



21 DAYS OF PRAYER THE GOSPEL OF MARK

THE BEGINNING OF THE GOOD NEWS ABOUT
JESUS THE MESSIAH, THE SON OF GOD...
MARK 1:1

September 2024



PRAYER...

is essential to the life of everyone who desires to follow Jesus. Prayer is an intimate conversation between you and the Lord where you talk with Him as you would your closest friend. Prayer is not only an opportunity to share your heart with Him but also provides the opportunity for you to hear from Him. While God calls us to pray, we shouldn't see it as an obligation but rather embrace it as a marvelous gift of grace.

THE INVITATION

We are inviting everyone, as a church family, to participate in **21 Days of Prayer**. Our focus will be on spending time with Jesus through the Gospel of Mark. The concept is simple. Each day, you are invited to read one chapter from the Gospel of Mark and consider the prayer prompt for that day. Pray through the prompt or pray as God stirs your heart from something else within the chapter.

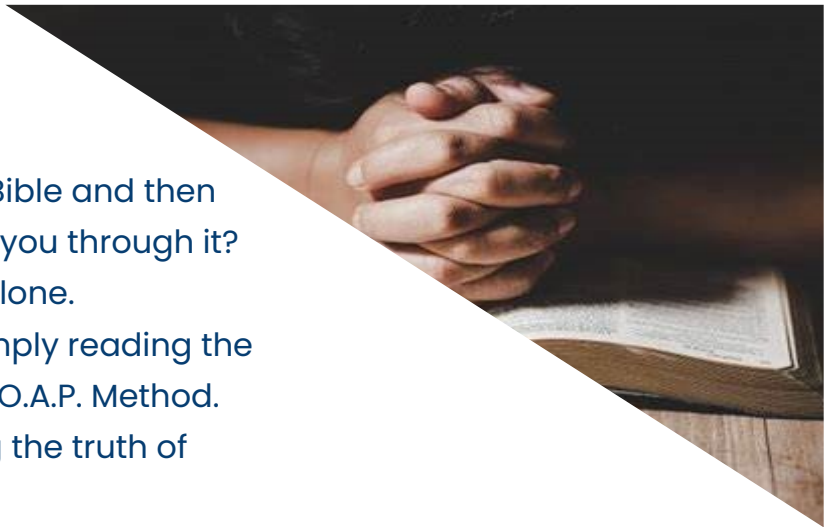
*Very early
in the morning,
while it was still dark,
Jesus got up,
left the house
and went off to
a solitary place,
where He prayed.
Mark 1:35*

DON'T JUST READ THE WORD...

Have you ever read something in the Bible and then wondered what God wanted to say to you through it? If you answered "YES" then you're not alone.

A great tool to help you move from simply reading the Word to engaging God's Word is the S.O.A.P. Method.

S.O.A.P. is a simple method of applying the truth of God's Word to our everyday lives.



S

Scripture: Read a passage of scripture.

Consider reading it silently, aloud, and listening to it being read.

O

Observations: What do you notice about the verses? What do you think the main message is? What verses, words, or ideas stand out to you?

A

Application: What changes do you need to make in your life based on what you read today? What actionable steps do you need to take to get there?

P

Prayer: Asking God for His wisdom, understanding, and a heart to learn - to grow closer to Him. Pray the verse back to God, thank Him for speaking to you through His Word, and ask for guidance as you apply the Scripture to your life.

Use this guide as an opportunity to spend quality time with Jesus. Pay attention to His actions, attitudes, and words. Ask Him questions and give Him time to respond.



SEPTEMBER 9

Read Mark 1:1–28

Scripture Spotlight: Mark 1:14–15, *"After John was put in prison, Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God. 'The time has come,' he said. 'The kingdom of God has come near. Repent and believe the good news!'"*

Prayer Prompt: Begin your time of prayer by giving thanks for God's gracious gift of forgiveness through Jesus Christ. Remember what your life was like before Christ or think about what it might be like without Him and give him thanks. If you haven't given your heart to Jesus, would you consider repenting of your sins and accepting the gift of forgiveness He offers?

SEPTEMBER 10

Read Mark 1:29–2:12

Scripture Spotlight: Mark 2:10–11, *"But I want you to know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins.' So, he said to the man, 'I tell you, get up, take your mat and go home.'"*

Prayer Prompt: One of the schemes of the devil is to get us to doubt the promises and work of God. Today if you have doubt, ask God to give you peace. Tell Jesus about your fears and anxieties and ask Him to restore your hope in Him.

