



Week of Prayer

24th - 31st March

This Prayer Guide is written by Joe and Lauren Chick

Welcome to our Week of Prayer! For this week, we are going to be using the Beatitudes from Matthew 5:3-12 to shape our prayers.

We hope the content in here will help you to focus your prayers during this week when as a church we commit to a sustained effort of prayer.

Please take note of all the gathered moments of prayer happening through the week, we would love to see you!



Sunday 24 March

"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven."

To be poor in spirit is to say that we cannot do this life on our own. Within and of ourselves, we don't have the resources required to do life, we need God. Being someone who is 'poor in spirit' is saying 'God I need you everyday'.

Prayer Points

- ▶ *For God to help us be a people that depends not on our own strength/ability, but on Him alone.*
- ▶ *For those who we know who are not following Jesus, to come to a realisation that they need God.*
- ▶ *For people who have recently attended our Alpha course to continue on their journey in knowing Jesus.*

Gathered Prayer

- ▶ **Pre-Service Prayer**
09:30 - 10:00 at The Canterbury Academy
- ▶ **Stand! Men's Prayer Night**
6:30pm-9:00pm



Monday 25 March

"Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted."

The state of our need for God, our shortfalls & sin, should lead us to a place of mourning and repentance. Now is a good time to reflect upon the gravity of our sin; our sin is so serious that Jesus died to pay our debt.

As we lament/mourn/repent our sin, we can find comfort in the one who loves us so much, he gave himself for us.

This same God who cares about dealing with the problem of our sin, also cares about the situations we find ourselves in. He responds to our mourning/cries for justice and wants to draw close & bring comfort.

Prayer Points

- ▶ *Spend a moment of repentance, reflecting on the ways we have offended God (in action, deed or thought), confessing our sin and asking for forgiveness in Jesus name.*
- ▶ *Thank God for the forgiveness we have in Jesus and the comfort we find in his embrace.*
- ▶ *To pray for those who are feeling the affects of living in a sinful world (friends, family, colleagues etc); where life has not turned out the way they planned. Pray for them to find comfort in Jesus.*

Gathered Prayer

- ▶ **Chartham Breakthrough Prayer**
From 8pm, venue TBC (check the website)



Tuesday 26 March

"Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth."

Meekness is not weakness, but power under control. Being meek is actively choosing to submit to a greater authority.

The next step for the person who is poor in spirit (someone who acknowledges their need for God) and mourns their sin (someone who depends upon the grace of God), is to be someone who submits to God.

What are the areas of our lives that we need to submit to God?

Prayer Points

- ▶ *For us to be a people that submits to God's way.*
- ▶ *For the elders and leaders of the church to continue to lead us from a place of their submission to Jesus. For God to give them grace to do this well.*
- ▶ *For those in positions of leadership in this world to acknowledge their need for God and be guided by Him.*

Gathered Prayer

- ▶ **Prayer & Fasting virtual meeting**
We will be having a virtual prayer meeting for 30 minutes at 12:00 where we will be fasting our lunch. A meeting link will be sent out.



Wednesday 27 March

"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled."

When we are hungry/thirsty, our bodies are telling us that food/water is essential for us to live, we can't live without it. Jesus is saying to us that we are only satisfied when our deep desires are to follow Him, walk closely with Him and enjoy his presence. Being hungry/thirsty is also a regular occurrence! This is not a one off feeling, but something that we naturally desire throughout our day and our lives.

As we desire to walk closely with Jesus, we will find ultimate fulfilment in life.

Prayer Points

- ▶ *Spend some time reflecting on what you desire most. Pray that you desire his presence more and more.*
- ▶ *Pray for our children's ministry- that the children who are a part of our church would find joy, excitement and fulfilment in God at an early age.*
- ▶ *Pray for opportunities this week for you to show those who you interact with that Jesus alone satisfies.*

Gathered Prayer

- ▶ **Sturry Breakthrough Prayer**
7:45pm - 9pm at Jon & Rachel Lewis' house



Thursday 28 March

"Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy."

When we are wronged, what is our reaction? It can be so difficult to forgive others who have caused us to feel hurt and pain. However, Jesus encourages us in the Parable of the 'unforgiving servant' (Matthew 18:21-35) to respond to God's mercy by showing mercy to others.

Have the depths of God's mercy touched our heart? Has this impacted the way we respond to those who have wronged us?

Prayer Points

- ▶ *Pray that we have a fresh understanding of God's mercy towards us. Pray that God will help you 'forgive those who have sinned against you'.*
- ▶ *Pray that the culture of our church will be one of mercy to one another. For mercy to be shown within our friendships, our marriages (pray for the Marriage Course) and our families.*
- ▶ *Pray for the church to show mercy to those who are in need (i.e. homeless, in poverty, refugees). Pray for our 'make lunch' and food bank scheme.*

Gathered Prayer

- ▶ **Canterbury Breakthrough Prayer**
7:45pm - 9:15pm at The Canterbury Academy



Friday 29 March

"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God."

