

# CONSECRATION

A DEVOTIONAL & PRAYER GUIDE

01.14.2024 - 02.03.2024





This devotional and prayer guide belongs to

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## A NOTE FROM OUR PASTOR

As we enter the next 18 months, our mission is to inspire and encourage each one of you to “Come & Surrender” your lives wholeheartedly to Jesus. We believe that by surrendering just 1% more of our lives to Kingdom living, we can ignite a Kingdom movement that will bring about lasting change in our lives and in our community.

Part of this initiative includes surrendering 1% more of your life to your personal walk with Jesus, and daily prayer is a huge component of that. Prayer is the cornerstone of our relationship with Jesus, and it is through prayer that we can intimately know Him and experience His transformative power. A healthy prayer life not only deepens our walk with Jesus but also enables us to become more like Him in all areas of our lives.

Join us on this 21-day spiritual journey as we commit ourselves to intentional surrender through daily prayer and reflection. This prayer book serves as your starting point to what we hope will become a deeper, more consistent practice of prayer. Let it be your guide as you seek God’s presence in every aspect of your life.

As we embrace the power of prayer together, lives will be changed, relationships restored, and communities transformed. Come & Surrender with us as we walk this journey together!

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Pastor Christian". The signature is stylized with a large, circular flourish at the end.

Pastor Christian



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# HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE

This devotional is designed to give purpose and structure to your prayer life. It is a tool designed to help you get more comfortable with prayer so that it becomes more natural, effective, and enjoyable for you to experience.

The most important goal of this guide is to help you *consistently grow* in entering God's presence through prayer. Here is how this guide is designed to help you:

## **WEEK 1**

During the first week of 21 Days of Prayer, use these pages to take some notes from each day's prayer service in real time. Use the prayer points that each speaker asks us to pray for, following the guide to enter your daily prayer entries. You can use this based on the "ACTS" acronym, which is based on Jesus' model of prayer found in Matthew 6:9-13. If you are unfamiliar with how to use this acronym, we can help you with that! Turn the page to see how to use the ACTS model to guide your prayer time.

## **WEEKS 2 & 3**

Following the first week in 21 Days of Prayer, we encourage you to get online and watch the devotionals we have prepared for you. These weeks will consist of a virtual, self-guided walk through each day's devotion and prayer time. Continue following this guide the same way you did during week 1.

## **KEEP USING THIS GUIDE**

We encourage you to continue referring to this guide after the initial 21 Days of Prayer ends. Use this guide and the things you learn over these three weeks as a model to continue meeting with God each day.

You can use any sort of journal to continue this practice. As a quick tip, we also recommend adding a section at the end of your journal (or the end of each week, month, etc.) to jot down answered prayers. Our hope is that over the course of this year, you will witness God do extraordinary things in your life—"exceedingly and abundantly more" than you could ever imagine (Ephesians 3:20).

## FIND US ONLINE

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# JESUS' MODEL OF PRAYER

“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.’”

**MATTHEW 6:9-13 (NIV)**

In the Lord's Prayer, Jesus teaches us how to pray more than he teaches us what to pray. A closer evaluation of this prayer from Jesus reveals a guide, or model, for your daily conversation with God. You can follow the acronym, ACTS:

**ADORATION** - Acknowledge God's greatest attributes and creations. (Matthew 6:9)

Say: *“God, I adore you for \_\_\_\_\_.”*

**CONFESSION** - Cleanse your heart before God. (Matthew 6:12-13)

Say: *“God, I am sorry for \_\_\_\_\_. Please forgive me.”*

**THANKSGIVING** - Have a spirit of gratitude. (Matthew 6:10)

Say: *“God, I am so thankful for \_\_\_\_\_.”*

**SUPPLICATION** - Tell God what you need in this season. (Matthew 6:11)

Say: *“God, if it is your will, I need/want \_\_\_\_\_.”*



WEEK  
ONE

# DAY 1: CONSECRATION OF BEING KNOWN

*Written by Pastor Christian Newsome*

SUNDAY, JANUARY 14

“You have searched me, Lord,  
and you know me.”

