

# 100 Days of Prayer

## PREPARING THE WAY FOR THE LORD

**WEEK 4 (Feb 15 - 21)**

### **A Weekly Guide for 100 days of Praying to Prepare the Way for the Lord**

Starting on January 25th, 2023 (Day 1), Culminating on May 4th, 2023 (Day 100)

#### **KEY VERSES FOR THE WEEK: Luke 1:39-45 (NIV)**

39 At that time Mary got ready and hurried to a town in the hill country of Judea, 40 where she entered Zechariah's home and greeted Elizabeth. 41 When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the baby leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. 42 In a loud voice she exclaimed: "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the child you will bear! 43 But why am I so favored, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? 44 As soon as the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. 45 Blessed is she who has believed that the Lord would fulfill his promises to her!"

#### **REFLECTION: *Joy***

No one loves waiting.  
No one enjoys being told to slow down, pay attention, and get ready.  
For most people, the mere thought of waiting feels agonizingly slow.

For the nation of Israel, just before Jesus' arrival, it must have felt almost unbearable waiting for the coming Messiah. In the midst of all the bad kings, the legalistic Pharisees, and the onerous Roman occupation, it would have been way too easy to grow tired and wonder when their time would come.

But John the Baptist knew how to tarry well. Even while John was in his mother's womb, there was a vibrant supernatural anticipation in his heart. He

looked forward to; he anticipated; he carried great expectations of the Chosen one to come.

And so, when Mary visited John's mother Elizabeth for the first time, John sensed that Jesus was near, and John literally leapt for joy in the womb. It would be months before he would see his cousin with his own eyes. It would be years before they could even meet formally and talk. But in this moment, baby John knew the object of his anticipation was close at hand, and joy exploded out of his heart.

We live in interesting times. Many would point to the encroaching godlessness in our culture, in our nation, and curse the darkness. But many, when they look closely, also see holy divine sparks igniting in that same shroud of dark. Sparks of revival.

This week, take time to slow down and look and listen for the footsteps of the Savior drawing near. To see the divine sparks. It is Holy Spirit fire that can restore broken hearts. It can call back to life the stone cold churches almost left for dead. It can be a Great Awakening that re-ignites and sets ablaze again nations that have lost their way. This is cause for great immense joy.

Will you be like John the Baptist and prepare to leap for joy at the sound of the coming revival?

## PRAYER POINTS:

*Use these suggested prayer items as a starting point for where the Holy Spirit will lead you...*

1. Praise God for being the Maker and Keeper of amazing promises to His people..
2. Pray that God would grant us patience and alertness as we wait upon Him and seek His Kingdom.
3. Pray for hearts more closely attuned to Jesus' approaching footsteps, and let unrestrained joy begin to erupt in response. May His joy mark us and also draw the lost to meet the Savior.
4. Pray for the 400+ South Koreans who are hearing God's call to step out in faith to journey to and pray for our nation in 2023. Pray for astounding joy that will quicken their spirits each and every day.
5. Pray that the joy of the Lord will be our strength, that any trauma of past disappointments or regrets will be overrun by brilliant hope in Jesus our Redeemer.

**FOR MORE INFO ON THESE GUIDES:**

Call 512.554.7979 Walton Yuen

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