

01 SUNDAY

PRAYER FOCUS:
Connection 1 (you and God)

Psalm 23:6 (NIV)
Surely goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.
Look back on your life. How has goodness and love followed you so far? What do you think it will be like in heaven?

- **Romans 1** Why does no one have an excuse not to know about God?
- **Matthew 21** What unproductive tree did Jesus wither by cursing it?
- ◆ **Isaiah 16-18** The city of Damascus will become a heap of what?

August 2010



- A praise this week
- A confession this week
- A need this week
- God connected to me through

02 MONDAY

03 TUESDAY

04 WEDNESDAY

05 THURSDAY

06 FRIDAY

07 SATURDAY

Mark 12:16-17 (NIV)
They brought the coin, and he asked them, "Whose portrait is this? And whose inscription?" "Caesar's," they replied. Then Jesus said to them, "Give to Caesar what is Caesar's and to God what is God's."
Whose image was stamped on the man Caesar? Or, in other words, in whose image was Caesar made? He and you were made in God's image. So what must Caesar and you give to God?

Deuteronomy 23:24 (NIV)
If you enter your neighbor's vineyard, you may eat all the grapes you want, but do not put any in your basket.
There is a balance between what is mine and what is ours. But this balance has nothing to do with ownership. God owns it all. God has entrusted certain things to me and to you. This is where the balance lies. How does knowing that God owns all you have make a difference in how you share it with others?

1 Peter 5:10 (NLT)
In his kindness God called you to share in his eternal glory by means of Christ Jesus. So after you have suffered a little while, he will restore, support, and strengthen you, and he will place you on a firm foundation.
Perhaps you became a Christian recently but you find yourself suffering – and maybe because you are a Christian. Congratulations. You are worthy of the battle. And guess what? You will win in the end. How goes the battle?

Ezekiel 11:12 (NIV)
And you will know that I am the LORD, for you have not followed my decrees or kept my laws but have conformed to the standards of the nations around you.
Fitting in. Being part of the crowd. Going with the flow. Getting along to get along. Conforming to the standards of those that happen to be around you. Who are you associating with and what is the source of the standards you are conforming to?

Romans 6:22 (NIV)
But now that you have been set free from sin and have become slaves to God, the benefit you reap leads to holiness, and the result is eternal life.
Everyone is a slave to someone or something. What or whom would you like to be freed from?

Psalm 25:17 (NIV)
The troubles of my heart have multiplied; free me from my anguish.
One thing goes wrong – then another. Oh, to be free of these troubles! What troubles are taking a toll on you these days?

PRAYER FOCUS:
Connection 2 (you and a friend and God)

PRAYER FOCUS:
Connection 3 (you and your family and God)

PRAYER FOCUS:
Connection 4 (you and your group and God)

PRAYER FOCUS:
Connection 5 (you and your church and God)

PRAYER FOCUS:
Connection 6 (you and God's kingdom)

PRAYER FOCUS:
Connection 7 (you and the world and God)

CIVIC HOLIDAY (CANADA)

- **Romans 2** For Gentiles, where is the law written?
- **Matthew 24** Who knows when the end of the world will be?
- ◆ **Isaiah 19-21** What prophet walked around naked for three years?

- **Romans 3** How many are righteous?
- **Matthew 25** What did the 10 foolish virgins forget?
- ◆ **Isaiah 22-24** The Lord said He would roll Shebna, the steward of the palace, into what?

- **Romans 4** Why did God consider Abraham righteous?
- **Matthew 26** To what garden did Jesus bring His disciples to pray?
- ◆ **Isaiah 25-27** What is the condition of the path that the righteous follow?

- **Romans 5** What does suffering produce? What does character produce?
- **Matthew 27** What was done with the money Judas brought back?
- ◆ **Isaiah 28-30** Although Israel honors God with their lips, what is far from Him?

- **Romans 6** What is the result of sin?
- **Matthew 28** Who bribed the guards at Jesus' tomb?
- ◆ **Isaiah 31-33** Jerusalem is compared to what form of transportation?