## PSALM 139:1

As we begin this journey of 21 Days of Prayer and Consecration together, I would ask you to read Psalm 139:1 again. Read it slowly, out loud, and consider what it means in light of John 3:16. “God has searched me, God knows everything about me (*Ps. 139:1*)...and God loves me.” (*Jn. 3:16*) That is the truth of the gospel that we will focus on the next 21 days together. Pastor Tim Keller reminds us that to be known **and** loved is the pinnacle of trust and intimacy in a relationship. God knows us fully, loves us fully, and invites us to embrace our relationship with Him fully by learning how to pray and developing an intimate prayer life.

My prayer as I lead our church through this time of prayer and consecration is that you will join us Monday through Friday, January 15th through 19th, from 6:00 to 7:00 A.M. in person or live online, and that you will spend time in the 14 days following this week reading through the devotional thoughts and prayer outline that we’ve provided for you. These days will help guide your prayers and teach you to pray at the same time.

We will conclude our three weeks of prayer with our 2024 “Revival Nights” Wednesday through Friday, January 31st through February 2nd. It will be three days unlike any other in the history of our church. Commit the next 21 days to prayer with us and let 2024 be your best year ever spiritually!

**A** Praise God that He both knows you fully and loves you fully. Write three words that describe how that knowledge makes you feel.

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**C** Confess to God the reality of your 2023 prayer life. Was it the center of your relationship with Jesus or was there absence in the relationship that needs growth in 2024?

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**T** Thank God that He has given us a way to talk with Him and spend time with Him in prayer. Thank Him that He always “answers the phone”, that He always “returns the text”, that He always desires our prayers. Write three “Thank You” statements as prayers.

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**S** In this time of supplication, ask God to help you achieve the five to seven priority goals that you’ve set in your faith life, your family life, and your health journey for 2024. (If you haven’t developed these goals, start now!)

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# WEEK 1, DAY 2

## MONDAY, JANUARY 15

Scripture: \_\_\_\_\_ Speaker: \_\_\_\_\_

Message Title: \_\_\_\_\_

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**A** Adoration

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**C** Confession

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**T** Thanksgiving

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**S** Supplication

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## **WEEK 1, DAY 3**

TUESDAY, JANUARY 16

Scripture: \_\_\_\_\_ Speaker: \_\_\_\_\_

Message Title: \_\_\_\_\_

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**A** Adoration

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**C** Confession

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**T** Thanksgiving

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**S** Supplication

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**WEEK 1, DAY 4**  
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 17

Scripture: \_\_\_\_\_ Speaker: \_\_\_\_\_

Message Title: \_\_\_\_\_

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**A** Adoration

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**C** Confession

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**T** Thanksgiving

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**S** Supplication

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**WEEK 1, DAY 5**  
THURSDAY, JANUARY 18

Scripture: \_\_\_\_\_ Speaker: \_\_\_\_\_

Message Title: \_\_\_\_\_

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**A** Adoration

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**C** Confession

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**T** Thanksgiving

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**S** Supplication

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**WEEK 1, DAY 6**  
FRIDAY, JANUARY 19

Scripture: \_\_\_\_\_ Speaker: \_\_\_\_\_

Message Title: \_\_\_\_\_

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**A** Adoration

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**C** Confession

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**T** Thanksgiving

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**S** Supplication

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**WEEK 1, DAY 7**  
SATURDAY, JANUARY 20

Scripture: \_\_\_\_\_ Speaker: \_\_\_\_\_

Message Title: \_\_\_\_\_

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**A** Adoration

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**C** Confession

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**T** Thanksgiving

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**S** Supplication

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# DAY 8: CONSECRATION OF ENVIRONMENTS

*Written by Pastor Jay Armstrong*  
SUNDAY, JANUARY 21

“If I go up to the heavens, you are there;  
if I make my bed in the depths, you are there.”