SEPTEMBER 11

Read Mark 2:13–3:6

Scripture Spotlight: Mark 2:22, *"And no one pours new wine into old wineskins. Otherwise, the wine will burst the skins, and both the wine and the wineskins will be ruined. No, they pour new wine into new wineskins."*

Prayer Prompt: Jesus takes the old and makes it completely new, including you and me, and that is GOOD NEWS. Ask Jesus to reveal the remnants of the old you that remain. Resist the urge to rush through. Give space for Jesus to respond to you. Ask Jesus to make you new so that you display His glory.



SEPTEMBER 12

Read Mark 3:7–35

Scripture Spotlight: Mark 3:35, *"Whoever does God's will is my brother and sister and mother."*

Prayer Prompt: Spend some today asking Jesus about God's will for your life. We believe that we exist to share the beauty of Jesus in a broken world. As you pray, consider your gifts, talents, resources, and passions. Prayerfully consider how God has uniquely called you for His will and purpose in the world. Ask Him to give you the power of His Holy Spirit to enable you to do His will.

SEPTEMBER 13

Read Mark 4:1–41

Scripture Spotlight: Mark 4:10, *"When he was alone, the Twelve and the others around him asked him about the parables."*

Prayer Prompt: Ask Jesus to give you a teachable spirit, ears that are ready and willing to hear the truth, and a deep desire in your heart for His Word. Ask Him to help you deepen your understanding of who He is and what He has done.

SEPTEMBER 14

Read Mark 5:1–20

Scripture Spotlight: Mark 5:19, *"Jesus did not let him, but said, 'Go home to your own people and tell them how much the Lord has done for you, and how he has had mercy on you.'"*

Prayer Prompt: Jesus takes the old and makes it completely new, including you and me, and that is GOOD NEWS. Ask Jesus to reveal the remnants of the old you that remain. Resist the urge to rush through. Give space for Jesus to respond to you. Ask Jesus to make you new so that you display His glory.

Nothing tends more to cement the hearts of Christians than praying together. Never do they love one another so well as when they witness the outpouring of each other's hearts in prayer.

– Charles Finney –

SEPTEMBER 15

Read Mark 5:21–43

Scripture Spotlight: Mark 5:22–23, *"Then one of the synagogue leaders, named Jairus, came, and when he saw Jesus, he fell at his feet. He pleaded earnestly with him, 'My little daughter is dying. Please come and put your hands on her so that she will be healed and live.'"*

Prayer Prompt: Often, our prayer life becomes a time where we list all our needs and wants with the expectation that Jesus must intervene because He loves us. While there isn't anything wrong with making our requests known to Jesus, both Jairus and the woman in today's reading remind us that we should be both *bold* and *humble*. We should be *bold* in our belief but *humble* in our request. Today as you make your requests known to Jesus, be *bold* in your faith but remember that He is Lord.

SEPTEMBER 16

Read Mark 6:1–29

Scripture Spotlight: Mark 6:4, *"Jesus said to them, 'A prophet is not without honor except in his own town, among his relatives and in his own home.'"*

Prayer Prompt: Francois Mauriac wrote in his life of Jesus: "It is baffling to record that, for a period of thirty years, the Son of Man did not appear to be anything other than a man." Those who lived with him thought they knew him. He fixed their tables and chairs. They ate and drank with his extended family. When he stepped outside the role they had fixed for him, they put him down as just a workman. Today share the pain of your rejection with Jesus. Rest in the Good News that He too was rejected. Give your fear of rejection to Jesus and trust His promise to never leave you.

SEPTEMBER 17

Read Mark 6:30–56

Scripture Spotlight: Mark 6:37, *"But he answered, 'You give them something to eat.'"*

Prayer Prompt: A scarcity mindset is when you are so obsessed with a lack of something – usually time or money – that you can't seem to focus on anything else, no matter how hard you try. Maybe that doesn't fully define you, but often we are held back from experiencing God's best because we perceive what we have is not enough. Today as you pray, list out all the things you have, and offer them to Jesus so that He can bless and multiply them for the sake of His mission.

*If Biblical
Christianity is to survive
the present world upheaval,
we shall need to have a fresh
revelation of the greatness and
the beauty of Jesus... He alone
can raise our cold hearts to
rapture and restore again
the art of true worship.*
-A.W. Tozer-

SEPTEMBER 18

Read Mark 7:1-37

Scripture Spotlight: Mark 7:14-15, *"Again Jesus called the crowd to him and said, 'Listen to me, everyone, and understand this. Nothing outside a person can defile them by going into them. Rather, it is what comes out of a person that defiles them.'"*

Prayer Prompt: Ask Jesus to purify your heart. Ask Him to cleanse you from all evil thoughts, opinions, motives, and reasoning so that your mind can dwell on Him. Ask Him to challenge every thought that comes into your mind and reject every thought that is not consistent with His will. Ask Him to grant you the *grace* and *power* to take captive every thought and bring it into obedience to Him.