- **Romans 7** For how long is a wife bound to her husband?
- **Mark 6** What did the disciples think was walking on the water?
- ◆ **Isaiah 34-36** What bargain did a king try to make with Hezekiah?

📖 Ecclesiastes 3:13 (NIV)
That everyone may eat and drink, and find satisfaction in all his toil — this is the gift of God.
To work and enjoy the fruits of your work is truly a gift of God — the gift of opportunity. To not work and thus miss out on the fruit and perhaps go hungry is also a gift of God — the gift of motivation. Which gift of God are you enjoying these days?

- **Mark 3:22-35** Who are Jesus' brothers and sisters?
- **Deuteronomy 6** What were the people to write on their doorframes?
- ◆ **Deuteronomy 13-16** What do the ox, sheep, goat, and deer have in common?

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📖 Galatians 2:6 (NIV)
God does not judge by external appearances.
Whew — isn't that a relief! Perfect hair isn't necessary. Neither are pearly white teeth, a flawless figure, big muscles, the latest clothes, or clear skin. God loves you. No amount of dieting, primping, shopping, or styling can make Him love you more than He does. Do you judge others by outward appearance? How about yourself?

📖 Romans 8:16 (NIV)
The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children.
You may doubt it at times. You may not feel it at times. You may think you do not deserve it at times. But somewhere in your soul there is a voice whispering, "You are my child." Have you heard your name whispered by God this week?

📖 Psalm 32:7 (NIV)
You [God] are my hiding place; you will protect me from trouble and surround me with songs of deliverance.
Ever feel like a loser? Trouble will make you feel that way. God is a winner and you are on His team. When in your life were you on a winning team? What experience in your life made you feel like you were on God's winning team?

Isaiah 45:22 (NIV)
"Turn to me and be saved, all you ends of the earth; for I am God, and there is no other."
You may have said or done things that left you ashamed or guilty. One joy of being a Christian is living for the future instead of in the past. God has invited everyone — even those with bad track records — to turn to Him and be saved. What burdens are you carrying?

Proverbs 25:16 (NIV)
If you find honey, eat just enough — too much of it, and you will vomit.
Sometimes less is more. Perhaps the good things of life taste better when they come around less often than we would choose. What can you do without today? What can you do with less of today?

📖 Matthew 5:15 (NIV)
Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house.
It is a dark world you will go out into today. Bring a little bit of God's light into the lives of the people you meet. Why are you sometimes afraid to talk about the source of your light when you meet people in the shadows?

PRAYER FOCUS:
Connection 2 (you and a friend and God)

PRAYER FOCUS:
Connection 3 (you and your family and God)

PRAYER FOCUS:
Connection 4 (you and your group and God)

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Connection 5 (you and your church and God)

PRAYER FOCUS:
Connection 6 (you and God's kingdom)

PRAYER FOCUS:
Connection 7 (you and the world and God)

PRESIDENT'S DAY (OBSERVED)

FAMILY DAY (CANADA)

- **Mark 4:1-20** What does the thorny soil represent in the parable of the farmer?
- **Deuteronomy 7** Why didn't the Lord want to drive out all the nations at once?
- ◆ **Deuteronomy 17-19** How many witnesses are needed to convict someone of a crime?

- **Mark 4:21-41** In what part of the boat was Jesus sleeping?
- **Deuteronomy 8** How long were the people of Israel in the desert?
- ◆ **Deuteronomy 20-22** What was the penalty for adultery?

- **Mark 5:1-20** Who screamed in a loud voice, asking Jesus not to punish him?
- **Deuteronomy 27** What were the Israelites to set up on Mount Ebal?
- ◆ **Deuteronomy 23-25** Where were the bathrooms located in the desert?

- **Mark 5:21-43** What made the sick woman well?
- **Deuteronomy 28** On the altar on Mount Ebal, how many stones were set up?
- ◆ **Deuteronomy 26-28** On the altar on Mount Ebal, how many stones were set up?