## PSALM 139:8

My youngest son is almost five, and some nights he wakes up in the middle of the night, unable to sleep. When this happens, he comes into our room (mostly to find mommy!) and jumps in bed with me and my wife. On these nights, I hear the door creak a little as he opens it, and I hear his small, five-year-old footsteps walking across our floor. I usually wake up and roll over just in time to see his big, wide eyes peering at us from our bedside. In these moments, I know that he’s searching for mom and dad, silently reaching for our attention. Those eyes are searching to make sure we are there. He’s making sure we are present.

In the same way, the eyes of man are searching to see if God is really there. In trying times, we cry out for God to feel His presence. Have you had a moment where you cried out to God and longed to feel His presence? This psalm is a response to the questions and insecurities we may feel, and it reassures us that God *is* there.

Psalms 139 is David expressing his complete confidence in God’s constant presence, regardless of the circumstances and despite his emotional state. Let’s pray today that we would be aware of God’s “at all times” presence and that we would find confidence in knowing that He is always with us.

**A** Praise God that He knows when our thoughts are Kingdom-minded, but praise Him that He also knows when we are laying down “in the depths” and struggling to move forward spiritually. Thank Him for knowing us personally and intimately in this way.

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**C** Confess what “depths” your attitude or heart has sunk to recently. What heart posture do you need to confess and turn away from?

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**T** Thank God that He faced the darkness of our “depths” on the cross and that He did away with the effects of sin, death, and the grave.

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**S** Ask God to help you rest in Him, no matter where your “bed” is. Whether in a season of testing or a season of triumph, ask God to remind you of His presence and perfect peace as you walk through your day.

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## DAY 9: CONSECRATION OF CONNECTIONS

*Written by Executive Director of Ministries Danielle Newsome*

MONDAY, JANUARY 22

“If I rise on the wings of the dawn,  
if I settle on the far side of the sea,  
<sup>10</sup>even there your hand will guide me,  
your right hand will hold me fast.”

### PSALM 139:9-10

Last summer we took a group of college students to Israel. As we got off the plane and approached the baggage claim area, I sat back and enjoyed watching people feverishly try to find their luggage. Some were even trying to track their luggage with Apple Air Tags. These little devices can be attached to things people may lose to help them stay connected to their possessions. (Or they can help you track your bags over 6,539 miles from KC and Israel!)

In the same way, God is a personal Air Tag for Christians. If we are in a relationship with Christ, He is connected to us, no matter where we go or what we do. He is omnipresent—everywhere with us at all times. To understand God’s commitment to being connected to you, look no further than John 3:16: “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.”

God was willing to send His Son to die so that He would be able to connect with you. There is nowhere you can go physically, emotionally, or spiritually that He is not aware of, and no situation that He is not available for. The American evangelist D.L. Moody said, “Some people think God does not like to be troubled with our constant coming and asking. The way to trouble God is not to come at all.” Your Father is anxiously waiting today to connect with you. He longs to hear from you. He loves to connect with his children.



**A** Praise God that because of Jesus, you can live constantly connected to your heavenly Father. Write three words that describe how this knowledge makes you feel.

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**C** Confess any areas where you've drifted into sin or complacency, especially if these areas are causing you to isolate yourself from your Father. Have you grown too familiar with your ability to connect to God? Confess that and ask for a new heart and new spirit.

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**T** Thank God for the people, places, and gifts in your life that help keep you connected to Him. (i.e. a small group, your church, a mentor, friends, etc.)

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**S** Are there areas of your life you haven't intentionally "connected" to your relationship with God? Maybe it's how you act at work, or how you treat your server at a restaurant. Ask God to help you give those areas to Him and surrender to His will.

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## DAY 10: CONSECRATION OF DARKNESS

*Written by Pastor Christian Newsome*

TUESDAY, JANUARY 23

“If I say, ‘Surely the darkness will hide me  
and the light become night around me,’  
<sup>12</sup>even the darkness will not be dark to you;  
the night will shine like the day,  
for darkness is as light to you.”

### PSALM 139:11-12

I fall asleep every night with the TV on, and I have for as long as I can remember having a TV in my room (going back at least to high school). Before that, I would fall asleep listening to my clock radio (that was actually a thing!) as the Cincinnati Reds broadcasters put me to sleep. I’m not sure if it’s the noise or the flickering light that I need, but even today, being in total darkness isn’t comfortable for my soul. Yet, in these two verses, we are told there is no such thing spiritually as **total** darkness to God.

