

**40 DAYS OF SPIRITUAL REFLECTION**  
**FEBRUARY 17 - MARCH 28**



**SEEKING GOD FOR THE COMMUNITY,  
CITY & COUNTRY 2010**  
**LENTEN PRAYER GUIDE TWO**

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## DAY 11: February 27, 2010

Prayer Focus: Healthcare Workers

Today's Theme: Seeking God to Bring Life From His People to the World

John 7:37-38 NIV

### LIFE-GIVING WATERS

Today's focus is on healthcare workers. We thirsted for the life-giving refreshment of eternal life through Jesus Christ, so we chose to accept a drink. In that drink was living water, the Holy Spirit, who possesses the power to refresh us when we are burdened by the physical demands and emotional pressures of our professions. Therefore, as we submerge ourselves daily in these life-giving waters through meditation, prayer and Bible study, pray that healthcare workers will emerge with a fresh anointing of the Holy Spirit to help them promote physical and spiritual healing, for out of their bellies flow rivers of living water to the sick in our city, community and country.

**Life Application:** Draw personally from the Holy Spirit's power to promote physical and spiritual healing. The rivers of living water flow from within us. So, sustain the flow of that power by maintaining an intimate relationship with God.

**Prayer:** Oh, Great Physician, may our healthcare workers thirst and be quenched by Your living waters. Amen.

**Thought for the Day:** When we drink of the rivers of living water, others will notice and thirst for the same!

*"Jesus stood and said... 'If anyone is thirsty, let him come to me and drink. Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, streams of living water will flow from within him.'" –John 7:37- 38 NIV*

**DAY 12: February 28, 2010**

*Prayer Focus: The Poor*

*Today's Theme: Seeking God for the Light of the Gospel to Shine*

**Luke 1:78-79 NIV**

## **THE LIGHT OF THE GOSPEL**

Today's focus is for the economically disadvantaged, who in economic recessions, are the hardest hit in our communities. In fact, experts agree that fear of the unknown causes despair, the lack of hope, which makes the future appear dark. However, Jesus is referred to as Sun in Malachi 4:2 and Sunrise in Luke 1:78 because, like the sun is our only natural source of light, He is the sole source of all we need. So, just as we open the door and turn on the light to dispel darkness in a room, let us pray that the poor will open their hearts to know Jesus will supply all their needs. Pray His light of salvation will radiate to bring hope!

**Life Application:** Trust in the light, the source of all you need. Shed the light of salvation on those in the darkness of sin and the depths of despair. Share a gospel tract with someone in your community to share the light and life of Jesus Christ.

**Prayer:** O Lord of Sunrise, please shine Your light and open hearts of the poor so they will trust You. Amen.

**Thought for the Day:** Jesus is the light that shines in darkness to dispel despair, bring salvation and kindle hope.

*"Because of the tender mercy of our God, by which the rising sun will come to us from heaven to shine on those living in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the path of peace."*

*– Luke 1:78-79 NIV*

## DAY 13: March 1, 2010

Prayer Focus: Physically Disabled People

Today's Theme: Seeking God for His Love to Be Received

### Isaiah 63:9 NIV

#### RECEIVING GOD'S LOVE

During the captivity of the children of Israel, God looked on His afflicted people with compassion to the extent that He, too, was afflicted. He sent Moses as His agent to save them in the exodus. God's shining presence during their wilderness experience was a fiery cloud of His compassionate love for suffering humanity. Likewise, God is aware of your suffering, and He shares in your affliction. His presence shines through loved ones and medicine for your comfort. Above all, God sent His Son to provide a way to save humanity from the bondage of sin. His shining act of self-giving love is present to comfort you in your illness or disability. If you have not accepted His love, receive it to experience eternal healing.

**Life Application:** Focus on the compassionate love of God. Practice God's presence by thinking, speaking and behaving in constant awareness of God and His love. Share this mindset with others, and shine the light of the Good News wherever you go.

**Prayer:** Lord, shine in all affliction, so that those who are disabled will receive your love for eternal healing. Amen.

**Thought for the Day:** We were all born with a disability: sin; however, the Great Physician sent His Son to heal us.

*"In all their distress he too was distressed, and the angel of his presence saved them. In his love and mercy he redeemed them..."*  
– Isaiah 63:9 NIV

## DAY 14: March 2, 2010

Prayer Focus: Educators

Today's Theme: Seeking God for the Word of God to Be Understood

Luke 24:45

### **DIVINE ILLUMINATION**

In Luke 24, Jesus opened the scrolls to shed the light of understanding on a host of things, including Scripture. Since the coming of the Holy Spirit, we receive divine illumination of Scripture through the work of the Holy Spirit, as Jesus promised: *"Howbeit when the Spirit of truth is come, He will guide you into all truth"* (John 16:13a). Thus, we unite in prayer so that educators will search God's Word, and the light of the Holy Spirit will shine to impart understanding and wisdom to guide them as they teach and discipline their students. We intercede on their behalf so God will guide them in letting their light shine so that their students and fellow educators will see their good works, and accept salvation through Jesus Christ.

