You have overcome the world. Open our eyes to see situations with eyes of faith. Teach us to put our confidence in You and receive that perfect peace that You have promised. In Jesus name I pray.*

**March 30th:** Titus 2: 11 – 14 For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age, waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, who gave himself for us to redeem us from all lawlessness and to purify for himself a people for his own possession who are zealous for good works.

*Prayer: Lord, teach us daily to live lives according to Your will. Let us live the self-controlled, upright and godly lives as you have directed us by the author of Titus. Let our zeal in this life today be toward good works, so that we will follow a path that is pleasing to You. In Jesus name I pray.*

**March 31st:** Colossians 3: 12 – 13 Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive.

*Prayer: Lord, I pray that we will all learn forgiveness. Where does division come from between us, is it not pride, resentment and unforgiveness? May we learn today to be compassionate, kind, humble, meek and patient; so that we may forgive any wrong that occurs. May Your love grow continually in our hearts. In Jesus name I pray.*

**April 1st:** Hebrews 11: 1 – 3 Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. For by it the people of old received their commendation. By faith we understand that the universe was created by the word of God, so that what is seen was not made out of things that are visible.

*Prayer: Lord, thank You for the gift of faith that you have sewn in our hearts, for it is by faith that we see the great blessings that You have for us in this life as well as the life to come. When we have hope, whether it be the healing of a loved one, the birth of an expected child and the wonderful life that they have ahead, or an eternity in God's presence; it is the faith that You have given us that gives us this assurance. In Jesus name I pray.*

## Holy Week

Palm Sunday

**April 2nd:** Luke 19: 37 – 40 As He was drawing near – already on the way down the Mount of Olives – the whole multitude of His disciples began to rejoice and praise God with a loud voice for all the mighty works they had seen, saying, “Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven and glory in the highest.” And some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to Him, “Teacher, rebuke your disciples.” He answered, “I tell you, if these were silent, the very stones would cry out.”

*Prayer: Lord, may our everyday experience be Palm Sunday. May we be filled with joy, extolling*

*your blessings and greatness to You in praise and prayer, and to those around us by our words and actions. In Jesus name I pray.*

**April 3rd:** John 12: 1 – 11 Six days before the Passover, Jesus therefore came to Bethany, where Lazarus was, whom Jesus had raised from the dead. So, they gave a dinner for Him there. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those reclining with Him at table. Mary therefore took a pound of expensive ointment made from pure nard, and anointed the feet of Jesus and wiped His feet with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume.... Jesus said, "Leave her alone, so that she may keep it for the day of my burial. For the poor you always have with you, but you do not always have me." ...

*Prayer: Lord, please give me a heart like Mary's; such that I am willing to give my best in order to serve You. Whether it is contributing to a work that You have set in place, using my time and my talents in Your service. Give me a heart that is willing to spend my most precious possession in Your service. In Jesus name I pray.*

**April 4th:** John 12: 20 – 36 ... "Now my soul is troubled. And what shall I say? Father, save Me from this hour? But for this purpose, I have come to this hour. Father, glorify your name." Then a voice came from heaven: "I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again." The crowd that stood there and heard it said that it had thundered, Others said, "an angel has spoken to Him." Jesus answered, "the voice has come for your sake, not mine, Now is the judgment of this world; now will the ruler of this world be cast out. And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself." ...

*Prayer: Lord, I can't imagine the anguish that came from this confrontation with all the might of the devil. I am overcome trying to get by some days, I can't imagine the weight of the days of passion that lied immediately in front of You, yet your resolve was to glorify Your Heavenly Father. Thank you for Your love for us, please strengthen us to follow in Your footsteps. In Jesus name I pray.*

**April 5th:** John 13: 21 – 32 After saying these things, Jesus was troubled in his spirit, and testified, "Truly, truly, I say to you, one of you will betray me." ... So that disciple, leaning back against Jesus, said to him, "Lord, who is it?" Jesus answered, "It is he to whom I will give this morsel of bread when I have dipped it." So, when he had dipped the morsel, he gave it to Judas, the son of Simon Iscariot. Then after he had taken the morsel, Satan entered into him. Jesus said to him, "What you are going to do, do quickly." ... So, after receiving the morsel of bread, he immediately went out. And it was night. When he had gone out, Jesus said, "Now is the Son of Man glorified, and God is glorified in him. If God is glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself, and glorify him at once."