What “darkness” are you living through, walking into, or coming out of that has you spiritually stumped, but that God sees clearly? Not only does God see you, but He also sees how He plans to protect you and use this “darkness” to shine a light onto a part of our relationship with Him that needs to grow. Just as the prophet Daniel did, let’s remember that “God knows what lies in darkness,” (*Dan. 2:22b*) and let’s pray that God shines the light of His hope and His gospel on it today.

**A** Praise God that He knows what lies in the darkness we're going through. He knows how it can shine a light onto parts of our lives that need to grow. Write three words to describe how this knowledge makes you feel.

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**C** Confess what darkness you're living through, walking into, or coming out of and how it has negatively impacted your faith.

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**T** Thank God that Jesus spent three hours of darkness on the cross so that we could have the light of the gospel shine into the darkest moments of our sin. Write a personal thank you note in the space below to thank God for light in the darkness.

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**S** Ask God to help you live through the darkness with hope, learn through the darkness in humility, and leverage seasons of your journey with darkness to help shine a light for somebody else who will walk through the same darkness. Write examples below of dark times you've come through or are going through.

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## DAY 11: CONSECRATION OF “ME”

*Written by Kids Ministry Director Heidi Bailey*

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 24

“For you created my inmost being;  
you knit me together in my mother’s womb.”

### PSALM 139:13

We currently live among one of the most connected, yet loneliest, generations. We have hundreds, maybe even thousands, of “friends” and “followers” in digital spaces, but how much do those friends and followers really know about us? How well do we know each one of them? When pictures and posts can be edited to perfection, we can project a false image of who we really are. We end up with an online identity that reflects only the parts of our life we want others to see, while hiding the pieces we fear would change how our friends and followers view us.

In Psalm 139:13 David reveals who the true creator of our identity is. Imagine our heavenly Father, our Creator, carefully, gently, intentionally, individually knitting us together in our mother’s womb. Before anyone else even knew we existed, He was at work, creating each one of us, our inmost being. He knows every piece of who we are. Unedited and unfiltered. Our personality, our temperament, every unique gift He purposely placed within us. The very things we try to hide are no surprise to God.

What a beautiful invitation we have today: to rest in the comfort that comes with knowing it is God who made us.

Instead of giving in to the false identity we can so easily project, today let’s commit to giving ourselves fully to the One who created us. Let the image we project reflect Him in our life.

**A** Praise God that He is our Creator. Take some time to acknowledge His power and creativity. Praise God for the gift of life.

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**C** Confess the personal things you've tried to hide and hold onto that you need to release to Christ. Where do you need to seek His forgiveness, His freedom, His healing? Repent of those things today.

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**T** Thank God for the intimacy you're invited into with Him through His Son Jesus. Thank Him for the gift and the presence of the Holy Spirit.

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**S** In Luke 18:41 we see an encounter with Jesus and a blind man desperately seeking healing. Jesus asks him, "What do you want me to do for you?" Imagine Jesus asking you those words in this moment. Give Jesus your honest answer in prayer.

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## DAY 12: CONSECRATION OF PURPOSE

*Written by Pastor Jaime Fernandez*  
THURSDAY, JANUARY 25

“I praise you because I am fearfully  
and wonderfully made;  
your works are wonderful,  
I know that full well.”

### PSALM 139:14

In the day-to-day grind of life, it's easy to forget why we're on this earth. Psalm 139:14 is a great reminder for us that we were made on purpose for a purpose—to worship the Lord. Our uniqueness, skills, talents, and abilities are all meant to bring glory to Him.

Worship isn't just about attending church on Sunday or singing the newest worship songs. It's about living a life that points back to God. It doesn't matter if you're a stay-at-home mom, business executive, student, or a professional athlete, what we do can be an act of worship when we consecrate it as something that will bring glory to God.