"Man looks on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart" (1 Samuel 16:7)

The heart is utterly crucial to Jesus. What we are in the deep, most private parts of our lives is what he cares about most.

To be pure in heart is to seek after God with everything that is within us (our whole heart).

Prayer Points

- ▶ *Pray that we would seek after God with our whole heart. That we would be a people that love God with everything within us.*
- ▶ *Pray for the Small Groups of our church to be a place of vulnerability and accountability, where we can encourage one another to live for God alone.*
- ▶ *Pray that God pours our His Holy Spirit on his church; so that he has a people set apart for himself.*

Gathered Prayer

- ▶ **Good Friday Service**
8pm – 9pm
- ▶ **24-hour Prayer @ The Hub**
Sign up to a prayer slot here:
thecitychurch.org.uk/24prayer



Saturday 30 March

"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God."

Jesus, who is called the Prince of Peace (Isaiah 9: 6), has justified us (declared us righteous before God) through his work on the cross, which now means we have 'peace with God' (Romans 5:1). We have been made utterly acceptable before God because of Jesus, we do not need to fear judgement, but we can enjoy peace with God.

Jesus calls us to carry on his work of peace through how we live our lives (through being peacemakers).

Prayer Points

- ▶ *For us to be instruments of peace in the situations we find ourselves in (work, home, friendships, relationships etc).*
- ▶ *For the Youth & Students of our church to outwork what it means to be a 'peacemaker' in their schools & places of study. For God to fill them with boldness as they step out for him.*
- ▶ *For God to bring his peace to wars and conflicts around the world.*



Sunday 31 March

"Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, 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."

Unfortunately the world has different ideas about what 'peace' should look like. This means that as we start to step out in our identity as peacemakers and pursue righteousness in this world, we are likely to experience opposition/persecution. But Jesus' encouragement here is that our 'reward is great in heaven'. This Easter Sunday, as we reflect upon how Jesus died for our sins and rose again three days later, we can be encouraged that whatever trials or tribulations we face in this life, we have hope beyond the grave. Jesus has triumphed over sin & death and has won eternal life for us. On top of that, he promises to reward those who face trouble in this life on account of him. What an amazing saviour we worship!

Gathered Prayer

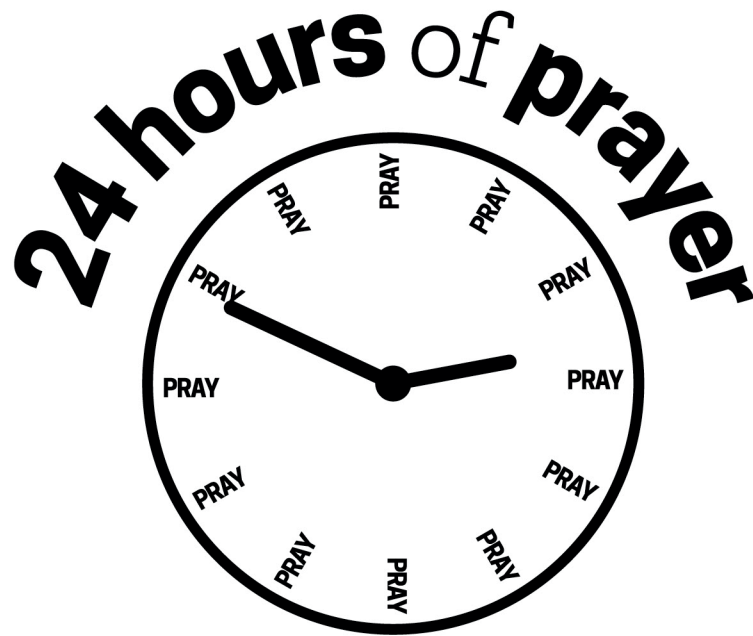
- ▶ **24-hour Prayer @ The Hub**
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Prayer Points

- ▶ *Let's take a moment to reflect upon the Lord Jesus. He is risen!*
- ▶ *Let's tell him how wonderful he is and how much he means to us. Let's pour out our worship before him and delight in him together.*

Gathered Prayer

- ▶ **Pre-Service Prayer**
09:30 - 10:00 at The Canterbury Academy



Sign up for a prayer slot

Join in with this new prayer initiative
in our Week of Prayer.

9pm on Fri 29th to 9pm on Sat 30th

Sign up for an hour slot(s) using this link:



thecitychurch.org.uk/24prayer