*Prayer: Lord, give us strength to seek Your will in our lives. When we rely on our own understanding of a situation, we can make bad decisions. Even worse, we can allow Satan access to our lives to mislead us as Judas. Lord, we submit to You and Your will in our lives trusting that You will lead us in paths of righteousness so Your Name can be glorified in the earth. In Jesus name I pray.*

**April 6th:** John 13: 1 – 17 Now before the Feast of the Passover, when Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart out of this world to the Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end. ... rose from supper. He laid aside his outer garments, and taking a towel, tied it around his waist. Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash

the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel that was wrapped around him. He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, do you wash my feet?" Jesus answered him, "What I am doing you do not understand now, but afterward you will understand." Peter said to him, "You shall never wash my feet." Jesus answered him, "If I do not wash you, you have no share with me." Simon Peter said to him, "Lord, not only my feet but also my hands and my head!" ... When he had washed their feet and put on his outer garments and resumed his place, he said to them, "Do you understand what I have done to you? You call me Teacher and Lord, and you are right, for so I am. If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. For I have given you an example, that you also should do just as I have done to you. Truly, truly, I say to you, a servant is not greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him. If you know these things, you will be blessed if you do them.

*Prayer: Dear Lord, thank You for demonstrating a better way. You have shown us that to serve You we must be a servant to our brother. Lord, I don't really understand the culture of servants and slaves, maybe I thought it was my parents' place to provide what I needed; but help me to fulfill Your calling in my life in patience and humility. In Jesus name I pray.*

**April 7th:** John 18: 1 – 19: 37 ... After this, Jesus, knowing that all was now finished, said (to fulfill the Scripture), "I thirst." A jar full of sour wine stood there, so they put a sponge full of the sour wine on a hyssop branch and held it to his mouth. When Jesus had received the sour wine, he said, "It is finished," and he bowed his head and gave up his spirit. ... But when they came to Jesus and saw that he was already dead, they did not break his legs. But one of the soldiers pierced his side with a spear, and at once there came out blood and water. He who saw it has borne witness—his testimony is true, and he knows that he is telling the truth—that you also may believe. For these things took place that the Scripture might be fulfilled: "Not one of his bones will be broken." And again another Scripture says, "They will look on him whom they have pierced."

*Prayer: Lord, how can I thank You enough for what you have done for me. This brutal death that you suffered, to fulfill the plan You had made to save me and all humanity from their sins. Continued emotional distress as You walked this holy week path, brutal beatings, carrying Your cross, nailed to a tree, dying hanging from that cross. Thank You Lord. In Jesus name I pray.*

**April 8th:** John 19: 38 – 42 After these things Joseph of Arimathea, who was a disciple of Jesus, but secretly for fear of the Jews, asked Pilate that he might take away the body of Jesus, and Pilate gave him permission. So, he came and took away his body. Nicodemus also, who earlier had come to Jesus by night, came bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes, about seventy-five pounds in weight. So, they took the body of Jesus and bound it in linen cloth with the spices, as is the burial custom of the Jews. Now in the place where he was crucified there was a garden, and in the garden a new tomb in which no one had yet been laid. So, because of the Jewish day of Preparation, since the tomb was close at hand, they laid Jesus there.

*Prayer: Dear Lord, You had so few friends after Your death, but a couple of faithful disciples ensured that Your body was laid to rest with a hasty burial. I pray we have a better understanding and would be more compassionate, but assume that I could not have done any differently than most of Your followers. I pray that this time of Lent has given me a better understanding of Your love for Me. In Jesus name I pray.*