Worship keeps our focus on Jesus. It's our way of saying, “I trust You no matter what, even when everything seems to be going wrong.” I've experienced tough seasons in my life where worship helped me find strength and purpose. I had to consciously choose to surrender my thoughts, words, and actions to the Lord and worship Him regardless of life's circumstances.

Remember that you were fearfully and wonderfully made to worship the Lord. Make the decision to consecrate every moment of the day as an act of worship to God.

**A** Praise God that He has made you “fearfully and wonderfully” for the purpose of worshipping Him.

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**C** Confess areas in your life where you have lost sight of your purpose and have failed to consecrate your life as worship.

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**T** Thank God that He has given you the ability and opportunities to worship Him, not only in church but in your everyday life.

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**S** Ask God to help you consecrate your thoughts, words, and actions as worship to Him.

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## DAY 13: CONSECRATION OF BEING SEEN

*Written by Pastor Scott Courtney*

FRIDAY, JANUARY 26

“My frame was not hidden from you  
when I was made in the secret place,  
when I was woven together in the  
depths of the earth.”

### PSALM 139:15

When my youngest son was in elementary school, he had some severe separation anxiety that we had to help him through. I can remember multiple occasions where we would be in a grocery store and he would find himself in an aisle all alone, crying out, “Dad, where are you?” In the pick-up line after school, he would have days where he would say, “Dad, I couldn’t see you!” My wife and I had to make a habit of parking in the exact same spot every day so he would know exactly where to find us. We had to assure him that we would always find him, even if he couldn’t see us. We had to establish consistency so that he felt safe.

In Psalm 139:15, David points out a particular attribute about God that should provide a great deal of comfort to His people. He says, “my frame was not hidden from you,” revealing that our most specific physical details, from conception, were known and seen by God. The fact that this intricate detail does not escape God’s knowledge and awareness only further validates that He is fully in control of every detail you’re currently facing as well. God’s presence should provide a confidence that whatever you’re facing, the most appropriate response is to run **to** His presence, not **from** His presence. He sees you, even if you can’t always see Him!



**A** Spend a moment praising God for His consistent presence and awareness of what's going on in your life. Take time to reflect on the intimacy of God seeing the most detailed things about you.

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**C** Confess any recent or current adversities where you've chosen to run from God rather than to Him. Confess the times when you've been afraid rather than comforted by God's presence.

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**T** Thank God for His unconditional love for you! Remember that He loves us, even at our worst. Thank Him that He sent Jesus for us!

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**S** Ask God to help you in areas that you're currently struggling to see God. Make a list of the areas where you feel alone and isolated, where you need to rest in His presence.

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## DAY 14: CONSECRATION OF SOVEREIGNTY

*Written by Pastor Mike Evans*

SATURDAY, JANUARY 27

“Your eyes saw my unformed body;  
all the days ordained for me were written in your book  
before one of them came to be.”

### PSALM 139:16

I remember the first church camp of any kind that I ever attended. I was 10 years old. When I got to the camp, I had a great time swimming, playing games, and doing all the “camp things.” But God had some plans for me that He had ordained at that camp as well. I gave my heart to Jesus there, at Lake Bridgeport, TX, on August 9, 1980. One other thing I remember about that camp is that each day, we were given a Bible verse to memorize. If our whole cabin had the verse memorized and we said it to our cabin leader, we got a prize. One of the verses we memorized years ago was Psalm 139:16, the verse you see above. This verse (and really all of Psalm 139) has held a special place in my heart for many years.

God sees you. He loves you. He made you. And He has a sovereign plan for your life that is full of adventure, challenges, and opportunities. His plan for your life will allow you to see Him move in powerful ways, both in and through you, to make a difference in the world. Let us pray, serve, and live today in light of the truth that God knows and loves you intimately.

**A** Praise God that He knows us intimately and is sovereign over all things, including our lives. Write out, “God I adore you because...” Follow it with two to three things that come to mind when you think about the truth that God made you, sees you, and loves you.

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**C** Confess your need for God's grace in your life. Talk to Him about the things that distract you from a single-minded focus on Him and His plan for your life.