SEPTEMBER 19

Read Mark 8:1-38

Scripture Spotlight: Mark 8:31 & 34, *He then began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests and the teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and after three days rise again... Then he called the crowd to him along with his disciples and said: "Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me."*

Prayer Prompt: In just a few months we will celebrate Jesus' birth. However, He quickly reminds us of the reason He came. He died so that we could live. The Kingdom He has taught about operates on a different set of principles than the world, so He tells us that to live, we must also die. Ask Jesus to help you understand the great truth of this teaching and give you the strength and courage to daily die to yourself so that He can live through you.

SEPTEMBER 20

Read Mark 9:1-32

Scripture Spotlight: Mark 9:24, *"Immediately the boy's father exclaimed, 'I do believe; help me overcome my unbelief!'"*

Prayer Prompt: Sometimes we confuse knowledge with faith. The man believed the stories about Jesus, but he doubted whether Jesus could do for him that He had done for others. Faith grows by grace. Ask Jesus to help you recognize areas of unbelief in your life and to help you believe His Word so that you can faithfully walk in His way.



SEPTEMBER 21

Read Mark 9:33–10:16

Scripture Spotlight: Mark 10:15, *"Truly I tell you, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it."*

Prayer Prompt: Today in your prayer, run to Jesus and jump into His arms as a child jumps into the arms of a father with full faith that he'll keep him safe. Experience anew the joy and excitement of your salvation! Consider all He does that sustains your life that we often take for granted.

SEPTEMBER 22

Read Mark 10:17–52

Scripture Spotlight: Mark 10:45, *"For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."*

Prayer Prompt: Here is the heart of our hero, Jesus, given in one simple statement. His words must be our legacy. His example must be the pattern for our lives. Jesus bought us out of Satan's grasp and brought us to freedom through the ransom price He paid. We are now called to follow His example and live His life in our world. We are to serve and sacrifice for others. Living to serve others is the Jesus-way of life! Ask Jesus to help you see the needs of others as you go about your day, and for His courage to serve regardless of the cost.

Prayer is not monologue, but dialogue; God's voice is its most essential part. Listening to God's voice is the secret of the assurance that He will listen to mine.
– Andrew Murray–

SEPTEMBER 23

Read Mark 11:1–33

Scripture Spotlight: Mark 11:25, *"And when you stand praying, if you hold anything against anyone, forgive them, so that your Father in heaven may forgive you your sins."*

Prayer Prompt: One of the most challenging experiences in life is forgiving others. Because letting go of hurt feelings caused by the wrongdoings of others isn't easy. And even if it's justified, nothing good comes from harboring negative emotions towards others. In fact, an unforgiving heart opposes God's will (Matthew 6:15). When you cannot forgive someone, remember God's forgiveness. If you are harboring unforgiveness in your heart, I encourage you to immediately go to God in prayer and ask God to reveal anyone you have not forgiven and to give you the strength to forgive them.

Work, work, from morning until late at night. In fact, I have so much to do that I shall have to spend the first three hours in prayer.

-Martin Luther-

SEPTEMBER 24

Read Mark 12:1-44

Scripture Spotlight: Mark 12:38, *"As he taught, Jesus said, 'Watch out for the teachers of the law. They like to walk around in flowing robes and be greeted with respect in the markets.'"*

Prayer Prompt: The "answers" to any question we may have is just a Google search away. Unfortunately, many of the "truths" we are presented with are highly subjective. Ask Jesus to help you discern truth in a world filled with half-truths and opinions so that you won't be led astray and for the ability to remain humble as you lead others toward Him.

SEPTEMBER 25

Read Mark 13:1-37

Scripture Spotlight: Mark 13:32-33, *"But about that day or hour no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Be on guard! Be alert! You do not know when that time will come."*

Prayer Prompt: The greatest secret of all time is the exact day and hour of the Lord's return. What should our response be to this indiscernible answer to one of life's most important questions? Doubt? Frustration? Disappointment? No! We know the heart of God because we have seen His heart revealed to us by Jesus. We know He desires us to be saved and come to Him through Jesus. We know that He spared nothing, not even His Son, to redeem us and adopt us into His family (Romans 8:31-32). So, knowing what we know about God, we can be sure that His promises can always be trusted and that our future is secure. Our task is to live for God and be ready for His Son's return. Ask Jesus to help you remain faithful and diligent. Share your frustrations and heartache with Him to help you carry the load.

SEPTEMBER 26

Read Mark 14:1-52

Scripture Spotlight: Mark 14:50, *"Then everyone deserted him and fled."*

Prayer Prompt: Everyone of Jesus' disciples ran. It was a scary situation. The events were so chaotic that Mark tells us that one guy was stripped naked in the scuffle. We wonder if we are ever faced with the choice to deny Jesus or lose our life if we'd be able to stand firm. Though we are often like His disciples we have an advantage that they didn't in the moment...The Holy Spirit. Give thanks to Jesus for His amazing gift. Ask Him to help you to rely on His strength and power and not your own.