**Life Application:** As you engage in your personal meditation and Bible study, ask the Holy Spirit to guide you to help educators lead our youth to truth that will brighten their outlook and shed the light of salvation on those who live in the darkness of sin.

**Prayer:** Holy Spirit, illuminate the Word for educators so their understanding will lead others to God. Amen.

**Thought for the Day:** The Holy Spirit illuminates Scripture, so the light will come on in our minds.

*"Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures."*

– Luke 24:45 NIV

**DAY 15: March 3, 2010**

*Prayer Focus: Men*

*Today's Theme: Seeking God for Revelation Leading to Repentance*

**Ecclesiastes 1:1-2 KJV**

## **WHAT'S OF VALUE TO YOU?**

Today, we seek God on behalf of men, praying that a ray of understanding will lead them to repentance. We pray that they turn away from being centered in wisdom, strength, and riches so they will be more centered in God. Thus, we turn to the enlightening words of Solomon the Preacher. His plea gathers himself and others who have strayed away from God. Solomon calls us to return to being centered in God, rather than on vanity of vanities or meaningless things and pursuits that are fleeting. Houses, cars, position, affluence – these things are of no eternal value to God. Let us pray that God's Word will shine on the souls of men, lead them to repentance and turn their hearts away from vanities to God. Their centeredness on God will bless our families, our communities and our world.

**Life Application:** Help your family and friends be more centered on the things of God (things with eternal value) by not expecting or demanding material things and continual upward mobility. Work to instill this mindset in future generations.

**Prayer:** Dear God, please help men live lives that reflect their esteem of things having eternal value, resulting in saved souls. Amen.

**Thought for the Day:** Only what we do for God will last.

*"Vanity of vanities, saith the Preacher, vanity of vanities;  
all is vanity." – Ecclesiastes 1:2 KJV*

**DAY 16: March 4, 2010**

*Prayer Focus: Prisoners and Their Families*

*Today's Theme: Seeking God to Rescue People from Spiritual Darkness*

**Psalm 69:32-33 NIV**

### ***THEIR PAIN IS OUR PAIN***

Today, we intercede, in love, for prisoners and their families in Georgia, the U.S. and the world. Consistent with Psalm 69, ours is a plea for their deliverance from physical discomfort, emotional distress and spiritual darkness. We are united in their cries against the insults and reproach they suffer. As a faith community, their pain is ours, for we are in the family of God, and humankind is our family tree. In many ways we have come up short by not shining the light of the gospel brightly enough to show our brothers and sisters a brighter path. Let us resolve to shine the gospel light and to impart the words of the Psalmist. If we seek God on behalf of prisoners and their families, He will revive their hearts. He will hear their cries, and He will answer.

**Life Application:** To model the love of God, do not despise prisoners. Their cries are to be heard with empathy.

**Prayer:** Dear God, please open our hearts to feel and our ears to hear and respond to the prisoners' groans. Amen.

**Thought for the Day:** Shedding the light of the gospel paves a path to hope, a brighter future and God's love.

*"You who seek God, may your hearts live! The LORD hears the needy and does not despise his captive people."*

*– Psalm 69:32–33 NIV*

**DAY 17: March 5, 2010**

*Prayer Focus: Refugees*

*Today's Theme: Seeking God to Grant Repentance From Our Violent Ways*

**Deuteronomy 10:17-19 NIV**

## **WAR WITH LOVE, NOT VIOLENCE**

Love inspires Almighty God to supernaturally intervene to defend the cause of refugees. In our humanity, let us join Him in their defense as we seek God on their behalf. Although we cannot part the Red Sea, shower manna from heaven, or install a fiery, cloudy pillar to aid in their deliverance, we can still pray for a 21st century rescue. We cannot rain manna from Heaven, but we can pray for resources to send food, clothing and money to rescue the fatherless, widows and orphans — not only in earthquake-stricken Haiti, but to the uttermost parts of the earth. Pray also for God to move us to open the doors of our homes and schools to refugees. Thus, we shall war against suffering with love, not violence, and the gospel will shine in all we do!

**Life Application:** Refugees dwell in the Atlanta Metroplex, so we must continue to engage in their rescue. Follow Jesus' model of sacrificial, self-giving love by showing limitless love to our brothers and sisters all over the world.