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**T** Thank God for His patience with you when you lose sight of the fact that He is always with you and in control. Write down a few ways you have seen Him take care of you recently.

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**S** Ask God to remind you throughout the day that He loves you and has great plans, not only for the big picture of your whole life, but in the little things that today will bring. Write down a couple of ways you will work today to keep your spiritual focus.

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WEEK  
THREE

## DAY 15: CONSECRATION OF RELATIONSHIP

*Written by Pastor Jay Armstrong*  
SUNDAY, JANUARY 28

“How precious to me are your thoughts, God!  
How vast is the sum of them!”

### PSALM 139:17

In this verse, the root meaning of the word interpreted as “precious” is “weighty”. We could say that David placed God’s thoughts on a scale to weigh them, and was moved to amazement and wonder as he realized God’s care for him. The vastness, or greatness, of God’s thoughts, plans, and vision for our lives should tip all our scales in His direction.

How do you weigh God’s thoughts toward you? Consider Jeremiah 29:11, which says, “‘For I know the plans I have for you,’ declares the Lord, ‘plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.’”

The famous preacher Charles Spurgeon summed it up perfectly when he said, “He is not alarmed at the fact that God knows all about him; on the contrary, he is comforted, and even feels himself to be enriched, as with a casket of precious jewels. That God should think upon him, is the believer’s treasure and pleasure.”

**A** Praise God that we are precious to Him and that His plans and desires for us are good, holy, and true. Write out what joy, pleasure, or precious gift you're finding God in this season.

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**C** Confess the thoughts that tend to pull your focus away from God. List out any ways that these thoughts go against your spiritual growth and maturing in faith.

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**T** Thank God that Jesus' thoughts on the cross were for us as He was taking on our sin (*1 Cor. 15:3*) and as He was hanging in our place! (*1 Pet. 2:24*)

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**S** Ask God to show you ways that will align your thoughts with His. Pray that you would see people as He sees them and that you would love others with His love as you walk in faith.

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## DAY 16: CONSECRATION OF CARE

*Written by Pastor Ryan Holt*  
MONDAY, JANUARY 29

“Were I to count them,  
they would outnumber the grains of sand—  
when I awake, I am still with you.”

### PSALM 139:18

There are days in my life where I lose track of God. In other words, I forget that God is with me and that He has my best interests in mind. When this happens, it often causes me to feel worry, anxiety, and doubt. As a dad, my kids probably don't realize how often my wife and I think about them. They surely don't realize how much we want the best for them and that we would truly do anything to protect them. Our hope is that this would bring them peace and courage to go about their day knowing we have their backs.

In Psalm 139:18 David realizes that if he were to count the thoughts that God has for him, they would outnumber the grains of sand on the earth. That number is too much to even calculate in our minds! What's more, it should help us know how much God cares for us as our heavenly Father. As you pray today, let the realization of how often God thinks about you fill you with the assurance that He cares for you deeply.



**A** Praise God that He is *your* heavenly Father and that He truly cares for you deeply. Let that truth fill your heart, mind, and soul.

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**C** Confess to God how often you lose focus on Him and His presence in your life. Confess to Him the things that get in the way of your focus on Him. List three lies the enemy tells you that cause you to have skewed thinking or emotions.

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**T** Thank God for all the wonderful thoughts He has towards you as one of His wonderful creations. (*v. 14*)

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**S** Surrender any areas you struggle to give to God—areas that you need His care but tend to hold onto with fear. Spend time replacing untrue thoughts you have about yourself with true thoughts that God's Word says He has about you.

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# DAY 17: CONSECRATION OF THE CROSS

*Written by Pastor Christian Newsome*

TUESDAY, JANUARY 30

“If only you, God, would slay the wicked!  
Away from me, you who are bloodthirsty!”

## PSALM 139:19

I played catcher on my high school baseball team, and there was nothing better than throwing out a runner on the opposing team trying to steal a base. Something about seeing someone who was against my team getting caught doing something to hurt my team felt good to me. It's the same thing I feel when somebody races by me on the highway driving in an unsafe manner, only to be pulled over by a police officer a few miles up the road. That justice always feels right. (Unless, of course, I'm stealing a base or driving too fast, though I seem to always have a good reason for both.)