SEPTEMBER 27

Read Mark 14:53– 15:15

Scripture Spotlight: Mark 15:15, *"Wanting to satisfy the crowd, Pilate released Barabbas to them. He had Jesus flogged, and handed him over to be crucified."*

Prayer Prompt: The prophecy of Isaiah 53 was being fulfilled. Jesus was whipped, beaten, and led away like a lamb to the slaughter. At any moment, He could have called out to God to rescue Him, but He submitted to the Father's plan for you and me. Give thanks for His sacrifice that saved you and continues to save you. Ask Him to give you the faith and strength to endure times of injustice and the courage to live your life in the hope that even if the scales of justice are not balanced in your lifetime, they will be at the end of time.

SEPTEMBER 28

Read Mark 15: 16–47

Scripture Spotlight: Mark 15:37–38, *"With a loud cry, Jesus breathed his last. The curtain of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom."*

Prayer Prompt: As horrible as the humiliation of the cross was for Jesus, it was even more glorious for us because it ushered in a new way (called the new covenant) for us to come to Him. Thank Jesus for getting rid of the religious red tape required by the old covenant and giving us full and free access to the Throne of Grace through His sacrifice. Ask Him to help you never forget or take for granted the great gift of salvation you have received.

SEPTEMBER 29

Read Mark 16

Scripture Spotlight: Mark 16:6, *"Don't be alarmed," he said. 'You are looking for Jesus the Nazarene, who was crucified. He has risen! He is not here. See the place where they laid him.'"*

Prayer Prompt: As you wrap up this time in the Gospel of Mark, don't miss these three important things about Jesus:

- He is the Nazarene — the one who was prophesied to come from Nazareth (Matthew 2:23) and who would do the work of God.
- He was crucified — He died to ransom us from sin.
- He has been raised from the dead — He conquered death and brought life to us. He is not in the grave. He lives. He is Lord. Ask Jesus to help you understand how His resurrection gives new life.



NEXT STEPS...

ONE STORY. ONE HOPE. ONE HEART.

One Church exists to encourage and equip people to become fully -devoted followers of Christ.

When diverse people from all generations unite in a shared mission to follow Jesus, do life together and serve others, we are each made whole. At One Church, we share this rich legacy of faith in Christ that has been passed down for generations.

We believe God's promise that following Jesus brings unity, wholeness and purpose. This hope, that Jesus changes everything, is the truth we pass on to future generations, and it is what brings us together as we serve the world!

At One Church, we share...

ONE STORY of God's faithfulness (Ps. 119:90).

ONE HOPE that Jesus changes everything (Eph. 1:18-19a).

ONE HEART in serving the world (John 17:21; Acts 4:32-33).

We also believe that God is moving in every person's life, and we want to come alongside you to help propel you forward in your faith. We desire that each person would:

- 1) Know God
- 2) Find Freedom
- 3) Discover Purpose, and
- 4) Make a Difference. Wherever you find yourself in these, we want to help you

THIS IS JUST THE BEGINNING...

The 21 days have come to an end, but the journey with Jesus continues. Celebrate the Good News. Give your heart to Him. Go share the Good News about Jesus into a broken world by the power of His Spirit.

5 WAYS TO ENGAGE & GROW



1. ACTIVELY WORSHIP

We actively worship through consistent engagement in worship services and the rhythms of our daily lives.

- Am I putting Jesus first in my life each day?
- Am I making worship with my church family a priority?



2. CULTIVATE SPIRITUAL DISCIPLINES

Cultivating spiritual disciplines such as time in the Word, prayer, generosity, fasting, and rest are critical elements for loving and following Jesus for life.

- Are you regularly engaging in the Word, prayer, giving, etc.?



3. SHARE LIFE

Real life change happens in the context of relationships.

- Are you plugged into a small group/SS Class at ONE Church?
- Are you actively looking to know others and be known by them?



4. INTENTIONALLY SERVE

We intentionally serve at the church, in our community, and around the world. God has given each of us unique gifts and abilities to be used in service to others.

- Are you part of a serving team at ONE Church?
- Are you investing in your community? Are you contributing to God's work around the world in a measurable way?



5. INVEST AND INVITE

Jesus calls Christians to "go and make disciples." We want to encourage and equip everyone to regularly invest in others and invite them into the story of the good news of Jesus.

- Do your co-workers and neighbors know your faith is in Jesus? Do you know what they believe when it comes to matters of faith?
- How can you regularly invite others to ONE Church services and to consider for themselves the truth of God?