- **Mark 6:1-32** Who arranged to cut off the head of John the Baptist?
- **Deuteronomy 29** How long were the people in the desert?
- ◆ **Deuteronomy 29-31** Whom did God command to "Be strong and courageous"?

- **Mark 6:33-58** Why were the disciples terrified of Jesus?
- **Deuteronomy 30** What would happen if the Israelites obeyed God?
- ◆ **Deuteronomy 32-34** Where was Moses buried?



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06 SUNDAY

PRAYER FOCUS:
 Connection 1 (you and God)

Ephesians 6:12 (NIV)

Our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.
 The battles you fight seem to be around you. But the real action is taking place on another plane — a spiritual one. And prayer is the weapon of choice for those who want to win. How is prayer going for you lately?

- **Mark 10:32-52** Who requested special places in Jesus' kingdom?
- **Joshua 23** What did Joshua say would happen if the people disobeyed God?
- ◆ **Joshua 22-24** How old was Joshua when he died?

07 MONDAY

2 Corinthians 5:7 (NIV)

We live by faith, not by sight.
 Maybe you are struggling to believe in a God you cannot see. Faith is a struggle. Faith is a battle. If there is a war going on within you, then there is faith. And faith is all you need. How goes your faith battle? What doubts do you struggle with? What beliefs have become more certain?

PRAYER FOCUS:
 Connection 2 (you and a friend and God)

08 TUESDAY

Ephesians 3:20 (NIV)

Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us...
 Wow! What is your spiritual dream?

PRAYER FOCUS:
 Connection 3 (you and your family and God)

09 WEDNESDAY

John 3:3,7 (NIV)

Jesus replied, "I assure you, unless you are born again, you can never see the Kingdom of God."
 You were born physically some time ago. When you accept Jesus as your Savior, you are born spiritually. Have you been born spiritually?

PRAYER FOCUS:
 Connection 4 (you and your group and God)

ASH WEDNESDAY

10 THURSDAY

Psalm 42:11 (NLT)

Why am I discouraged? Why so sad? I will put my hope in God! I will praise him again — my Savior and my God!
 When you get to that place where everything is on a slow skid down, look up. What has brought you down lately?

PRAYER FOCUS:
 Connection 5 (you and your church and God)

11 FRIDAY

Romans 12:2 (NLT)

Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God's will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect.
 After you've tried everything the world has to offer — and found yourself dissatisfied — God offers you "a fresh newness." What areas of your life do you want God to touch with a fresh newness?

PRAYER FOCUS:
 Connection 6 (you and God's kingdom)

12 SATURDAY

John 15:8 (NIV)

"This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples."
 A disciple bears fruit. A disciple that only talks about bearing fruit but doesn't actually bear fruit is not really a disciple. What fruits are growing in your life?

PRAYER FOCUS:
 Connection 7 (you and the world and God)

- **Mark 11:1-19** What did the people shout as Jesus rode into Jerusalem?
- **Joshua 24** How old was Joshua when he died?
- ◆ **Judges 1-4** What had Adoni-Bezek done to 70 kings?

- **Mark 11:20-33** Why didn't Jesus tell the elders whose authority He acted by?
- **Judges 2** Why did God allow the other nations to stay in Canaan?
- ◆ **Judges 5-8** What woman led Israel in 40 years of peace?

- **Mark 12:1-27** Will there be marriage in heaven?
- **Judges 6** Who was commissioned by an angel to save Israel from the Midianites?
- ◆ **Judges 9-12** What did Jephthah vow?

- **Mark 12:28-44** What did the widow give as an offering?
- **Judges 7** With how many men did Gideon defeat the people of Midian?
- ◆ **Judges 13-15** Who tore a lion apart with his bare hands?

- **Mark 13:1-13** What question did the disciples ask Jesus?
- **Judges 14** Who tore a lion apart?
- ◆ **Judges 16-18** How did Delilah trick Samson?

- **Mark 13:14-37** What will last forever?
- **Judges 15** How many foxes did Samson catch?
- ◆ **Judges 19-21** How did the Benjamites get new wives?