In Psalm 139:19, David asks God to punish the wicked and to ultimately do away with the power of sin that causes wickedness. God does that, but not the way David thought He would. God slayed wickedness and did away with the power of sin, but He did that through the cross of Jesus Christ. David's wickedness, and our wickedness, was indeed slayed, but it was done in the body of Jesus, not our own. This is the gospel. This was the answer to David's prayer. And this is what we get to spend time talking to God about today in our prayer time.

**A** Praise God that all wickedness is ultimately punished. Write three words describing how this knowledge makes you feel.

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**C** Confess to God that you are a sinner, who at the same time desires sin to be judged. Confess where you need to show others the grace that God has shown you.

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**T** Thank God that your sin was slayed on the cross of Christ rather than on your own cross and in your own death. Thank Jesus that, though He was sinless, He took the punishment for your sin.

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**S** If there is any unconfessed sin from your spiritual journey in 2023 that you haven't brought to the cross, do so now. If there are people seeking your forgiveness that you need to show grace to, write their initials down now and ask God for strength to show grace.

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# DAY 18: CONSECRATION OF ADVERSARIES

*Written by Pastor Mike Evans*  
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 31

“They speak of you with evil intent;  
your adversaries misuse your name.”

## PSALM 139:20

Have you ever had someone slander you and say cruel things about you that hurt your character? Think about a time when that happened and recall the emotions that surfaced and how you reacted to it. I've had the unfortunate experience of having adversaries in my life who “spoke of me with evil intent.” There's no way around it – it hurts when that happens! But God's Word helps us here by bringing great perspective that we can have to endure even the harshest of treatment from others.

In Psalm 139:20, David reminds us that wicked people who “misuse your name” are never going away. That remains true today. We live in a world that is hostile towards the very thing that would bring it the most hope – Jesus. But thank God for this truth from Matthew 5:10-12: “Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. <sup>11</sup>Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. <sup>12</sup>Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.”

When our perspective is set on our “reward in heaven” for being persecuted, we can endure those things with perseverance, knowing that eternal reward will one day be ours!

**A** Praise God that there is an eternal reward for those who experience persecution. Write a couple sentences that express your appreciation for the heavenly reward that awaits the persecuted.

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**C** Confess to God your willingness to face persecution. Ask God for the strength to be ready for it and for the courage to “keep in step with the Spirit” (*Gal. 5:25*) when you get squeezed spiritually by the harmful words or actions of others towards you.

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**T** Thank God for the example of Jesus, who “endured such opposition from sinners, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.” (*Heb. 12:3*) Write out three to five words that come to mind when you think about Jesus’ example and what it means to you.

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**S** If there are people who have spoken of you with evil intent recently, take a minute to pray for them. Ask God to reveal Himself to them and that your relationship and fellowship could be restored.

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# DAY 19: CONSECRATION OF HOLINESS

*Written by Pastor Christian Newsome*

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 1

“Do I not hate those who hate you, Lord,  
and abhor those who are in rebellion against you?

<sup>22</sup>I have nothing but hatred for them;  
I count them my enemies.”

## PSALM 139:21-22

I was not allowed to say that I “hated” people when I was a kid. I was supposed to say that I “strongly disliked” people, because “hate” is such a strong word. Yet here it is in the Bible! I “hate” when that happens! (Okay, I’m done. Sorry mom—I know you’re reading this with our church.)

In verses 21 and 22 David says he “hates those who rebel against God.” Let’s make it more personal for the sake of prayer today, okay? Here’s what that looks like: “I hate when I rebel against God. I hate when I act like an enemy of God rather than a friend of God.”

In a church world that has really emphasized grace (as it should) in the last generation, the concept of holiness (which we should also pursue) has been left behind. But here’s David, expressing what’s true spiritually: when God’s righteous King rules spiritually, He hates rebellion against God. Because of grace, we do not have to be sinless. Because of holiness, every follower of Jesus should always strive to sin less. Don’t live in rebellion to God’s righteous King just because of grace. Move towards holiness in your life as you pray today.