**Prayer:** Almighty God, empower us to defend refugees with acts of love, not war. Amen.

**Thought for the Day:** Love is our God-given weapon against all enemies.

*"Love those who are aliens, for you yourselves were aliens in Egypt."  
— Deuteronomy 10:19 NIV*

**DAY 18: March 6, 2010**

*Prayer Focus: Mothers*

*Today's Theme: Seeking God's Light to Bring Abundant Life*

**Proverbs 31:25-26, 28 NIV**

### **AND SHE SHALL BE CALLED BLESSED**

In an ancient patriarchal society, the acts of the Virtuous Woman described in Proverbs 31 parallel God's love for the world. Today, we seek God on behalf of Christian mothers, for they reflect God's love in our lives. Like God, mothers provide our necessities. So, we pray that God will always clothe them with strength and dignity. Just as our mother succored us in her bosom and nourished us with her milk for physical growth, we pray that the milk of the gospel that she supplies to her offspring will develop a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ. Now, to our mothers and grandmothers, may your children call you "blessed," and your husbands sing your praises.

**Life Application:** As you interact with others, remember each person is some mother's child, some grandmother's grandchild, and perhaps, someone's spouse. Be sure to ask, "Are you a child of God?" Then proceed as needed!

**Prayer:** Dear Father, may our mothers feel and model Your love to bring Your abundant life to their families. Amen.

**Thought for the Day:** A mother's love is the best example of God's love on this side of heaven.

*"Her children arise and call her blessed; her husband also,  
and he praises her." – Proverbs 31:28 NIV*

**DAY 19: March 7, 2010**

*Prayer Focus: Business People*

*Today's Theme: Seeking God for His Renown Among All People*

**Philippians 4:7; Psalm 100; Micah 4:3b; Leviticus 26:6**

## ***A MERCHANT OF PURPLE***

Today, we seek God on behalf of business people as we reflect on Lydia of Thyatira, a wealthy business woman who sold purple cloth which had been colored with an expensive dye. We pray that business people in the city, community and country will follow Lydia's life and practices. She was saved, involved in corporate worship, and eager to invite strangers (Paul and Silas) to the worship service (and even to preach the gospel), and she opened her home to leaders of the church. Lydia's influence was so great that her household was saved, and her home became a house church. We pray that the owners of businesses we patronize will be true servants of the Most High God. Through their faithfulness, the gospel will spread, their businesses will prosper, and God will give them His renown among people.

**Life Application:** Strive to promote Christian-owned businesses. When new businesses open in your neighborhood, invite the owner(s) and personnel to join you in worship and evangelism.

**Prayer:** Dear God, may the faithfulness of Your servants be met with prosperity in their businesses.

**Thought for the Day:** "Let the Lord be magnified, which hath pleasure in the prosperity of His servant" (Psalm 35:27b).

*"If you consider me a believer in the Lord,' she said, 'come and stay at my house.' And she persuaded us." – Acts 16:15b NIV*

**DAY 20: March 8, 2010**

*Prayer Focus: News Media*

*Today's Theme: Seeking God That His People Would Reflect His Great Name*

**Zechariah 8:16 NIV**

### **TRUTH IN MEDIA**

As we seek God on behalf of news media, we are reminded of the manifestation of godly love (in broadcasting) by the world renowned news announcer, Walter Cronkite. He wept compassionately and unashamedly as he sadly announced the assassination of U.S. President John F. Kennedy. The sincere love and genuine emotion for his fallen President drew the admiration and love of people around the world. We pray that our present day broadcasters will display Cronkite's exemplary compassion and love in broadcasting and journalism. May they speak the truth and exercise judgment that brings truth and peace to our city, community and country. If they do, then just as Cronkite, they will reflect the great name of the One for whom he lived: Almighty God!

**Life Application:** As Christians, choose newspapers, newscasts, programs and telecasts that edify your soul and mind as they glorify the Father.

**Prayer:** Dear God, let our news media exemplify our love through truth and peace. Amen.

**Thought for the Day:** Our words and deeds should reflect who our Father is: God!

*"Speak the truth to each other, and render true and sound judgment in your courts." – Zechariah 8:16 NIV*

# Seeking God for the Community, City and Country 2010

*If My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land. – II Chronicles 7:14*

**B**eginning Ash Wednesday thru Palm Sunday, Greenforest will join with over 100,000 believers from hundreds of churches around the globe seeking God in focused biblical prayer. God has blessed us with four writers that have used the theme "Seek God for the City 2010" from the WayMakers Christian organization as a guide to help them to write devotionals customized for Greenforest. The writers have been seeking God for direction that will cause His people to pray in a way that will make a difference in their lives that will impact the lives of others. The writers and their assignments are listed below:

- Feb 17 – 26** Seeking His Life to Revive the Church.....Bro. Alan Sherman
- Feb 27 – Mar 8** Seeking His Light to Awaken the Lost.....Min. Althea Waters
- Mar 9 – 18** Seeking His Glory to Evangelize All People.....Sis. Olivia Maupin
- Mar 19 – 28** Seeking His Peace Among All People.....Min. Diann Ash

This prayer guide is designed to help believers pray "Big" prayers beyond their daily needs and to seek God to fulfill His greatest purposes: to find them, bring them in, grow them up and send them out. *But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness and all these things shall be added to you. –Matthew 6:33*



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