**A** Praise God that He puts the Holy Spirit in our hearts to convict us of sin so that we will hate sin just as God does. Write down the last time you felt convicted.

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**C** Confess to God sins where you have grown “lukewarm” (they aren’t a huge deal to you) and sins that you hate, but continue to struggle with.

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**T** Thank God that Jesus gave us a perfect picture of holiness, and then challenges us through Scripture to “be holy, because I am holy.” (1 Pet. 1:16)

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**S** Ask God to help you consecrate holiness in your life in three specific areas and in two specific relationships in 2024.

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## DAY 20: CONSECRATION OF MY FEELINGS

*Written by Executive Director of Ministries Danielle Newsome*

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 2

“Search me, God, and know my heart;  
test me and know my anxious thoughts.”

### PSALM 139:23

As a young mom I developed an intense struggle with anxiety, and it was at this time in my life that I discovered Psalm 139. I memorized the chapter and made it my heart’s cry in that season as I learned God’s heart to fully know me and fully love me just as I am. In that season, I discovered you can’t worship passionately what you don’t need desperately. I could give God my feelings and trust that He would be the balm to soothe my anxious soul.

Pastor Charles Stanley said, “We must see ourselves as the Lord sees us—that is, as children who need him to speak, who need to listen, and who need his guidance every day of our lives...He knows how we are made. He knows our weaknesses. He knows our sinful desires, and our transgressions are not hidden from him. He knows our innermost hurts, fears, and frustrations—and yet He longs to gain intimacy with us.”

God is a heavenly Father that we can trust with our feelings. Peter tells us to “Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you.” (1 Pet. 5:7) Whatever anxiety you’re carrying today, cast it onto the shoulders of your Father. His care and love for you knows no bounds. You can trust Him with your anxiety and your feelings.



**A** Praise God that “Jesus has chosen to put His unmatched presence into these scarred, earthen vessels.” (Charles Stanley)  
Write three words describing how this makes you feel.

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**C** Confess any feelings you may be holding today that you haven't released to His care.

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**T** Thank God that you are fully known and fully loved in Christ. If you're in a sweet season right now, thank Him for the good feelings you're currently experiencing.

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**S** Ask God to be Lord over any hard feelings today. Ask for deliverance for you or a loved one who might currently be struggling with anxiety or depression.

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# DAY 21: CONSECRATION OF MY HOME

*Written by Pastor Christian Newsome*  
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 3

“See if there is any offensive way in me,  
and lead me in the way everlasting.”

## PSALM 139:24

How would God answer this question if you asked it seriously of Him: “What is in my life or home that is offensive to you?” That is the request that David closes this psalm with, and it sets the stage for our final “consecration” for the past 21 days of prayer. As an individual or family, I want to challenge you to consecrate your home in prayer on this 21st day.

What does that look like?

One: It looks like saying a prayer in every room of your home as a family, consecrating the rooms and the space (and the items in the room) to the glory and honor of God. It’s asking God that the space you are in would be a space that honors Him in 2024.

Two: It looks like having the spiritual common sense to remove from those spaces anything that can be used in an offensive spiritual manner in 2024. You might have to remove video games or certain music files or channels from your children’s phones or computers. It may mean changing your television channel packages. It might mean refraining from binge watching or recording shows that are spiritually offensive. It may mean removing books or magazines. You get the point. You cannot ask God to bless and be in a space that you permit spiritually offensive things in at the same time.

What a prayer. What a process. What a psalm!

“Lead us in the way of everlasting – Amen!”

**A** Praise God for His desire and ability to “lead you in ways that are everlasting and eternal” because of the gospel of Jesus! Write three words that describe how this makes you feel.

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**C** Confess any areas in your home, life, or relationships that could be spiritually offensive to the Holy Spirit’s presence in your life and home.

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**T** Thank God that Jesus can cleanse hearts, homes, and relationships when we confess our sin and consecrate them to spiritual growth and health.

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**S** Make a list of the rooms and spaces in your home that you will consecrate in 2024.

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## ADDITIONAL NOTES

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